Abel, Cain

Orson Scott Card

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/byusq

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/byusq/vol21/iss1/9

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in BYU Studies Quarterly by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.
Abel, Cain

Orson Scott Card

Corn is the soil’s song, and wheat the hymn
Of heavy fields; who wields the sickle sheaves
The stalks in golden holds and cantileves
In measures the plain-song and the praise-Him.

Home-come sheep cry far and dim
To this stony altar where the shepherd grieves,
Covered with sorrow and the fallen leaves,
Shadowed with sorrow and the low-hung limb;

And bowed, an unshorn lamb he bleeds in grim
Similitude of his father’s son; aggrieves
Not, nor wished to; but the scythe bereaves,
And the strong-armed reaper, watching, envies him
Whose hill music and silence God believes
As sung in sheep’s song and the herd its hymn.

Orson Scott Card is well-known to LDS audiences for his poetry, drama, and science fiction.