THE SPINNING WOMAN OF THE SKY: POEMS

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The spinning woman of the sky: poems by Alice Corbin

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ALICE CORBIN

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Trieste

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BY

ALICE CORBIN

With an original lithograph by WilliamPenhallowHenderson

THE RALPH FLETCHER SEYMOUR CO. FINE ARTS BUILDING CHICAGO

To A. W. R.

As to a living spirit, which no grave Can mark the compass of — this life you gave, These fadeless flowers, these carven lines I bring: Accept this votive, living offering.

And an old man appeared out of the dusk, With the odor of twilight and a forgotten charm, And lured me away o'er the transient seas That moved as the hills of the earth. I forgot then my name and my destiny, But my name and my destiny followed afar Crying, "Follow the old man with the white hair, And we follow with thee." "Who is the old man with the white hair?" said my dream, And my name and my destiny answered and said, "Oh, he is the father of Muses and Norns, The father of even Apollo." So forgetting my name and my destiny, These forgot not, but moved over the transient seas, And I found them at last where the pale moon in water Endures till the tablets of earth are no more.

The author thanks the editor of the Century Magazine for permission to reprint What Dim Arcadian Pastures, and the editor of Poetry for permission to reprint America, The Star, Symbols, and Nodes.

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