

“The Vila Builds a Town”

The white vila builds a city,
not on the earth nor in the heaven;
it is built upon the cloud-banks.
For the city there are three gates:
the first gate is made all golden;
the second gate is made of pearl;
the third gate is all in scarlet.
Here is the gate made all in gold;
at this gate her son is married.
Here is the gate of shining pearl;
at this gate her daughter weds.
Here is the gate set all in scarlet;
on it the vila sits alone.
On it she sits alone and watches.
As the lightning plays with thunder,
so a sister with two brothers,
a bride with her two brothers-in-law.
the lightning overcomes the thunder,
as a sister does her brothers,
as a bride her brothers-in-law.