

For in my soul there was no room
 For aught, save this, that I might see
 Methought I might have seen, I lost my way,
 And grop'd on in uncertainty
 At length, the glimmer of a light
 Afar off, struck upon my sight
 And then it brighten'd into day.
 I 'woke 'mongst shrieks of agony,
 Some lawless rovers at that sea
 Were struggling for the mastery,
 Instantly to the deck I flew,
 Scarce had the carnage met my view,
 When suddenly I found a dart
 Had pierc'd, and seem'd to probe my heart:
 I felt my reason ebb away,
 And with it consciousness of pain.
 At length, strange sounds rung in mine ears,
 Methought my old mother, in tears,
 Came to me, and crouched by her side
 My lov'd, but now forsaken bride,
 Who, with tears, seem'd to shade my stay,
 And strove to hurry me away.
 I 'woke within the port of day,
 'Midst revelry of strange men,
 And yet I almost blest my fate,
 For I had now grown desperate;
 Here were villains, who tam'd slaves
 Whom circumstance had made to sin;
 And I, too, was a slave to sin,
 A secret consciousness of guilt
 Proclaim'd this dark society,
 The best, fate could have made me