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I beg you

flos pulcher-  
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—one person is enough to be speaking at a time.  
—I shall be done by and by, and then you may  
begin.—How the devil, sir, did you get into this  
place?—not a word I beseech you—been here  
some time myself—terrible accident!—heard of  
it, I suppose?—awful calamity!—walking under  
your windows—some short while ago—about the  
time you were stage-struck—horrible occurrence!  
—heard of 'catching one's breath,' eh?—hold  
your tongue I tell you!—I caught somebody  
else's!—had always too much of my own—met  
Blab at the corner of the street—wouldn't give  
me a chance for a word—couldn't get in a syl-  
lable edgeways—attacked, consequently, with  
epilepsis—Blab made his escape—damn all fools!  
—they took me up for dead, and put me in this  
place—pretty doings all of them!—heard all you  
said about me—every word a lie—horrible!—  
—wonderful!—outrageous!—hideous!—in-  
comprehensible!—et cetera—et cetera—et cetera  
—et cetera——"

It is impossible to conceive my astonishment  
at so unexpected a discourse; or the joy with  
which I became gradually convinced that the  
breath so fortunately caught by the gentleman  
(whom I soon recognized as my neighbor Wind-  
enough) was, in fact, the identical expiration  
mis-laid by myself in the conversation with my  
wife. Time, place, and circumstance rendered it  
a matter beyond question. I did not, however,  
immediately release my hold upon Mr. W.'s pro-  
boscis—not at least during the long period in