

VLEDGE.

suffice me —O if I

he prairies, Ohio's
ed me—For them I

erocoes—I heard of
s persons—And it
e to be as dauntless

strike up the songs
ved my life must be

land of the south

Lake Huron—and
a—and you Niagara

i each and all find
ongs,

—One who loves me
om all but love,
at I thought would
empty and tasteless

The States, and the

10
with him I love,
—We never separate

HEAVY-HEARTED.

ted,
onesome and unfre-
ng my face in my

go forth, speeding
the city streets, or
ive cries ;

Hours discouraged, distracted—for the one I cannot content my-
self without, soon I saw him content himself without me ;
Hours when I am forgotten, (O weeks and months are passing,
but I believe I am never to forget !)

Sullen and suffering hours ! (I am ashamed—but it is useless—I
am what I am ;)

Hours of my torment—I wonder if other men ever have the like,
out of the like feelings ?

Is there even one other like me—distracted—his friend, his
lover, lost to him ?

Is he too as I am now ? Does he still rise in the morning, de-
jected, thinking who is lost to him ? and at night, awak-
ing, think who is lost ?

Does he too harbor his friendship silent and endless ? harbor his
anguish and passion ?

Does some stray reminder, or the casual mention of a name,
bring the fit back upon him, taciturn and deprest ?

Does he see himself reflected in me ? In these hours, does he
see the face of his hours reflected ?



WHO IS NOW READING THIS?

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Who is now reading this ?

May-be one is now reading this who knows some wrong-doing
of my past life,

Or may-be a stranger is reading this who has secretly loved me,
Or may-be one who meets all my grand assumptions and ego-
tisms with derision,

Or may-be one who is puzzled at me.

As if I were not puzzled at myself !

Or as if I never deride myself ! (O conscience-struck ! O self-
convicted !)

Or as if I do not secretly love strangers ! (O tenderly, a long
time, and never avow it ;)

Or as if I did not see, perfectly well, interior in myself, the stuff
of wrong-doing,

Or as if it could cease transpiring from me until it must cease.