

## HELL-BOX

PETER TAYLOR



### ARCHAEOPTERYX

Here once the heavens turned upon  
the ancient pinion of this gravelled bird,  
whose sharpened jaw and saurian claws  
ripped blood into the Tethys Sea

until she, too, fell prey to limestone,  
a sublimation in tides of time,  
her fallen feathers mere shadows now  
where once her sky had just begun.

O stone bird, what songs will you sing  
for those who fly higher on continents  
moved by different forces? When we fall,  
what vestige will remain of us?

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**PETER TAYLOR** worked for more than twenty-five years as a publications manager and medical journal publisher, and later served as the executive director of an academic research institute and several charitable organizations.

His path into writing and publishing began as the self-taught typesetter and printer of a treadle-operated platen letterpress on the campus of the University of Guelph, and continued through his master's degree studies in Renaissance drama at the University of Waterloo.

He has published *Trainer* (The Paget Press), *The Masons and First Epistle to Dr. Torr* (Gryphon Press), and *Aphorisms* (Adela Press). His poems have been anthologized in Canada and the United States and have appeared in literary journals in more than fifteen countries.

*Antietam*, his experimental verse play in the voice of a young soldier of the Civil War, won honourable mention in the international War Poetry Contest in Northampton, Massachusetts.

Born in Edmonton, he now lives in Aurora, Ontario.

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