

**THE SOUL OF THE
SINGER, AND
OTHER VERSES**

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The soul of the singer, and other verses by H. Graham Du Bois

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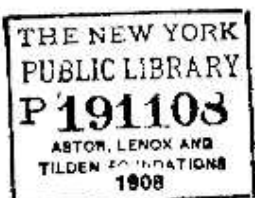
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BY
H. GRAHAM DU BOIS



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TO
THE MEMORY OF
WILLIAM WARD CRANE
FOR MANY YEARS MY INSTRUCTOR AND FRIEND
I DEDICATE THIS BOOK

AUTUMN

A path thick-strewn with leaves,
A field of barley sheaves,
 A naked tree;
A rose, a thought, a sigh,
A dead leaf whirling by —
 And memory.

A SONG OF WAR

Go out, go out on the firing line,
From peaceful realms afar,
Where sabres ring and bullets sing
In the desolate song of war;
And heed not now the aching brow,
The soothing hand denied —
But what of a woman's sorrowing tears,
And what of a man that died?

Go out, go out on the firing line,
Where ghastly forms lie still;
Forget the love of God above,
And only strike to kill,
And turn away with those who slay
From the wounded martyr's side —
But what of a widow's pining brood,
And what of a man that died?

Go out, go out on the firing line,
And breathe the breath of Cain,
Where death is sweet, and bleeding feet
Must tread the way of pain;
And mark ye not the bloody spot,
Where little children cried —
But what of a voice from Calvary,
And what of the Man that died?

AT NIGHTFALL

A dim remembrance brings a dream
Of days long past when hearts were young,
And Life and Love were one dear theme
From soul to soul in rapture sung;
And now, at nightfall, when the shade
Of evening rests on vale and hill,
My faded lips on thine are laid,
And low I whisper, "Sweetheart," still.

Amid the shadows, sweet young hands
Reach out to grasp my own in prayer:
My claspt hand thrills, and understands —
Thy withered ones are resting there;
But still my plea is not to dream
That Youth's fair hand in mine I hold,
For now it sweetest gain I deem
That hand in hand we're growing old.

The twilight falls upon thy face
And veils each weary line of care;
Across the years I look and trace
A wonder and a glory there.
Thus, side by side, through fear and strife
'Mid bleak and stormy weather,
The hearts that faced the dawn of life
Will brave the dark together.