
Reflection

That I had ever known the boundless joy
And raptured awe that bore th' aspiring soul
In fancy's wildest ecstasy afar
In realms of grand romance ! Had I but known
The charm that Hope extends to them that strive,
I might not now have felt what 'tis to fail
And lose her grace withal. Alas, bright Hope,
That I too late must learn that here below
Grim smiling Evil follows fast upon
And in proportion to the promised joy
That leads the aspiring way !

And still withal
Though I no more shall know thee in this world
Of conscious being, yet will I delight
To treasure thee in memory's fondest dreams,
And dwell upon thine all untiring zeal
And fervent love for me ! In all my dreams,
Thy spirit shall preside and haunt my soul