

Stone

Opaque prism  
Alpha of the universe  
Molten birth cooling to caul, fragmented  
Into fertile dust

Petrified roots of oak, diamond-hard,  
Probe mantle-folded bog to be drawn down, down,  
Back to the center of origin and eternity  
The ultimate atom of stone  
High-cross and head-stone: granite coaxing energy

From the cosmos, gifting those attuned to receive  
And accept with second sight and ancient memories.  
Stone caressed by the sea to silken sand  
Fossil of fish, touch-stone of schist  
Lintel, hearth and stepping-stones  
Quartz glittering in the pocket of a child  
Hallowed font and hallowed quern  
Pebble on the tongue of the dead.  
Stone to mark tombs and the passage of dreams

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