

## *Nasadiya Suktam*

*Then, neither nonbeing nor being was as yet;  
neither was airy space nor heavens beyond.  
Was it hid? Where? Sheltered by whose enveloping care?  
Was there water, the fathomless abyss?*

*Then, death was not; immortal life was not;  
nor was there any sign of night or day.  
Without aid of breath, by inherent might, the One breathed;  
of a certainty, beyond that nothing whatever was.*

*In the Beginning, darkness was by darkness concealed;  
undifferentiated surge was this whole creation.  
While the boundless force of Being was by unformed Being enclosed,  
That One, through conscious fervor, brought itself forth to be.*

*In the Beginning, thereupon rose Self-delight, love and desire,  
which together, was of consciousness, the primeval seed.  
The wise, searching within their hearts,  
perceived there the bond of Truth in illusion.*

*Stretched crosswise was their line, a ray of glory.  
Was there below? Was there above?  
Progenitors were there; Mighty powers to magnify were there -  
Potency from beneath and from above the force to move, raise and fill.*

*Who truly knows, who here could proclaim:  
whence this creation flows, where is its origin?  
With this great surge the gods made their appearance.  
Now, therefore, who knows whence it became?*

*Whence this detailed Self-radiance came,  
whether ordered or not;  
Only He in highest heaven, who is of this the witness -  
He alone knows, unless...He knows it not.*