

# A Selection of Poems by Brian Keeble

## **Adam's Fall**

Adam standing in paradise  
Desired and stood with Eve and knew  
The taint of sin, and knew he was  
Apart from God. While at his feet  
Another presence writhed to show  
Time had begun. So all desires  
Came tumbling out with all that stands  
To contradict the nothingness  
Of God, now separate and remote.  
And Adam, newly awake, saw it was  
His fate to cast a shadow there  
Where none before had been, since all  
Was light and time's excrescences  
Had had no place or cause to be  
The root of future adversity  
And affliction of coming days.

Adam knew not when that time was.

*Ex Nibilo*

Between each heart beat  
your birth  
finds width enough.

Having no where  
no time  
none the less  
disposed by world.

What need  
coming and going  
seeing your presence  
ever attends  
a kindred self.

Neither immensity  
nor the nihil's dark  
at each cell's core  
unveils:  
each last speck  
conceding its  
hidden ground.

Extending a hand  
lends no grasp  
to hold the light  
that forms knowing.

Therefore  
whence apotheosis' seed?

### Of Logos as Inspiration

As a bride adorned  
with many treasures  
who from the mouth of wisdom  
and all its ways,  
the ways of the undying Word  
that in its silence  
before and after speech  
greet us anew  
with each and every syllable,  
the very wealth of saying  
natal to the eternal,  
as the bride seeking extinction  
in the otherness of her betrothed  
must give herself  
to take his seed within herself  
so that the groom,  
like a plough furrowing the earth  
prepares the place where the seed  
grows firm and true  
to bless their husbandry;  
and we, like the throstle  
perched on the top most bough  
singing defiantly  
into the threatening wind;  
even now as the guttering candle  
piercing tenaciously the gathered gloom  
that is our word's decay and ruin  
nourish silence and the invisible  
as the rock is silent  
and the soul unsighted  
cloaking Your eternal silence.