

Gilbert, Allan H., On the Composition of Paradise Lost, 1966

p. 80 The Two Narratives of Adam's Creation - Book VII and Book VIII

Adam's creation is related twice. First, it appears in the Six Days as they are set forth by Raphael in Book VII, where it is on the same^{p.81} scale as the other days. Like the rest of the chronicle of Creation, it is taken from Genesis 1, with the addition of the warning to Adam from Genesis 2.16,17. Second, in the eighth book, Adam, following the second chapter of Genesis, describes his own beginning. ((There is an apparent contradiction which is explained))

pp.85-89 The Early Arrangement of Paradise Lost

- Book I Lines 1 - 40 Invocation
 - Book V Lines 694-802 War in Heaven
 - Book VI Lines 44-107, 205-669 Book VI
 - Book I Lines 50-669 Satan's Host in Hell
 - Book II Lines 884-1055 Satan's Voyage
 - Book VII Lines 131-634 Creation
 - Book III Lines 56-92, 250-65 Council in Heaven
Lines 418-end Satan in the Sun
 - Book IV Lines 1-775 Satan in the Garden; Adam and Eve
 - Book V Lines 1-543 Raphael's visit
 - Book VIII Lines 198-643 Adam's narrative to Raphael
 - Book VI Lines 895-912 Warning to Adam against Satan
 - Book IX Lines 48-end. The Fall
 - Book X Lines 1-228 Judgment
Lines 649-end. Sufferings of Adam and Eve; quarrel, penitence
 - Book XI Lines 1-71. Redemption
Lines 72-end. Michael's visit to Adam
 - Book XII Lines 1-end. Michael's visit and the expulsion from the Garden.
- Another column giving passages not then included

p. 171 A theory of perfection removes the artist from the realm of faulty men and makes his poem a work of magic rather than of the human spirit at its best, with intellect and emotion doing all they can. If the poet is a man among men, he has not only bestowed labor on many passages but, however much he has attained, has left other passages on which he might have put additional labor. Icy perfection would mark a poet as inhuman.