

# **LEAVES FROM THE VALLEY**

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Leaves from the valley by L. W. M.

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**L. W. M.**

**LEAVES FROM  
THE VALLEY**



To dear Miss Roberts  
with love & best wishes from  
E. W. M.

LEAVES  
FROM THE VALLEY

E. W. M.



EDINBURGH

1881



**Key to the  
Four Part Song of Praise.**



Read from the *lowest* line first.

- 
- TREBLE: *Adoration* as a Redeemed Soul.  
ALTO: *Worship* as an Immortal Spirit.  
TENOR: *Praise* as an Intelligent Being.  
BASS: *Thanksgiving* as an Existing Creature.



### The Four Part Song of Praise.

THE Soul was keeping Holy day,—  
Dark shades of sorrow had rolled like the waves  
of the sea, deep answering deep :  
The music of the heart was still :  
The Sun of Righteousness had withdrawn His  
healing rays.—  
Grief sat with Fear on her right hand and  
Longing on her left.—  
At last a simple, almost wordless cry had risen.  
With prevailing pinion Faith bore it to the  
Throne : perfumed with atoning merit, it was there  
presented by Him Who stands a Priest for ever.—

4      *The Four Part Song of Praise.*

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From the Highest went forth an answer in peace, and the Soul, in lowest depths, heard and was glad.

Before the Omnipotent Word storms and terrors vanished, clouds of doubt melted away, and the soul emerged from the gloom and sadness of eclipse, into the radiance of Him Who is Light and Life and Love.—

Winter was past,—the mourning garb, befitting the season of grief and desolation, was laid aside.—

Robed in the garments of purity and praise, the Soul cried aloud, with rejoicing accents, that all her powers should stand up and bless the Lord!—

Summoned for the holy service of Adoration the Four Great Powers arose.—

Bowing with lowly reverence before the Invisible but Real Presence of the Great Immanuel, they supplicated in silence the descent of the Holy Spirit of Grace: that their worship might



truly bear the mark and seal of Divine anointing :  
*Christian* in name, seeking perfect union with  
Christ the Anointed of God.—

Surely there was silence in Heaven for that  
half-hour !—Angelic harps were hushed, and  
loving eyes of pure Spirits were bent eagerly  
upon the Temple of the Soul.—

And not alone in the hearing of angels was  
the oblation presented :—

He to Whom it was offered revealed His  
gracious approval : The ears of the Lord of  
Sabaoth were open to the Anthem of Praise.—

First came the mysterious Hand, that touched  
of old the prophet's lips with fire from the Altar  
of God.

Holy and ardent love and adoration followed  
the burning inspiration ; and, with lips unsealed,  
and glowing fervency of desire, the Four Part  
Song of Praise was sung.—

Low and deep came the first soft notes, clear

6      *The Four Part Song of Praise.*

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and profound, as the Bass began the melody in words like these :—

“ O Lord God Almighty !

The Creator and Former of all things !

The Universe combines, like the many notes of an instrument, to celebrate Thy Divine Worship.

The stars of morning move melodiously in ceaseless circles round Thy Throne :—

Deriving all form and power from Thy bounteous hand ; every existence acknowledges Thy glorious rule :

Nature, as Thy servant, spreads forth the skirt of Thy Divine Robe, and there we behold the mystic blazonry of Thy Might, and Majesty, and Mercy.

Thy Might ! O omnipotent God.—

But how can the roaring of the sea—

The fury of the whirlwind—the deadly splendour of the lightning—or thunder’s supreme and awful roll—solemn as these are—approach to the matchless might of Thy hand !—

The Four Part Song of Praise. 7

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Let the vain earthquake rend the rocks and  
restore chaos to the scene—

And yet Thy least bidding could convulse ten  
thousand worlds, and reduce them to ashes!—

How is Thy Majesty revealed, O Thou Most  
High, in the unsearchable wonders that throng  
each portion of Thy creation!

Thy marvellous minuteness, in the things that  
surpass created comprehension:

Thy provisions infinite, for the welfare and  
harmony of every part of Thy Great System:—

The Mercy, so richly crowning all, is the golden  
thread worked through the whole web of wonder.

The animal kingdom displays Thine unnum-  
bered designs of strength and beauty:

Forests and flowers, grass and grain, alike de-  
clare the Hand that moulded their graceful and  
beneficial forms:

The hidden treasures of mineral wealth reveal  
the Glory of Thy secret purposes, the unfathom-