

POEMS

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Poems by Elizabeth Stoddard

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POEMS

THE POET'S SECRET.

THE poet's secret I must know,
If that will calm my restless mind.

I hail the seasons as they go,
I woo the sunshine, brave the wind.

I scan the lily and the rose,
I nod to every nodding tree,
I follow every stream that flows,
And wait beside the steadfast sea.

I question melancholy eyes,
I touch the lips of women fair :

Their lips and eyes may make me wise,
But what I seek for is not there.

In vain I watch the day and night,
In vain the world through space may roll ;
I never see the mystic light
Which fills the poet's happy soul.

Through life I hear the rhythmic flow
Whose meaning into song must turn ;
Revealing all he longs to know,
The secret each alone must learn.