"MarsProbes 2012" **D. N. Sutton**

Mars, our probes plunging from the wingless earth

Are sailing now with stars and flaming suns

Flinging beyond the orbit of man's birth

Beyond the arc and fury of man's guns

Into silent worlds, high white places

Where rain is myth, absent God's own thunder

Will probes seek prophets, look in their faces

Plumb their realm of agony and wonder?

Mars probes in the skies, alien, alone

Plummeting in peril up the sky lands

Drifting on sun-wind to a dim unknown

Probing savage strangeness in the high-lands...

Now will Mars probes find triumph and delight

Transcending death in deathless cosmic flight?

"Marsmanaut", the original poem written in 1941 by D.N. Sutton was published 60 years later in 2001. Read by the poet at the 13th Annual International Mars Society Convention in Dayton, Ohio on August 7th 2010. With Mars probes today doing the work of Marsmanauts of yesterday, Doris is now presenting the new version of her poem, "MarsProbes 2012".

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