

**THE  
VITA NUOVA**

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The Vita Nuova by Dante Alighieri

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**DANTE ALIGHIERI**

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VITA NUOVA**



THE VITA NUOVA OF DANTE

“Es gilt nur ein Glück auf der Erde, das Glück der Liebe,  
und wer das versäumt, alles versäumt.”—FICHTE.

“My love involves the love before ;  
My love is vaster passion now ;  
Though mixed with God and Nature thou,  
I seem to love thee more and more.

“Far off thou art, yet ever nigh ;  
I have thee still, and I rejoice ;  
I prosper, circled by thy voice,  
I shall not lose thee, though I die.”

—TENNYSON, *In Memoriam*.



THE VITA NUOVA OF DANTE

TRANSLATED

WITH AN INTRODUCTION  
AND NOTES

BY

THEODORE MARTIN 18 —

SECOND EDITION



WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS  
EDINBURGH AND LONDON  
MDCCLXXI



TO MY WIFE.

1861.

**B**ELOVED, whose life is with mine own  
entwined,  
In whom, while yet thou wert my  
dream, I viewed,  
Warm with the life of breathing womanhood,  
What Shakespeare's visionary eye divined;  
Pure Imogen, high-hearted Rosalind,  
Kindling with sunshine all the dusk greenwood;  
Or, changing with the poet's changing mood,  
Juliet, and Constance of the queenly mind;  
I give this book to thee, whose daily life  
With that full pulse of noblest feeling glows,  
Which lent its spell to thy so potent art;  
To thee, whose every act, my own true wife,  
The grace serene and heavenward spirit shows,  
That rooted Beatrice in Dante's heart.



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