A dream took me back

To the times of 10586 B.C.

The times my ancestors cruised the heavens In moon-sized starships Carrying with them the cargoes Of livestock and plants Those that inhabited our world

And they explored the unknown galaxies Till in a nodescript and distant star system By some misfortune their fuel ran out

These intrepid explorers
Set the mothership's self destruct
And fled to a blue planet's surface

Their number is uncertain

Perhaps thirty, fourty or some more

The shield of their ship glowed Brilliant orange and red Till they splashed in an ocean Filled with so much salt They called it dead

Yet it took them several days
Of stormy and calm winds
To finally set upon some sandy shore
Where they set their camp

Their initial intentions were good

Or so I suspect

For four brothers with their families Travelled in different directions To the North, South, East and West Each bore their own insignia
The eagle, lion and the bear
Save for one, the leader of the team
He wore the face of our race
As his crest

Now the design of their vessels Had a purpose in mind To be as scary as possible And make any inhabitants run in fright

One being could run this on his own Witness their power, to awe and destroy When their weapons were fully deployed Witness their power to create For they held within them The genetic encoding of our race With factories capable of replicating Our very DNA

But the brothers found nothing Except for some frightening reptiles

"Until these beasts, these devils are gone We'll never be safe"

So they argued about the best way To make the new world a haven

Nothing will survive a nuclear winter

Save our replicators Who will spawn our population All over this planet

So the four brothers agreed
And from each corner of the world
A massive nuclear missile was launched
They exploded into great clouds of dust
Shattering the continents
And blackening the skies

And a hundred years passed

The dragons now extinct
My ancestors' ships wakened from hybernation

And began the colonisation When six days were finished The ark that brought them to this place

Dissolved into oblivion

Nothing left except deeply encoded stories Of that time Kept by four special creatures

The guardians of the messenger ships

The ones designed to frighten

To control the emerging populace

They would write their own stories Over time

But these guardians Would always keep watch