**GOD LIVES ON TERRA**

by Julia Ecklar

I was born in Inverness on the second day of spring,

But I so yearned to sail the stars, my heart did long to sing,

So when I made my sixteenth year I signed my life away

And flew out from this world to which with joy I come today.

Now somewhere in Eighth sector there's a world called Hellendale,

Where all the good ol' spacefolk did decide the gods did live

And, aye, that world is heavenly, but heaven it not be,

For my God made my heart and made the land most dear to me.

And God lives on Terra in her lands of evergreen,

Her silken skies over velvet vales, most lovely I have seen,

And when I watch a sunset fade from red to royal blue

I known God lives on Terra. She's His own dream come true.

Now I've see the sun on Arrakis and I've felt her golden sand.

On Wrigley's I once won a bet and I've held a queen's fair hand

And I've made love in the summer camp of a Rigel mountain camp

And seen the universe on Pern from dragonback.

Yes, I've seen this whole grand galaxy and I thank the Lord for that.

I thank the God for the chance to go and for the chance to now come back

And I thank the Lord that I was born in the cradle of mankind.

I love the God Who made this world whose beauty outlives time.

For God lives on Terra in the hearts and souls of man.

Why search the stars for lost Eden's shores when He made her right at hand?

The beauty of her blueness always moves my heart to tears

For God so loved Terra that he chose to live right here.

Yes, God lives on Terra. He lives and loves right here.

[refers to Sector Eight series by Michael Atamanov, the Dune series by Frank Herbert, the Pern series by Ann McCaffrey, the Edenists of "The Way to Eden" by Michael Ricjards and Arthur Heineman, Wrigley's planet in "The Man Trap" by George Clayton Johnson]