

The Child's Warning.

There's bloom upon the lady's cheek
 There's brightness in her eye
 Who says the sentence has gone forth
 That that fair thing must die.

Must die before the flowering time
 Out yonder stands its leaf
 Can this be O human flower
 Thy blossoming so brief

May may be but a passing cloud
 Thou wilt but droop awhile
 There's life long years and love and joy
 Whole ages in that smile

In the gay call that to thy knee
 Brings quick that loving child
 Who looks up in those laughing eyes
 With his large eyes so mild

Yet thou art doomed art dying all
 The coming hour foreseen
 But in love's cowardice withheld
 The warning word from thee

God keep thee and be merciful
 For this straggle is with the weak
 Through babes and sucklings the most high
 Hath oft vouchsafed to speak

And squats now O mother dear
 Murmurs the little child
 And there is trouble in his eyes
 Those large blue eyes so mild

The Child's Warning.

O mother dear they say that soon
 When I am sick for thee
 I shall not find thee nor out find
 Under the oak tree

Not up stairs in the nursery
 Not any where they say
 Where wilt thou go to mother dear
 O do not go away

Then was long silence a deep hush
 And then the child's low sob
 Her quivering eye lids close one hand
 Keeps down the heart's quick throbs

And the lips move though sound is none
 That inward voice is prayer
 And hark thy will O Lord be done
 And tears are trickling there

Down that pale cheek on that young head
 And round her neck he clings
 And child and mother murmur out
 Unutterable things

She half unconscious she deep struck
 With sudden solemn truth
 That number I owe her days on earth
 Her strength prepared in youth

That all in life her heart holds dear
 God calls her to resign
 She hears feet trembles but looks up
 And sighs thy will be mine O C