

"Tropics"
Henri Rousseau



Before men were the apes
And the monkeys before
Ran the earth;
All was of tropical fur
In the forest's retreat
Came the apricot-orange,
Orange surrounding the eyes
Green as the catholic charms
For each; one - prehistoric
Predicting monk seats,
Juices for thought filled the fern
Each tree tied a tail
Retraced;
In the twine came the witness to time.
Then the fall.