

So away they went together. And now the path became broad and smooth again, while everything appeared charming in Pierre's eyes, especially his companion. What wonderful tales he did tell! And he lavished such praise upon Pierre that his mind was all in a flutter of delight. And as for Queen Mab, he could hardly say enough in her favour.

"Oh! so you know the Queen?" said Pierre.

"Yes; I know her very well. But see! here is a delightful spot. Let us rest for a while."

Pierre, who by this time was feeling very tired, gladly consented, and, resting his head against a rock, he was soon fast asleep.

How long he remained thus he could not say, but he awoke suddenly with a start, to find himself possessed by a burning thirst. His companion had vanished, and in his place sat a queer little figure, holding in his hand a beautiful goblet filled with some sparkling liquid. It seemed to Pierre's fevered imagination the one thing to be desired. Reaching out his hand, he was about to take hold of it, when the warning words given him by Queen Mab recurred to his mind. Down fell his hand. But, oh! how thirsty he felt. It seemed worse than