

THE LAUGHING MUSE

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The laughing muse by Arthur Guiterman

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ARTHUR GUITERMAN

**THE LAUGHING
MUSE**



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ARTHUR GUTERMAN



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THE LAUGHING MUSE

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TO YINU
ANNOUNCED

FATE, THE JESTER

*The planets are bells on his motley,
He fleers at the stars in their state,
He banTERS the suns burning hotly—
The Jester whose nickname is Fate.*

*The lanterns that kindle their rays with
The comets, are food for his mirth;
But, oh, how he laughs as he plays with
His mad little bauble, the Earth!*

*He looks on the atomies crowding
The face of our pitiful ball;
His form in the nebulae shrouding,
He chuckles, unnoted of all*

*The valorous puppets that chatter
Superbly of Little and Great.
A flip of his finger would shatter
The dreams of these "Masters of Fate"—*

*He laughs at their strivings and rages
And tosses the murmuring sphere
To bowl through the zodiac-stages
That measure the groove of a Year.*

*He laughs as he trips up the maddest
Who scramble for power and place,
But laughs with the bravest and gladdest—
Fate's comrades, who laugh in his face;*

*Who laugh at themselves and their troubles
Whatever the beaker they quaff;
Who, laughing at Vanity's bubbles,
Forget not to love as they laugh;*

*Who laugh in the teeth of disaster,
Yet hope through the darkness to find
A road past the stars to a Master
Of Fate in the vastness behind.*

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