William Blake

The Sick Rose

O Rose, thou art sick!
The invisible worm
That flies in the night,
In the howling storm,

Has found out thy bed
Of crimson joy:
And his dark secret love
Does thy life destroy.

From: Songs of Innocence and of Experience (1789)
William Blake

Jerusalem [And did those feet]

And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England’s mountains green:
   And was the holy Lamb of God,
On England’s pleasant pastures seen!

And did the Countenance Divine,
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here,
Among these dark Satanic Mills?

Bring me my Bow of burning gold:
   Bring me my arrows of desire:
Bring me my Spear: O clouds unfold!
   Bring me my Chariot of fire!

I will not cease from Mental Fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand:
   Till we have built Jerusalem,
In England’s green & pleasant Land.

From: Preface to ‘Milton a Poem’, The Prophetic Books. (1810)