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W. R. SCRIVEN. J. A. SCRIVEN.



"PASSED."



"What is She Like, My Fair?"

(SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR "OUR SOCIETY.")

What is she like, my passion?
How does she look, my fair?
Would you ask me the form or fashion
Of her features, her eyes and hair?

Though your heart in sympathy flutter
My lips will ever demur,
And the voice refuses to utter
The music that speaks of her.

Was it a loveliness haughty
I worshipped when first we met?
Or was she coquettishly naughty
With glances of hazel or jet?
Was she divine as a dancer?
With her voice did she weave the spell;
Oh, brother poet, my answer
Is that I cannot tell.

You say that you too have drifted
Into love's trammelling,
The trouble that makes us gifted,
The sorrow that makes us sing,
Have felt the emotion fiery,
And trembled you know not why;
What need then of such enquiry,
You have found her as well as I.

To each of us Fate shall send her
She cometh for good or ill
And for some shall her smile be tender,
And for some shall her frown be chill.
And hope like a baffled cruiser
On oceans of doubt shall toss,
Say, is it the winner or loser
Who suffers the greater loss?

Ah, 'tis an elusive capture
Pursued by a blinded throng,
And short is the gleam of rapture
And the wail of despair is long,
And the jester with weird endeavour
Must murmur the world's refrain,
Though his longing be gladdened never
And his heart go out in vain.

What is she like, my passion?
How does she look my fair?
Would you ask me the form or fashion
Of her features her eyes and hair?
As the stars are alike above her,
Like her sisters fair is she
Only because I love her
She's fairer than all to me.

—Four of Clubs.

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