

Optiks

Alicia Pattison

with a k, as in knight
Sir Isaac
who upon seeing an apple fall to the ground
dubbed gravity the perpetrator.

it must have been that ruddy red,
colliding on the morning dew
as transparent rays of energy
poured between films of chloroform
which led him to discover
refracted light.

Thus the prism was invented.

So he contemplated the moon
needing to understand
the attraction across empty space—
then it was the oceans,
tidal waves' ebb and flow.
But did he know eight glasses of water
and an apple a day
were a daily requirement
for a healthy human body?

Oh inventor of invisible forces!
What say you on matters of faith?
Could you see?
Heaven is a glass spectrum
of reflected light
where souls are drawn
like the apple pulled to earth.