

The Shroud

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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*