

THE YOUNG MASTER

It is said many Craftsmen had cast it aside
It is said that the marble was flawed
Two Masters had started but then walked away
A Young Man was given the nod

It is said that he saw what was trapped in the stone
He committed to releasing its form
He saw beyond temporal and into eternal
And recognized calm in a storm



A decade had passed since the stone had been quarried
And a year since the last Master tried
We now find the Young Man observing the stone
Before he reveals what's inside

The hours accrue - days - maybe weeks
Before his first tool is employed
Two years will pass before he is done
Now his hammer and chisel are poised

He is keenly aware the material is weak
He cannot risk rashness or haste
Each chisel-strike and each hammer-blow
Is intentional and perfectly placed

He was brash he was bold with a very short fuse
Yet gifted and patient when needed
His World was in awe and remains to this day
As his work on the stone was completed

Michelangelo Buonarotti at age twenty-four
Revealed - for he was never dissuaded
That God - at creation - had set within stone
A likeness of the Shepherd Boy David



