

ONLY A KISS

Only a kiss, a mother's kiss,
Sacred, and pure, and true.
The world would laugh
If you tried to tell
What wonders a kiss would do.
It would bring you back from the path of hell,
That mother's kiss to you.

Down in the depths of black despair,
When the heart is lonely and sad.
Only a kiss from a loving friend,
And your heart again grows glad.
But that friend was true,
And she gave to you
All the proof that she had.

Only a kiss from a stranger,
A careless but loving kiss,
And the orphan's face
Lit up with smiles,
And almost heavenly bliss.
The stranger gave
To that lonely child
What she would never miss.

Only a farewell kiss.
His brow is dark with pain.
Tears fall from her lovely eyes;
They may never meet again.
But if on the battlefield
He should fall,
That last sweet kiss
Would seem dearer than all.

Only a kiss on a fair wife's face
From a husband strong and true,
And all she had suffered was quite forgot,
And she said, "I would die for you."
Only a kiss—the bond of earthly love—
Yet it links us close with the throne above.