

**LYRICS
AND SONNETS**

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Lyrics and Sonnets by Edith M. Thomas

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LYRICS AND SONNETS

BY
Anna
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AUTHOR OF "A NEW YEAR'S MASQUE AND OTHER POEMS"



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TO MY DEAR MOTHER.

*Thou smilest that my childhood's dreaming thought
So blent thee with the beauty of God's world
That those deep morning lilies dew-impierced,
And jonquils clear with vernal wildness fraught
(In the old lost garden where thy hand had wrought),
And dove-plumes of an evening cloud soft curled,
And star-sheens to the bland night wind unfurled,
Some touch of thy fair tenderness had caught.
Later the world of all things excellent,
As once of lovely, moved round thee ; and still
Whene'er I hear the praise of Truth, Good-Will,
High Hope, and Courage by no tempest bent,
I can but think these names for thee were meant,
And thou art Love, else hath my heart no skill !*

LYRICS.

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PROPERTY OF
CITY OF NEW YORK.

LYRICS.

— — —
THE BREATHING EARTH.

OH, not by sight or sound alone, I guess

This way her light feet press, —

Light feet of Spring!

It would be told me, though I shut my eyes

Against the ample sky's

Pure witnessing;

And saw not how the green blade thrusts its way

Up through the pleached gray, —

No tenderling!

It would be told me, though I shut my ear

To all the tidings clear

Her heralds bring, —

The fluting thrush, the bluebird singing love,

Hiding in heaven above

His heaven-dyed wing.

How, sight and sound shut out, should I still guess

This way her light feet press, —

Light feet of Spring?

By errantry of subtle winds that blow
From fields where late the snow
Did drift and cling ;
By grateful odors borne from forest mold,
Where last year's leaves enfold
Some blooming thing ;
By healing essence, lifeful airs, unbound
From the dark, humid ground
Fast mellowing,
Whence, from the smoking, furrowed clods, still come
The gnats-with ceaseless hum
And hovering.

The breathing earth! I breathe, and well I guess
This way her light feet press, —
Light feet of Spring!