

**THE POEMS OF EMMA  
LAZARUS. IN TWO VOLUMES.  
VOL. I. NARRATIVE, LYRIC,  
AND DRAMATIC**

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The Poems of Emma Lazarus. In Two Volumes. Vol. I. Narrative, Lyric, and Dramatic by  
Emma Lazarus

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*Emma Lazarus.*

THE POEMS  
OF  
EMMA LAZARUS

IN TWO VOLUMES  
VOL. I.

NARRATIVE, LYRIC, AND DRAMATIC



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## EMMA LAZARUS.<sup>1</sup>

BORN JULY 22, 1849; DIED NOVEMBER 19, 1887.

ONE hesitates to lift the veil and throw the light upon a life so hidden and a personality so withdrawn as that of Emma Lazarus; but while her memory is fresh, and the echo of her songs still lingers in these pages, we feel it a duty to call up her presence once more, and to note the traits that made it remarkable and worthy to shine out clearly before the world. Of dramatic episode or climax in her life there is none; outwardly all was placid and serene, like an untroubled stream whose depths alone hold the strong, quick tide. The story of her life is the story of a mind, of a spirit, ever seeking, ever striving, and pressing onward and upward to new truth and light. Her works are the mirror of this progress. In reviewing them, the first point that strikes us is the precocity, or rather the spontaneity, of her poetic gift. She was a born singer; poetry was her natural language, and to write was less effort than to speak, for she was a shy, sensitive child, with strange reserves and reticences, not easily putting herself *en rapport*

<sup>1</sup> Written for *The Century Magazine*.