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The Pipe and Board

Ethan Kagin
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The Pipe and Board

Ethan Kagin

A puff of smoke
A spark of flame
A wooden pipe
An old chess game

Both are scholars,
Both may teach,
Each in silence
Devoid of speech

The pipe,
The trademark of a man
May lead to listen,
As no other can

Calm your breathing,
Still your tongue
Learn to listen,
Like the young

On the board,
Eight men stand
Each a leader
Of the land

The pipe made gentle,
The game made wise
To a man of character
The challenge lies

Be the king
Of his own
By love's grace,
Hold the throne

See the enemy
As they come,
Face your fear,
Beat the drums

Only you can beat your foe,
The army from your heart of woe
With courage, valor, and wisdom strong
Your army cries its battle song

At last, you see, their king at bay
At last, you see you've won the day
And as the smoke clears you will find
Peace inside your weary mind