

## BOO TO BUDDHA!

So it is eighteen years,  
    Helena, since we met!  
A season so endears,  
    Nor you nor I forget  
The fresh young faces that once clove  
In that most fiery dawn of love.

We wandered to and fro,  
    Who knew not how to woo,  
Those eighteen years ago,  
    Sweetheart, when I and you  
Exchanged high vows in heaven's sight  
That scarce survived a summer's night.

What scourge smote from the stars?  
    What madness from the moon?  
That night we broke the bars  
    Was quintessential June,  
When you and I beneath the trees  
Bartered our bold virginities.

Eighteen—years, months, or hours?  
    Time is a tyrant's toy!  
Eternal are the flowers!  
    We are but girl and boy  
Yet—since love leapt as swift to-night  
As it had never left the light!

## THE EQUINOX

For fiercer from the South  
Still flames your cruel hair,  
And Trojan Helen's mouth  
Still not so ripe and rare  
As Helena's—nor love nor youth  
So leaps with lust or thrills with truth.

Helena, still we hold  
Flesh firmer, still we mix  
Black hair with hair as gold.  
Life has but served to fix  
Our hearts ; love lingers on the tongue,  
And who loves once is always young.

The stars are still the same ;  
The changeful moon endures ;  
Come without fear or shame,  
And draw my mouth to yours !  
Youth fails, however flesh be fain ;  
Manhood and womanhood attain.

Life is a string of pearls,  
And you the first I strung.  
You left—first flower of girls !—  
Life lyric on my tongue,  
An indefatigable dance,  
An inexhaustible romance !

Blush of love's dawn, bright bud  
That bloomed for my delight,  
First blossom of my blood,  
Burn in that blood to-night !

## BOO TO BUDDHA!

Helena, Helena, fiercely fresh,  
Your flesh flies fervent to my flesh.

What sage can dare impugn  
Man's immortality?  
Our godhead swims, immune  
From death and destiny.  
Ignored the bubble in the flow  
Of love eighteen short years ago!

Time—I embrace all time  
As my arm rings your waist.  
Space—you surpass, sublime,  
As, taking me, we taste  
Omnipotence, sense slaying sense,  
Soul slaying soul, omniscience.