Of all the religious artefacts known to man, the Turin Shroud stands in a class of its own for rigorous investigation. Although the prodigious catalogue of intriguing findings is shrouded in scientific controversy, one fact is remarkable. When viewed as a photographic negative, the ancient linen reveals a perfect image of the crucified Christ, an image of compelling grace and fascination. As a member of The Turin Shroud Society, the writer has lectured extensively on the Shroud's remarkable history and composition. His third novel, *Legacy of the Shroud*, took the theme of cloning a child from the blood on the Shroud. When this boy reached manhood then, after a confrontation in Red Square, the Soviet Empire collapsed. Immediately after the book was published there was a confrontation in Red Square and...

*Enigmatic image of blood and flax*
*That history once entwined*
*To be revered through generations past*
*As Man and God combined*

*Growing faint across the centuries*
*A negative suddenly revealed*
*A sepia scene quite exemplary*
*That time had past concealed*

*A face destined to rapture creation*
*With peace and strength supreme*
*To testify to man's coming salvation*
*In a world as yet unseen*

*The frail body suffered and bled*
*From lashes, nails and spear*
*While the rabble mockingly chanted*
*A crown for the Messiah*

*How was the mystic image created*
*By forces long ago*
*To remain uniquely venerated*
*As divine afterglow*