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SMART

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Dallas Tex.
Sept. 18-1946.

IN MEMORIAM
(To Franklin D. Roosevelt)

Date of composition
April 14, 1945

White-capped billows break and roar against a rock-bound coast
As waves of sadness sweep the land to grieve the stricken host.
The pale young moon grows paler, still, as it sinks down in the west
For Franklin Roosevelt lies asleep - a white rose on his breast.

And ere its fragile stem be crushed and its petals wilt and fade
We'll give our love and give our tears for him, our mentor and our aide
Our hearts are grieved to give him up - our souls are filled with pity
But he is resting now in peace inside the Golden City.

Abraham Lincoln met him there in the realms of heavenly glory
And Woodrow Wilson too was there to listen to his story
The story of a busy life well told in prose and rhyme
As it spanned the universe and spread from clime to clime.

Ten thousand white-robed cherubs with little limbs so straight and fine
Gave him a hearty welcome as he passed their waiting line
Lazarus and Martha and ~~fair~~ Mary, sweet and good
Gave him kindly welcome to Heaven's Brotherhood.

That good gray bard, Walt Whitman, who once sang in tears and pain
"My Captain, Oh, My Captain" echoed again it's sad refrain
As Longfellow's "Angel Footsteps" in tones so low and sweet
Floated on the ~~scented~~ air and down the Golden Street.

From Gray's immortal "Elegy" and from Bryant's "Thanatopsis"
We may glean a basic thought and prepare a brief synopsis
Upon life and all its glory upon death and its reward
When triumphantly they meet in the presence of the Lord.

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Rest, Commander, rest in peace, with your glory and your fame
While coming generations write your story and your name
And when that final day shall come when God shall call His own,
I know that you will greet us before The Great White Throne.