II. THE REALM OF PRATYEKA BUDDHAS

-by David and Susan Rounds

- A In an aranya, all alone,
- B Pratyekabuddhas banish the world.
- C Casting off care, serene in a cave,
- D Deep in the hills they delve for true gold.
- E They watch the endless flow of existence:
- F In spring the flowers, blooming and fading;
- G Green the summer, growing, fruiting;
- H Fall in the harvest, hard the labor;
- I In winter, ice. All's impermanent,
- J Just a circle: no joy that lasts.
- K Karma creates it and keeps it going
- L Through links of cause. They learn the twelve
- M And leave the mire. They see the mind

- N And know the nature. Nirvana's virtues
- O Open to them, now their own:
- P Permanence, bliss, true self, and purity.
- Q Their thoughts are quiet, all demons quelled.
- R Aniruddha gave his rice
- S To a Solitary One; the Sage
- T Did transformations eighteen times.
- U An unruly hare brought wealth unending.
- V Such is the virtue, mighty and vast
- W Of worthy ones who waken to cause.
- X To excel among men, take their example.
- Y The sages of yore are yet our models.
- Z Strive with zeal to know the zero!