

Voyager One even carries a message  
From the United Nations,  
Conveying humble human greetings  
In English, but not saying a linguistic  
Dicky bird about warfare, torture, terrorism,  
And the other things we're inhumanly  
Good at.

If you want to see real arrogance, then,  
Look at the big nude white chief  
With his hand raised, on the Pioneer plaque.  
He's waving hello,  
(But not to the Ethiopian children),  
Or perhaps he's just thrown something,  
A grenade, possibly.

The irony, of course,  
Is that the searchers are, in a sense,  
Right. We are not alone.  
There is a force be with us,  
But it can be sensed without telescopes.  
Though further away than light years  
It is nearer than our next breath.

May that force grow in us,  
Work through us,  
Stay with us,  
Interviewers, observers,  
Poets, and all,  
Now,  
And at the hour of our last breath.

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#### CORRECTIONS

Peter Hebblethwaite: 'Understanding German Catholics—the work of H.G. Barnes', April issue, p. 188, line 5 : after 'Bishop Clemens August Graf' insert the bishop's surname, 'Galen'.

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Santiago Sia: 'The Doctrine of God's Immutability; introducing the modern debate', May issue, p. 224, line 15 : this should, of course, read 'Lastly, for Aquinas change implies *imperfection* ...'.

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