

diamond timid
with nesting incense)
fifty
marble
pillars
slipped from immeasurable
height, fall, fifty, silent

in the incense is tangled a cool moon

there are thrice-three-hundred
doors carven of chalcedony and
before every door a naked
eunuch watches
on their heads turbans of a hundred
colours
in their hands scimitars like windy torches
each
is
blackier than oblivion

the ladies
of the emperor's
harem are queens
of all the earth and the rings
upon their hands are from mines
a mile deep
but the body of