



Painting by Jacob Bouttats, Flanders 1660-1718

AS YET UNBORN

Oh to be Adam
again
with all his ribs
yearning for a woman
as yet unborn,
mouth free
of the taste of apples,
ears without
the hiss of snakes,
mindless of
nakedness and shame
in the garden
of gentle creatures
waiting for a name.

Stanley H. Barkan, USA

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