

Sometime during eternity
some guys show up
and one of them
who shows up real late
is a kind of carpenter
from some square-type place
like Galilee
and he starts wailing
and claiming he is hip
to who made heaven
and earth
and that the cat
who really laid it on us
is his Dad

And moreover
he adds

It's all writ down
on some scroll-type
parchments
which some scribesmen
leave lying around the Dead Sea
somewheres
a long time ago

and which you won't even find
for a coupla thousand years or so
or at least for
nineteen hundred and fortyseven
of them
to be exact
and even then
nobody really believes them
or me
for that matter

You're hot
they tell him
And they cool him

They stretch him on the Tree to cool
And everybody after that
is always making models
of this Tree
with Him hung up
and always crooning His name
and calling Him to come down
and sit in on

as if he is the king cat
their combo
or they can't quite make it
who's got to blow

Only he don't come down
from His Tree

Him just hang there
on His Tree

looking real Petered out
and real cool
and also
according to a roundup
of late world news
from the usual unreliable sources
real dead

LAWRENCE FERLINGHETTI