

A decorative border with ornate floral and scrollwork patterns in the corners and along the sides, framing the text.

**Unrequited**

*The fluidic mirror,  
elixir to reflect and sustain,  
flows nearer and nearer,  
from antipodal rains,  
reminiscent of an hour,  
of costless want and care,  
a petalless flower,  
seasons long left bare,  
I have become like that foliage of winter,  
barren and abandoned to the cold of night,  
no shelter or warmth to enter,  
a void, lonely, and relentless plight,  
O to dispel this inquietude,  
my remorse and torrid affliction,  
then agony would embrace with gratitude,  
and be my chastening malediction,  
for now I debate the merit of love,  
such rapture and mood I forever shun,  
perchance my gloom of heart will soar above,  
in the heat of a morrow's sun,  
twas the sheer loftiness of my peak,  
unuttered fragments of manic thought,  
to desire but to never speak,  
and forever be left unsought.*

*-Larry Brian Binns, 1970*