

## Swinburne's Rhymed Sestina

### Labyrinth of Egypt at Harawa

- 1a The massive labyrinth it has been told  
2b is one of our most wondrous sites in antiquity.  
3a It could be over two millenia old;  
4b studied by international UNESCO authority  
5a What discoveries will new surveys unfold?  
6b This maze is an enigma to the majority.
- 6 Unknown to world's majority,  
1 a new perception of the past could be told,  
4 some old knowledge and authority  
3 coming from records so old  
2 it's before our grasp of antiquity.  
5 What will new research of colossal temple unfold?
- 5 A Hall of Records with secrets could unfold.  
6 predictions that could effect the majority  
1 of living beings could be foretold.  
4 Herodotus was one ancient authority  
3 to write in his travels of this labyrinth then old--  
2 a labyrinth with pyramid of great antiquity.
- 2 Salt-eroding hieroglyphs and paintings from antiquity,  
5 sacred crocodile and royal burials could unfold.  
6 Time has erased the majority.  
1 So much could remain hidden it is told.  
4 Researchers need Egyptian authority  
3 to study these mysterious treasures of old.
- 3 Water, looting and time could reduce old  
2 remnants of the legendary building of such great antiquity.  
1 Stone was mined for other projects we are told.  
6 What is gone is alas the majority  
5 with little known of what can still unfold.  
4 Can we protect and act with international authority?
- 4 Who can speak with accurate, truthful authority  
3 when the artifacts and knowledge are so old?  
2 So much is lost of our world heritage from antiquity  
5 and we do not know what possibilities could unfold  
6 that could enhance the lives of the modern majority  
1 wondering what prophecies the labyrinth told.

1-4 We are told the labyrinth once commanded authority  
2-3 in antiquity with prophetic knowledge so old  
5-6 it foretold future that could unfold that effects the current majority.

### **Swinburne's Rhymed Sestina**

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1. Modified sestina order to accommodate a-b-a-b-a-b rhyme scheme.
2. End-words sequence:

Stanza #1: 1-2-3-4-5-6  
Stanza #2 6-1-4-3-2-5  
Stanza #3 5-6-1-4-3-2  
Stanza #4 2-5-6-1-4-3  
Stanza #5 3-2-1-6-5-4  
Stanza #6 4-3-2-5-6-1

Envoy 1-4 2-3 5-6