Rose

Rose on the breast of the world of spring, I press my breast against thy bloom,

My subtle life drawn out to thee: to thee its moods and meanings cling.

I pass from change and thought to peace, woven on love's incredible loom,

Rose on the breast of the world of spring!

How shall the heart dissolved in joy take form and harmony and sing?

How shall the ecstasy of light fall back to music's magic gloom?

O China rose without a thorn, O honey-bee without a sting!

The scent of all thy beauty burns upon the wind. The deep perfume

Of our own love is hidden in our hearts, the invulnerable ring.

No man shall know. I bear thee down unto the tomb, beyond the tomb,

Rose on the breast of the world of spring!