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The Chess Game of Gods

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GREGORY C. MCCLURE

Welcome, pawn, to the chess game of gods.
Take your place; it's up front playing guard.
Don't worry, you're not in danger yet.
On the verge, but not in danger yet.

Stare for now – enjoy the moment's peace.
Hold for now, tranquility will cease.
When it does, you will be stripped of rest.
At the charge, you will be stripped of rest.

Soon enough, the moment will be past.
So don't rush; this breath could be your last.
It comes quick – like a pain in the heart.
It kills quick – like a pain in the heart.

We start now! Show me your allegiance.
Charge to war! Show them your defiance!
Don't be scared, every man has his end.
It's nature, every man meets his end.

Silly pawn, don't fight so forcefully.
You can't win, so go down gracefully.
You thought what? No, you weren't meant to win.
Know your place, you just weren't meant to win.

Farewell, pawn, from the chess game of gods.
I'm so proud; you were such a good guard.
Served me well – that's just as it should be.
Died in war – that's just as it should be.



Sculpture CAROLYN HELVEY