

Could now withstand me after seeing thee;
I know thou art but shadow, but I trust
Soon thy reality again to meet.

(Following the phantom he passes the dragons and exit.)

Scene III.

The same.

First voice—

Upright and bold in heart, and strong through love,
Moreover trusting in the strength of hope
He hath withstood us all, and baffled us
And passeth on to Hades.

Second Voice—

Aye, and shalt win
That which he came to seek. Who can withstand
The magic art of song, that pleads with all,
Appealing to the hard, the soft, the bold,
That showeth weakness with the weak, with love
Putteth on loving airs, and ne'er the less
Again derideth love; with hate, revenge
It pealeteth fierce and terrible. With all
The passions it can be combined, and doth
Overcome them all. By its own innate force
The gates of hell shall ope' and let him through;
The bars of Death shall not restrain his love;
The laughterless shall put aside his frown,
Yea, and shall grant his quest. And conquering all
He shall repass the Styx with her he sought.

Third voice—

Ay, ye say rightly, but ye know not all,
He conquereth now by love upheld by hope;
But when his hope appeareth almost gained
Then comes another power that plays on love.
This will I use to tempt him to his doom.

Scene IV.

The banks of the River Styx. Enter Charon in boat.
Charon—

Mine is a thankless task; through endless time
To ferry mournful shades o'er stagnant tides,