

# Ode to Anarres

After *The Dispossessed* by Ursula K. Le Guin

Byron López Ellington

To break off from the homeworld,  
Separate and start anew,  
Takes courage nigh unknowable.  
Make a new language, speak it;  
Choose a harsher planet, keep it;  
Dispossess yourself of things  
And your only home alike;  
Leave the old lush rainforests  
For frigid deserts, dry, starving,  
Where through hardship you are free.  
Hold utopia in your heart  
As you build the practical.  
Make the would-be bureaucrats  
Upon the Sister World be  
As healthy cells within us,  
Within the Social Organism:  
Be free, O mighty nuchnib,  
Do not let power concentrate!  
Bring down the walls of the Port,  
Let knowledge flow with lawless ease!  
Love the Other as you love  
Your syndics, with great compassion.  
Open wide the many doors,  
Burn down the borders, Land and space,  
Live the harder, better life:  
Freedom and Solidarity.

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