

## **Epistle to Obama**

**--Michael Carter**

One audaciously hopes he will not swerve  
From eloquent Shake-a-speare to  
Shake-a-saber, nuke, whatever;  
The world will test him hard  
Along with many new missiles

Fundamental religions off all stripes  
Will snipe & conjure the maximum chaos,  
Yet may the world finally move beyond  
The hellacious hatred of nations, creeds, to  
An understanding of unity

All us bicamerally-brained bipeds,  
Inherently mostly the same;  
Mortal, fragile & greedy  
For knowledge of the extraperceptual world

How could someone named  
Barack Obama ever be elected  
In the country that killed King?  
Transmuting the defamiliar to a trademark;  
A red-hot branding called "change"

Such an alteration of everyday politics as  
Business, way beyond skin-deep  
Needs trump tradition with new weapons,  
New affections; no mere affectations  
Of justice but the thing itself

A new epistemology is called-for,  
A hopeful science against the dismal  
Wherein things merely possible,  
Become the real and dream for themselves

Between Barack and a very hard place  
(Say, Afganistan...)  
Lies the American populace &  
America has chosen  
Barack (overwhelmingly); this is  
A country hungry for vision &  
This is a world that requires no less

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