

AMANDA LEE FALKENBERG

THE
M O O N S
S Y M P H O N Y[®]

New Worlds To Explore

Libretto

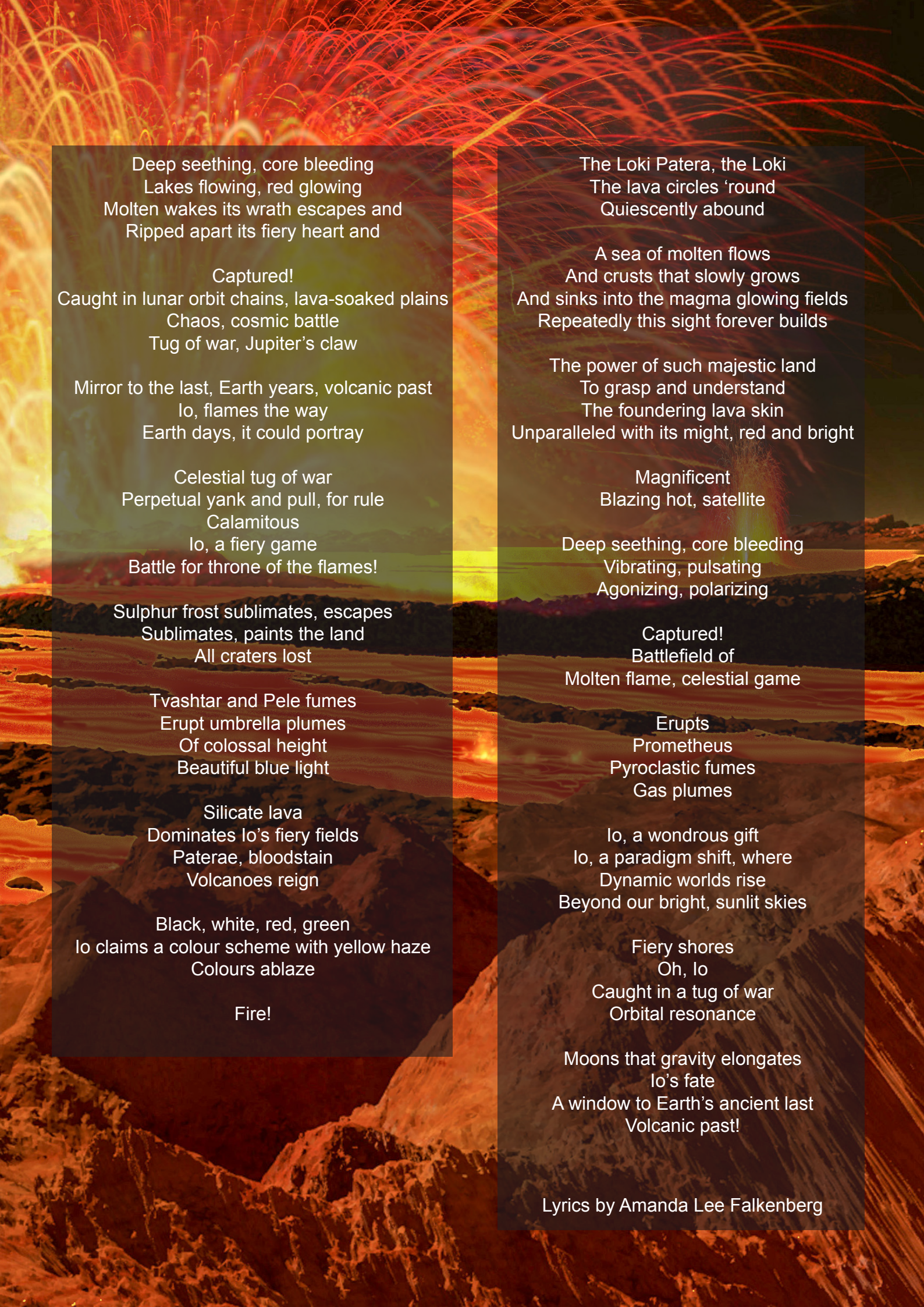
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Image Credit: Ron Miller

I 10

Celestial Tug of War

The Loki Patera
Image Credit: Ron Miller



Deep seething, core bleeding
Lakes flowing, red glowing
Molten wakes its wrath escapes and
Ripped apart its fiery heart and

Captured!
Caught in lunar orbit chains, lava-soaked plains
Chaos, cosmic battle
Tug of war, Jupiter's claw

Mirror to the last, Earth years, volcanic past
Io, flames the way
Earth days, it could portray

Celestial tug of war
Perpetual yank and pull, for rule
Calamitous
Io, a fiery game
Battle for throne of the flames!

Sulphur frost sublimates, escapes
Sublimates, paints the land
All craters lost

Tvashtar and Pele fumes
Erupt umbrella plumes
Of colossal height
Beautiful blue light

Silicate lava
Dominates Io's fiery fields
Paterae, bloodstain
Volcanoes reign

Black, white, red, green
Io claims a colour scheme with yellow haze
Colours ablaze

Fire!

The Loki Patera, the Loki
The lava circles 'round
Quiescently abound

A sea of molten flows
And crusts that slowly grows
And sinks into the magma glowing fields
Repeatedly this sight forever builds

The power of such majestic land
To grasp and understand
The foundering lava skin
Unparalleled with its might, red and bright

Magnificent
Blazing hot, satellite

Deep seething, core bleeding
Vibrating, pulsating
Agonizing, polarizing

Captured!
Battlefield of
Molten flame, celestial game

Erupts
Prometheus
Pyroclastic fumes
Gas plumes

Io, a wondrous gift
Io, a paradigm shift, where
Dynamic worlds rise
Beyond our bright, sunlit skies

Fiery shores
Oh, Io
Caught in a tug of war
Orbital resonance

Moons that gravity elongates
Io's fate
A window to Earth's ancient last
Volcanic past!

Lyrics by Amanda Lee Falkenberg



II EUROPA

Is there an Ocean?

The Tectonic Plates of Europa
Image Credit: Ron Miller



Europa
Oceans far?
Europa

Water plumes?
Salty tombs?
Oceans bloom?
Is there life Europa, Europa?

Vapours leap
Secrets creep
Oceans sleep
Is there life, Europa?

What wonders do you hold?
Is it oceans of salty space gold?

In ancient lands untold
In solar years of old
Frozen cold
Truths unfold, truths unfold

Europa

The need to know
Your story, deep below

Yet time, far away
To learn of your glories one day

Europa, we'll find the sea
Europa, locked in mystery

Plumes and fumes and salty dust
Oceans live beneath the crust?

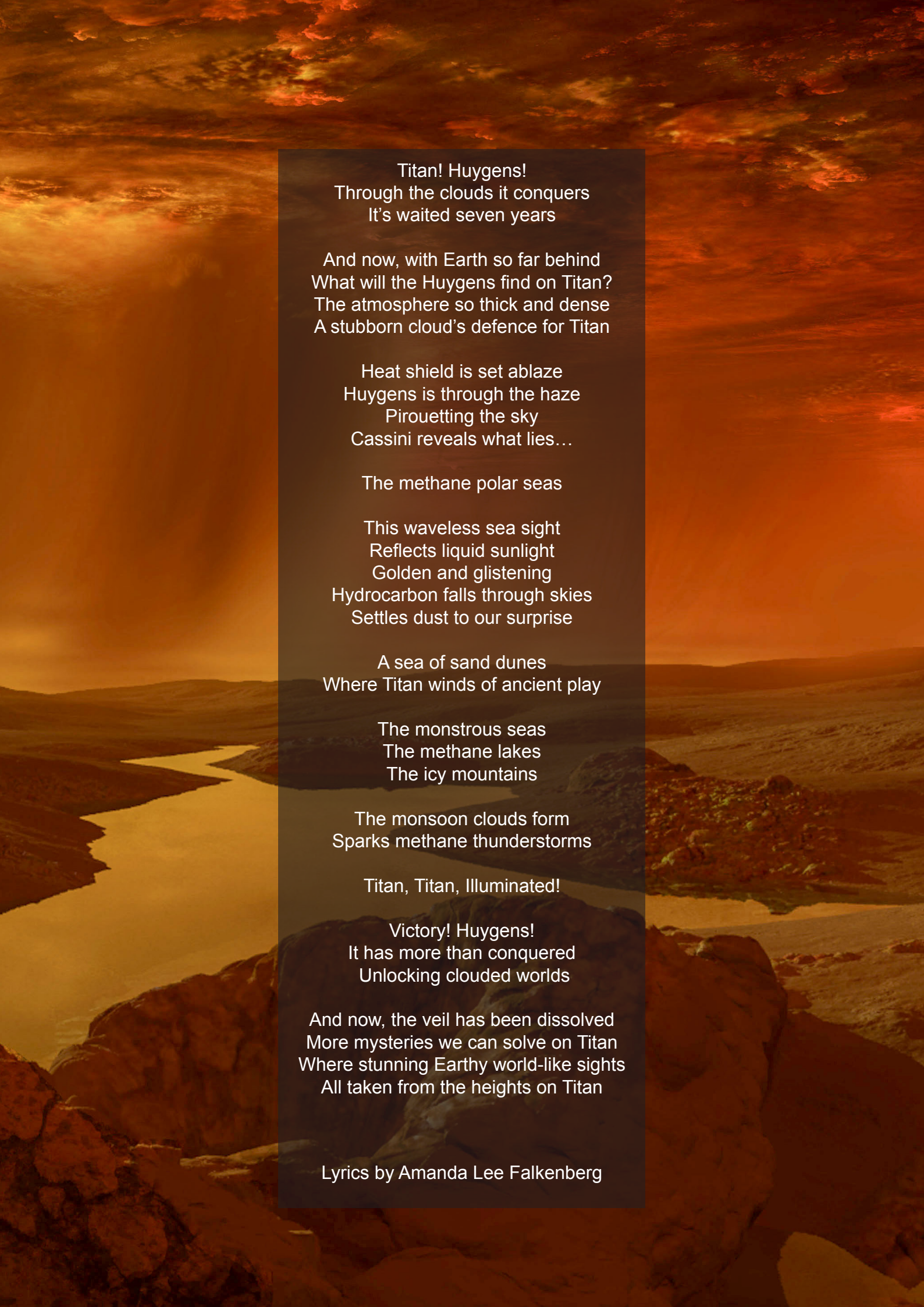
Lyrics by Amanda Lee Falkenberg



III TITAN

Equatorial Dunes and Methane Monsoons

Methane Monsoon on Titan
Image Credit: Ron Miller



Titan! Huygens!
Through the clouds it conquers
It's waited seven years

And now, with Earth so far behind
What will the Huygens find on Titan?
The atmosphere so thick and dense
A stubborn cloud's defence for Titan

Heat shield is set ablaze
Huygens is through the haze
Pirouetting the sky
Cassini reveals what lies...

The methane polar seas

This waveless sea sight
Reflects liquid sunlight
Golden and glistening
Hydrocarbon falls through skies
Settles dust to our surprise

A sea of sand dunes
Where Titan winds of ancient play

The monstrous seas
The methane lakes
The icy mountains

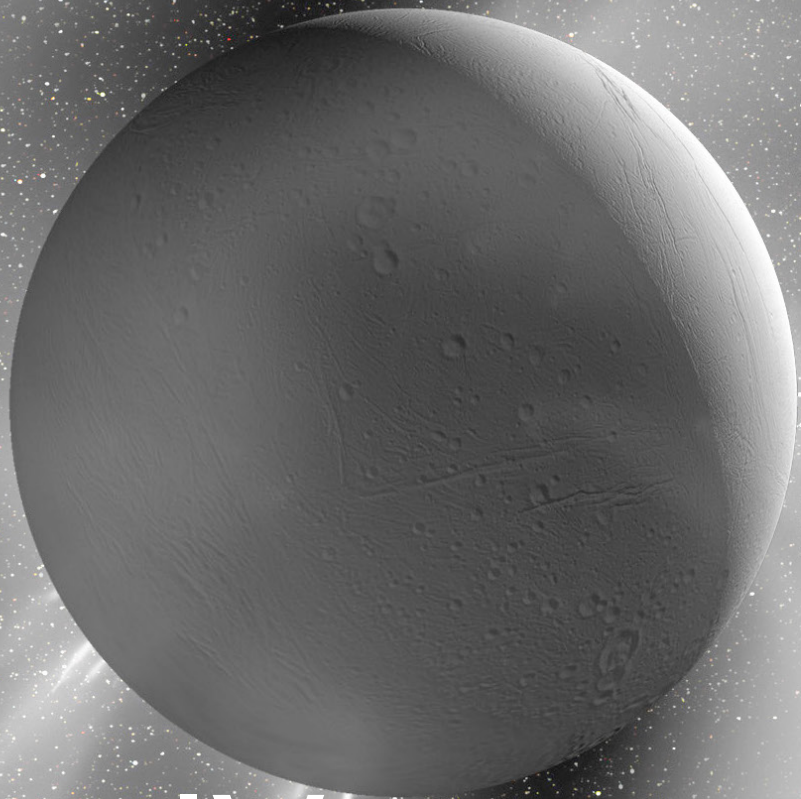
The monsoon clouds form
Sparks methane thunderstorms

Titan, Titan, Illuminated!

Victory! Huygens!
It has more than conquered
Unlocking clouded worlds

And now, the veil has been dissolved
More mysteries we can solve on Titan
Where stunning Earthy world-like sights
All taken from the heights on Titan

Lyrics by Amanda Lee Falkenberg



IV ENCELADUS

Rows and Rows of Gigantic Geysers

Geyser Trails on Enceladus
Image Credit: Ron Miller

Enceladus frost and flame
Orbiting in Saturn's reign
Whispers from an icy shell
Oceans deep with fiery swell

The lofty, towering sight
That crawled the sky in height
Enceladus, Enceladus

Tremors from a mystical site
Hostage ice dust burst in flight

Rows and rows, rows and rows
Rows and rows, rows and rows of
Plumes arise, plumes arise

Enceladus, Enceladus
Icy frost and flame

Vapours bursting, veils the skies
Rings of frost lay Saturn's frame
Fountains towards a night sky to claim

Rows and rows, rows and rows
Rows and rows, rows and rows
Enceladus, night sky to claim
Enceladus, night sky to claim

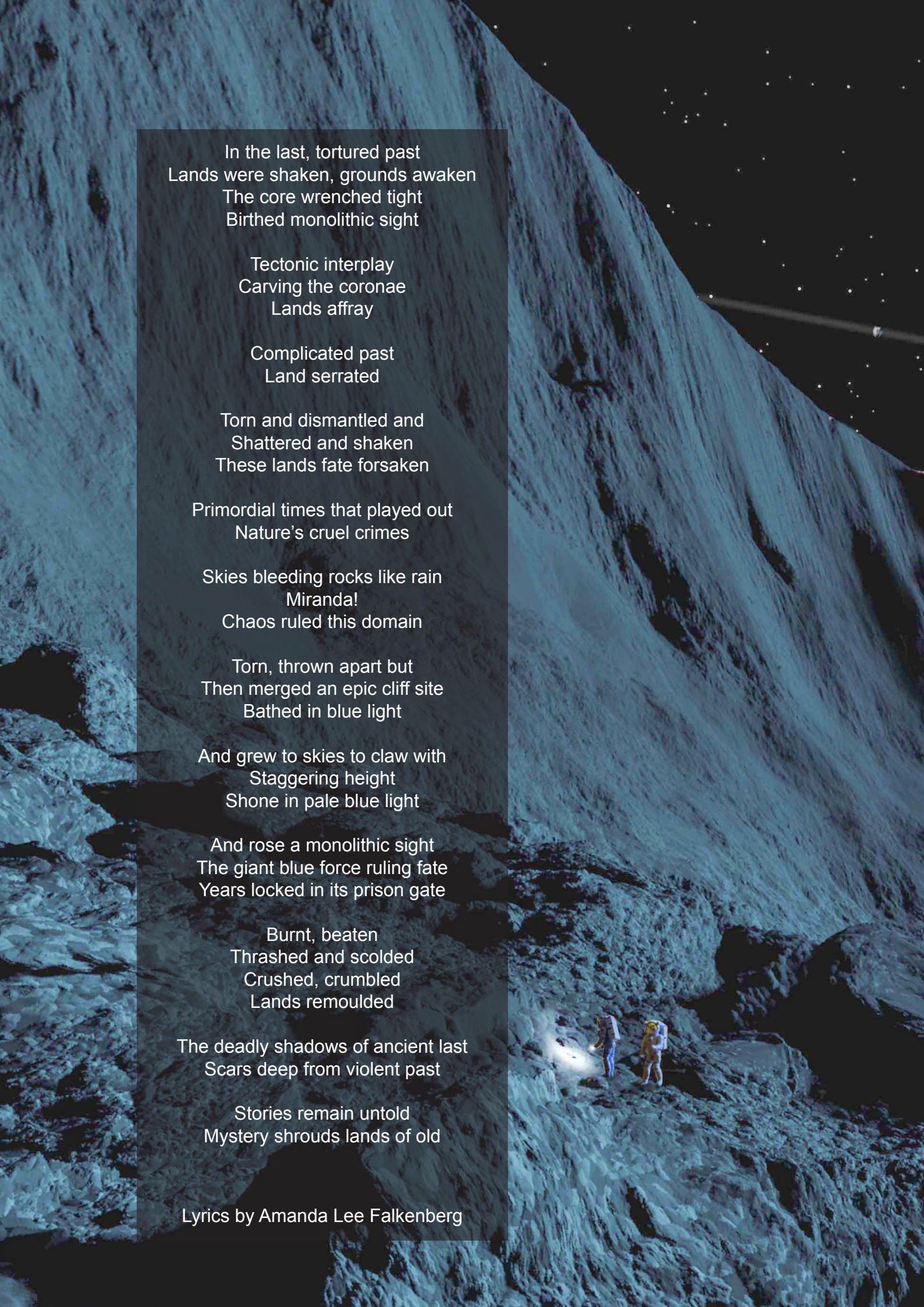
Enceladus frost and flame
Deep in shadow, Saturn's fame
Flowing waters subterrane'
Underneath an icy plain

The misty fountain sight
That rose to stars alight
Enceladus, Enceladus

Thunder from a watery ground
Frozen ice dust all around

Rows and rows, rows and rows
Rows and rows, rows and rows of
Plumes arise, plumes arise

Lyrics by Amanda Lee Falkenberg



In the last, tortured past
Lands were shaken, grounds awoken
The core wrenched tight
Birthed monolithic sight

Tectonic interplay
Carving the coronae
Lands affray

Complicated past
Land serrated

Torn and dismantled and
Shattered and shaken
These lands fate forsaken

Primordial times that played out
Nature's cruel crimes

Skies bleeding rocks like rain
Miranda!
Chaos ruled this domain

Torn, thrown apart but
Then merged an epic cliff site
Bathed in blue light

And grew to skies to claw with
Staggering height
Shone in pale blue light

And rose a monolithic sight
The giant blue force ruling fate
Years locked in its prison gate

Burnt, beaten
Thrashed and scolded
Crushed, crumbled
Lands remoulded

The deadly shadows of ancient last
Scars deep from violent past

Stories remain untold
Mystery shrouds lands of old

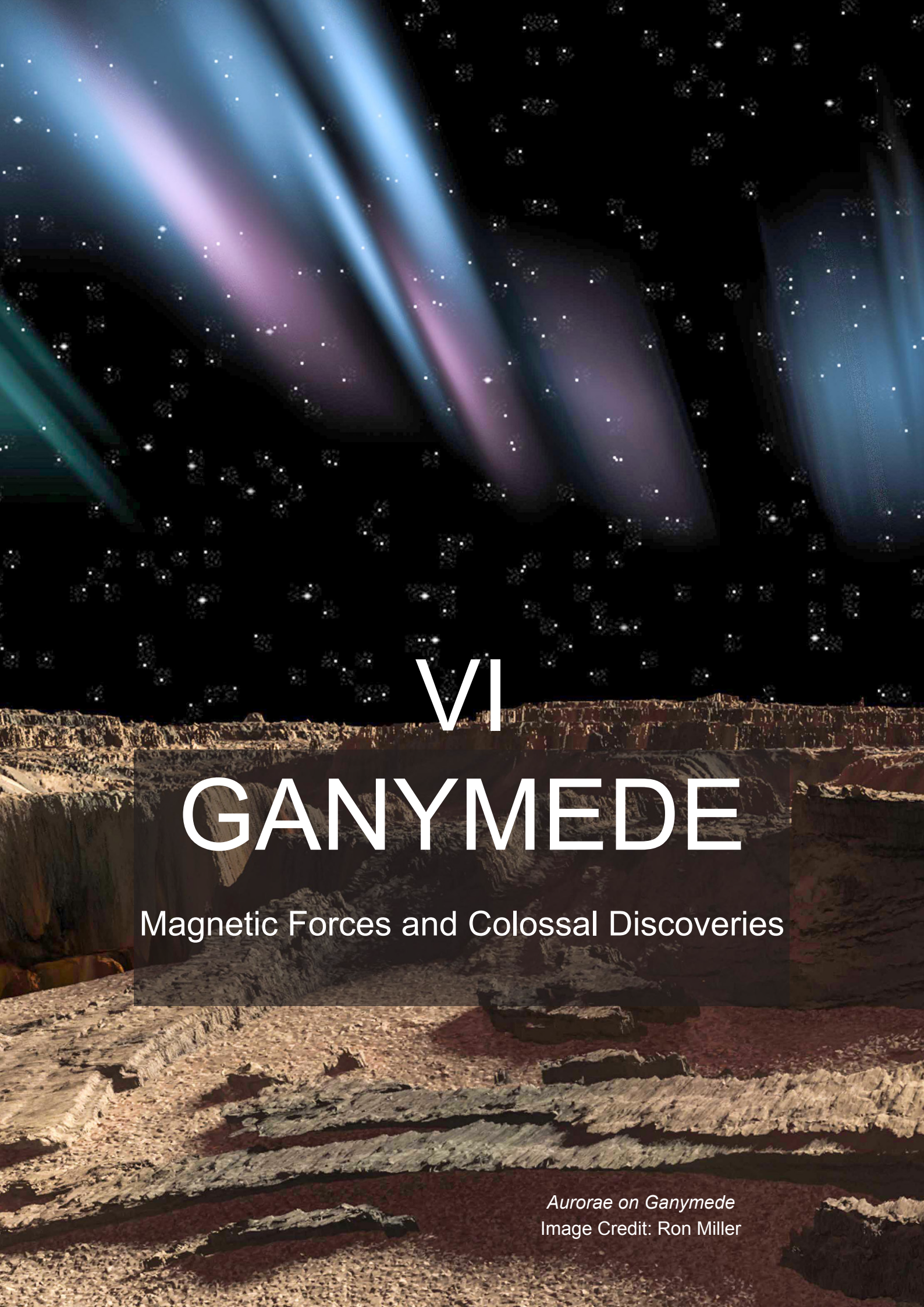
Lyrics by Amanda Lee Falkenberg



V MIRANDA

Monolithic Cliff

The Verona Rupes
Image Credit: Ron Miller

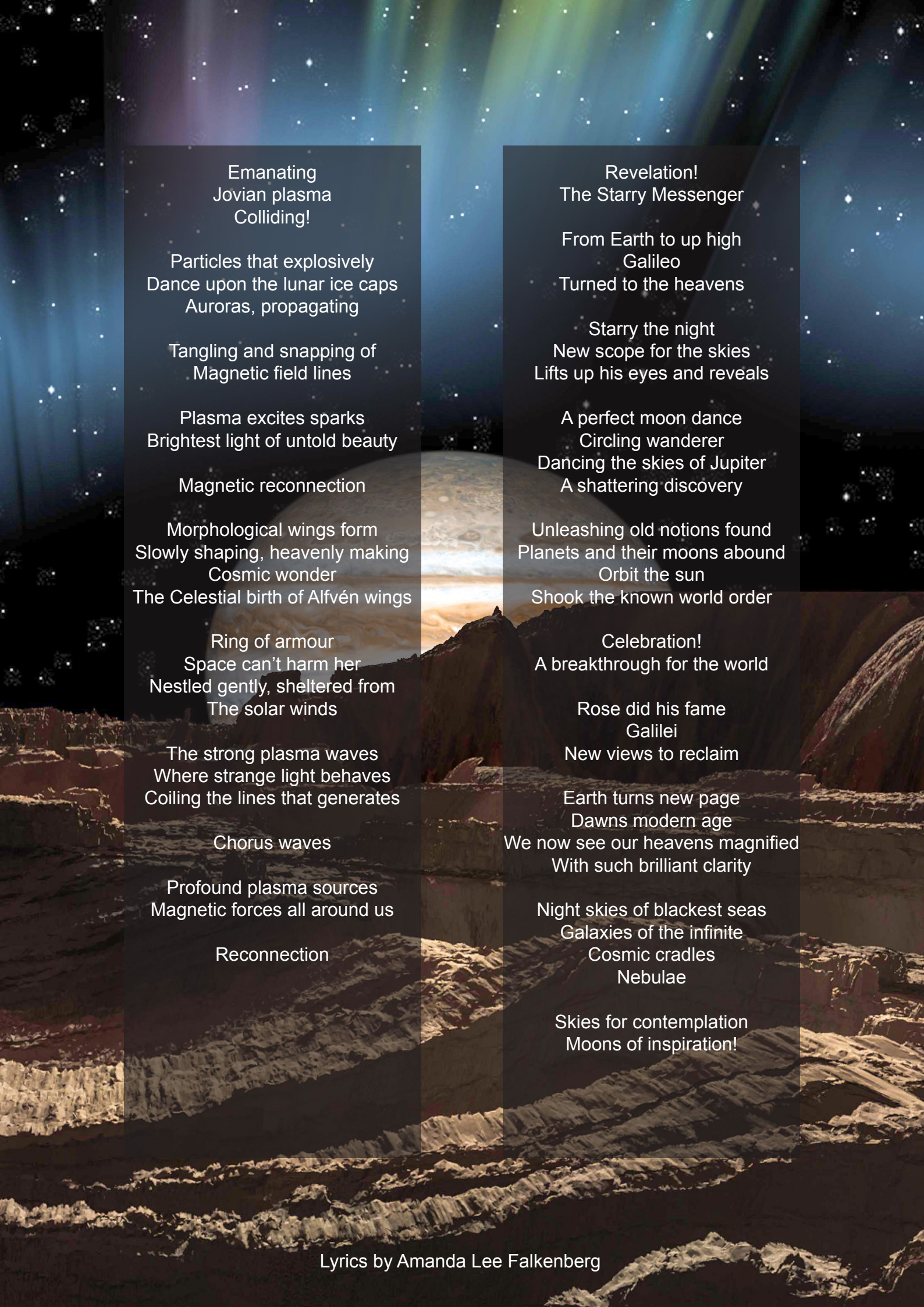
A composite image showing the aurora on Ganymede. The top half features a dark space background with numerous stars and several bright, diagonal streaks of light in shades of blue and purple, representing the aurora. The bottom half shows a rugged, rocky landscape of Ganymede with various ridges and valleys in shades of brown and tan. A semi-transparent dark rectangle is overlaid in the center, containing the title and subtitle.

VI

GANYMEDE

Magnetic Forces and Colossal Discoveries

Aurorae on Ganymede
Image Credit: Ron Miller



Emanating
Jovian plasma
Colliding!

Particles that explosively
Dance upon the lunar ice caps
Auroras, propagating

Tangling and snapping of
Magnetic field lines

Plasma excites sparks
Brightest light of untold beauty

Magnetic reconnection

Morphological wings form
Slowly shaping, heavenly making
Cosmic wonder
The Celestial birth of Alfvén wings

Ring of armour
Space can't harm her
Nestled gently, sheltered from
The solar winds

The strong plasma waves
Where strange light behaves
Coiling the lines that generates

Chorus waves

Profound plasma sources
Magnetic forces all around us

Reconnection

Revelation!
The Starry Messenger

From Earth to up high
Galileo
Turned to the heavens

Starry the night
New scope for the skies
Lifts up his eyes and reveals

A perfect moon dance
Circling wanderer
Dancing the skies of Jupiter
A shattering discovery

Unleashing old notions found
Planets and their moons abound
Orbit the sun
Shook the known world order

Celebration!
A breakthrough for the world

Rose did his fame
Galilei
New views to reclaim

Earth turns new page
Dawns modern age
We now see our heavens magnified
With such brilliant clarity

Night skies of blackest seas
Galaxies of the infinite
Cosmic cradles
Nebulae

Skies for contemplation
Moons of inspiration!

VII

EARTH MOON

Earthrise - The Overview

"Experiencing the Earth as a united whole is more than an idea for astronauts, it is a powerful reality, it is a message from the universe, not to space flyers alone, but to ALL of humanity."

- Nicole Stott
ISS Astronaut

Earthrise Seen From Our Moon
Photo Credit: NASA



Who and where
We are in this place?
Fragile race
Floating in space

But as we all turn
Our focus around
To lunar grounds
Space abounds

In the night sky
We look up high for
Worlds to explore
Our great cosmic shores

Lunar Earthrise
The overview
This spaceship we cruise
Our perspective moves

Luscious bright and blue
With dreamy Borealis hues
Skies we soar and
Space to explore

Lunar beauty
Serenity
The silence of time

As we sail the dark
For moon rays to climb

Traveling so far away
(The heavens)
Combing the night skies
When we saw our Earth rise!

Seeing Earth from this place
This image changed hearts
And our human race

Brave the lunar crew
Who risked their lives
To give this view

History birthed
A new frame of Earth

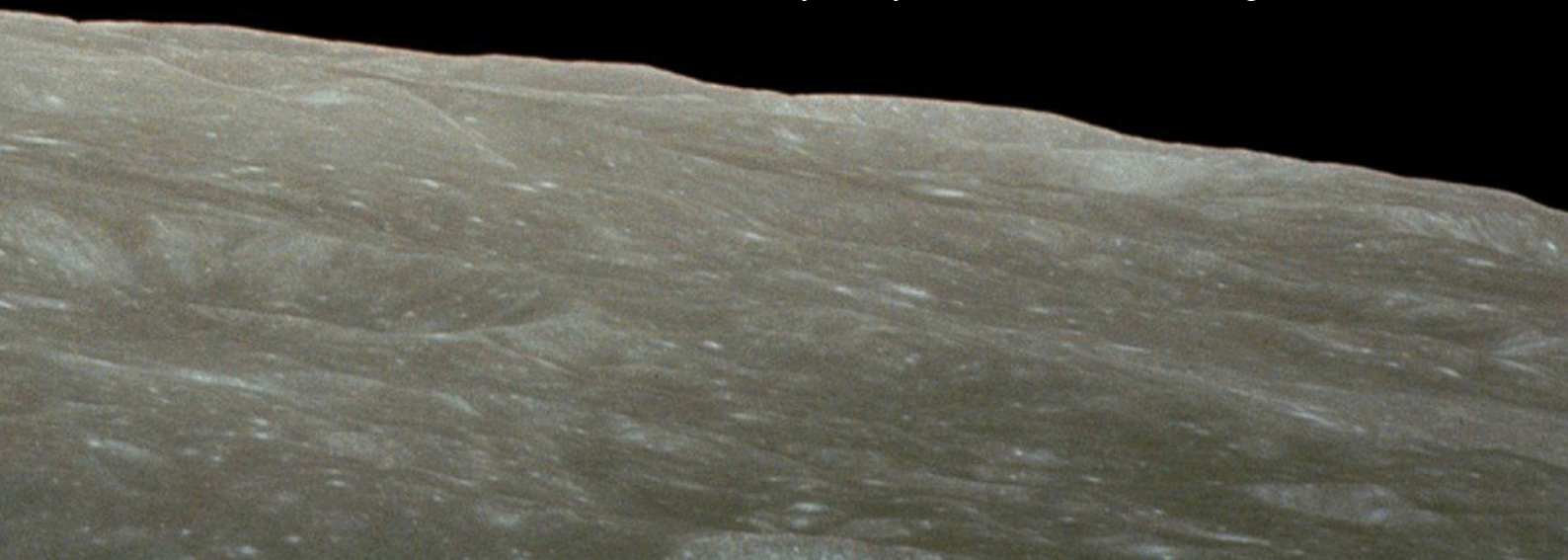
As we sail the dark
For moon rays to climb

Earth viewed from this site
Brought a new insight
When we saw our Home rise!

Earth united and whole
(Our planet)
Glorious Earthrise

What will the future hold?

Lyrics by Amanda Lee Falkenberg





www.moons-symphony.com

Methane Monsoon on Titan
Image Credit: Ron Miller