

The Collected Writings of Walt Whitman

WALT WHITMAN

Leaves of Grass

A TEXTUAL VARIORUM OF THE PRINTED POEMS

VOLUME II: Poems, 1860–1867

Edited by

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The Collected Writings of Walt Whitman

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The Collected Writings of Walt Whitman

Leaves
of
GRASS



Boston,

*Thayer and Eldridge,
Year 85 of The States.*

(1860-61)



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Starting from Paumanok.

I

Starting from fish-shape Paumanok where I was born,
 Well-begotten, and rais'd by a perfect mother,
 After roaming many lands, lover of populous pavements,
 Dweller in Mannahatta my city, or on southern savannas,
 Or a soldier camp'd or carrying my knapsack and gun, or a miner in
 California, 5
 Or rude in my home in Dakota's woods, my diet meat, my drink from the
 spring,
 Or withdrawn to muse and meditate in some deep recess,
 Far from the clank of crowds intervals passing rapt and happy,
 Aware of the fresh free giver the flowing Missouri, aware of mighty Niagara,
 Aware of the buffalo herds grazing the plains, the hirsute and strong-breasted
 bull, 10
 Of earth, rocks, Fifth-month flowers experienced, stars, rain, snow, my amaze,
 Having studied the mocking-bird's tones and the flight of the mountain-hawk,

Title: 60: PROTO-LEAF. 67-71: STARTING FROM PAUMANOK.

60: [Stanza numbers] 67-71: [Stanza and section numbers]

1 60: Fond of fish-shape Paumanok, where 67-71: Paumanok, where

60: [The following lines appear before 1:]

[1] Free, fresh, savage,

[2] Fluent, luxuriant, self-content, fond of persons and places,

60: [The following line appears after 1:]

[1] Fond of the sea—lusty-begotten and various,

2 60: [Not present] 67-71: mother;

3 60: [Not present] 67-71: lands—lover ~ pavements;

4 60: Boy of the Mannahatta, the city of ships, my city,/Or raised inland, or of the south savannas, 67: Mannahatta, city of ships, my city—or ~ savannas; 71: Mannahatta, my city—or ~ savannas;

5 60 [Not present] 67-71: camp'd, or ~

gun—or ~ California;

60: [The following lines appear after 5:]

[1] Or full-breath'd on Californian air, or Texan or Cuban air,

[2] Tallying, vocalizing all—resounding Niagara—resounding Missouri,

6 60: home in Kanuck woods,/Or wandering and hunting, my drink water, my diet meat,/ 67: Dakotah's ~ spring; 71: spring;

8 60: crowds, an interval passing, rapt 67-71: crowds, intervals passing, rapt ~ happy;

9 60: [Not present] 67-71: giver, the ~ Missouri—aware ~ Niagara;

10 60: Stars, vapor, snow, the hills, rocks, the Fifth Month flowers, my amaze, my love, 67-71: herds, grazing ~ plains—the ~ bull;

11 60:¹Aware of the buffalo, the peace-herds, the bull, strong-breasted and hairy, 67-71: flowers, experienced—stars, ~ amaze;

12 60: Aware of the mocking-bird of the wilds at day-/break, 67: tones, and the moun-

And heard at dawn the unrivall'd one, the hermit thrush from the
 swamp-cedars,
 Solitary, singing in the West, I strike up for a New World. ○

2

- 15 Victory, union, faith, identity, time,
 The indissoluble compacts, riches, mystery,
 Eternal progress, the kosmos, and the modern reports. ○

This then is life,
 Here is what has come to the surface after so many throes and convulsions. ○

How curious! how real!
 Underfoot the divine soil, overhead the sun. ○

- 20 See revolving the globe,
 The ancestor-continents away group'd together,
 The present and future continents north and south, with the isthmus
 between. ○

- 25 See, vast trackless spaces,
 As in a dream they change, they swiftly fill,
 Countless masses debouch upon them,
 They are now cover'd with the foremost people, arts, institutions, known. ○

See, projected through time,

tain hawk's, 71: tones, and the mountain-hawk's,

13 60: [Not present] 67-71: at dusk the unrival'd 81: at dusk the ~ one the 82-88[SS]: at dusk the 88[CPP]: [Final reading]

14 60: west, ~ new world.

15 60: time, the Soul, your-/self, the present and future lands, the indissoluble compacts, riches, mystery, eternal progress, the kosmos, and the modern reports.

16 60: [Not present—part of 15] 67: Yourself, the present and future lands, the indissoluble

17 60: [Not present—part of 15]

18 67-71: This, then, is life;

20 60: curious! How

21 60: soil—Overhead 67: Under foot ~ soil—over head 71: soil—overhead

22 60: See, revolving,/ 67-71: See, revolving, the globe;

23 60: The globe—the ancestor-continents, away, grouped 67-71: ancestor-continents, away, group'd together;

24 60-71: continents, north

25 60: vast, trackless 67-71: vast, trackless spaces;

26 60: dream, they 67-71: dream, they ~ fill;

27 67-71: them;

28 60: covered ~ institutions known.

29 60: See projected, through 67-71: projected, through

For me an audience interminable. o

30

With firm and regular step they wend, they never stop,
Successions of men, Americanos, a hundred millions,
One generation playing its part and passing on,
Another generation playing its part and passing on in its turn,
With faces turn'd sideways or backward towards me to listen,
With eyes retrospective towards me. o

3

Americanos! conquerors! marches humanitarian!
Foremost! century marches! Libertad! masses!
For you a programme of chants. o

Chants of the prairies,
Chants of the long-running Mississippi, and down to the Mexican sea,
Chants of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota,
Chants going forth from the centre from Kansas, and thence equi-distant,
Shooting in pulses of fire ceaseless to vivify all. o

40

30 60-71: me, an
31 60-71: wend—they
32 67-71: millions;
33 67: part, and 71: part, and ~ on;
34 60: And another 67-71: part, and
35 60: turned ~ toward me 67-71: me, to
36 60: toward me.
37 60: Americanos! Masters!/Marches humanitarian! Foremost! 67-71: humanitarian;
38 60: † Century ~ Masses!
40 67-71: prairies;
41 60: Mississippi,/ 67-71: sea;
42 60: Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota, 67-71: Minnesota;
43 60: [Not present] 67-71: centre, from ~ thence, equi-distant, Copy-text: equi-/distant,
44 60: [Not present] 67-71: fire, ceaseless, to 60: [The following lines appear after 44:]
[1] Inland chants—chants of Kansas,
[2] Chants away down to Mexico, and up north to Oregon—Kanadian chants,
[3] Chants of teeming and turbulent cities—chants of mechanics,
[4] Yankee chants—Pennsylvanian chants—chants of Kentucky and Tennessee,
[5] Chants of dim-lit mines—chants of mountain-tops,

[6] Chants of sailors—chants of the Eastern Sea and the Western Sea,
[7] Chants of the Mannahatta, the place of my dearest love, the place surrounded by hurried and sparkling currents,
[8] Health chants—joy chants—robust chants of young men,
[9] Chants inclusive—wide reverberating chants,
[10] Chants of the Many In One. [Space between [10] and [11]]
[11] In the Year 80 of The States,
[12] My tongue, every atom of my blood, formed from this soil, this air,
[13] Born here of parents born here,
[14] From parents the same, and their parents' parents the same,
[15] I, now thirty-six years old, in perfect health, begin,
[16] Hoping to cease not till death. [Space between [16] and [17]]
[17] Creeds and schools in abeyance,
[18] Retiring back a while, sufficed at what they are, but never forgotten,
[19] With accumulations, now coming forward in front,
[20] Arrived again, I harbor, for good or

4

- 45 Take my leaves America, take them South and take them North,
 Make welcome for them everywhere, for they are your own offspring,
 Surround them East and West, for they would surround you,
 And you precedents, connect lovingly with them, for they connect lovingly
 with you. ○

I conn'd old times,

- 50 I sat studying at the feet of the great masters,
 Now if eligible O that the great masters might return and study me. ○

In the name of these States shall I scorn the antique?

Why these are the children of the antique to justify it. ○

5

- Dead poets, philosophs, priests,
 55 Martyrs, artists, inventors, governments long since,
 Language-shapers on other shores,
 Nations once powerful, now reduced, withdrawn, or desolate,
 I dare not proceed till I respectfully credit what you have left wafted hither,
 I have perused it, own it is admirable, (moving awhile among it,
 Think nothing can ever be greater, nothing can ever deserve more than it
 60 deserves,
 Regarding it all intently a long while, then dismissing it,
 I stand in my place with my own day here. ○

bad—I permit to speak,

[21] Nature, without check, with original energy. [Space between [21] and 45]

67-71: [1]-[10] [Not present] [11] [Section 4 begins with [11]] [12] form'd [13] born here, from parents the same, and their parents the same, [14] [Not present—part of [13]] [18] (Retiring ~ forgotten,) [19] [Not present] [20] †I harbor, for ~ speak, at every hazard, [21] Nature now without

- 45 60: leaves, America! / 67: leaves, America! take ~ South, ~ North! 71: leaves, America! take them, South, and ~ them, North! 67-71: [Section 5 begins with 45]

46 60-71: offspring;

47 60: them, East ~ West! for 67-71: them, East ~ West! for ~ you;

48 60-71: precedents! connect

49 60: conned 67-71: times;

50 60: masters; 67-71: masters:

51 60-71: Now, if eligible, O ~ me!

52 60-71: These States, shall

53 60, 71: Why These ~ antique, to 67: antique, to

54 67-71: [Section 6 begins with 54]

56 60-71: Language-shapers, on

58 60: left, wafted 67-71: left, wafted hither:

59 60: it—I own ~ admirable, / 67-71: it—own ~ it;)

60 60: I think ~ greater—Nothing ~ deserves; 67-71: greater—nothing ~ deserves;

61 60: I regard it ~ while, / 71: while—then

62 60: Then take my place for good with ~ day and race here. 67-71: place, with ~ day, here.

Here lands female and male,
 Here the heir-ship and heiress-ship of the world, here the flame of materials,
 Here spirituality the translatress, the openly-avow'd, 65
 The ever-tending, the finale of visible forms,
 The satisfier, after due long-waiting now advancing,
 Yes here comes my mistress the soul. o

6

The soul,
 Forever and forever—longer than soil is brown and solid—longer than water
 ebbs and flows. o 70

I will make the poems of materials, for I think they are to be the most spiritual
 poems,
 And I will make the poems of my body and of mortality,
 For I think I shall then supply myself with the poems of my soul and of
 immortality. o

I will make a song for these States that no one State may under any circum-
 stances be subjected to another State,
 And I will make a song that there shall be comity by day and by night between
 all the States, and between any two of them, 75
 And I will make a song for the ears of the President, full of weapons with
 menacing points,
 And behind the weapons countless dissatisfied faces;
 And a song make I of the One form'd out of all,
 The fang'd and glittering One whose head is over all,
 Resolute warlike One including and over all, 80

63 67-71: male;

64 60: heirship ~ world—Here 67: heirship
 ~ world—here ~ materials; 71: world—
 here ~ materials;

65 60: Here Spirituality, the ~ openly-
 avowed, 67-71: Here Spirituality, the

66 60, 81: finale 67-71: finale ~ forms;
 82: [Final reading]

67 60-71: long-waiting, now

68 60-71: Yes, here ~ mistress, the Soul.

69 60-67: The SOUL! 71: The SOUL:

[Section 7 begins with 69]

70 60: forever—Longer ~ solid—Longer

71 67-71: poems;

73 60: Soul 67-71: Soul, and

74 60: These States, that 67-71: These States,
 that ~ State;

75 60: all The States, 67-71: all The States,
 ~ them;

60: [The following line appears after 75:]
 [1] And I will make a song of the organic
 bargains of These States—And a shrill song
 of curses on him who would dissever the
 Union;

77 60: faces. 67-71: faces:

78 60: [Not present] 67: I, of ~ all; 71:
 —And a ~ I, of ~ all;

79 60: [Not present] 67-71: all;

80 60: [Not present] 67-71: Resolute, war-
 like One, including ~ all;

(However high the head of any else that head is over all.) ◦

I will acknowledge contemporary lands,
 I will trail the whole geography of the globe and salute courteously every city
 large and small,
 And employments! I will put in my poems that with you is heroism upon
 land and sea,
 85 And I will report all heroism from an American point of view. ◦

I will sing the song of companionship,
 I will show what alone must finally compact these,
 I believe these are to found their own ideal of manly love, indicating it in me,
 I will therefore let flame from me the burning fires that were threatening to
 consume me,
 90 I will lift what has too long kept down those smouldering fires,
 I will give them complete abandonment,
 I will write the evangel-poem of comrades and of love,
 For who but I should understand love with all its sorrow and joy?
 And who but I should be the poet of comrades? ◦

7

95 I am the credulous man of qualities, ages, races,
 I advance from the people in their own spirit,
 Here is what sings unrestricted faith. ◦

Omnes! omnes! let others ignore what they may,
 I make the poem of evil also, I commemorate that part also,

81 60: [Not present] 67-71: else, that
 82 67-71: lands;
 83 60-71: globe, and ~ small;
 84 60-67: poems, that ~ heroism, upon ~
 sea—And I will report all heroism from an
 American point of view; 71: poems, that
 ~ heroism, upon ~ sea;
 60: [The following line appears after 84:]
 [1] And sexual organs and acts! do you
 concentrate in me—For I am determined
 to tell you with courageous clear voice, to
 prove you illustrious.
 67: [1] me—for ~ determin'd 60-67:
 [see 166]
 85 60-67: [Not present—part of 84]

86 67-71: companionship;
 87 60: must compact These, 67-71: These;
 88 60-71: believe These ~ me;
 89 67-71: me;
 90 67-71: fires;
 91 67-71: abandonment;
 92 67: love; 71: comrades, and of love;
 93 60-71: (For ~ love, with
 94 60-71: comrades?)
 95 67-71: races; [Section 8 begins with 95]
 96 60: people en-masse in 67: people en-
 masse in ~ spirit; 71: spirit;
 98 60: Omnes! Omnes!/Let 67-71: Omnes!
 Omnes! ~ may;
 99 60: also—I 67-71: also—I ~ also;

I am myself just as much evil as good, and my nation is—and I say there is
in fact no evil, 100
(Or if there is I say it is just as important to you, to the land or to me, as any
thing else.) o

I too, following many and follow'd by many, inaugurate a religion, I descend
into the arena,
(It may be I am destin'd to utter the loudest cries there, the winner's pealing
shouts,
Who knows? they may rise from me yet, and soar above every thing.) o

Each is not for its own sake, 105
I say the whole earth and all the stars in the sky are for religion's sake. o

I say no man has ever yet been half devout enough,
None has ever yet adored or worship'd half enough,
None has begun to think how divine he himself is, and how certain the
future is. o

I say that the real and permanent grandeur of these States must be their
religion, 110
Otherwise there is no real and permanent grandeur;
(Nor character nor life worthy the name without religion,
Nor land nor man or woman without religion.) o

8

What are you doing young man?
Are you so earnest, so given up to literature, science, art, amours? 115

100 60: good—And I say 67: is—And I
71: is—And I ~ evil;
101 60: is, I ~ you, to the earth, or ~ any-
thing [No parentheses] 67-71: is, I ~ land,
or ~ anything
102 60: many, and followed ~ Religion—I
too go to the wars, 67: many, and ~ Religion
—I too go to the wars; 71: many, and ~
Religion—I ~ arena;
103 60: destined ~ cries thereof, the con-
queror's shouts, [No parenthesis] 67: cries
thereof, the ~ shouts; 71: shouts;
104 60: † They [No parenthesis]
105 67-71: sake;
106 60-71: earth, and ~ sky, are ~ Religion's

107 60: ever been 67: enough [No punctua-
tion] 71: enough;
108 60: ever adored 67-71: enough;
110 60: I specifically announce that ~ These
~ Religion, 67: These ~ religion; 71:
These ~ Religion;
111 60: grandeur. 71: grandeur:
112 60: [Not present] 67-71: character, nor
~ name, without Religion;
113 60: [Not present] 67-71: land, nor ~
woman, without Religion.)
114 60-71: doing, young 67-71: [Section 9
begins with 114]
115 60-71: earnest—so

These ostensible realities, politics, points?
Your ambition or business whatever it may be? ○

It is well—against such I say not a word, I am their poet also,
But behold! such swiftly subside, burnt up for religion's sake,
For not all matter is fuel to heat, impalpable flame, the essential life of the
120 earth,
Any more than such are to religion. ○

9

What do you seek so pensive and silent?
What do you need camerado?
Dear son do you think it is love? ○

125 Listen dear son—listen America, daughter or son,
It is a painful thing to love a man or woman to excess, and yet it satisfies, it is
great,
But there is something else very great, it makes the whole coincide,
It, magnificent, beyond materials, with continuous hands sweeps and provides
for all. ○

10

130 Know you, solely to drop in the earth the germs of a greater religion,
The following chants each for its kind I sing. ○

My comrade!

116 60: realities, materials, points?

117 60-71: business, whatever

118 60-71: well—Against ~ word—I ~ also;

119 60: subside—burnt ~ Religion's 67-71: subside—burnt ~ Religion's sake;

121 60-71: Religion.

122 60-71: seek, so 67-71: [Section 10 begins with 122]

123 60: need, comrade? 67-71: need, Camerado?

124 60: Mon cher! do 67-71: son! do

125 60: [Not present] 67-71: Listen, dear son—listen, America, ~ son!

60: [The following line appears in place of 125:]

[1] Proceed, comrade,

126 60: excess—yet ~ satisfies—it 67-71: excess—and ~ satisfies—it is great;

127 60: great—it 67-71: great—it ~ coincide;

128 60-71: hands, sweeps

129 60: O I see the following poems are indeed to drop ~ Religion. 67: you! to ~ Religion, 71: you! solely ~ Religion, 67-71: [Section 11 begins with 129]

130 60: [Not present] 67-71: chants, each ~ kind, I

For you to share with me two greatneses, and a third one rising inclusive and
 more resplendent,
 The greatness of Love and Democracy, and the greatness of Religion. ◦

Melange mine own, the unseen and the seen,
 Mysterious ocean where the streams empty, 135
 Prophetic spirit of materials shifting and flickering around me,
 Living beings, identities now doubtless near us in the air that we know not of,
 Contact daily and hourly that will not release me,
 These selecting, these in hints demanded of me. ◦

Not he with a daily kiss onward from childhood kissing me, 140
 Has winded and twisted around me that which holds me to him,
 Any more than I am held to the heavens and all the spiritual world,
 After what they have done to me, suggesting themes. ◦

O such themes—equalities! O divine average!
 Warblings under the sun, usher'd as now, or at noon, or setting, 145
 Strains musical flowing through ages, now reaching hither,
 I take to your reckless and composite chords, add to them, and cheerfully pass
 them forward. ◦

II

As I have walk'd in Alabama my morning walk,

- 132 60: you, to ~ me, two greatneses—And ~ one, rising 67-71: you, to ~ me, two greatneses—and ~ one, rising
 133 60-71: Democracy—and
 134 60: mine!/ 67-71: own! the ~ seen;
 135 67-71: empty;
 136 67-71: me;
 60: [The following line appears after 136:]
 [1] Wondrous interplay between the seen and unseen,
 137 60: identities, now ~ us, in ~ air, that 67-71: identities, now ~ us, in ~ air, that ~ of;
 60: [The following line appears after 137:]
 [1] Extasy everywhere touching and thrilling me,
 138 67-71: me;
 139 60: selecting—These, in hints, demanded 67-71: selecting—these, in hints, demanded
- 140 60: he, adhesive, kissing me so long with his daily kiss, 67-71: he, with ~ kiss, onward
 142 60-71: heavens, to the spiritual
 60: [The following line appears after 142:]
 [1] And to the identities of the Gods, my unknown lovers,
 67-71: [1] Gods, my lovers, faithful and true,
 143 60: suggesting such
 144 60-71: themes! Equalities!/O amazement of things! O divine
 145 60: O warblings ~ sun—ushered, as ~ setting! 67-71: O warblings ~ sun—usher'd, as ~ setting!
 146 60-67: O strain, musical, flowing ~ ages—now 71: O strain, musical, flowing ~ ages—now ~ hither!
 147 60-71: chords—I add 67-71: [Section 12 begins with 147]
 148 60: walked

I have seen where the she-bird the mocking-bird sat on her nest in the briers
hatching her brood. ○

150 I have seen the he-bird also,
I have paus'd to hear him near at hand inflating his throat and joyfully
singing. ○

And while I paus'd it came to me that what he really sang for was not there
only,
Nor for his mate nor himself only, nor all sent back by the echoes,
But subtle, clandestine, away beyond,
155 A charge transmitted and gift occult for those being born. ○

12

Democracy! near at hand to you a throat is now inflating itself and joyfully
singing. ○

Ma femme! for the brood beyond us and of us,
For those who belong here and those to come,
I exultant to be ready for them will now shake out carols stronger and
haughtier than have ever yet been heard upon earth. ○

160 I will make the songs of passion to give them their way,
And your songs outlaw'd offenders, for I scan you with kindred eyes, and
carry you with me the same as any. ○

I will make the true poem of riches,
To earn for the body and the mind whatever adheres and goes forward and
is not dropt by death;

149 60-71: she-bird, the mocking-bird, sat ~
briers, hatching
150 67-71: also;
151 60-71: paused ~ him, near ~ hand, in-
flating ~ throat, and
152 60-71: paused, it
153 67: echoes; 71: mate, nor ~ echoes;
155 60-71: transmitted, and ~ occult, for
156 60-71: Democracy!/Near 67-71: [Sec-
tion 13 begins with 156]
157 60-71: femme!/For
158 60-71: here, and

159 60: I, exultant, to ~ them, will ~ upon
the 67-71: I, exultant, to ~ them, will
160 60: passions, to 67-71: passion, to
161 60: songs, offenders—for 67-71: songs,
outlaw'd offenders—for
163 60: Namely, to earn ~ mind, what ad-
heres, and ~ forward, and ~ death. 67:
mind, whatever adheres, and ~ forward, and
~ death. 71: adheres, and goes forward, and
~ death. 60-71: [Space between 163 and
164]

I will effuse egotism and show it underlying all, and I will be the bard of
 personality,
 And I will show of male and female that either is but the equal of the other, 165
 And sexual organs and acts! do you concentrate in me, for I am determin'd to
 tell you with courageous clear voice to prove you illustrious,
 And I will show that there is no imperfection in the present, and can be none
 in the future,
 And I will show that whatever happens to anybody it may be turn'd to beauti-
 ful results,
 And I will show that nothing can happen more beautiful than death,
 And I will thread a thread through my poems that time and events are com-
 pact, 170
 And that all the things of the universe are perfect miracles, each as profound
 as any. ◦

I will not make poems with reference to parts,
 But I will make poems, songs, thoughts, with reference to ensemble,
 And I will not sing with reference to a day, but with reference to all days,
 And I will not make a poem nor the least part of a poem but has reference
 to the soul, 175
 Because having look'd at the objects of the universe, I find there is no one nor
 any particle of one but has reference to the soul. ◦

13

Was somebody asking to see the soul?
 See, your own shape and countenance, persons, substances, beasts, the trees,
 the running rivers, the rocks and sands. ◦

164 60: egotism, and ~ all—And ~ Personality;
 67-71: egotism, and ~ all—and ~ personality;

165 67-71: other;

166 60-67: [Not present—appears as [1] following after 84] 71: me—for ~ voice, to ~ illustrious;

167 60: imperfection in male or female, or in the earth, or in the present—and 67-71: present—and ~ future;

168 60: anybody, it ~ turned ~ results—And I will show that nothing can happen more beautiful than death; 67-71: anybody, it ~ results—and I will show that nothing can happen more beautiful than death;

169 60-71: [Not present—part of 168]

170 60: poems that no one thing in the uni-

verse is inferior to another thing,

172 67-71: parts;

173 60: make leaves, poems, poemets, songs, says, thoughts, ~ ensemble; 67-71: make leaves, poems, poemets, songs, says, thoughts, ~ ensemble:

174 67-71: days;

175 60: poem, nor ~ poem, but ~ Soul, 67-71: poem, nor ~ poem, but ~ Soul;

176 60: Because, having looked ~ one, nor ~ one, but ~ Soul. 67-71: (Because, having ~ one, nor ~ one, but ~ Soul.)

177 60-71: Soul? 67-71: [Section 14 begins with 177]

178 60-71: See! your ~ countenance—persons,

All hold spiritual joys and afterwards loosen them;
180 How can the real body ever die and be buried? ○

Of your real body and any man's or woman's real body,
Item for item it will elude the hands of the corpse-cleaners and pass to fitting
spheres,
Carrying what has accrued to it from the moment of birth to the moment of
death. ○

Not the types set up by the printer return their impression, the meaning, the
main concern,
Any more than a man's substance and life or a woman's substance and life
185 return in the body and the soul,
Indifferently before death and after death. ○

Behold, the body includes and is the meaning, the main concern, and includes
and is the soul;
Whoever you are, how superb and how divine is your body, or any part of it! ○

14

Whoever you are, to you endless announcements! ○

190 Daughter of the lands did you wait for your poet?
Did you wait for one with a flowing mouth and indicative hand?

Toward the male of the States, and toward the female of the States,

- 179 60: joys, and afterward ~ them, 67-71: joys, and ~ them:
180 60-71: die, and
181 60: body, and ~ body, item for item, it will elude the hands of the corpse-cleaners, and pass to fitting spheres, carrying what has accrued to it from the moment of birth to the moment of death. 67-71: body, and
182 60: [Not present—part of 181] 67-71: item, it ~ corpse-/cleaners, and
183 60: [Not present—part of 181]
184 60: concern, any more than a man's substance and life, or a woman's substance and life, return in the body and the Soul, indifferently before death and after death.
185 60: [Not present—part of 184] 67-71: life, or ~ life, return ~ Soul,
186 60: [Not present—part of 184]
187 60-71: Behold! the ~ concern—and ~ Soul;
188 60-71: are! how ~ it.
189 60-71: are! to ~ announcements. 67-71: [Section 15 begins with 189]
190 60-71: lands, did
[In the copy-text, 191 concludes a probable two-line stanza as the last line on the page. Line 192 opens the following page. From 60-71, line 192 opens a separate stanza, as here editorially positioned in the Variorum copy-text]
192 60-71: The States, ~ The States,
60: [The following line appears after 192:]
[1] Toward the President, the Congress, the diverse Governors, the new Judiciary,

Exulting words, words to Democracy's lands. o

Interlink'd, food-yielding lands!

Land of coal and iron! land of gold! land of cotton, sugar, rice! 195

Land of wheat, beef, pork! land of wool and hemp! land of the apple and the grape!

Land of the pastoral plains, the grass-fields of the world! land of those sweet-air'd interminable plateaus!

Land of the herd, the garden, the healthy house of adobie!

Lands where the north-west Columbia winds, and where the south-west Colorado winds!

Land of the eastern Chesapeake! land of the Delaware! 200

Land of Ontario, Erie, Huron, Michigan!

Land of the Old Thirteen! Massachusetts land! land of Vermont and Connecticut!

Land of the ocean shores! land of sierras and peaks!

Land of boatmen and sailors! fishermen's land!

Inextricable lands! the clutch'd together! the passionate ones! 205

The side by side! the elder and younger brothers! the bony-limb'd!

The great women's land! the feminine! the experienced sisters and the inexperienced sisters!

Far breath'd land! Arctic braced! Mexican breez'd! the diverse! the compact!

The Pennsylvanian! the Virginian! the double Carolinian!

O all and each well-loved by me! my intrepid nations! O I at any rate include you all with perfect love! 210

193 60-71: Live words—words to the lands.

60: [The following line appears—after a space—after 193:]

[1] O the lands!

194 60: Lands scorning invaders! Interlinked, 67-71: O the lands! interlink'd,

195 60-71: iron! Land of gold! Lands of 60: [The following lines appear after 195:]

[1] Odorous and sunny land! Floridian land!

[2] Land of the spinal river, the Mississippi! Land of the Alleghanies! Ohio's land!

196 60: pork! Land ~ hemp! Land of the potato, the apple, and 67-71: pork! Land ~ hemp! Land ~ and grape!

197 60: world! Land ~ sweet-aired ~ plateaus! Land there of the herd, the garden, the

healthy house of adobie! Land there of rapt thought, and of the realization of the stars! Land of simple, holy, untamed lives! 67-71: world! Land

198 60: [Not present—part of 197]

199 60-71: northwest ~ southwest Copy-text: south-/west

200 60: the Chesapeake! Land 67-71: Chesapeake! Land

202 60-71: land! Land

203 60: Land of many oceans! Land 67-71: shores! Land

204 60-71: sailors! Fishermen's

205 60: clutched ~ passionate lovers!

206 60: bony-limbed! Copy-text: bony-/limb'd!

208 60: breezed!

210 60: nations! O I cannot be discharged from you!

- I cannot be discharged from you! not from one any sooner than another!
 O death! O for all that, I am yet of you unseen this hour with irrepressible
 love,
 Walking New England, a friend, a traveler,
 Splashing my bare feet in the edge of the summer ripples on Paumanok's
 sands,
 215 Crossing the prairies, dwelling again in Chicago, dwelling in every town,
 Observing shows, births, improvements, structure, arts,
 Listening to orators and oratresses in public halls,
 Of and through the States as during life, each man and woman my neighbor,
 The Louisianian, the Georgian, as near to me, and I as near to him and her,
 220 The Mississippian and Arkansian yet with me, and I yet with any of them,
 Yet upon the plains west of the spinal river, yet in my house of adobie,
 Yet returning eastward, yet in the Seaside State or in Maryland,
 Yet Kanadian cheerily braving the winter, the snow and ice welcome to me,
 Yet a true son either of Maine or of the Granite State, or the Narragansett Bay
 State, or the Empire State,
 225 Yet sailing to other shores to annex the same, yet welcoming every new brother,
 Hereby applying these leaves to the new ones from the hour they unite with
 the old ones,
 Coming among the new ones myself to be their companion and equal, coming
 personally to you now,
 Enjoining you to acts, characters, spectacles, with me. o

15

With me with firm holding, yet haste, haste on. o

- 211 60: [Not present—first half part of 210] 67-71: one, any
 212 60-71: O Death! ~ you, unseen, this hour, with
 213 60, 81-88[SS]: traveller, 88[CPP]:[Final reading]
 214 60-71: ripples, on
 215 60: prairies—dwelling ~ Chicago—dwelling in many towns, 67-71: prairies—dwelling ~ Chicago—dwelling
 217 60-71: to the orators and the oratresses
 218 60-71: The States, as ~ life—each
 220 60: Arkansian—the woman and man of Utah, Dakotah, Nebraska, yet with me—and I yet 67-71: me—and ~ them;
 221 60-71: river—yet
 222 60-71: eastward—yet ~ Sea-Side State, or
 223 60: Yet a child of the North—yet Kanadian, cheerily ~ winter—the 67-71: Kanadian, cheerily ~ winter—the
 224 60: Maine, or ~ or of the Narragansett ~ or of the Empire 67-71: Maine, or ~ or of the Narragansett ~ or of the ~ State;
 225 60: same—yet 67-71: same—yet ~ brother;
 226 60: ones, from 67-71: ones, from ~ ones;
 227 60: myself, to ~ companion—coming 67-71: myself, to ~ equal—coming ~ now;
 229 60-71: me, with ~ holding—yet 67-71: [Section 16 begins with 229]

For your life adhere to me, 230
 (I may have to be persuaded many times before I consent to give myself really
 to you, but what of that?
 Must not Nature be persuaded many times?) ◦

No dainty dolce affettuoso I,
 Bearded, sun-burnt, gray-neck'd, forbidding, I have arrived,
 To be wrestled with as I pass for the solid prizes of the universe, 235
 For such I afford whoever can persevere to win them. ◦

16

On my way a moment I pause,
 Here for you! and here for America!
 Still the present I raise aloft, still the future of the States I harbinge glad and
 sublime,
 And for the past I pronounce what the air holds of the red aborigines. ◦ 240

The red aborigines,
 Leaving natural breaths, sounds of rain and winds, calls as of birds and animals
 in the woods, syllabled to us for names,
 Okonee, Koosa, Ottawa, Monongahela, Sauk, Natchez, Chattahoochee,
 Kaqueta, Oronoco,
 Wabash, Miami, Saginaw, Chippewa, Oshkosh, Walla-Walla,
 Leaving such to the States they melt, they depart, charging the water and the
 land with names. ◦ 245

230 60: life, adhere 67: life, adhere to me;
 71: life, adhere to me!

60: [The following line appears after
 230:]

[1] Of all the men of the earth, I only
 can unlose you and toughen you,
 67-71: [1] you;

231 60-67: myself to you—but [No parenthe-
 sis] 71: you—but [No parenthesis]

232 60-71: [No parenthesis]

233 60-71: I;

234 60: sunburnt, gray-necked, 67: sunburnt,

235 60: pass, for 67-71: pass, for ~ universe;

237 67-71: pause; [Section 17 begins with

237]

238 60: you! And

239 60: Present ~ aloft—Still ~ Future of
 The ~ harbinge, glad 67-71: Present ~
 aloft—Still ~ Future of The ~ harbinge, glad
 ~ sublime;

240 60: Past 67-71: Past, I

241 60-71: aborigines!

242 67-71: names;

243 60: Oronoco. [Period—probable printer's
 error]

244 67-71: Walla-Walla;

245 60-71: The States, they

17

Expanding and swift, henceforth,
 Elements, breeds, adjustments, turbulent, quick and audacious,
 A world primal again, vistas of glory incessant and branching,
 A new race dominating previous ones and grander far, with new contests,
 250 New politics, new literatures and religions, new inventions and arts. o

These, my voice announcing—I will sleep no more but arise,
 You oceans that have been calm within me! how I feel you, fathomless, stirring,
 preparing unprecedented waves and storms. o

18

See, steamers steaming through my poems,
 See, in my poems immigrants continually coming and landing,
 See, in arriere, the wigwam, the trail, the hunter's hut, the flat-boat, the
 255 maize-leaf, the claim, the rude fence, and the backwoods village,
 See, on the one side the Western Sea and on the other the Eastern Sea, how
 they advance and retreat upon my poems as upon their own shores,
 See, pastures and forests in my poems—see, animals wild and tame—see, beyond
 the Kaw, countless herds of buffalo feeding on short curly grass,
 See, in my poems, cities, solid, vast, inland, with paved streets, with iron and
 stone edifices, ceaseless vehicles, and commerce,
 See, the many-cylinder'd steam printing-press—see, the electric telegraph
 stretching across the continent,

246 60-71: O expanding ~ swift! O henceforth, 67-71: [Section 18 begins with 246]

247 60: quick, and 67-71: quick, and audacious;

248 60: again—Vistas ~ glory, incessant 67-71: again—Vistas ~ glory, incessant ~ branching;

249 60: race, dominating ~ ones, and ~ far, / 67: race, dominating ~ ones, and 71: race, dominating ~ ones, and ~ far—with

250 60: politics—New ~ religions—New

251 60: These! These, ~ more, but arise; 67-71: These! my ~ more, but arise;

253 60-71: See! steamers ~ poems! 67-71: [Section 19 begins with 253]

254 60-71: landing;

255 60-71: village; 81: See in 82: [Final reading]

256 60: Sea, and ~ other side the Eastern ~ poems, as ~ shores; 67: Sea, and ~ poems,

as ~ shores; 71: Sea, and ~ poems, as ~ shores. [Space between 256 and 257]

257 60-71: poems—See, animals, wild ~ tame—See, ~ the Kansas, countless ~ buffalo, feeding ~ grass;

258 60: poems, old and new cities, ~ edifices, and ceaseless ~ commerce; 67-71: commerce; 60: [The following line appears after 258:]

[1] See the populace, millions upon millions, handsome, tall, muscular, both sexes, clothed in easy and dignified clothes—teaching, commanding, marrying, generating, equally electing and elective;

259 60: printing-press—See, ~ telegraph—See, the strong and quick locomotive, as it departs, panting, blowing the steam-whistle; 67-71: printing-press—See, the ~ telegraph, stretching ~ Continent, from the Western Sea to Manhattan;

See, through Atlantica's depths pulses American Europe reaching, pulses of
 Europe duly return'd, 260
 See, the strong and quick locomotive as it departs, panting, blowing the
 steam-whistle,
 See, ploughmen ploughing farms—see, miners digging mines—see, the num-
 berless factories,
 See, mechanics busy at their benches with tools—see from among them superior
 judges, philosophers, Presidents, emerge, drest in working dresses,
 See, lounging through the shops and fields of the States, me well-belov'd,
 close-held by day and night,
 Here the loud echoes of my songs there—read the hints come at last. o 265

19

O camerado close! O you and me at last, and us two only. o

 O a word to clear one's path ahead endlessly!
 O something ecstatic and undemonstrable! O music wild!
 O now I triumph—and you shall also;
 O hand in hand—O wholesome pleasure—O one more desirer and lover! 270
 O to haste firm holding—to haste, haste on with me. o

260 60: [Not present] 67-71: depths, pulses
 American, Europe reaching—pulses of Europe,
 duly return'd;
 261 60: [Not present—part of 259] 67-71:
 locomotive, as ~ steam-whistle;
 262 60-71: ploughmen, ploughing farms—
 See, miners, digging mines—See, ~ factories;
 263 60: mechanics, busy ~ benches, with ~
 See ~ them, superior ~ emerge, dressed ~
 dresses; 67-71: mechanics, busy ~ benches,
 with ~ See ~ them, superior ~ dresses;
 264 60: The States, me, well-beloved, 67:
 The States, me, well-beloved, ~ night; 71:
 The States, me, ~ night; Copy-text: well-/
 belov'd,
 265 60: echo ~ there! Read 67-71: there!
 Read
 266 60: O my comrade!/O you ~ last—and
 ~ only; 67-71: O Camerado close!/O you ~

last—and [Section 20 begins with 266—space
 between 266 and 267]
 60: [The following lines appear after
 266:]
 [1] O power, liberty, eternity at last!
 [2] O to be relieved of distinctions! to
 make as much of vices as virtues!
 [3] O to level occupations and the sexes!
 O to bring all to common ground! O ad-
 hesiveness!
 [4] O the pensive aching to be together
 —you know not why, and I know not
 why. [Space between [4] and 267]
 268 60-71: ecstatic
 270 60: lover,
 271 60: O haste, firm holding—haste, ~ on,
 with 67-71: haste, firm ~ on, with

Apostroph.

- O mater! O fils!
 O brood continental!
 O flowers of the prairies!
 O space boundless! O hum of mighty products!
 5 O you teeming cities! O so invincible, turbulent, proud!
 O race of the future! O women!
 O fathers! O you men of passion and the storm!
 O native power only! O beauty!
 O yourself! O God! O divine average!
 10 O you bearded roughs! O bards! O all those slumberers!
 O arouse! the dawn-bird's throat sounds shrill! Do you not hear the cock
 crowing?
 O, as I walk'd the beach, I heard the mournful notes foreboding a tempest—
 the low, oft-repeated shriek of the diver, the long-lived loon;
 O I heard, and yet hear, angry thunder;—O you sailors! O ships! make quick
 preparation!
 O from his masterful sweep, the warning cry of the eagle!
 15 (Give way there, all! It is useless! Give up your spoils;)
 O sarcasms! Propositions! (O if the whole world should prove indeed a sham,
 a sell!)
 O I believe there is nothing real but America and freedom!
 O to sternly reject all except Democracy!
 O imperator! O who dare confront you and me?
 20 O to promulgate our own! O to build for that which builds for mankind!
 O feuillage! O North! O the slope drained by the Mexican sea!

Title: 60: *Apostroph.* [Poem excluded after 60; however, eleven of its lines formed the basis of the 67 poem *Leaves of Grass*. I. and its final version *O SUN OF REAL PEACE.*, excluded after 71. See II 292–293.]

O all, all inseparable—ages, ages, ages!
 O a curse on him that would dissever this Union for any reason whatever!
 O climates, labors! O good and evil! O death!
 O you strong with iron and wood! O Personality! 25
 O the village or place which has the greatest man or woman! even if it be only
 a few ragged huts;
 O the city where women walk in public processions in the streets, the same as
 the men;
 O a wan and terrible emblem, by me adopted!
 O shapes arising! shapes of the future centuries!
 O muscle and pluck forever for me! 30
 O workmen and workwomen forever for me!
 O farmers and sailors! O drivers of horses forever for me!
 O I will make the new bardic list of trades and tools!
 O you coarse and wilful! I love you!
 O South! O longings for my dear home! O soft and sunny airs! 35
 O pensive! O I must return where the palm grows and the mocking-bird sings,
 or else I die!
 O equality! O organic compacts! I am come to be your born poet!
 O whirl, contest, sounding and resounding! I am your poet, because I am part
 of you;
 O days by-gone! Enthusiasts! Antecedents!
 O vast preparations for These States! O years! 40
 O what is now being sent forward thousands of years to come!
 O mediums! O to teach! to convey the invisible faith!
 To promulge real things! to journey through all The States!
 O creation! O to-day! O laws! O unmitigated adoration!
 O for mightier broods of orators, artists, and singers! 45
 O for native songs! carpenter's, boatman's, ploughman's songs! shoemaker's
 songs!
 O haughtiest growth of time! O free and extatic!
 O what I, here, preparing, warble for!
 O you hastening light! O the sun of the world will ascend, dazzling, and take
 his height—and you too will ascend;
 O so amazing and so broad! up there resplendent, darting and burning; 50
 O prophetic! O vision staggered with weight of light! with pouring glories!
 O copious! O hitherto unequalled!
 O Libertad! O compact! O union impossible to dissever!

- O my Soul! O lips becoming tremulous, powerless!
 55 O centuries, centuries yet ahead!
 O voices of greater orators! I pause—I listen for you!
 O you States! Cities! defiant of all outside authority! I spring at once into your
 arms! you I most love!
 O you grand Presidentiads! I wait for you!
 New history! New heroes! I project you!
 60 Visions of poets! only you really last! O sweep on! sweep on!
 O Death! O you striding there! O I cannot yet!
 O heights! O infinitely too swift and dizzy yet!
 O purged lumine! you threaten me more than I can stand!
 O present! I return while yet I may to you!
 65 O poets to come, I depend upon you! ◦

O SUN OF REAL PEACE.

- O sun of real peace! O hastening light!
 O free and extatic! O what I here, preparing, warble for!
 O the sun of the world will ascend, dazzling, and take his height—and you too,
 O my Ideal, will surely ascend!
 O so amazing and broad—up there resplendent, darting and burning!
 5 O vision prophetic, stagger'd with weight of light! with pouring glories!
 O lips of my soul, already becoming powerless!
 O ample and grand Presidentiads! Now the war, the war is over!
 New history! new heroes! I project you!
 Visions of poets! only you really last! sweep on! sweep on!
 10 O heights too swift and dizzy yet!
 O purged and luminous! you threaten me more than I can stand!

Title: 67: Leaves of Grass. I. 71: O SUN OF REAL PEACE. [Excluded after 71. The following lines in O SUN OF REAL PEACE. derive from *Apostroph.*, excluded after 60. 1-49; 2-47-48; 3-49; 4-50; 5-51; 7-58; 8-59; 9-60; 10-62; 11-63; 13-64. See *Apostroph.*, II 290-

292.]	1	67: † O hastening light!
	3	67: too will ascend!
	7	67: Presidentiads!/ 9
	9	67: last! O sweep

(I must not venture—the ground under my feet menaces me—it will not support me:
O future too immense,)—O present, I return, while yet I may, to you. ◦

Our Old Feuillage.

Always our old feuillage!
Always Florida's green peninsula—always the priceless delta of Louisiana—
always the cotton-fields of Alabama and Texas,
Always California's golden hills and hollows, and the silver mountains of New
Mexico—always soft-breath'd Cuba,
Always the vast slope drain'd by the Southern sea, inseparable with the slopes
drain'd by the Eastern and Western seas,
The area the eighty-third year of these States, the three and a half millions of
square miles,
The eighteen thousand miles of sea-coast and bay-coast on the main, the thirty
thousand miles of river navigation,
The seven millions of distinct families and the same number of dwellings—
always these, and more, branching forth into numberless branches,
Always the free range and diversity—always the continent of Democracy;

5

12 67: me;)

13 67: O present! I return to you while yet I
may!

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 4. 67-71:
AMERICAN FEUILLAGE.

1 60-71: our own feuillage!

60: [The following lines appear before 1:]
[1] America always!

[2] Always me joined with you, whoever
you are!

67-71: [2] [Not present]

2 60-71: peninsula! Always ~ Louisiana! Al-
ways ~ Texas!

3 60, 71: hollows—and ~ Mexico! Always ~
Cuba! 67: hollows—and ~ Mexico! Always

~ soft-/breath'd Cuba!

4 60: drained ~ Sea—inseparable ~ drained
~ Seas, 67-71: Sea—inseparable ~ Seas;

5 60: Eighty-third ~ These States—the 67-
71: These States—the ~ miles;

6 60-67: bay-/coast ~ main—the 71: main
—the

7 60: families, and ~ dwellings—Always
these and ~ branches; 67-71: families, and ~
dwellings—Always ~ branches;

8 60-67: diversity! Always ~ Democracy!
71: diversity! always ~ Democracy!

- Always the prairies, pastures, forests, vast cities, travelers, Kanada, the snows;
 Always these compact lands tied at the hips with the belt stringing the huge
 10 oval lakes;
 Always the West with strong native persons, the increasing density there, the
 habitans, friendly, threatening, ironical, scorning invaders;
 All sights, South, North, East—all deeds, promiscuously done at all times,
 All characters, movements, growths, a few noticed, myriads unnoticed,
 Through Mannahatta's streets I walking, these things gathering,
 15 On interior rivers by night in the glare of pine knots, steamboats wooding up,
 Sunlight by day on the valley of the Susquehanna, and on the valleys of
 the Potomac and Rappahannock, and the valleys of the Roanoke and
 Delaware,
 In their northerly wilds beasts of prey haunting the Adirondacks the hills, or
 lapping the Saginaw waters to drink,
 In a lonesome inlet a sheldrake lost from the flock, sitting on the water rocking
 silently,
 In farmers' barns oxen in the stable, their harvest labor done, they rest standing,
 they are too tired,
 20 Afar on arctic ice the she-walrus lying drowsily while her cubs play around,
 The hawk sailing where men have not yet sail'd, the farthest polar sea, ripply,
 crystalline, open, beyond the floes,
 White drift spooning ahead where the ship in the tempest dashes,
 On solid land what is done in cities as the bells strike midnight together,
 In primitive woods the sounds there also sounding, the howl of the wolf, the
 scream of the panther, and the hoarse bellow of the elk,
 In winter beneath the hard blue ice of Moosehead lake, in summer visible
 25 through the clear waters, the great trout swimming,
 In lower latitudes in warmer air in the Carolinas the large black buzzard float-
 ing slowly high beyond the tree tops,

9 60: travellers,

10 60-71: lands—lands tied

11 60-71: West, with ~ persons—the ~ there
—the

13 60-71: growths—a

14 60-71: gathering;

15 60-71: rivers, by night, in ~ up;

16 60-71: Delaware;

17 60-71: Adirondacks, the hills—or ~ drink;
71: wilds, beasts ~ Adirondacks, the hills—
or ~ drink;

18 60-71: inlet, a sheldrake, lost ~ water,
rocking silently;

19 60-71: barns, oxen ~ done—they ~

standing—they ~ tired;

20 60-71: ice, the ~ drowsily, while ~ around;

21 60: sailed—the ~ floes; 67-71: sail'd—
the ~ floes;

22 60-71: ahead, where ~ dashes;

23 60-71: land, what ~ cities, as ~ bells all
strike ~ together;

24 60-71: woods, the ~ sounding—the ~
elk;

25 60-71: Lake—in ~ swimming;

26 60: latitudes, in ~ air, in ~ Carolinas, the
~ tree-tops, 67-71: latitudes, in ~ air, in ~
Carolinas, the ~ slowly, high

Below, the red cedar festoon'd with tylandria, the pines and cypresses growing
 out of the white sand that spreads far and flat,
 Rude boats descending the big Pedee, climbing plants, parasites with color'd
 flowers and berries enveloping huge trees,
 The waving drapery on the live-oak trailing long and low, noiselessly waved
 by the wind,
 The camp of Georgia wagoners just after dark, the supper-fires and the cooking
 and eating by whites and negroes, 30
 Thirty or forty great wagons, the mules, cattle, horses, feeding from troughs,
 The shadows, gleams, up under the leaves of the old sycamore-trees, the flames
 with the black smoke from the pitch-pine curling and rising;
 Southern fishermen fishing, the sounds and inlets of North Carolina's coast,
 the shad-fishery and the herring-fishery, the large sweep-seines, the
 windlasses on shore work'd by horses, the clearing, curing, and
 packing-houses;
 Deep in the forest in piney woods turpentine dropping from the incisions in
 the trees, there are the turpentine works,
 There are the negroes at work in good health, the ground in all directions is
 cover'd with pine straw; 35
 In Tennessee and Kentucky slaves busy in the coalings, at the forge, by the
 furnace-blaze, or at the corn-shucking,
 In Virginia, the planter's son returning after a long absence, joyfully welcom'd
 and kiss'd by the aged mulatto nurse,
 On rivers boatmen safely moor'd at nightfall in their boats under shelter of
 high banks,

27 60: cedar, festooned ~ tylandria—the ~
 cypresses, growing ~ flat; 67-71: cedar,
 festoon'd with tylandria—the ~ cypresses,
 growing ~ flat;

28 60: Pedee—climbing ~ parasites, with col-
 ored ~ berries, enveloping 67-71: Pedee
 —climbing ~ parasites, with ~ berries, envel-
 oping

29 60-71: live oak, trailing ~ wind;

30 60-71: wagoners, just ~ dark—the supper-
 fires, and

31 60-71: wagons—the

32 60-67: sycamore-trees—the flames—also the
 ~ pitch-pine, curling 71: sycamore-trees—
 the flames—with ~ pitch-pine, curling

33 60: fishing—the ~ coast—the ~ herring-
 fishery—the ~ sweep-seines—the ~ worked by
 horses—the 67-71: fishing—the ~ coast—the
 ~ herring-fishery—the ~ sweep-seines—the

~ horses—the 81-88[SS]: sweep-seines the
 88[CPP]: [Final reading]

34 60: forest, in ~ woods, turpentine and tar
 dropping ~ trees—There is the turpentine dis-
 tillery, 67-71: forest, in ~ woods, turpentine
 ~ trees—There

35 60: work, in ~ health—the ~ covered
 67: work, in ~ health—the ~ straw. [Period
 —probable printer's error] 71: work, in ~
 health—the ~ straw:

36 60: Kentucky, slaves ~ corn-shucking;
 67-71: —In ~ Kentucky, slaves ~ corn-shuck-
 ing;

37 60: welcomed ~ kissed ~ nurse; 67-71:
 nurse;

38 60: rivers, boatmen ~ moored ~ night-
 fall, in ~ boats, under the shelter 67-71:
 rivers, boatmen ~ night-fall, in ~ boats, under

Some of the younger men dance to the sound of the banjo or fiddle, others sit
on the gunwale smoking and talking;
Late in the afternoon the mocking-bird, the American mimic, singing in the
40 Great Dismal Swamp,
There are the greenish waters, the resinous odor, the plenteous moss, the
cypress-tree, and the juniper-tree;
Northward, young men of Mannahatta, the target company from an excursion
returning home at evening, the musket-muzzles all bear bunches of
flowers presented by women;
Children at play, or on his father's lap a young boy fallen asleep, (how his lips
move! how he smiles in his sleep!)

The scout riding on horseback over the plains west of the Mississippi, he ascends
a knoll and sweeps his eyes around;
California life, the miner, bearded, dress'd in his rude costume, the stanch
California friendship, the sweet air, the graves one in passing meets
45 solitary just aside the horse-path;
Down in Texas the cotton-field, the negro-cabins, drivers driving mules or oxen
before rude carts, cotton bales piled on banks and wharves;
Encircling all, vast-darting up and wide, the American Soul, with equal
hemispheres, one Love, one Dilation or Pride;
In arriere the peace-talk with the Iroquois the aborigines, the calumet, the pipe
of good-will, arbitration, and indorsement,
The sachem blowing the smoke first toward the sun and then toward the earth,
The drama of the scalp-dance enacted with painted faces and guttural
50 exclamations,
The setting out of the war-party, the long and stealthy march,
The single file, the swinging hatchets, the surprise and slaughter of enemies;

39 60-71: fiddle—others ~ gunwale, smoking
40 60-71: afternoon, the ~ Swamp—there
are the greenish waters, the resinous odor, the
plenteous moss, the cypress tree, and the juniper
tree;

41 60-71: [Not present—part of 40]

42 60: Mannahatta—the ~ evening—the 67-
71: —Northward, ~ Mannahatta—the ~ eve-
ning—the

43 60-71: play—or

44 60-71: Mississippi—he ~ eye around;

45 60: life—the ~ dressed ~ costume—the
~ friendship—the ~ air—the ~ one, in pass-
ing, meets, solitary, just 67-71: life—the ~
costume—the ~ friendship—the ~ air—the

~ one, in passing, meets, solitary, just

46 60-67: Texas, the ~ negro-cabins—drivers
~ carts—cotton-bales 71: Texas, the ~
negro-cabins—drivers ~ carts—cotton

47 60, 71: vast-darting, up ~ hemispheres
—one 67: vast-darting, up ~ hemispheres—
one love,

48 60: arriere, the ~ Iroquois, the aborigines
—the ~ good-will arbitration, 67: —In ar-
riere, the ~ Iroquois, the aborigines—the ~
good-will arbitration, 71: —In arriere, the
~ Iroquois, the aborigines—the

51 60-71: war-party—the

52 60: file—the ~ hatchets—the 67-71:
single file—the ~ hatchets—the

All the acts, scenes, ways, persons, attitudes of these States, reminiscences,
institutions,
All these States compact, every square mile of these States without excepting a
particle;
Me pleas'd, rambling in lanes and country fields, Paumanok's fields, 55
Observing the spiral flight of two little yellow butterflies shuffling between each
other, ascending high in the air,
The darting swallow, the destroyer of insects, the fall traveler southward but
returning northward early in the spring,
The country boy at the close of the day driving the herd of cows and shouting
to them as they loiter to browse by the road-side,
The city wharf, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Charleston, New Orleans,
San Francisco,
The departing ships when the sailors heave at the capstan; 60
Evening—me in my room—the setting sun,
The setting summer sun shining in my open window, showing the swarm of
flies, suspended, balancing in the air in the centre of the room, darting
athwart, up and down, casting swift shadows in specks on the opposite
wall where the shine is;
The athletic American matron speaking in public to crowds of listeners,
Males, females, immigrants, combinations, the copiousness, the individuality
of the States, each for itself—the money-makers,
Factories, machinery, the mechanical forces, the windlass, lever, pulley, all
certainties, 65
The certainty of space, increase, freedom, futurity,
In space the sporades, the scatter'd islands, the stars—on the firm earth, the
lands, my lands,

53 60: These States—reminiscences, all institutions. 67-71: —All ~ These States—reminiscences, all institutions,

54 60-71: These States, compact—Every ~ These States, without ~ particle—you also—me also,

55 60-67: pleased,

56 60-71: Me, observing ~ butterflies, shuffling ~ air;

57 60: insects—the ~ traveller southward, but ~ spring; 67: insects—the ~ southward, but ~ north-/ward ~ spring; 71: insects—the ~ southward, but ~ spring;

58 60-71: day, driving ~ cows, and ~ road-side; Copy-text: road-/side,

59 60-71: wharf—Boston,

60 60-71: ships, when

61 71: —Evening—me

62 60: showing me flies, ~ wall, where 67-71: wall, where

63 60-71: listeners;

64 60: combinations—the copiousness—the individuality and sovereignty of The ~ money-/makers; 67-71: combinations—the copiousness—the ~ The ~ money-makers; Copy-text: money-/makers,

65 60-67: forces—the ~ pulley—All 71: forces—the wind-/lass, ~ pulley—All

67 60-67: space, the ~ scattered 71: space, the ~ my lands;

O lands! all so dear to me—what you are, (whatever it is,) I putting it at
 random in these songs, become a part of that, whatever it is,
 Southward there, I screaming, with wings slow flapping, with the myriads of
 gulls wintering along the coasts of Florida,
 Otherways there atwixt the banks of the Arkansaw, the Rio Grande, the Nueces,
 the Brazos, the Tombigbee, the Red River, the Saskatchewan or the
 70 Osage, I with the spring waters laughing and skipping and running,
 Northward, on the sands, on some shallow bay of Paumanok, I with parties
 of snowy herons wading in the wet to seek worms and aquatic plants,
 Retreating, triumphantly twittering, the king-bird, from piercing the crow with
 its bill, for amusement—and I triumphantly twittering,
 The migrating flock of wild geese alighting in autumn to refresh themselves,
 the body of the flock feed, the sentinels outside move around with erect
 heads watching, and are from time to time reliev'd by other sentinels—
 and I feeding and taking turns with the rest,
 In Kanadian forests the moose, large as an ox, corner'd by hunters, rising des-
 perately on his hind-feet, and plunging with his fore-feet, the hoofs as
 sharp as knives—and I, plunging at the hunters, corner'd and desperate,
 In the Mannahatta, streets, piers, shipping, store-houses, and the countless
 75 workmen working in the shops,
 And I too of the Mannahatta, singing thereof—and no less in myself than the
 whole of the Mannahatta in itself,
 Singing the song of These, my ever-united lands—my body no more inevitably
 united, part to part, and made out of a thousand diverse contributions
 one identity, any more than my lands are inevitably united and made
 ONE IDENTITY;
 Nativities, climates, the grass of the great pastoral Plains,
 Cities, labors, death, animals, products, war, good and evil—these me,
 These affording, in all their particulars, the old feuillage to me and to America;
 how can I do less than pass the clew of the union of them, to afford the
 80 like to you?

68 60: is,) I become a part ~ what-/ever
 67-71: is,) I become a part ~ is;
 69 60-67: Florida—or in Louisiana, with peli-
 cans breeding, 71: Florida—or in Louisi-
 ana, with pelicans breeding;
 70 60-71: Otherways, there, atwixt ~ Sas-
 katchewan, or ~ running;
 71 60-71: Paumanok, I, with ~ plants;
 72 60-71: amusement—And ~ twittering;
 73 60: themselves—the ~ feed—the ~ re-
 lieved ~ sentinels—And ~ rest; 67-71:
 themselves—the ~ feed—the ~ sentinels—

And ~ rest; Copy-text: out-/side
 74 60: forests, the ~ cornered ~ hind-/feet,
 ~ knives—And ~ cornered ~ desperate;
 67-71: forests, the ~ knives—And ~ desper-
 ate;
 75 60-67: store-/houses,
 77 60: ever united ~ made one identity, ~
 united, and ~ ONE IDENTITY, 67-71: made
 one identity, ~ united, and
 78 60-67: Pastoral 71: Pastoral Plains;
 79 60-67: products, good
 80 60-71: particulars, endless feuillage

Whoever you are! how can I but offer you divine leaves, that you also be eligible
as I am?

How can I but as here chanting, invite you for yourself to collect bouquets of
the incomparable feuillage of these States? o

With Antecedents.

I

With antecedents,
With my fathers and mothers and the accumulations of past ages,
With all which, had it not been, I would not now be here, as I am,
With Egypt, India, Phenicia, Greece and Rome,
With the Kelt, the Scandinavian, the Alb and the Saxon, 5
With antique maritime ventures, laws, artisanship, wars and journeys,
With the poet, the skald, the saga, the myth, and the oracle,
With the sale of slaves, with enthusiasts, with the troubadour, the crusader, and
the monk,
With those old continents whence we have come to this new continent,
With the fading kingdoms and kings over there, 10
With the fading religions and priests,

82 60: but, as here, chanting, invite ~ These
67-71: but, as here, chanting, invite ~ your-/
self ~ These

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 7. 67-71: Saxon;
WITH ANTECEDENTS. 6 60: ventures—with laws, ~ wars, and 67-
60-67: [Stanza numbers] 71: [Stanza and section numbers] 71: ventures,—with laws, artizanship, ~ jour-
neys;
1 67-71: antecedents; 7 67-71: oracle;
2 60: mothers, and 67-71: mothers, and ~ 8 60: slaves—with enthusiasts—with 67-71:
ages; slaves—with enthusiasts—with ~ monk;
3 67-71: am; 9 67-71: continent;
4 60: Greece, and 67-71: Rome; 10 67-71: there;
5 60: Celt, ~ Alb, and 67-71: Alb, and ~ 11 67-71: priests;

With the small shores we look back to from our own large and present shores,
 With countless years drawing themselves onward and arrived at these years,
 You and me arrived—America arrived and making this year,
 15 This year! sending itself ahead countless years to come. ◦

2

O but it is not the years—it is I, it is You,
 We touch all laws and tally all antecedents,
 We are the skald, the oracle, the monk and the knight, we easily include them
 and more,
 We stand amid time beginningless and endless, we stand amid evil and good,
 20 All swings around us, there is as much darkness as light,
 The very sun swings itself and its system of planets around us,
 Its sun, and its again, all swing around us. ◦

As for me, (torn, stormy, amid these vehement days,)
 I have the idea of all, and am all and believe in all,
 25 I believe materialism is true and spiritualism is true, I reject no part. ◦

(Have I forgotten any part? any thing in the past?
 Come to me whoever and whatever, till I give you recognition.) ◦

I respect Assyria, China, Teutonia, and the Hebrews,
 I adopt each theory, myth, god, and demi-god,
 30 I see that the old accounts, bibles, genealogies, are true, without exception,
 I assert that all past days were what they must have been,
 And that they could no-how have been better than they were,

12 60: to, from 67-71: shores;

13 60: onward, and 67-71: onward, and ~ years;

14 60: and Me ~ arrived, and 67-71: and Me ~ arrived, and ~ year;

16 60: I—it 67-71: I—it is You;

17 60: laws, and 67-71: laws, and ~ antecedents;

18 60: monk, and ~ knight—we ~ them, and 67-71: monk, and ~ knight—we ~ them, and more;

19 60: time, beginningless ~ endless—we 67-71: time, beginningless ~ endless—we ~ good;

20 60: us—there 67-71: us—there ~ light;

21 67: us: 71: us;

23 60: me,/ 67: stormy, even as I, amid ~ days;) 71: stormy, even as I, amid

24 60-71: all, and ~ all;

25 60-71: true, and ~ true—I

26 60-71: part?/[No parenthesis]

27 60-71: me, whoever [No parenthesis]

28 67-71: Hebrews;

29 67-71: demi-god;

30 67-71: exception;

31 60: they should have 67-71: they should have been;

And that to-day is what it must be, and that America is,
And that to-day and America could no-how be better than they are. ◦

3

In the name of these States and in your and my name, the Past, 35
And in the name of these States and in your and my name, the Present time. ◦

I know that the past was great and the future will be great,
And I know that both curiously conjoint in the present time,
(For the sake of him I typify, for the common average man's sake, your sake
if you are he,)

And that where I am or you are this present day, there is the centre of all days,
all races, 40
And there is the meaning to us of all that has ever come of races and days,
or ever will come. ◦

Song at Sunset.

Splendor of ended day floating and filling me,
Hour prophetic, hour resuming the past,
Inflating my throat, you divine average,
You earth and life till the last ray gleams I sing. ◦

33 60-71: it should be—and
35 60-71: These States, and
36 60-71: These States, and
37 60-71: great, and

39 60-71: typify—for ~ sake—your sake, if
~ he;)
40 60-71: am, or ~ are, this
41 60-71: meaning, to us, of

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 8. 67: SONG
AT SUNSET. (In 67, in annex, *Songs Before
Parting.*)

60-71: [Stanza numbers]

1 60: of falling day, floating 67-71: day,

floating ~ me!

2 60: prophetic—hour 67-71: prophetic—
hour ~ past!

3 60-71: throat—you, divine average!

4 60-71: You, Earth ~ Life, till ~ gleams, I

- 5 Open mouth of my soul uttering gladness,
Eyes of my soul seeing perfection,
Natural life of me faithfully praising things,
Corroborating forever the triumph of things. ○
- Illustrious every one!
- 10 Illustrious what we name space, sphere of unnumber'd spirits,
Illustrious the mystery of motion in all beings, even the tiniest insect,
Illustrious the attribute of speech, the senses, the body,
Illustrious the passing light—illustrious the pale reflection on the new moon
in the western sky,
Illustrious whatever I see or hear or touch, to the last. ○
- 15 Good in all,
In the satisfaction and aplomb of animals,
In the annual return of the seasons,
In the hilarity of youth,
In the strength and flush of manhood,
20 In the grandeur and exquisiteness of old age,
In the superb vistas of death. ○
- Wonderful to depart!
Wonderful to be here!
The heart, to jet the all-alike and innocent blood!
- 25 To breathe the air, how delicious!
To speak—to walk—to seize something by the hand!
To prepare for sleep, for bed, to look on my rose-color'd flesh!
To be conscious of my body, so satisfied, so large!
To be this incredible God I am!
- 30 To have gone forth among other Gods, these men and women I love. ○

5 60-71: Soul, uttering
6 60-71: Soul, seeing
7 60: me, faithfully 67-71: me, faithfully ~ things;
10 60: space—sphere ~ unnumbered 67-71: space—sphere ~ spirits;
11 60: motion, in 67-71: motion, in ~ insect;
12 60: speech—the senses—the 67-71: speech—the senses—the body;
13 60: light! Illustrious ~ the moon ~ sky! 67-71: light! Illustrious ~ sky!

14 60-71: see, or hear, or
21 60-71: Death.
22 67-71: depart;
24 60-67: blood,
26 60-71: speak! to walk! to
27 60: bed—to ~ rose-/colored flesh, 67: bed—to ~ rose-/color'd flesh, 71: bed—to ~ rose-/color'd flesh;
28 60: body, so amorous, so large, 67: body, so happy, so large, 71: large;
29 60-67: am, 71: am;
30 60-67: Gods—those 71: Gods—these

Wonderful how I celebrate you and myself!
 How my thoughts play subtly at the spectacles around!
 How the clouds pass silently overhead!
 How the earth darts on and on! and how the sun, moon, stars, dart on and on!
 How the water sports and sings! (surely it is alive!) 35
 How the trees rise and stand up, with strong trunks, with branches and leaves!
 (Surely there is something more in each of the trees, some living soul.) ◦

O amazement of things—even the least particle!
 O spirituality of things!
 O strain musical flowing through ages and continents, now reaching me and
 America! 40
 I take your strong chords, intersperse them, and cheerfully pass them
 forward. ◦

I too carol the sun, usher'd or at noon, or as now, setting,
 I too throb to the brain and beauty of the earth and of all the growths of the
 earth,
 I too have felt the resistless call of myself. ◦

As I steam'd down the Mississippi, 45
 As I wander'd over the prairies,
 As I have lived, as I have look'd through my windows my eyes,
 As I went forth in the morning, as I beheld the light breaking in the east,
 As I bathed on the beach of the Eastern Sea, and again on the beach of the
 Western Sea,
 As I roam'd the streets of inland Chicago, whatever streets I have roam'd, 50
 Or cities or silent woods, or even amid the sights of war,
 Wherever I have been I have charged myself with contentment and triumph. ◦

35 60-71: sings! (Surely
 36 60-71: up—with ~ trunks—with
 37 60-71: trees—some ~ Soul.)
 38 60-71: things! even
 40 60-71: musical, flowing ~ continents—
 now
 41 60-71: chords—I intersperse
 42 60: ushered, or ~ or setting, 67-71:
 usher'd, or ~ or, as
 43 60-71: earth, and
 45 60: As I sailed 67-71: As I sail'd

46 60: wandered
 47 60: lived—As ~ looked ~ windows, my
 67-71: lived—As ~ windows, my
 48 60: morning—As 67-71: morning—As
 ~ east;
 49 60: beach on the Western 67-71: Sea;
 50 60: roamed ~ Chicago—whatever ~
 roamed, 67-71: Chicago—whatever ~ roam'd;
 51 60-67: [Not present] 71: cities, or ~
 woods, or peace, or even ~ war;
 52 60-71: been, I

- I sing to the last the equalities modern or old,
 I sing the endless finalés of things,
 55 I say Nature continues, glory continues,
 I praise with electric voice,
 For I do not see one imperfection in the universe,
 And I do not see one cause or result lamentable at last in the universe. ◦
- O setting sun! though the time has come,
 60 I still warble under you, if none else does, unmitigated adoration. ◦

Thoughts.

I

Of these years I sing,
 How they pass and have pass'd through convuls'd pains, as through
 parturitions,
 How America illustrates birth, muscular youth, the promise, the sure fulfil-
 ment, the absolute success, despite of people—illustrates evil as well as
 good,

- 53 60: sing the Equalities,/ 67: sing the
 Equalities;/ 71: sing the Equalities, modern
 54 60, 81-88[SS]: finales 67: things; 71:
 finales ~ things; 88[CPP]: [Final reading]
 55 60: continues—Glory 67-71: continues—
 56 67-71: voice;
 57 67-71: universe;
 59 60: sun! O when the time comes,
 60 60: adoration! 67: you, unmitigated

Title: 60: [Two separate poems]: Chants
 Democratic. 9., 11. 67: THOUGHTS. 1., 2. (In
 annex, *Songs Before Parting.*) 71: THOUGHTS.
 1, 2
 71: [Section numbers only]
 1 60: sing—how they pass through convulsed
 pains, as through parturitions;
 60: [The following line appears before 1:]

[1] A thought of what I am here for,
 2 60: [See 1] 67: pass through ~ parturi-
 tions; 71: pass'd, through ~ parturitions;
 3 60-67: birth, gigantic youth, the ~ fulfil-
 ment, despite of people—Illustrates ~ good;
 71: fulfillment, ~ Absolute Success, ~
 people—Illustrates ~ good;

The vehement struggle so fierce for unity in one's-self;
 How many hold despairingly yet to the models departed, caste, myths, obedi-
 ence, compulsion, and to infidelity, 5
 How few see the arrived models, the athletes, the Western States, or see free-
 dom or spirituality, or hold any faith in results,
 (But I see the athletes, and I see the results of the war glorious and inevitable,
 and they again leading to other results.) o

How the great cities appear—how the Democratic masses, turbulent, wilful,
 as I love them,
 How the whirl, the contest, the wrestle of evil with good, the sounding and
 resounding, keep on and on,
 How society waits unform'd, and is for a while between things ended and
 things begun, 10
 How America is the continent of glories, and of the triumph of freedom and
 of the Democracies, and of the fruits of society, and of all that is begun,
 And how the States are complete in themselves—and how all triumphs and
 glories are complete in themselves, to lead onward,
 And how these of mine and of the States will in their turn be convuls'd, and
 serve other parturations and transitions,
 And how all people, sights, combinations, the democratic masses too, serve—
 and how every fact, and war itself, with all its horrors, serves,
 And how now or at any time each serves the exquisite transition of death. o 15

2

Of seeds dropping into the ground, of births,
 Of the steady concentration of America, inland, upward, to impregnable and
 swarming places,

4 60-71: [Not present]

5 60: Of how ~ infidelity; 67-71: infidelity;

6 60-67: the Athletes, The States—or ~ spirituality—or 71: the Athletes, ~ States—or ~ spirituality—or

7 60-67: the Athletes—and ~ results glorious ~ inevitable—and ~ results;) 71: the Athletes—and ~ inevitable—and ~ results;) 60-71: [No space between 7 and 8]

8 60-67: appear—How 71: appear—How ~ them;

9 60-71: on;

10 60: unformed, and is between ~ begun; 67: is between ~ begun; 71: begun;

11 60-71: freedom, and ~ begun;

12 60-71: how The ~ themselves—And

13 60: mine, and ~ The States, will ~ convulsed, 67-71: mine, and ~ The States, will

14 60: Democratic ~ fact serves,/ 67: Democratic masses, too, ~ fact serves,/ 71: Democratic masses, too,

15 60-67: now, or ~ time, each ~ Death. 71: now, or ~ time, each

60: [The following line appears after 15:] [1] The thought of fruitage, [Chants Democratic. 11. begins with [1]]

16 60: Of Death, (the life greater)—of seeds ~ ground—of birth, 67-71: ground—of birth,

17 67: up-/ward,

- Of what Indiana, Kentucky, Arkansas, and the rest, are to be,
 Of what a few years will show there in Nebraska, Colorado, Nevada, and the
 rest,
 20 (Or afar, mounting the Northern Pacific to Sitka or Aliaska,)
 Of what the feuillage of America is the preparation for—and of what all sights,
 North, South, East and West, are,
 Of this Union welded in blood, of the solemn price paid, of the unnamed lost
 ever present in my mind;
 Of the temporary use of materials for identity's sake,
 Of the present, passing, departing—of the growth of completer men than any
 yet,
 Of all sloping down there where the fresh free giver the mother, the Mississippi
 25 flows,
 Of mighty inland cities yet unsurvey'd and unsuspected,
 Of the new and good names, of the modern developments, of inalienable
 homesteads,
 Of a free and original life there, of simple diet and clean and sweet blood,
 Of litheness, majestic faces, clear eyes, and perfect physique there,
 30 Of immense spiritual results future years far West, each side of the Anahuacs,
 Of these songs, well understood there, (being made for that area,)

18 60-71: Kentucky, Ohio and

19 60: in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Wisconsin,
 Minnesota and 67-71: rest;

20 60-67: [Not present] 71: Aliaska;)

21 60-67: all the sights, ~ are; 71: are;

22 60-67: [Not present] 71: Of This
 Union, soak'd, welded in blood—of ~ paid—
 of ~ lost, ever

23 67: materials, for 71: —Of ~ materials,
 for

24 60-67: Of departing—of ~ of a mightier
 race than

60: [The following lines appear after 24:]

[1] Of myself, soon, perhaps, closing up
 my songs by these shores,

[2] Of California—of Oregon—and of me
 journeying hence to live and sing there;

[3] Of the Western Sea—of the spread in-
 land between it and the spinal river,

[4] Of the great pastoral area, athletic and
 feminine,

67: [2] journeying to

71: [2] California, of ~ journeying to

25 60: free-/giver, the ~ flows—and West-
 ward still; 67-71: giver, the

60: [The following line appears after 25:]

[1] Of future men and women there—of
 happiness in those high plateaus, ranging
 three thousand miles, warm and cold,

67: [1] cold;

71: [1] Of future women ~ cold;

26 60: Of cities ~ unsurveyed ~ unsus-
 pected, (as I am also, and as it must be,) 67:
 Of cities ~ unsuspected, (as I am also, and as
 it must be;) 71: unsuspected, (as I am also,
 and as it must be;)

27 60: names—of the strong developments—
 of the inalienable 67: names—of the strong
 developments—of ~ homesteads; 71: names
 —of ~ developments—of ~ homesteads;

28 60: free original ~ there—of ~ diet, and
 67-71: there—of ~ blood;

29 67-71: there;

30 60: results, future years, inland, spread
 there each 67: results, future years, each ~
 Anahuacs; 71: results, future years, far
 west, ~ Anahuacs;

31 60: these Leaves well-understood 67-71:
 these leaves, well ~ area;)

Of the native scorn of grossness and gain there,
 (O it lurks in me night and day—what is gain after all to savageness and
 freedom?) ○

To a Historian.

You who celebrate bygoness,
 Who have explored the outward, the surfaces of the races, the life that has
 exhibited itself,
 Who have treated of man as the creature of politics, aggregates, rulers and
 priests,
 I, habitant of the Alleghanies, treating of him as he is in himself in his own
 rights,
 Pressing the pulse of the life that has seldom exhibited itself, (the great pride
 of man in himself,) 5
 Chanter of Personality, outlining what is yet to be,
 I project the history of the future. ○

32 67-71: there;
 33 60-71: day—What ~ gain, after all, to

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 10. 67: To A HISTORIAN. (In annex, *Songs Before Parting.*)
 71: TO A HISTORIAN.

1 60: Historian! you ~ bygoness! 67-71: bygoness!

2 60: You have ~ surface ~ races—the 67-71: races—the ~ itself;

3 60: You have treated man ~ rulers, and priests; 67-71: priests;

60: [The following line appears after 3:]

[1] But now I also, arriving, contribute something:

4 60: I, an habitué of ~ Alleghanies, treat man as ~ in the influences of Nature, in himself, in his own inalienable rights, 67: I, habitué of ~ treating man as ~ himself, in 71: himself, in

60: [The following lines appear after 4:]

[1] Advancing, to give the spirit and the traits of new Democratic ages, myself, per-

sonally,

[2] (Let the future behold them all in me—Me, so puzzling and contradictory—Me, a Manhattanese, the most loving and arrogant of men;)

[3] I do not tell the usual facts, proved by records and documents,

[4] What I tell, (talking to every born American,) requires no further proof than he or she who will hear me, will furnish, by silently meditating alone;

5 60: I press the ~ has hitherto seldom ~ itself, but has generally sought concealment, (the ~ man, in 67-71: himself;)

60: [The following line appears after 5:]

[1] I illuminate feelings, faults, yearnings, hopes—I have come at last, no more ashamed nor afraid;

6 60: outlining a history yet

7 60: project the ideal man, the American of

Vocalism.

I

Vocalism, measure, concentration, determination, and the divine power to speak words;
 Are you full-lung'd and limber-lipp'd from long trial? from vigorous practice?
 from physique?
 Do you move in these broad lands as broad as they?
 Come duly to the divine power to speak words?
 For only at last after many years, after chastity, friendship, procreation, prudence,
 5 and nakedness,
 After treading ground and breasting river and lake,
 After a loosen'd throat, after absorbing eras, temperaments, races, after knowledge, freedom, crimes,
 After complete faith, after clarifyings, elevations, and removing obstructions,
 After these and more, it is just possible there comes to a man, a woman, the divine power to speak words;

Title: 60-71: [Two separate poems] 60: Chants Democratic. 12., Leaves of Grass. 21. 67: Leaves of Grass. 2., 3. (Leaves of Grass. 3. in annex, *Songs Before Parting*.) 71: To ORATISTS.; Voices. 81: Vocalism.

60-71: [Stanza numbers only]

1 60-67: Vocalism, breath, measure, ~ to use words. 71: to use words. 60-71: [Space between this and next line]

60-71: [The following line appears before 1:]

[1] To oratists—to male or female,

60: [The following line appears after 1:]

[1] Are you eligible?

3 60: [The following lines appear after 3:]

[1] Remembering inland America, the high

plateaus, stretching long?

[2] Remembering Kanada—Remembering what edges the vast round edge of the Mexican Sea?

4 60-71: to use words? [Space between 4 and 5]

5 60: last, after ~ years—after 67-71: last, after ~ years—after ~ nakedness;

6 67-71: lake;

7 60: loosened throat—after ~ races—after 67-71: throat—after ~ races—after ~ crimes;

8 60: faith—after 67-71: faith—after ~ obstructions;

9 60-71: these, and ~ to use words. [Space between 9 and 10]

Then toward that man or that woman swiftly hasten all—none refuse, all
attend,

10

Armies, ships, antiquities, libraries, paintings, machines, cities, hate, despair,
amity, pain, theft, murder, aspiration, form in close ranks,

They debouch as they are wanted to march obediently through the mouth
of that man or that woman. ◦

2

O what is it in me that makes me tremble so at voices?

Surely whoever speaks to me in the right voice, him or her I shall follow,

As the water follows the moon, silently, with fluid steps, anywhere around the
globe. ◦

15

All waits for the right voices;

Where is the practis'd and perfect organ? where is the develop'd soul?

For I see every word utter'd thence has deeper, sweeter, new sounds, impos-
sible on less terms. ◦

10 60: all—None 67-71: woman, swiftly ~
all—None ~ attend;

11 60: antiquities, the dead, libraries, 67-
71: antiquities, the dead, libraries, ~ ranks;

12 60-71: man, or

60: [The following lines appear—after a
space—after 12:]

[1] O now I see arise orators fit for inland
America,

[2] And I see it is as slow to become an
orator as to become a man,

[3] And I see that power is folded in a
great vocalism. [Space between 3 and 4]

[4] Of a great vocalism, when you hear it,
the merciless light shall pour, and the
storm rage around,

[5] Every flash shall be a revelation, an
insult,

[6] The glaring flame turned on depths,
on heights, on suns, on stars,

[7] On the interior and exterior of man
or woman,

[8] On the laws of Nature—on passive
materials,

[9] On what you called death—and what
to you therefore was death,

[10] As far as there can be death. [Chants
Democratic. 12. ends with [10]]

67: [1] O I ~ America; [2] man; [4]

vocalism, the merciless light thereof shall
~ rage;/ [6] flame on [9] death—
(and [10] death.) [Leaves of Grass. 2.
ends with [10]]

71: [1] O I see ~ America;
[2] man; [3] that all power [4] vocal-
ism, the ~ light thereof shall ~ rage,
[6] flame on [9] death—(and [10]
death.) [To ORATORS. ends with [10]]

13 60-71: [The following lines appear before
13 as the opening stanza of: 60: Leaves of
Grass. 21. 67: Leaves of Grass. 3. (in annex,
Songs Before Parting) 71: Voices.]

[1] Now I make a leaf of Voices—for I
have found nothing mightier than they
are,

[2] And I have found that no word
spoken, but is beautiful, in its place. 60:
[Space between 13 and 14]

14 60: Surely, whoever ~ follow, as the
waters follow the moon, silently, with fluid
steps, any where around the globe. 67-71:
Surely, whoever

15 60: [Not present—part of 14] 67: steps
any where

16 60: Now I believe that all

17 60: practised ~ organ? Where ~ devel-
oped Soul? 67-71: organ? Where ~ Soul?

18 60: uttered 71: thence, has

- I see brains and lips closed, tympan and temples unstruck,
 20 Until that comes which has the quality to strike and to unclose,
 Until that comes which has the quality to bring forth what lies slumbering
 forever ready in all words. o

Laws for Creations.

Laws for creations,
 For strong artists and leaders, for fresh broods of teachers and perfect literats
 for America,
 For noble savans and coming musicians. o

All must have reference to the ensemble of the world, and the compact truth
 of the world,
 There shall be no subject too pronounced—all works shall illustrate the divine
 5 law of indirections. o

19 60: closed—I see tympan 67-71: closed
 —tympan

21 60-71: slumbering, forever ready, in

Title: Chants Democratic. 13. 67: Leaves of
 Grass. 3. 71: LAWS FOR CREATIONS.

1 60-71: Creations,

2 60-71: leaders—for ~ teachers, and

3 60-67: For diverse savans, and 71: savans,
 and

4 60: There shall be no subject but it shall be
 treated with reference ~ truth of the world—
 And no coward or copyist shall be allowed;
 67-71: world;

5 60: pronounced—All ~ indirections; [No
 space between 5 and 6] 67-71: pronounced—
 All

60: [The following lines appear after 5:]

[1] There they stand—I see them already,
 each poised and in its place,

[2] Statements, models, censuses, poems,

dictionaries, biographies, essays, theories—
 How complete! How relative and inter-
 fused! No one supersedes another;

[3] They do not seem to me like the old
 specimens,

[4] They seem to me like Nature at last,
 (America has given birth to them, and I
 have also;)

[5] They seem to me at last as perfect as
 the animals, and as the rocks and weeds—
 fitted to them,

[6] Fitted to the sky, to float with floating
 clouds—to rustle among the trees with rus-
 tling leaves,

[7] To stretch with stretched and level
 waters, where ships silently sail in the dis-
 tance.

What do you suppose creation is?
 What do you suppose will satisfy the soul, except to walk free and own no superior?
 What do you suppose I would intimate to you in a hundred ways, but that man or woman is as good as God?
 And that there is no God any more divine than Yourself?
 And that that is what the oldest and newest myths finally mean? 10
 And that you or any one must approach creations through such laws? o

Poets to Come.

Poets to come! orators, singers, musicians to come!
 Not to-day is to justify me and answer what I am for,
 But you, a new brood, native, athletic, continental, greater than before known,
 Arouse! for you must justify me. o

6 60, 71: Creation

7 60: Soul, except 67-71: Soul, except ~ free, and

8 60-67: suppose I have intimated

11 60-71: Creations

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 14. 67: Leaves of Grass. 4. 71: POETS TO COME.

60-71: [Stanza numbers only]

1 60-67: come!/
 2 60: me, and Democracy, and what we are for, 67: me, and Democracy, and what we are for; 71: me, and ~ for;
 4 60-67: † You must 71: Arouse! Arouse—for ~ me—you must answer.
 60: [The following lines appear after 4:]
 [1] Indeed, if it were not for you, what would I be?
 [2] What is the little I have done, except to arouse you? [Space between [2] and [3]]
 [3] I depend on being realized, long hence, where the broad fat prairies spread, and

thence to Oregon and California inclusive,
 [4] I expect that the Texan and Arizonian, ages hence, will understand me,
 [5] I expect that the future Carolinian and Georgian will understand me and love me,
 [6] I expect that Kanadians, a hundred, and perhaps many hundred years from now, in winter, in the splendor of the snow and woods, or on the icy lakes, will take me with them, and permanently enjoy themselves with me. [Space between [6] and [7]]
 [7] Of to-day I know I am momentary, untouched—I am the bard of the future, [In 60: 5 followed [7]]

60: [The following lines appear after 4:]

[1] Indeed, if it were not for you, what would I be?

[2] What is the little I have done, except to arouse you? [Space between [2] and [3]]

[3] I depend on being realized, long hence, where the broad fat prairies spread, and

thence to Oregon and California inclusive,
 [4] I expect that the Texan and Arizonian, ages hence, will understand me,
 [5] I expect that the future Carolinian and Georgian will understand me and love me,
 [6] I expect that Kanadians, a hundred, and perhaps many hundred years from now, in winter, in the splendor of the snow and woods, or on the icy lakes, will take me with them, and permanently enjoy themselves with me. [Space between [6] and [7]]
 [7] Of to-day I know I am momentary, untouched—I am the bard of the future, [In 60: 5 followed [7]]

- 5 I myself but write one or two indicative words for the future,
I but advance a moment only to wheel and hurry back in the darkness. o

I am a man who, sauntering along without fully stopping, turns a casual look
upon you and then averts his face,
Leaving it to you to prove and define it,
Expecting the main things from you. o

Mediums.

- They shall arise in the States,
They shall report Nature, laws, physiology, and happiness,
They shall illustrate Democracy and the kosmos,
They shall be alimentive, amative, perceptive,
They shall be complete women and men, their pose brawny and supple, their
5 drink water, their blood clean and clear,
They shall fully enjoy materialism and the sight of products, they shall enjoy
the sight of the beef, lumber, bread-stuffs, of Chicago the great city,
They shall train themselves to go in public to become orators and oratresses,
Strong and sweet shall their tongues be, poems and materials of poems shall
come from their lives, they shall be makers and finders,

5 60-67: I but

6 60-71: moment, only

7 60-71: along, without ~ you, and

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 16. 67-71
[PI]: MEDIUMS.

1 60: States—mediums shall, 67, 72 [PI]:
States; 71[PI]: States [No punctuation]

2 67-71[PI]: happiness;

3 67-71[PI]: kosmos;

4 67-71[PI]: perceptive;

5 60: men—their 67-71[PI]: men—their

~ clear;

6 60: shall enjoy ~ products—they ~ Chi-
cago, the 67-71[PI]: shall enjoy ~ products
—they ~ Chicago, the ~ city;

7 60: become oratists, (orators ~ oratresses,)
67-71[PI]: oratresses;

8 60: be—poems ~ lives—they 67-71[PI]:
be—poems ~ lives—they ~ finders;

Of them and of their works shall emerge divine conveyors, to convey gospels,
 Characters, events, retrospections, shall be convey'd in gospels, trees, animals,
 waters, shall be convey'd, 10
 Death, the future, the invisible faith, shall all be convey'd. o

On Journeys through the States.

On journeys through the States we start,
 (Ay through the world, urged by these songs,
 Sailing henceforth to every land, to every sea,)
 We willing learners of all, teachers of all, and lovers of all. o

We have watch'd the seasons dispensing themselves and passing on, 5
 And have said, Why should not a man or woman do as much as the seasons,
 and effuse as much? o

We dwell a while in every city and town,
 We pass through Kanada, the North-east, the vast valley of the Mississippi,
 and the Southern States,
 We confer on equal terms with each of the States,

9 60: them, and ~ works, shall 67-71[PI]:
 them, and ~ works, shall ~ gospels;
 10 60: conveyed ~ gospels—Trees, ~ con-

veyed, 67-71[PI]: gospels—Trees,
 11 60: conveyed.

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 17. [Poem
 excluded in 67, but restored in 71[PI]] 71
 [PI]: ON JOURNEYS THROUGH THE STATES.
 60-71[PI]: [Stanza numbers only]
 1 60: Now we start hence, I with the rest,
 on our journeys ~ The States,/
 2 60: [Not present] 71[PI]: (Ay, through
 ~ world—urged
 3 60: [Not present] 71[PI]: land—to ~

sea;)
 4 71[PI]: We, willing
 5 60: I ~ watched ~ themselves, and 71
 [PI]: themselves, and
 6 60: And I have 71[PI]: We have
 7 71[PI]: town;
 8 60: north-east, 71[PI]: north-east, ~
 States;
 9 60-71[PI]: of The States,

- 10 We make trial of ourselves and invite men and women to hear,
 We say to ourselves, Remember, fear not, be candid, promulge the body and
 the soul,
 Dwell a while and pass on, be copious, temperate, chaste, magnetic,
 And what you effuse may then return as the seasons return,
 And may be just as much as the seasons. o

Me Imperturbe.

- Me imperturbe, standing at ease in Nature,
 Master of all or mistress of all, aplomb in the midst of irrational things,
 Imbued as they, passive, receptive, silent as they,
 Finding my occupation, poverty, notoriety, foibles, crimes, less important than
 I thought,
 Me toward the Mexican sea, or in the Mannahatta or the Tennessee, or far
 5 north or inland,
 A river man, or a man of the woods or of any farm-life of these States or of
 the coast, or the lakes or Kanada,
 Me wherever my life is lived, O to be self-balanced for contingencies,
 To confront night, storms, hunger, ridicule, accidents, rebuffs, as the trees and
 animals do. o

- 10 60: ourselves, and 71[PI]: ourselves,
 and ~ hear; the equality of humankind, and never for-
 11 60: Soul, 71[PI]: Soul; get immortality;
 60: [The following line appears after 11:] 12 60: while, and ~ on—Be 71[PI]:
 [1] Promulge real things—Never forget on—Be

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 18. 67-71:
 ME IMPERTURBE.

- 1 60: imperturbe,/Me standing
 2 60-71: all, or ~ all—aplomb
 3 60-71: they—passive,
 4 60-71: thought;
 60-71: [The following line appears after 4:]
 [1] Me private, or public, or menial, or
 solitary—all these subordinate, (I am eter-
 nally equal with the best—I am not subor-
 5 60-71: Sea, ~ Mannahatta, or ~ north, or
 6 60-67: river-man, ~ woods, or ~ farm-/
 life of These States, or ~ lakes, or 71: woods,
 or ~ These States, or ~ lakes, or
 7 60: Me, wherever ~ is to be lived, ~ con-
 tingencies! 67-71: Me, wherever ~ contin-
 gencies!
 8 60-71: O to confront

I was Looking a Long While.

I was looking a long while for Intentions,
 For a clew to the history of the past for myself, and for these chants—and
 now I have found it,
 It is not in those paged fables in the libraries, (them I neither accept nor
 reject,)

It is no more in the legends than in all else,
 It is in the present—it is this earth to-day, 5
 It is in Democracy—(the purport and aim of all the past,)

It is the life of one man or one woman to-day—the average man of to-day,
 It is in languages, social customs, literatures, arts,
 It is in the broad show of artificial things, ships, machinery, politics, creeds,
 modern improvements, and the interchange of nations,
 All for the modern—all for the average man of to-day. 10 o

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 19. 67: I WAS
LOOKING A LONG WHILE.

1 60: for the history of the past for myself,
and for these Chants—and now I have found
it, 67: for the history of the past for myself,
and for these chants—and now I have found it;
71: for a clue to the history of the past for
myself, and for these chants—and now I have
found it;

2 60-71: [Not present—part of 1]

3 67-71: reject;)

4 67-71: else;

5 67-71: to-day;

6 60: Democracy—in this America—the old
world also, 67: Democracy—in this America
—the old world also; 71: past;)

7 60-67: to-day, the ~ to-day; 71: to-day;

8 60: is languages, 67: is languages, ~ arts;
71: arts;

9 60: is the ~ interchanges 67: is the

10 60-71: † All for the average man

I Hear America Singing.

I hear America singing, the varied carols I hear,
 Those of mechanics, each one singing his as it should be blithe and strong,
 The carpenter singing his as he measures his plank or beam,
 The mason singing his as he makes ready for work, or leaves off work,
 The boatman singing what belongs to him in his boat, the deck-hand singing
 5 on the steamboat deck,
 The shoemaker singing as he sits on his bench, the hatter singing as he stands,
 The wood-cutter's song, the ploughboy's on his way in the morning, or at
 noon intermission or at sundown,
 The delicious singing of the mother, or of the young wife at work, or of the
 girl sewing or washing,
 Each singing what belongs to him or her and to none else,
 The day what belongs to the day—at night the party of young fellows, robust,
 10 friendly,
 Singing with open mouths their strong melodious songs. o

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 20. 67-71: I

HEAR AMERICA SINGING.

1 60: [Not present] 67-71: hear;
 60: [The following line appears instead
 of 1:]
 [1] American mouth-songs!
 2 60: mechanics—each ~ his, as ~ be, blithe
 67-71: mechanics—each ~ his, as ~ be, blithe
 ~ strong;
 3 60-71: his, as
 4 60: his, as 67-71: his, as ~ work;
 5 60: boat—the 67-71: boat—the ~ deck;
 Copy-text: deck-/hand
 6 60: bench—the 67-71: bench—the ~
 stands;
 7 60-71: song—the ploughboy's, on ~ at the
 noon intermission, or at sundown;

8 60: mother—or ~ work—or ~ washing—
 Each singing what belongs to her, and to none
 else, 67-71: mother—or ~ work—or ~
 washing—Each singing what belongs to her,
 and to none else;

9 60-71: [Not present—part of 8]

10 60: day—At night, the ~ friendly, clean-/
 blooded, singing with melodious voices, melo-
 dious thoughts. 67-71: day—At night, the
 60: [The following line appears—after a
 space—after 10:]

[1] Come! some of you! still be flooding
 The States with hundreds and thousands
 of mouth-songs, fit for The States only.

11 60: [Not present—last part of 10] 67-71:
 Singing, with ~ mouths, their

As I Walk These Broad Majestic Days.

As I walk these broad majestic days of peace,
 (For the war, the struggle of blood finish'd, wherein, O terrific Ideal,
 Against vast odds erewhile having gloriously won,
 Now thou stridest on, yet perhaps in time toward denser wars,
 Perhaps to engage in time in still more dreadful contests, dangers, 5
 Longer campaigns and crises, labors beyond all others,)
 Around me I hear that eclat of the world, politics, produce,
 The announcements of recognized things, science,
 The approved growth of cities and the spread of inventions. o

I see the ships, (they will last a few years,) 10
 The vast factories with their foremen and workmen,
 And hear the indorsement of all, and do not object to it. o

But I too announce solid things,
 Science, ships, politics, cities, factories, are not nothing,

Title: 60: Chants Democratic. 21. 67: As I
 WALK, SOLITARY, UNATTENDED. (In annex,
Songs Before Parting.) 71: As I Walk These
 Broad, Majestic Days.

60-71: [Stanza numbers only]

1 60-67: [1-6, Not present] 71: broad,
 majestic

2 71: Ideal!

3 71: odds, having

4 71: on—yet

6 71: others;)

60-67: [The following line appears after 6:]

[1] [Poem begins here] As I walk, soli-
 tary, unattended,

71: —As

7 60-71: world—politics,

8 60-71: things—science,

9 60-71: cities, and

11 67-71: factories, with

13 60: But we 67: But we ~ things; 71:
 things;

14 60-67: nothing—they serve, 71: nothing
 —I watch them,

Like a grand procession to music of distant bugles pouring, triumphantly
 15 moving, and grander heaving in sight,
 They stand for realities—all is as it should be. ○

Then my realities;
 What else is so real as mine?
 Libertad and the divine average, freedom to every slave on the face of the
 earth,
 The rapt promises and luminè of seers, the spiritual world, these
 20 centuries-lasting songs,
 And our visions, the visions of poets, the most solid announcements of any. ○

As I Ebb'd with the Ocean of Life.

I

As I ebb'd with the ocean of life,
 As I wended the shores I know,

15 60-67: [Not present] 71: procession,
 to ~ bugles, pouring, ~ moving—and ~
 sight;

17 60: realities,

19 60-71: Libertad, and ~ average—Freedom

20 60: lumine ~ seers—the ~ world—these
 67-71: luminé ~ seers—the ~ world—these

21 60: [The following lines appear—after a
 space—after 21:]

[1] For we support all,

[2] After the rest is done and gone, we
 remain,

[3] There is no final reliance but upon us,
 [4] Democracy rests finally upon us, (I,
 my brethren, begin it,)

[5] And our visions sweep through eter-
 nity.

67: [2] remain; [3] us;

71: [1] all, fuse all, [2] remain; [3]
 us;

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. I. 67: ELEMENTAL
 DRIFTS. 71[PI]: ELEMENTAL DRIFTS.

60: [Stanza numbers only] 67-71[PI]:
 [Stanza and section numbers]

1 60: ebb'd with an ebb of the ocean 67-
 71[PI]: with an ebb of the ocean

60-67: [The following lines appear before

1:]

[1] Elemental drifts!

[2] O I wish I could impress others as you
 and the waves have just been impressing
 me. [Space between [2] and 1]

71[PI]: [2] How I wish ~ you have
 just ~ me!

As I walk'd where the ripples continually wash you Paumanok,
 Where they rustle up hoarse and sibilant,
 Where the fierce old mother endlessly cries for her castaways, 5
 I musing late in the autumn day, gazing off southward,
 Held by this electric self out of the pride of which I utter poems,
 Was seiz'd by the spirit that trails in the lines underfoot,
 The rim, the sediment that stands for all the water and all the land of the
 globe. o

Fascinated, my eyes reverting from the south, dropt, to follow those slender
 windrows, 10
 Chaff, straw, splinters of wood, weeds, and the sea-gluten,
 Scum, scales from shining rocks, leaves of salt-lettuce, left by the tide,
 Miles walking, the sound of breaking waves the other side of me,
 Paumanok there and then as I thought the old thought of likenesses,
 These you presented to me you fish-shaped island, 15
 As I wended the shores I know,
 As I walk'd with that electric self seeking types. o

2

As I wend to the shores I know not,
 As I list to the dirge, the voices of men and women wreck'd,
 As I inhale the impalpable breezes that set in upon me, 20
 As the ocean so mysterious rolls toward me closer and closer,
 I too but signify at the utmost a little wash'd-up drift,

3 60: walked ~ sea-ripples wash you, Paumanok, 67: sea-ripples wash you, Paumanok, 71[PI]: you, Paumanok
 4 60-71[PI]: up, hoarse
 6 60-71[PI]: I, musing, late ~ south-/ward,
 7 60: Alone, held ~ the eternal self of me that threatens to get the better of me, and stifle me, 67: Alone, held ~ this eternal self of me, out ~ I have utter'd my poems, 71 [PI]: Alone, held ~ this eternal Self of me, out ~ utter my poems,
 8 60: seized 67-71[PI]: under-/foot,
 9 60-71[PI]: In the rim, the sediment, that
 10 60: eyes, reverting ~ dropped, to ~ winrows, 67: eyes, reverting ~ drop't, to ~ winrows, 71[PI]: eyes, reverting ~ winrows,
 11 60-71[PI]: sea-/gluten,

12 60: salt-/lettuce, ~ tide; 67 tide; 71 [PI]: tide:
 14 60-71[PI]: Paumanok, there ~ then, as
 15 60-71[PI]: me, you
 17 60: walked ~ that eternal self of me, seeking 67: that eternal self of me, seeking 71[PI]: that eternal Self of me, seeking ing
 18 60: wend the
 19 60: As I listen to ~ wrecked, 67: wreck't,
 21 60: [The following line appears after 21:] [I] At once I find, the least thing that belongs to me, or that I see or touch, I know not;
 22 60: I, too, but signify, at ~ utmost, a ~ washed-up 67-71[PI]: I, too, but signify, at ~ utmost, a

A few sands and dead leaves to gather,
Gather, and merge myself as part of the sands and drift. ◦

- 25 O baffled, balk'd, bent to the very earth,
Oppress'd with myself that I have dared to open my mouth,
Aware now that amid all that blab whose echoes recoil upon me I have not
once had the least idea who or what I am,
But that before all my arrogant poems the real Me stands yet untouch'd, untold,
altogether unreach'd,
Withdrawn far, mocking me with mock-congratulatory signs and bows,
30 With peals of distant ironical laughter at every word I have written,
Pointing in silence to these songs, and then to the sand beneath. ◦

I perceive I have not really understood any thing, not a single object, and that
no man ever can,
Nature here in sight of the sea taking advantage of me to dart upon me and
sting me,
Because I have dared to open my mouth to sing at all. ◦

3

- 35 You oceans both, I close with you,
We murmur alike reproachfully rolling sands and drift, knowing not why,
These little shreds indeed standing for you and me and all. ◦

You friable shore with trails of debris,
You fish-shaped island, I take what is underfoot,

- 25 60: balked,/Bent ~ earth, here preceding what follows,
26 60: Oppressed 67: Opprest
27 60-67: now, that, amid ~ the blab ~ me, I 71[PI]: now, that, amid ~ me, I
28 60: my insolent poems ~ ME still stands untouched, ~ unreach'd, 67: my insolent poems, the ~ ME 71[PI]: my insolent poems ~ ME
30 60: written or shall write,
60: [The following line appears after 30:]
[1] Striking me with insults till I fall helpless upon the sand.
31 60: [Not present] 67: to all these
32 60: O I perceive ~ not understood anything—not ~ object—and ~ can. 67-71[PI]: Now I perceive ~ not understood anything—not ~ object—and ~ can. 60-71[PI]:
[Space between 32 and 33]
33 60: I perceive Nature here, in ~ sea, is taking ~ me, to ~ me, and 67-71[PI]: I perceive Nature, here ~ sea, is taking ~ me, to ~ me, and
60: [The following line appears after 33:]
[1] Because I was assuming so much,
34 60: And because
35 60: both! You tangible land! Nature!/Be not too rough with me—I submit—I close with you, 67-71[PI]: both! I ~ you;
36 60-67: [Not present] 71[PI]: reproachfully, rolling our sands
37 60-67: shreds shall, indeed, stand for all. 71[PI]: indeed, standing
38 60-71[PI]: shore, with ~ debris!
39 60-71[PI]: island! I ~ underfoot;

What is yours is mine my father. ○ 40

I too Paumanok,
I too have bubbled up, floated the measureless float, and been wash'd on your
shores,
I too am but a trail of drift and debris,
I too leave little wrecks upon you, you fish-shaped island. ○

I throw myself upon your breast my father, 45
I cling to you so that you cannot unloose me,
I hold you so firm till you answer me something. ○

Kiss me my father,
Touch me with your lips as I touch those I love,
Breathe to me while I hold you close the secret of the murmuring I envy. ○ 50

4

Ebb, ocean of life, (the flow will return,)
Cease not your moaning you fierce old mother,
Endlessly cry for your castaways, but fear not, deny not me,
Rustle not up so hoarse and angry against my feet as I touch you or gather
from you. ○

I mean tenderly by you and all, 55
I gather for myself and for this phantom looking down where we lead, and
following me and mine. ○

Me and mine, loose windrows, little corpses,
Froth, snowy white, and bubbles,

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 40 | 60-71[PI]: mine, my | cannot emulate it, and utter myself as well |
| 42 | 60: washed ~ shores; 67-71[PI]: shores; | as it. [Space between [1] and [2]] |
| 45 | 60-71[PI]: breast, my | [2] Sea-raff! Crook-tongued waves! |
| 47 | 60-71[PI]: firm, till | [3] O, I will yet sing, some day, what you |
| 48 | 60-71[PI]: me, my | have said to me. |
| 49 | 60-71[PI]: lips, as | 52 60-71[PI]: moaning, you |
| 50 | 60: me, while ~ close, the ~ the wondrous murmuring ~ envy, 67: me, while ~ close, the ~ the wondrous murmuring 71 [PI]: me, while ~ close, the | 53 60-71[PI]: castaways—but |
| | 60: [The following lines appear after 50:] | 54 60-71[PI]: feet, as ~ you, or |
| | [1] For I fear I shall become crazed, if I | 55 60-67: you,/ |
| | | 56 60-71[PI]: myself, and ~ phantom, look- |
| | | ing |
| | | 57 60-71[PI]: mine!/We, loose winrows, |

- (See, from my dead lips the ooze exuding at last,
 60 See, the prismatic colors glistening and rolling,)
 Tufts of straw, sands, fragments,
 Buoy'd hither from many moods, one contradicting another,
 From the storm, the long calm, the darkness, the swell,
 Musing, pondering, a breath, a briny tear, a dab of liquid or soil,
 65 Up just as much out of fathomless workings fermented and thrown,
 A limp blossom or two, torn, just as much over waves floating, drifted at
 random,
 Just as much for us that sobbing dirge of Nature,
 Just as much whence we come that blare of the cloud-trumpets,
 We, capricious, brought hither we know not whence, spread out before you,
 70 You up there walking or sitting,
 Whoever you are, we too lie in drifts at your feet. o

Myself and Mine.

Myself and mine gymnastic ever,
 To stand the cold or heat, to take good aim with a gun, to sail a boat, to manage
 horses, to beget superb children,

- 59 60-71[PI]: (See! from ~ last!
 60 60-71[PI]: See—the ~ colors, glistening ~ rolling!)
 62 60: Buoyed
 63 67-71[PI]: swell;
 64 67-71[PI]: soil;
 65 67-71[PI]: thrown;
 66 67-71[PI]: random;
 67 67-71[PI]: Nature;
 68 60-67: much, whence ~ come, that ~ cloud-trumpets; 71[PI]: much, whence ~ come, that ~ cloud-/trumpets;
 69 60: hither, we ~ You, up there, walking or sitting, 67-71[PI]: hither, we
 70 60: [Not present—part of 69] 67-71 [PI]: You, up there, walking
 71 60-71[PI]: are—we

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 10. 67: Leaves of
 Grass. 2. 71[PI]: MYSELF AND MINE.
 60-71[PI]: [Stanza numbers only]
 1 60: [Not present]
 60: [The following lines appear instead of
 1:]

[1] It is ended—I dally no more,
 [2] After to-day I inure myself to run, leap,
 swim, wrestle, fight,
 2 60-71[PI]: heat—to ~ gun—to ~ boat—
 to ~ horses—to

To speak readily and clearly, to feel at home among common people,
And to hold our own in terrible positions on land and sea. ○

Not for an embroiderer, 5
(There will always be plenty of embroiderers, I welcome them also,)
But for the fibre of things and for inherent men and women. ○

Not to chisel ornaments,
But to chisel with free stroke the heads and limbs of plenteous supreme Gods,
that the States may realize them walking and talking. ○

Let me have my own way, 10
Let others promulge the laws, I will make no account of the laws,
Let others praise eminent men and hold up peace, I hold up agitation and
conflict,
I praise no eminent man, I rebuke to his face the one that was thought most
worthy. ○

(Who are you? and what are you secretly guilty of all your life?
Will you turn aside all your life? will you grub and chatter all your life? 15
And who are you, blabbing by rote, years, pages, languages, reminiscences,
Unwitting to-day that you do not know how to speak properly a single
word?) ○

Let others finish specimens, I never finish specimens,
I start them by exhaustless laws as Nature does, fresh and modern
continually. ○

I give nothing as duties, 20

<p>3 60-71[PI]: clearly—to 4 60: hold my ~ positions, on 67-71[PI]: positions, on 5 67-71[PI]: embroiderer; 6 60-71[PI]: embroiderers—I ~ also;) 7 60-71[PI]: things, and 9 60-71[PI]: Supreme ~ The States ~ them, walking 10 67-71[PI]: way; 11 60: laws—I 67-71[PI]: laws—I ~ laws; 12 60: peace—I 67-71[PI]: peace—I ~ conflict;</p>	<p>13 60-71[PI]: man—I 14 60-71[PI]: you? you mean devil! And ~ of, all 15 60-71[PI]: life? Will ~ life?) [Space between 15 and 16] 16 60-71[PI]: (And ~ you—blabbing 17 60-71[PI]: speak a 18 60: specimens—I 67-71[PI]: specimens —I ~ specimens; 19 60-67: I shower ~ laws, as nature 71 [PI]: I shower ~ laws, as 20 67-71[PI]: duties;</p>
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What others give as duties I give as living impulses,
(Shall I give the heart's action as a duty?) ◦

Let others dispose of questions, I dispose of nothing, I arouse unanswerable
questions,

Who are they I see and touch, and what about them?

25 What about these likes of myself that draw me so close by tender directions
and indirections? ◦

I call to the world to distrust the accounts of my friends, but listen to my
enemies, as I myself do,

I charge you forever reject those who would expound me, for I cannot expound
myself,

I charge that there be no theory or school founded out of me,

I charge you to leave all free, as I have left all free. ◦

30 After me, vista!

O I see life is not short, but immeasurably long,

I henceforth tread the world chaste, temperate, an early riser, a steady grower,

Every hour the semen of centuries, and still of centuries. ◦

I must follow up these continual lessons of the air, water, earth,

35 I perceive I have no time to lose. ◦

21 60-71[PI]: duties, I ~ impulses;

23 60-71[PI]: questions—I ~ nothing—I ~
questions;

25 60-71[PI]: myself, that

60: [The following lines appear—after a
space—after 25:]

[1] Let others deny the evil their enemies
charge against them—but how can I the
like?

[2] Nothing ever has been, or ever can be,
charged against me, half as bad as the evil
I really am;

26 60: enemies—as ~ my-/self do; 67-71
[PI]: enemies—as ~ do;

27 60: you, too, forever, reject ~ me—for
67-71[PI]: you, too, forever, reject ~ me—
for ~ myself;

28 67-71[PI]: me;

31 60: O, I 67-71[PI]: O, I ~ long;

32 60: world, chaste, ~ riser, a gymnast, a
steady 67-71[PI]: world, chaste,

33 60-71[PI]: centuries—and

34 60: I will 67-71[PI]: I will ~ earth;

You Felons on Trial in Courts.

You felons on trial in courts,
 You convicts in prison-cells, you sentenced assassins chain'd and handcuff'd
 with iron,
 Who am I too that I am not on trial or in prison?
 Me ruthless and devilish as any, that my wrists are not chain'd with iron, or
 my ankles with iron? ◦

You prostitutes flaunting over the trottoirs or obscene in your rooms, 5
 Who am I that I should call you more obscene than myself? ◦

O culpable! I acknowledge—I exposé!
 (O admirers, praise not me—compliment not me—you make me wince,
 I see what you do not—I know what you do not.) ◦

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 13. 67: You thought?
 FELONS ON TRIAL IN COURTS. [8] What in darkness in bed at night, alone
 60-71: [Stanza numbers only] or with a companion? [Space between [8]
 and 1]
 1 60: trials 67-71: courts; 2 60: prison cells—you ~ assassins, chained ~
 handcuffed 67-71: prison-cells—you ~ assas-
 sins, chain'd ~ hand-cuff'd ~ iron;
 3 60: I, that ~ trial, or 67-71: I, too, that ~
 trial, or
 4 60: Me, ruthless ~ chained 67-71: Me,
 ruthless
 5 60-71: trottoirs, or
 6 60-71: I, that
 7 60: culpable! O traitor!/O I 67: culpable!
 O traitor!/I 71: culpable!/I
 8 60-71: admirers! praise ~ me! compliment
 ~ me! you
 9 60-67: not;) [No space between 9 and 10]

60: [The following lines appear before 1:]
 [1] O bitter sprig! Confession sprig!
 [2] In the bouquet I give you place also—
 I bind you in,
 [3] Proceeding no further till, humbled pub-
 licly,
 [4] I give fair warning, once for all. [Space
 between [4] and [5]]
 [5] I own that I have been sly, thievish,
 mean, a prevaricator, greedy, derelict,
 [6] And I own that I remain so yet. [Space
 between [6] and [7]]
 [7] What foul thought but I think it—
 or have in me the stuff out of which it is

- 10 Inside these breast-bones I lie smutch'd and choked,
 Beneath this face that appears so impassive hell's tides continually run,
 Lusts and wickedness are acceptable to me,
 I walk with delinquents with passionate love,
 I feel I am of them—I belong to those convicts and prostitutes myself,
 And henceforth I will not deny them—for how can I deny myself? °

Night on the Prairies.

Night on the prairies,
 The supper is over, the fire on the ground burns low,
 The wearied emigrants sleep, wrapt in their blankets;
 I walk by myself—I stand and look at the stars, which I think now I never
 realized before. °

- 5 Now I absorb immortality and peace,
 I admire death and test propositions. °

How plenteous! how spiritual! how resumé!
 The same old man and soul—the same old aspirations, and the same content. °

I was thinking the day most splendid till I saw what the not-day exhibited,

- 10 67-71: choked;
 11 60: impassive, hell's hell's ~ run; 67-71: impassive, 12 67-71: me;
 13 67-71: love;

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 15. 67: Leaves of
 Grass. 3. 71[PI]: NIGHT ON THE PRAIRIES.
 60-71[PI]: [Stanza numbers only]
 1 60: Prairies; 67-71[PI]: prairies;
 2 60: [Not present] 67-71[PI]: over—the
 ~ low;

3 60: [Not present] 71[PI]: blankets:
 6 67-71[PI]: death, and
 7 60-71[PI]: plenteous! How ~ How
 8 60-71[PI]: Old Man ~ Soul—the
 9 60-71[PI]: splendid, till

I was thinking this globe enough till there sprang out so noiseless around me
myriads of other globes. ○ 10

Now while the great thoughts of space and eternity fill me I will measure
myself by them,
And now touch'd with the lives of other globes arrived as far along as those
of the earth,
Or waiting to arrive, or pass'd on farther than those of the earth,
I henceforth no more ignore them than I ignore my own life,
Or the lives of the earth arrived as far as mine, or waiting to arrive. ○ 15

O I see now that life cannot exhibit all to me, as the day cannot,
I see that I am to wait for what will be exhibited by death. ○

The World Below the Brine.

The world below the brine,
Forests at the bottom of the sea, the branches and leaves,
Sea-lettuce, vast lichens, strange flowers and seeds, the thick tangle, openings,
and pink turf,

10 60: enough, till there tumbled upon me
67-71[PI]: enough, till
11 60: me, I 67-71[PI]: Now, while ~
me, I ~ them;
12 60: now, touched ~ globes, arrived 67-
71[PI]: now, touch'd ~ globes, arrived
13 60: passed
14 67-71[PI]: them, than
16 60: O how plainly I ~ me—as 67-71
[PI]: me—as
17 60: O I see

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 16. 67: Leaves of
Grass. 4. 71[PI]: THE WORLD BELOW THE
BRINE.
1 60: [Not present] 67-71[PI]: brine;
60: [The following line appears instead of
1:]
[1] Sea-water, and all living below it,
2 60-71[PI]: sea—the
3 60-71[PI]: seeds—the ~ tangle, the open-
ings, and the pink

Different colors, pale gray and green, purple, white, and gold, the play of
 light through the water,
 Dumb swimmers there among the rocks, coral, gluten, grass, rushes, and the
 5 aliment of the swimmers,
 Sluggish existences grazing there suspended, or slowly crawling close to the
 bottom,
 The sperm-whale at the surface blowing air and spray, or disporting with his
 flukes,
 The leaden-eyed shark, the walrus, the turtle, the hairy sea-leopard, and the
 sting-ray,
 Passions there, wars, pursuits, tribes, sight in those ocean-depths, breathing
 that thick-breathing air, as so many do,
 The change thence to the sight here, and to the subtle air breathed by beings
 10 like us who walk this sphere,
 The change onward from ours to that of beings who walk other spheres. o

I Sit and Look Out.

I sit and look out upon all the sorrows of the world, and upon all oppression
 and shame,
 I hear secret convulsive sobs from young men at anguish with themselves,
 remorseful after deeds done,

4 60-71[PI]: gold—the
 5 60-71[PI]: rocks—coral, ~ rushes—and depths—breathing 67-71[PI]: there—wars,
 6 60-71[PI]: there, suspended, ~ tribes—sight ~ ocean-depths—breathing ~
 7 60-71[PI]: surface, blowing do;
 8 60-71[PI]: sting-ray; 10 60-71[PI]: us, who ~ sphere;
 9 60: there—wars, ~ tribes—sight ~ ocean- 11 67-71[PI]: ours, to

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 17. 67: Leaves of 1 67-71: shame;
 Grass. 5. 71: I SIT AND LOOK OUT. 2 60-71: men, at ~ done;

I see in low life the mother misused by her children, dying, neglected, gaunt,
 desperate,
 I see the wife misused by her husband, I see the treacherous seducer of young
 women,
 I mark the ranklings of jealousy and unrequited love attempted to be hid,
 I see these sights on the earth, 5
 I see the workings of battle, pestilence, tyranny, I see martyrs and prisoners,
 I observe a famine at sea, I observe the sailors casting lots who shall be kill'd
 to preserve the lives of the rest,
 I observe the slights and degradations cast by arrogant persons upon laborers,
 the poor, and upon negroes, and the like;
 All these—all the meanness and agony without end I sitting look out upon,
 See, hear, and am silent. o

All is Truth.

O me, man of slack faith so long,
 Standing aloof, denying portions so long,
 Only aware to-day of compact all-diffused truth,
 Discovering to-day there is no lie or form of lie, and can be none, but grows
 as inevitably upon itself as the truth does upon itself,

3 60: see, in ~ life, the 67-71: see, in ~
 life, the ~ desperate;

4 60: husband—I ~ of the young woman,
 67-71: husband—I ~ women;

5 60: love, attempted ~ hid—I 67-71: love,
 attempted ~ hid—I ~ earth;

6 60: tyranny—I 67-71: tyranny—I ~ pris-
 oners;

7 60: sea—I ~ killed, to 67-71: sea—I ~
 kill'd, to ~ rest;

9 60-71: these—All ~ end, I sitting, look

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 18. 67: Leaves of
 Grass. 1. (In annex, *Songs Before Parting*.)
 60-71: [Stanza numbers only]

1 60-71: long!

2 60-71: aloof—denying ~ long;

60: [The following line appears after 2:]

[1] Me with mole's eyes, unrisen to buoy-
 ancy and vision—unfree,

3 60: compact, all-diffused 67-71: compact,
 all-diffused truth;

4 60: no lie, or ~ grows just 67-71: no lie,
 or

5 Or as any law of the earth or any natural production of the earth does. ○

(This is curious and may not be realized immediately, but it must be realized,
I feel in myself that I represent falsehoods equally with the rest,
And that the universe does.) ○

Where has fail'd a perfect return indifferent of lies or the truth?
Is it upon the ground, or in water or fire? or in the spirit of man? or in the
10 meat and blood? ○

Meditating among liars and retreating sternly into myself, I see that there are
really no liars or lies after all,
And that nothing fails its perfect return, and that what are called lies are
perfect returns,
And that each thing exactly represents itself and what has preceded it,
And that the truth includes all, and is compact just as much as space is compact,
And that there is no flaw or vacuum in the amount of the truth—but that all
15 is truth without exception;
And henceforth I will go celebrate any thing I see or am,
And sing and laugh and deny nothing. ○

Germs.

Forms, qualities, lives, humanity, language, thoughts,
The ones known, and the ones unknown, the ones on the stars,

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|----------------------|
| 5 | 60-71: earth, or | 12 | 60-71: return—And |
| 6 | 60-71: curious, and ~ immediately—But ~ realized; | 13 | 60-71: itself, and |
| 9 | 60: failed ~ return, indifferent | 14 | 60-71: compact, just |
| | 67-71: re-
turn, indifferent | 15 | 60: exception, |
| 11 | 60-71: liars, and | 16 | 60-71: anything |
| | | 17 | 60-71: laugh, and |

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 19. 67: Leaves of Grass. 2. (In annex, *Songs Before Parting*.) 2 60-71: unknown—the

The stars themselves, some shaped, others unshaped,
 Wonders as of those countries, the soil, trees, cities, inhabitants, whatever they
 may be,
 Splendid suns, the moons and rings, the countless combinations and effects, 5
 Such-like, and as good as such-like, visible here or anywhere, stand provided
 for in a handful of space, which I extend my arm and half enclose with
 my hand,
 That containing the start of each and all, the virtue, the germs of all. 0

[So Far, and So Far, and on toward the End].

So far, and so far, and on toward the end,
 Singing what is sung in this book, from the irresistible impulses of me;
 But whether I continue beyond this book, to maturity,
 Whether I shall dart forth the true rays, the ones that wait unfired,
 (Did you think the sun was shining its brightest? 5
 No—it has not yet fully risen;)
 Whether I shall complete what is here started,
 Whether I shall attain my own height, to justify these, yet unfinished,
 Whether I shall make THE POEM OF THE NEW WORLD, transcending all
 others—depends, rich persons, upon you,
 Depends, whoever you are now filling the current Presidentiad, upon you, 10
 Upon you, Governor, Mayor, Congressman,
 And you, contemporary America. 0

4 60-71: countries—the

5 67-71: effects;

6 67-71: hand;

7 60: That contains ~ all—the ~ all; 67-

71: That contains ~ all—the

60: [The following line appears after 7:]

[1] That is the theory as of origins.

What Am I After All.

What am I after all but a child, pleas'd with the sound of my own name?
 repeating it over and over;
 I stand apart to hear—it never tires me. ○

To you your name also;
 Did you think there was nothing but two or three pronunciations in the sound
 of your name? ○

Locations and Times.

Locations and times—what is it in me that meets them all, whenever and
 wherever, and makes me at home?
 Forms, colors, densities, odors—what is it in me that corresponds with them? ○

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 22. 67: Leaves of
 Grass. 4. (In annex, *Songs Before Parting*.)
 71[PI]: WHAT AM I, AFTER ALL.

60-71[PI]: [Stanza numbers only]

1 60: I, after all, but ~ pleased ~ over, 67:
 I, after all, but ~ pleased 71[PI]: I, after all,
 but

60: [The following line appears after 1:]

[1] I cannot tell why it affects me so much,
 when I hear it from women's voices, and
 from men's voices, or from my own voice,

3 60-67: you, your ~ also, 71[PI]: you,
 your

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 23. 67: Leaves
 of Grass. 5. 71[PI]: LOCATIONS AND TIMES.

1 Copy-text: when-/ever

2 60: [The following line appears after 2:]

[1] What is the relation between me and
 them?

TO THE READER AT PARTING.

Now, dearest comrade, lift me to your face,
 We must separate awhile—Here! take from my lips this kiss;
 Whoever you are, I give it especially to you;
So long!—And I hope we shall meet again. ◦

A Song of Joys.

O to make the most jubilant song!
 Full of music—full of manhood, womanhood, infancy!

Title: 60: Leaves of Grass. 24. 67: Now
 LIFT ME CLOSE. 71[PI]: TO THE READER AT
 PARTING. [Appears as the penultimate poem in
 71[PI]; *so long!* the final poem in 71. TO THE
 READER AT PARTING. was excluded after 71[PI],
 with *So Long!* the final poem in 81. See *So
 Long!*, II 448-452.]

1 60:† Lift me close to ~ face till I whisper,
 67: Now lift me close to ~ face till I whisper,

60: [The following lines appear after 1:]
 [1] What you are holding is in reality no
 book, nor part of a book,
 [2] It is a man, flushed and full-bodied—it
 is I—*So long!*

67: [1] a book; [2] flush'd

2 60: separate—Here! ~ kiss, 67: —We

4 60: *long*—and

Title: 60: POEM OF JOYS. 71[PI]: POEM
 OF JOYS. 67: POEMS OF JOY.

60: [Stanza numbers only] 67-71[PI]:
 [Stanza and section numbers]

1 60: make a most jubilant poem! 67: jubi-
 lant poems! 67-71[PI]: [Section 1 begins
 with 1] 71[PI]: jubilant poem!

71[PI]: [The following line appears after

1:]

[1] Even to set off these, and merge with
 these, the carols of Death. [Terminal period
 possible broken comma]

72[PI]: [1] Death;

2 60-67: O full ~ music! Full 71[PI]:
 O full ~ music! full

Full of common employments—full of grain and trees. ◦

O for the voices of animals—O for the swiftness and balance of fishes!

5 O for the dropping of raindrops in a song!

O for the sunshine and motion of waves in a song! ◦

O the joy of my spirit—it is uncaged—it darts like lightning!

It is not enough to have this globe or a certain time,

I will have thousands of globes and all time. ◦

10 O the engineer's joys! to go with a locomotive!

To hear the hiss of steam, the merry shriek, the steam-whistle, the laughing locomotive!

To push with resistless way and speed off in the distance. ◦

O the gleesome saunter over fields and hillsides!

The leaves and flowers of the commonest weeds, the moist fresh stillness of the woods,

15 The exquisite smell of the earth at daybreak, and all through the forenoon. ◦

O the horseman's and horsewoman's joys!

The saddle, the gallop, the pressure upon the seat, the cool gurgling by the ears and hair. ◦

O the fireman's joys!

3 60-67: O full ~ employments! Full 71
[PI]: employments! full

4 60-71[PI]: animals! O

5 60-71[PI]: rain-drops ~ a poem!

6 60: a poem. 67-71[PI]: sunshine, and ~
a poem.

60-67: [The following lines appear—after
a space—after 6:]

[1] O to be on the sea! the wind, the wide
waters around;

[2] O to sail in a ship under full sail at sea.

7 60-67: spirit! It ~ uncaged! It 71[PI]:
spirit! it ~ uncaged! it

8 60-71[PI]: globe, or ~ time—I will have
thousands of globes, and all time.

9 60-71[PI]: [Not present—part of 8]

10 60-71[PI]: joys!/To 67-71[PI]: [Sec-

tion 2 begins with 10]

11 60-71[PI]: steam—the ~ shriek—the
steam-whistle—the

12 60-71[PI]: way, and

13 60-67: [Lines 13-15 not present here but
follow 151 as separate stanza] 60-71[PI]:
hill-sides!

14 60-71[PI]: weeds—the [See 13]

15 60-71[PI]: day-break, 60-67: [These
lines follow 15 as a separate stanza:]

[1] O love-branches! love-root! love-apples!

[2] O chaste and electric torrents! O mad-
sweet drops.

17 60-71[PI]: saddle—the gallop—the ~
seat—the

18 67-71[PI]: [Section 3 begins with 18]

I hear the alarm at dead of night,
 I hear bells, shouts! I pass the crowd, I run! 20
 The sight of the flames maddens me with pleasure. o

O the joy of the strong-brawn'd fighter, towering in the arena in perfect condition, conscious of power, thirsting to meet his opponent. o

O the joy of that vast elemental sympathy which only the human soul is capable of generating and emitting in steady and limitless floods. o

O the mother's joys!
 The watching, the endurance, the precious love, the anguish, the patiently yielded life. o 25

O the joy of increase, growth, recuperation,
 The joy of soothing and pacifying, the joy of concord and harmony. o

O to go back to the place where I was born,
 To hear the birds sing once more,
 To ramble about the house and barn and over the fields once more, 30
 And through the orchard and along the old lanes once more. o

O to have been brought up on bays, lagoons, creeks, or along the coast,

20 60-71[PI]: bells—shouts!—I ~ crowd—I
 22 60: strong-brawned ~ arena, in 67-71
 [PI]: arena, in
 23 60-71[PI]: Soul
 24 67-71[PI]: [Section 4 begins with 24]
 25 60-71[PI]: watching—the endurance—the
 ~ love—the anguish—the
 26 71[PI]: recuperation;
 27 60-71[PI]: pacifying—the
 28 60-71[PI]: born!
 29 60: O to ~ more! 67-71[PI]: more!
 30 60-71[PI]: barn, and ~ fields, once
 31 60: [The following lines appear after 31:]
 [1] O male and female!
 [2] O the presence of women! (I swear,
 nothing is more exquisite to me than the
 presence of women;)
 [3] O for the girl, my mate! O for happiness
 with my mate!
 [4] O the young man as I pass! O I am

sick after the friendship of him who, I fear,
 is indifferent to me. [Space between [4]
 and [5]]

[5] O the streets of cities!

[6] The flitting faces—the expressions,
 eyes, feet, costumes! O I cannot tell how
 welcome they are to me;

[7] O of men—of women toward me as I
 pass—The memory of only one look—the
 boy lingering and waiting.

67: [2] swear there is nothing more exquisite
 than [3] for the happiness [7] O, of
 the men—of 67-71[PI]: [Section 5 begins
 with [1]]

71[PI]: [2] swear there is nothing more
 ~ the mere presence [3] for the happiness
 [6] me. [7] [Not present]

32 60, 71[PI]: coast! 67: creeks or ~
 coast! 67-71[PI]: [Section 6 begins with 32]

To continue and be employ'd there all my life,
 The briny and damp smell, the shore, the salt weeds exposed at low water,
 35 The work of fishermen, the work of the eel-fisher and clam-fisher;
 I come with my clam-rake and spade, I come with my eel-spear,
 Is the tide out? I join the group of clam-diggers on the flats,
 I laugh and work with them, I joke at my work like a mettlesome young man;
 In winter I take my eel-basket and eel-spear and travel out on foot on the ice—
 I have a small axe to cut holes in the ice,
 Behold me well-clothed going gayly or returning in the afternoon, my brood
 40 of tough boys accompanying me,
 My brood of grown and part-grown boys, who love to be with no one else so
 well as they love to be with me,
 By day to work with me, and by night to sleep with me. ◦

Another time in warm weather out in a boat, to lift the lobster-pots where they
 are sunk with heavy stones, (I know the buoys,)
 O the sweetness of the Fifth-month morning upon the water as I row just
 before sunrise toward the buoys,
 I pull the wicker pots up slantingly, the dark green lobsters are desperate with
 their claws as I take them out, I insert wooden pegs in the joints of their
 45 pincers,
 I go to all the places one after another, and then row back to the shore,
 There in a huge kettle of boiling water the lobsters shall be boil'd till their
 color becomes scarlet. ◦

Another time mackerel-taking,

33 60: O to ~ employed ~ life! 67-71
 [PI]: O to ~ life!
 34 60-71[PI]: O the ~ smell—the shore—
 the
 35 60-71[PI]: fishermen—the ~ clam-fisher.
 60-71[PI]: [The following line appears
 —after a space—after 35:]
 [1] O it is I!
 36 60-71[PI]: spade! I ~ eel-spear;
 38 60-71[PI]: them—I ~ work, like ~
 man. [Space between 38 and 39]
 39 60-71[PI]: ice;
 40 60: me, well-clothed, going gayly, or ~
 afternoon—my 67-71[PI]: me, well-clothed,

going gaily, or ~ afternoon—my
 41 60: with none else so
 43 60-71[PI]: Or, another time, in ~
 weather, out ~ lobster-pots, where ~ buoys;)
 44 60: Fifth Month ~ water, as I row, just ~
 sunrise, toward ~ buoys; 67-71[PI]: water,
 as I row, just ~ sunrise, toward ~ buoys;
 45 60-71[PI]: slantingly—the ~ claws, as
 ~ out—I
 46 60-71[PI]: places, one
 47 60: There, in ~ water, the ~ boiled 67-
 71[PI]: There, in ~ water, the
 48 60-71[PI]: Or, another time, mackerel-
 taking,

Voracious, mad for the hook, near the surface, they seem to fill the water for
 miles;
 Another time fishing for rock-fish in Chesapeake bay, I one of the brown-faced
 crew; 50
 Another time trailing for blue-fish off Paumanok, I stand with braced body,
 My left foot is on the gunwale, my right arm throws far out the coils of
 slender rope,
 In sight around me the quick veering and darting of fifty skiffs, my
 companions. o

O boating on the rivers,
 The voyage down the St. Lawrence, the superb scenery, the steamers, 55
 The ships sailing, the Thousand Islands, the occasional timber-raft and the
 raftsmen with long-reaching sweep-oars,
 The little huts on the rafts, and the steam of smoke when they cook supper
 at evening. o

(A something pernicious and dread!
 Something far away from a puny and pious life!
 Something unproved! something in a trance! 60
 Something escaped from the anchorage and driving free.) o

O to work in mines, or forging iron,
 Foundry casting, the foundry itself, the rude high roof, the ample and
 shadow'd space,
 The furnace, the hot liquid pour'd out and running. o

O to resume the joys of the soldier! 65

49 71[PI]: miles:

50 60-67: Or, another time, fishing ~ Bay—
 I 71[PI]: Or, another time, fishing ~ Bay—
 I ~ crew:

51 60-71[PI]: Or, another time, trailing

52 60-71[PI]: gunwale—my ~ throws the

54 60-71[PI]: rivers! 67-71[PI]: [Section
 7 begins with 54]

55 60-71[PI]: down the Niagara, (the St.
 Lawrence,)—the ~ scenery—the

56 60-71[PI]: sailing—the ~ Islands—the
 ~ timber-raft, and ~ long-/reaching

58 60-71[PI]: [No parenthesis]

60 60-71[PI]: unproved! Something

61 60-71[PI]: anchorage, and [No paren-
 thesis]

62 60-71[PI]: iron!

63 60: casting—the ~ itself—the ~ roof—
 the ~ shadowed 67-71[PI]: casting—the ~
 itself—the ~ roof—the

64 60: furnace—the ~ poured 67-71[PI]:
 furnace—the

65 60-67: O the joys 71[PI]: soldier: 67-
 71[PI]: [Section 8 begins with 65]

To feel the presence of a brave commanding officer—to feel his sympathy!
 To behold his calmness—to be warm'd in the rays of his smile!
 To go to battle—to hear the bugles play and the drums beat!
 To hear the crash of artillery—to see the glittering of the bayonets and
 musket-barrels in the sun!

- 70 To see men fall and die and not complain!
 To taste the savage taste of blood—to be so devilish!
 To gloat so over the wounds and deaths of the enemy. o

O the whaleman's joys! O I cruise my old cruise again!

- I feel the ship's motion under me, I feel the Atlantic breezes fanning me,
 75 I hear the cry again sent down from the mast-head, *There—she blows!*
 Again I spring up the rigging to look with the rest—we descend, wild with
 excitement,

- I leap in the lower'd boat, we row toward our prey where he lies,
 We approach stealthy and silent, I see the mountainous mass, lethargic, basking,
 I see the harpooner standing up, I see the weapon dart from his vigorous arm;
 O swift again far out in the ocean the wounded whale, settling, running to
 80 windward, tows me,

Again I see him rise to breathe, we row close again,
 I see a lance driven through his side, press'd deep, turn'd in the wound,
 Again we back off, I see him settle again, the life is leaving him fast,
 As he rises he spouts blood, I see him swim in circles narrower and narrower,
 swiftly cutting the water—I see him die,

- He gives one convulsive leap in the centre of the circle, and then falls flat and
 85 still in the bloody foam. o

66 60-71[PI]: brave general! to

67 60: calmness! to ~ warmed 67-71[PI]:
 calmness! to

68 60-71[PI]: battle! to ~ play, and

69 60: hear the artillery! to 67-71[PI]: ar-
 tillery! to

70 71[PI]: die, and

71 60-71[PI]: blood! to

73 67-71[PI]: [Section 9 begins with 73]

74 60-71[PI]: me—I

75 60-67: mast-head, *There she blows*, 71
 [PI]: mast-head—*There—*

76 60-67: rigging, to ~ rest—We see—we
 descend, 71[PI]: —Again ~ rigging, to ~
 rest—We see—we descend,

77 60-67: lowered boat—We ~ prey, where
 71[PI]: boat—We ~ prey, where

78 60-71[PI]: approach, stealthy ~ silent—I

79 60-67: up—I 71[PI]: up—I ~ arm:
 arm:

80 60-67: swift, again, now, far ~ ocean, the
 71[PI]: swift, again, now, far ~ ocean, the
 ~ me;

81 60-67: breathe—We 71[PI]: —Again ~
 breathe—We

82 60: pressed ~ turned

83 60-71[PI]: off—I ~ again—the

84 60-67: rises, he ~ blood—I 71[PI]:
 rises, he ~ blood—I ~ die;

O the old manhood of me, my noblest joy of all!
 My children and grand-children, my white hair and beard,
 My largeness, calmness, majesty, out of the long stretch of my life. ◦

O ripen'd joy of womanhood! O happiness at last!
 I am more than eighty years of age, I am the most venerable mother, 90
 How clear is my mind—how all people draw nigh to me!
 What attractions are these beyond any before? what bloom more than the
 bloom of youth?
 What beauty is this that descends upon me and rises out of me? ◦

O the orator's joys!
 To inflate the chest, to roll the thunder of the voice out from the ribs and throat, 95
 To make the people rage, weep, hate, desire, with yourself,
 To lead America—to quell America with a great tongue. ◦

O the joy of my soul leaning pois'd on itself, receiving identity through mate-
 rials and loving them, observing characters and absorbing them,
 My soul vibrated back to me from them, from sight, hearing, touch, reason,
 articulation, comparison, memory, and the like,
 The real life of my senses and flesh transcending my senses and flesh, 100
 My body done with materials, my sight done with my material eyes,
 Proved to me this day beyond cavil that it is not my material eyes which
 finally see,

- 86 60-71[PI]: me, my joy!/ 67-71[PI]: ~ materials, and ~ them—observing characters, and ~ them; 67: poised on itself—receiving ~ materials, and ~ them—observing characters, and ~ them; 71[PI]: itself—receiving ~ materials, and ~ them—observing characters, and ~ them;
 [Section 10 begins with 86]
 87 60-71[PI]: grand-children—my
 89 60: O the ripened ~ womanhood!/O perfect happiness 67-71[PI]: O the ripen'd ~ womanhood!/O perfect happiness
 90 60-71[PI]: age—my hair, too, is pure white—I am ~ mother;
 91 60-71[PI]: mind! how
 92 60-71[PI]: these, beyond ~ bloom, more
 93 60-71[PI]: me, and
 94 60-67: [94-97 not present here but after [2] as a four-line stanza following 15]
 95 60-67: [Not present here—see 94] 60-71 [PI]: chest—to
 96 60-67: [Not present here—see 94]
 97 60-67: [Not present here—see 94]
 98 60: my Soul ~ poised on itself—receiving
 99 60: O my Soul, vibrated ~ me, from them—from facts, sight, ~ touch, my phrenology, reason, ~ like; 67-71[PI]: O my soul, vibrated ~ me, from them—from facts, sight, ~ touch, my phrenology, reason, ~ like;
 100 60-67: O the ~ flesh, transcending ~ flesh; 71[PI]: flesh, transcending ~ flesh;
 101 60-67: O my body, done ~ materials—my sight, done ~ eyes; 71[PI]: body, done ~ materials—my sight, done ~ eyes;
 102 60-67: O what is proved ~ day, beyond cavil, that 71[PI]: day, beyond cavil, that

Nor my material body which finally loves, walks, laughs, shouts, embraces,
procreates. ○

O the farmer's joys!

Ohioan's, Illinoisian's, Wisconsinese', Kanadian's, Iowan's, Kansian's, Missou-
105 rian's, Oregonese' joys!

To rise at peep of day and pass forth nimbly to work,
To plough land in the fall for winter-sown crops,
To plough land in the spring for maize,
To train orchards, to graft the trees, to gather apples in the fall. ○

110 O to bathe in the swimming-bath, or in a good place along shore,
To splash the water! to walk ankle-deep, or race naked along the shore. ○

O to realize space!

The plenteousness of all, that there are no bounds,
To emerge and be of the sky, of the sun and moon and flying clouds, as one
with them. ○

115 O the joy of a manly self-hood!
To be servile to none, to defer to none, not to any tyrant known or unknown,
To walk with erect carriage, a step springy and elastic,
To look with calm gaze or with a flashing eye,
To speak with a full and sonorous voice out of a broad chest,
120 To confront with your personality all the other personalities of the earth. ○

Know'st thou the excellent joys of youth?

104 67-71[PI]: [Section 11 begins with 104]

105 60-67: joys, 71[PI]: joys;

106 60-71[PI]: day, and

107 67-71[PI]: plow

109 60-71[PI]: orchards—to ~ trees—to
60: [The following lines—after space—
appear after 109:]

[1] O the pleasure with trees!

[2] The orchard—the forest—the oak,
cedar, pine, pekan-tree,

[3] The honey-locust, black-walnut, cot-
tonwood, and magnolia.

67-71[PI]: [2]: pekan-/tree,

110 60-71[PI]: shore! [110-114, 60-71
[PI]: Not present here but after 143; 67-71

[PI]: Section 13 begins with 110]

111 60: ankle-deep; to race 67-71[PI]:
ankle-deep—to race

113 60-71[PI]: all—that ~ bounds;

114 60-71[PI]: emerge, and ~ sky—of ~
moon, and the

115 60-67: [115-120 not present here but
follows 97 as a separate stanza]

116 60-71[PI]: Personality—to be ~ none
—to ~ none—not to ~ tyrant, known

118 60-71[PI]: gaze, or

119 60-71[PI]: voice, out

121 60-67: [121-133, Not present] 71[PI]:
[Section 14 begins with 121]

Joys of the dear companions and of the merry word and laughing face?
 Joy of the glad light-beaming day, joy of the wide-breath'd games?
 Joy of sweet music, joy of the lighted ball-room and the dancers?
 Joy of the plenteous dinner, strong carouse and drinking? ○ 125

Yet O my soul supreme!
 Know'st thou the joys of pensive thought?
 Joys of the free and lonesome heart, the tender, gloomy heart?
 Joys of the solitary walk, the spirit bow'd yet proud, the suffering and the
 struggle?
 The agonistic throes, the ecstasies, joys of the solemn musings day or night? 130
 Joys of the thought of Death, the great spheres Time and Space?
 Prophetic joys of better, loftier love's ideals, the divine wife, the sweet, eternal,
 perfect comrade?
 Joys all thine own undying one, joys worthy thee O soul. ○

O while I live to be the ruler of life, not a slave,
 To meet life as a powerful conqueror, 135
 No fumes, no ennui, no more complaints or scornful criticisms,
 To these proud laws of the air, the water and the ground, proving my interior
 soul impregnable,
 And nothing exterior shall ever take command of me. ○

For not life's joys alone I sing, repeating—the joy of death!

122 71[PI]: companions, and ~ word, and
 123 71[PI]: Joys ~ glad, light-beaming day
 —joy
 124 71[PI]: music—joy ~ ball-room, and
 125 71[PI]: Joy the friendly, plenteous din-
 ner—the strong carouse, and
 126 71[PI]: Yet, O [Section 15 begins with
 126]
 128 71[PI]: heart—the
 129 71[PI]: Joy ~ walk—the ~ bowed ~
 proud—the
 130 71[PI]: ecstasies—joys ~ musings, day
 131 71[PI]: Death—the
 132 71[PI]: ideals—the Divine Wife—the ~
 Comrade?
 133 71[PI]: own, undying one—joys ~ thee,
 O Soul.

134 60-71[PI]: O, while I live, to ~ life—
 not 60-67: [134-138, Not present here but
 after 114] 67: [Section 14 begins with 134]
 71[PI]: [Section 16 begins with 134]
 136 60-67: fumes—no ennui—no ~ criti-
 cisms. 71[PI]: fumes—no ennui—no ~ com-
 plaints, or ~ criticisms.
 60-71[PI]: [The following line appears
 —after space—after 136:]
 [1] O me repellent and ugly!
 137 60: O to these ~ water, and ~ Soul
 67-71[PI]: water, and ~ Soul
 139 60-67: O Death! 71[PI]: O Death! the
 voyage of Death! 60-71[PI]: [139-143, Not
 present here but after [3] following 109] 67-
 71[PI]: [Section 12 begins with 139]

The beautiful touch of Death, soothing and benumbing a few moments, for
 140 reasons,
 Myself discharging my excrementitious body to be burn'd, or render'd to
 powder, or buried,
 My real body doubtless left to me for other spheres,
 My voided body nothing more to me, returning to the purifications, further
 offices, eternal uses of the earth. o

O to attract by more than attraction!
 145 How it is I know not—yet behold! the something which obeys none of the rest,
 It is offensive, never defensive—yet how magnetic it draws. o

O to struggle against great odds, to meet enemies undaunted!
 To be entirely alone with them, to find how much one can stand!
 To look strife, torture, prison, popular odium, face to face!
 To mount the scaffold, to advance to the muzzles of guns with perfect
 150 nonchalance!
 To be indeed a God! o

O to sail to sea in a ship!
 To leave this steady unendurable land,
 To leave the tiresome sameness of the streets, the sidewalks and the houses,
 155 To leave you O you solid motionless land, and entering a ship,
 To sail and sail and sail! o

O to have life henceforth a poem of new joys!

140 60-67: O the ~ reasons; 71[PI]: reasons;
 141 60: O that of myself, discharging ~ body, to ~ burned, or rendered 67: O that of myself, discharging ~ body, to 71[PI]: Myself, discharging ~ body, to
 143 60-71[PI]: body, nothing
 144 60-71[PI]: [144-151, Not present here but after 138]
 146 60-67: [The following line appears after 146:]
 [1] O the joy of suffering! 67: [Section 15 begins with [1]]
 71[PI]: [1] O joy [Section 17 begins with [1]]

147 60-71[PI]: To struggle ~ odds! to
 148 60: them! to ~ much I can 67-71[PI]: them! to
 149 60-71[PI]: odium, death, face
 150 60-71[PI]: scaffold! to
 152 60-67: [152-156, Not present] 71[PI]: O, to [Section 18 begins with 152]
 153 71[PI]: steady, unendurable land!
 154 71[PI]: side-/walks ~ houses;
 155 71[PI]: you, O
 156 71[PI]: sail, and sail, and
 157 60-67: have my life henceforth my ~ of joys! 71[PI]: have my [Section 19 begins with 157]

To dance, clap hands, exult, shout, skip, leap, roll on, float on!
 To be a sailor of the world bound for all ports,
 A ship itself, (see indeed these sails I spread to the sun and air,) 160
 A swift and swelling ship full of rich words, full of joys. o

Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking.

Out of the cradle endlessly rocking,
 Out of the mocking-bird's throat, the musical shuttle,
 Out of the Ninth-month midnight,
 Over the sterile sands and the fields beyond, where the child leaving his bed
 wander'd alone, bareheaded, barefoot,
 Down from the shower'd halo, 5
 Up from the mystic play of shadows twining and twisting as if they were alive,
 Out from the patches of briars and blackberries,
 From the memories of the bird that chanted to me,
 From your memories sad brother, from the fitful risings and fallings I heard,

158 60-67: float on,

159 60-67: [Not present] 71[PI]: world,
 bound

160 60-67: [Not present]

161 60-67: An athlete—full of ~ words—
 full 71[PI]: ship, full ~ words—full

Title: 60-67: A WORD OUT OF THE SEA. 71
 [PI]: OUT OF THE CRADLE ENDLESSLY ROCKING.

60: [Stanza numbers only, beginning with 23]
 67-71[PI]: [Stanza and section numbers]

1 60: the rocked cradle,/ 67: the rock'd
 cradle,/ 67-71[PI]: [Section 1 begins with
 1]

2 60: [The following line appears after 2:]
 [1] Out of the boy's mother's womb, and

from the nipples of her breasts,

3 60: Ninth Month

4 60: sands, and ~ child, leaving ~
 bed, wandered ~ bare-/headed, 67-71[PI]:
 sands, and ~ child, leaving ~ bed, wander'd
 ~ bare-/headed,

5 60: showered

6 60-71[PI]: shadows, twining

9 60-71[PI]: memories, sad brother—from

- 10 From under that yellow half-moon late-risen and swollen as if with tears,
 From those beginning notes of yearning and love there in the mist,
 From the thousand responses of my heart never to cease,
 From the myriad thence-arous'd words,
 From the word stronger and more delicious than any,
 15 From such as now they start the scene revisiting,
 As a flock, twittering, rising, or overhead passing,
 Borne hither, ere all eludes me, hurriedly,
 A man, yet by these tears a little boy again,
 Throwing myself on the sand, confronting the waves,
 20 I, chanter of pains and joys, uniter of here and hereafter,
 Taking all hints to use them, but swiftly leaping beyond them,
 A reminiscence sing. o

- Once Paumanok,
 When the lilac-scent was in the air and Fifth-month grass was growing,
 25 Up this seashore in some briers,
 Two feather'd guests from Alabama, two together,
 And their nest, and four light-green eggs spotted with brown,
 And every day the he-bird to and fro near at hand,
 And every day the she-bird crouch'd on her nest, silent, with bright eyes,
 30 And every day I, a curious boy, never too close, never disturbing them,
 Cautiously peering, absorbing, translating. o

Shine! shine! shine!

Pour down your warmth, great sun!

While we bask, we two together. o

- 10 60-71[PI]: half-moon, late-risen, and
 11 60-71[PI]: notes of sickness and love, Fifth Month 67: When the snows had melted,
 there ~ the transparent and the Fifth-month 71[PI]: When the snows
 12 60-71[PI]: heart, never had melted—when the lilac-scent ~ air, and
 13 60: thence-aroused the Fifth-month
 15 60-71[PI]: such, as ~ start, the 25 60-71[PI]: sea-shore, in
 17 60-71[PI]: hither—ere 26 60-71[PI]: Two guests ~ Alabama—
 18 60-71[PI]: man—yet two
 20 60: here-/after, 27 60-71[PI]: eggs, spotted
 21 60-71[PI]: them—but 28 60-71[PI]: he-bird, to ~ fro, near
 22 60: [The following appears as a subtitle 29 60: she-bird, crouched 67-71[PI]: she-
 after 22:] bird, crouch'd
 [I] REMINISCENCE. 32 60: *Shine! Shine!* 67-71[PI]: [Section
 23 60-71[PI]: Once, Paumanok, 67-71[PI]: 3 begins with 32]
 [Section 2 begins with 23] 33 60-71[PI]: *Sun!*
 24 60: When the snows had melted, and the 34 60-71[PI]: *bask—we*

Two together! 35
Winds blow south, or winds blow north,
Day come white, or night come black,
Home, or rivers and mountains from home,
Singing all time, minding no time,
While we two keep together. o 40

Till of a sudden,
 May-be kill'd, unknown to her mate,
 One forenoon the she-bird crouch'd not on the nest,
 Nor return'd that afternoon, nor the next,
 Nor ever appear'd again. o 45

And thenceforward all summer in the sound of the sea,
 And at night under the full of the moon in calmer weather,
 Over the hoarse surging of the sea,
 Or fitting from brier to brier by day,
 I saw, I heard at intervals the remaining one, the he-bird, 50
 The solitary guest from Alabama. o

Blow! blow! blow!
Blow up sea-winds along Paumanok's shore;
I wait and I wait till you blow my mate to me. o

Yes, when the stars glisten'd, 55
 All night long on the prong of a moss-scallop'd stake,
 Down almost amid the slapping waves,
 Sat the lone singer wonderful causing tears. o

He call'd on his mate,

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>36 60-71[PI]: <i>South, ~ North,</i>
 40 60-67: <i>If we two but keep</i>
 41 67-71[PI]: [Section 4 begins with 41]
 42 60: killed,
 43 60: crouched
 44 60: returned 81-88[SS]: next [Comma missing] 88[CPP]: [Final reading]
 45 60: appeared
 46 60-71[PI]: thenceforward, all summer, in
 47 60-71[PI]: night, under ~ moon, in
 50 60-71[PI]: intervals, the</p> | <p>52 60: <i>Blow! Blow!</i>/ 67-71[PI]: [Section 5 begins with 52]
 53 67-71[PI]: <i>up, sea-winds, along ~ shore!</i>
 54 60-71[PI]: <i>wait, till</i>
 55 60: glistened, 67-71[PI]: [Section 6 begins with 55]
 56 60-71[PI]: long, on
 57 60-71[PI]: Down, almost
 58 60-71[PI]: singer, wonderful, causing
 59 60: called 67-71[PI]: mate;</p> |
|--|---|

60 He pour'd forth the meanings which I of all men know. ○

Yes my brother I know,
The rest might not, but I have treasur'd every note,
For more than once dimly down to the beach gliding,
Silent, avoiding the moonbeams, blending myself with the shadows,
Recalling now the obscure shapes, the echoes, the sounds and sights

65 after their sorts,
The white arms out in the breakers tirelessly tossing,
I, with bare feet, a child, the wind wafting my hair,
Listen'd long and long. ○

Listen'd to keep, to sing, now translating the notes,
70 Following you my brother. ○

Soothe! soothe! soothe!
Close on its wave soothes the wave behind,
And again another behind embracing and lapping, every one close,
But my love soothes not me, not me. ○

75 *Low hangs the moon, it rose late,*
It is lagging—O I think it is heavy with love, with love. ○

O madly the sea pushes upon the land,
With love, with love. ○

80 *O night! do I not see my love fluttering out among the breakers?*
What is that little black thing I see there in the white? ○

Loud! loud! loud!

60 60: poured ~ I, of ~ men, know. 67-71[PI]: I, of ~ men, know.

61 60: Yes, my brother, I 67-71[PI]: Yes, my brother, I know;

62 60: not—but ~ treasured 67-71[PI]: not—but ~ note;

63 60-71[PI]: For once, and more ~ once, dimly, down

68 60: Listened

69 60: Listened, to ~ sing—now 67-71[PI]: Listen'd, to ~ sing—now

70 60-71[PI]: you, my

71 60: *Soothe! Soothe!* 67-71[PI]: [Section 7 begins with 71]

73 60-71[PI]: *behind, embracing*

74 60: *soothes not me./*

75 60: *moon—it* 67-71[PI]: *moon—it ~ late;*

76 60: † *O it ~ heavy with love./* 67-71[PI]: † *O it*

77 67: *pushes, pushes upon ~ land.* 71[PI]: *pushes, pushes upon*

78 60-71[PI]: *love—with*

79 60: *night!/O do ~ out there among* 67-71[PI]: *out there among*

81 60: *Loud! Loud!* [In the copy-text, 81-82 conclude one page; 83-85 open the next, apparently as part of the same stanza, as they were in 60-71[PI]]

*Loud I call to you, my love!
High and clear I shoot my voice over the waves,
Surely you must know who is here, is here,
You must know who I am, my love. ○* 85

*Low-hanging moon!
What is that dusky spot in your brown yellow?
O it is the shape, the shape of my mate!
O moon do not keep her from me any longer. ○*

*Land! land! O land! 90
Whichever way I turn, O I think you could give me my mate back again if you
only would,
For I am almost sure I see her dimly whichever way I look. ○*

*O rising stars!
Perhaps the one I want so much will rise, will rise with some of you. ○*

*O throat! O trembling throat! 95
Sound clearer through the atmosphere!
Pierce the woods, the earth,
Somewhere listening to catch you must be the one I want. ○*

*Shake out carols!
Solitary here, the night's carols! 100
Carols of lonesome love! death's carols!
Carols under that lagging, yellow, waning moon!
O under that moon where she droops almost down into the sea!
O reckless despairing carols. ○*

*But soft! sink low! 105
Soft! let me just murmur,*

82 60: you my
83 67-71[PI]: waves;
84 60: who is here,/ 67-71[PI]: here;
88 60: is the shape of
89 60-71[PI]: moon, do
90 60: Land! O land!/
91 60: again, if you would, 67-71[PI]:
again, if ~ would;
94 60: much will rise with
95 60: O throat!/
97 67-71[PI]: earth;
98 67-71[PI]: you, must
99 60-71[PI]: out, carols!
100 60-71[PI]: here—the
101 60-71[PI]: love! Death's
103 60-71[PI]: O, under ~ moon, where
104 60-71[PI]: reckless, despairing
105 60: soft! / Sink low—soft! 67-71[PI]:
low;
106 60: Soft! Let 67-71[PI]: murmur;

*And do you wait a moment you husky-nois'd sea,
For somewhere I believe I heard my mate responding to me,
So faint, I must be still, be still to listen,
110 But not altogether still, for then she might not come immediately to me. ◦*

*Hither my love!
Here I am! here!
With this just-sustain'd note I announce myself to you,
This gentle call is for you my love, for you. ◦*

*115 Do not be decoy'd elsewhere,
That is the whistle of the wind, it is not my voice,
That is the fluttering, the fluttering of the spray,
Those are the shadows of leaves. ◦*

*O darkness! O in vain!
120 O I am very sick and sorrowful. ◦*

*O brown halo in the sky near the moon, drooping upon the sea!
O troubled reflection in the sea!
O throat! O throbbing heart!
And I singing uselessly, uselessly all the night. ◦*

*125 O past! O happy life! O songs of joy!
In the air, in the woods, over fields,
Loved! loved! loved! loved! loved!
But my mate no more, no more with me!
We two together no more. ◦*

107 60: *moment, you husky-noised* 67-71
[PI]: *moment, you husky-noised sea;*
109 60: *faint—I must be still to* 67-71[PI]:
faint—I ~ listen;
111 60-71[PI]: *Hither, my*
112 60-71[PI]: *am! Here!*
113 60: *just-sustained* 67-71[PI]: *you;*
114 60: *for you, my love./* 67-71[PI]: *you,*
my
115 60: *decoyed elsewhere!* 67-71[PI]: *else-*
where!
116 60: *wind—it* 67-71[PI]: *wind—it ~*
voice;
117 60: *is the fluttering of* 67-71[PI]:
spray;
121 60-71[PI]: *sky, near*

124 60: *O all—and I singing uselessly all*
67-71[PI]: *O all—and*
60: [The following lines appear—after a
space—after 124:]
[1] *Murmur! Murmur on!*
[2] *O murmurs—you yourselves make*
me continue to sing, I know not why.
67-71[PI]: [1] *Yet I murmur, murmur*
125 60: *past! O joy!/* 67-71[PI]: *past! O*
life!
126 60: *air—in ~ woods—over* 67-71[PI]:
air—in ~ woods—over fields;
127 60: *Loved! Loved! Loved! Loved! Loved!*
128 60: *Loved—but no more with me,* 67-
71[PI]: *my love no*

The aria sinking, 130
 All else continuing, the stars shining,
 The winds blowing, the notes of the bird continuous echoing,
 With angry moans the fierce old mother incessantly moaning,
 On the sands of Paumanok's shore gray and rustling,
 The yellow half-moon enlarged, sagging down, drooping, the face of the sea
 almost touching, 135
 The boy ecstatic, with his bare feet the waves, with his hair the atmosphere
 dallying,
 The love in the heart long pent, now loose, now at last tumultuously bursting,
 The aria's meaning, the ears, the soul, swiftly depositing,
 The strange tears down the cheeks coursing,
 The colloquy there, the trio, each uttering, 140
 The undertone, the savage old mother incessantly crying,
 To the boy's soul's questions sullenly timing, some drown'd secret hissing,
 To the outseting bard. o

Demon or bird! (said the boy's soul,)
 Is it indeed toward your mate you sing? or is it really to me? 145
 For I, that was a child, my tongue's use sleeping, now I have heard you,
 Now in a moment I know what I am for, I awake,
 And already a thousand singers, a thousand songs, clearer, louder and more
 sorrowful than yours,
 A thousand warbling echoes have started to life within me, never to die. o

O you singer solitary, singing by yourself, projecting me, 150
 O solitary me listening, never more shall I cease perpetuating you,

130 67-71[PI]: sinking; [Section 8 begins with 130]
 131 60-71[PI]: continuing—the
 132 60: blowing—the ~ the wondrous bird echoing, 67-71[PI]: blowing—the
 133 60: mother yet, as ever, incessantly
 134 67-71[PI]: shore, gray and rustling;
 135 60: half-moon, enlarged, 67-71[PI]: touching;
 136 60-71[PI]: extatic—with
 137 60: heart pent,
 138 60-71[PI]: Soul,
 140 60-71[PI]: there—the trio—each
 141 60-71[PI]: undertone—the ~ mother, incessantly
 142 60: Soul's ~ timing—some drowned 67-71[PI]: Soul's ~ timing—some
 143 60-71[PI]: bard of love.
 144 60: † Bird! (then said ~ Soul,) 67-71 [PI]: [Section 9 begins with 144]
 145 60-71[PI]: is it mostly to me?
 146 60: For I that ~ sleeping,/Now that I 67-71[PI]: sleeping,/Now
 147 60-71[PI]: for—I
 148 60: singers—a ~ louder, more 67-71 [PI]: singers—a
 149 60-71[PI]: me,/Never
 60: [The following line appears after 149:]
 [I] O throes!
 150 60: you demon, singing ~ yourself—projecting 67-71[PI]: singer, solitary, ~ yourself—projecting me;
 151 60: me, listening—never ~ cease imitating, perpetuating 67-71[PI]: me, listening—never ~ you;

- Never more shall I escape, never more the reverberations,
 Never more the cries of unsatisfied love be absent from me,
 Never again leave me to be the peaceful child I was before what there in the
 night,
 155 By the sea under the yellow and sagging moon,
 The messenger there arous'd, the fire, the sweet hell within,
 The unknown want, the destiny of me. ○
- O give me the clew! (it lurks in the night here somewhere,)
 O if I am to have so much, let me have more! ○
- 160 A word then, (for I will conquer it,)
 The word final, superior to all,
 Subtle, sent up—what is it?—I listen;
 Are you whispering it, and have been all the time, you sea-waves?
 Is that it from your liquid rims and wet sands? ○
- 165 Whereto answering, the sea,
 Delaying not, hurrying not,
 Whisper'd me through the night, and very plainly before daybreak,
 Lisp'd to me the low and delicious word death,
 And again death, death, death, death,
 170 Hissing melodious, neither like the bird nor like my arous'd child's heart,
 But edging near as privately for me rustling at my feet,
 Creeping thence steadily up to my ears and laving me softly all over,

152 60: escape,/Never more shall the

154 60-71[PI]: there, in

155 60-71[PI]: sea, under

156 60: The dusky demon aroused—the 67:
 aroused—the 71[PI]: arous'd—the

158 60: me some clew!/ 67-71[PI]: some-
 where;)

159 60: [The following lines appear after
 159:]

[1] O a word! O what is my destination?

[2] O I fear it is henceforth chaos!

[3] O how joys, dreads, convolutions, hu-
 man shapes, and all shapes, spring as
 from graves around me!

[4] O phantoms! you cover all the land,
 and all the sea!

[5] O I cannot see in the dimness whether
 you smile or frown upon me;

[6] O vapor, a look, a word! O well-

beloved!

[7] O you dear women's and men's phan-
 toms!

67-71[PI]: [1]-[2] [One line:] desti-
 nation? (I ~ chaos;) [4] land and

163 Copy-text: sea-/waves?

165 60: † Answering, 67-71[PI]: [Section
 10 begins with 165]

167 60: Whispered Copy-text: day-/break,

168 60: Lisped ~ me constantly the ~
 DEATH, 67-71[PI]: DEATH;

169 60-71[PI]: again Death—ever Death,
 Death, Death,

170 60: bird, nor ~ aroused 67-71[PI]:
 bird, nor

171 60-71[PI]: near, as ~ me, rustling

172 60: And creeping ~ ears,/ 67-71[PI]:
 ears, and

Death, death, death, death, death. ○

Which I do not forget,
 But fuse the song of my dusky demon and brother, 175
 That he sang to me in the moonlight on Paumanok's gray beach,
 With the thousand responsive songs at random,
 My own songs awaked from that hour,
 And with them the key, the word up from the waves,
 The word of the sweetest song and all songs, 180
 That strong and delicious word which, creeping to my feet,
 (Or like some old crone rocking the cradle, swathed in sweet garments,
 bending aside,)
 The sea whisper'd me. ○

Thoughts.

Of public opinion,
 Of a calm and cool fiat sooner or later, (how impassive! how certain and final!)
 Of the President with pale face asking secretly to himself, *What will the people
 say at last?*
 Of the frivolous Judge—of the corrupt Congressman, Governor, Mayor—of
 such as these standing helpless and exposed,

173	60-71[PI]: Death, Death, Death, Death, Death.	178	60: songs, awaked 67-71[PI]: songs, awaked ~ hour;
175	60: song of two together,	180	60-71[PI]: song, and
176	60: That was sung to	182	60-71[PI]: [Not present]
177	60-71[PI]: songs, at	183	60: whispered

<i>Title:</i>	60: THOUGHT. 67: THOUGHT. 71:	2	60-71: fiat, sooner ~ (How ~ How
	THOUGHTS.	3	71: face, asking
1	60: Of Public Opinion, 67-71: Of Public Opinion;	4	60-71: Judge—Of ~ Mayor—Of ~ these, standing ~ exposed;

- 5 Of the mumbling and screaming priest, (soon, soon deserted,)
 Of the lessening year by year of venerableness, and of the dicta of officers,
 statutes, pulpits, schools,
 Of the rising forever taller and stronger and broader of the intuitions of men
 and women, and of Self-esteem and Personality;
 Of the true New World—of the Democracies resplendent en-masse,
 Of the conformity of politics, armies, navies, to them,
 10 Of the shining sun by them—of the inherent light, greater than the rest,
 Of the envelopment of all by them, and the effusion of all from them. o

To the Garden the World.

- To the garden the world anew ascending,
 Potent mates, daughters, sons, preluding,
 The love, the life of their bodies, meaning and being,
 Curious here behold my resurrection after slumber,
 5 The revolving cycles in their wide sweep having brought me again,
 Amorous, mature, all beautiful to me, all wondrous,
 My limbs and the quivering fire that ever plays through them, for reasons, most
 wondrous,

- | | | | |
|---|---|----|---|
| 5 | 60-71: priest—(soon, ~ deserted;) | | resplendent, en-masse, 67-71: —Of the New |
| 6 | 60: lessening, year ~ year, of 67-71: lessening, year ~ year, of ~ schools; | | World—Of ~ Democracies, resplendent, en- |
| 7 | 60-71: broader, of ~ self-esteem, and of personality; [60, 71: self-/esteem,] | 9 | 60-71: them and to me, |
| 8 | 60: the New World—Of ~ Democracies, | 10 | 60-71: them—Of |
| | | 11 | 60-71: and of the |

Title: 60: *Enfans d'Adam. I.* 67-71: *TO THE GARDEN, THE WORLD.*

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 60-71: garden, the world, anew | 5 | 60-71: cycles, in ~ sweep, having |
| 4 | 60: Curious, here ~ resurrection, after 67-71: Curious, here ~ resurrection, after slumber; | 6 | 60: mature—all ~ me—all 67-71: mature—
—all ~ me—all wondrous; |
| | | 7 | 60-71: limbs, and ~ wondrous; |

Existing I peer and penetrate still,
 Content with the present, content with the past,
 By my side or back of me Eve following, 10
 Or in front, and I following her just the same. o

From Pent-up Aching Rivers.

From pent-up aching rivers,
 From that of myself without which I were nothing,
 From what I am determin'd to make illustrious, even if I stand sole among men,
 From my own voice resonant, singing the phallus,
 Singing the song of procreation, 5
 Singing the need of superb children and therein superb grown people,
 Singing the muscular urge and the blending,
 Singing the bedfellow's song, (O resistless yearning!
 O for any and each the body correlative attracting!
 O for you whoever you are your correlative body! O it, more than all else, you
 delighting!) 10
 From the hungry gnaw that eats me night and day,
 From native moments, from bashful pains, singing them,

8 60-71: Existing, I

9 60-71: present—content

10 60-71: side, or ~ me, Eve

Title: 60: Enfans d'Adam. 2. 67-71: FROM
 PENT-UP ACHING RIVERS.

1 60: [Not present; poem begins with 2]

67-71: pent-up, aching rivers;

2 60: myself, without 67-71: myself, with-
 out ~ nothing;

3 60: determined 67-71: men;

4 60-71: resonant—singing

6 60-71: children, and

9 60-71: each, the [In the Copy-text 9 is the

final line on the page and 10 opens the next.
 In 60-71, 9-10 follow consecutively without a
 break, as in the *Variorum* Copy-text]

10 60-71: you, whoever ~ are, your

60: [The following line appears after 10:]
 [1] From the pent up rivers of myself,

11 67-71: —From ~ day;

12 60: moments—from ~ pains—singing

67-71: moments—from ~ pains—singing
 them;

- Seeking something yet unfound though I have diligently sought it many a
 long year,
 Singing the true song of the soul fitful at random,
 15 Renascent with grossest Nature or among animals,
 Of that, of them and what goes with them my poems informing,
 Of the smell of apples and lemons, of the pairing of birds,
 Of the wet of woods, of the lapping of waves,
 Of the mad pushes of waves upon the land, I them chanting,
 20 The overture lightly sounding, the strain anticipating,
 The welcome nearness, the sight of the perfect body,
 The swimmer swimming naked in the bath, or motionless on his back lying
 and floating,
 The female form approaching, I pensive, love-flesh tremulous aching,
 The divine list for myself or you or for any one making,
 25 The face, the limbs, the index from head to foot, and what it arouses,
 The mystic deliria, the madness amorous, the utter abandonment,
 (Hark close and still what I now whisper to you,
 I love you, O you entirely possess me,
 O that you and I escape from the rest and go utterly off, free and lawless,
 Two hawks in the air, two fishes swimming in the sea not more lawless
 30 than we;)

13 60: Singing something ~ unfound, though
 ~ it, ten thousand years, 67-71: Singing
 something ~ unfound, though ~ it, many ~
 year;

14 60: Soul, fitful, at 67-71: Soul, fitful, at
 random;

60: [The following lines appear after 14:]
 [1] Singing what, to the Soul, entirely re-
 deemed her, the faithful one, the prosti-
 tute, who detained me when I went to the
 city,

[2] Singing the song of prostitutes;
 67-71: [1] redeem'd ~ one, even the ~
 detain'd ~ city;

15 60: Nature, or 67-71: Nature, or ~
 animals;

16 60: that—of them, and ~ them, my 67-
 71: that—of them, and ~ them, my ~ in-
 forming;

17 60-71: lemons—of

18 60-71: woods—of

19 60: land—I 67-71: land—I ~ chanting;

20 60: sounding—the 67-71: sounding—the
 ~ anticipating;

21 60: nearness—the 67-71: nearness—the
 ~ body;

22 67-71: floating;

23 60-71: approaching—I, pensive, ~ tremu-
 lous, aching;

60: [The following line appears after 23:]
 [1] The slave's body for sale—I, sternly,
 with harsh voice, auctioneering,
 67: [1] —The ~ sale,—I, ~ auctioneer-
 ing;

24 60: list, for ~ you, or ~ one, making,
 67-71: list, for ~ you, or ~ one, making;

25 60: face—the limbs—the 67-71: face—
 the limbs—the ~ arouses;

26 60: deliria—the ~ amorous—the 67-
 71: deliria—the ~ amorous—the ~ abandon-
 ment;

27 60: (Hark, close ~ still, what 67-71:
 close, and still, what

28 60-71: you—O

29 60-71: O I wish that ~ rest, and ~ off—
 O free

30 60-71: air—two

The furious storm through me careering, I passionately trembling,
 The oath of the inseparableness of two together, of the woman that loves me
 and whom I love more than my life, that oath swearing,
 (O I willingly stake all for you,
 O let me be lost if it must be so!
 O you and I! what is it to us what the rest do or think? 35
 What is all else to us? only that we enjoy each other and exhaust each other
 if it must be so;)
 From the master, the pilot I yield the vessel to,
 The general commanding me, commanding all, from him permission taking,
 From time the programme hastening, (I have loiter'd too long as it is,) 40
 From sex, from the warp and from the woof,
 From privacy, from frequent repinings alone,
 From plenty of persons near and yet the right person not near,
 From the soft sliding of hands over me and thrusting of fingers through my
 hair and beard,
 From the long sustain'd kiss upon the mouth or bosom,
 From the close pressure that makes me or any man drunk, fainting with excess, 45
 From what the divine husband knows, from the work of fatherhood,
 From exultation, victory and relief, from the bedfellow's embrace in the night,
 From the act-poems of eyes, hands, hips and bosoms,
 From the cling of the trembling arm,
 From the bending curve and the clinch, 50
 From side by side the pliant coverlet off-throwing,
 From the one so unwilling to have me leave, and me just as unwilling to leave,

31 60: careering—I 67-71: —The ~ career-
 ing—I ~ trembling;

32 60: together—of ~ me, and ~ life—That
 67-71: together—of ~ me, and ~ life—that
 ~ swearing;

33 60-71: all, for you!

34 60-71: lost, if

35 60-71: I—what

36 60-67: other, and ~ other, if 71: other,
 and ~ other, if ~ so:)

37 60: master—the 67-71: —From ~ mas-
 ter—the ~ to;

38 60: all—from 67-71: all—from ~ taking;

39 60: loitered ~ long, as it is;) 67: long,
 as to is;) 71: long, as it is;)

40 60: sex—From 67-71: sex—From ~
 woof;

60: [The following lines appear after 40:]

[1](To talk to the perfect girl who under-

stands me—the girl of The States,

[2] To waft to her these from my own
 lips—to effuse them from my own body;)

67-71: [1] me, /

41 60: privacy—From 67-71: privacy—from
 ~ alone;

42 60: near, and 67-71: near, and ~ near;

43 60: me, and 67-71: me, and ~ beard;

44 60: long-sustained 67-71: bosom;

45 67-71: excess;

46 60: knows—from 67-71: knows—from
 ~ fatherhood;

47 60: victory, and relief—from ~ bed-/
 fellow's 67-71: victory, and relief—from ~
 night;

48 60-71: hips, and

51 60: side, the ~ coverlid off throwing, 67-
 71: side, the ~ coverlid

52 60-71: leave—and

53 Copy-text: as un-/willing

O to draw you to me, to plant on you for the first time the lips of a determin'd man. o

O the puzzle, the thrice-tied knot, the deep and dark pool, all untied and illumin'd! 10

O to speed where there is space enough and air enough at last!
To be absolv'd from previous ties and conventions, I from mine and you from yours!

To find a new unthought-of nonchalance with the best of Nature!
To have the gag remov'd from one's mouth!
To have the feeling to-day or any day I am sufficient as I am. o 15

O something unprov'd! something in a trance!
To escape utterly from others' anchors and holds!
To drive free! to love free! to dash reckless and dangerous!
To court destruction with taunts, with invitations!
To ascend, to leap to the heavens of the love indicated to me! 20
To rise thither with my inebriate soul!
To be lost if it must be so!
To feed the remainder of life with one hour of fulness and freedom!
With one brief hour of madness and joy. o

9 60: me—to ~ you, for ~ time, the ~ determined man! 67-71: me—to ~ man!

60: [The following line appears after 9:]
[1] O rich and feminine! O to show you to realize the blood of life for yourself, whoever you are—and no matter when and where you live.

10 60: puzzle—the ~ knot—the ~ pool! O all ~ illumined! 67-71: puzzle—the ~ knot—the ~ pool! O all

12 60: O to ~ absolved ~ previous follies and degradations—I ~ mine, and 67-71: O to ~ conventions—I ~ mine, and

13 60-71: O to ~ nature!

14 60: O to ~ removed 67-71: O to

15 60-71: O to ~ feeling, to-day ~ day, I ~ am!

16 60: unproved!

60-71: [The following line appears after 16:]

[1] O madness amorous! O trembling!

17 60-71: O to

19 60-71: taunts—with

20 60-71: ascend—to

21 60-71: Soul!

22 60-71: lost, if

We Two, How Long We were Fool'd.

- We two, how long we were fool'd,
 Now transmuted, we swiftly escape as Nature escapes,
 We are Nature, long have we been absent, but now we return,
 We become plants, trunks, foliage, roots, bark,
 5 We are bedded in the ground, we are rocks,
 We are oaks, we grow in the openings side by side,
 We browse, we are two among the wild herds spontaneous as any,
 We are two fishes swimming in the sea together,
 We are what locust blossoms are, we drop scent around lanes mornings and
 evenings,
 10 We are also the coarse smut of beasts, vegetables, minerals,
 We are two predatory hawks, we soar above and look down,
 We are two resplendent suns, we it is who balance ourselves orbic and stellar,
 we are as two comets,

Title: 60: *Enfans d'Adam.* 7. 67: *WE TWO*
 ---*HOW LONG WE WERE FOOL'D.* 71: *WE*
TWO—HOW LONG WE WERE FOOL'D.

1 60: two—how ~ fooled! 67-71: two—
 how ~ fool'd!

60: [The following line appears before 1:]

[1] You and I—what the earth is, we are,

2 60: Now delicious, transmuted, swiftly we
 escape, as 67-71: escape, as ~ escapes;

3 60: Nature—long 67-71: Nature—long ~
 return;

4 60: plants, leaves, foliage, 67-71: plants,
 leaves, foliage, ~ bark;

5 60: ground—we 67-71: ground—we ~
 rocks;

6 60: oaks—we 67-71: oaks—we ~ side;

7 60: browse—we ~ herds, spontaneous 67-

71: browse—we ~ herds, spontaneous ~ any;

8 67-71: together;

9 60: what the locust ~ are—we ~ around
 the lanes, mornings 67-71: what the locust ~
 are—we ~ around the lanes, mornings ~
 evenings;

10 60-71: minerals;

60: [The following line appears after 10:]

[1] We are what the flowing wet of the
 Tennessee is—we are two peaks of the
 Blue Mountains, rising up in Virginia,

11 60: hawks—we 67-71: hawks—we ~
 above, and ~ down;

12 60: suns—we ~ stellar—we ~ comets;

67-71: suns—we ~ ourselves, orbic ~ stellar
 —we ~ comets;

We prowl fang'd and four-footed in the woods, we spring on prey,
 We are two clouds forenoons and afternoons driving overhead,
 We are seas mingling, we are two of those cheerful waves rolling over each
 other and interwetting each other, 15
 We are what the atmosphere is, transparent, receptive, pervious, impervious,
 We are snow, rain, cold, darkness, we are each product and influence of the
 globe,
 We have circled and circled till we have arrived home again, we two,
 We have voided all but freedom and all but our own joy. o

Native Moments.

Native moments—when you come upon me—ah you here now,
 Give me now libidinous joys only,
 Give me the drench of my passions, give me life coarse and rank,
 To-day I go consort with Nature's darlings, to-night too,
 I am for those who believe in loose delights, I share the midnight orgies of
 young men, 5
 I dance with the dancers and drink with the drinkers,

13 60: fanged ~ woods—we ~ prey; 67-71: woods—we ~ prey;
 14 60: clouds, forenoons ~ afternoons, driving 67-71: clouds, forenoons ~ afternoons, driving overhead;
 15 60: mingling—we ~ waves, rolling ~ other, and 67-71: mingling—we ~ waves, rolling ~ other, and ~ other;
 16 67: impervious; 71: impervious:
 17 60: darkness—we 67-71: darkness—we ~ globe;
 18 60: again—we two have, 67-71: again—we two have;
 19 60-71: freedom, and

Title: 60: *Enfans d'Adam*. 8. 67-71: NATIVE MOMENTS.

1 60-71: moments! when ~ me—Ah ~ now!
 2 60-71: only!
 3 60-71: passions! Give ~ rank!
 4 60: To-day, I ~ nature's darlings—to-night

67-71: To-day, I ~ nature's darlings—to-night too;
 5 60: delights—I 67-71: delights—I ~ men;
 6 60: dancers, and 67-71: dancers, and ~ drinkers;

The echoes ring with our indecent calls, I pick out some low person for my
 dearest friend,
 He shall be lawless, rude, illiterate, he shall be one condemn'd by others for
 deeds done,
 I will play a part no longer, why should I exile myself from my companions?
 10 O you shunn'd persons, I at least do not shun you,
 I come forthwith in your midst, I will be your poet,
 I will be more to you than to any of the rest. o

Once I Pass'd through a Populous City.

Once I pass'd through a populous city imprinting my brain for future use
 with its shows, architecture, customs, traditions,
 Yet now of all that city I remember only a woman I casually met there who
 detain'd me for love of me,
 Day by day and night by night we were together—all else has long been for-
 gotten by me,
 I remember I say only that woman who passionately clung to me,
 5 Again we wander, we love, we separate again,
 Again she holds me by the hand, I must not go,
 I see her close beside me with silent lips sad and tremulous. o

7 60: calls,/I take for my love some prosti-
 tute—I pick 67-71: calls;/I take for my love
 some prostitute—I pick
 8 60: illiterate—he ~ condemned ~ done;

67-71: illiterate—he ~ done;

9 60-71: longer—Why

10 60: shunned persons! I 67-71: persons! I

11 60-71: midst—I

Title: 60: *Enfans d'Adam*. 9. 67-71: ONCE
 I PASS'D THROUGH A POPULOUS CITY.

1 60: passed ~ city, imprinting ~ brain, for
 ~ use, with ~ customs, and traditions; 67-
 71: city, imprinting ~ brain, for ~ use, with
 ~ customs, and traditions;

2 60: now, of ~ city, I ~ there, who de-
 tained 67-71: now, of ~ city, I ~ there, who

~ me;

3 60: together,—All 67-71: together,—All ~
 me;

4 67-71: remember, I say, only ~ me;

5 60: wander—we love—we 67-71: wander
 —we love—we ~ again;

6 60-71: hand—I ~ go!

7 60-71: me, with ~ lips, sad

Facing West from California's Shores.

Facing west from California's shores,
 Inquiring, tireless, seeking what is yet unfound,
 I, a child, very old, over waves, towards the house of maternity, the land of
 migrations, look afar,
 Look off the shores of my Western sea, the circle almost circled;
 For starting westward from Hindustan, from the vales of Kashmere, 5
 From Asia, from the north, from the God, the sage, and the hero,
 From the south, from the flowery peninsulas and the spice islands,
 Long having wander'd since, round the earth having wander'd,
 Now I face home again, very pleas'd and joyous,
 (But where is what I started for so long ago? 10
 And why is it yet unfound?) o

Title: 60: *Enfans d'Adam.* 10. 67-71: *FACING WEST FROM CALIFORNIA'S SHORES.*

1 60: [Not present] 67-71: west, from

2 60: seeking that yet

3 60: toward

4 60: Sea—having arrived at last where I am
—the 67-71: Sea—the

5 60: For coming 67-71: For, starting

6 60-71: Asia—from ~ north—from

7 60: south—from ~ peninsulas, and 67-
71: south—from ~ peninsulas, and ~ islands;

8 60: [Not present] 67-71: since—round

9 60: face the old ~ again—looking over to
it, joyous, as after long travel, growth, and
sleep; 67-71: again—very ~ joyous;

10 60: for, so [No parenthesis] 67-71: for, so

11 60: [No parenthesis]

[In the New Garden].

In the new garden, in all the parts,
 In cities now, modern, I wander,
 Though the second or third result, or still further, primitive yet,
 Days, places, indifferent—though various, the same,
 5 Time, Paradise, the Mannahatta, the prairies, finding me unchanged,
 Death indifferent—Is it that I lived long since? Was I buried very long ago?
 For all that, I may now be watching you here, this moment;
 For the future, with determined will, I seek—the woman of the future,
 You, born years, centuries after me, I seek. o

Ages and Ages Returning at Intervals.

Ages and ages returning at intervals,
 Undestroy'd, wandering immortal,
 Lusty, phallic, with the potent original loins, perfectly sweet,
 I, chanter of Adamic songs,

Title: 60: *Enfans d'Adam*. 11.

60: [Text in this edition only]

Title: 60: *Enfans d'Adam*. 12. 67: AGES AND
 AGES, RETURNING AT INTERVALS. 71: AGES AND 1 60-71: ages, returning
 AGES, RETURNING AT INTERVALS. 2 60: Undestroyed,

Through the new garden the West, the great cities calling, 5
 Deliriate, thus prelude what is generated, offering these, offering myself,
 Bathing myself, bathing my songs in Sex,
 Offspring of my loins. o

O Hymen! O Hymenee!

O hymen! O hymenee! why do you tantalize me thus?
 O why sting me for a swift moment only?
 Why can you not continue? O why do you now cease?
 Is it because if you continued beyond the swift moment you would soon cer-
 tainly kill me? o

I am He that Aches with Love.

I am he that aches with amorous love;
 Does the earth gravitate? does not all matter, aching, attract all matter?
 So the body of me to all I meet or know. o

5 60: garden, the ~ cities, calling, 67-71:
 garden, the

7 60: sex,

Title: 60: Enfants d'Adam. 13. 67: O HY-
 MEN! O HYMENE. 71: O HYMEN! O HYMENE!

1 60-71: hymenee!/Why

4 60-71: because, if ~ moment, you

Title: 60: Enfants d'Adam. 14. 67: I AM HE
 THAT ACHES WITH LOVE. 71: I AM HE THAT
 ACHES WITH LOVE.

1 60: with love;

2 60-71: gravitate? Does

3 60: meet, or that I know. 67-71: Body ~
 me, to ~ meet, or

As Adam Early in the Morning.

As Adam early in the morning,
 Walking forth from the bower refresh'd with sleep,
 Behold me where I pass, hear my voice, approach,
 Touch me, touch the palm of your hand to my body as I pass,
 5 Be not afraid of my body. o

In Paths Untrodden.

In paths untrodden,
 In the growth by margins of pond-waters,
 Escaped from the life that exhibits itself,

Title: 60: *Enfans d'Adam.* 15. 67: *AS ADAM,* fresh'd ~ sleep;
EARLY IN THE MORNING. 71: *AS ADAM, EARLY* 3 60-71: pass—hear ~ voice—approach,
IN THE MORNING. 4 60: me—touch 67-71: me—touch ~ Body
 1 60: † Early in 67-71: Adam, early ~ pass;
 2 60: bower, refreshed 67-71: bower, re- 5 67-71: Body.

Title: 60: *Calamus.* I. 67-71: *IN PATHS UNTRODDEN.*

From all the standards hitherto publish'd, from the pleasures, profits,
 conformities,
 Which too long I was offering to feed my soul, 5
 Clear to me now standards not yet publish'd, clear to me that my soul,
 That the soul of the man I speak for rejoices in comrades,
 Here by myself away from the clank of the world,
 Tallying and talk'd to here by tongues aromatic,
 No longer abash'd, (for in this secluded spot I can respond as I would not dare
 elsewhere,) 10
 Strong upon me the life that does not exhibit itself, yet contains all the rest,
 Resolv'd to sing no songs to-day but those of manly attachment,
 Projecting them along that substantial life,
 Bequeathing hence types of athletic love,
 Afternoon this delicious Ninth-month in my forty-first year, 15
 I proceed for all who are or have been young men,
 To tell the secret of my nights and days,
 To celebrate the need of comrades. o

Scented Herbage of My Breast.

Scented herbage of my breast,
 Leaves from you I glean, I write, to be perused best afterwards,

- 4 60: published—from 67: publish'd—from
 71: publish'd—from ~ profits, eruditions,
 conformities,
 5 60: feed to my Soul; 67: Soul; 71: soul;
 6 60: now, standards ~ published—clear ~
 Soul, 67-71: me, now, standards ~ publish'd
 —clear ~ Soul,
 7 60: Soul ~ for, feeds, rejoices only in com-
 rades; 67: Soul ~ for, feeds, rejoices in com-
 rades; 71: Soul ~ for, feeds, rejoices most
 in comrades;
 8 60-71: Here, by myself, away
 9 60: talked
 10 60: abashed—for [No parentheses] 67-71:
 abash'd—for [No parentheses]
 12 60: Resolved
 14 60-71: Bequeathing, hence, types
 15 60: Afternoon, this ~ Ninth Month, in ~
 forty-/first 67: Afternoon, this ~ Ninth-
 month, in ~ forty-/first 71: Afternoon, this
 ~ Ninth-month, in
 16 60-71: proceed, for ~ are, or ~ been,
 young
Title: 60: Calamus. 2. 67-71: SCENTED
 HERBAGE OF MY BREAST. 2 60-71: you I yield, I

Tomb-leaves, body-leaves growing up above me above death,
 Perennial roots, tall leaves, O the winter shall not freeze you delicate leaves,
 Every year shall you bloom again, out from where you retired you shall emerge
 5 again;
 O I do not know whether many passing by will discover you or inhale your
 faint odor, but I believe a few will;
 O slender leaves! O blossoms of my blood! I permit you to tell in your own
 way of the heart that is under you,
 O I do not know what you mean there underneath yourselves, you are not
 happiness,
 You are often more bitter than I can bear, you burn and sting me,
 10 Yet you are beautiful to me you faint tinged roots, you make me think of death,
 Death is beautiful from you, (what indeed is finally beautiful except death and
 love?)
 O I think it is not for life I am chanting here my chant of lovers, I think it must
 be for death,
 For how calm, how solemn it grows to ascend to the atmosphere of lovers,
 Death or life I am then indifferent, my soul declines to prefer,
 15 (I am not sure but the high soul of lovers welcomes death most,)
 Indeed O death, I think now these leaves mean precisely the same as you mean,
 Grow up taller sweet leaves that I may see! grow up out of my breast!
 Spring away from the conceal'd heart there!
 Do not fold yourself so in your pink-tinged roots timid leaves!
 20 Do not remain down there so ashamed, herbage of my breast!
 Come I am determin'd to unbare this broad breast of mine, I have long enough
 stifled and choked;

3 60-71: body-leaves, growing ~ me, above
 4 60-71: leaves—O ~ you, delicate
 5 60-71: again—Out ~ retired, you
 6 60-71: many, passing by, will ~ you, or ~
 odor—but
 7 60: tell, in ~ way, of 67-71: tell, in ~
 way, of ~ you;
 60: [The following line appears after 7:]
 [1] O burning and throbbing—surely all
 will one day be accomplished;
 67-71: [1] accomplish'd;
 8 60-71: mean, there ~ yourselves—you
 9 60-71: bear—you
 10 60-71: are very ~ me, you faint-tinged
 roots—you ~ Death,
 11 60-67: you—(what ~ is beautiful, except

Death ~ Love?) 71: you—(what ~ beau-
 tiful, except Death ~ Love?)
 12 60-67: lovers—I ~ Death, 71: —O ~
 lovers—I ~ Death,
 13 60-71: grows, to
 14 60-71: indifferent—my Soul
 15 60-71: Soul ~ most; [No parentheses]
 16 60-71: Indeed, O Death, ~ mean;
 17 60: taller, sweet leaves, that ~ Grow 67-
 71: taller, sweet leaves, that
 18 60: concealed
 19 60: yourselves ~ roots, timid 67-71:
 roots, timid
 21 60: Come, I ~ determined ~ mine—I
 67-71: Come, I ~ mine—I ~ choked:

Emblematic and capricious blades I leave you, now you serve me not,
 I will say what I have to say by itself,
 I will sound myself and comrades only, I will never again utter a call only their
 call,
 I will raise with it immortal reverberations through the States, 25
 I will give an example to lovers to take permanent shape and will through the
 States,
 Through me shall the words be said to make death exhilarating,
 Give me your tone therefore O death, that I may accord with it,
 Give me yourself, for I see that you belong to me now above all, and are folded
 inseparably together, you love and death are,
 Nor will I allow you to balk me any more with what I was calling life, 30
 For now it is convey'd to me that you are the purports essential,
 That you hide in these shifting forms of life, for reasons, and that they are
 mainly for you,
 That you beyond them come forth to remain, the real reality,
 That behind the mask of materials you patiently wait, no matter how long,
 That you will one day perhaps take control of all, 35
 That you will perhaps dissipate this entire show of appearance,
 That may-be you are what it is all for, but it does not last so very long,
 But you will last very long. o

22 60: blades, I ~ you—now 67: blades, I
 ~ you—now ~ not; 71: —Emblematic ~
 blades, I ~ you—now ~ not;
 23 60-71: Away! I will ~ say, by
 60-71: [The following line appears after
 23:]
 [1] I will escape from the sham that was
 proposed to me,
 24 60-71: only—I ~ call, only
 25 60, 71: raise, with it, immortal ~ The
 67: it, immortal ~ The
 26 60-71: lovers, to ~ The States;

27 67-71: exhilarating;
 28 60-71: therefore, O Death,
 29 60: yourself—for ~ folded together above
 all—you Love ~ Death 67-71: yourself—for
 ~ together—you Love ~ Death are;
 31 60: conveyed
 32 60-71: reasons—and
 33 60-71: you, beyond them, come forth, to
 35 60, 71: day, perhaps, take 67: day, per-
 haps
 37 60-67: may be ~ for—but 71: for—but
 ~ long;

Whoever You are Holding Me Now in Hand.

Whoever you are holding me now in hand,
 Without one thing all will be useless,
 I give you fair warning before you attempt me further,
 I am not what you supposed, but far different. o

5 Who is he that would become my follower?
 Who would sign himself a candidate for my affections? o

The way is suspicious, the result uncertain, perhaps destructive,
 You would have to give up all else, I alone would expect to be your sole and
 exclusive standard,
 Your novitiate would even then be long and exhausting,
 The whole past theory of your life and all conformity to the lives around you
 10 would have to be abandon'd,
 Therefore release me now before troubling yourself any further, let go your
 hand from my shoulders,
 Put me down and depart on your way. o

Or else by stealth in some wood for trial,
 Or back of a rock in the open air,

Title: 60: Calamus. 3. 67-71: Whoever you are, Holding me now in Hand.
 60-71: [Stanza numbers only]
 1 67-71: are, holding
 2 67-71: thing, all
 3 60-71: warning, before
 6 60: affections? Are you he?
 7 60: suspicious—the result slow, uncertain, may-be destructive; 67-71: suspicious—the ~ destructive;

8 60-71: else—I ~ your God, sole ~ exclusive,
 10 60-67: life, and ~ you, would ~ abandoned; 71: life, and ~ you, would ~ abandon'd;
 11 60-71: now, before ~ further—Let
 12 60-71: down, and
 13 60: else, only by stealth, in ~ wood, for
 67-71: else, by stealth, in ~ wood, for
 14 60-71: rock, in

(For in any roof'd room of a house I emerge not, nor in company, 15
 And in libraries I lie as one dumb, a gawk, or unborn, or dead,)
 But just possibly with you on a high hill, first watching lest any person for
 miles around approach unawares,
 Or possibly with you sailing at sea, or on the beach of the sea or some quiet
 island,
 Here to put your lips upon mine I permit you,
 With the comrade's long-dwelling kiss or the new husband's kiss, 20
 For I am the new husband and I am the comrade. ◦

Or if you will, thrusting me beneath your clothing,
 Where I may feel the throbs of your heart or rest upon your hip,
 Carry me when you go forth over land or sea;
 For thus merely touching you is enough, is best, 25
 And thus touching you would I silently sleep and be carried eternally. ◦

But these leaves conning you con at peril,
 For these leaves and me you will not understand,
 They will elude you at first and still more afterward, I will certainly elude you,
 Even while you should think you had unquestionably caught me, behold! 30
 Already you see I have escaped from you. ◦

For it is not for what I have put into it that I have written this book,
 Nor is it by reading it you will acquire it,
 Nor do those know me best who admire me and vauntingly praise me,
 Nor will the candidates for my love (unless at most a very few) prove
 victorious, 35
 Nor will my poems do good only, they will do just as much evil, perhaps more,
 For all is useless without that which you may guess at many times and not hit,
 that which I hinted at;
 Therefore release me and depart on your way. ◦

15 60: roofed ~ not—nor 67-71: not—nor
 17 60-71: hill—first ~ person, for ~ around,
 approach
 18 60-71: the sea, or
 20 60-71: kiss, or
 21 60-71: husband, and
 22 60-71: Or, if
 23 60-71: heart, or
 25 60-71: thus, merely ~ you, is enough—is
 26 60-71: thus, touching you, would

27 60-71: conning, you
 28 60-71: leaves, and me, you
 29 60: first, and ~ after-/ward—I 67-71:
 first, and ~ afterward—I
 34 60-71: me, and
 35 60-71: love, (unless ~ few,) prove
 36 60: only—they 67-71: only—they ~
 more;
 37 60: hit—that ~ at, 67-71: hit—that
 38 60-71: me, and

These I Singing in Spring.

These I singing in spring collect for lovers,
 (For who but I should understand lovers and all their sorrow and joy?
 And who but I should be the poet of comrades?)
 Collecting I traverse the garden the world, but soon I pass the gates,
 5 Now along the pond-side, now wading in a little, fearing not the wet,
 Now by the post-and-rail fences where the old stones thrown there, pick'd from
 the fields, have accumulated,
 (Wild-flowers and vines and weeds come up through the stones and partly
 cover them, beyond these I pass,)
 Far, far in the forest, or sauntering later in summer, before I think where I go,
 Solitary, smelling the earthy smell, stopping now and then in the silence,
 10 Alone I had thought, yet soon a troop gathers around me,
 Some walk by my side and some behind, and some embrace my arms or neck,
 They the spirits of dear friends dead or alive, thicker they come, a great crowd,
 and I in the middle,
 Collecting, dispensing, singing, there I wander with them,
 Plucking something for tokens, tossing toward whoever is near me,

Title: 60: Calamus. 4. 67-71: THESE I, SING-
ING IN SPRING.

1 60: I, singing in spring, collect 67-71: These, I, singing in spring, collect
 2 60-71: lovers, and
 4 60-71: Collecting, I ~ garden, the world—
but
 5 60-71: pond-side—now
 6 60: fences, where ~ picked 67-71: fences,
where
 7 60-71: stones, and ~ them—Beyond [No
parentheses] 71: stones, and ~ them—
Beyond

8 60: forest, before ~ I get, 67-71: forest,
before

10 60-67: thought—yet ~ a silent troop 71:
thought—yet

11 60-71: side, and

12 60-67: They, the ~ of friends, dead or
alive—thicker 71: They, the ~ friends, dead
or alive—thicker

13 60-71: singing in spring, there

14 60: tokens—something for these, till I hit
upon a name—tossing 67-71: tokens—tossing
~ me;

Here, lilac, with a branch of pine, 15
 Here, out of my pocket, some moss which I pull'd off a live-oak in Florida as
 it-hung trailing down,
 Here, some pinks and laurel leaves, and a handful of sage,
 And here what I now draw from the water, wading in the pond-side,
 (O here I last saw him that tenderly loves me, and returns again never to
 separate from me,
 And this, O this shall henceforth be the token of comrades, this calamus-root
 shall, 20
 Interchange it youths with each other! let none render it back!)
 And twigs of maple and a bunch of wild orange and chestnut,
 And stems of currants and plum-blows, and the aromatic cedar,
 These I compass'd around by a thick cloud of spirits,
 Wandering, point to or touch as I pass, or throw them loosely from me, 25
 Indicating to each one what he shall have, giving something to each;
 But what I drew from the water by the pond-side, that I reserve,
 I will give of it, but only to them that love as I myself am capable of loving. °

[States!]

States!

Were you looking to be held together by the lawyers?

15 60-71: Here! lilac,

16 60: pulled ~ Florida, as 67: Here out of
~ Florida, as 71: Florida, as

18 Copy-text: pond-/side,

19 60-71: me—and ~ again, never

20 60: comrades—this 67-71: comrades—this
Calamus-root

21 60-71: it, youths, with ~ Let

22 60-71: maple, and ~ orange, and

23 60: currants, and ~ cedar; 67-71: cur-
rants, and ~ cedar:24 60: I, compassed 67-71: These, I, com-
pass'd

25 60-71: to, or

26 60: have—giving ~ each, 67-71: have—
giving

28 60-71: it—but ~ love, as

Title: 60: Calamus. 5. [Stanza numbers only]
 [Though Whitman excluded the poem
 [States!] after 60, he drew on its text to form
 two separate poems: the *Drum-Taps* (65-81)

poem *Over the Carnage Rose* Prophetic a
 Voice. (see II 373-374) and the 67-81 Calamus
 poem *For You O Democracy*. (see II 375).
 The text of [States!] is 60]

By an agreement on a paper? Or by arms? ○

Away!

- 5 I arrive, bringing these, beyond all the forces of courts and arms,
These! to hold you together as firmly as the earth itself is held together. ○

The old breath of life, ever new,
Here! I pass it by contact to you, America. ○

- O mother! have you done much for me?
10 Behold, there shall from me be much done for you. ○

- There shall from me be a new friendship—It shall be called after my name,
It shall circulate through The States, indifferent of place,
It shall twist and intertwist them through and around each other—Compact
shall they be, showing new signs,
Affection shall solve every one of the problems of freedom,
15 Those who love each other shall be invincible,
They shall finally make America completely victorious, in my name. ○

One from Massachusetts shall be a comrade to a Missourian,
One from Maine or Vermont, and a Carolinian and an Oregonese, shall be
friends triune, more precious to each other than all the riches of the
earth. ○

- To Michigan shall be wafted perfume from Florida,
20 To the Mannahatta from Cuba or Mexico,
Not the perfume of flowers, but sweeter, and wafted beyond death. ○

No danger shall balk Columbia's lovers,
If need be, a thousand shall sternly immolate themselves for one,
The Kanuck shall be willing to lay down his life for the Kansian, and the
Kansian for the Kanuck, on due need. ○

- It shall be customary in all directions, in the houses and streets, to see manly
25 affection,
The departing brother or friend shall salute the remaining brother or friend
with a kiss. ○

There shall be innovations,
There shall be countless linked hands—namely, the Northerner's, and the

- 23 60: Copy-text: them-/selves

Northwesterner's, and the Southwesterner's, and those of the interior,
and all their brood,
These shall be masters of the world under a new power,
They shall laugh to scorn the attacks of all the remainder of the world. ○ 30

The most dauntless and rude shall touch face to face lightly,
The dependence of Liberty shall be lovers,
The continuance of Equality shall be comrades. ○

These shall tie and band stronger than hoops of iron,
I, extatic, O partners! O lands! henceforth with the love of lovers tie you. ○ 35

I will make the continent indissoluble,
I will make the most splendid race the sun ever yet shone upon,
I will make divine magnetic lands. ○

I will plant companionship thick as trees along all the rivers of America, and
along the shores of the great lakes, and all over the prairies,
I will make inseparable cities, with their arms about each other's necks. ○ 40

For you these, from me, O Democracy, to serve you, ma femme!
For you! for you, I am trilling these songs. ○

Over the Carnage Rose Prophetic a Voice.

Over the carnage rose prophetic a voice,
Be not dishearten'd, affection shall solve the problems of freedom yet,
Those who love each other shall become invincible,

Title: 65: OVER THE CARNAGE ROSE PROPHEMIC A VOICE. [The following lines in the *Drum-Taps* OVER THE CARNAGE ROSE PROPHEMIC A VOICE. derive from [States!], excluded after 60 (see II 371-373), and in this sequence: 2-14; 3-15; 4-16; 6-30; 7-22; 8-23; 9-17; 10 and 11-18; 12-19; 13-21; 14-25; 15-31; 16-32; 17-33; 18-34; 19-35; 20-2; 21-3.]
65-71: [Stanza numbers only]
2 65-71: dishearten'd—Affection ~ Freedom yet;
3 65-71: invincible—they shall yet make Columbia victorious.

They shall yet make Columbia victorious. ◦

- 5 Sons of the Mother of All, you shall yet be victorious,
 You shall yet laugh to scorn the attacks of all the remainder of the earth.
 No danger shall balk Columbia's lovers,
 If need be a thousand shall sternly immolate themselves for one. ◦

- One from Massachusetts shall be a Missourian's comrade,
 From Maine and from hot Carolina, and another an Oregone, shall be
 10 friends triune,
 More precious to each other than all the riches of the earth. ◦

To Michigan, Florida perfumes shall tenderly come,
 Not the perfumes of flowers, but sweeter, and wafted beyond death. ◦

- It shall be customary in the houses and streets to see manly affection,
 15 The most dauntless and rude shall touch face to face lightly,
 The dependence of Liberty shall be lovers,
 The continuance of Equality shall be comrades. ◦

These shall tie you and band you stronger than hoops of iron,
 I, ecstatic, O partners! O lands! with the love of lovers tie you. ◦

- 20 (Were you looking to be held together by lawyers?
 Or by an agreement on a paper? or by arms?
 Nay, nor the world, nor any living thing, will so cohere.) ◦

4 65-71: [Not present—part of 3]
 5 65-71: All! you ~ victorious!
 7 65-71: lovers;
 8 65-71: be, a
 9 65-71: comrade;
 10 71: another, an
 12 65-71: come;

14 65-71: affection;
 15 65-71: lightly;
 18 65-71: iron;
 19 65-71: extatic,
 20 65: by the [No parenthesis] 71: by the
 22 65: —Nay—nor [No parenthesis] 71:
 —Nay—nor

For You O Democracy.

Come, I will make the continent indissoluble,
 I will make the most splendid race the sun ever shone upon,
 I will make divine magnetic lands,
 With the love of comrades,
 With the life-long love of comrades. ◦

5

I will plant companionship thick as trees along all the rivers of America, and
 along the shores of the great lakes, and all over the prairies,
 I will make inseparable cities with their arms about each other's necks,
 By the love of comrades,
 By the manly love of comrades. ◦

For you these from me, O Democracy, to serve you ma femme!
 For you, for you I am trilling these songs. ◦

10

Title: 67-71: A SONG. [The following lines for the Calamus poem For You O Democracy derive from [States!], excluded after 60 (see 11 371-373), in the following sequence: 1-36; 2-37; 3-38; 6-39; 7-40; 10-41; 11-42.]
 67-71: [Section numbers only]
 1 67-71: indissoluble; [Section 1 begins with 1]
 2 67-71: ever yet ~ upon;
 6 67-71: prairies; [Section 2 begins with 6]

7 67-71: cities, with ~ necks;
 10 67-71: these, from ~ you, ma [Section 3 begins with 10]
 11 67-71: you! for you, I ~ songs,
 67-71: [The following lines appear after 11:]
 [1] In the love of comrades,
 [2] In the high-towering love of comrades.

Not Heaving from my Ribb'd Breast Only.

Not heaving from my ribb'd breast only,
 Not in sighs at night in rage dissatisfied with myself,
 Not in those long-drawn, ill-supprest sighs,
 Not in many an oath and promise broken,
 5 Not in my wilful and savage soul's volition,
 Not in the subtle nourishment of the air,
 Not in this beating and pounding at my temples and wrists,
 Not in the curious systole and diastole within which will one day cease,
 Not in many a hungry wish told to the skies only,
 10 Not in cries, laughter, defiances, thrown from me when alone far in the wilds,
 Not in husky pantings through clinch'd teeth,
 Not in sounded and resounded words, chattering words, echoes, dead words,
 Not in the murmurs of my dreams while I sleep,
 Nor the other murmurs of these incredible dreams of every day,
 Nor in the limbs and senses of my body that take you and dismiss you con-
 15 tinually—not there,
 Not in any or all of them O adhesiveness! O pulse of my life!
 Need I that you exist and show yourself any more than in these songs. ◦

Title: 60: Calamus. 6. 67: Not Heaving from my Ribb'd Breast only. 71: NOT HEAVING FROM MY RIBB'D BREAST ONLY.

1 60: ribbed 67-71: only;

2 60: night, in rage, dissatisfied 67-71: night, in rage, dissatisfied ~ myself;

3 60: ill-suppressed 67-71: sighs;

4 67-71: broken;

5 67-71: volition;

6 67-71: air;

7 67-71: wrists;

8 60: within, which 67-71: within, which ~

cease;

9 60: wish, told 67-71: wish, told ~ only;

10 60: alone, far 67-71: alone, far ~ wilds;

11 60: clenched 67-71: clench'd teeth;

12 60: words—chattering 67-71: words—chattering ~ words;

14 67-71: day;

15 60: body, that ~ continually—Not 67-71: body, that ~ continually—Not there;

16 60-71: them, O

17 60-71: yourself, any

Of the Terrible Doubt of Appearances.

Of the terrible doubt of appearances,
 Of the uncertainty after all, that we may be deluded,
 That may-be reliance and hope are but speculations after all,
 That may-be identity beyond the grave is a beautiful fable only,
 May-be the things I perceive, the animals, plants, men, hills, shining and
 flowing waters, 5
 The skies of day and night, colors, densities, forms, may-be these are (as doubt-
 less they are) only apparitions, and the real something has yet to be
 known,
 (How often they dart out of themselves as if to confound me and mock me!
 How often I think neither I know, nor any man knows, aught of them,)
 May-be seeming to me what they are (as doubtless they indeed but seem) as
 from my present point of view, and might prove (as of course they
 would) nought of what they appear, or nought anyhow, from entirely
 changed points of view;
 To me these and the like of these are curiously answer'd by my lovers, my
 dear friends, 10
 When he whom I love travels with me or sits a long while holding me by
 the hand,

Title: 60: Calamus. 7. 67: Final title. 71: 8 60-71: them;)
 OF THE TERRIBLE DOUBT OF APPEARANCES. 9 60: May-be they only seem to ~ are, (as
 1 60: terrible question of ~ seem,) as ~ view—And ~ prove, (as
 2 60: the doubts, the uncertainties ~ all,/ ~ would,) naught ~ naught any how, 67-
 67-71: all—that 71: are, (as ~ seem,) as ~ view—And ~
 5 60-71: perceive—the prove, (as ~ would,) naught ~ naught any
 6 60: night—colors, ~ forms—May-be ~ how,
 are, (as ~ are,) only 67-71: night—colors, ~ 10 60: me, these, and ~ these, are ~ an-
 forms—May-be ~ are, (as ~ are,) only ~ swered ~ friends; 67-71: —To me, these,
 known; and ~ these, are ~ friends;
 7 60-71: themselves, as 11 60-71: me, or

When the subtle air, the impalpable, the sense that words and reason hold
 not, surround us and pervade us,
 Then I am charged with untold and untellable wisdom, I am silent, I require
 nothing further,
 I cannot answer the question of appearances or that of identity beyond the
 grave,
 15 But I walk or sit indifferent, I am satisfied,
 He ahold of my hand has completely satisfied me. ◦

[Long I Thought That Knowledge Alone Would Suffice].

Long I thought that knowledge alone would suffice me—O if I could but
 obtain knowledge!
 Then my lands engrossed me—Lands of the prairies, Ohio's land, the southern
 savannas, engrossed me—For them I would live—I would be their
 orator;
 Then I met the examples of old and new heroes—I heard of warriors, sailors,
 and all dauntless persons—And it seemed to me that I too had it in me
 to be as dauntless as any—and would be so;
 And then, to enclose all, it came to me to strike up the songs of the New
 World—And then I believed my life must be spent in singing;
 But now take notice, land of the prairies, land of the south savannas, Ohio's
 5 land,
 Take notice, you Kanuck woods—and you Lake Huron—and all that with
 you roll toward Niagara—and you Niagara also,
 And you, Californian mountains—That you each and all find somebody else
 to be your singer of songs,

13 60-71: wisdom—I ~ silent—I or ~ grave;
 14 60: appearances, or 67-71: appearances, 15 60-71: indifferent—I

For I can be your singer of songs no longer—One who loves me is jealous of
 me, and withdraws me from all but love,
 With the rest I dispense—I sever from what I thought would suffice me, for
 it does not—it is now empty and tasteless to me,
 I heed knowledge, and the grandeur of The States, and the example of heroes,
 no more, 10
 I am indifferent to my own songs—I will go with him I love,
 It is to be enough for us that we are together—We never separate again. °

[Hours Continuing Long].

Hours continuing long, sore and heavy-hearted,
 Hours of the dusk, when I withdraw to a lonesome and unfrequented spot,
 seating myself, leaning my face in my hands;
 Hours sleepless, deep in the night, when I go forth, speeding swiftly the
 country roads, or through the city streets, or pacing miles and miles,
 stifling plaintive cries;
 Hours discouraged, distracted—for the one I cannot content myself without,
 soon I saw him content himself without me;
 Hours when I am forgotten, (O weeks and months are passing, but I believe
 I am never to forget!) 5
 Sullen and suffering hours! (I am ashamed—but it is useless—I am what
 I am;)
 Hours of my torment—I wonder if other men ever have the like, out of the
 like feelings?
 Is there even one other like me—distracted—his friend, his lover, lost to him?
 Is he too as I am now? Does he still rise in the morning, dejected, thinking
 who is lost to him? and at night, awaking, think who is lost?
 Does he too harbor his friendship silent and endless? harbor his anguish and
 passion? 10

Title: 60: Calamus. 9. [Text in 60 only]

Does some stray reminder, or the casual mention of a name, bring the fit back
upon him, taciturn and deprest?
Does he see himself reflected in me? In these hours, does he see the face of
his hours reflected? ○

Recorders Ages Hence.

Recorders ages hence,
Come, I will take you down underneath this impassive exterior, I will tell
you what to say of me,
Publish my name and hang up my picture as that of the tenderest lover,
The friend the lover's portrait, of whom his friend his lover was fondest,
Who was not proud of his songs, but of the measureless ocean of love within
5 him, and freely pour'd it forth,
Who often walk'd lonesome walks thinking of his dear friends, his lovers,
Who pensive away from one he lov'd often lay sleepless and dissatisfied at
night,
Who knew too well the sick, sick dread lest the one he lov'd might secretly
be indifferent to him,
Whose happiest days were far away through fields, in woods, on hills, he
and another wandering hand in hand, they twain apart from other men,
Who oft as he saunter'd the streets curv'd with his arm the shoulder of his
10 friend, while the arm of his friend rested upon him also. ○

Title: 60: Calamus. 10. 67-71: RECORDERS
AGES HENCE.

1 60: You bards of ages hence! when you
refer to me, mind not so much my poems,
67-71: hence!

60: [The following line appears after 1:]

[1] Nor speak of me that I prophesied of
The States, and led them the way of their
glories;

2 60: But come, I ~ exterior—I ~ me: 67-
71: exterior—I ~ me;

4 60-71: friend, the ~ friend, his lover, was

5 60: him—and ~ poured 67-71: him—
and

6 60: walked ~ walks, thinking 67-71:
walks, thinking

7 60: pensive, away ~ loved, often 67-71:
pensive, away ~ lov'd, often

8 60: loved

9 60-71: away, through ~ another, wander-
ing ~ twain, apart

10 60: sauntered ~ streets, curved ~ friend
—while 67: streets, curved ~ friend—while

71: streets, curv'd ~ friend—while

When I Heard at the Close of the Day.

When I heard at the close of the day how my name had been receiv'd with
 plaudits in the capitol, still it was not a happy night for me that follow'd,
 And else when I carous'd, or when my plans were accomplish'd, still I was
 not happy,
 But the day when I rose at dawn from the bed of perfect health, refresh'd,
 singing, inhaling the ripe breath of autumn,
 When I saw the full moon in the west grow pale and disappear in the morning
 light,
 When I wander'd alone over the beach, and undressing bathed, laughing with
 the cool waters, and saw the sun rise, 5
 And when I thought how my dear friend my lover was on his way coming,
 O then I was happy,
 O then each breath tasted sweeter, and all that day my food nourish'd me
 more, and the beautiful day pass'd well,
 And the next came with equal joy, and with the next at evening came my
 friend,
 And that night while all was still I heard the waters roll slowly continually
 up the shores,
 I heard the hissing rustle of the liquid and sands as directed to me whispering
 to congratulate me, 10
 For the one I love most lay sleeping by me under the same cover in the cool
 night,

Title: 60: Calamus. 11. 67: Final title. 71:

WHEN I HEARD AT THE CLOSE OF THE DAY.

1 60: received ~ followed; 67-71: follow'd;

2 60: else, when I caroused, ~ accomplished,
 ~ happy; 67-71: else, when ~ happy;

3 60: refreshed,

5 60: wandered ~ and, undressing, bathed,
 67-71: undressing, bathed,

6 60-71: friend, my lover, was ~ happy;

7 60: sweeter—and ~ nourished ~ more—
 And ~ passed 67-71: sweeter—and ~ more
 —and

8 60: joy—And ~ next, at evening, came ~
 friend; 67-71: joy—and ~ next, at evening,
 came ~ friend;

9 60-71: night, while ~ still, I

10 60-71: sands, as ~ me, whispering, to

In the stillness in the autumn moonbeams his face was inclined toward me,
And his arm lay lightly around my breast—and that night I was happy. ◦

Are You the New Person Drawn toward Me?

Are you the new person drawn toward me?
To begin with taking warning, I am surely far different from what you
suppose;
Do you suppose you will find in me your ideal?
Do you think it so easy to have me become your lover?
5 Do you think the friendship of me would be unalloy'd satisfaction?
Do you think I am trusty and faithful?
Do you see no further than this façade, this smooth and tolerant manner
of me?
Do you suppose yourself advancing on real ground toward a real heroic man?
Have you no thought O dreamer that it may be all maya, illusion? ◦

12 60-71: stillness, in ~ moonbeams, his
13 60: breast—And

Title: 60: Calamus. 12. 67: Are you the New Person Drawn Toward me? 71: Are You the New Person drawn toward Me?
1 60: me, and asking something significant from me?
2 60: with, take warning—I am probably far
67-71: with, take warning—I
5 60: unalloyed
6 60: you suppose I
7 60-71: façade—this
9 60: thought, O dreamer, that ~ illusion? O the next step may precipitate you! 67-71: thought, O dreamer, that
60: [The following lines appear after 9:]
[1] O let some past deceived one hiss in your ears, how many have prest on the same as you are pressing now,
[2] How many have fondly supposed what you are supposing now—only to be disappointed.

Roots and Leaves Themselves Alone.

Roots and leaves themselves alone are these,
 Scents brought to men and women from the wild woods and pond-side,
 Breast-sorrel and pinks of love, fingers that wind around tighter than vines,
 Gushes from the throats of birds hid in the foliage of trees as the sun is risen,
 Breezes of land and love set from living shores to you on the living sea, to you
 O sailors! 5
 Frost-mellow'd berries and Third-month twigs offer'd fresh to young persons
 wandering out in the fields when the winter breaks up,
 Love-buds put before you and within you whoever you are,
 Buds to be unfolded on the old terms,
 If you bring the warmth of the sun to them they will open and bring form,
 color, perfume, to you,
 If you become the aliment and the wet they will become flowers, fruits, tall
 branches and trees. o 10

Title: 60: Calamus. 13.

1 60: leaves unlike any but themselves, / 67-71: these;

60: [The following lines appear before 1:]
 [1] Calamus taste,
 [2] (For I must change the strain—these are not to be pensive leaves, but leaves of joy,)

2 60-71: woods, and from the

3 60-71: love—fingers

4 60: birds, hid ~ trees, as 67-71: birds, hid ~ trees, as ~ risen;

5 60: love—Breezes set ~ shores out to ~ sea—to you, O 67-71: love—breezes set ~ shores out to ~ sea—to you, O

6 60: Frost-mellowed berries, and Third

Month twigs, offered 67-71: berries, and ~ twigs, offer'd

7 60-71: Love-buds, put ~ you, whoever

8 67-71: terms;

9 60: them, they ~ open, and 67-71: them, they ~ open, and ~ you;

10 60: wet, they ~ trees, 67-71: wet, they 60: [The following lines appear after 10:]

[1] They are comprised in you just as much as in them-/selves—perhaps more than in themselves,

[2] They are not comprised in one season or succession, but many successions,

[3] They have come slowly up out of the earth and me, and are to come slowly up out of you.

Not Heat Flames up and Consumes.

Not heat flames up and consumes,
 Not sea-waves hurry in and out,
 Not the air delicious and dry, the air of ripe summer, bears lightly along white
 down-balls of myriads of seeds,
 Wafted, sailing gracefully, to drop where they may;
 Not these, O none of these more than the flames of me, consuming, burning
 5 for his love whom I love,
 O none more than I hurrying in and out;
 Does the tide hurry, seeking something, and never give up? O I the same,
 O nor down-balls nor perfumes, nor the high rain-emitting clouds, are borne
 through the open air,
 Any more than my soul is borne through the open air,
 10 Wafted in all directions O love, for friendship, for you. o

Title: 60: Calamus. 14.

3 60: air, delicious ~ air of the ripe ~ seeds,
 wafted, sailing gracefully, to drop where they
 may, 67-71: air, delicious ~ air of the ripe
 4 60: [Not present—part of 3]
 5 60-71: these—O ~ these, more ~ love!
 6 60-67: none, more ~ I, hurrying 71:

none, more ~ I, hurrying ~ out:
 7 60-67: same; 71: —Does ~ same;
 8 60: down-balls, nor 67-71: down-balls, nor
 ~ high, rain-/emitting
 9 60-71: Soul
 10 60-71: directions, O

Trickle Drops.

Trickle drops! my blue veins leaving!
 O drops of me! trickle, slow drops,
 Candid from me falling, drip, bleeding drops,
 From wounds made to free you whence you were prison'd,
 From my face, from my forehead and lips, 5
 From my breast, from within where I was conceal'd, press forth red drops,
 confession drops,
 Stain every page, stain every song I sing, every word I say, bloody drops,
 Let them know your scarlet heat, let them glisten,
 Saturate them with yourself all ashamed and wet,
 Glow upon all I have written or shall write, bleeding drops, 10
 Let it all be seen in your light, blushing drops. o

Title: 60: Calamus. 15. 67: TRICKLE, DROPS.
 71: Trickle, Drops.

1 60: [Not present—2 opened poem] 67-71:
 Trickle, drops!

3 60-71: Candid, from ~ falling—drip,

4 60: prisoned,

5 60-71: face—from

6 60: breast—from ~ concealed—Press forth,
 red drops—confession 67-71: breast—from ~

conceal'd—press forth, red drops—confession
 drops;

7 60: page—stain 67-71: page—stain ~
 drops;

8 60: heat—let 67-71: heat—let ~ glisten;

9 60: yourself, all 67-71: yourself, all ~
 wet;

10 67: drops; 71: written, or ~ drops;

[Who Is Now Reading This?].

Who is now reading this? ◦

May-be one is now reading this who knows some wrong-doing of my past life,
Or may-be a stranger is reading this who has secretly loved me,
Or may-be one who meets all my grand assumptions and egotisms with
derision,

5 Or may-be one who is puzzled at me. ◦

As if I were not puzzled at myself!

Or as if I never deride myself! (O conscience-struck! O self-convicted!)

Or as if I do not secretly love strangers! (O tenderly, a long time, and never
avow it;)

Or as if I did not see, perfectly well, interior in myself, the stuff of
wrong-doing,

10 Or as if it could cease transpiring from me until it must cease. ◦

Of Him I Love Day and Night.

Of him I love day and night I dream'd I heard he was dead,
 And I dream'd I went where they had buried him I love, but he was not in
 that place,
 And I dream'd I wander'd searching among burial-places to find him,
 And I found that every place was a burial-place;
 The houses full of life were equally full of death, (this house is now,) 5
 The streets, the shipping, the places of amusement, the Chicago, Boston, Phila-
 delphia, the Mannahatta, were as full of the dead as of the living,
 And fuller, O vastly fuller of the dead than of the living;
 And what I dream'd I will henceforth tell to every person and age,
 And I stand henceforth bound to what I dream'd,
 And now I am willing to disregard burial-places and dispense with them, 10
 And if the memorials of the dead were put up indifferently everywhere, even
 in the room where I eat or sleep, I should be satisfied,
 And if the corpse of any one I love, or if my own corpse, be duly render'd to
 powder and pour'd in the sea, I shall be satisfied,
 Or if it be distributed to the winds I shall be satisfied. o

- Title:* 60: Calamus. 17. 67: Final title. 71 [PI]: OF HIM I LOVE DAY AND NIGHT.
- 1 60: night, I dreamed 67-71[PI]: night, I ~ dead;
 2 60: dreamed ~ love—but 67-71[PI]: love—but ~ place;
 3 60: dreamed I wandered, searching ~ burial-/places, to 67-71[PI]: wander'd, searching ~ burial-/places, to ~ him;
 4 60: burial-place, 71[PI]: burial place;
 5 60: (This 67-71[PI]: now;)
- 7 60-71[PI]: fuller, of
 8 60: —And ~ dreamed 67-71[PI]: — And
 9 60: dreamed; 67-71[PI]: dream'd;
 10 60: burial-places, and 67-71[PI]: burial-places, and ~ them;
 11 67-71[PI]: satisfied; Copy-text: every-/where,
 12 60: rendered to powder, and poured 67-71[PI]: powder, and ~ satisfied;
 13 60-71[PI]: winds, I

City of Orgies.

City of orgies, walks and joys,
 City whom that I have lived and sung in your midst will one day make you
 illustrious,
 Not the pageants of you, not your shifting tableaux, your spectacles, repay me,
 Not the interminable rows of your houses, nor the ships at the wharves,
 5 Nor the processions in the streets, nor the bright windows with goods in them,
 Nor to converse with learn'd persons, or bear my share in the soiree or feast;
 Not those, but as I pass O Manhattan, your frequent and swift flash of eyes
 offering me love,
 Offering response to my own—these repay me,
 Lovers, continual lovers, only repay me. o

Title: 60: Calamus. 18. 67: CITY OF ORGIES.

1 60: of my walks and joys! 67-71: joys!

2 60: sung there will

3 60: you—not ~ tableaux, 67-71: you—
not ~ tableaux, ~ me;

4 60-71: houses—nor

5 60: windows, with 67-71: windows, with

~ them;

6 60: learned

7 60-71: those—but, as I pass, O Manhattan!
your

8 60: Offering me the response of my 67-
71: me;

Behold This Swarthy Face.

Behold this swarthy face, these gray eyes,
 This beard, the white wool unclipt upon my neck,
 My brown hands and the silent manner of me without charm;
 Yet comes one a Manhattanese and ever at parting kisses me lightly on the
 lips with robust love,
 And I on the crossing of the street or on the ship's deck give a kiss in return, 5
 We observe that salute of American comrades land and sea,
 We are those two natural and nonchalant persons. o

Title: 60: Calamus. 19. 67: BEHOLD THIS SWARTHY FACE. 71: Behold this Swarthy Face. 60: [Stanza numbers]

1 60: swarthy and unrefined face—these 67: face, this unrefined face—these 71: face—these

60: [The following lines appear before 1:]

[1] Mind you the timid models of the rest, the majority?

[2] Long I minded them, but hence I will not—for I have adopted models for myself,

and now offer them to The Lands. [Space between [2] and next line]

2 60-71: beard—the ~ wool, unclipt

3 60-71: hands, and ~ me, without

4 60-71: one, a Manhattanese, and ~ parting, kisses

5 60-67: I, in the public room, or on ~ street, or ~ deck, kiss him in return; 71: I, on

~ street, or ~ deck, give ~ return;

6 60-71: comrades, land

I Saw in Louisiana a Live-Oak Growing.

I saw in Louisiana a live-oak growing,
 All alone stood it and the moss hung down from the branches,
 Without any companion it grew there uttering joyous leaves of dark green,
 And its look, rude, unbending, lusty, made me think of myself,
 But I wonder'd how it could utter joyous leaves standing alone there without
 5 its friend near, for I knew I could not,
 And I broke off a twig with a certain number of leaves upon it, and twined
 around it a little moss,
 And brought it away, and I have placed it in sight in my room,
 It is not needed to remind me as of my own dear friends,
 (For I believe lately I think of little else than of them,)
 10 Yet it remains to me a curious token, it makes me think of manly love;
 For all that, and though the live-oak glistens there in Louisiana solitary in a
 wide flat space,
 Uttering joyous leaves all its life without a friend a lover near,
 I know very well I could not. o

Title: 60: Calamus. 20. 67-71: I saw in its lover near—for ~ not;
 Louisiana a Live-Oak Growing. 7 60: away—and 67-71: away—and ~
 2 60: it, and 67-71: it, and ~ branches; room;
 3 60-71: there, uttering 9 67-71: them;)
 4 67-71: myself; 10 60-71: token—it
 5 60: wondered ~ leaves, standing ~ there, 11 60, 71: Louisiana, solitary, in 67: —For
 without ~ friend, its lover near—for 67-71: ~ Louisiana, solitary, in
 leaves, standing ~ there, without ~ friend, 12 60-71: life, without a friend, a lover,

That Music Always Round Me.

That music always round me, unceasing, unbeginning, yet long untaught I
 did not hear,
 But now the chorus I hear and am elated,
 A tenor, strong, ascending with power and health, with glad notes of
 daybreak I hear,
 A soprano at intervals sailing buoyantly over the tops of immense waves,
 A transparent base shuddering lusciously under and through the universe, 5
 The triumphant tutti, the funeral wailings with sweet flutes and violins, all
 these I fill myself with,
 I hear not the volumes of sound merely, I am moved by the exquisite meanings,
 I listen to the different voices winding in and out, striving, contending with
 fiery vehemence to excel each other in emotion;
 I do not think the performers know themselves—but now I think I begin to
 know them. ◦

Title: 60: Calamus. 21. 67: Final title. 71
 [PI]: THAT MUSIC ALWAYS ROUND ME.

1 60: † Music always ~ unbeginning—yet
 67-71[PI]: unbeginning—yet ~ hear;

2 60: hear, and 67-71[PI]: hear, and ~
 elated;

3 60-71[PI]: ascending, with ~ day-break

4 60-71[PI]: soprano, at intervals, sailing

5 60-71[PI]: base, shuddering

6 60: tutti—the ~ wailings, with ~ violins
 —All ~ with; 67-71[PI]: tutti—the ~
 wailings, with ~ violins—all ~ with;

7 60-71[PI]: merely—I

8 60-67: emotion,

9 60: themselves—But

To a Stranger.

Passing stranger! you do not know how longingly I look upon you,
 You must be he I was seeking, or she I was seeking, (it comes to me as of a
 dream,)
 I have somewhere surely lived a life of joy with you,
 All is recall'd as we flit by each other, fluid, affectionate, chaste, matured,
 5 You grew up with me, were a boy with me or a girl with me,
 I ate with you and slept with you, your body has become not yours only nor
 left my body mine only,
 You give me the pleasure of your eyes, face, flesh, as we pass, you take of my
 beard, breast, hands, in return,
 I am not to speak to you, I am to think of you when I sit alone or wake at
 night alone,
 I am to wait, I do not doubt I am to meet you again,
 10 I am to see to it that I do not lose you. o

Title: 60: Calamus. 22. 67: TO A STRANGER.

71: TO A STRANGER.

2 60: (It ~ me, as 67-71: me, as

4 60: recalled

5 60-71: me, or

6 60-71: you, and ~ you—your ~ only, nor

7 60-71: pass—you

8 60-71: you—I ~ alone, or

9 60-71: wait—I

This Moment Yearning and Thoughtful.

This moment yearning and thoughtful sitting alone,
 It seems to me there are other men in other lands yearning and thoughtful,
 It seems to me I can look over and behold them in Germany, Italy, France,
 Spain,
 Or far, far away, in China, or in Russia or Japan, talking other dialects,
 And it seems to me if I could know those men I should become attached to
 them as I do to men in my own lands, 5
 O I know we should be brethren and lovers,
 I know I should be happy with them. ◦

Title: 60: Calamus. 23. 67-71: This Moment, Yearning and Thoughtful.

1 60: moment as I sit alone, yearning ~ thoughtful, it seems to me there are other men in other lands, yearning and thoughtful; 67-71: thoughtful, sitting

2 60: [Not present—part of 1] 67-71: lands, yearning ~ thoughtful;

3 60: them, in ~ Spain—Or far, far away, in China, or in Russia or India—talking other dialects; 67: them, in Prussia, Italy, ~ Spain

—or far, far away, in China, or in Russia or India—talking other dialects; 71: them, in ~ Spain—or far, far away, in China, or in Russia or India—talking other dialects;

4 60-71: [Not present—part of 3]

5 60: men better, I ~ them, as 67-71: men, I ~ them, as ~ lands;

60: [The following line appears after 5:]
 [1] It seems to me they are as wise, beautiful, benevolent, as any in my own lands;

I Hear It was Charged against Me.

I hear it was charged against me that I sought to destroy institutions,
 But really I am neither for nor against institutions,
 (What indeed have I in common with them? or what with the destruction
 of them?)

Only I will establish in the Mannahatta and in every city of these States inland
 and seaboard,

And in the fields and woods, and above every keel little or large that dents
 5 the water,

Without edifices or rules or trustees or any argument,
 The institution of the dear love of comrades. o

The Prairie-Grass Dividing.

The prairie-grass dividing, its special odor breathing,
 I demand of it the spiritual corresponding,

Title: 60: Calamus. 24. 67-71: I Hear it was Charged Against Me. 4 60-71: Mannahatta, and ~ These States, inland 81: seaboard [Missing comma] 82:

1 60: it is ~ that I seek ~ institutions; 67- [Final reading]

71: institutions; 5 60-67: large, that 71: keel, little or large, that

2 67-71: institutions; 6 60-71: edifices, or rules, or trustees, or

3 60-71: them?—Or

Title: 60: Calamus. 25. ing—its

1 60: dividing—its own odor 67-71: divid-

Demand the most copious and close companionship of men,
 Demand the blades to rise of words, acts, beings,
 Those of the open atmosphere, coarse, sunlit, fresh, nutritious, 5
 Those that go their own gait, erect, stepping with freedom and command,
 leading not following,
 Those with a never-quell'd audacity, those with sweet and lusty flesh clear of
 taint,
 Those that look carelessly in the faces of Presidents and governors, as to say
 Who are you?
 Those of earth-born passion, simple, never constrain'd, never obedient,
 Those of inland America. o 10

We Two Boys Together Clinging.

We two boys together clinging,
 One the other never leaving,
 Up and down the roads going, North and South excursions making,
 Power enjoying, elbows stretching, fingers clutching,
 Arm'd and fearless, eating, drinking, sleeping, loving, 5
 No law less than ourselves owning, sailing, soldiering, thieving, threatening,
 Misers, menials, priests alarming, air breathing, water drinking, on the turf
 or the sea-beach dancing,
 Cities wrenching, ease scorning, statutes mocking, feebleness chasing,
 Fulfilling our foray. o

6 60-71: command—leading, not audacity—those ~ flesh, clear
 7 60: audacity—those ~ flesh, clear of taint, 8 60-71: Governors, as ~ say, *Who*
 choice and chary of its love-power, 67-71: 9 60: constrained, 71: never-constrain'd,

Title: 60: Calamus. 26.

3 60-71: going—North

4 60-71: enjoying—elbows stretching—fingers

5 60-67: Armed ~ fearless—eating, 71:
fearless—eating,

6 60-71: owning—sailing,

7 60-71: alarming—air

60: [The following line appears after 7:]

[1] With birds singing—With fishes
swimming—With trees branching and leaf-
ing,

O Living Always, Always Dying.

O living always, always dying!
 O the burials of me past and present,
 O me while I stride ahead, material, visible, imperious as ever;
 O me, what I was for years, now dead, (I lament not, I am content;)
 O to disengage myself from those corpses of me, which I turn and look at
 5 where I cast them,
 To pass on, (O living! always living!) and leave the corpses behind. ◦

When I Peruse the Conquer'd Fame.

When I peruse the conquer'd fame of heroes and the victories of mighty
 generals, I do not envy the generals,

<p><i>Title:</i> 60: Calamus. 27. 67: O Living Always—Always Dying! 71[PI]: O LIVING ALWAYS—ALWAYS DYING!</p> <p>1 60: O dying—always dying! 67-71[PI]: always—always 60: [The following line appears before 1:]</p>	<p>[1] O love!</p> <p>2 60-71[PI]: me, past ~ present!</p> <p>3 60-71[PI]: me, while ~ ever!</p> <p>4 60-71[PI]: not—I</p> <p>5 60-71[PI]: at, where ~ them!</p> <p>6 60-71[PI]: behind!</p>
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<p><i>Title:</i> 60: Calamus. 28.</p> <p>1 60: conquered ~ heroes, and 67-71:</p>	<p>heroes, and</p>
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Nor the President in his Presidency, nor the rich in his great house,
 But when I hear of the brotherhood of lovers, how it was with them,
 How together through life, through dangers, odium, unchanging, long and
 long,
 Through youth and through middle and old age, how unfaltering, how affec-
 tionate and faithful they were, 5
 Then I am pensive—I hastily walk away fill'd with the bitterest envy. o

A Glimpse.

A glimpse through an interstice caught,
 Of a crowd of workmen and drivers in a bar-room around the stove late of a
 winter night, and I unremark'd seated in a corner,
 Of a youth who loves me and whom I love, silently approaching and seating
 himself near, that he may hold me by the hand,
 A long while amid the noises of coming and going, of drinking and oath and
 smutty jest,
 There we two, content, happy in being together, speaking little, perhaps not
 a word. o 5

2 60-71: house;

3 60-67: I read

4 60-71: How through

5 60-71: youth, and

6 60: hastily put down the book, and walk
 away, filled 67: hastily put down the book,
 and walk away, fill'd 71: away, fill'd

Title: 60: Calamus. 29. 67-71: A GLIMPSE.

1 60: One fitting glimpse, caught through an
 interstice,/ 67-71: glimpse, through

2 60: bar-room, around ~ stove, late ~ night
 —And I unremarked, seated ~ corner; 67-

71: bar-room, around ~ stove, late ~ night—
 And I unremark'd, seated ~ corner;

3 60-71: me, and ~ approaching, and ~
 hand;

4 60-71: while, amid ~ going—of

A Promise to California.

A promise to California,
 Or inland to the great pastoral Plains, and on to Puget sound and Oregon;
 Sojourning east a while longer, soon I travel toward you, to remain, to teach
 robust American love,
 For I know very well that I and robust love belong among you, inland, and
 along the Western sea;
 5 For these States tend inland and toward the Western sea, and I will also. ◦

What Ship Puzzled at Sea.

What ship puzzled at sea, cons for the true reckoning?
 Or coming in, to avoid the bars and follow the channel a perfect pilot needs?
 Here, sailor! here, ship! take aboard the most perfect pilot,
 Whom, in a little boat, putting off and rowing, I hailing you offer. ◦

Title: 60: Calamus. 30. 67-71: A PROMISE
 TO CALIFORNIA.
 1 60: promise and gift to
 2 60-71: Also to ~ Pastoral Plains, and for

Oregon:
 3 60: travel to ~ love; 67-71: love;
 4 60: Sea, 67-71: Sea;
 5 60-71: These ~ inland, and ~ Sea—and

Title: 60: Calamus. 31. 67: HERE, SAILOR!
 71[PI]: HERE, SAILOR! [In 67, stanzas 1-2 of
 Calamus. 31. become the two separate poems
 HERE, SAILOR! (final title, What Ship Puzzled
 at Sea.) and WHAT PLACE IS BESIEGED? (II
 399)]

1 60-71[PI]: ship, puzzled
 2 60-71[PI]: Or, coming ~ bars, and ~
 channel, a
 3 60-71[PI]: sailor! Here,
 4 60-71[PI]: off, and ~ I, hailing you, offer.

What Place is Besieged?

What place is besieged, and vainly tries to raise the siege?
 Lo, I send to that place a commander, swift, brave, immortal,
 And with him horse and foot, and parks of artillery,
 And artillery-men, the deadliest that ever fired gun. ◦

What Think You I Take My Pen in Hand?

What think you I take my pen in hand to record?
 The battle-ship, perfect-model'd, majestic, that I saw pass the offing to-day
 under full sail?
 The splendors of the past day? or the splendor of the night that envelops me?
 Or the vaunted glory and growth of the great city spread around me?—no;
 But merely of two simple men I saw to-day on the pier in the midst of the
 crowd, parting the parting of dear friends, 5

Title: 60: Calamus. 31. 67: WHAT PLACE IS
 BESIEGED? 71[PI]: WHAT PLACE IS BESIEGED?
 [See What Ship Puzzled at Sea., II 398]

2 60: Lo! I 67-71[PI]: Lo! I ~ immortal;
 3 60-71[PI]: foot—and
 4 60-67: artillerymen,

Title: 60: Calamus. 32. 67: WHAT THINK
 YOU I TAKE MY PEN IN HAND? 71: WHAT
 THINK YOU I TAKE MY PEN IN HAND?
 3 60-71: Or

4 60-71: No;
 5 60: But I record of ~ to-day, on ~ pier, in
 67-71: But I record of ~ to-day, on ~ pier, in
 ~ friends;

The one to remain hung on the other's neck and passionately kiss'd him,
While the one to depart tightly prest the one to remain in his arms. ◦

No Labor-Saving Machine.

No labor-saving machine,
Nor discovery have I made,
Nor will I be able to leave behind me any wealthy bequest to found a hospital
or library,
Nor reminiscence of any deed of courage for America,
5 Nor literary success nor intellect, nor book for the book-shelf,
But a few carols vibrating through the air I leave,
For comrades and lovers. ◦

I Dream'd in a Dream.

I dream'd in a dream I saw a city invincible to the attacks of the whole of the
rest of the earth,

6 60: neck, and ~ kissed 67-71: neck, and
7 60-71: depart, tightly

Title: 60: Calamus. 33. 67-71: NO LABOR-
SAVING MACHINE.

2 67-71: made;
4 60-71: courage, for

5 60-71: success, nor intellect—nor ~ book-
shelf;

6 60: Only these carols, vibrating ~ air, I
67-71: Only a ~ carols, vibrating ~ air, I

Title: 60: Calamus. 34. 67: I DREAMED IN A
DREAM. 71: I DREAM'D IN A DREAM.

1 60: dreamed ~ dream, I 67-71: dream,
I ~ earth;

I dream'd that was the new city of Friends,
 Nothing was greater there than the quality of robust love, it led the rest,
 It was seen every hour in the actions of the men of that city,
 And in all their looks and words. ◦ 5

To the East and to the West.

To the East and to the West,
 To the man of the Seaside State and of Pennsylvania,
 To the Kanadian of the north, to the Southerner I love,
 These with perfect trust to depict you as myself, the germs are in all men,
 I believe the main purport of these States is to found a superb friendship,
 exaltè, previously unknown, 5
 Because I perceive it waits, and has been always waiting, latent in all men. ◦

Earth, My Likeness.

Earth, my likeness,
 Though you look so impassive, ample and spheric there,

2 60: dreamed ~ City 67-71: City of Friends;

3 60: love—it 67-71: love—it ~ rest;

Title: 60: Calamus. 35. 67: TO THE EAST AND TO THE WEST. 71: TO THE EAST AND TO THE WEST.

1 60: To you of New England, 67-71: West;
 2 60-71: State, and

3 60: north—to 67-71: North—to ~ love;

4 60-71: These, with ~ trust, to ~ myself—the ~ men;

5 60-71: These ~ exalté,

Title: 60: Calamus. 36. 67-71: EARTH! MY LIKENESS!

1 60-71: Earth! my likeness!

I now suspect that is not all;
 I now suspect there is something fierce in you eligible to burst forth,
 5 For an athlete is enamour'd of me, and I of him,
 But toward him there is something fierce and terrible in me eligible to
 burst forth,
 I dare not tell it in words, not even in these songs. ◦

A Leaf for Hand in Hand.

A leaf for hand in hand;
 You natural persons old and young!
 You on the Mississippi and on all the branches and bayous of the Mississippi!
 You friendly boatmen and mechanics! you roughs!
 5 You twain! and all processions moving along the streets!
 I wish to infuse myself among you till I see it common for you to walk
 hand in hand. ◦

4 60-71: you, eligible ~ forth;
 5 60: enamoured of me—and 67: me—and 6 60-71: me, eligible
 71: me—and ~ him; 7 60-71: words—not

Title: 60: Calamus. 37. 67: A LEAF FOR you on the Western!
 HAND IN HAND. 71: A LEAF FOR HAND IN 3 60-71: Mississippi, and
 HAND. 4 60-71: mechanics! You
 1 60-71: hand! 5 60-71: And
 2 60: young! You on the Eastern Sea, and 6 67-71: hand!

Fast Anchor'd Eternal O Love!

Fast-anchor'd eternal O love! O woman I love!
 O bride! O wife! more resistless than I can tell, the thought of you!
 Then separate, as disembodied or another born,
 Ethereal, the last athletic reality, my consolation,
 I ascend, I float in the regions of your love O man, 5
 O sharer of my roving life. ◦

Sometimes with One I Love.

Sometimes with one I love I fill myself with rage for fear I effuse
 unreturn'd love,

- Title:* 60: Calamus. 38. 67: FAST ANCHOR'D, ETERNAL, O LOVE. 71: FAST ANCHOR'D, ETERNAL, O LOVE!
- 1 60: Primeval my love for the woman I love, 67: Fast-anchor'd, eternal, O ~ love; 71: Fast-anchor'd, eternal, O
- 2 60: resistless, more enduring than
 3 60: disembodied, the purest born, 67: disembodied, or 71: —Then ~ disembodied, or
 4 60: The ethereal, 67-71: consolation;
 5 60-71: ascend—I ~ love, O
- Title:* 60: Calamus. 39. 67: SOMETIMES WITH ONE I LOVE.
- 1 60: love, I ~ rage, for ~ unreturned love; 67-71: love, I ~ rage, for ~ love;

But now I think there is no unreturn'd love, the pay is certain one way or
 another,
 (I loved a certain person ardently and my love was not return'd,
 Yet out of that I have written these songs.) ◦

That Shadow My Likeness.

That shadow my likeness that goes to and fro seeking a livelihood, chattering,
 chaffering,
 How often I find myself standing and looking at it where it flits,
 How often I question and doubt whether that is really me;
 But among my lovers and caroling these songs,
 5 O I never doubt whether that is really me. ◦

2 60: unreturned love—the ~ certain, one
 67-71: love—the ~ certain, one ~ another;
 3 60: [Not present] 67-71: ardently, and ~
 return'd;

60: [The following line replaces 3-4:]

[1] Doubtless I could not have perceived the
 universe, or written one of my poems, if I
 had not freely given myself to comrades, to
 love.

4 60: [Not present] 67-71: that, I

Title: 60: Calamus. 40. 67: THAT SHADOW,
 MY LIKENESS. 71: That Shadow, my Likeness.
 1 60: shadow, my likeness, that ~ fro, seek-
 ing 67-71: shadow, my likeness, that ~ fro,

seeking ~ chaffering;

2 67-71: flits;

4 60-67: But in these, and among my lovers,
 and carolling my songs, 71: —But in these,
 and among my lovers, and caroling my songs,

Among the Multitude.

Among the men and women the multitude,
 I perceive one picking me out by secret and divine signs,
 Acknowledging none else, not parent, wife, husband, brother, child, any
 nearer than I am,
 Some are baffled, but that one is not—that one knows me. ◦

Ah lover and perfect equal, 5
 I meant that you should discover me so by faint indirections,
 And I when I meet you mean to discover you by the like in you. ◦

Title: 60: Calamus. 41. 67: AMONG THE
 MULTITUDE. 71: AMONG THE MULTITUDE.
 60-71: [Stanza numbers]
 1 60: women, the multitude, I perceive one
 picking me out by secret and divine signs, 67-
 71: women, the
 2 60: [Not present—part of 1]

3 60-71: else—not ~ am;
 4 60-71: baffled—But
 5 60: † Lover ~ equal! 67-71: Ah, lover ~
 equal!
 6 60: so, by my faint 67-71: so, by my faint
 indirections;
 7 60-71: I, when ~ you, mean

To a Western Boy.

Many things to absorb I teach to help you become élève of mine;
 Yet if blood like mine circle not in your veins,
 If you be not silently selected by lovers and do not silently select lovers,
 Of what use is it that you seek to become élève of mine? ◦

O You whom I Often and Silently Come.

O you whom I often and silently come where you are that I may be with you,
 As I walk by your side or sit near, or remain in the same room with you,
 Little you know the subtle electric fire that for your sake is playing
 within me. ◦

Title: 60: Calamus. 42. 67: TO A WESTERN BOY. 71: TO A WESTERN BOY.

1 60: To the young man, many ~ absorb, to engraft, to develop, I teach, to help him become élève of mine, 67-71: To you many ~ absorb, I teach, to ~ mine:

67-71: [The following line appears before

1:]

[1] O boy of the West!

2 60: But if ~ in his veins, 67-71: veins;

3 60: If he be ~ lovers, and 67-71: lovers, and

4 60: that he seek ~ élève

Title: 60: Calamus. 43. 67-71: O you whom I Often and Silently Come.

1 60: are, that 67-71: are, that ~ you;

2 60-71: side, or

Here the Frailest Leaves of Me.

Here the frailest leaves of me and yet my strongest lasting,
 Here I shade and hide my thoughts, I myself do not expose them,
 And yet they expose me more than all my other poems. ◦

Full of Life Now.

Full of life now, compact, visible,
 I, forty years old the eighty-third year of the States,
 To one a century hence or any number of centuries hence,
 To you yet unborn these, seeking you. ◦

When you read these I that was visible am become invisible,

5

Title: 60: Calamus. 44. 67-71: HERE THE
 FRAILEST LEAVES OF ME.

1 60: me, and ~ strongest-/lasting, 67-71:
 me, and ~ strongest-/lasting:

60: [The following line appears before 1:]

[1] Here my last words, and the most baf-
 fling,

2 60-67: shade down ~ thoughts—I do not
 71: thoughts—I

Title: 60: Calamus. 45. 67: FULL OF LIFE,
 Now. 71: Full of Life, Now.

60-71: [Stanza numbers]

1 60: life, sweet-blooded, compact, 67-71:
 life, now,

2 60-71: Eighty-third Year of The

3 60-71: hence, or

4 60, 71: you, yet unborn, these, 67: you,
 yet unborn, these seeking

5 60-71: these, I, that ~ visible, am ~ invis-
 ble;

Now it is you, compact, visible, realizing my poems, seeking me,
 Fancying how happy you were if I could be with you and become your
 comrade;
 Be it as if I were with you. (Be not too certain but I am now with you.) ◦

O Magnet-South.

O magnet-South! O glistening perfumed South! my South!
 O quick mettle, rich blood, impulse and love! good and evil! O all dear to me!
 O dear to me my birth-things—all moving things and the trees where I was
 born—the grains, plants, rivers,
 Dear to me my own slow sluggish rivers where they flow, distant, over flats
 of silvery sands or through swamps,
 Dear to me the Roanoke, the Savannah, the Altamahaw, the Pedee, the
 5 Tombigbee, the Santee, the Coosa and the Sabine,
 O pensive, far away wandering, I return with my soul to haunt their
 banks again,
 Again in Florida I float on transparent lakes, I float on the Okeechobee, I cross
 the hummock-land or through pleasant openings or dense forests,
 I see the parrots in the woods, I see the papaw-tree and the blossoming titi;
 Again, sailing in my coaster on deck, I coast off Georgia, I coast up the
 Carolinas,

6 67-71: me;

7 60: were, if ~ you, and ~ your lover; 67: were, if ~ you, and
 were, if ~ you, and ~ your loving 71: 8 60-67: [No parentheses]

Title: 60: LONGINGS FOR HOME. 67-71: LONG-
 INGS FOR HOME.

1 60-71: glistening, perfumed ~ My

2 60-71: impulse, and ~ Good

3 60-71: All ~ things, and ~ rivers;

4 60: sands, or 67-71: sands, or ~ swamps;

5 60-71: Coosa, and ~ Sabine;

6 60: Soul 67-71: Soul ~ again;

7 60: lakes—I ~ Okeechobee—I ~ hum-
 mock land, or ~ openings, or 67-71: lakes
 —I ~ Okeechobee—I ~ hummock land, or ~
 openings, or ~ forests;

8 60-71: woods—I ~ papaw tree

9 60-71: coaster, on ~ Georgia—I

I see where the live-oak is growing, I see where the yellow-pine, the scented
 bay-tree, the lemon and orange, the cypress, the graceful palmetto. 10
 I pass rude sea-headlands and enter Pamlico sound through an inlet, and dart
 my vision inland;
 O the cotton plant! the growing fields of rice, sugar, hemp!
 The cactus guarded with thorns, the laurel-tree with large white flowers,
 The range afar, the richness and barrenness, the old woods charged with
 mistletoe and trailing moss,
 The piney odor and the gloom, the awful natural stillness, (here in these
 dense swamps the freebooter carries his gun, and the fugitive has his
 conceal'd hut;) 15
 O the strange fascination of these half-known half-impassable swamps, infested
 by reptiles, resounding with the bellow of the alligator, the sad noises
 of the night-owl and the wild-cat, and the whirr of the rattlesnake,
 The mocking-bird, the American mimic, singing all the forenoon, singing
 through the moon-lit night,
 The humming-bird, the wild turkey, the raccoon, the opossum;
 A Kentucky corn-field, the tall, graceful, long-leav'd corn, slender, flapping,
 bright green, with tassels, with beautiful ears each well-sheath'd in
 its husk;
 O my heart! O tender and fierce pangs, I can stand them not, I will depart; 20
 O to be a Virginian where I grew up! O to be a Carolinian!
 O longings irrepresible! O I will go back to old Tennessee and never wander
 more. o

10 60-71: growing—I ~ palmetto;
 11 60: Sound ~ inland, 67-71: Sound
 13 60: cactus, guarded ~ thorns—the laurel-
 tree, with 67-71: cactus, guarded ~ thorns—
 the laurel-tree, with ~ flowers;
 14 60-71: afar—the ~ barrenness—the
 15 60: gloom—the ~ (Here ~ free-/booter
 ~ fugitive slave ~ concealed 67: gloom—the
 ~ (Here ~ free-/booter ~ fugitive slave
 71: gloom—the ~ (Here ~ fugitive slave
 16 60-71: half-known, half-/impassible ~
 rattlesnake;
 17 60-71: forenoon—singing

18 60-67: wild-turkey,
 19 60: A Tennessee corn-field—the ~ long-
 leaved corn—slender, ~ tassels—with ~ ears,
 each well-sheathed ~ husk, 67-71: A Ten-
 nessee corn-field—the ~ corn—slender, ~
 tassels—with ~ ears, each
 60-71: [The following line appears after
 19:]
 [1] An Arkansas prairie—a sleeping lake,
 or still bayou;
 20 60-71: pangs—I ~ not—I
 21 60-71: Virginian, where
 22 60-71: Tennessee, and ~ more!

To Him That was Crucified.

My spirit to yours dear brother,
 Do not mind because many sounding your name do not understand you,
 I do not sound your name, but I understand you,
 I specify you with joy O my comrade to salute you, and to salute those who
 are with you, before and since, and those to come also,
 5 That we all labor together transmitting the same charge and succession,
 We few equals indifferent of lands, indifferent of times,
 We, enclosers of all continents, all castes, allowers of all theologies,
 Compassionaters, perceivers, rapport of men,
 We walk silent among disputes and assertions, but reject not the disputers
 nor any thing that is asserted,
 We hear the bawling and din, we are reach'd at by divisions, jealousies,
 10 recriminations on every side,
 They close peremptorily upon us to surround us, my comrade,
 Yet we walk unheld, free, the whole earth over, journeying up and down till
 we make our ineffaceable mark upon time and the diverse eras,
 Till we saturate time and eras, that the men and women of races, ages to come,
 may prove brethren and lovers as we are. o

Title: 60: To Him that was Crucified. 67-71: TO HIM THAT WAS CRUCIFIED.

1	60: yours, dear	67-71: yours, dear brother;	7	60-71: castes—allowers
2	60: many, sounding ~ name, do	67-71: many, sounding ~ name, do ~ you;	9	60: disputers, nor 67-71: disputers, nor ~ asserted;
3	60-71: you, (there are others also;)		10	60: din—we ~ reached 67-71: din—we
4	60-71: joy, O ~ comrade, to ~ since—and		11	60-71: us, to
5	60-71: together, transmitting ~ succession;		12	60-71: down, till
6	60: few, equals, indifferent 67-71: few,		13	60-71: lovers, as

To One Shortly to Die.

From all the rest I single out you, having a message for you,
 You are to die—let others tell you what they please, I cannot prevaricate,
 I am exact and merciless, but I love you—there is no escape for you. ◦

Softly I lay my right hand upon you, you just feel it,
 I do not argue, I bend my head close and half envelop it, 5
 I sit quietly by, I remain faithful,
 I am more than nurse, more than parent or neighbor,
 I absolve you from all except yourself spiritual bodily, that is eternal, you
 yourself will surely escape,
 The corpse you will leave will be but excrementitious. ◦

The sun bursts through in unlooked-for directions, 10
 Strong thoughts fill you and confidence, you smile,
 You forget you are sick, as I forget you are sick,
 You do not see the medicines, you do not mind the weeping friends, I am
 with you,
 I exclude others from you, there is nothing to be commiserated,
 I do not commiserate, I congratulate you. ◦ 15

Title: 60: To One shortly To Die. 67: To
 ONE SHORTLY TO DIE. 71[PI]: TO ONE
 SHORTLY TO DIE.

60-67: [Stanza numbers] 71[PI]: [Stanza
 and section numbers]

1 60-71[PI]: you: 71[PI]: [Section 1 be-
 gins with 1]

2 60-71[PI]: Let

3 60-71[PI]: There

4 60-71[PI]: you—you

5 60-67: argue—I ~ close, and ~ half-/
 envelop 71[PI]: argue—I ~ close, and

6 60-71[PI]: by—I

8 60-67: yourself, spiritual, bodily—that is
 eternal,/ 71[PI]: yourself, spiritual, bodily—
 that is eternal—you

9 60-67: (The ~ excrementitious.)

10 60-71[PI]: directions! 71[PI]: [Section
 2 begins with 10]

11 60-71[PI]: you, and confidence—you
 smile!

13 60-71[PI]: medicines—you ~ friends—I

14 60-71[PI]: you—there

15 60-71[PI]: commiserate—I

To a Common Prostitute.

Be composed—be at ease with me—I am Walt Whitman, liberal and lusty
as Nature,

Not till the sun excludes you do I exclude you,

Not till the waters refuse to glisten for you and the leaves to rustle for you,
do my words refuse to glisten and rustle for you. ◦

My girl I appoint with you an appointment, and I charge you that you make
preparation to be worthy to meet me,

5 And I charge you that you be patient and perfect till I come. ◦

Till then I salute you with a significant look that you do not forget me. ◦

Title: 60-71: Final title. 67: TO A COMMON
PROSTITUTE.

60-71: [Stanza numbers]

1 67-71: Nature;

2 60: you, do 67-71: you, do ~ you;

3 60-71: you, and

4 60-71: girl, I ~ appointment—and

6 60-71: then, I ~ look, that

To Rich Givers.

What you give me I cheerfully accept,
 A little sustenance, a hut and garden, a little money, as I rendezvous with
 my poems,
 A traveler's lodging and breakfast as I journey through the States,—why
 should I be ashamed to own such gifts? why to advertise for them?
 For I myself am not one who bestows nothing upon man and woman,
 For I bestow upon any man or woman the entrance to all the gifts of the
 universe. o

5

To a Pupil.

Is reform needed? is it through you?
 The greater the reform needed, the greater the Personality you need to
 accomplish it. o

Title: 60: Final title. 67-71: TO RICH GIVERS. 3 60: traveller's ~ The States—Why ~ Why
 67-71: The States—Why ~ Why
 1 60-71: me, I 4 67-71: woman;
 2 60: money—these as 67: money—these, as 5 60: For I know that what I ~ woman is no
 71: money—these, as ~ poems; less than the entrance

Title: 60: Final title. 67: TO A PUPIL. 1 60-71[PI]: needed? Is
 71[PI]: TO A PUPIL. 60-71[PI]: [Stanza 2 60-67: PERSONALITY 71[PI]: personality
 numbers]

You! do you not see how it would serve to have eyes, blood, complexion, clean
and sweet?

Do you not see how it would serve to have such a body and soul that when
you enter the crowd an atmosphere of desire and command enters with
you, and every one is impress'd with your Personality? °

- 5 O the magnet! the flesh over and over!
Go, dear friend, if need be give up all else, and commence to-day to inure
yourself to pluck, reality, self-esteem, definiteness, elevatedness,
Rest not till you rivet and publish yourself of your own Personality. °

To [T]he States,

To Identify the 16th, 17th, or 18th Presidentiad.

Why reclining, interrogating? why myself and all drowsing?
What deepening twilight—scum floating atop of the waters,
Who are they as bats and night-dogs askant in the capitol?
What a filthy Presidentiad! (O South, your torrid suns! O North, your arctic
freezings!)
Are those really Congressmen? are those the great Judges? is that the
5 President?

4 60: Soul, that ~ crowd, an ~ impressed ~
personality? 67: Body ~ Soul, that ~ crowd,
an ~ personality? 71[PI]: Body ~ Soul,
that ~ crowd, an ~ personality?

6 60: Go, mon cher! if ~ be, give 67-71
[PI]: friend! if ~ be, give ~ elevatedness;
7 60-71[PI]: not, till ~ personality.

Title: 60: To The States,/To Identify the
16th, 17th, or 18th Presidentiad. 67-71: TO
THE STATES,/To Identify the 16th, 17th, or
18th Presidentiad. [In the copy-text Contents,
only the sub-title is given; the capital 'T' of
'The' in the title is editorially supplied. See
An Editorial Note on the Variorum, i xxviii]

1 60-71: interrogating? Why
2 60-67: twilight! Scum ~ waters! 71:
twilight! scum ~ waters!
3 60-71: they, as ~ night-dogs, askant ~
Capitol?
4 60-71: south, ~ north,
5 60-67: Congressmen? Are ~ Is

Then I will sleep awhile yet, for I see that these States sleep, for reasons;
 (With gathering murk, with muttering thunder and lambent shoots we all
 duly awake,
 South, North, East, West, inland and seaboard, we will surely awake.) o

To a Certain Cantatrice.

Here, take this gift,
 I was reserving it for some hero, speaker, or general,
 One who should serve the good old cause, the great idea, the progress and
 freedom of the race,
 Some brave confronter of despots, some daring rebel;
 But I see that what I was reserving belongs to you just as much as to any. o 5

6 60-67: a while yet—for ~ These 71: yet—for ~ These 7 60-71: murk—with ~ shoots, we
 8 60-71: north, east, west,

Title: 60: To a Cantatrice. 67: TO A CERTAIN CANTATRICE. 3 60: cause, the progress ~ race, the cause of my Soul; 67-71: Idea, ~ race;
 1 60-71: gift! 4 60-67: [Not present] 71: despots—some
 2 60-67: hero, orator, or 71: General, 5 71: —But ~ reserving, belongs

To The States.

To the States or any one of them, or any city of the States, *Resist much,
obey little,*
Once unquestioning obedience, once fully enslaved,
Once fully enslaved, no nation, state, city of this earth, ever afterward resumes
its liberty. ◦

To a President.

All you are doing and saying is to America dangled mirages,
You have not learn'd of Nature—of the politics of Nature you have not learn'd
the great amplitude, rectitude, impartiality,
You have not seen that only such as they are for these States,
And that what is less than they must sooner or later lift off from these States. ◦

Title: 60, 71: Walt Whitman's Caution. 67: The States, or ~ The ~ *little*;
WALT WHITMAN'S CAUTION. 2 67-71: enslaved;
1 60: To The States, or ~ The 67-71: To 3 60-71: city, of Copy-text: after-/ward

Title: 60, 71: Final title. 67: TO A PRESIDENT. ~ learned 67-71: Nature, you ~ impartiality;
1 67-71: mirages; 3 60-71: These
2 60: learned of Nature—of ~ Nature, you 4 60-71: they, must ~ These

To Foreign Lands.

I heard that you ask'd for something to prove this puzzle the New World,
 And to define America, her athletic Democracy,
 Therefore I send you my poems that you behold in them what you wanted. ◦

To Old Age.

I see in you the estuary that enlarges and spreads itself grandly as it pours in
 the great sea. ◦

Title: 60: To other Lands. 67: To OTHER
 LANDS. 71: TO FOREIGN LANDS.

1 60-67: I hear you have been asking for ~
 to represent the new race, our self-poised De-
 mocracy, 71: puzzle, the

2 60-67: [Not present—part of 1] 71:
 Democracy;

3 60-71: poems, that

Title: 60: Final title. 67: To OLD AGE.
 71[PI]: TO OLD AGE.

1 67-71[PI]: Sea.

To You.

Stranger, if you passing meet me and desire to speak to me, why should you
not speak to me?
And why should I not speak to you? o

TO YOU.

Let us twain walk aside from the rest;
Now we are together privately, do you discard ceremony;
Come! vouchsafe to me what has yet been vouchsafed to none—Tell me the
whole story,
Let us talk of death—unbosom all freely,
Tell me what you would not tell your brother, wife, husband, or physician. o

- Title:* 60: Final title. 67: To You. 71: to you. 1 60-71: Stranger! if you, passing, meet me, and
- Title:* 60: To You. 67: To You. 72[PI]: 114] 76[PI] [TR 76—*Author's Edition*]:
to you. [Text present—title listed on Contents page]
71[PI]: [Text not present] 72[PI]-76[PI] [Excluded after 72[PI]-76[PI]]
[TR 76—*Centennial Ed'n*]: [Text present, 2 60: ceremony,
though title missing from Contents page, p. 4 60-67: [Not present]

Mannahatta.

I was asking for something specific and perfect for my city,
Whereupon lo! upsprang the aboriginal name. ◦

Now I see what there is in a name, a word, liquid, sane, unruly, musical,
self-sufficient,

I see that the word of my city is that word from of old,

Because I see that word nested in nests of water-bays, superb, 5

Rich, hemm'd thick all around with sailships and steamships, an island
sixteen miles long, solid-founded,

Numberless crowded streets, high growths of iron, slender, strong, light,
splendidly uprising toward clear skies,

Tides swift and ample, well-loved by me, toward sundown,

The flowing sea-currents, the little islands, larger adjoining islands, the heights,
the villas,

The countless masts, the white shore-steamers, the lighters, the ferry-boats,
the black sea-steamers well-model'd, 10

The down-town streets, the jobbers' houses of business, the houses of business
of the ship-merchants and money-brokers, the river-streets,

Title: 60-67: MANNAHATTA. 71: MANNA-
HATTA.

67-71: [Stanza numbers]

1 60: city, and behold! here is the aboriginal
name!

2 60: [Not present—part of 1] 67-71:
Whereupon, lo! ~ name!

3 60: [No space between 3 and previous line]
67-71: self-sufficient;

4 60: city, is ~ word up there, 67-71: word
up there,

5 60-71: superb, with tall and wonderful
spires,

6 60: hemmed ~ steamships—an ~ solid-/
founded, 67-71: steamships—an ~ solid-/
founded,

7 60-71: streets—high ~ skies;

8 60-71: sun-/down,

9 60: islands, the larger

10 60: sea-steamers, well-model'd; 67: sea-
steamers, well model'd; 71: sea-steamers,
well-/model'd;

11 60: business—the ~ ship-merchants, and
money-brokers—the 67-71: business—the ~
ship-merchants, and money-brokers—the river-
streets;

Immigrants arriving, fifteen or twenty thousand in a week,
 The carts hauling goods, the manly race of drivers of horses, the brown-faced
 sailors,
 The summer air, the bright sun shining, and the sailing clouds aloft,
 The winter snows, the sleigh-bells, the broken ice in the river, passing along
 15 up or down with the flood-tide or ebb-tide,
 The mechanics of the city, the masters, well-form'd, beautiful-faced, looking
 you straight in the eyes,
 Trottoirs throng'd, vehicles, Broadway, the women, the shops and shows,
 A million people—manners free and superb—open voices—hospitality—the
 most courageous and friendly young men,
 City of hurried and sparkling waters! city of spires and masts!
 20 City nested in bays! my city! o

12 67-71: week;

13 60: goods—the ~ horses—the 67-71: goods—the ~ horses—the ~ sailors;

14 60: summer-air, 67: summer-air, ~ aloft; 71: aloft;

15 60-71: sleigh-bells—the ~ along, up or down, with ~ ebb-tide;

16 60: well-formed, ~ eyes; 67-71: eyes; Copy-text: beautiful-/faced,

17 60: thronged—vehicles—Broadway—the women—the 67-71: throng'd—vehicles—Broadway—the women—the

60-71: [The following line appears after 17:]

[1] The parades, processions, bugles playing, flags flying, drums beating;

18 60-71: men;

60-71: [The following line appears after 18:]

[1] The free city! no slaves! no owners of slaves!

19 60: The beautiful city! the city of ~ waters! the city 67-71: The beautiful city, the city of ~ waters! the city

20 60-71: † The city

60-71: [The following lines appear after 20:]

[1] The city of such women, I am mad to be with them! I will return after death to be with them!

[2] The city of such young men, I swear I cannot live happy, without I often go talk, walk, eat, drink, sleep, with them!

France,

The 18th Year of these States.

A great year and place,
 A harsh discordant natal scream out-sounding, to touch the mother's heart
 closer than any yet. ◦

I walk'd the shores of my Eastern sea,
 Heard over the waves the little voice,
 Saw the divine infant where she woke mournfully wailing, amid the roar of
 cannon, curses, shouts, crash of falling buildings, 5
 Was not so sick from the blood in the gutters running, nor from the single
 corpses, nor those in heaps, nor those borne away in the tumbrils,
 Was not so desperate at the battues of death—was not so shock'd at the
 repeated fusillades of the guns. ◦

Pale, silent, stern, what could I say to that long-accrued retribution?
 Could I wish humanity different?
 Could I wish the people made of wood and stone? 10
 Or that there be no justice in destiny or time? ◦

O Liberty! O mate for me!

Title: 60-71: FRANCE, /The 18th Year of These States.

60-67: [Stanza numbers] 71: [Stanza and section numbers]

1 67-71: place; 71: [Section 1 begins with 1]

2 60: harsh, discordant, natal scream rising, to touch 67-71: harsh, discordant, natal

3 60: walked ~ Sea, 67-71: Sea,

5 60: infant, where ~ woke, mournfully 67-71: infant, where ~ woke, mournfully ~ buildings;

6 60: running—nor 67-71: running—nor ~ tumbrils;

7 60: shocked

8 60-71: long-/accrued 71: [Section 2 begins with 8]

12 71: [Section 3 begins with 12]

- Here too the blaze, the grape-shot and the axe, in reserve, to fetch them out
in case of need,
Here too, though long repress, can never be destroy'd,
15 Here too could rise at last murdering and ecstatic,
Here too demanding full arrears of vengeance. ◦
- Hence I sign this salute over the sea,
And I do not deny that terrible red birth and baptism,
But remember the little voice that I heard wailing, and wait with perfect trust,
no matter how long,
And from to-day sad and cogent I maintain the bequeath'd cause, as for
20 all lands,
And I send these words to Paris with my love,
And I guess some chansonniers there will understand them,
For I guess there is latent music yet in France, floods of it,
O I hear already the bustle of instruments, they will soon be drowning all
that would interrupt them,
25 O I think the east wind brings a triumphal and free march,
It reaches hither, it swells me to joyful madness,
I will run transpose it in words, to justify it,
I will yet sing a song for you ma femme. ◦

- 13 60: too keeps the blaze, the bullet and the
axe, 67: blaze, the bullet and the axe, ~
need; 71: need;
14 60: deprest, still is not destroyed, 67-71:
destroy'd;
15 60: last, murdering ~ extatic, 67-71:
last, murdering ~ extatic;
16 60: too would demand
17 71: [Section 4 begins with 17]
19 60: wailing—and 67-71: wailing—and ~
- long;
20 60-71: to-day, sad ~ cogent, I
21 60: Paris, with
23 60: France—floods 67-71: France—floods
~ it;
24 60: instruments—they 67-71: instruments
—they ~ them;
26 60-71: hither—it
28 60-67: you, ma 71: YOU, MA FEMME.

Thoughts. I.

Of the visages of things—And of piercing through to the accepted hells
beneath;
Of ugliness—To me there is just as much in it as there is in beauty—And
now the ugliness of human beings is acceptable to me;
Of detected persons—To me, detected persons are not, in any respect, worse
than undetected persons—and are not in any respect worse than I am
myself;
Of criminals—To me, any judge, or any juror, is equally criminal—and any
reputable person is also—and the President is also. ◦

Title: 60-67: Thoughts. I. [Poem in these
editions only]

Thought.

Of persons arrived at high positions, ceremonies, wealth, scholarships, and
 the like;
 (To me all that those persons have arrived at sinks away from them, except
 as it results to their bodies and souls,
 So that often to me they appear gaunt and naked,
 And often to me each one mocks the others, and mocks himself or herself,
 And of each one the core of life, namely happiness, is full of the rotten
 5 excrement of maggots,
 And often to me those men and women pass unwittingly the true realities of
 life, and go toward false realities,
 And often to me they are alive after what custom has served them, but nothing
 more,
 And often to me they are sad, hasty, unwaked sonnambules walking the
 dusk.) o

Title: 60-67: Thoughts. 3. 71: Thought.

81: Thought.

1 60: like,

2 60: me, all ~ at, sinks ~ Souls, [No parenthesis] 67-71: me, all ~ at, sinks ~ Bodies ~ Souls, [No parenthesis]

3 67-71: naked;

4 60-71: often, to me, each

5 60-71: one, the

6 60-71: often, to me, those

7 60-71: often, to me, they

8 60-71: often, to me, they ~ sonnambules, walking [No parenthesis]

Thoughts. 4.

Of ownership—As if one fit to own things could not at pleasure enter upon all,
 and incorporate them into himself or herself;
 Of Equality—As if it harm'd me, giving others the same chances and rights as
 myself—As if it were not indispensable to my own rights that others
 possess the same;
 Of Justice—As if Justice could be anything but the same ample law, expounded
 by natural judges and saviors,
 As if it might be this thing or that thing, according to decisions. °

Thoughts.

1

Of ownership—As if one fit to own things could not at pleasure enter upon all,
 and incorporate them into himself or herself. °

2

Of waters, forests, hills;

Title: 60–67: Thoughts. 4.

60–67: [Poem in these editions only]

2 60: harmed [See Thought. (second poem),

11 427]

3 60: any thing ~ saviors, [See Thought.
 (first poem—line 1), 11 427]

Title: 60: Thoughts. 4. 67: Thoughts. 2.

71: Thoughts. [Section numbers] [Poem, in
 this version, in 71 only: line 1 from 60–67,

Thoughts. 4. (See immediately above); lines
 2–7, from 60–67, Thoughts. 2.]

Of the earth at large, whispering through medium of me;
 Of vista—Suppose some sight in arriere, through the formative chaos,
 presuming the growth, fulness, life, now attain'd on the journey;
 5 (But I see the road continued, and the journey ever continued;)
 —Of what was once lacking on earth, and in due time has become supplied—
 And of what will yet be supplied,
 Because all I see and know, I believe to have purport in what will yet be
 supplied. ◦

Thoughts.

Of ownership—as if one fit to own things could not at pleasure enter upon all,
 and incorporate them into himself or herself;
 Of vista—suppose some sight in arriere through the formative chaos, presuming
 the growth, fulness, life, now attain'd on the journey,
 (But I see the road continued, and the journey ever continued;)
 Of what was once lacking on earth, and in due time has become supplied—
 and of what will yet be supplied,
 Because all I see and know I believe to have its main purport in what will yet
 5 be supplied. ◦

4 60: attained

6 60-67: † Of ~ on the earth,

Title: 60-71: For lines 1-5 see Thoughts. 4.
 and Thoughts., II 425-426. 81: Thoughts.
 [Poem in this version only]

1 60-67: ownership—As 71: ownership—As
 ~ herself. [Comprises Section 1]

2 60: vista—Suppose ~ arriere, ~ attained

~ journey; 67-71: vista—Suppose ~ arriere,
 ~ journey; [81 excludes lines 2-3, Section 2
 of 71—see Thoughts. II 425-426]

4 60: on the earth, ~ supplied—And 67:
 supplied—And 71: —Of ~ supplied—And

5 60-71: know, I ~ have purport

Thought.

Of Justice—as if Justice could be any thing but the same ample law, expounded
by natural judges and saviors,
As if it might be this thing or that thing, according to decisions. ◦

Thought.

Of Equality—as if it harm'd me, giving others the same chances and rights as
myself—as if it were not indispensable to my own rights that others
possess the same. ◦

Title: 60-67: Lines 3-4, Thoughts. 4. [See
Thoughts. 4., II 425] 71[PI]-81: Thought.

Title: 60-67: Line 2, Thoughts. 4. [See
Thoughts. 4., II 425] 71[PI]-81: Thought.

Thought.

As I sit with others at a great feast, suddenly while the music is playing,
 To my mind, (whence it comes I know not,) spectral in mist of a wreck at sea,
 Of certain ships, how they sail from port with flying streamers and wafted
 kisses, and that is the last of them,
 Of the solemn and murky mystery about the fate of the President,
 Of the flower of the marine science of fifty generations founder'd off the
 5 Northeast coast and going down—of the steamship Arctic going down,
 Of the veil'd tableau—women gather'd together on deck, pale, heroic, waiting
 the moment that draws so close—O the moment!
 A huge sob—a few bubbles—the white foam spirting up—and then the women
 gone,
 Sinking there while the passionless wet flows on—and I now pondering, Are
 those women indeed gone?
 Are souls drown'd and destroy'd so?
 10 Is only matter triumphant? ○

Title: 60,67: Thoughts. 5. 71[PI]: Thought. Of 67-71[PI]: generations, founder'd ~
 81: Thought. coast, and ~ Of
 1 60-71[PI]: others, at ~ suddenly, while 6 60: veiled ~ Women gathered 67-71
 2 60-67: spectral, in mist, of 71[PI]: spec- [PI]: Women
 tral, in mist, of ~ sea; 7 60-67: O the huge ~ A ~ And 71[PI]:
 3 60-67: [Not present] 71[PI]: ships—how sob—A ~ And
 ~streamers, and ~ kisses—and ~ them! 8 60-71[PI]: there, while ~ And
 4 60-67: [Not present] 71[PI]: President; 9 60: Souls drowned ~ destroyed 67-71
 5 60: generations, foundered ~ coast, and ~ [PI]: Souls

Thought.

Of what I write from myself—As if that were not the resumé;
 Of Histories—As if such, however complete, were not less complete than the
 preceding poems;
 As if those shreds, the records of nations, could possibly be as lasting as the
 preceding poems;
 As if here were not the amount of all nations, and of all the lives of heroes. ◦

Thought.

Of obedience, faith, adhesiveness;
 As I stand aloof and look there is to me something profoundly affecting in
 large masses of men following the lead of those who do not believe
 in men. ◦

Title: 60-67: Thoughts. 6. 71: Thought. 2 60-67: than my poems;
 [Poem in this version, in 71 only] 3 60-67: if the ~ as my poems;
Title: 60-67: Thoughts. 7. 71: Thought. 2 60-71: look, there ~ men, following
 81: Thought.

Unnamed Lands.

Nations ten thousand years before these States, and many times ten thousand
 years before these States,
 Garner'd clusters of ages that men and women like us grew up and travel'd
 their course and pass'd on,
 What vast-built cities, what orderly republics, what pastoral tribes and nomads,
 What histories, rulers, heroes, perhaps transcending all others,
 5 What laws, customs, wealth, arts, traditions,
 What sort of marriage, what costumes, what physiology and phrenology,
 What of liberty and slavery among them, what they thought of death and
 the soul,
 Who were witty and wise, who beautiful and poetic, who brutish and
 undevelop'd,
 Not a mark, not a record remains—and yet all remains. ◦

O I know that those men and women were not for nothing, any more than
 10 we are for nothing,
 I know that they belong to the scheme of the world every bit as much as we
 now belong to it. ◦

Title: 60-71: UNNAMED LANDS.

60-71: [Stanza numbers]

1 60: These ~ These 67-71: These ~ These States;

2 60: Garnered ~ ages, that ~ travelled ~ course, and passed on; 67-71: ages, that ~ course, and ~ on;

3 60: cities—What ~ republics—What 67-71: cities—what ~ republics—what ~ nomads;

4 67: transcending ~ others; 71: others;

5 67-71: traditions;

6 60: marriage—What costumes—What 67-

71: marriage—what costumes—what ~ phrenology;

7 60: them—What ~ Soul, 67-71: them—What ~ soul;

8 60: wise—Who ~ poetic—Who ~ undeveloped, 67-71: wise—who ~ poetic—who ~ undevelop'd;

9 60-71: And

10 67-71: nothing;

11 60-71: it, and as all will henceforth belong to it.

Afar they stand, yet near to me they stand,
 Some with oval countenances learn'd and calm,
 Some naked and savage, some like huge collections of insects,
 Some in tents, herdsmen, patriarchs, tribes, horsemen, 15
 Some prowling through woods, some living peaceably on farms, laboring,
 reaping, filling barns,
 Some traversing paved avenues, amid temples, palaces, factories, libraries,
 shows, courts, theatres, wonderful monuments. ◦

Are those billions of men really gone?
 Are those women of the old experience of the earth gone?
 Do their lives, cities, arts, rest only with us? 20
 Did they achieve nothing for good for themselves? ◦

I believe of all those men and women that fill'd the unnamed lands,
 every one exists this hour here or elsewhere, invisible to us,
 In exact proportion to what he or she grew from in life, and out of what he
 did or she did, felt, became, loved, sinn'd, in life. ◦

I believe that was not the end of those nations or any person of them, any
 more than this shall be the end of my nation, or of me;
 Of their languages, governments, marriage, literature, products, games, wars,
 manners, crimes, prisons, slaves, heroes, poets, 25
 I suspect their results curiously await in the yet unseen world, counterparts of
 what accrued to them in the seen world,
 I suspect I shall meet them there,
 I suspect I shall there find each old particular of those unnamed lands. ◦

12 60-71: stand—yet

13 60: countenances, learned 67-71: countenances, learn'd

14 60-71: savage—Some

15 60-71: tents—herdsmen,

16 60-71: woods—Some

21 60-71: good, for

22 60: those billions of men ~ filled ~ hour, here ~ us, in exact proportion to what he or she grew from in life, and out of what he or she did, felt, became, loved, sinned, in life. 67: those billions of men ~ hour, here ~ us, in exact proportion to what he or she grew from in life, and out of what he or she did, felt, became, loved, sinned, in life. 71: those billions of men ~ hour, here ~ us, in exact

proportion to what he or she grew from in life, and out of what he or she did, felt, became, loved, sinn'd, in life.

23 60-71: [Not present—part of 22]

24 60-71: nations, or

25 60: languages, phrenology, government, coins, medals, marriage, ~ games, jurisprudence, wars, manners, amativeness, crimes, ~ poets, I suspect their results curiously await in the yet unseen world—counterparts of what accrued to them in the seen world, 67-71: poets, I suspect their results curiously await in the yet unseen world—counterparts of what accrued to them in the seen world,

26 60-71: [Not present—part of 25]

Kosmos.

Who includes diversity and is Nature,
 Who is the amplitude of the earth, and the coarseness and sexuality of the
 earth, and the great charity of the earth, and the equilibrium also,
 Who has not look'd forth from the windows the eyes for nothing, or whose
 brain held audience with messengers for nothing,
 Who contains believers and disbelievers, who is the most majestic lover,
 Who holds duly his or her triune proportion of realism, spiritualism, and of
 5 the æsthetic or intellectual,
 Who having consider'd the body finds all its organs and parts good,
 Who, out of the theory of the earth and of his or her body understands by
 subtle analogies all other theories,
 The theory of a city, a poem, and of the large politics of these States;
 Who believes not only in our globe with its sun and moon, but in other globes
 with their suns and moons,
 Who, constructing the house of himself or herself, not for a day but for all
 10 time, sees races, eras, dates, generations,
 The past, the future, dwelling there, like space, inseparable together. o

Title: 60, 71[PI]: KOSMOS. 67: Kosmos.

3 60: looked ~ windows, the eyes, for ~ nothing; 67-71[PI]: windows, the eyes, for ~ nothing;

4 60-71[PI]: disbelievers—Who ~ lover;

5 60-71[PI]: æsthetic, or

6 60: Who, having considered ~ body, finds ~ good; 67-71[PI]: Who, having ~ Body, finds ~ good;

7 60: earth, and ~ body, understands ~ analogies, the theory of a city, a poem, and of the large politics of These States; 67-71[PI]: earth, and ~ body, understands

8 60: [Not present—part of 7] 67-71[PI]: These

9 60-71[PI]: globe, with ~ globes, with ~ moons;

10 60-71[PI]: day, but

A Hand-Mirror.

Hold it up sternly—see this it sends back, (who is it? is it you?)
 Outside fair costume, within ashes and filth,
 No more a flashing eye, no more a sonorous voice or springy step,
 Now some slave's eye, voice, hands, step,
 A drunkard's breath, unwholesome eater's face, venerealee's flesh, 5
 Lungs rotting away piecemeal, stomach sour and cankerous,
 Joints rheumatic, bowels clogged with abomination,
 Blood circulating dark and poisonous streams,
 Words babble, hearing and touch callous,
 No brain, no heart left, no magnetism of sex; 10
 Such from one look in this looking-glass ere you go hence,
 Such a result so soon—and from such a beginning! ◦

Title: 60: A HAND-MIRROR. 67-71: A HAND-
 MIRROR. 3 60: eye—no 67-71: eye—no ~ step;
 1 60-71: sternly! See ~ back! (Who ~ it? Is 10 60-71: left—no
 2 60: costume—within, ashes 67-71: cos- 11 60-71: Such, from

Beginners.

- How they are provided for upon the earth, (appearing at intervals,
 How dear and dreadful they are to the earth,
 How they inure to themselves as much as to any—what a paradox appears
 their age,
 How people respond to them, yet know them not,
 5 How there is something relentless in their fate all times,
 How all times mischoose the objects of their adulation and reward,
 And how the same inexorable price must still be paid for the same great
 purchase. ◦

Tests.

- All submit to them where they sit, inner, secure, unapproachable to analysis
 in the soul,
 Not traditions, not the outer authorities are the judges,

Title: 60, 71: BEGINNERS. 67: BEGINNERS.

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | 67-71: intervals;) | ~ appears, their age; |
| 2 | 67-71: earth; | 4 67-71: not; |
| 3 | 60: What ~ appears, their | 5 60: fate, all 67-71: fate, all times; |
| | 67-71: What | |

Title: 60, 71[PI]: TESTS. 67: TESTS.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | 60-71[PI]: them, where ~ analysis, in ~
Soul; | judges of outer authorities, and of all tradi-
tions, 67-71[PI]: traditions—not ~ judges
—they are the judges of outer authorities, and
of all traditions; |
| 2 | 60: traditions—not ~ judges—they are the | |

They are the judges of outer authorities and of all traditions,
 They corroborate as they go only whatever corroborates themselves, and
 touches themselves;
 For all that, they have it forever in themselves to corroborate far and near
 without one exception. ◦

5

Savantism.

Thither as I look I see each result and glory retracing itself and nestling close,
 always obligated,
 Thither hours, months, years—thither trades, compacts, establishments, even
 the most minute,
 Thither every-day life, speech, utensils, politics, persons, estates;
 Thither we also, I with my leaves and songs, trustful, admirant,
 As a father to his father going takes his children along with him. ◦

5

Perfections.

Only themselves understand themselves and the like of themselves,
 As souls only understand souls. ◦

3 60-71[PI]: [Not present—part of 2]

go, only

4 60: go, only ~ themselves, 67-71[PI]:

5 60-71[PI]: near, without

Title: 60, 71: SAVANTISM. 67: SAVANTISM.

1 60-71[PI]: Thither, as I look, I ~ obligated;

2 67-71[PI]: minute;

3 60: estates,

5 60-71[PI]: father, to ~ going, takes

Title: 60: PERFECTIONS. 67-71: PERFECTIONS.

1 60-71: themselves, and

2 60-71: Souls ~ Souls.

Suggestions.

1

That whatever tastes sweet to the most perfect person—That is finally right. ◦

2

That the human shape or face is so great, it must never be made ridiculous;

That for ornaments nothing outré can be allowed,

That anything is most beautiful without ornament;

That exaggerations will be sternly revenged in your own physiology, and in
5 other persons' physiology also;

That clean-shaped children can be jetted and conceiv'd only where natural
forms prevail in public, and the human face and form are never
caricatured;

And that genius need never more be turn'd to romances,

Title: 60-67: Says. 71: Suggestions. [Suggestions. originated in 60 as Says., numbered 1-7. It was reduced to four Sections in 67 and 71, where 60, 1, 5, 7, and 8, become 1-4] [Excluded after 71—text 71]

1 60: I say whatever ~ person, that 67: I say whatever 60: [The following lines appear after 1:]

[1] I say nourish a great intellect, a great brain; [Section 2 begins with [1]]

[2] If I have said anything to the contrary, I hereby retract it.

[3] I say man shall not hold property in man; [Section 3 begins with [3]]

[4] I say the least developed person on earth is just as important and sacred to himself

or herself, as the most developed person is to himself or her-/self.

[5] I say where liberty draws not the blood out of slavery, there slavery draws the blood out of liberty, [Section 4 begins with [5]].

[6] I say the word of the good old cause in These States, and resound it hence over the world.

2 60-67: I say the [Section 5 begins with 2]

3 60: I say for ~ outre 67: I say for

4 60-67: And that anything ~ ornament,

5 60-67: And that exaggerations,

6 60: And I say that ~ conceived 67: And I say that

7 60: And I say that ~ turned 67: And I say that

(For facts properly told, how mean appear all romances.) ◦

3

I have said many times that materials and the Soul are great, and that all
 depends on physique;
 Now I reverse what I said, and suggest that all depends on the æsthetic, or
 intellectual, 10
 And that criticism is great—and that refinement is greatest of all;
 And that the mind governs—and that all depends on the mind. ◦

4

With one man or woman—(no matter which one—I even pick out the lowest,
 With him or her I now suggest the whole law;
 And that every right, in politics or what-not, shall be eligible to that one man
 or woman, on the same terms as any. ◦ 15

8 60: [The following lines appear after 8:]
 [1] say the word of lands fearing nothing—
 I will have no other land; [Section 6 begins
 with [1]]
 [2] I say discuss all and expose all—I am
 for every topic openly;
 [3] I say there can be no salvation for These
 States without innovators—without free
 tongues, and ears willing to hear the
 tongues;
 [4] And I announce as a glory of These

States, that they respectfully listen to prop-
 ositions, reforms, fresh views and doctrines,
 from successions of men and women,
 [5] Each age with its own growth.
 9 60: [Section 7 begins with 9]
 10 60: and affirm that ~ æsthetic or 67:
 and affirm that
 12 60-67: † And I affirm now that
 13 60: [Section 8 begins with 13]
 14 60-67: now illustrate the
 15 60-67: I say that every

[Debris].

He is wisest who has the most caution;
He only wins who goes far enough. ◦

[Debris].

Any thing is as good as established, when that is established that will produce
it and continue it. ◦

Title: [The Debris. cluster originated in 60 as an ornament or by clear pagination breaks.
seventeen untitled poems, separated either by (See II 438-447, for the Debris. poems)]

Title: 60-67: Debris. [Text in these editions
only] 1 60: caution,

Title: 60-67: Debris. [Text in these editions
only]

Leaflets.

What General has a good army in himself, has a good army;
He happy in himself, or she happy in herself, is happy. ◦

Stronger Lessons.

Have you learn'd lessons only of those who admired you, and were tender with
you, and stood aside for you?
Have you not learn'd great lessons from those who reject you, and brace
themselves against you? or who treat you with contempt, or dispute
the passage with you? ◦

Title: 60: Debris. 67: LEAFLETS. (See *Title-*
note, II 438.) [Text in these editions only]

2 60: is happy,/ 60: [The following line ap-
pears after 2] [1] But I tell you you can-
not be happy by others, any more than you
can beget or conceive a child by others.

Title: 60: Debris. 67, 88[SS]: Stronger Les-
sons. [Poem excluded in 71-81] (See *Title-*
note, Debris., II 438.)

1 60-67: learned

2 60-67: learned the ~ lessons of ~ rejected

~ braced ~ treated ~ disputed

60: [The following line appears after 2:]

[1] Have you had no practice to receive op-
ponents when they come?

Yet, Yet, Ye Downcast Hours.

Yet, yet, ye downcast hours, I know ye also,
Weights of lead, how ye clog and cling at my ankles,
Earth to a chamber of mourning turns—I hear the o'erweening, mocking voice,
Matter is conqueror—matter, triumphant only, continues onward. ○

5 Despairing cries float ceaselessly toward me,
The call of my nearest lover, putting forth, alarm'd, uncertain,
The sea I am quickly to sail, come tell me,
Come tell me where I am speeding, tell me my destination. ○

I understand your anguish, but I cannot help you,
I approach, hear, behold, the sad mouth, the look out of the eyes, your mute
10 inquiry,
Whither I go from the bed I recline on, come tell me;
Old age, alarm'd, uncertain—a young woman's voice, appealing to me for
comfort;
A young man's voice, *Shall I not escape?* ○

Title: 60: Debris. [Lines 5-8, 9-13 comprised the fourth and fifth unnumbered (separate) poems. In 67-71[PI], these poems were conflated to form a single poem] (See *Title-note*, Debris., II 438.) 67: DESPAIRING CRIES. 71[PI]: YET, YET, YE DOWNCAST HOURS. 67-71[PI]: [Section numbers]
1 60-67: [Not present] 71[PI]: also; 71 [PI]: [Section 1 begins with 1]
2 60-67: [Not present] 71[PI]: ankles!
3 60-67: [Not present]
4 60-67: [Not present]
5 60-67: me, day and night, 67: [Section 1

begins with 5] 71[PI]: [Section 2 begins with 5]
6 60: The sad voice of Death—the call ~ alarmed, 67: The sad voice of Death—the call
7 60: *This sea* 67-71[PI]: *Sea*
8 60-71[PI]: *speeding—tell*
9 67: [Section 2 begins with 9] 71[PI]: [Section 3 begins with 9]
10 60-71[PI]: behold—the
11 60: *I now recline* 67-71[PI]: *me:*
12 60: alarmed, uncertain—A ~ voice appealing ~ me, for comfort, 67-71[PI]: uncertain —A

Offerings.

A thousand perfect men and women appear,
Around each gathers a cluster of friends, and gay children and youths, with
offerings. o

Visor'd.

A mask, a perpetual natural disguiser of herself,
Concealing her face, concealing her form,
Changes and transformations every hour, every moment,
Falling upon her even when she sleeps. o

Title: 60: Debris. (See *Title*-note, Debris. II 438.) 67: PICTURE. 71[PI]: OFFERINGS.

Title: 60: Debris. (See *Title*-note, Debris. II 438.) 67-71: VISOR'D. 1 60-71: mask—a

[Debris].

One sweeps by, attended by an immense train,
All emblematic of peace—not a soldier or menial among them. ◦

[Debris].

One sweeps by, old, with black eyes, and profuse white hair,
He has the simple magnificence of health and strength,
His face strikes as with flashes of lightning whoever it turns toward. ◦

Title: 60: Debris. [Text in this edition only]
(See *Title*-note, Debris. II 438.)

Title: 60: Debris. [Text in this edition only]
(See *Title*-note, Debris. II 438.)

[Debris].

Three old men slowly pass, followed by three others, and they by three others,
 They are beautiful—the one in the middle of each group holds his companions
 by the hand,
 As they walk, they give out perfume wherever they walk. ◦

Beautiful Women.

Women sit or move to and fro, some old, some young,
 The young are beautiful—but the old are more beautiful than the young. ◦

Title: 60: Debris. [Text in this edition only]
 (See *Title*-note, Debris. II 438.)

Title: 60: Debris. (See *Title*-note, Debris. II
 438.) 67: PICTURE. [Not listed in Contents—
 p. 290] 71: BEAUTIFUL WOMEN.

1 60: sit, or ~ fro—some 67-71: sit, or ~
 fro—some ~ young;

[Debris].

What weeping face is that looking from the window?
Why does it stream those sorrowful tears?
Is it for some burial place, vast and dry?
Is it to wet the soil of graves? o

[Debris].

I will take an egg out of the robin's nest in the orchard,
I will take a branch of gooseberries from the old bush in the garden, and go
 and preach to the world;
You shall see I will not meet a single heretic or scorners,
You shall see how I stump clergymen, and confound them,
You shall see me showing a scarlet tomato, and a white pebble from the
 beach. o

Title: 60: Debris. [Text in this edition only]
(See *Title-note*, Debris. II 438.)

Title: 60: Debris. [Text in this edition only]
(See *Title-note*, Debris. II 438.)

[Debris].

Behavior—fresh, native, copious, each one for himself or herself,
Nature and the Soul expressed—America and freedom expressed—In it the
finest art,
In it pride, cleanliness, sympathy, to have their chance,
In it physique, intellect, faith—in it just as much as to manage an army or a
city, or to write a book—perhaps more,
The youth, the laboring person, the poor person, rivalling all the rest—perhaps
outdoing the rest,
The effects of the universe no greater than its;
For there is nothing in the whole universe that can be more effective than a
man's or woman's daily behavior can be,
In any position, in any one of These States. ○

Title: 60: Debris. [Text in this edition only]
(See *Title*-note, Debris. II 438.)

1 him-/self

Not the Pilot.

Not the pilot has charged himself to bring his ship into port, though beaten
 back and many times baffled;
 Not the pathfinder penetrating inland weary and long,
 By deserts parch'd, snows chill'd, rivers wet, perseveres till he reaches his
 destination,
 More than I have charged myself, heeded or unheeded, to compose a march
 for these States,
 5 For a battle-call, rousing to arms if need be, years, centuries hence. o

As if a Phantom Caress'd Me.

As if a phantom caress'd me,
 I thought I was not alone walking here by the shore;

Title: 60: Debris. (See *Title*-note, Debris. II 438.) 67-71: NOT THE PILOT.

1 60: back, and ~ baffled, 67-71: back, and
 2 60-71: path-finder, penetrating inland, weary
 3 60: parched, ~ chilled, 67-71: snows-

chill'd,

4 60-71: a free march ~ These
 5 60-67: To be exhilarating music to them, years, 71: To be exhilarating music to them—
 a battle-call, ~ arms, if ~ be—years,

Title: 60: Debris. (See *Title*-note. Debris. II 438.) 67: AS IF A PHANTOM CARESS'D ME. 71[PI]: AS IF A PHANTOM CARESS'D ME.

1 60: [Not present]

2 60: alone, walking ~ shore, 67-71[PI]: alone, walking

But the one I thought was with me as now I walk by the shore, the one I loved
 that caress'd me,
 As I lean and look through the glimmering light, that one has utterly
 disappear'd,
 And those appear that are hateful to me and mock me. ◦

5

As the Time Draws Nigh.

As the time draws nigh glooming a cloud,
 A dread beyond of I know not what darkens me. ◦

I shall go forth,
 I shall traverse the States awhile, but I cannot tell whither or how long,
 Perhaps soon some day or night while I am singing my voice will suddenly
 cease. ◦

5

O book, O chants! must all then amount to but this?

3 60: me, as ~ shore,/ 67: me, as 71[PI]:
 me, as ~ shore—the ~ loved, that [PI]: light—that
 4 60: light—that ~ disappeared, 67-71 5 60: that perplex me./ 67-71[PI]: me, and

Title: 60: TO MY SOUL. 67: AS NEARING DEPARTURE. (In annex, *Songs Before Parting*.)
 71: AS THE TIME DRAWS NIGH. 60-67: [Stanza numbers] 71: [Stanza and section numbers]
 1 60: nigh, glooming from you,/ 67-71: nigh, glooming, a 71: [Section 1 begins with 1]
 60-67: [The following line appears before 1:]
 [1] As nearing departure,
 2 60: A cloud—a dread beyond, of ~ what, darkens 67-71: beyond, of ~ what, darkens
 4 60-67: The States—but ~ long; 71: The ~ awhile—but ~ long;
 5 60-71: soon, some ~ singing, my 60: [The following line appears after 5:]
 [1] O Soul!
 6 60: † Then all may arrive to but this; 67: book and chant! 71: [Section 2 begins with 6]
 60: [The following lines appear after 6:]
 [1] The glances of my eyes, that swept the

Must we barely arrive at this beginning of us?—and yet it is enough, O soul;
O soul, we have positively appear'd—that is enough. ◦

So Long!

To conclude, I announce what comes after me. ◦

I remember I said before my leaves sprang at all,
I would raise my voice jocund and strong with reference to consummations. ◦

daylight,

[2] The unspeakable love I interchanged
with women,

[3] My joys in the open air—my walks
through the Mannahatta,

[4] The continual good will I have met—
the curious attachment of young men to me,

[5] My reflections alone—the absorption
into me from the landscape, stars, animals,
thunder, rain, and snow, in my wanderings
alone,

[6] The words of my mouth, rude, igno-

rant, arrogant—my many faults and derelictions,

[7] The light touches, on my lips, of the
lips of my comrades, at parting,

[8] The tracks which I leave, upon the
side-walks and fields,

7 60: May but arrive ~ of me,/This begin-
ning of me—and yet ~ Soul, 67: of me?
. . . And ~ soul! 71: us? . . . And ~
soul!

8 60: Soul, ~ appeared—that 67-71: soul!
we

Title: 60: **So long!** [In boldface italic; font
not available] 67: **SO LONG!** (In annex, *Songs
Before Parting.*) 71: **SO LONG!** [See *To the
Reader at Parting.*, II 333]

60: [Stanza numbers] 67-71: [Stanza and
section numbers]

1 60-67: conclude—I ~ me, 71: conclude
—I ~ me; 67-71: [Section begins with 1]

60: [The following lines appear after 1:]

[1] The thought must be promulgated, that
all I know at any time suffices for that time
only—not subsequent time; [No space be-
tween 1 and [1]]

[2] I announce greater offspring, orators,

days, and then depart. [Space between [2]
and 2]

67: [1] [Not present] [2] announce
mightier offspring

71: [1] [Not present] [2] announce
mightier offspring ~ then, for the present,
depart.

2 60: said to myself at the winter-close, before
~ all, that I would become a candid and un-
loosed summer-poet, 67-71: said, before

3 60: I said I would ~ strong, with 67-71:
strong, with

When America does what was promis'd,
 When through these States walk a hundred millions of superb persons, 5
 When the rest part away for superb persons and contribute to them,
 When breeds of the most perfect mothers denote America,
 Then to me and mine our due fruition. o

I have press'd through in my own right,
 I have sung the body and the soul, war and peace have I sung, and the songs
 of life and death, 10
 And the songs of birth, and shown that there are many births. o

I have offer'd my style to every one, I have journey'd with confident step;
 While my pleasure is yet at the full I whisper *So long!*
 And take the young woman's hand and the young man's hand for the last
 time. o

- 4 60: promised,
 60: [The following lines appear after 4:]
 [1] When each part is peopled with free
 people,
 [2] When there is no city on earth to lead
 my city, the city of young men, the Manna-
 hatta city—But when the Mannahatta leads
 all the cities of the earth,
 [3] When there are plentiful athletic bards,
 inland and seaboard,
 67-71: [1], [2] [Not present]
- 5 60-71: These
- 6 60-71: persons, and
- 7 60: When fathers, firm, unconstrained,
 open-eyed—When
- 8 60: me ripeness and conclusion. 67: me
 my due
 60: [The following lines appear—between
 spaces—after 8:]
 [1] Yet not me, after all—let none be con-
 tent with me,
 [2] I myself seek a man better than I am,
 or a woman better than I am,
 [3] I invite defiance, and to make myself
 superseded,
 [4] All I have done, I would cheerfully give
 to be trod under foot, if it might only be
 the soil of superior poems. [Space between
 [4] and [5]]
 [5] I have established nothing for good,
 [6] I have but established these things, till
 things farther onward shall be prepared to
 be established,
 [7] And I am myself the preparer of things
 farther onward.
- 9 60: pressed
- 10 60-67: [Not present] 71: Body ~
 Soul—War ~ Peace ~ sung,/
- 11 60-67: [Not present] 71: songs of Life
 and of Birth—and ~ births: 60-71: [No
 space between previous line and 12]
- 12 60: offered ~ one—I ~ journeyed ~
 step, 67: one—I ~ step, 71: one—I
- 13 60: full, I ~ *long*, 67-71: full, I whisper,
So
- 14 60-71: hand, and ~ hand, for
 60: [The following lines—between space—
 appear after 14:]
 [1] Once more I enforce you to give play
 to yourself—and not depend on me, or on
 any one but yourself,
 [2] Once more I proclaim the whole of
 America for each individual, without ex-
 ception. [Space between [2] and [3]]
 [3] As I have announced the true theory
 of the youth, manhood, womanhood, of
 The States, I adhere to it;
 [4] As I have announced myself on im-
 mortality, the body, procreation, hauteur,
 prudence,
 [5] As I joined the stern crowd that still
 confronts the President with menacing
 weapons—I adhere to all,
 [6] As I have announced each age for it-
 self, this moment I set the example. [Space
 between [6] and [7]]
 [7] I demand the choicest edifices to de-

- 15 I announce natural persons to arise,
 I announce justice triumphant,
 I announce uncompromising liberty and equality,
 I announce the justification of candor and the justification of pride. ◦
- I announce that the identity of these States is a single identity only,
 20 I announce the Union more and more compact, indissoluble,
 I announce splendors and majesties to make all the previous politics of the
 earth insignificant. ◦
- I announce adhesiveness, I say it shall be limitless, unloosen'd,
 I say you shall yet find the friend you were looking for. ◦
- I announce a man or woman coming, perhaps you are the one, (*So long!*)
 I announce the great individual, fluid as Nature, chaste, affectionate,
 25 compassionate, fully arm'd. ◦
- I announce a life that shall be copious, vehement, spiritual, bold,
 I announce an end that shall lightly and joyfully meet its translation. ◦
- I announce myriads of youths, beautiful, gigantic, sweet-blooded,
 I announce a race of splendid and savage old men. ◦
- 30 O thicker and faster—(*So long!*)
 O crowding too close upon me,

- stroy them;
 [8] Room! room! for new far-planning draughtsmen and engineers!
 [9] Clear that rubbish from the building-spots and the paths! [Space between [9] and [10]]
 [10] *So long!*
- 15 71: arise; 67-71: [Section 2 begins with 15]
 16 71: triumphant;
 17 71: equality;
 18 60-71: candor, and
 19 60-67: These 71: These ~ only;
 20 60-67: compact,/ 71: indissoluble;
 22 60: adhesiveness—I ~ unloosened, 67: adhesiveness—I 71: adhesiveness—I ~ unloosen'd;
 23 60-67: you was looking
- 60: [The following line appears—after space—after 23:]
 [1] *So long!*
 24 60: coming—perhaps ~ one,/ 67-71: coming—perhaps
 25 60: announce a ~ armed. 67-71: armed.
 60: [The following line appears—after space—after 25:]
 [1] *So long!*
 26 71: bold;
 27 60-67: And I ~ an old age that 71: translation; [No space between 27 and 28]
 28 60-67: [Not present] 71: sweet-/blooded;
 29 60-67: [Not present]
 30 60: faster!/ 67-71: faster! (*So* [Section 3 begins with 30]
 31 60: me! 67-71: me;

I foresee too much, it means more than I thought,
It appears to me I am dying. ○

Hasten throat and sound your last,
Salute me—salute the days once more. Peal the old cry once more. ○ 35

Screaming electric, the atmosphere using,
At random glancing, each as I notice absorbing,
Swiftly on, but a little while alighting,
Curious envelop'd messages delivering,
Sparkles hot, seed ethereal down in the dirt dropping, 40
Myself unknowing, my commission obeying, to question it never daring,
To ages and ages yet the growth of the seed leaving,
To troops out of the war arising, they the tasks I have set promulging,
To women certain whispers of myself bequeathing, their affection me more
clearly explaining,
To young men my problems offering—no dallier I—I the muscle of their
brains trying, 45
So I pass, a little time vocal, visible, contrary,
Afterward a melodious echo, passionately bent for, (death making me really
undying,)
The best of me then when no longer visible, for toward that I have been
incessantly preparing. ○

What is there more, that I lag and pause and crouch extended with unshut
mouth?
Is there a single final farewell? ○ 50

My songs cease, I abandon them,
From behind the screen where I hid I advance personally solely to you. ○

32 60-67: much—it 71: much—it ~
thought;
34 60: Now throat, sound ~ last! 67-71:
throat, and ~ last!
35 60: the future once
37 67: as a notice
39 60: enveloped
40 60-71: ethereal, down
42 60-71: ages, and ~ yet, the
43 60-67: of me rising—they 71: of me,
out of the army, the war arising—they
44 60-71: bequeathing—their

46 60-67; pass—a 71: pass—a ~ contrary;
47 60: Afterward, a ~ for—death ~ me un-
dying, [No parentheses] 67: Afterward, a ~
for—(death 71: Afterward, a ~ for—(death
~ undying;)
48 60-71: visible—for
49 60-71: pause, and
51 60-67: cease—I 71: cease—I ~ them;
67-71: [Section 4 begins with 51]
52 60: hid, I ~ personally./ 67-71: hid, I
~ personally, solely

Camerado, this is no book,
 Who touches this touches a man,
 55 (Is it night? are we here together alone?)
 It is I you hold and who holds you,
 I spring from the pages into your arms—decease calls me forth. ◦

O how your fingers drowse me,
 Your breath falls around me like dew, your pulse lulls the tympan of my ears,
 60 I feel immersed from head to foot,
 Delicious, enough. ◦

Enough O deed impromptu and secret,
 Enough O gliding present—enough O summ'd-up past. ◦

Dear friend whoever you are take this kiss,
 65 I give it especially to you, do not forget me,
 I feel like one who has done work for the day to retire awhile,
 I receive now again of my many translations, from my avatars ascending,
 while others doubtless await me,
 An unknown sphere more real than I dream'd, more direct, darts awakening
 rays about me, *So long!*
 Remember my words, I may again return,
 70 I love you, I depart from materials,
 I am as one disembodied, triumphant, dead. ◦

53 60: †This 67: Camerado! This 71:
 Camerado! This ~ book;
 54 60-67: this, touches 71: this, touches
 a man;
 55 60-71: night? Are we here alone?)
 56 60-67: hold, and 71: hold, and ~
 you;
 58 60-71: me!
 59 60-67: dew—your 71: dew—your ~
 ears;
 60 71: foot;
 61 60-71: Delicious—enough.
 62 60-71: Enough, O ~ secret!
 63 60: Enough, O ~ present! Enough, O
 summed-up past! 67-71: Enough, O ~ present!
 Enough, O ~ past!
 64 60-67: friend, whoever ~ are, here, take

71: friend, whoever ~ are, take 67-71:
 [Section 5 begins with 64]
 65 60-67: you—Do 71: you—Do ~ me;
 66 60: done his work—I progress on, 67:
 done his work—I progress on,—(long enough
 have I dallied with Life,) 71: day, to ~
 awhile;
 67 60-67: [Not present] 71: translations
 —from ~ ascending—while ~ me;
 68 60: The ~ sphere, more ~ dreamed, ~
 me—*So* 67: The ~ sphere, more ~ me—
So 71: sphere, more ~ me—*So*
 69 60-67: words—I love you—I depart from
 materials, 71: words—I
 70 60-67: [Not present—part of 69] 71:
 you—I ~ materials;

WALT WHITMAN'S

DRUM - T A P S .



New-York.



1865.

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First O Songs for a Prelude.

First O songs for a prelude,
 Lightly strike on the stretch'd tympanum pride and joy in my city,
 How she led the rest to arms, how she gave the cue,
 How at once with lithe limbs unwaiting a moment she sprang,
 (O superb! O Manhattan, my own, my peerless! 5
 O strongest you in the hour of danger, in crisis! O truer than steel!)
 How you sprang—how you threw off the costumes of peace with indifferent
 hand,
 How your soft opera-music changed, and the drum and fife were heard in
 their stead,
 How you led to the war, (that shall serve for our prelude, songs of soldiers,)
 How Manhattan drum-taps led. o 10

Forty years had I in my city seen soldiers parading,
 Forty years as a pageant, till unawares the lady of this teeming and turbulent
 city,
 Sleepless amid her ships, her houses, her incalculable wealth,
 With her million children around her, suddenly,
 At dead of night, at news from the south, 15
 Incens'd struck with clinch'd hand the pavement. o

Title: 65-71: DRUM-TAPS. [The opening title-poem in the 65 *Drum-Taps* volume; retained in this position in the Drum-Taps. cluster, 81. In 71 only, the untitled four-line epigraph [*Aroused and Angry*] opened the Drum-Taps. cluster. See III 630. In 81, this poem was incorporated into another Drum-Taps. poem, *The Wound-Dresser.*, as lines 4-6. See II 480]

65: [Stanza numbers] 71: [Stanza and section numbers]

1 65-71: First, O songs, for 71: [Section I begins with I]

2 65-71: tympanum, pride
 3 65-71: arms—how
 4 65-71: limbs, unwaiting a moment, she sprang;
 7 65-71: sprang! how ~ hand;
 8 65-71: stead;
 11 65-71: parading; 71: [Section 2 begins with 11]
 12 65-71: pageant—till unawares, the Lady
 13 65-71: Sleepless, amid
 14 65-71: her—suddenly,
 16 65-71: Incens'd, struck ~ clench'd

A shock electric, the night sustain'd it,
Till with ominous hum our hive at daybreak pour'd out its myriads. ○

From the houses then and the workshops, and through all the doorways,
20 Leapt they tumultuous, and lo! Manhattan arming. ○

To the drum-taps prompt,
The young men falling in and arming,
The mechanics arming, (the trowel, the jack-plane, the blacksmith's hammer,
tost aside with precipitation,)
The lawyer leaving his office and arming, the judge leaving the court,
The driver deserting his wagon in the street, jumping down, throwing the
25 reins abruptly down on the horses' backs,
The salesman leaving the store, the boss, book-keeper, porter, all leaving;
Squads gather everywhere by common consent and arm,
The new recruits, even boys, the old men show them how to wear their
accoutrements, they buckle the straps carefully,
Outdoors arming, indoors arming, the flash of the musket-barrels,
The white tents cluster in camps, the arm'd sentries around, the sunrise cannon
30 and again at sunset,
Arm'd regiments arrive every day, pass through the city, and embark from
the wharves,
(How good they look as they tramp down to the river, sweaty, with their guns
on their shoulders!
How I love them! how I could hug them, with their brown faces and their
clothes and knapsacks cover'd with dust!)

The blood of the city up—arm'd! arm'd! the cry everywhere,
The flags flung out from the steeples of churches and from all the public
35 buildings and stores,

17 65-71: electric—the ~ it;

18 65: hum, our ~ day-break, pour'd 71:
hum, our ~ day-break

19 65-71: then, and

20 65-71: tumultuous—and

21 71: [Section 3 begins with 21]

22 65-71: arming;

23 65-71: precipitation;) Copy-text: black-/
smith's

24 65-71: office, and arming—the ~ court;

25 65-71: backs;

26 65-71: store—the

27 65: gathering ~ consent, and arming;

71: consent, and arm;

28 65-71: boys—the ~ accoutrements—they
~ carefully;

29 65-71: arming—indoors arming—the ~
musket-barrels;

30 65-71: camps—the ~ around—the ~
cannon, and ~ sunset;

31 65-71: wharves;

32 65-71: look, as

33 65-71: faces, and

34 65-71: everywhere;

35 65-71: churches, and ~ stores;

The tearful parting, the mother kisses her son, the son kisses his mother,
 (Loth is the mother to part, yet not a word does she speak to detain him,)
 The tumultuous escort, the ranks of policemen preceding, clearing the way,
 The unpent enthusiasm, the wild cheers of the crowd for their favorites,
 The artillery, the silent cannons bright as gold, drawn along, rumble lightly
 over the stones, 40
 (Silent cannons, soon to cease your silence,
 Soon unlimber'd to begin the red business;)
 All the mutter of preparation, all the determin'd arming,
 The hospital service, the lint, bandages and medicines,
 The women volunteering for nurses, the work begun for in earnest, no mere
 parade now; 45
 War! an arm'd race is advancing! the welcome for battle, no turning away;
 War! be it weeks, months, or years, an arm'd race is advancing to
 welcome it. o

Mannahatta a-march—and it's O to sing it well!
 It's O for a manly life in the camp. o

And the sturdy artillery, 50
 The guns bright as gold, the work for giants, to serve well the guns,
 Unlimber them! (no more as the past forty years for salutes for courtesies
 merely,
 Put in something now besides powder and wadding.) o

And you lady of ships, you Mannahatta,
 Old matron of this proud, friendly, turbulent city, 55

- | | |
|---|--|
| 36 65-71: parting—the ~ son—the ~ mother; | 47 65-71: years—an |
| 37 65-71: part—yet ~ him;) | 48 65-71: a-march!—and 71: [Section 4 begins with 48] |
| 38 65-71: escort—the ~ way; | 49 65-71: camp! |
| 39 65-71: enthusiasm—the ~ favorites; | 50 65-71: artillery! |
| 40 65-71: artillery—the ~ cannons, bright ~ stones; | 51 65-71: guns, bright as gold—the ~ giants—to ~ guns: |
| 41 65-71: cannons—soon ~ silence! | 52 65-71: more, as ~ years, for ~ merely; [No parenthesis] |
| 42 65-71: Soon, unlimber'd, to | 53 65-71: something else now [No parenthesis] |
| 43 65-71: preparation—all ~ arming; | 54 65-71: you, Lady of Ships! you Mannahatta! 71: [Section 5 begins with 54] |
| 44 65-71: service—the ~ bandages, and medicines; | 55 65: of the city! this ~ city! 71: city! |
| 45 65-71: nurses—the ~ for, in earnest—no | |
| 46 65-71: advancing!—the ~ battle—no | |

Often in peace and wealth you were pensive or covertly frown'd amid all your
 children,
 But now you smile with joy exulting old Mannahatta. ◦

Shut not Your Doors.

Shut not your doors to me proud libraries,
 For that which was lacking on all your well-fill'd shelves, yet needed most,
 I bring,
 Forth from the war emerging, a book I have made,
 The words of my book nothing, the drift of it every thing,
 5 A book separate, not link'd with the rest nor felt by the intellect,
 But you ye untold latencies will thrill to every page. ◦

- 56 65-71: pensive, or ~ children;
 57 65-71: joy, exulting ~ Mannahatta!

Title: 65: SHUT NOT YOUR DOORS TO ME
 PROUD LIBRARIES. 71[PI]: SHUT NOT YOUR
 DOORS, &c.

- 1 65-71[PI]: me, proud
 2 65: lacking among you all, yet ~ bring;
 71[PI]: bring;
 65: [The following lines appear after 2:]
 [1] A book I have made for your dear sake,
 O soldiers,
 [2] And for you, O soul of man, and you,
 love of comrades;
 3 65: [Not present—part of [1]] · 71[PI]:
 from the army, the war emerging—a
 4 65: nothing, the life of it every-/thing;
 71[PI]: nothing—the ~ every-/thing;
 5 65: rest, nor ~ intellect; 71[PI]: rest, nor
 6 65: you will feel every word, O Libertad!

arm'd Libertad! 71[PI]: you, ye ~ latencies,
 will ~ page;

65: [The following lines appear after 6:]

[1] It shall pass by the intellect to swim the
 sea, the air,

[2] With joy with you, O soul of man.

71[PI]: [The following lines appear after
 6:]

[1] Through Space and Time fused in a
 chant, and the flowing, eternal Identity,

[2] To Nature, encompassing these, encom-
 passing God—to the joyous, electric All,

[3] To the sense of Death—and accepting,
 exulting in Death, in its turn, the same as
 life,

[4] The entrance of Man I sing.

Cavalry Crossing a Ford.

A line in long array where they wind betwixt green islands,
 They take a serpentine course, their arms flash in the sun—hark to the
 musical clank,
 Behold the silvery river, in it the splashing horses loitering stop to drink,
 Behold the brown-faced men, each group, each person a picture, the negligent
 rest on the saddles,
 Some emerge on the opposite bank, others are just entering the ford—while, 5
 Scarlet and blue and snowy white,
 The guidon flags flutter gayly in the wind. o

Title: 65: CAVALRY CROSSING A FORD.

1 65-71: array, where ~ islands;

2 65-71: course—their ~ Hark ~ clank;

3 65-71: river—in ~ horses, loitering, stop
to drink;

4 65-71: men—each ~ person, a picture—

the ~ saddles; 81-88[SS]: person, a 88
[CPP]: [Final reading]

5 65: bank—others ~ ford;/ 71: bank—
others

6 65: [Not present] 71: Scarlet, and blue,
and

7 65-71: gaily

Song of the Banner at Daybreak.

Poet.

O a new song, a free song,
 Flapping, flapping, flapping, flapping, by sounds, by voices clearer,
 By the wind's voice and that of the drum,
 By the banner's voice and child's voice and sea's voice and father's voice,
 5 Low on the ground and high in the air,
 On the ground where father and child stand,
 In the upward air where their eyes turn,
 Where the banner at daybreak is flapping. ◦

Words! book-words! what are you?
 10 Words no more, for hearken and see,
 My song is there in the open air, and I must sing,
 With the banner and pennant a-flapping. ◦

I'll weave the chord and twine in,
 Man's desire and babe's desire, I'll twine them in, I'll put in life,
 15 I'll put the bayonet's flashing point, I'll let bullets and slugs whizz,
 (As one carrying a symbol and menace far into the future,
 Crying with trumpet voice, *Arouse and beware! Beware and arouse!*)
 I'll pour the verse with streams of blood, full of volition, full of joy,
 Then loosen, launch forth, to go and compete,
 20 With the banner and pennant a-flapping. ◦

<p><i>Title:</i> 65: SONG/OF/THE BANNER AT DAY- BREAK. 71: SONG OF THE BANNER AT DAY- BREAK. 65-71: [Stanza numbers] [Preceding 1]: 65-71: POET. 4 65-71: voice, and ~ voice, and ~ voice, and</p>	<p>8 65-71: day-break 11 65-71: air—and 14 65-71: desire—I'll ~ life; 15 65-71: point—I'll ~ whizz; 16 65: [Not present] 71: menace, far 17 65: [Not present] 18 65-71: joy;</p>
--	--

Pennant.

Come up here, bard, bard,
 Come up here, soul, soul,
 Come up here, dear little child,
 To fly in the clouds and winds with me, and play with the measureless
 light. ◦

Child.

Father what is that in the sky beckoning to me with long finger? 25
 And what does it say to me all the while? ◦

Father.

Nothing my babe you see in the sky,
 And nothing at all to you it says—but look you my babe,
 Look at these dazzling things in the houses, and see you the money-shops
 opening,
 And see you the vehicles preparing to crawl along the streets with goods; 30
 These, ah these, how valued and toil'd for these!
 How envied by all the earth. ◦

Poet.

Fresh and rosy red the sun is mounting high,
 On floats the sea in distant blue careering through its channels,
 On floats the wind over the breast of the sea setting in toward land, 35
 The great steady wind from west or west-by-south,
 Floating so buoyant with milk-white foam on the waters. ◦

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| [Preceding 21]: | 65: BANNER AND PENNANT. | 29 | 65-71: opening; |
| 71: | PENNANT. | 30 | 65-71: goods: |
| 21 | 65-71: bard; | 31 | 65-71: These! ah, these! how ~ for, these! |
| 22 | 65-71: soul; | 32 | 65-71: earth! |
| 24 | Copy-text: measure-/less | [Preceding 33]: | 65-71: POET. |
| [Preceding 25]: | 65-71: CHILD. | 33 | 65-71: red, the ~ high; |
| 25 | 65-71: Father, what | 34 | 65-71: blue, careering ~ channels; |
| [Preceding 27]: | 65-71: FATHER. | 35 | 65-71: sea, setting ~ land; |
| 27 | 65-71: Nothing, my babe, you ~ sky; | 36 | 65-71: west and |
| 28 | 65-71: says. But ~ you, my | 37 | 65-71: buoyant, with |

But I am not the sea nor the red sun,
 I am not the wind with girlish laughter,
 40 Not the immense wind which strengthens, not the wind which lashes,
 Not the spirit that ever lashes its own body to terror and death,
 But I am that which unseen comes and sings, sings, sings,
 Which babbles in brooks and scoots in showers on the land,
 Which the birds know in the woods mornings and evenings,
 45 And the shore-sands know and the hissing wave, and that banner and pennant,
 Aloft there flapping and flapping. ◦

Child.

O father it is alive—it is full of people—it has children,
 O now it seems to me it is talking to its children,
 I hear it—it talks to me—O it is wonderful!
 50 O it stretches—it spreads and runs so fast—O my father,
 It is so broad it covers the whole sky. ◦

Father.

Cease, cease, my foolish babe,
 What you are saying is sorrowful to me, much it displeases me;
 Behold with the rest again I say, behold not banners and pennants aloft,
 55 But the well-prepared pavements behold, and mark the solid-wall'd houses. ◦

Banner and Pennant.

Speak to the child O bard out of Manhattan,

38 65-71: sea, nor ~ sun;
 39 65-71: wind, with ~ laughter;
 40 65-71: strengthens—not ~ lashes;
 41 65: death: 71: death;
 42 65: am of that
 43 65: land;
 44 65-71: woods, mornings
 45 65-71: know, and
 [Preceding 47]: 65-71: CHILD.
 47 65-71: father, it ~ children!
 48 65-71: children!
 50 65-71: fast! O

51 65-71: broad, it ~ sky!
 [Preceding 52]: 65-71: FATHER.
 53 65-71: me—much
 54 65-71: rest, again I say—behold ~ aloft;
 55 65-71: behold—and
 [Preceding 56]: 65-71: BANNER AND PEN-
 NANT.
 56 65-71: child, O bard, out of Manhattan;
 71: [The following line appears after 56:]
 [1] (The war is over—yet never over
 . . . out of it, we are born to real life
 and identity;)

To our children all, or north or south of Manhattan,
 Point this day, leaving all the rest, to us over all—and yet we know not why,
 For what are we, mere strips of cloth profiting nothing,
 Only flapping in the wind? o 60

Poet.

I hear and see not strips of cloth alone,
 I hear the tramp of armies, I hear the challenging sentry,
 I hear the jubilant shouts of millions of men, I hear Liberty!
 I hear the drums beat and the trumpets blowing,
 I myself move abroad swift-rising flying then, 65
 I use the wings of the land-bird and use the wings of the sea-bird, and look
 down as from a height,
 I do not deny the precious results of peace, I see populous cities with wealth
 incalculable,
 I see numberless farms, I see the farmers working in their fields or barns,
 I see mechanics working, I see buildings everywhere founded, going up,
 or finish'd,
 I see trains of cars swiftly speeding along railroad tracks drawn by the
 locomotives, 70
 I see the stores, depots, of Boston, Baltimore, Charleston, New Orleans,
 I see far in the West the immense area of grain, I dwell awhile hovering,
 I pass to the lumber forests of the North, and again to the Southern plantation,
 and again to California;
 Sweeping the whole I see the countless profit, the busy gatherings, earn'd wages,

57 65-71: speak to our
 65-71: [The following lines appear after
 57:]
 [1] Where our factory-engines hum, where
 our miners delve the ground,
 [2] Where our hoarse Niagara rumbles,
 where our prairie-/plows are plowing;
 58 65-71: Speak, O bard! point ~ why;
 59 65-71: cloth, profiting
 [Preceding 61]: POET.
 61 65-71: alone;
 62 65: sentry; 71: hear again the tramp
 ~ sentry;
 63 65-71: men—I ~ LIBERTY!

64 65: beat, and ~ blowing; 71: beat,
 and ~ trumpets yet blowing;
 65 65-71: abroad, swift-rising, flying then;
 66 65-71: land-bird, and ~ height;
 67 65-71: peace—I ~ cities, with ~ incal-
 culable;
 68 65-71: farms—I ~ barns;
 69 65-71: working—I ~ finish'd;
 70 65-71: tracks, drawn ~ locomotives;
 71 65-71: Orleans;
 72 65-71: west ~ grain—I ~ awhile, hover-
 ing;
 73 65-71: north, ~ southern
 74 65-71: whole, I ~ earned wages;

See the Identity formed out of thirty-eight spacious and haughty States, (and
 75 many more to come,)
 See forts on the shores of harbors, see ships sailing in and out;
 Then over all, (aye! aye!) my little and lengthen'd pennant shaped like a
 sword,
 Runs swiftly up indicating war and defiance—and now the halyards have
 rais'd it,
 Side of my banner broad and blue, side of my starry banner,
 80 Discarding peace over all the sea and land. ○

Banner and Pennant.

Yet louder, higher, stronger, bard! yet farther, wider cleave!
 No longer let our children deem us riches and peace alone,
 We may be terror and carnage, and are so now,
 Not now are we any one of these spacious and haughty States, (nor any five,
 nor ten,)
 85 Nor market nor depot we, nor money-bank in the city,
 But these and all, and the brown and spreading land, and the mines below,
 are ours,
 And the shores of the sea are ours, and the rivers great and small,
 And the fields they moisten, and the crops and the fruits are ours,
 Bays and channels and ships sailing in and out are ours—while we over all,
 Over the area spread below, the three or four millions of square miles, the
 90 capitals,
 The forty millions of people,—O bard! in life and death supreme,
 We, even we, henceforth flaunt out masterful, high up above,
 Not for the present alone, for a thousand years chanting through you,
 This song to the soul of one poor little child. ○

75 65: identity ~ thirty-six ~ come;) 71:
 identity ~ come;)

76 65-71: harbors—see

78 65-71: up, indicating ~ defiance—And

79 65-71: blue—side

[Preceding 81]: 65-71: BANNER AND PEN-
 NANT.

82 65-71: alone;

83 65: We can be ~ carnage also, ~ now;
 71: now;

84 65: we one ~ ten;) 71: ten;)

85 65-71: depot are ~ city;

86 65-71: these, and ~ ours;

87 65-71: small;

88 65-71: moisten are ours, ~ ours;

89 65-71: channels, and ~ out, are ours—and
 we

90 65: three millions of ~ miles—the 71:
 miles—the

91 65: The thirty-five millions of people—
 O 71: people—O

92 65: we, from this day flaunt

93 65-71: years, chanting

Child.

O my father I like not the houses, 95
 They will never to me be any thing, nor do I like money,
 But to mount up there I would like, O father dear, that banner I like,
 That pennant I would be and must be. o

Father.

Child of mine you fill me with anguish,
 To be that pennant would be too fearful, 100
 Little you know what it is this day, and after this day, forever,
 It is to gain nothing, but risk and defy every thing,
 Forward to stand in front of wars—and O, such wars!—what have you to do
 with them?
 With passions of demons, slaughter, premature death? o

Banner.

Demons and death then I sing, 105
 Put in all, aye all will I, sword-shaped pennant for war,
 And a pleasure new and ecstatic, and the prattled yearning of children,
 Blent with the sounds of the peaceful land and the liquid wash of the sea,
 And the black ships fighting on the sea envelop'd in smoke,
 And the icy cool of the far, far north, with rustling cedars and pines, 110
 And the whirr of drums and the sound of soldiers marching, and the hot sun
 shining south,
 And the beach-waves combing over the beach on my Eastern shore, and my
 Western shore the same,

[Preceding, 95]: 65-71: CHILD.

95 65-71: father, I ~ houses;

96 65-71: anything—nor ~ money;

97 65-71: dear—that ~ like;

98 65-71: be, and

[Preceding 99]: 65-71: FATHER.

99 65-71: mine, you ~ anguish;

100 65-71: fearful;

101 65: is this day, and henceforth forever;

71: forever;

102 65-71: everything;

[Preceding 105]: 65-71: POET.

105 65-71: sing;

106 65-71: aye all, will I—sword-shaped ~
 war, and banner so broad and blue,

107 65-71: extatic, and

108 65-71: land, and ~ sea;

109 65: [Not present] 71: ships, fight-
 ing ~ sea, enveloped in smoke;

110 65-71: pines;

111 65-71: drums, and ~ south;

112 65-71: eastern ~ western ~ same;

And all between those shores, and my ever running Mississippi with bends
and chutes,
And my Illinois fields, and my Kansas fields, and my fields of Missouri,
115 The Continent, devoting the whole identity without reserving an atom,
Pour in! whelm that which asks, which sings, with all and the yield of all,
Fusing and holding, claiming, devouring the whole,
No more with tender lip, nor musical labial sound,
But out of the night emerging for good, our voice persuasive no more,
120 Croaking like crows here in the wind. ○

Poet.

My limbs, my veins dilate, my theme is clear at last,
Banner so broad advancing out of the night, I sing you haughty and resolute,
I burst through where I waited long, too long, deafen'd and blinded,
My hearing and tongue are come to me, (a little child taught me,)
125 I hear from above O pennant of war your ironical call and demand,
Insensate! insensate! (yet I at any rate chant you,) O banner!
Not houses of peace indeed are you, nor any nor all their prosperity, (if need
be, you shall again have every one of those houses to destroy them,
You thought not to destroy those valuable houses, standing fast, full of
comfort, built with money,
May they stand fast, then? not an hour except you above them and all stand
fast;)
O banner, not money so precious are you, not farm produce you, nor the
130 material good nutriment,

113 65-71: Mississippi, with ~ chutes;

114 65-71: Missouri;

115 65-71: CONTINENT—devoting ~ identity,
without

116 65-71: all, and ~ all.

65: [The following lines appear after
116:]

BANNER AND PENNANT.

[1] Aye all! for ever, for all!

[2] From sea to sea, north and south,
east and west,

71: [Additional line follows [2]:]
(The war is completed, the price is paid,
the title is settled beyond recall;)

117 65-71: whole;

119 65-71: But, out

[Precedes 121]: 65-71: POET./(Finale.)

121 65-71: dilate;/The blood of the world
has fill'd me full—my theme ~ last:

122 65-71: —Banner ~ broad, advancing ~
resolute;

123 65-71: blinded;

124 65-71: My sight, my ~ tongue, are ~
me;)

125 65-71: above, O ~ war, your ~ demand;

127 65: peace are ~ shall have ~ them; 71:
them;

128 65-71: money;

129 65: then? Not ~ hour, unless you, above
~ all, stand 71: then? Not ~ hour, ~ you,
above ~ all, stand

130 65: —O banner! not ~ you, nor farm
71: —O banner! not

Nor excellent stores, nor landed on wharves from the ships,
 Not the superb ships with sail-power or steam-power, fetching and carrying
 cargoes,
 Nor machinery, vehicles, trade, nor revenues—but you as henceforth I see you,
 Running up out of the night, bringing your cluster of stars, (ever-enlarging
 stars,)
 Divider of daybreak you, cutting the air, touch'd by the sun, measuring the sky, 135
 (Passionately seen and yearn'd for by one poor little child,
 While others remain busy or smartly talking, forever teaching thrift, thrift;)

O you up there! O pennant! where you undulate like a snake hissing so
 curious,
 Out of reach, an idea only, yet furiously fought for, risking bloody death,
 loved by me,
 So loved—O you banner leading the day with stars brought from the night! 140
 Valueless, object of eyes, over all and demanding all—(absolute owner of all)
 —O banner and pennant!

I too leave the rest—great as it is, it is nothing—houses, machines are nothing—
 I see them not,
 I see but you, O warlike pennant! O banner so broad, with stripes, I sing
 you only,
 Flapping up there in the wind. ◦

131 65-71: ships;

132 65-71: ships, with

133 65-71: revenues,—But you, as Copy-text: hence-/forth

134 65-71: stars;) Copy-text: (ever-/enlarging

135 65-71: day-break

137 65-71: busy, or

138 65-71: snake, hissing

139 65-71: reach—an ~ only—yet ~ death—loved by me!

140 65-71: loved! O ~ day, with

141 65: demanding all—O banner 71: of ALL)—O

142 65-71: not;

By the Bivouac's Fitful Flame.

By the bivouac's fitful flame,
 A procession winding around me, solemn and sweet and slow—but first I note,
 The tents of the sleeping army, the fields' and woods' dim outline,
 The darkness lit by spots of kindled fire, the silence,
 5 Like a phantom far or near an occasional figure moving,
 The shrubs and trees, (as I lift my eyes they seem to be stealthily watching me,)
 While wind in procession thoughts, O tender and wondrous thoughts,
 Of life and death, of home and the past and loved, and of those that are
 far away;
 A solemn and slow procession there as I sit on the ground,
 10 By the bivouac's fitful flame. o

Eighteen Sixty-One.

Arm'd year—year of the struggle,
 No dainty rhymes or sentimental love verses for you terrible year,

Title: 65: BY THE BIVOUAC'S FITFUL FLAME.

2 65-71: slow;—but

4 65-71: darkness, lit ~ fire—the silence;

5 65-71: moving;

6 65-71: I left my ~ me;)

7 65: wond'rous

8 65-71: death—of

Title: 65-71: 1861.

1 65-71: year! year ~ struggle!

2 65-71: you, terrible year!

Not you as some pale poetling seated at a desk lisping cadenzas piano,
 But as a strong man erect, clothed in blue clothes, advancing, carrying a rifle
 on your shoulder,
 With well-gristled body and sunburnt face and hands, with a knife in the belt
 at your side, 5
 As I heard you shouting loud, your sonorous voice ringing across the continent,
 Your masculine voice O year, as rising amid the great cities,
 Amid the men of Manhattan I saw you as one of the workmen, the dwellers
 in Manhattan,
 Or with large steps crossing the prairies out of Illinois and Indiana,
 Rapidly crossing the West with springy gait and descending the Alleghanies, 10
 Or down from the great lakes or in Pennsylvania, or on deck along the
 Ohio River,
 Or southward along the Tennessee or Cumberland rivers, or at Chattanooga
 on the mountain top,
 Saw I your gait and saw I your sinewy limbs clothed in blue, bearing weapons,
 robust year,
 Heard your determin'd voice launch'd forth again and again,
 Year that suddenly sang by the mouths of the round-lipp'd cannon, 15
 I repeat you, hurrying, crashing, sad, distracted year. ◦

From Paumanok Starting I Fly like a Bird.

From Paumanok starting I fly like a bird,
 Around and around to soar to sing the idea of all,

- | | | | |
|---|--|----|------------------------------------|
| 3 | 65-71: poetling, seated ~ desk, lisping ~ piano; | 8 | 65-71: you, as ~ Manhattan; |
| 4 | 65-71: man, erect, | 10 | 65-71: gait, and ~ Alleghanies; |
| 5 | 65-71: hands—with | 11 | 65-71: lakes, or ~ river; |
| 6 | 65-71: loud—your ~ continent; | 13 | 65-71: limbs, clothed ~ year; |
| 7 | 65-71: voice, O | 14 | 65-71: voice, launch'd ~ again; |
| | | 15 | 65: round lipp'd 71: round-/lipp'd |

Title: 65: FROM PAUMANOK STARTING I FLY LIKE A BIRD. 71: FROM PAUMANOK STARTING I FLY LIKE A BIRD.

1	65-71: starting, I
2	65-71: soar, to ~ all;

- To the north betaking myself to sing there arctic songs,
 To Kanada till I absorb Kanada in myself, to Michigan then,
 5 To Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, to sing their songs, (they are inimitable;)
 Then to Ohio and Indiana to sing theirs, to Missouri and Kansas and Arkansas
 to sing theirs,
 To Tennessee and Kentucky, to the Carolinas and Georgia to sing theirs,
 To Texas and so along up toward California, to roam accepted everywhere;
 To sing first, (to the tap of the war-drum if need be,)
 10 The idea of all, of the Western world one and inseparable,
 And then the song of each member of these States. o

Beginning My Studies.

- Beginning my studies the first step pleas'd me so much,
 The mere fact consciousness, these forms, the power of motion,
 The least insect or animal, the senses, eyesight, love,
 The first step I say awed me and pleas'd me so much,
 5 I have hardly gone and hardly wish'd to go any farther,
 But stop and loiter all the time to sing it in ecstatic songs. o

3 65-71: myself, to

4 65-71: Kanada, 'till ~ myself—to

6 65: theirs—to 71: theirs—to ~ Arkansas, to

7 65-71: Kentucky—to ~ Georgia, to

8 65-71: Texas, and

9 65-71: war-drum, if

10 65-71: all—of ~ western world, one

11 65-71: These

Title: 65: BEGINNING MY STUDIES. 71: BEGINNING MY STUDIES.

1 65-71: studies, the

2 65-71: fact, consciousness—these forms—the

3 65: animal—the senses—eyesight;/ 71: animal—the senses—eyesight—love;

4 65-71: step, I say, aw'd me

5 65: have never gone, and never wish'd to go, any 71: gone, and ~ go, any

6 65: all my life, to ~ extatic 71: time, to ~ extatic

The Centenarian's Story.

Volunteer of 1861-2, (at Washington Park, Brooklyn, assisting the Centenarian.)

Give me your hand old Revolutionary,
 The hill-top is nigh, but a few steps, (make room gentlemen),
 Up the path you have follow'd me well, spite of your hundred and extra years,
 You can walk old man, though your eyes are almost done,
 Your faculties serve you, and presently I must have them serve me. o 5

Rest, while I tell what the crowd around us means,
 On the plain below recruits are drilling and exercising,
 There is the camp, one regiment departs to-morrow,
 Do you hear the officers giving their orders?
 Do you hear the clank of the muskets? o 10

Why what comes over you now old man?
 Why do you tremble and clutch my hand so convulsively?
 The troops are but drilling, they are yet surrounded with smiles,
 Around them at hand the well-drest friends and the women,
 While splendid and warm the afternoon sun shines down, 15

Title: 65: THE/CENTENARIAN'S STORY./
 VOLUNTEER OF 1861,/(At Washington Park,
 Brooklyn, assisting the Centenarian.) 71:
 THE CENTENARIAN'S STORY./VOLUNTEER OF
 1861-2,/(At Washington Park, Brooklyn, as-
 sisting the Centenarian.)

65-71: [Stanza numbers]

1 65-71: hand, old Revolutionary;
 2 65-71: nigh—but ~ room, gentlemen);
 3 65-71: years;
 4 65-71: walk, old ~ done;

6 65-71: means;

7 65-71: below, recruits ~ exercising;

8 65: camp—one ~ to morrow; 71: camp—
 one ~ to-morrow;

9 65-71: giving the

11 65-71: Why, what ~ now, old

12 65-71: tremble, and

13 65-71: drilling—they ~ smiles;

14 65: hand, the well drest ~ women; 71:
 them, at hand, the ~ friends, and ~ women;

15 65-71: down;

Green the midsummer verdure and fresh blows the dallying breeze,
O'er proud and peaceful cities and arm of the sea between. ◦

But drill and parade are over, they march back to quarters,
Only hear that approval of hands! hear what a clapping! ◦

- 20 As wending the crowds now part and disperse—but we old man,
Nor for nothing have I brought you hither—we must remain,
You to speak in your turn, and I to listen and tell. ◦

The Centenarian.

- When I clutch'd your hand it was not with terror,
But suddenly pouring about me here on every side,
25 And below there where the boys were drilling, and up the slopes they ran,
And where tents are pitch'd, and wherever you see south and south-east and
south-west,
Over hills, across lowlands, and in the skirts of woods,
And along the shores, in mire (now fill'd over) came again and suddenly
raged,
As eighty-five years a-gone no mere parade receiv'd with applause of friends,
30 But a battle which I took part in myself—aye, long ago as it is, I took part in it,
Walking then this hilltop, this same ground. ◦

- Aye, this is the ground,
My blind eyes even as I speak behold it re-peopled from graves,
The years recede, pavements and stately houses disappear,
35 Rude forts appear again, the old hoop'd guns are mounted,
I see the lines of rais'd earth stretching from river to bay,
I mark the vista of waters, I mark the uplands and slopes;

16 65-71: verdure, and

17 65-71: cities, and

18 65-71: over—they ~ quarters;

20 65-71: wending, the ~ we, old

21 65-71: remain;

[Precedes 23]: 65-71: THE CENTENARIAN.

23 65-71: hand, it ~ terror;

24 65-71: suddenly, pouring ~ here, on

26 65-71: see, south

28 65: over,) came again, and 71: over),
came again, and

29 65-71: a-gone, no

30 65-71: battle, which

31 65-71: hill-top,

32 65-71: ground;

33 65: eyes, even ~ speak, behold ~ graves:

71: eyes, even ~ speak, behold ~ graves;

34 65: disappear: 71: disappear;

35 65-71: mounted;

36 65-71: bay;

37 65-71: slopes:

Here we lay encamp'd, it was this time in summer also. ○

As I talk I remember all, I remember the Declaration,
It was read here, the whole army paraded, it was read to us here, 40
By his staff surrounded the General stood in the middle, he held up his
unsheath'd sword,
It glitter'd in the sun in full sight of the army. ○

'Twas a bold act then—the English war-ships had just arrived,
We could watch down the lower bay where they lay at anchor,
And the transports swarming with soldiers. ○ 45

A few days more and they landed, and then the battle. ○

Twenty thousand were brought against us,
A veteran force furnish'd with good artillery. ○

I tell not now the whole of the battle,
But one brigade early in the forenoon order'd forward to engage the red-coats, 50
Of that brigade I tell, and how steadily it march'd,
And how long and well it stood confronting death. ○

Who do you think that was marching steadily sternly confronting death?
It was the brigade of the youngest men, two thousand strong,
Rais'd in Virginia and Maryland, and most of them known personally to the
General. ○ 55

Jauntily forward they went with quick step toward Gowanus' waters,
Till of a sudden unlook'd for by defiles through the woods, gain'd at night,
The British advancing, rounding in from the east, fiercely playing their guns,

38 65-71: encamp'd—it

39 65: talk, I ~ all—I ~ Declaration: 71:
talk, I ~ all—I ~ Declaration;

40 65-71: here—the ~ paraded—it ~ here;

41 65: surrounded, the general ~ middle—he
71: surrounded, the ~ middle—he

43 65: then;/The ~ war ships ~ arrived—
the king had sent them from over the sea; 71:
then;/The ~ arrived—the king had sent them
from over the sea;

45 65-71: transports, swarming

46 65-71: more, and ~ landed—and

48 65-71: force, furnish'd

49 65-71: battle;

50 65-71: brigade, early ~ forenoon, order'd
~ red-coats;

52 65-71: and how ~ stood, confronting

53 65-71: was, marching steadily, sternly

55 65-71: and many of

56 65-71: waters;

57 65-71: sudden, unlook'd for, by

58 65-71: advancing, wedging in

That brigade of the youngest was cut off and at the enemy's mercy. ○

- 60 The General watch'd them from this hill,
They made repeated desperate attempts to burst their environment,
Then drew close together, very compact, their flag flying in the middle,
But O from the hills how the cannon were thinning and thinning them! ○

It sickens me yet, that slaughter!

- 65 I saw the moisture gather in drops on the face of the General.
I saw how he wrung his hands in anguish. ○

Meanwhile the British manœuvr'd to draw us out for a pitch'd battle,
But we dared not trust the chances of a pitch'd battle. ○

- We fought the fight in detachments,
70 Sallying forth we fought at several points, but in each the luck was against us,
Our foe advancing, steadily getting the best of it, push'd us back to the works
on this hill,
Till we turn'd menacing here, and then he left us. ○

That was the going out of the brigade of the youngest men, two thousand
strong,
Few return'd, nearly all remain in Brooklyn. ○

- 75 That and here my General's first battle,
No women looking on nor sunshine to bask in, it did not conclude with
applause,
Nobody clapp'd hands here then. ○

But in darkness in mist on the ground under a chill rain,
Wearied that night we lay foil'd and sullen,

59 65-71: off, and
60 65-71: hill;
61 65-71: environment;
62 65-71: middle;
65 65-71: General;
67 65-71: maneuver'd ~ battle;
69 65-71: detachments;
70 65-71: forth, we ~ points—but ~ us;
71 65-71: hill;

72 65: menacing, here, 71: turn'd, menacing, here, and
73 65-71: strong;
74 65-71: return'd—nearly
75 65-71: That, and here, my ~ battle;
76 65-71: on, nor ~ in—it ~ applause;
78 65-71: darkness, in mist, on ~ ground, under
79 65-71: lay, foil'd ~ sullen;

While scornfully laugh'd many an arrogant lord off against us encamp'd, 80
 Quite within hearing, feasting, clinking wineglasses together over their
 victory. o

So dull and damp and another day,
 But the night of that, mist lifting, rain ceasing,
 Silent as a ghost while they thought they were sure of him, my General
 retreated. o

I saw him at the river-side, 85
 Down by the ferry lit by torches, hastening the embarkation;
 My General waited till the soldiers and wounded were all pass'd over,
 And then, (it was just ere sunrise,) these eyes rested on him for the last
 time. o

Every one else seem'd fill'd with gloom,
 Many no doubt thought of capitulation. o 90

But when my General pass'd me,
 As he stood in his boat and look'd toward the coming sun,
 I saw something different from capitulation. o

Terminus.

Enough, the Centenarian's story ends,
 The two, the past and present, have interchanged, 95
 I myself as connector, as chansonnier of a great future, am now speaking. o

And is this the ground Washington trod?
 And these waters I listlessly daily cross, are these the waters he cross'd,
 As resolute in defeat as other generals in their proudest triumphs? o

80 65-71: lord, off

81 65-71: clinking wine-glasses

82 65: So, dull ~ day; 71: So, dull ~
 damp, and ~ day;

84 65-71: ghost, while

86 65-71: ferry, lit

87 65-71: over;

89 65-71: gloom;

92 65-71: boat, and

[Precedes 94]: 65-71: TERMINUS.

94 65-71: Enough—the ~ ends;

95 65-71: interchanged;

96 65-71: myself, as

99 65-71: defeat, as

65-71: [The following line appears—after
 a space—after 99:]

[1] It is well—a lesson like that, always
 comes good; [No space between [1] and

100]

100 I must copy the story, and send it eastward and westward,
I must preserve that look as it beam'd on you rivers of Brooklyn. ○

See—as the annual round returns the phantoms return,
It is the 27th of August and the British have landed,
The battle begins and goes against us, behold through the smoke Washington's
face,

The brigade of Virginia and Maryland have march'd forth to intercept the
105 enemy,

They are cut off, murderous artillery from the hills plays upon them,
Rank after rank falls, while over them silently droops the flag,
Baptized that day in many a young man's bloody wounds,
In death, defeat, and sisters', mothers' tears. ○

Ah, hills and slopes of Brooklyn! I perceive you are more valuable than your
110 owners supposed;

In the midst of you stands an encampment very old,
Stands forever the camp of that dead brigade. ○

Pioneers! O Pioneers!

Come my tan-faced children,
Follow well in order, get your weapons ready,

100 65-71: westward;

101 65-71: look, as ~ you, rivers

102 65-71: See! as ~ returns, the ~ return;

103 65-71: August, and ~ landed;

104 65: begins, and ~ us—behold! through
~ face; 71: begins, and ~ us—behold!
through ~ smoke, Washington's face; 81-
88[SS]: begins, and ~ us behold through
88[CPP]: [Final reading]

105 65-71: enemy;

106 65-71: off—murderous ~ them;

110 65-71: [The following line appears after
110:]

[1] Ah, river! henceforth you will be il-
lumin'd to me at sunrise with something
besides the sun. [Space between [1] and
111]

111 65-71: Encampments new! in ~ old;

112 65-71: of the dead

Title: 65: PIONEERS!/O PIONEERS! 71: PIO-
NEERS! O PIONEERS! 65-71: [Stanza numbers,
centered]

1 65-71: Come, my

2 65-71: ready;

Have you your pistols? have you your sharp-edged axes?
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

For we cannot tarry here, 5
We must march my darlings, we must bear the brunt of danger,
We the youthful sinewy races, all the rest on us depend,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

O you youths, Western youths, 10
So impatient, full of action, full of manly pride and friendship,
Plain I see you Western youths, see you tramping with the foremost,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

Have the elder races halted?
Do they droop and end their lesson, wearied over there beyond the seas?
We take up the task eternal, and the burden and the lesson,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o 15

All the past we leave behind,
We debouch upon a newer mightier world, varied world,
Fresh and strong the world we seize, world of labor and the march,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o 20

We detachments steady throwing,
Down the edges, through the passes, up the mountains steep,
Conquering, holding, daring, venturing as we go the unknown ways,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

We primeval forests felling, 25
We the rivers stemming, vexing we and piercing deep the mines within,
We the surface broad surveying, we the virgin soil upheaving,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

Colorado men are we,

3 65-71: sharp edged

7 65-71: We, the

9 65-71: western

11 65-71: you, western Copy-text: fore-/most,

14 65-71: wearied, over

15 65-71: burden, and

17 65-71: behind;

18 65-71: newer, mightier ~ world;

23 65-71: venturing, as ~ go, the

26 65-71: we, and ~ within;

27 65: surveying, and the ~ up-/heaving,

71: up-/heaving,

30 From the peaks gigantic, from the great sierras and the high plateaus,
From the mine and from the gully, from the hunting trail we come,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

From Nebraska, from Arkansas,
Central inland race are we, from Missouri, with the continental blood
intervein'd,

35 All the hands of comrades clasping, all the Southern, all the Northern,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

O resistless restless race!
O beloved race in all! O my breast aches with tender love for all!
O I mourn and yet exult, I am rapt with love for all,
40 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

Raise the mighty mother mistress,
Waving high the delicate mistress, over all the starry mistress, (bend your
heads all,)
Raise the fang'd and warlike mistress, stern, impassive, weapon'd mistress,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

45 See my children, resolute children,
By those swarms upon our rear we must never yield or falter,
Ages back in ghostly millions frowning there behind us urging,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

On and on the compact ranks,
50 With accessions ever waiting, with the places of the dead quickly fill'd,
Through the battle, through defeat, moving yet and never stopping,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

O to die advancing on!
Are there some of us to droop and die? has the hour come?
55 Then upon the march we fittest die, soon and sure the gap is fill'd,
Pioneers! O pioneers! o

34 65-71: intervein'd;

37 65-71: resistless, restless

39 65-71: exult—I

45 65-71: See, my

46 65-71: rear, we

47 65-71: millions, frowning

49 65-71: on, the

All the pulses of the world,
 Falling in they beat for us, with the Western movement beat,
 Holding single or together, steady moving to the front, all for us,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o 60

Life's involv'd and varied pageants,
 All the forms and shows, all the workmen at their work,
 All the seamen and the landsmen, all the masters with their slaves,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

All the hapless silent lovers, 65
 All the prisoners in the prisons, all the righteous and the wicked,
 All the joyous, all the sorrowing, all the living, all the dying,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

I too with my soul and body,
 We, a curious trio, picking, wandering on our way, 70
 Through these shores amid the shadows, with the apparitions pressing,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

Lo, the darting bowling orb!
 Lo, the brother orbs around, all the clustering suns and planets,
 All the dazzling days, all the mystic nights with dreams, 75
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

These are of us, they are with us,
 All for primal needed work, while the followers there in embryo wait behind,
 We to-day's procession heading, we the route for travel clearing,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o 80

O you daughters of the West!
 O you young and elder daughters! O you mothers and you wives!
 Never must you be divided, in our ranks you move united,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

Minstrels latent on the prairies! 85

58 65-71: in, they ~ western ~ beat;

59 65-71: moving, to

71 65-71: shores, amid

73 65-71: Lo! the

74 65-71: Lo! the ~ around! all ~ planets;
 81-88[CPP]: clustering sons 89: [Final reading]

81 65-71: west!

(Shrouded bards of other lands, you may rest, you have done your work,)
 Soon I hear you coming warbling, soon you rise and tramp amid us,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

Not for delectations sweet,
 90 Not the cushion and the slipper, not the peaceful and the studious,
 Not the riches safe and palling, not for us the tame enjoyment,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

Do the feasters gluttonous feast?
 Do the corpulent sleepers sleep? have they lock'd and bolted doors?
 95 Still be ours the diet hard, and the blanket on the ground,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

Has the night descended?
 Was the road of late so toilsome? did we stop discouraged nodding on
 our way?
 Yet a passing hour I yield you in your tracks to pause oblivious,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

100 Till with sound of trumpet,
 Far, far off the daybreak call—hark! how loud and clear I hear it wind,
 Swift! to the head of the army!—swift! spring to your places,
 Pioneers! O pioneers! o

86 65-71: lands! you ~ sleep—you ~ work;)
 89 65-71: sweet;
 90 65-71: studious;

98 65-71: discouraged, nodding
 99 65-71: you, in
 102 65-71: day-break ~ wind;

Come tell us old man, as from young men and maidens that love me,
 (Arous'd and angry, I'd thought to beat the alarm, and urge relentless war,
 5 But soon my fingers fail'd me, my face droop'd and I resign'd myself,
 To sit by the wounded and soothe them, or silently watch the dead;)
 Years hence of these scenes, of these furious passions, these chances,
 Of unsurpass'd heroes, (was one side so brave? the other was equally brave;)
 Now be witness again, paint the mightiest armies of earth,
 10 Of those armies so rapid so wondrous what saw you to tell us?
 What stays with you latest and deepest? of curious panics,
 Of hard-fought engagements or sieges tremendous what deepest remains? o

2

O maidens and young men I love and that love me,
 What you ask of my days those the strangest and sudden your talking recalls,
 15 Soldier alert I arrive after a long march cover'd with sweat and dust,
 In the nick of time I come, plunge in the fight, loudly shout in the rush of
 successful charge,
 Enter the captur'd works—yet lo, like a swift-running river they fade,
 Pass and are gone they fade—I dwell not on soldiers' perils or soldiers' joys,
 (Both I remember well—many the hardships, few the joys, yet I was
 content.) o

20 But in silence, in dreams' projections,
 While the world of gain and appearance and mirth goes on,
 So soon what is over forgotten, and waves wash the imprints off the sand,
 With hinged knees returning I enter the doors, (while for you up there,
 Whoever you are, follow without noise and be of strong heart.) o

25 Bearing the bandages, water and sponge,

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 3 | 65: <i>Come tell us old man</i> , ~ me; 71: ~ recalls;
<i>Come tell us, old man</i> , ~ me; | 15 | 65-71: arrive, after ~ march, cover'd ~
dust; |
| 4 | 65-71: [Not present] [For 4-6, see <i>Title-</i>
<i>note</i> , II 453 and poem [<i>Aroused and Angry</i>],
III 630] | 16 | 65-71: charge; |
| 5 | 65-71: [Not present] | 17 | 65: works . . . yet lo! like ~ swift-/
running river, they fade; 71: works . . .
yet lo! like ~ river, they fade; |
| 6 | 65-71: [Not present] | 18 | 65-71: gone, they ~ joys; |
| 9 | 65-71: again—paint ~ earth; | 20 | 65: dream's |
| 10 | 65-71: rapid, so wondrous, what | 23 | 65-71: In nature's reverie sad, with ~ re-
turning, I ~ doors—(while |
| 12 | 65-71: engagements, or ~ tremendous,
what | 24 | 65-71: follow me ~ noise, and |
| 13 | 65-71: love, and | 25 | 71: [Section 3 begins with 25]. |
| 14 | 65: days, those ~ recals; 71: days, those | | |

Straight and swift to my wounded I go,
 Where they lie on the ground after the battle brought in,
 Where their priceless blood reddens the grass the ground,
 Or to the rows of the hospital tent, or under the roof'd hospital,
 To the long rows of cots up and down each side I return, 30
 To each and all one after another I draw near, not one do I miss,
 An attendant follows holding a tray, he carries a refuse pail,
 Soon to be fill'd with clotted rags and blood, emptied, and fill'd again. ◦

I onward go, I stop,
 With hinged knees and steady hand to dress wounds, 35
 I am firm with each, the pangs are sharp yet unavoidable,
 One turns to me his appealing eyes—poor boy! I never knew you,
 Yet I think I could not refuse this moment to die for you, if that would
 save you. ◦

3

On, on I go, (open doors of time! open hospital doors!)
 The crush'd head I dress, (poor crazed hand tear not the bandage away,) 40
 The neck of the cavalry-man with the bullet through and through I examine,
 Hard the breathing rattles, quite glazed already the eye, yet life struggles hard,
 (Come sweet death! be persuaded O beautiful death!
 In mercy come quickly.) ◦

From the stump of the arm, the amputated hand, 45
 I undo the clotted lint, remove the slough, wash off the matter and blood,
 Back on his pillow the soldier bends with curv'd neck and side-falling head,
 His eyes are closed, his face is pale, he dares not look on the bloody stump,

27 65-71: ground, after ~ in;

28 65-71: grass, the ground;

29 65-71: hospital;

30 65-71: cots, up ~ down, each side, I return;

31 65-71: all, one ~ another, I ~ near—not
 ~ miss;

32 65-71: follows, holding a tray—he

35 65-71: hand, to ~ wounds;

36 65-71: each—the ~ sharp, yet unavail-
 able;

37 65-71: eyes—(poor

38 65-71: you.)

39 65-71: go—(open, doors ~ open, hospital
 71: [Section 4 begins with 39]

40 65-71: hand, tear ~ away;)

41 65-71: cavalry-man, with ~ through, I ex-
 amine;

42 65-71: hard;

43 65-71: (Come, sweet ~ persuaded, O

46 65-71: blood;

47 65-71: bends, with ~ neck, and ~ head;
 Copy-text: side-/falling

48 71: pale, (he

And has not yet look'd on it. ○

50 I dress a wound in the side, deep, deep,
But a day or two more, for see the frame all wasted and sinking,
And the yellow-blue countenance see. ○

I dress the perforated shoulder, the foot with the bullet-wound,
Cleanse the one with a gnawing and putrid gangrene, so sickening, so offensive,
55 While the attendant stands behind aside me holding the tray and pail. ○

I am faithful, I do not give out,
The fractur'd thigh, the knee, the wound in the abdomen,
These and more I dress with impassive hand, (yet deep in my breast a fire,
a burning flame.) ○

4

Thus in silence in dreams' projections,
60 Returning, resuming, I thread my way through the hospitals,
The hurt and wounded I pacify with soothing hand,
I sit by the restless all the dark night, some are so young,
Some suffer so much, I recall the experience sweet and sad,
(Many a soldier's loving arms about this neck have cross'd and rested,
65 Many a soldier's kiss dwells on these bearded lips.) ○

49 65: looked 71: it.)

50 65-71: deep;

51 65: more—for see, the 71: more—for see, the ~ wasted already, and

53 65-71: bullet wound,

55 65-71: me, holding

56 65-71: out;

58 65-71: hand—(yet

59 65: silence, in dream's 71: silence, in [Section 5 begins with 59]

60 65-71: hospitals;

62 65-71: night—some ~ young;

63 65-71: much—I ~ sad;

When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer.

When I heard the learn'd astronomer,
 When the proofs, the figures, were ranged in columns before me,
 When I was shown the charts and diagrams, to add, divide, and measure them,
 When I sitting heard the astronomer where he lectured with much applause in
 the lecture-room,
 How soon unaccountable I became tired and sick, 5
 Till rising and gliding out I wander'd off by myself,
 In the mystical moist night-air, and from time to time,
 Look'd up in perfect silence at the stars. o

Rise O Days from Your Fathomless Deeps.

I

Rise O days from your fathomless deeps, till you loftier, fiercer sweep,
 Long for my soul hungering gymnastic I devour'd what the earth gave me,

Title: 65: WHEN I HEARD THE LEARN'D ASTRONOMER. 71: WHEN I HEARD THE LEARN'D ASTRONOMER.

1 65-71: astronomer;
 2 65-71: me;

3 65-71: and the diagrams, ~ them;
 4 65-71: I, sitting, heard ~ astronomer, where
 5 65-71: soon, unaccountable, I ~ sick;
 6 65-71: out, I

Title: 65: RISE O DAYS FROM YOUR FATHOMLESS DEEPS. 71: RISE, O DAYS, FROM YOUR FATHOMLESS DEEPS.

65-71: [Section numbers]

1 65: Rise, O days, from ~ loftier and fiercer sweep! 71: Rise, O days, from ~ sweep!
 2 65-71: soul, hungering gymnastic, I ~ me;

Long I roam'd the woods of the north, long I watch'd Niagara pouring,
 I travel'd the prairies over and slept on their breast, I cross'd the Nevadas,
 I cross'd the plateaus,
 5 I ascended the towering rocks along the Pacific, I sail'd out to sea,
 I sail'd through the storm, I was refresh'd by the storm,
 I watch'd with joy the threatening maws of the waves,
 I mark'd the white combs where they career'd so high, curling over,
 I heard the wind piping, I saw the black clouds,
 Saw from below what arose and mounted, (O superb! O wild as my heart,
 10 and powerful!)
 Heard the continuous thunder as it bellow'd after the lightning,
 Noted the slender and jagged threads of lightning as sudden and fast amid
 the din they chased each other across the sky;
 These, and such as these, I, elate, saw—saw with wonder, yet pensive and
 masterful,
 All the menacing might of the globe uprisen around me,
 15 Yet there with my soul I fed, I fed content, supercilious. ◦

2

'Twas well, O soul—'twas a good preparation you gave me,
 Now we advance our latent and ampler hunger to fill,
 Now we go forth to receive what the earth and the sea never gave us,
 Not through the mighty woods we go, but through the mightier cities,
 20 Something for us is pouring now more than Niagara pouring,
 Torrents of men, (sources and rills of the Northwest are you indeed
 inexhaustible?)
 What, to pavements and homesteads here, what were those storms of the
 mountains and sea?
 What, to passions I witness around me to-day? was the sea risen?

3 65-71: north—long ~ pouring;

4 65-71: over, and ~ breast—I ~ plateaus;

5 65-71: sea;

6 65-71: storm;

7 65-71: waves;

8 65-71: over;

9 65-71: clouds;

11 65-71: thunder, as ~ lightning;

12 65-71: lightning, as

13 65-71: —These, ~ masterful;

14 65-71: me;

15 65-71: fed—I

16 65-71: soul! 'twas ~ me!

17 65-71: fill;

18 65-71: us;

19 65-71: cities;

20 65-71: now, more ~ pouring;

21 65-71: Northwest, are

22 65-71: here—what

23 65-71: Was

Was the wind piping the pipe of death under the black clouds?
 Lo! from deeps more unfathomable, something more deadly and savage, 25
 Manhattan rising, advancing with menacing front—Cincinnati, Chicago,
 unchain'd;
 What was that swell I saw on the ocean? behold what comes here,
 How it climbs with daring feet and hands—how it dashes!
 How the true thunder bellows after the lightning—how bright the flashes of
 lightning!
 How Democracy with desperate vengeful port strides on, shown through the
 dark by those flashes of lightning! 30
 (Yet a mournful wail and low sob I fancied I heard through the dark,
 In a lull of the deafening confusion.) ◦

3

Thunder on! stride on, Democracy! strike with vengeful stroke!
 And do you rise higher than ever yet O days, O cities!
 Crash heavier, heavier yet O storms! you have done me good, 35
 My soul prepared in the mountains absorbs your immortal strong nutriment,
 Long had I walk'd my cities, my country roads through farms, only half
 satisfied,
 One doubt nauseous undulating like a snake, crawl'd on the ground before me,
 Continually preceding my steps, turning upon me oft, ironically hissing low;
 The cities I loved so well I abandon'd and left, I sped to the certainties suitable
 to me, 40
 Hungering, hungering, hungering, for primal energies and Nature's
 dauntlessness,
 I refresh'd myself with it only, I could relish it only,
 I waited the bursting forth of the pent fire—on the water and air I waited long;
 But now I no longer wait, I am fully satisfied, I am gluttoned,
 I have witness'd the true lightning, I have witness'd my cities electric, 45

25 65-71: savage;

26 65-71: Manhattan, rising,

27 65-71: —What ~ here!

28 65-71: hands! how

29 65-71: lightning! how

30 65-71: DEMOCRACY, with

33 65: on Democracy!

34 65-71: yet, O

35 65-71: yet, O ~ good;

36 65-71: soul, prepared ~ mountains, ab-

sorbs ~ nutriment;

37 65: roads, through ~ satisfied; 71:
—Long ~ roads, through ~ satisfied;

38 65-71: doubt, nauseous, undulating

40 65-71: —The ~ well, I ~ left—I ~ me;

41 65-71: energies, and

42 65-71: only;

44 65-71: —But ~ wait—I ~ satisfied—I ~
gluttoned;

45 65-71: lightning—I ~ electric;

I have lived to behold man burst forth and warlike America rise,
Hence I will seek no more the food of the northern solitary wilds,
No more the mountains roam or sail the stormy sea. ◦

A Child's Amaze.

Silent and amazed even when a little boy,
I remember I heard the preacher every Sunday put God in his statements,
As contending against some being or influence. ◦

Beat! Beat! Drums!

Beat! beat! drums!—blow! bugles! blow!
Through the windows—through doors—burst like a ruthless force,

46 65-71: forth, and ~ rise;
48 65-71: more on the ~ roam, or

Title: 65: A CHILD'S AMAZE. 71: A CHILD'S
AMAZE.

1 65-71: amazed, even

Title: 65: BEAT! BEAT! DRUMS! 71: BEAT!
BEAT! DRUMS!
65-71: [Section numbers]

1 65-71: drums!—Blow! [Section 1 begins
with 1]

2 65: like a force of ruthless men,

Into the solemn church, and scatter the congregation,
 Into the school where the scholar is studying;
 Leave not the bridegroom quiet—no happiness must he have now with his
 bride, 5
 Nor the peaceful farmer any peace, ploughing his field or gathering his grain,
 So fierce you whirr and pound you drums—so shrill you bugles blow. ◦

Beat! beat! drums!—blow! bugles! blow!
 Over the traffic of cities—over the rumble of wheels in the streets;
 Are beds prepared for sleepers at night in the houses? no sleepers must sleep in
 those beds, 10
 No bargainers' bargains by day—no brokers or speculators—would they
 continue?
 Would the talkers be talking? would the singer attempt to sing?
 Would the lawyer rise in the court to state his case before the judge?
 Then rattle quicker, heavier drums—you bugles wilder blow. ◦

Beat! beat! drums!—blow! bugles! blow! 15
 Make no parley—stop for no expostulation,
 Mind not the timid—mind not the weeper or prayer,
 Mind not the old man beseeching the young man,
 Let not the child's voice be heard, nor the mother's entreaties,
 Make even the trestles to shake the dead where they lie awaiting the hearses, 20
 So strong you thump O terrible drums—so loud you bugles blow. ◦

3 65-71: congregation;

4 65: studying; 71: studying;

5 65-71: bride;

6 65-71: plowing ~ grain;

7 65-71: pound, you

8 65-71: drums!—Blow! [Section 2 begins with 8]

9 65-71: streets:

10 65-71: No ~ beds;

11 65-71: Would

15 65-71: drums!—Blow! [Section 3 begins with 15]

16 65-71: expostulation;

17 65-71: prayer;

18 65-71: man;

19 65-71: entreaties;

20 65-71: dead, where

21 65-71: thump, O

Come Up from the Fields Father.

Come up from the fields father, here's a letter from our Pete,
And come to the front door mother, here's a letter from thy dear son. ◦

Lo, 'tis autumn,
Lo, where the trees, deeper green, yellower and redder,
5 Cool and sweeten Ohio's villages with leaves fluttering in the moderate wind,
Where apples ripe in the orchards hang and grapes on the trellis'd vines,
(Smell you the smell of the grapes on the vines?
Smell you the buckwheat where the bees were lately buzzing?) ◦

Above all, lo, the sky so calm, so transparent after the rain, and with
wondrous clouds,
10 Below too, all calm, all vital and beautiful, and the farm prospers well. ◦

Down in the fields all prospers well,
But now from the fields come father, come at the daughter's call,
And come to the entry mother, to the front door come right away. ◦

Fast as she can she hurries, something ominous, her steps trembling,
15 She does not tarry to smooth her hair nor adjust her cap. ◦

Title: 65: COME UP FROM THE FIELDS FATHER.
71: Come Up from the Fields, Father.
65: [Stanza numbers] 71: [Stanza and section numbers]
1 65-71: fields, father, ~ Pete; 71: [Section 1 begins with 1]
2 65-71: door, mother—here's mother—here's ~ son.
3 65-71: autumn; 71: [Section 2 begins with 3]
5 65-71: villages, with ~ wind;

6 65-71: hang, and ~ vines;
8 65-71: buckwheat, where
9 65-71: sky, so ~ clouds;
10 65-71: Below, too, ~ beautiful—and
11 65-71: well; 71: [Section 3 begins with 11]
12 65-71: come, father—come ~ call;
13 65-71: entry, mother—to ~ come, right
14 65-71: hurries—something ominous—her ~ trembling;
15 65: her white hair, nor 71: hair, nor

Open the envelope quickly,
 O this is not our son's writing, yet his name is sign'd,
 O a strange hand writes for our dear son, O stricken mother's soul!
 All swims before her eyes, flashes with black, she catches the main words only,
 Sentences broken, *gunshot wound in the breast, cavalry skirmish, taken to*
hospital, 20
At present low, but will soon be better. ◦

Ah now the single figure to me,
 Amid all teeming and wealthy Ohio with all its cities and farms,
 Sickly white in the face and dull in the head, very faint,
 By the jamb of a door leans. ◦ 25

Grieve not so, dear mother, (the just-grown daughter speaks through her sobs,
 The little sisters huddle around speechless and dismay'd,)
See, dearest mother, the letter says Pete will soon be better. ◦

Alas poor boy, he will never be better, (nor may-be needs to be better, that
 brave and simple soul,) 30
 While they stand at home at the door he is dead already,
 The only son is dead. ◦

But the mother needs to be better,
 She with thin form presently drest in black,
 By day her meals untouch'd, then at night fitfully sleeping, often waking,
 In the midnight waking, weeping, longing with one deep longing, 35
 O that she might withdraw unnoticed, silent from life escape and withdraw,
 To follow, to seek, to be with her dear dead son. ◦

16 65-71: quickly;

17 65-71: sign'd;

18 65-71: son—O

19 65-71: eyes—flashes ~ black—she ~ only;

20 65-71: broken—*gun-shot*

22 65-71: Ah, now 71: [Section 4 begins with 22]

23 65-71: Ohio, with

24 71: face, and

26 65-71: sobs;

27 65-71: around, speechless ~ dismay'd;)

29 65-71: Alas, poor ~ soul;) 71: [Section 5 begins with 29]

30 65-71: door, he ~ already;

32 65-71: better;

33 65-71: She, with ~ form, presently ~ black;

34 65-71: untouch'd—then

36 65-71: unnoticed—silent ~ life, escape

City of Ships.

City of ships!
 (O the black ships! O the fierce ships!
 O the beautiful sharp-bow'd steam-ships and sail-ships!)
 City of the world! (for all races are here,
 5 All the lands of the earth make contributions here;)
 City of the sea! city of hurried and glittering tides!
 City whose gleeful tides continually rush or recede, whirling in and out with
 eddies and foam!
 City of wharves and stores—city of tall façades of marble and iron!
 Proud and passionate city—mettlesome, mad, extravagant city!
 10 Spring up O city—not for peace alone, but be indeed yourself, warlike!
 Fear not—submit to no models but your own O city!
 Behold me—incarnate me as I have incarnated you!
 I have rejected nothing you offer'd me—whom you adopted I have adopted,
 Good or bad I never question you—I love all—I do not condemn any thing,
 15 I chant and celebrate all that is yours—yet peace no more,
 In peace I chanted peace, but now the drum of war is mine,
 War, red war is my song through your streets, O city! o

Title: 65-71: CITY OF SHIPS.

3 65-71: beautiful, sharp-bow'd

4 65-71: here;

7 65-71: out, with

8 65-71: stores! city

9 65-71: city! mettlesome,

10 65-71: up, O city! not

11 65-71: not! submit ~ own, O

12 65-71: me! incarnate me, as

13 65-71: adopted, I ~ adopted;

14 65-71: bad, I ~ anything;

15 65-71: more;

16 65-71: mine;

17 65-71: war, is

Mother and Babe.

I see the sleeping babe nestling the breast of its mother,
The sleeping mother and babe—hush'd, I study them long and long. °

Vigil Strange I Kept on the Field One Night.

Vigil strange I kept on the field one night;
When you my son and my comrade dropt at my side that day,
One look I but gave which your dear eyes return'd with a look I shall never
forget,
One touch of your hand to mine O boy, reach'd up as you lay on the ground,
Then onward I sped in the battle, the even-contested battle, 5
Till late in the night reliev'd to the place at last again I made my way,
Found you in death so cold dear comrade, found your body son of responding
kisses, (never again on earth responding,)

Title: 65: MOTHER AND BABE. 71: MOTHER
AND BABE.

1 65-71: babe, nestling ~ mother;

Title: 65: VIGIL STRANGE I KEPT ON THE FIELD
ONE NIGHT. 71: VIGIL STRANGE I KEPT ON THE
FIELD ONE NIGHT.

1 65: night, 71: night:

2 65-71: you, my ~ comrade, dropt

3 65-71: gave, which ~ return'd, with ~

forget;

4 65-71: mine, O ~ ground;

5 65-71: battle;

6 65-71: reliev'd, to ~ way;

7 65-71: cold, dear comrade—found ~ body,
son ~ responding;)

Bared your face in the starlight, curious the scene, cool blew the moderate
 night-wind,
 Long there and then in vigil I stood, dimly around me the battle-field spreading,
 10 Vigil wondrous and vigil sweet there in the fragrant silent night,
 But not a tear fell, not even a long-drawn sigh, long, long I gazed,
 Then on the earth partially reclining sat by your side leaning my chin in my
 hands,
 Passing sweet hours, immortal and mystic hours with you dearest comrade—
 not a tear, not a word,
 Vigil of silence, love and death, vigil for you my son and my soldier,
 15 As onward silently stars aloft, eastward new ones upward stole,
 Vigil final for you brave boy, (I could not save you, swift was your death,
 I faithfully loved you and cared for you living, I think we shall surely meet
 again,)
 Till at latest lingering of the night, indeed just as the dawn appear'd,
 My comrade I wrapt in his blanket, envelop'd well his form,
 Folded the blanket well, tucking it carefully over head and carefully
 20 under feet,
 And there and then and bathed by the rising sun, my son in his grave, in his
 rude-dug grave I deposited,
 Ending my vigil strange with that, vigil of night and battle-field dim,
 Vigil for boy of responding kisses, (never again on earth responding,)
 Vigil for comrade swiftly slain, vigil I never forget, how as day brighten'd,
 I rose from the chill ground and folded my soldier well in his blanket,
 And buried him where he fell. o

8 65-71: starlight—curious ~ scene—cool ~ night-wind;

9 65-71: spreading; Copy-text: battle-/field

10 65-71: sweet, there ~ night;

11 65-71: sigh—Long, ~ gazed;

12 65-71: reclining, sat ~ side, leaning ~ hands;

13 65-71: you, dearest comrade—Not ~ word;

14 65-71: death—vigil ~ you, my

15 65-71: stole;

16 65-71: you, brave

17 65-71: living—I ~ again;)

20 65-71: head, and ~ feet;

21 65-71: then, and ~ deposited;

22 65-71: that—vigil ~ dim;

23 65-71: responding;)

24 65-71: slain—vigil

25 65-71: ground, and

BATHED IN WAR'S PERFUME.

Bathed in war's perfume—delicate flag!
 (Should the days needing armies, needing fleets, come again,)
 O to hear you call the sailors and the soldiers! flag like a beautiful woman!
 O to hear the tramp, tramp, of a million answering men! O the ships they
 arm with joy!
 O to see you leap and beckon from the tall masts of ships! 5
 O to see you peering down on the sailors on the decks!
 Flag like the eyes of women. o

A March in the Ranks Hard-Prest,
 and the Road Unknown.

A march in the ranks hard-prest, and the road unknown,
 A route through a heavy wood with muffled steps in the darkness,
 Our army foil'd with loss severe, and the sullen remnant retreating,

Title: 65-71: BATHED IN WAR'S PERFUME. [Ex-
 cluded after 71; text is 71]

2 65: [Not present]

Title: 65: A MARCH IN THE RANKS HARD-PREST,
 AND THE ROAD UNKNOWN. 71: A MARCH IN
 THE RANKS HARD-PREST, AND THE ROAD UN-
 KNOWN.

1 65-71: unknown;
 2 65-71: wood, with ~ darkness;
 3 65-71: retreating;

Till after midnight glimmer upon us the lights of a dim-lighted building,
 5 We come to an open space in the woods, and halt by the dim-lighted building,
 'Tis a large old church at the crossing roads, now an impromptu hospital,
 Entering but for a minute I see a sight beyond all the pictures and poems
 ever made,
 Shadows of deepest, deepest black, just lit by moving candles and lamps,
 And by one great pitchy torch stationary with wild red flame and clouds of
 smoke,
 By these, crowds, groups of forms vaguely I see on the floor, some in the pews
 10 laid down,
 At my feet more distinctly a soldier, a mere lad, in danger of bleeding to death,
 (he is shot in the abdomen,)
 I stanch the blood temporarily, (the youngster's face is white as a lily,)
 Then before I depart I sweep my eyes o'er the scene fain to absorb it all,
 Faces, varieties, postures beyond description, most in obscurity, some of them
 dead,
 Surgeons operating, attendants holding lights, the smell of ether, the odor of
 15 blood,
 The crowd, O the crowd of the bloody forms, the yard outside also fill'd,
 Some on the bare ground, some on planks or stretchers, some in the
 death-spasm sweating,
 An occasional scream or cry, the doctor's shouted orders or calls,
 The glisten of the little steel instruments catching the glint of the torches,
 20 These I resume as I chant, I see again the forms, I smell the odor,
 Then hear outside the orders given, *Fall in, my men, fall in;*
 But first I bend to the dying lad, his eyes open, a half-smile gives he me,
 Then the eyes close, calmly close, and I speed forth to the darkness,
 Resuming, marching, ever in darkness marching, on in the ranks,
 25 The unknown road still marching. o

4 65-71: us, the ~ building;

5 65-71: building; Copy-text: dim-/lighted

6 65: church, at ~ roads—'tis now ~ hospital;
71: roads—'tis now ~ hospital;

7 65-71: —Entering ~ minute, I ~ made:

9 65-71: torch, stationary, with ~ flame, and
~ smoke;

10 65-71: forms, vaguely I see, on ~ down;

11 65-71: distinctly, a ~ abdomen;)

12 65-71: staunch ~ lily;)

13 65-71: scene, fain ~ all;

14 65-71: dead;

15 65-71: blood;

16 65-71: forms of soldiers—the ~ fill'd;

17 65-71: sweating;

18 65-71: calls;

19 65-71: torches;

20 65-71: chant—I ~ odor;

21 65-71: *Fall in;*

22 65-71: lad—his ~ open—a ~ me;

Long, too Long America.

Long, too long America,
 Traveling roads all even and peaceful you learn'd from joys and
 prosperity only,
 But now, ah now, to learn from crises of anguish, advancing, grappling with
 direst fate and recoiling not,
 And now to conceive and show to the world what your children en-masse
 really are,
 (For who except myself has yet conceiv'd what your children en-masse
 really are?) ◦

5

A Sight in Camp in the Daybreak Gray and Dim.

A sight in camp in the daybreak gray and dim,
 As from my tent I emerge so early sleepless,

Title: 65-71: LONG, TOO LONG, O LAND.

1 65-71: long, O land,

2 65-71: peaceful, you ~ only;

3 65-71: anguish—advancing, ~ fate, and ~

not;

4 65-71: conceive, and ~ world, what ~ are;

5 65: conceived

Title: 65: A SIGHT IN CAMP IN THE DAY-BREAK
 GREY AND DIM. 71: A SIGHT IN CAMP IN THE
 DAY-BREAK GREY AND DIM. 65-71: [Stanza

numbers]

1 65-71: day-break grey

2 65-71: early, sleepless,

As slow I walk in the cool fresh air the path near by the hospital tent,
 Three forms I see on stretchers lying, brought out there untended lying,
 5 Over each the blanket spread, ample brownish woollen blanket,
 Gray and heavy blanket, folding, covering all. ○

Curious I halt and silent stand,
 Then with light fingers I from the face of the nearest the first just lift the
 blanket;
 Who are you elderly man so gaunt and grim, with well-gray'd hair, and flesh
 all sunken about the eyes?
 10 Who are you my dear comrade? ○

Then to the second I step—and who are you my child and darling?
 Who are you sweet boy with cheeks yet blooming? ○

Then to the third—a face nor child nor old, very calm, as of beautiful
 yellow-white ivory;
 Young man I think I know you—I think this face is the face of the Christ
 himself,
 15 Dead and divine and brother of all, and here again he lies. ○

3 65: air, the ~ hospital-tent, 71: air, the
 4 65-71: there, untended
 5 71: woollen
 6 65-71: Grey
 7 65-71: Curious, I halt, and ~ stand;
 8 65-71: nearest, the first, just ~ blanket:
 9 65: you, elderly ~ well-grey'd 71: you,
 elderly ~ well-/grey'd

10 65-71: you, my
 11 65-71: And ~ you, my
 12 65-71: you, sweet boy, with
 13 65: child, nor ~ ivory: 71: child, nor
 14 65-71: man, I ~ this face of yours is ~
 himself;
 15 65-71: divine, and

A Farm Picture.

Through the ample open door of the peaceful country barn,
 A sunlit pasture field with cattle and horses feeding,
 And haze and vista, and the far horizon fading away. ◦

Give Me the Splendid Silent Sun.

I

Give me the splendid silent sun with all his beams full-dazzling,
 Give me juicy autumnal fruit ripe and red from the orchard,
 Give me a field where the unmow'd grass grows,
 Give me an arbor, give me the trellis'd grape,
 Give me fresh corn and wheat, give me serene-moving animals teaching
 content,

5

Title: 65: A FARM PICTURE. 71: A FARM PICTURE.
 2 65: sun-lit ~ field, with ~ feeding. 71: sun-lit ~ field, with ~ feeding;
 3 65: [Not present] 71: haze, and ~ horizon, fading

Title: 65: GIVE ME THE SPLENDID SILENT SUN. 71: GIVE ME THE SPLENDID SILENT SUN.
 1 65-71: sun, with ~ full-/dazzling; 3 65-71: grows;
 2 65-71: fruit, ripe ~ orchard; 4 65-71: grape;
 5 65-71: wheat—give ~ animals, teaching content;

Give me nights perfectly quiet as on high plateaus west of the Mississippi, and
 I looking up at the stars,
 Give me odorous at sunrise a garden of beautiful flowers where I can walk
 undisturb'd,
 Give me for marriage a sweet-breath'd woman of whom I should never tire,
 Give me a perfect child, give me away aside from the noise of the world a
 rural domestic life,
 10 Give me to warble spontaneous songs recluse by myself, for my own ears only,
 Give me solitude, give me Nature, give me again O Nature your primal
 sanities! o

These demanding to have them, (tired with ceaseless excitement, and rack'd
 by the war-strife,)
 These to procure incessantly asking, rising in cries from my heart,
 While yet incessantly asking still I adhere to my city,
 15 Day upon day and year upon year O city, walking your streets,
 Where you hold me enchain'd a certain time refusing to give me up,
 Yet giving to make me glutted, enrich'd of soul, you give me forever faces;
 (O I see what I sought to escape, confronting, reversing my cries,
 I see my own soul trampling down what it ask'd for.) o

2

20 Keep your splendid silent sun,
 Keep your woods O Nature, and the quiet places by the woods,
 Keep your fields of clover and timothy, and your corn-fields and orchards,
 Keep the blossoming buckwheat fields where the Ninth-month bees hum;
 Give me faces and streets—give me these phantoms incessant and endless along
 the trottoirs!

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 6 | 65-71: quiet, as ~ stars; | 14 | 65-71: asking, still ~ city; |
| 7 | 65-71: flowers, where ~ undisturb'd; | 15 | 65-71: day, and ~ year, O |
| 8 | 65-71: woman, of ~ tire; | 16 | 65-71: time, refusing ~ up; |
| 9 | 65-71: child—give me, away, aside ~
world, a ~ life; | 17 | 65-71: soul—you |
| 10 | 65-71: songs, reliev'd, recluse ~ only; | 18 | 65-71: cries; |
| 11 | 65-71: solitude—give ~ Nature—give ~
again, O Nature, your | 20 | 65: sun; 71: splendid, silent sun; |
| 12 | 65-71: —These, demanding ~ war-
strife;) | 21 | 65-71: woods, O ~ woods; |
| 13 | 65-71: procure, incessantly | 22 | 65-71: corn-/fields ~ orchards; |
| | | 23 | 65: fields, where 71: fields, where ~
Ninth-/month |
| | | 24 | 65-71: streets! give |

Give me interminable eyes—give me women—give me comrades and lovers by
the thousand! 25

Let me see new ones every day—let me hold new ones by the hand every day!
Give me such shows—give me the streets of Manhattan!

Give me Broadway, with the soldiers marching—give me the sound of the
trumpets and drums!

(The soldiers in companies or regiments—some starting away, flush'd and
reckless,
Some, their time up, returning with thinn'd ranks, young, yet very old, worn,
marching, noticing nothing;) 30

Give me the shores and wharves heavy-fringed with black ships!
O such for me! O an intense life, full to repletion and varied!
The life of the theatre, bar-room, huge hotel, for me!
The saloon of the steamer! the crowded excursion for me! the torchlight
procession!

The dense brigade bound for the war, with high piled military wagons
following; 35

People, endless, streaming, with strong voices, passions, pageants,
Manhattan streets with their powerful throbs, with beating drums as now,
The endless and noisy chorus, the rustle and clank of muskets, (even the sight
of the wounded,)
Manhattan crowds, with their turbulent musical chorus!
Manhattan faces and eyes forever for me. o 40

25 65-71: eyes! give ~ women! give

26 65-71: day! let

27 65-71: shows! give

29 65-71: some, starting ~ reckless;

30 65-71: returning, with ~ ranks—young,

31 65-71: —Give ~ and the ~ with the

32 65-71: life! O ~ repletion, and

34 65-71: torch-light

35 65-71: brigade, bound

36 65-71: pageants;

37 65-71: streets, with ~ with the ~ drums,
as now;

38 65-71: wounded;)

39 65: crowds with ~ chorus—with varied
chorus and light of the sparkling eyes; 71:
chorus—with varied chorus, and light of the
sparkling eyes;

To a Certain Civilian.

Did you ask dulcet rhymes from me?
 Did you seek the civilian's peaceful and languishing rhymes?
 Did you find what I sang erewhile so hard to follow?
 Why I was not singing erewhile for you to follow, to understand—nor am
 I now;
 5 (I have been born of the same as the war was born,
 The drum-corps' rattle is ever to me sweet music, I love well the martial dirge,
 With slow wail and convulsive throb leading the officer's funeral;)

What to such as you anyhow such a poet as I? therefore leave my works,
 And go lull yourself with what you can understand, and with piano-tunes,
 10 For I lull nobody, and you will never understand me. o

Title: 65: DID YOU ASK DULCET RHYMES FROM ME? 71[PI]: TO A CERTAIN CIVILIAN.

2 65: [Not present]

3 65: follow, to understand?

5 65: [Not present] 71[PI]: born;

6 65: [Not present] 71[PI]: drum-corps' harsh ~ is to ~ music—I

7 65: [Not present] 71[PI]: wail, and ~ throb, leading ~ funeral:)

8 65-71[PI]: —What ~ you, anyhow, such ~ I?—therefore

9 65: understand;/ 71[PI]: understand— and ~ piano-tunes; Copy-text: piano-/tunes,

10 65-71[PI]: nobody—and

Year of Meteors.

(1859-60.)

Year of meteors! brooding year!
 I would bind in words retrospective some of your deeds and signs,
 I would sing your contest for the 19th Presidentiad,
 I would sing how an old man, tall, with white hair, mounted the scaffold in
 Virginia,
 (I was at hand, silent I stood with teeth shut close, I watch'd, 5
 I stood very near you old man when cool and indifferent, but trembling with
 age and your unheal'd wounds you mounted the scaffold;)
 I would sing in my copious song your census returns of the States,
 The tables of population and products, I would sing of your ships and their
 cargoes,
 The proud black ships of Manhattan arriving, some fill'd with immigrants,
 some from the isthmus with cargoes of gold,
 Songs thereof would I sing, to all that hitherward comes would I welcome give, 10
 And you would I sing, fair stripling! welcome to you from me, young prince
 of England!
 (Remember you surging Manhattan's crowds as you pass'd with your cortege
 of nobles?
 There in the crowds stood I, and singled you out with attachment;)

- Title:* 65-71: YEAR OF METEORS./(1859-60.) 8 65-71: products—I
 2 65-71: retrospective, some ~ signs; 9 65-71: Manhattan, arriving, ~ gold;
 3 65-71: Presidentiad; 10 65-71: sing—to ~ give;
 4 65-71: Virginia; 11 65-71: me, sweet boy
 5 65-71: hand—silent I stood, with ~ close— 12 65: crowds, as ~ passed [No parenthesis]
 I watch'd; 71: crowds, as [No parenthesis]
 6 65-71: you, old man, when ~ wounds, you 13 65-71: [No parenthesis]
 7 65: The 71: —I ~ The 65-71: [The following lines appear after

- Nor forget I to sing of the wonder, the ship as she swam up my bay,
Well-shaped and stately the Great Eastern swam up my bay, she was 600
15 feet long,
Her moving swiftly surrounded by myriads of small craft I forget not to sing;
Nor the comet that came unannounced out of the north flaring in heaven,
Nor the strange huge meteor-procession dazzling and clear shooting over
our heads,
(A moment, a moment long it sail'd its balls of unearthly light over our heads,
20 Then departed, dropt in the night, and was gone;)
Of such, and fitful as they, I sing—with gleams from them would I gleam
and patch these chants,
Your chants, O year all mottled with evil and good—year of forebodings!
Year of comets and meteors transient and strange—lo! even here one equally
transient and strange!
As I flit through you hastily, soon to fall and be gone, what is this chant,
25 What am I myself but one of your meteors? ○

13:]

- [1] I know not why, but I loved you . . . 71: —Nor ~ unannounced, out ~ north,
(and so go forth little song, flaring ~ heaven;
[2] Far over sea speed like an arrow, carry- 18 65-71: meteor procession, dazzling ~
ing my love all folded, clear, shooting
[3] And find in his palace the youth I 19 65-71: long, it
love, and drop these lines at his feet;) 21 65-71: —Of ~ chants;
14 65-71: —Nor 22 65-71: good! year of forebodings! year of
16 65: swiftly, surrounded ~ craft, I 71: the youth I love!
Her, moving swiftly, surrounded ~ craft, I 23 65-71: strange!—lo! ~ here, one
17 65: unannounced, out ~ north, flaring 24 65-71: is this book,/

The Torch.

On my Northwest coast in the midst of the night a fishermen's group stands
 watching,
 Out on the lake that expands before them, others are spearing salmon,
 The canoe, a dim shadowy thing, moves across the black water,
 Bearing a torch ablaze at the prow. ◦

Years of the Modern.

Years of the modern! years of the unperform'd!
 Your horizon rises, I see it parting away for more august dramas,
 I see not America only, not only Liberty's nation but other nations preparing,

Title: 65-71[PI]: THE TORCH.

1 65-71[PI]: northwest ~ night, a ~ [PI]: lake, that ~ salmon;
 watching; 3 65: dim and
 2 65: lake, expanding before ~ salmon; 71 4 65-71[PI]: Torch a-blaze

Title: 65: YEARS OF THE UNPERFORM'D. 71:
 YEARS OF THE MODERN.

1 65: †Years of the unperform'd! your
 horizon rises—I see it parting away for more
 august dramas;

2 65: [Not present—part of 1] 71: rises
 —I ~ dramas;
 3 65-71: only—I see not ~ nation, but ~
 preparing;

I see tremendous entrances and exits, new combinations, the solidarity of races,
 5 I see that force advancing with irresistible power on the world's stage,
 (Have the old forces, the old wars, played their parts? are the acts suitable to
 them closed?)
 I see Freedom, completely arm'd and victorious and very haughty, with Law
 on one side and Peace on the other,
 A stupendous trio all issuing forth against the idea of caste;
 What historic denouements are these we so rapidly approach?
 10 I see men marching and countermarching by swift millions,
 I see the frontiers and boundaries of the old aristocracies broken,
 I see the landmarks of European kings removed,
 I see this day the People beginning their landmarks, (all others give way;)
 Never were such sharp questions ask'd as this day,
 15 Never was average man, his soul, more energetic, more like a God,
 Lo, how he urges and urges, leaving the masses no rest!
 His daring foot is on land and sea everywhere, he colonizes the Pacific, the
 archipelagoes,
 With the steamship, the electric telegraph, the newspaper, the wholesale
 engines of war,
 With these and the world-spreading factories he interlinks all geography,
 all lands;
 What whispers are these O lands, running ahead of you, passing under the
 20 seas?
 Are all nations communing? is there going to be but one heart to the globe?
 Is humanity forming en-masse? for lo, tyrants tremble, crowns grow dim,
 The earth, restive, confronts a new era, perhaps a general divine war,
 No one knows what will happen next, such portents fill the days and nights;
 Years prophetic! the space ahead as I walk, as I vainly try to pierce it, is full
 25 of phantoms,

4 65-71: exits—I see ~ combinations—I see
 the ~ races;
 5 65-71: stage;
 6 65: forces played
 7 65: arm'd, and victorious, and ~ Law by
 her side, both issuing forth against the idea of
 caste; 71: arm'd, and victorious, and ~
 side, and
 8 65: [See 7] 71: Trio, all
 9 65-71: —What
 10 65-71: millions;
 11 65-71: broken;
 12 65-71: removed;
 14 65: day; 71: —Never ~ day;

15 65-71: God;
 16 65: rest; 71: Lo! how ~ rest;
 17 65-71: everywhere—he ~ archipelagoes;
 18 65: steam-ship, ~ news-/paper, 71:
 steam-ship,
 19 65-71: these, and ~ factories, he inter-/
 links
 20 65-71: —What ~ these, O
 22 65-71: forming, en-masse?—for lo! tyrants
 ~ dim;
 23 65-71: war;
 24 65-71: next—such
 25 65-71: phantoms;

Unborn deeds, things soon to be, project their shapes around me,
 This incredible rush and heat, this strange ecstatic fever of dreams O years!
 Your dreams O years, how they penetrate through me! (I know not whether
 I sleep or wake;)
 The perform'd America and Europe grow dim, retiring in shadow behind me,
 The unperform'd, more gigantic than ever, advance, advance upon me. ◦ 30

Year that Trembled and Reel'd Beneath Me.

Year that trembled and reel'd beneath me!
 Your summer wind was warm enough, yet the air I breathed froze me,
 A thick gloom fell through the sunshine and darken'd me,
 Must I change my triumphant songs? said I to myself,
 Must I indeed learn to chant the cold dirges of the baffled? 5
 And sullen hymns of defeat? ◦

26 65-71: me;

27 65-71: heat—this ~ extactic ~ dreams, O 28 65-71: dreams, O ~ wake!)

Title: 65: YEAR THAT TREMBLED AND REEL'D
 BENEATH ME.

2 65-71: enough—yet ~ me;

3 65-71: me;

4 65-71: myself;

The Artilleryman's Vision.

- While my wife at my side lies slumbering, and the wars are over long,
 And my head on the pillow rests at home, and the vacant midnight passes,
 And through the stillness, through the dark, I hear, just hear, the breath of my
 infant,
 There in the room as I wake from sleep this vision presses upon me;
 5 The engagement opens there and then in fantasy unreal,
 The skirmishers begin, they crawl cautiously ahead, I hear the irregular snap!
 snap!
 I hear the sounds of the different missiles, the short *t-h-t!* *t-h-t!* of the rifle-balls,
 I see the shells exploding leaving small white clouds, I hear the great shells
 shrieking as they pass,
 The grape like the hum and whirr of wind through the trees, (tumultuous
 now the contest rages,)
 10 All the scenes at the batteries rise in detail before me again,
 The crashing and smoking, the pride of the men in their pieces,
 The chief-gunner ranges and sights his piece and selects a fuse of the right time,
 After firing I see him lean aside and look eagerly off to note the effect;
 Elsewhere I hear the cry of a regiment charging, (the young colonel leads
 himself this time with brandish'd sword,)
 15 I see the gaps cut by the enemy's volleys, (quickly fill'd up, no delay,)

Title: 65: THE VETERAN'S VISION. 71: THE
 ARTILLERYMAN'S VISION.

2 65: the mystic midnight Copy-text: mid-/
 night

4 65-71: room, as ~ sleep, this ~ me:

5 65: then, in my busy brain unreal; 71:
 then, in ~ unreal;

6 65-71: begin—they ~ ahead—I

7 65-71: missiles—the ~ rifle balls;

8 65-71: exploding, leaving ~ clouds—I ~

pass;

9 65-71: grape, like ~ (quick, tumultuous,
 now ~ rages!)

10 65-71: batteries themselves ~ again;

11 65-71: smoking—the ~ pieces;

12 65-71: chief gunner ~ piece, and ~ time;

13 65-71: firing, I ~ aside, and

14 65-71: —Elsewhere ~ charging—(the ~
 time, with ~ sword;)

15 65: up—no delay;) 71: delay;)

I breathe the suffocating smoke, then the flat clouds hover low concealing all;
 Now a strange lull for a few seconds, not a shot fired on either side,
 Then resumed the chaos louder than ever, with eager calls and orders of
 officers,
 While from some distant part of the field the wind wafts to my ears a shout
 of applause, (some special success,)
 And ever the sound of the cannon far or near, (rousing even in dreams a
 devilish exultation and all the old mad joy in the depths of my soul,) 20
 And ever the hastening of infantry shifting positions, batteries, cavalry, moving
 hither and thither,
 (The falling, dying, I heed not, the wounded dripping and red I heed not,
 some to the rear are hobbling,)
 Grime, heat, rush, aide-de-camps galloping by or on a full run,
 With the patter of small arms, the warning *s-s-t* of the rifles, (these in my
 vision I hear or see,)
 And bombs bursting in air, and at night the vari-color'd rockets. o 25

O Tan-Faced Prairie-Boy.

O tan-faced prairie-boy,
 Before you came to camp came many a welcome gift,
 Praises and presents came and nourishing food, till at last among the recruits,
 You came, taciturn, with nothing to give—we but look'd on each other,
 When lo! more than all the gifts of the world you gave me. o 5

16 65-71: smoke—then ~ low, concealing

17 65-71: lull comes ~ side;

18 65-71: resumed, the ~ calls, and ~ officers;

19 65-71: success;)

20 65-71: cannon, far ~ (rousing, even ~ dreams, a ~ exultation, and ~ joy, in ~

soul;)

21 65-71: positions—batteries, ~ thither;

22 65-71: not—the wounded, dripping ~ red, I ~ not—some ~ hobbling;)

23 65-71: rush—aid-de-camps ~ by, or ~ run;

Title: 65: O TAN-FACED PRAIRIE-BOY. 71: O TAN-FACED PRAIRIE-BOY.

1 65-71: prairie-boy!

2 65-71: camp, came ~ gift;

3 65: came, and ~ food—till 71: came, and ~ food—till ~ last, among

5 65-71: world, you

Camps of Green.

Not alone those camps of white, old comrades of the wars,
 When as order'd forward, after a long march,
 Footsore and weary, soon as the light lessens we halt for the night,
 Some of us so fatigued carrying the gun and knapsack, dropping asleep in
 our tracks,
 5 Others pitching the little tents, and the fires lit up begin to sparkle,
 Outposts of pickets posted surrounding alert through the dark,
 And a word provided for countersign, careful for safety,
 Till to the call of the drummers at daybreak loudly beating the drums,
 We rise up refresh'd, the night and sleep pass'd over, and resume our journey,
 10 Or proceed to battle. ◦

Lo, the camps of the tents of green,
 Which the days of peace keep filling, and the days of war keep filling,
 With a mystic army, (is it too order'd forward? is it too only halting awhile,
 Till night and sleep pass over?) ◦

15 Now in those camps of green, in their tents dotting the world,
 In the parents, children, husbands, wives, in them, in the old and young,
 Sleeping under the sunlight, sleeping under the moonlight, content and silent
 there at last,

Title: 65-71[PI]: CAMPS OF GREEN. 65-71
 [PI]: [Stanza numbers]

1 65: alone our camps of white, O soldiers,
 71[PI]: white, O soldiers,
 2 65-71[PI]: When, as
 3 65: lessens, we ~ night; 71[PI]: lessen'd,
 we halted ~ night;
 4 65-71[PI]: fatigued, carrying ~ tracks;
 5 65: sparkle; 71[PI]: began ~ sparkle;

6 65-71[PI]: posted, surrounding, alert
 7 65-71[PI]: safety;
 9 71[PI]: We rose ~ resumed
 10 71[PI]: proceeded
 11 65-71[PI]: Lo! the
 15 65-71[PI]: green—in ~ world;
 16 65-71[PI]: them—in
 17 71[PI]: moon-/light,

Behold the mighty bivouac-field and waiting-camp of all,
 Of the corps and generals all, and the President over the corps and generals all,
 And of each of us O soldiers, and of each and all in the ranks we fought, 20
 (There without hatred we all, all meet.) ◦

For presently O soldiers, we too camp in our place in the bivouac-camps of
 green,
 But we need not provide for outposts, nor word for the countersign,
 Nor drummer to beat the morning drum. ◦

As Toilsome I Wander'd Virginia's Woods.

As toilsome I wander'd Virginia's woods,
 To the music of rustling leaves kick'd by my feet, (for 'twas autumn,)
 I mark'd at the foot of a tree the grave of a soldier;
 Mortally wounded he and buried on the retreat, (easily all could I understand,)
 The halt of a mid-day hour, when up! no time to lose—yet this sign left, 5
 On a tablet scrawl'd and nail'd on the tree by the grave,
Bold, cautious, true, and my loving comrade. ◦

Long, long I muse, then on my way go wandering,
 Many a changeful season to follow, and many a scene of life,
 Yet at times through changeful season and scene, abrupt, alone, or in the
 crowded street, 10

18 65: bivouac-field, and waiting-camp of us
 and ours and all, 71[PI]: bivouac-field, and
 19 65: Of our 71[PI]: Of corps
 20 65: us, O ~ ranks we fight, 71[PI]:
 us, O

Title: 65: AS TOILSOME I WANDER'D VIRGINIA'S
 WOODS. 71: AS TOILSOME I WANDER'D VIR-
 GINIA'S WOODS.
 65-71: [Stanza numbers]
 2 65-71: leaves, kick'd

21 65-71[PI]: we shall all meet.)
 22 65-71[PI]: presently, O ~ green; Copy-
 text: bivouac-/camps
 23 Copy-text: counter-/sign,

3 71: soldier,
 4 65-71: he, and ~ understand;)
 8 65-71: wandering;
 9 65-71: life;

Comes before me the unknown soldier's grave, comes the inscription rude in
 Virginia's woods,
Bold, cautious, true, and my loving comrade. ○

Ashes of Soldiers.

Ashes of soldiers South or North,
 As I muse retrospective murmuring a chant in thought,
 The war resumes, again to my sense your shapes,
 And again the advance of the armies. ○

5 Noiseless as mists and vapors,
 From their graves in the trenches ascending,
 From cemeteries all through Virginia and Tennessee,
 From every point of the compass out of the countless graves,
 In wafted clouds, in myriads large, or squads of twos or threes or single ones
 they come,
 10 And silently gather round me. ○

Now sound no note O trumpeters,

11 65-71: grave—comes

Title: 65: HYMN OF DEAD SOLDIERS. 71[PI]:

ASHES OF SOLDIERS. (See III 582)

65-71[PI]: [Stanza numbers]

1 65: [1-10, Not present] 71[PI]: soldiers!/
 65: [The following lines appear instead of
 1-10:]

[1] One breath, O my silent soul,

[2] A perfum'd thought—no more I ask,
 for the sake of all dead soldiers. [Space
 between [2] and next line]

2 71[PI]: muse, retrospective, murmuring

3 71[PI]: Lo! the ~ resumes—again

4 71[PI]: of armies.

7 71[PI]: From the

8 71[PI]: compass, out ~ countless unnamed

9 71[PI]: threes, or ~ ones, they

10 71[PI]: me,

11 65: [Not present] 71[PI]: note, O
 trumpeters!

65: [The following lines appear instead
 of 11:]

[1] Buglers off in my armies!

[2] At present I ask not you to sound;

Not at the head of my cavalry parading on spirited horses,
With sabres drawn and glistening, and carbines by their thighs, (ah my brave
horsemen!

My handsome tan-faced horsemen! what life, what joy and pride,
With all the perils were yours.) ○ 15

Nor you drummers, neither at reveillé at dawn,
Nor the long roll alarming the camp, nor even the muffled beat for a burial,
Nothing from you this time O drummers bearing my warlike drums. ○

But aside from these and the marts of wealth and the crowded promenade,
Admitting around me comrades close unseen by the rest and voiceless, 20
The slain elate and alive again, the dust and debris alive,
I chant this chant of my silent soul in the name of all dead soldiers. ○

Faces so pale with wondrous eyes, very dear, gather closer yet,
Draw close, but speak not. ○

Phantoms of countless lost, 25
Invisible to the rest henceforth become my companions,
Follow me ever—desert me not while I live. ○

Sweet are the blooming cheeks of the living—sweet are the musical voices
sounding,
But sweet, ah sweet, are the dead with their silent eyes. ○

Dearest comrades, all is over and long gone, 30

- | | | | |
|----|--|------------------|---------------|
| 12 | 65: cavalry, all on their parading | 71[PI]: cavalry, | ~ wealth, and |
| 13 | 65: With their clanking by glist'ning, ~ thighs—(ah, my glist'ning, ~ thighs—(ah, my | 71[PI]: | |
| 14 | 65-71[PI]: handsome, tan-faced | | |
| 15 | 65-71[PI]: perils, were yours!) | | |
| 16 | 65-71[PI]: drummers—neither at reveille, at | | |
| 17 | 65-71[PI]: camp—nor ~ burial; | | |
| 18 | 65-71[PI]: you, this time, O drummers, bearing | | |
| 19 | 65: these, and the crowd's hurrahs, and the land's congratulations, 71[PI]: these, and | | |
| 20 | 65-71[PI]: close, unseen ~ rest, and | | |
| 21 | 65: [Not present] 71[PI]: again—the | | |
| 22 | 65-71[PI]: soul, in | | |
| 23 | 65-71[PI]: pale, with ~ yet; | | |
| 25 | 65: Phantoms, welcome, divine and tender! 71[PI]: lost! | | |
| 26 | 65: rest, henceforth ~ companions; 71 [PI]: rest, henceforth ~ companions! | | |
| 27 | 65-71[PI]: ever! desert ~ not, while | | |
| 28 | 65-71[PI]: living! sweet ~ sounding! | | |
| 29 | 65-71[PI]: dead, with | | |
| 30 | 65: comrades! all now is over;/ 71[PI]: comrades! all ~ gone; | | |

But love is not over—and what love, O comrades!
 Perfume from battle-fields rising, up from the fœtor arising. °

Perfume therefore my chant, O love, immortal love,
 Give me to bathe the memories of all dead soldiers,
 35 Shroud them, embalm them, cover them all over with tender pride. °

Perfume all—make all wholesome,
 Make these ashes to nourish and blossom,
 O love, solve all, fructify all with the last chemistry. °

Give me exhaustless, make me a fountain,
 40 That I exhale love from me wherever I go like a moist perennial dew,
 For the ashes of all dead soldiers South or North. °

The Ship Starting.

Lo, the unbounded sea,
 On its breast a ship starting, spreading all sails, carrying even her moonsails,
 The pennant is flying aloft as she speeds she speeds so stately—below emulous
 waves press forward,
 They surround the ship with shining curving motions and foam. °

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|----|---|
| 32 | 65-71[PI]: rising—up from fœtor | 38 | 65: love! O chant! solve all with 71[PI]: |
| 33 | 65-71[PI]: love! immortal Love! | | love! O chant! solve |
| 34 | 65: soldiers. | 39 | 65-71[PI]: exhaustless—make |
| 35 | 65: [Not present] | 40 | 65: go,/ 71[PI]: go, like |
| 36 | 65-71[PI]: all! make ~ wholesome! | 41 | 65: the sake of ~ soldiers./ 71[PI]: |
| 37 | 65: [Not present] | | soldiers./ |

Title: 65: THE SHIP. 71: THE SHIP STARTING.

1 65-71: Lo! the ~ sea!

2 65: a Ship, spreading all her sails—an ample
 Ship, carrying ~ moonsails; 71: a Ship ~
 all her sails—an ample Ship, carrying ~ moon-

sails;

3 65-71: aloft, as ~ speeds, she ~ below,
 emulous

4 65-71: the Ship, with ~ motions, and

A Broadway Pageant.

I

Over the Western sea hither from Nippon come,
 Courteous, the swart-cheek'd two-sworded envoys,
 Leaning back in their open barouches, bare-headed, impassive,
 Ride to-day through Manhattan. ◦

Libertad! I do not know whether others behold what I behold, 5
 In the procession along with the nobles of Nippon, the errand-bearers,
 Bringing up the rear, hovering above, around, or in the ranks marching,
 But I will sing you a song of what I behold Libertad. ◦

When million-footed Manhattan unpent descends to her pavements,
 When the thunder-cracking guns arouse me with the proud roar I love, 10
 When the round-mouth'd guns out of the smoke and smell I love spit their
 salutes,
 When the fire-flashing guns have fully alerted me, and heaven-clouds canopy
 my city with a delicate thin haze,

Title: 65: A BROADWAY PAGEANT./ (RECEPTION
 JAPANESE EMBASSY, JUNE 16, 1860.) 71: A
 BROADWAY PAGEANT./RECEPTION JAPANESE EM-
 BASSY, JUNE, 1860.

65: [Stanza numbers] 71: [Stanza and sec-
 tion numbers]

1 65: Over sea, hither ~ Nippon,/ 71:
 western sea, hither

2 65: Courteous, the Princes of Asia, swart-
 cheek'd princes,/First-comers, guests, two-
 sworded princes, 71: swart-cheek'd, two-
 sworded

3 65: Lesson-giving princes, leaning

4 65: This day they ride through

5 65-71: Libertad!/I

6 65: procession, along ~ the Princes of Asia,
 the 71: procession, along ~ of Asia, the
 Copy-text: errand-/bearers,

7 65-71: marching;

8 65-71: behold, Libertad.

9 65: Manhattan, unpent, descends to its
 pavements; 71: Manhattan, unpent, descends
 ~ pavements; [Section 2 begins with 9]

10 65-71: love;

11 65-71: guns, out ~ love, spit ~ salutes;

12 65-71: me—when heaven-clouds ~ haze;

Copy-text: heaven-/clouds

When gorgeous the countless straight stems, the forests at the wharves, thicken
 with colors,
 When every ship richly drest carries her flag at the peak,
 15 When pennants trail and street-festoons hang from the windows,
 When Broadway is entirely given up to foot-passengers and foot-standers,
 when the mass is densest,
 When the façades of the houses are alive with people, when eyes gaze riveted
 tens of thousands at a time,
 When the guests from the islands advance, when the pageant moves forward
 visible,
 When the summons is made, when the answer that waited thousands of years
 answers,
 I too arising, answering, descend to the pavements, merge with the crowd,
 20 and gaze with them. ◦

2

Superb-faced Manhattan!
 Comrade Americanos! to us, then at last the Orient comes. ◦

To us, my city,
 Where our tall-topt marble and iron beauties range on opposite sides, to walk
 in the space between,
 25 To-day our Antipodes comes. ◦

The Originatress comes,
 The nest of languages, the bequeather of poems, the race of eld,
 Florid with blood, pensive, rapt with musings, hot with passion,
 Sultry with perfume, with ample and flowing garments,
 30 With sunburnt visage, with intense soul and glittering eyes,
 The race of Brahma comes. ◦

13 65-71: When, gorgeous, the ~ colors;

14 65-71: ship, richly drest, carries ~ peak;

15 65-71: trail, and ~ windows;

16 65-71: foot-standers—when ~ densest;

Copy-text: foot-/standers,

17 65-71: people—when ~ gaze, riveted, tens
 ~ time;

18 65-71: advance—when ~ forward, visible;

19 65-71: made—when ~ years, answers;

20 65-71: too, arising,

21 71: [Section 3 begins with 21]

22 65-71: Americanos!—to ~ then, at last,

the

24 65-71: sides—to

26 65: [The following line appears after 26:]
 [1] The land of Paradise—land of the
 Caucasus—the nest of birth,

30 65: eyes. [Period—probable printer's error]

31 65-71: comes!

See my cantabile! these and more are flashing to us from the procession,
As it moves changing, a kaleidoscope divine it moves changing before us. ◦

For not the envoys nor the tann'd Japanee from his island only,
Lithe and silent the Hindoo appears, the Asiatic continent itself appears, the
past, the dead, 35
The murky night-morning of wonder and fable inscrutable,
The envelop'd mysteries, the old and unknown hive-bees,
The north, the sweltering south, eastern Assyria, the Hebrews, the ancient of
ancients,
Vast desolated cities, the gliding present, all of these and more are in the
pageant-procession. ◦

Geography, the world, is in it, 40
The Great Sea, the brood of islands, Polynesia, the coast beyond,
The coast you henceforth are facing—you Libertad! from your Western golden
shores,
The countries there with their populations, the millions en-masse are
curiously here,
The swarming market-places, the temples with idols ranged along the sides
or at the end, bonze, brahmin, and llama,
Mandarin, farmer, merchant, mechanic, and fisherman, 45
The singing-girl and the dancing-girl, the ecstatic persons, the secluded
emperors,
Confucius himself, the great poets and heroes, the warriors, the castes, all,
Trooping up, crowding from all directions, from the Altay mountains,

32 65-71: See, my ~ these, and more, are
~ procession; 71: [Section 4 begins with 32]
33 65-71: moves, changing, ~ moves, chang-
ing, before
34 65: Not the errand-bearing princes, nor ~
Japanee only; 71: envoys, nor ~ only;
35 65: silent, the ~ appears—the whole
Asiatic ~ appears—the Past, 71: silent, the
~ appears—the ~ appears—the Past, the
36 65-71: fable, inscrutable,
37 65-71: hive-/bees,
38 65: The North—the ~ South—Assyria—
the Hebrews—the Ancient 71: The North
—the ~ South—eastern Assyria—the Hebrews
—the Ancient ~ Ancients,
39 65-71: cities—the ~ Present—all ~ these,
and more, are

40 65-71: it;
41 65-71: beyond;
42 65: you, henceforth, are ~ shores; 71:
you, henceforth, are ~ shores [No terminal
punctuation—probable printer's error]
43 65-71: there, with ~ populations—the ~
en-masse, are ~ here;
44 65-71: market places—the temples, with
~ sides, or ~ end—bonze, ~ lama;
45 65-71: The mandarin, ~ fisherman;
46 65: dancing-girl—the ~ person—the di-
vine Buddha; 71: dancing-girl—the ~ per-
son—the ~ Emperors,
47 65: The secluded Emperors—Confucius
himself—the ~ heroes—the 71: himself—
the ~ heroes—the
48 65-71: directions—from

From Thibet, from the four winding and far-flowing rivers of China,
 50 From the southern peninsulas and the demi-continental islands, from Malaysia,
 These and whatever belongs to them palpable show forth to me, and are
 seiz'd by me,
 And I am seiz'd by them, and friendlily held by them,
 Till as here them all I chant, Libertad! for themselves and for you. ◦

For I too raising my voice join the ranks of this pageant,
 55 I am the chanter, I chant aloud over the pageant,
 I chant the world on my Western sea,
 I chant copious the islands beyond, thick as stars in the sky,
 I chant the new empire grander than any before, as in a vision it comes to me,
 I chant America the mistress, I chant a greater supremacy,
 I chant projected a thousand blooming cities yet in time on those groups of
 60 sea-islands,
 My sail-ships and steam-ships threading the archipelagoes,
 My stars and stripes fluttering in the wind,
 Commerce opening, the sleep of ages having done its work, races reborn,
 refresh'd,
 Lives, works resumed—the object I know not—but the old, the Asiatic renew'd
 as it must be,
 65 Commencing from this day surrounded by the world. ◦

3

And you Libertad of the world!
 You shall sit in the middle well-pois'd thousands and thousands of years,

- 49 65-71: From Thibet—from
 50 65-71: Southern peninsulas, and ~ islands on ~ sea-islands;
 —from Malaysia; 61 65-71: I chant my sail-ships ~ archipela-
 51 65-71: These, and ~ them, palpable, show goes;
 53 65-71: Till, as here, them 62 65-71: I chant my stars ~ wind;
 54 65-71: too, raising my voice, join ~ 63 65-71: I chant commerce ~ work—races,
 pageant; 71: [Section 5 begins with 54] reborn, refresh'd;
 55 65-71: chanter—I ~ pageant; 64 65: works, resumed—The ~ Asiatic, re-
 56 65-71: Sea; sumed, as 71: works, resumed—The ~
 57 65-71: chant, copious, the ~ sky; Asiatic, renew'd, as
 58 65-71: empire, grander ~ before—As ~ 65 65-71: day, surrounded
 me; 66 65-71: you, Libertad 71: [Section 6
 59 65-71: America, the Mistress—I ~ su- begins with 66]
 premacy; 67 65-71: middle, well-pois'd, thousands of
 60 65-71: chant, projected, a ~ yet, in time, years;

As to-day from one side the nobles of Asia come to you,
 As to-morrow from the other side the queen of England sends her eldest son
 to you. o

The sign is reversing, the orb is enclosed, 70
 The ring is circled, the journey is done,
 The box-lid is but perceptibly open'd, nevertheless the perfume pours copiously
 out of the whole box. o

Young Libertad! with the venerable Asia, the all-mother,
 Be considerate with her now and ever hot Libertad, for you are all,
 Bend your proud neck to the long-off mother now sending messages over the
 archipelagoes to you, 75
 Bend your proud neck low for once, young Libertad. o

Were the children straying westward so long? so wide the tramping?
 Were the precedent dim ages debouching westward from Paradise so long?
 Were the centuries steadily footing it that way, all the while unknown, for
 you, for reasons? o

They are justified, they are accomplish'd, they shall now be turn'd the other
 way also, to travel toward you thence, 80
 They shall now also march obediently eastward for your sake Libertad. o

68 65: to-day, from ~ side, the Princes ~
 you; 71: to-day, from ~ side, the ~ you;

69 65-71: to-morrow, from ~ side, the Queen

70 71: [Section 7 begins with 70]

71 65-71: done;

72 65-71: open'd—nevertheless

73 65-71: Libertad!/With 71: [Section 8
 begins with 73]

74 65-71: her, now ~ ever, hot Libertad—
 for ~ all;

75 65-71: mother, now ~ you;

77 71: [Section 9 begins with 77]

80 65-71: justified—they ~ accomplish'd—
 they ~ thence;

81 65-71: eastward, for ~ sake, Libertad.

Thick-Sprinkled Bunting.

Thick-sprinkled bunting! flag of stars!
 Long yet your road, fateful flag—long yet your road, and lined with bloody
 death,
 For the prize I see at issue at last is the world,
 All its ships and shores I see interwoven with your threads greedy banner;
 5 Dream'd again the flags of kings, highest borne, to flaunt unrival'd?
 O hasten flag of man—O with sure and steady step, passing highest flags
 of kings,
 Walk supreme to the heavens mighty symbol—run up above them all,
 Flag of stars! thick-sprinkled bunting! o

Old Ireland.

Far hence amid an isle of wondrous beauty,
 Crouching over a grave an ancient sorrowful mother,

Title: 65: FLAG OF STARS, THICK-SPRINKLED
 BUNTING.

1 65: †Flag ~ stars! thick-sprinkled 71:
 bunting! Flag
 2 65-71: flag!—long ~ death!
 3 65-71: issue, at ~ world!
 4 65-71: sec, interwoven ~ threads, greedy

banner!

5 65: —Dream'd ~ unrival'd? 71:
 —Dream'd
 6 65-71: hasten, flag ~ man! O
 7 65-71: heavens, mighty
 8 65: thick sprinkled

Title: 65-71: OLD IRELAND.

1 65-71: hence, amid

2 65-71: grave, an

Once a queen, now lean and tatter'd seated on the ground,
 Her old white hair drooping dishevel'd round her shoulders,
 At her feet fallen an unused royal harp, 5
 Long silent, she too long silent, mourning her shrouded hope and heir,
 Of all the earth her heart most full of sorrow because most full of love. o

Yet a word ancient mother,
 You need crouch there no longer on the cold ground with forehead between
 your knees,
 O you need not sit there veil'd in your old white hair so dishevel'd, 10
 For know you the one you mourn is not in that grave,
 It was an illusion, the son you love was not really dead,
 The Lord is not dead, he is risen again young and strong in another country,
 Even while you wept there by your fallen harp by the grave,
 What you wept for was translated, pass'd from the grave, 15
 The winds favor'd and the sea sail'd it,
 And now with rosy and new blood,
 Moves to-day in a new country. o

Look Down Fair Moon.

Look down fair moon and bathe this scene,
 Pour softly down night's nimbus floods on faces ghastly, swollen, purple,

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 3 | 65-71: queen—now ~ tatter'd, seated | 11 | 65-71: you, the ~ grave; |
| 4 | 65-71: shoulders; | 12 | 65-71: illusion—the heir, the son ~ love,
was ~ dead; |
| 6 | 65-71: silent—she ~ silent—mourning ~
heir; | 13 | 65-71: dead—he ~ again, young ~ strong,
in ~ country; |
| 7 | 65-71: sorrow, because | 14 | 65-71: harp, by |
| 8 | 65-71: word, ancient mother; | 15 | 65-71: for, was |
| 9 | 65-71: ground, with ~ knees; Copy-text:
fore-/head | 16 | 65-71: favor'd, and |
| 10 | 65-71: there, veil'd ~ hair, so dishevel'd; | | |

Title: 65-71: LOOK DOWN FAIR MOON.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 65-71: down, fair moon, and ~ scene; |
| 2 | 65-71: floods, on ~ purple; |

On the dead on their backs with arms toss'd wide,
 Pour down your unstinted nimbus sacred moon. ○

Out of the Rolling Ocean the Crowd.

Out of the rolling ocean the crowd came a drop gently to me,
 Whispering *I love you, before long I die,*
I have travel'd a long way merely to look on you to touch you,
For I could not die till I once look'd on you,
 5 *For I fear'd I might afterward lose you.* ○

Now we have met, we have look'd, we are safe,
 Return in peace to the ocean my love,
 I too am part of that ocean my love, we are not so much separated,
 Behold the great rondure, the cohesion of all, how perfect!
 10 But as for me, for you, the irresistible sea is to separate us,
 As for an hour carrying us diverse, yet cannot carry us diverse forever;
 Be not impatient—a little space—know you I salute the air, the ocean and
 the land,
 Every day at sundown for your dear sake my love. ○

3 65: dead, on ~ backs, with their arms 71:
 dead, on ~ backs, with

4 65-71: nimbus, sacred

Title: 65: OUT OF THE ROLLING OCEAN, THE
 CROWD. 71: OUT OF THE ROLLING OCEAN, THE
 CROWD.

65-71: [Section numbers]

1 65-71: ocean, the crowd, came

2 65-71: *Whispering, I*

3 65-71: *way, merely ~ you, to*

6 65-71: (Now ~ safe;

7 65: love; 71: ocean, my love;

8 65-71: ocean, my love—we ~ separated;

9 65-71: rondure—the

11 65: diverse—yet ~ for ever; 71: hour,
 carrying ~ diverse—yet ~ for ever; Copy-text:
 for-/ever;

12 65: you, I 71: space—Know you, I

13 65-71: day, at sundown, for ~ sake, my
 love.)

World Take Good Notice.

World take good notice, silver stars fading,
 Milky hue ript, weft of white detaching,
 Coals thirty-eight, baleful and burning,
 Scarlet, significant, hands off warning,
 Now and henceforth flaunt from these shores. o

5

I Saw Old General at Bay.

I saw old General at bay,
 (Old as he was, his gray eyes yet shone out in battle like stars,)
 His small force was now completely hemm'd in, in his works,
 He call'd for volunteers to run the enemy's lines, a desperate emergency,
 I saw a hundred and more step forth from the ranks, but two or three were
 selected,

5

Title: 65: WORLD, TAKE GOOD NOTICE. 71: 1 65-71: World, take
 World, Take Good Notice. 3 65: Coals thirty-six,

Title: 65: I SAW OLD GENERAL AT BAY. 71: I
 SAW OLD GENERAL AT BAY. 3 65: hemmed ~ works; 71: works;
 1 65-71: bay; 4 65-71: lines—a ~ emergency;
 2 65-71: grey ~ stars;) 5 65-71: ranks—but ~ selected;

I saw them receive their orders aside, they listen'd with care, the adjutant was
 very grave,
 I saw them depart with cheerfulness, freely risking their lives. ○

Others may Praise What They Like.

Others may praise what they like;
 But I, from the banks of the running Missouri, praise nothing in art or
 aught else,
 Till it has well inhaled the atmosphere of this river, also the western
 prairie-scent,
 And exudes it all again. ○

SOLID, IRONICAL, ROLLING ORB.

Solid, ironical, rolling orb!
 Master of all, and matter of fact!—at last I accept your terms;
 Bringing to practical, vulgar tests, of all my ideal dreams,
 And of me, as lover and hero. ○

6 65-71: aside—they ~ care—the ~ grave;

Title: 65-71[PI]: OTHERS MAY PRAISE WHAT
 THEY LIKE.

2 65-71[PI]: nothing, in art, or

3 65: has breathed well the ~ river—also 71
 [PI]: river—also

4 65-71[PI]: And fully exudes it again.

Title: 65-71: SOLID, IRONICAL, ROLLING ORB.
 [Excluded after 71; text in these editions only]

Hush'd be the Camps To-day.

(May 4, 1865.)

Hush'd be the camps to-day,
 And soldiers let us drape our war-worn weapons,
 And each with musing soul retire to celebrate,
 Our dear commander's death. ○

No more for him life's stormy conflicts, 5
 Nor victory, nor defeat—no more time's dark events,
 Charging like ceaseless clouds across the sky. ○

But sing poet in our name,
 Sing of the love we bore him—because you, dweller in camps, know it
 truly. ○

As they invault the coffin there, 10
 Sing—as they close the doors of earth upon him—one verse,
 For the heavy hearts of soldiers. ○

Title: 65: HUSH'D BE THE CAMPS TO-DAY./A. L. to
 BURIED APRIL 19, 1865. 71[PI]: HUSH'D BE THE 5 65-71[PI]: conflicts;
 CAMPS TO-DAY./ (May 4, 1865.) 6 65: defeat—No
 65: [Stanza numbers] 71[PI]: [Stanza and 8 65-71[PI]: sing, poet, in ~ name;
 section numbers] 10 65: Sing, to the lower'd coffin there; 71
 1 65: to-day; 71[PI]: to day; [PI]: there;
 2 65-71[PI]: And, soldiers, let ~ weapons; 11 65: Sing, with the shovel'd clods that fill
 3 65: each, with ~ retire, to 71[PI]: retire, the grave—a verse,

Weave in, My Hardy Life.

Weave in, weave in, my hardy life,
 Weave yet a soldier strong and full for great campaigns to come,
 Weave in red blood, weave sinews in like ropes, the senses, sight weave in,
 Weave lasting sure, weave day and night the weft, the warp, incessant weave,
 tire not,
 (We know not what the use O life, nor know the aim, the end, nor really
 5 aught we know,
 But know the work, the need goes on and shall go on, the death-envelop'd
 march of peace as well as war goes on,
 For great campaigns of peace the same the wiry threads to weave,
 We know not why or what, yet weave, forever weave. o

Title: 65: WEAVE IN, WEAVE IN, MY HARDY
 LIFE. 71: WEAVE IN, WEAVE IN, MY HARDY
 LIFE.

1 65-71: in! weave ~ life!

2 65: Weave, weave a soldier ~ full, for ~
 come; 71: full, for ~ come;

3 65-71: blood! weave ~ in, like ropes! the
 ~ in!

4 65-71: sure! weave ~ warp! incessant
 weave! tire not!

5 65-71: use, O life! nor ~ end—nor ~
 know;

6 65-71: on, and ~ on—the ~ war, goes
 on;) Copy-text: death-/envelop'd

7 65-71: same, the ~ weave;

Turn O Libertad.

Turn O Libertad, for the war is over,
 From it and all henceforth expanding, doubting no more, resolute, sweeping
 the world,
 Turn from lands retrospective recording proofs of the past,
 From the singers that sing the trailing glories of the past,
 From the chants of the feudal world, the triumphs of kings, slavery, caste, 5
 Turn to the world, the triumphs reserv'd and to come—give up that backward
 world,
 Leave to the singers of hitherto, give them the trailing past,
 But what remains remains for singers for you—wars to come are for you,
 (Lo, how the wars of the past have duly inured to you, and the wars of the
 present also inure;)
 Then turn, and be not alarm'd O Libertad—turn your undying face, 10
 To where the future, greater than all the past,
 Is swiftly, surely preparing for you. o

Title: 65: TURN O LIBERTAD. 71: TURN O LIBERTAD.

1 65: Turn, O Libertad, no more doubting;/ 71: Turn, O

2 65: [Not present] 71: (From ~ world,)

3 65-71: retrospective, recording ~ past;

4 65-71: past;

5 65-71: world—the ~ caste;

6 65-71: world;

7 65: hitherto—give ~ past: 71: hitherto—give ~ past;

8 65-71: remains, remains ~ you;

9 65: (Lo! how ~ you—and ~ present shall also inure:) 71: (Lo! how ~ you—and ~ inure:)

10 65-71: —Then ~ alarm'd, O

Bivouac on a Mountain Side.

I see before me now a traveling army halting,
 Below a fertile valley spread, with barns and the orchards of summer,
 Behind, the terraced sides of a mountain, abrupt, in places rising high,
 Broken, with rocks, with clinging cedars, with tall shapes dingily seen,
 The numerous camp-fires scatter'd near and far, some away up on the
 5 mountain,
 The shadowy forms of men and horses, looming, large-sized, flickering,
 And over all the sky—the sky! far, far out of reach, studded, breaking out, the
 eternal stars. ○

Pensive on Her Dead Gazing.

Pensive on her dead gazing I heard the Mother of All,
 Desperate on the torn bodies, on the forms covering the battle-fields gazing,

Title: 65: BIVOUAC ON A MOUNTAIN SIDE.

1 65-71: now, a ~ halting;

2 65-71: Below, a ~ barns, and ~ summer;

3 65-71: abrupt in places, rising high;

4 65-71: shapes, dingily seen;

5 65-71: mountain;

6 65-71: large-/sized, flickering;

7 65: all, the ~ studded with the 71: all, the

Title: 65-71[PI]: PENSIVE ON HER DEAD GAZ-
 ING, I HEARD THE MOTHER OF ALL.

1 65-71[PI]: Pensive, on ~ gazing, I

2 65-71[PI]: Desperate, on ~ gazing; Copy-
 text: battle-/fields

(As the last gun ceased, but the scent of the powder-smoke linger'd,
 As she call'd to her earth with mournful voice while she stalk'd,
 Absorb them well O my earth, she cried, I charge you lose not my sons, lose
 not an atom, 5
 And you streams absorb them well, taking their dear blood,
 And you local spots, and you airs that swim above lightly impalpable,
 And all you essences of soil and growth, and you my rivers' depths,
 And you mountain sides, and the woods where my dear children's blood
 trickling redden'd,
 And you trees down in your roots to bequeath to all future trees, 10
 My dead absorb or South or North—my young men's bodies absorb, and their
 precious precious blood,
 Which holding in trust for me faithfully back again give me many a year
 hence,
 In unseen essence and odor of surface and grass, centuries hence,
 In blowing airs from the fields back again give me my darlings, give my
 immortal heroes, 15
 Exhale me them centuries hence, breathe me their breath, let not an atom
 be lost,
 O years and graves! O air and soil! O my dead, an aroma sweet!
 Exhale them perennial sweet death, years, centuries hence. o

- 3 65: [Not present] 71[PI]: ceased—but ~ powder-/smoke linger'd; blood, trickling, redden'd;
 4 65-71[PI]: stalk'd; 10 65-71[PI]: trees, down ~ roots, to
 5 65-71[PI]: well, O ~ cried—I ~ you, lose ~ sons! lose ~ atom; 11 65-71[PI]: absorb—my ~ men's beautiful ~ absorb—and ~ precious, precious, precious blood;
 6 65-71[PI]: streams, absorb ~ blood; 12 65-71[PI]: me, faithfully ~ me, many
 7 65-71[PI]: lightly,/ 13 65-71[PI]: hence;
 8 65: growth—and you, O my ~ depths; 71[PI]: growth—and you, my ~ depths; 14 65-71[PI]: fields, back ~ darlings—give ~ heroes;
 9 65: sides—and ~ blood, trickling, redden'd; 71[PI]: you, mountain sides—and ~ blood, trickling, redden'd; 15 65-71[PI]: hence—breathe ~ breath—let ~ lost;
 17 65-71[PI]: perennial, sweet

Not Youth Pertains to Me.

Not youth pertains to me,
 Nor delicatessen, I cannot beguile the time with talk,
 Awkward in the parlor, neither a dancer nor elegant,
 In the learn'd coterie sitting constrain'd and still, for learning inures not to me,
 Beauty, knowledge, inure not to me—yet there are two or three things inure
 5 to me,
 I have nourish'd the wounded and sooth'd many a dying soldier,
 And at intervals waiting or in the midst of camp,
 Composed these songs. ○

Title: 65: NOT YOUTH PERTAINS TO ME.

2 65-71: delicatessen—I ~ talk;

3 65-71: elegant;

4 65-71: still—for ~ me;

5 65: knowledge, fortune, inure ~ two things
~ me; 71: me;

6 65: wounded, and ~ soldier; 71: wound-

ed, and

7 65: intervals I have strung together a few
songs, 71: intervals, waiting, or

8 65: [Not present]

65: [The following line appears instead of
8:]

[1] Fit for war, and the life of the camp.

SEQUEL TO DRUM-TAPS

(SINCE THE PRECEDING CAME FROM THE PRESS.)



**WHEN LILACS LAST IN THE
DOOR-YARD BLOOM'D.**

AND OTHER PIECES.



WASHINGTON.

1865-6.

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When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd.

I

When lilacs last in the dooryard bloom'd,
 And the great star early droop'd in the western sky in the night,
 I mourn'd, and yet shall mourn with ever-returning spring. ◦

Ever-returning spring, trinity sure to me you bring,
 Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west, 5
 And thought of him I love. ◦

2

O powerful western fallen star!
 O shades of night—O moody, tearful night!
 O great star disappear'd—O the black murk that hides the star!
 O cruel hands that hold me powerless—O helpless soul of me! 10
 O harsh surrounding cloud that will not free my soul. ◦

3

In the dooryard fronting an old farm-house near the white-wash'd palings,

Title: 65-6: WHEN LILACS LAST IN THE DOOR-
 YARD BLOOM'D. 71[PI]: WHEN LILACS LAST IN
 THE DOOR-/YARD BLOOM'D.

65-6-71[PI]: [Stanza and section numbers]

1 65-6-71[PI]: door-yard

3 65-6: mourn'd . . . and 71[PI]: mourn'd
 —and

4 65-6-71[PI]: O ever-returning spring!
 trinity ~ bring;

5 65-6-71[PI]: perennial, and

7 65-6-71[PI]: powerful, western, fallen

8 65-6-71[PI]: night! O

9 65-6-71[PI]: disappear'd! O

10 65-6-71[PI]: powerless! O

11 65-6: soul! 71[PI]: cloud, that ~ soul!

12 65-6-71[PI]: door-yard ~ farm-house,
 near

Stands the lilac-bush tall-growing with heart-shaped leaves of rich green,
 With many a pointed blossom rising delicate, with the perfume strong I love,
 15 With every leaf a miracle—and from this bush in the dooryard,
 With delicate-color'd blossoms and heart-shaped leaves of rich green,
 A sprig with its flower I break. ○

4

In the swamp in secluded recesses,
 A shy and hidden bird is warbling a song. ○

20 Solitary the thrush,
 The hermit withdrawn to himself, avoiding the settlements,
 Sings by himself a song. ○

Song of the bleeding throat,
 Death's outlet song of life, (for well dear brother I know,
 25 If thou wast not granted to sing thou would'st surely die.) ○

5

Over the breast of the spring, the land, amid cities,
 Amid lanes and through old woods, where lately the violets peep'd from the
 ground, spotting the gray debris,
 Amid the grass in the fields each side of the lanes, passing the endless grass,
 Passing the yellow-spear'd wheat, every grain from its shroud in the
 dark-brown fields uprisen,
 30 Passing the apple-tree blows of white and pink in the orchards,
 Carrying a corpse to where it shall rest in the grave,
 Night and day journeys a coffin. ○

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 13 | 65-6-71[PI]: lilac bush, tall-growing, with | 23 | 65-6-71[PI]: throat! |
| 14 | 65-6-71[PI]: blossom, rising, delicate, | 24 | 65-6-71[PI]: life—(for well, dear brother, |
| 15 | 65-6-71[PI]: miracle and ~ | | I |
| | door-yard, | 25 | 65-6-71[PI] not gifted ~ sing, thou |
| 16 | 65-6: With its delicate-color'd blossoms, | 27 | 65-6-71[PI]: lanes, and ~ woods, (where |
| | and 71[PI]: blossoms, and | | ~ debris;) |
| 17 | 65-6-71[PI]: sprig, with ~ flower, I | 28 | 65-6-71[PI]: lanes—passing ~ grass; |
| 18 | 65-6-71[PI]: swamp, in | 29 | 65-6-71[PI]: fields uprising; |
| 20 | 65-6-71[PI]: Solitary, the | 30 | 65-6-71[PI]: orchards; |
| 21 | 65-6-71[PI]: hermit, withdrawn | | |

6

Coffin that passes through lanes and streets,
 Through day and night with the great cloud darkening the land,
 With the pomp of the inloop'd flags with the cities draped in black, 35
 With the show of the States themselves as of crape-veil'd women standing,
 With processions long and winding and the flambeaus of the night,
 With the countless torches lit, with the silent sea of faces and the unbared
 heads,
 With the waiting depot, the arriving coffin, and the sombre faces,
 With dirges through the night, with the thousand voices rising strong and
 solemn, 40
 With all the mournful voices of the dirges pour'd around the coffin,
 The dim-lit churches and the shuddering organs—where amid these you
 journey,
 With the tolling tolling bells' perpetual clang,
 Here, coffin that slowly passes,
 I give you my sprig of lilac. o 45

7

(Nor for you, for one alone,
 Blossoms and branches green to coffins all I bring,
 For fresh as the morning, thus would I chant a song for you O sane and
 sacred death. o

All over bouquets of roses,
 O death, I cover you over with roses and early lilies, 50
 But mostly and now the lilac that blooms the first,
 Copious I break, I break the sprigs from the bushes,
 With loaded arms I come, pouring for you,

34 65-6-71[PI]: night, with

35 65-6-71[PI]: flags, with

36 65-6: themselves, as ~ women, standing,
71[PI]: themselves, as ~ crape-/veil'd women,
standing,

37 65-6-71[PI]: winding, and

38 65-6-71[PI]: lit—with ~ faces, and

40 65-6-71[PI]: solemn;

41 65-6-71[PI]: dirges, pour'd

42 65-6-71[PI]: organs—Where

43 65-6-71[PI]: tolling, tolling ~ clang;

44 65-6-71[PI]: Here! coffin

46 65-6-71[PI]: one, alone;

47 65-6-71[PI]: bring:

48 65-6: morning—thus ~ you, O 71[PI]:
morning—thus ~ I carol ~ you, O

50 65-6-71[PI]: death! I ~ lilies;

52 65-6: Copious, I ~ bushes: 71[PI]:
Copious, I ~ bushes;

For you and the coffins all of you O death.) ◦

8

- 55 O western orb sailing the heaven,
 Now I know what you must have meant as a month since I walk'd,
 As I walk'd in silence the transparent shadowy night,
 As I saw you had something to tell as you bent to me night after night,
 As you droop'd from the sky low down as if to my side, (while the other
 stars all look'd on,)
 As we wander'd together the solemn night, (for something I know not what
 60 kept me from sleep,)
 As the night advanced, and I saw on the rim of the west how full you were
 of woe,
 As I stood on the rising ground in the breeze in the cool transparent night,
 As I watch'd where you pass'd and was lost in the netherward black of the
 night,
 As my soul in its trouble dissatisfied sank, as where you sad orb,
 65 Concluded, dropt in the night, and was gone. ◦

9

- Sing on there in the swamp,
 O singer bashful and tender, I hear your notes, I hear your call,
 I hear, I come presently, I understand you,
 But a moment I linger, for the lustrous star has detain'd me,
 70 The star my departing comrade holds and detains me. ◦

- | | | | |
|----|--|---------------------------|--|
| 54 | 65-6: you, O | 71[PI]: you, and ~ you, O | ~ woe; |
| 55 | 65-6-71[PI]: orb, sailing ~ heaven! | | 62 65-6: breeze, in 71[PI]: breeze, in the cold |
| 56 | 65-6-71[PI]: meant, as ~ since we | | 64 65-6-71[PI]: soul, in ~ trouble, dissatisfied, sank, ~ you, sad |
| | 65-6-71[PI]: [The following line appears after 56:] | | 66 65-6-71[PI]: on, there ~ swamp! |
| | [1] As we walk'd up and down in the dark blue so mystic, | | 67 65-6-71[PI]: tender! I ~ notes—I ~ call; |
| 57 | 65-6-71[PI]: As we | | 68 65-6-71[PI]: hear—I ~ presently—I ~ you; |
| 58 | 65-6-71[PI]: tell, as | | 69 65-6-71[PI]: linger—for ~ me; |
| 59 | 65-6-71[PI]: down, as ~ on;) | | 70 65-6: star, my comrade, departing, holds |
| 60 | 65-6: what, kept ~ sleep;) 71[PI]: something, I ~ what, kept ~ sleep;) | | 71[PI]: star, my ~ comrade, holds |
| 61 | 65-6-71[PI]: west, ere you went, how | | |

IO

O how shall I warble myself for the dead one there I loved?
 And how shall I deck my song for the large sweet soul that has gone?
 And what shall my perfume be for the grave of him I love? o

Sea-winds blown from east and west,
 Blown from the Eastern sea and blown from the Western sea, till there on
 the prairies meeting, 75
 These and with these and the breath of my chant,
 I'll perfume the grave of him I love. o

II

O what shall I hang on the chamber walls?
 And what shall the pictures be that I hang on the walls,
 To adorn the burial-house of him I love? o 80

Pictures of growing spring and farms and homes,
 With the Fourth-month eve at sundown, and the gray smoke lucid and bright,
 With floods of the yellow gold of the gorgeous, indolent, sinking sun, burning,
 expanding the air,
 With the fresh sweet herbage under foot, and the pale green leaves of the
 trees prolific,
 In the distance the flowing glaze, the breast of the river, with a wind-dapple
 here and there, 85
 With ranging hills on the banks, with many a line against the sky, and
 shadows,
 And the city at hand with dwellings so dense, and stacks of chimneys,
 And all the scenes of life and the workshops, and the workmen homeward
 returning. o

73 65-6-71[PI]: be, for
 74 65-6-71[PI]: Sea-winds, blown
 75 65-6-71[PI]: eastern sea, and ~ western
 ~ meeting:
 76 65-6-71[PI]: These, and ~ these, and
 77 65-6-71[PI]: I perfume
 81 65-6-71[PI]: spring, and farms, and

82 65-6: gray-smoke
 83 65-6-71[PI]: air;
 84 65-6-71[PI]: prolific;
 85 65-6-71[PI]: there;
 86 65-6-71[PI]: shadows;
 87 65-6-71[PI]: hand, with
 88 65-6-71[PI]: life, and

12

Lo, body and soul—this land,
 My own Manhattan with spires, and the sparkling and hurrying tides, and
 90 the ships,
 The varied and ample land, the South and the North in the light, Ohio's shores
 and flashing Missouri,
 And ever the far-spreading prairies cover'd with grass and corn. o

Lo, the most excellent sun so calm and haughty,
 The violet and purple morn with just-felt breezes,
 95 The gentle soft-born measureless light,
 The miracle spreading bathing all, the fulfill'd noon,
 The coming eve delicious, the welcome night and the stars,
 Over my cities shining all, enveloping man and land. o

13

Sing on, sing on you gray-brown bird,
 100 Sing from the swamps, the recesses, pour your chant from the bushes,
 Limitless out of the dusk, out of the cedars and pines. o

Sing on dearest brother, warble your reedy song,
 Loud human song, with voice of uttermost woe. o

O liquid and free and tender!
 105 O wild and loose to my soul—O wondrous singer!
 You only I hear—yet the star holds me, (but will soon depart,)
 Yet the lilac with mastering odor holds me. o

- 89 65-6-71[PI]: Lo! body ~ soul! this land! all—the ~ noon;
 90 65-6-71[PI]: Mighty Manhattan, with ~ ships; 97 65-6-71[PI]: eve, delicious—the ~ night,
 91 65-6-71[PI]: land—the ~ light—Ohio's shores, and and
 92 65-6-71[PI]: prairies, cover'd 99 65-6-71[PI]: on! sing on, you ~ bird!
 93 65-6-71[PI]: Lo! ~ sun, so ~ haughty; 100 65-6-71[PI]: recesses—pour ~ bushes;
 94 65-6-71[PI]: morn, with ~ breezes: 71[PI]: 102 65-6-71[PI]: on, dearest brother—war-
 morn, with ~ breezes; ble ~ song;
 95 65-6-71[PI]: gentle, soft-born, measureless 104 65-6-71[PI]: liquid, and free, and
 light; 105 65-6-71[PI]: soul! O
 96 65-6-71[PI]: miracle, spreading, bathing 106 65-6-71[PI]: hear yet ~ de-
 part;) 107 65-6-71[PI]: lilac, with ~ odor, holds

14

Now while I sat in the day and look'd forth,
 In the close of the day with its light and the fields of spring, and the farmers
 preparing their crops,
 In the large unconscious scenery of my land with its lakes and forests, 110
 In the heavenly aerial beauty, (after the perturb'd winds and the storms,)
 Under the arching heavens of the afternoon swift passing, and the voices of
 children and women,
 The many-moving sea-tides, and I saw the ships how they sail'd,
 And the summer approaching with richness, and the fields all busy with labor,
 And the infinite separate houses, how they all went on, each with its meals
 and minutia of daily usages, 115
 And the streets how their throbbings throb'd, and the cities pent—lo, then
 and there,
 Falling upon them all and among them all, enveloping me with the rest,
 Appear'd the cloud, appear'd the long black trail,
 And I knew death, its thought, and the sacred knowledge of death. ◦

Then with the knowledge of death as walking one side of me, 120
 And the thought of death close-walking the other side of me,
 And I in the middle as with companions, and as holding the hands of
 companions,
 I fled forth to the hiding receiving night that talks not,
 Down to the shores of the water, the path by the swamp in the dimness,
 To the solemn shadowy cedars and ghostly pines so still. ◦ 125

And the singer so shy to the rest receiv'd me,
 The gray-brown bird I know receiv'd us comrades three,
 And he sang the carol of death, and a verse for him I love. ◦

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 108 | 65-6-71[PI]: day, and | 118 | 65-6-71[PI]: trail; |
| 109 | 65-6-71[PI]: day, with ~ light, and
~ farmer ~ his crops, | 119 | 65-6-71[PI]: Death, its |
| 110 | 65-6-71[PI]: land, with | 120 | 65-6-71[PI]: [Section 15 begins with
120] |
| 111 | 65-6-71[PI]: winds, and ~ storms;) | 122 | 65-6-71[PI]: middle, as |
| 113 | 65-6-71[PI]: sea-tides,—and | 123 | 65-6-71[PI]: night, that |
| 115 | 65-6-71[PI]: usages; | 125 | 65-6-71[PI]: cedars, and |
| 116 | 65-6: streets, how ~ pent,—lo! then
71[PI]: streets, how ~ pent—lo! then | 126 | 65-6-71[PI]: me; |
| 117 | 65-6: Falling among them all, and upon
71[PI]: all, and | 127 | 65-6-71[PI]: know, receiv'd ~ three; |
| | | 128 | 65-6: sang what seem'd the song of 71
[PI]: sang what seem'd the carol |

From deep secluded recesses,
 130 From the fragrant cedars and the ghostly pines so still,
 Came the carol of the bird. ◦

And the charm of the carol rapt me,
 As I held as if by their hands my comrades in the night,
 And the voice of my spirit tallied the song of the bird. ◦

135 *Come lovely and soothing death,*
Undulate round the world, serenely arriving, arriving,
In the day, in the night, to all, to each,
Sooner or later delicate death. ◦

Prais'd be the fathomless universe,
 140 *For life and joy, and for objects and knowledge curious,*
And for love, sweet love—but praise! praise! praise!
For the sure-enwinding arms of cool-enfolding death. ◦

Dark mother always gliding near with soft feet,
Have none chanted for thee a chant of fullest welcome?
 145 *Then I chant it for thee, I glorify thee above all,*
I bring thee a song that when thou must indeed come, come unfalteringly. ◦

Approach strong deliveress,
When it is so, when thou hast taken them I joyously sing the dead,
Lost in the loving floating ocean of thee,

130 65-6-71[PI]: cedars, and

131 65-6: Came the singing of

132 65-6: charm of the singing rapt

133 65-6-71[PI]: held, as ~ hands, my ~
 night;

135 65-6: Come, lovely ~ Death, [rom]
 71[PI]: [Lines 135-162 bear the sub-title
DEATH CAROL.] [Sub-title in small capitals,
 italic; font not available] *Come, lovely ~*
Death, 65-6-71[PI]: [Section 16 begins with
 135]

136 65-6: [rom]

137 65-6: [rom]

138 65-6: later, delicate Death. [rom] 71
 [PI]: *later, delicate Death.*

139 65-6: [rom]

140 65-6: curious; [rom] 71[PI]: *curious;*

141 65-6: love—But praise! O praise and
 praise, [rom] 71[PI]: *love—But*

142 65-6: Death. [rom] 71[PI]: *Death.*

143 65-6: Mother, always ~ near, with [rom]
 71[PI]: *Mother, always ~ near, with*

144 65-6: [rom]

145 65-6: thee—I ~ all; [rom] 71[PI]:
thee—I ~ all;

146 65-6: [rom]

147 65-6: Approach, encompassing Death—
 strong Deliveress! [rom] 71[PI]: *Approach,*
strong Deliveress!

148 65-6: so—when ~ them, I [rom] 71
 [PI]: *so—when ~ them, I*

149 65-6: loving, floating [rom] 71[PI]:
loving, floating

Laved in the flood of thy bliss O death. ◦ 150

*From me to thee glad serenades,
Dances for thee I propose saluting thee, adornments and feastings for thee,
And the sights of the open landscape and the high-spread sky are fitting,
And life and the fields, and the huge and thoughtful night.* ◦

The night in silence under many a star, 155
*The ocean shore and the husky whispering wave whose voice I know,
And the soul turning to thee O vast and well-veil'd death,
And the body gratefully nestling close to thee.* ◦

Over the tree-tops I float thee a song,
Over the rising and sinking waves, over the myriad fields and the prairies wide, 160
*Over the dense-pack'd cities all and the teeming wharves and ways,
I float this carol with joy, with joy to thee O death.* ◦

15

To the tally of my soul,
Loud and strong kept up the gray-brown bird,
With pure deliberate notes spreading filling the night. ◦ 165

Loud in the pines and cedars dim,
Clear in the freshness moist and the swamp-perfume,
And I with my comrades there in the night. ◦

150 65-6: bliss, O Death, [rom] 71[PI]:
bliss, O Death.

151 65-6: [rom]

152 65-6: propose, saluting thee—adornments
~ thee; [rom] 71[PI]: *propose, saluting
thee—adornments ~ thee;*

153 65-6: landscape, and ~ sky, are [rom]
71[PI]: *landscape, and ~ sky, are*

154 65-6: [rom]

155 65-6: night, in silence, under ~ star;
[rom] 71[PI]: *night, in silence, under ~
star;*

156 65-6: shore, and ~ wave, whose ~
know; [rom] 71[PI]: *shore, and ~ wave,
whose ~ know;*

157 65-6: thee, O ~ Death, [rom] 71[PI]:

thee, O ~ Death,

158 65-6: [rom]

159 65-6: song! [rom] 71[PI]: *song!*

160 65-6: waves—over ~ fields, and ~ wide;
[rom] 71[PI]: *waves—over ~ fields, and
~ wide;*

161 65-6: all, and [rom] 71[PI]: *all, and*

162 65-6: thee, O Death! [rom] 71[PI]:
thee, O Death!

163 65-6-71[PI]: [Section 17 begins with
163]

165 65-6-71[PI]: pure, deliberate notes,
spreading, filling

167 65-6-71[PI]: moist, and ~ swamp-
perfume;

While my sight that was bound in my eyes unclosed,
170 As to long panoramas of visions. ○

And I saw askant the armies,
I saw as in noiseless dreams hundreds of battle-flags,
Borne through the smoke of the battles and pierc'd with missiles I saw them,
And carried hither and yon through the smoke, and torn and bloody,
175 And at last but a few shreds left on the staffs, (and all in silence,)
And the staffs all splinter'd and broken. ○

I saw battle-corpses, myriads of them,
And the white skeletons of young men, I saw them,
I saw the debris and debris of all the slain soldiers of the war,
180 But I saw they were not as was thought,
They themselves were fully at rest, they suffer'd not,
The living remain'd and suffer'd, the mother suffer'd,
And the wife and the child and the musing comrade suffer'd,
And the armies that remain'd suffer'd. ○

16

185 Passing the visions, passing the night,
Passing, unloosing the hold of my comrades' hands,
Passing the song of the hermit bird and the tallying song of my soul,
Victorious song, death's outlet song, yet varying ever-altering song,
As low and wailing, yet clear the notes, rising and falling, flooding the night,
Sadly sinking and fainting, as warning and warning, and yet again bursting
190 with joy,

171 65-6: † I saw the vision of armies; 71 [PI]: † I ~ armies; 65-6-71 [PI]: [Section 18 begins with 171]
172 65-6: † And I saw, as ~ dreams, hundreds of battle-flags; 71 [PI]: † And I saw, as ~ dreams, hundreds of battle-/flags;
173 65-6-71 [PI]: battles, and ~ missiles, I
174 65-6-71 [PI]: bloody;
175 65-6: shreds of the flags left
178 65-6-71 [PI]: men—I ~ them;
179 65-6: all dead soldiers;/ 71 [PI]: the dead soldiers ~ war;

180 65-6-71 [PI]: thought;
181 65-6-71 [PI]: rest—they ~ not;
182 65-6-71 [PI]: suffer'd—the
183 65-6-71 [PI]: child, and
185 65-6-71 [PI]: night; [Section 19 begins with 185]
186 65-6-71 [PI]: hands;
187 65-6-71 [PI]: bird, and
188 65-6: song, (yet varying, ever-/altering 71 [PI]: (Victorious ~ varying, ever-/altering
190 65-6: joy,)

Covering the earth and filling the spread of the heaven,
 As that powerful psalm in the night I heard from recesses,
 Passing, I leave thee lilac with heart-shaped leaves,
 I leave thee there in the door-yard, blooming, returning with spring. ◦

I cease from my song for thee, 195
 From my gaze on thee in the west, fronting the west, communing with thee,
 O comrade lustrous with silver face in the night. ◦

Yet each to keep and all, retrievements out of the night,
 The song, the wondrous chant of the gray-brown bird,
 And the tallying chant, the echo arous'd in my soul, 200
 With the lustrous and drooping star with the countenance full of woe,
 With the holders holding my hand nearing the call of the bird,
 Comrades mine and I in the midst, and their memory ever to keep, for the
 dead I loved so well,
 For the sweetest, wisest soul of all my days and lands—and this for his dear
 sake,
 Lilac and star and bird twined with the chant of my soul, 205
 There in the fragrant pines and the cedars dusk and dim. ◦

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>191 65-6-71[PI]: earth, and
 192 65-6: recesses. 71[PI]: recesses,
 193 65-6: Must I ~ thee, lilac ~ leaves?
 71[PI]: thee, lilac ~ leaves; 65-6:[Section 20
 begins with 193]
 194 65-6: Must I ~ spring?
 195 65-6: Must I pass from ~ thee; 71[PI]:
 thee;
 197 65-6: lustrous, with ~ night? 71[PI]:
 lustrous, with
 198 65-6: each I keep, and all;/ 71[PI]:
 each I keep, and ~ night; 65-6-71[PI]: [Sec-
 tion 21 begins with 198; section 20 with 198]
 199 65-6: bird, I keep,
 200 65-6: soul, I keep,
 201 65-6: star, with ~ woe; 71[PI]: star,</p> | <p>with
 65-6-71[PI]: [The following line ap-
 pears after 201:]
 [1] With the lilac tall, and its blossoms
 of mastering odor;
 202 65-6: [Not present] 71[PI]: hand,
 nearing
 203 65-6-71[PI]: mine, and ~ ever I keep
 —for ~ well;
 204 65-6-71[PI]: lands . . . and ~ sake;
 205 65-6-71[PI]: bird, twined
 65-6: [The following line appears after
 205:]
 [1] With the holders holding my hand,
 nearing the call of the bird,
 206 65-6-71[PI]: pines, and</p> |
|---|---|

Race of Veterans.

Race of veterans—race of victors!
 Race of the soil, ready for conflict—race of the conquering march!
 (No more credulity's race, abiding-temper'd race,
 Race henceforth owning no law but the law of itself,
 5 Race of passion and the storm. o

O Captain! My Captain!

O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,
 The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won,
 The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,
 While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring;

Title: 65-6: RACE OF VETERANS. 71: RACE OF VETERANS. 2 65-6-71: conflict! race
 3 65-6-71: race;) 1 65-6: veterans!/ 71: veterans! Race 4 65-6: Race owning ~ itself; 71: itself;

Title: 65-6-71[PI]: O CAPTAIN! MY CAPTAIN!
 65-6-71[PI]: [Stanza numbers, centered] 2 65-6-71[PI]: won;
 1 65-6: my captain! ~ done; 71[PI]: done; 4 65-6-71[PI]: daring;

But O heart! heart! heart! 5
 O the bleeding drops of red,
 Where on the deck my Captain lies,
 Fallen cold and dead. ◦

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;
 Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle trills, 10
 For you bouquets and ribbon'd wreaths—for you the shores a-crowding,
 For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;
 Here Captain! dear father!
 This arm beneath your head!
 It is some dream that on the deck, 15
 You've fallen cold and dead. ◦

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,
 My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will,
 The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,
 From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won; 20
 Exult O shores, and ring O bells!
 But I with mournful tread,
 Walk the deck my Captain lies,
 Fallen cold and dead. ◦

6 65-6: [Not present]

65-6: [The following line appears instead of 6:]

[1] Leave you not the little spot,

7 65-6: captain

9 65-6: captain! my captain!

10 65-6-71[PI]: trills;

11 65-6-71[PI]: a-crowding;

13 65-6: O captain!

14 65-6: arm I push beneath you; 71[PI]: head;

17 65-6: captain ~ still; 71[PI]: still;

18 65-6: will: 71[PI]: will;

19 65-6: But the ship, the ship ~ safe, its ~ done; 71[PI]: done;

20 65-6-71[PI]: trip, the ~ ship, comes ~ won:

21 65-6-71[PI]: Exult, O ~ ring, O

22 65-6: But I, with silent tread, 71[PI]: But I, with

23 65-6: the spot my captain

Spirit whose Work is Done.

(Washington City, 1865.)

Spirit whose work is done—spirit of dreadful hours!
 Ere departing fade from my eyes your forests of bayonets;
 Spirit of gloomiest fears and doubts, (yet onward ever unfaltering pressing,)
 Spirit of many a solemn day and many a savage scene—electric spirit,
 That with muttering voice through the war now closed, like a tireless phantom
 5 flitted,
 Rousing the land with breath of flame, while you beat and beat the drum,
 Now as the sound of the drum, hollow and harsh to the last, reverberates
 round me,
 As your ranks, your immortal ranks, return, return from the battles,
 As the muskets of the young men yet lean over their shoulders,
 10 As I look on the bayonets bristling over their shoulders,
 As those slanted bayonets, whole forests of them appearing in the distance,
 approach and pass on, returning homeward,
 Moving with steady motion, swaying to and fro to the right and left,
 Evenly lightly rising and falling while the steps keep time;
 Spirit of hours I knew, all hectic red one day, but pale as death next day,
 15 Touch my mouth ere you depart, press my lips close,

Title: 65-6: SPIRIT WHOSE WORK IS DONE.
 71: SPIRIT WHOSE WORK IS DONE./(Washington City, 1865.)

1 65-6-71: done! spirit

2 65-6-71: Ere, departing, fade

3 65-6-71: pressing;)

4 65-6-71: day, and ~ scene! Electric spirit!

5 65-6: voice, through the years now 71:
 voice, through Copy-text: tire-/less

6 65-6-71: drum;

7 65-6-71: —Now, as ~ me;

8 65-6-71: battles;

9 65-6-71: While the muskets ~ shoulders;

10 65-6-71: While I ~ shoulders;

11 65-6-71: While those ~ them, appearing

12 65-6-71: fro, to

13 65-6-71: Evenly, lightly ~ falling, as ~
 the time:

14 65-6-71: —Spirit ~ day;

15 65-6-71: mouth, ere ~ depart—press ~
 close!

Leave me your pulses of rage—bequeath them to me—fill me with currents
 convulsive,
 Let them scorch and blister out of my chants when you are gone,
 Let them identify you to the future in these songs. ◦

Chanting the Square Deific.

I

Chanting the square deific, out of the One advancing, out of the sides,
 Out of the old and new, out of the square entirely divine,
 Solid, four-sided, (all the sides needed,) from this side Jehovah am I,
 Old Brahm I, and I Saturnius am;
 Not Time affects me—I am Time, old, modern as any, 5
 Unpersuadable, relentless, executing righteous judgments,
 As the Earth, the Father, the brown old Kronos, with laws,
 Aged beyond computation, yet ever new, ever with those mighty laws rolling,
 Relentless I forgive no man—whoever sins dies—I will have that man's life;
 Therefore let none expect mercy—have the seasons, gravitation, the appointed
 days, mercy? no more have I, 10
 But as the seasons and gravitation, and as all the appointed days that
 forgive not,

16 65-6-71: rage! bequeath ~ me! fill ~
 convulsive!

17 65-6-71: chants, when ~ gone;
 18 71: future, in

Title: 65-6-71[PI]: CHANTING THE SQUARE
 DEIFIC.

1 65-6-71[PI]: sides;

2 65-6-71[PI]: new—out

3 65-6-71[PI]: needed) . . . from ~ JEHO-
 VAH

5 65-6: Time, modern ~ any; 71[PI]: any;

6 65-6-71[PI]: judgments;

8 65-6-71[PI]: computation—yet ~ new—
 ever

9 65-6-71[PI]: Relentless, I ~ sins, dies—I

10 65-6-71[PI]: mercy—Have ~ mercy?—
 No ~ I;

11 65-6-71[PI]: seasons, and gravitation—
 and ~ days, that

I dispense from this side judgments inexorable without the least remorse. ◦

2

- Consolator most mild, the promis'd one advancing,
 With gentle hand extended, the mightier God am I,
 15 Foretold by prophets and poets in their most rapt prophecies and poems,
 From this side, lo! the Lord Christ gazes—lo! Hermes I—lo! mine is Hercules'
 face,
 All sorrow, labor, suffering, I, tallying it, absorb in myself,
 Many times have I been rejected, taunted, put in prison, and crucified, and
 many times shall be again,
 All the world have I given up for my dear brothers' and sisters' sake, for the
 soul's sake,
 Wending my way through the homes of men, rich or poor, with the kiss of
 20 affection,
 For I am affection, I am the cheer-bringing God, with hope and all-enclosing
 charity,
 With indulgent words as to children, with fresh and sane words, mine only,
 Young and strong I pass knowing well I am destin'd myself to an early death;
 But my charity has no death—my wisdom dies not, neither early nor late,
 25 And my sweet love bequeath'd here and elsewhere never dies. ◦

3

Aloof, dissatisfied, plotting revolt,
 Comrade of criminals, brother of slaves,
 Crafty, despised, a drudge, ignorant,

12 65-6-71[PI]: inexorable, without

14 71[PI]: extended—the

15 65-6-71[PI]: poets, in ~ poems;

16 65-6-71[PI]: Lord CHRIST ~ face;

17 65-6-71[PI]: myself;

18 65-6-71[PI]: crucified—and ~ again;

19 65-6-71[PI]: sake—for ~ sake;

20 65-6-71[PI]: affection;

21 65-6-71[PI]: affection—I ~ hope, and
 ~ Charity;

65-71[PI]: [The following line appears

after 21:]

[1] (Conqueror yet—for before me all
 the armies and soldiers of the earth shall
 yet bow—and all the weapons of war be-
 come impotent:)

22 65-6-71[PI]: words, as ~ children—

23 65-6-71[PI]: pass, knowing ~ death:

24 65-6-71[PI]: Charity ~ Wisdom

25 65-6-71[PI]: Love, ~ elsewhere, never

With sudra face and worn brow, black, but in the depths of my heart, proud
 as any,
 Lifted now and always against whoever scorning assumes to rule me, 30
 Morose, full of guile, full of reminiscences, brooding, with many wiles,
 (Though it was thought I was baffled and dispel'd, and my wiles done, but that
 will never be,)
 Defiant, I, Satan, still live, still utter words, in new lands duly appearing, (and
 old ones also,)
 Permanent here from my side, warlike, equal with any, real as any,
 Nor time nor change shall ever change me or my words. o 35

4

Santa Spirita, breather, life,
 Beyond the light, lighter than light,
 Beyond the flames of hell, joyous, leaping easily above hell,
 Beyond Paradise, perfumed solely with mine own perfume,
 Including all life on earth, touching, including God, including Saviour and
 Satan, 40
 Ethereal, pervading all, (for without me what were all? what were God?)
 Essence of forms, life of the real identities, permanent, positive, (namely the
 unseen,)
 Life of the great round world, the sun and stars, and of man, I, the general
 soul,
 Here the square finishing, the solid, I the most solid,
 Breathe my breath also through these songs. o 45

29 65-6: brow—black, and ~ any; 71[PI]:
 any;
 30 65-6-71[PI]: Lifted, now ~ always,
 against whoever, scorning, assumes ~ me;
 32 65-6-71[PI]: dispell'd, ~ done—but ~
 be;)
 33 65-6-71[PI]: SATAN, ~ live—still ~
 words—in ~ also;)
 34 65-6-71[PI]: here, from
 35 65-6-71[PI]: time, nor change, shall

36 65-6-71[PI]: Santa SPIRITA,
 38 65-6-71[PI]: hell—joyous, ~ hell;
 39 65-6-71[PI]: Paradise—perfumed ~ per-
 fume;
 40 65-6-71[PI]: earth—touching, ~ God—
 including ~ Satan;
 41 65-6-71[PI]: me, what
 42 65-6-71[PI]: forms—life
 43 65-6-71[PI]: man—I, the ~ Soul,
 45 65-6: these little

I Heard You Solemn-Sweet Pipes of the Organ.

I heard you solemn-sweet pipes of the organ as last Sunday morn I pass'd the church,
 Winds of autumn, as I walk'd the woods at dusk I heard your long-stretch'd sighs up above so mournful,
 I heard the perfect Italian tenor singing at the opera, I heard the soprano in the midst of the quartet singing;
 Heart of my love! you too I heard murmuring low through one of the wrists around my head,
 Heard the pulse of you when all was still ringing little bells last night under
 5 my ear. ◦

NOT MY ENEMIES EVER INVADE ME.

Not my enemies ever invade me—no harm to my pride from them I fear;
 But the lovers I recklessly love—lo! how they master me!
 Lo! me, ever open and helpless, bereft of my strength!
 Utterly abject, grovelling on the ground before them. ◦

Title: 65-6: I HEARD YOU, SOLEMN-SWEET PIPES OF THE ORGAN. 71: I Heard You, Solemn-sweet Pipes of the Organ.

1 65-6-71: you, solemn-sweet ~ organ, as ~ church;
 2 65-6-71: autumn!—as ~ dusk, I ~ sighs,

up above, so mournful;

3 65-6-71: tenor, singing ~ opera—I

4 65-6-71: . . . Heart ~ love!—you ~ heard, murmuring low, through ~ head;

5 65-6-71: you, when ~ still, ringing

Title: *As above.* [Poem appeared only in 65-6]

O Me! O Life!

O me! O life! of the questions of these recurring,
 Of the endless trains of the faithless, of cities fill'd with the foolish,
 Of myself forever reproaching myself, (for who more foolish than I, and who
 more faithless?)
 Of eyes that vainly crave the light, of the objects mean, of the struggle ever
 renew'd,
 Of the poor results of all, of the plodding and sordid crowds I see around me, 5
 Of the empty and useless years of the rest, with the rest me intertwined,
 The question, O me! so sad, recurring—What good amid these, O me, O life? ◦

Answer.

That you are here—that life exists and identity,
 That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse. ◦

Title: 65-6-71: O ME! O LIFE!

1 65-6-71: life! . . . of ~ recurring;

2 65-6-71: faithless—of ~ foolish;

4 65-6-71: light—of ~ mean—of ~ renew'd;

5 65-6-71: all—of ~ me;

6 65-6-71: rest—with ~ intertwined; Copy-
 text: inter-/twined,

8 65-6-71: exists, and identity;

9 65-6-71: you will

Ah Poverties, Wincings, and Sulky Retreats.

- Ah poverties, wincings, and sulky retreats,
 Ah you foes that in conflict have overcome me,
 (For what is my life or any man's life but a conflict with foes, the old, the
 incessant war?)
 You degradations, you tussle with passions and appetites,
 5 You smarts from dissatisfied friendships, (ah wounds the sharpest of all!)
 You toil of painful and choked articulations, you meannesses,
 You shallow tongue-talks at tables, (my tongue the shallowest of any;)
 You broken resolutions, you racking angers, you smother'd ennuis!
 Ah think not you finally triumph, my real self has yet to come forth,
 10 It shall yet march forth o'er-mastering, till all lies beneath me,
 It shall yet stand up the soldier of ultimate victory. o

Title: 65-6: AH POVERTIES, WINCINGS, AND
 SULKY RETREATS.

1 65-6-71: retreats!

2 65-6-71: me!

3 65-6-71: life, or ~ life, but ~ foes—the

4 65-6-71: degradations—you ~ appetites;

5 65-6-71: wounds, the ~ all;)

6 65-6-71: articulations—you meannesses;

8 65-6-71: ennuis;

9 65-6-71: Ah, think ~ triumph—My ~
 forth;

10 65-6-71: me;

11 65-6-71: of unquestion'd victory.

As I Lay with My Head in Your Lap Camerado.

As I lay with my head in your lap camerado,
 The confession I made I resume, what I said to you and the open air I resume,
 I know I am restless and make others so,
 I know my words are weapons full of danger, full of death,
 For I confront peace, security, and all the settled laws, to unsettle them, 5
 I am more resolute because all have denied me than I could ever have been
 had all accepted me,
 I heed not and have never heeded either experience, cautions, majorities, nor
 ridicule,
 And the threat of what is call'd hell is little or nothing to me,
 And the lure of what is call'd heaven is little or nothing to me;
 Dear camerado! I confess I have urged you onward with me, and still urge
 you, without the least idea what is our destination, 10
 Or whether we shall be victorious, or utterly quell'd and defeated. o

Title: 65-6: AS I LAY WITH MY HEAD IN YOUR LAP, CAMERADO. 71: As I Lay with my Head in your Lap, Camerado.

1 65-6: lap, camerado, 71: lap, Camerado,
 2 65-6-71: resume—what ~ resume:
 3 65-6-71: restless, and ~ so;
 4 65-6-71: weapons, full ~ death;
 65-6: [The following lines appear after 4:]
 [1] (Indeed I am myself the real soldier;

[2] It is not he, there, with his bayonet, and not the red-striped artilleryman;)

71:[2] red-/striped

5 65-6-71: them;

6 65-6-71: me, than ~ me;

7 65-6-71: not, and ~ heeded, either ~ ridicule;

8 65-6-71: me;

10 65-6-71: . . . Dear

THIS DAY, O SOUL.

This day, O Soul, I give you a wondrous mirror;
 Long in the dark, in tarnish and cloud it lay—But the cloud has pass'd, and
 the tarnish gone;
 . . . Behold, O Soul! it is now a clean and bright mirror,
 Faithfully showing you all the things of the world. ◦

Old War-Dreams.

In midnight sleep of many a face of anguish,
 Of the look at first of the mortally wounded, (of that indescribable look,)
 Of the dead on their backs with arms extended wide,
 I dream, I dream, I dream. ◦

Title: 65-6-71[PI]: THIS DAY, O SOUL. [Ex- 1 65-6: soul,
 cluded after 71[PI]; text is 71[PI]] 3 65-6: soul!

Title: 65-6: IN CLOUDS DESCENDING, IN MID- 71[PI]: sleep, of
 NIGHT SLEEP. 71[PI]: IN MIDNIGHT SLEEP. 2 65-6-71[PI]: wounded—of ~ look; [No
 65-6-71[PI]: [Stanza numbers, centered] parentheses]
 1 65-6: In clouds descending, in ~ sleep, of 3 65-6-71[PI]: backs, with

Of scenes of Nature, fields and mountains, 5
 Of skies so beautiful after a storm, and at night the moon so unearthly bright,
 Shining sweetly, shining down, where we dig the trenches and gather the
 heaps,
 I dream, I dream, I dream. o

Long have they pass'd, faces and trenches and fields,
 Where through the carnage I moved with a callous composure, or away from
 the fallen, 10
 Onward I sped at the time—but now of their forms at night,
 I dream, I dream, I dream. o

An Army Corps on the March.

With its cloud of skirmishers in advance,
 With now the sound of a single shot snapping like a whip, and now an
 irregular volley,
 The swarming ranks press on and on, the dense brigades press on,
 Glittering dimly, toiling under the sun—the dust-cover'd men,
 In columns rise and fall to the undulations of the ground, 5
 With artillery interspers'd—the wheels rumble, the horses sweat,
 As the army corps advances. o

5 65-6: nature, the fields and the mountains; 71[PI]: Long, long have ~ pass'd—faces ~
 71[PI]: nature, ~ mountains; fields;
 6 65-6: Of the skies, so ~ after the storm— 10 65-6: Long through ~ composure—or
 and 71[PI]: skies, so ~ storm—and 71[PI]: composure—or
 9 65-6: pass'd, long lapsed—faces ~ fields; 11 65-6-71[PI]: time—But

Title: 65-6: AN ARMY ON THE MARCH.

2 65-6-71: shot, snapping
 3 65-6-71: on;

4 65-6: sun, the
 7 65-6: army resistless advances.

Dirge for Two Veterans.

The last sunbeam
 Lightly falls from the finish'd Sabbath,
 On the pavement here, and there beyond it is looking,
 Down a new-made double grave. ○

5 Lo, the moon ascending,
 Up from the east the silvery round moon,
 Beautiful over the house-tops, ghastly, phantom moon,
 Immense and silent moon. ○

I see a sad procession,
 10 And I hear the sound of coming full-key'd bugles,
 All the channels of the city streets they're flooding,
 As with voices and with tears. ○

I hear the great drums pounding,
 And the small drums steady whirring,
 15 And every blow of the great convulsive drums,
 Strikes me through and through. ○

For the son is brought with the father,
 (In the foremost ranks of the fierce assault they fell,

Title: 65-6: DIRGE FOR TWO VETERANS. 71:

DIRGE FOR TWO VETERANS.

65-6-71: [Stanza numbers, centered]

3 65-6-71: here—and ~ beyond, it

5 65-6-71: Lo! the ~ ascending!

6 65-6-71: east, the ~ moon;

7 65-6-71: moon;

10 65-6-71: bugles;

14 65-6-71: whirring;

17 65-6-71: father;

18 65-6: fell; 71: fell; [No parenthesis]

Two veterans son and father dropt together,
 And the double grave awaits them.) ◦ 20

Now nearer blow the bugles,
 And the drums strike more convulsive,
 And the daylight o'er the pavement quite has faded,
 And the strong dead-march enwraps me. ◦

In the eastern sky up-buoying, 25
 The sorrowful vast phantom moves illumin'd,
 ('Tis some mother's large transparent face,
 In heaven brighter growing.) ◦

O strong dead-march you please me!
 O moon immense with your silvery face you soothe me! 30
 O my soldiers twain! O my veterans passing to burial!
 What I have I also give you. ◦

The moon gives you light,
 And the bugles and the drums give you music,
 And my heart, O my soldiers, my veterans, 35
 My heart gives you love. ◦

19 65-6-71: veterans, son ~ father, dropt

20 71: [No parenthesis]

22 65-6-71: convulsive;

23 65-6-71: day-light

26 65-6-71: illumin'd;

27 65-6-71: large, transparent

29 65-6-71: dead-march, you

30 65-6-71: immense, with

31 65-6-71: veterans, passing

34 65-6-71: music;

How Solemn as One by One.

(Washington City, 1865.)

How solemn as one by one,
 As the ranks returning worn and sweaty, as the men file by where I stand,
 As the faces the masks appear, as I glance at the faces studying the masks,
 (As I glance upward out of this page studying you, dear friend, whoever you
 are,)
 How solemn the thought of my whispering soul to each in the ranks, and
 5 to you,
 I see behind each mask that wonder a kindred soul,
 O the bullet could never kill what you really are, dear friend,
 Nor the bayonet stab what you really are;
 The soul! yourself I see, great as any, good as the best,
 10 Waiting secure and content, which the bullet could never kill,
 Nor the bayonet stab O friend. ◦

- Title:* 65-6: HOW SOLEMN, AS ONE BY ONE. 4 65-6-71: page, studying ~ are;)
 71: HOW SOLEMN, AS ONE BY ONE. / (*Washington City, 1865.*) 5 65-6-71: soul, to ~ you;
 1 65-6-71: solemn, as 6 65-6: mask, that wonder, a ~ soul: 71:
 2 65-6-71: returning, all worn ~ sweaty— mask, that wonder, a ~ soul;
 as ~ stand; 8 65-6-71: are:
 3 65-6-71: faces, the ~ appear as ~ faces, 9 65-6-71: . . . The
 studying ~ masks; 10 71: Waiting, secure
 11 65-6-71: stab, O friend!

Lo, Victress on the Peaks.

Lo, Victress on the peaks,
 Where thou with mighty brow regarding the world,
 (The world O Libertad, that vainly conspired against thee,)
 Out of its countless beleaguering toils, after thwarting them all,
 Dominant, with the dazzling sun around thee, 5
 Flauntest now unharm'd in immortal soundness and bloom—lo, in these hours
 supreme,
 No poem proud, I chanting bring to thee, nor mastery's rapturous verse,
 But a cluster containing night's darkness and blood-dripping wounds,
 And psalms of the dead. o

Reconciliation.

Word over all, beautiful as the sky,
 Beautiful that war and all its deeds of carnage must in time be utterly lost,

Title: 65-6: LO! VICTRESS ON THE PEAKS! 71: Lo! Victress on the Peaks!
 1 65-6-71: Lo! Victress ~ peaks!
 2 65-6: thou standest, with ~ brow, regarding 71: thou, with ~ brow, regarding
 3 65-6-71: world, O ~ thee;) 6 65-6: Towerest now unharm'd, in ~ lo! in
 4 65-6-71: countless, beleaguering ~ all; 7 65-6: proud I, chanting, bring ~ thee—nor
 5 65-6: Where thou, dominant, with ~ verse; 71: proud, I, chanting, bring ~
 thee—nor ~ verse;
 8 65-6: But a little book, containing ~ darkness, and blood-/dripping 71: But a book,
 containing ~ darkness, and blood-/dripping

Title: 65-6: RECONCILIATION. 71: RECONCILIATION.

1 65-6-71: sky!

2 65-6-71: war, and ~ carnage, must ~ lost;

- That the hands of the sisters Death and Night incessantly softly wash again,
 and ever again, this soil'd world;
 For my enemy is dead, a man divine as myself is dead,
 5 I look where he lies white-faced and still in the coffin—I draw near,
 Bend down and touch lightly with my lips the white face in the coffin. °

To the Leaven'd Soil They Trod.

- To the leaven'd soil they trod calling I sing for the last,
 (Forth from my tent emerging for good, loosing, untying the tent-ropes,)
 In the freshness the forenoon air, in the far-stretching circuits and vistas again
 to peace restored,
 In the fiery fields emanative and the endless vistas beyond, to the South and the
 North,
 5 To the leaven'd soil of the general Western world to attest my songs,
 To the Alleghanian hills and the tireless Mississippi,
 To the rocks I calling sing, and all the trees in the woods,
 To the plains of the poems of heroes, to the prairies spreading wide,

- 3 65-6-71: Night, incessantly ~ world:
 4 65-6-71: . . . For ~ dead—a ~ dead; near;
 5 65-6-71: lies, white-faced ~ still, in ~ 6 65-6: I bend 71: I bend down, and

- Title:* 65-6: TO THE LEAVEN'D SOIL THEY TROD. 4 65-6-71: emanative, and ~ beyond—to ~
 71: TO THE LEAVEN'D SOIL THEY TROD. south ~ north;
 1 65-6-71: trod, calling, I sing, for ~ last; 5 65-6-71: western world, to
 65-6-71: [The following line appears after 65-6-71: [The following line appears after
 1:] [1] (Not cities, nor man alone, nor war, 5:] [1] (To the average earth, the wordless
 nor the dead, earth, witness of war and peace,)
 2 65-6-71: But forth ~ good—loosing, ~ 6 65-6-71: hills, and
 tent-ropes;) Copy-text: tent-/ropes,) 7 65-6-71: I, calling, sing,
 3 65-6-71: freshness, the ~ vistas, again 8 65-6-71: plain ~ prairie

LEAVES
OF
GRASS.



New-York.



1867.

Thomas Nast.

from Walt Whitman

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SONGS

BEFORE PARTING.

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To the far-off sea and the unseen winds, and the sane impalpable air;
 And responding they answer all, (but not in words,) 10
 The average earth, the witness of war and peace, acknowledges mutely,
 The prairie draws me close, as the father to bosom broad the son,
 The Northern ice and rain that began me nourish me to the end,
 But the hot sun of the South is to fully ripen my songs. ◦

Small the Theme of My Chant.

Small the theme of my Chant, yet the greatest—namely, One's-Self—a simple,
 separate person. That, for the use of the New World, I sing.

Man's physiology complete, from top to toe, I sing. Not physiognomy alone,
 nor brain alone, is worthy for the Muse;—I say the Form complete is
 worthier far. The Female equally with the Male, I sing.

Nor cease at the theme of One's-Self. I speak the word of the modern, the
 the word En-Masse.

My Days I sing, and the Lands—with interstice I knew of hapless War.
 (O friend, whoe'er you are, at last arriving hither to commence, I feel through
 every leaf the pressure of your hand, which I return. 5

And thus upon our journey, footing the road, and more than once, and link'd
 together let us go.) ◦

9 65-6-71: sea, and

10 65-6-71: . . . And responding, they

11 65-6-71: mutely;

12 65-6-71: father, to ~ broad, the son;

13 65-6-71: rain, that ~ me, nourish ~ end;

14 65-6-71: to ripen

Title: 67: INSCRIPTION. 88[SS]: Small the Theme of My Chant. [In 67 this prefatory poem precedes the text. For 71 the poem was reworked as ONE'S-SELF I SING., now integrated into the text as the lead poem in the opening cluster Inscriptions., where it took the same final position in 81. (See 11 558.) However, Whitman then returned to the 67 poem and placed it, with revisions, in the 88 Sands at Seventy cluster as Small the Theme of My Chant. Text is 88[SS]] [Above the poem in reduced lettering: From the 1867 edition L. of

G.]

1 67: *Small is the theme of the following Chant, ~ ONE'S-SELF—that wondrous thing, a simple,* [Entire poem, except words in capitals, in italics] [88[SS]: One's-/Self]

2 67: *muse;—I ~ female ~ male,*

3 67: EN-MASSE.

5 67: *return. And thus upon our journey link'd together let us go.* [No parentheses]

6 67: [Not present—part of 5]

One's-Self I Sing.

One's-Self I sing, a simple separate person,
Yet utter the word Democratic, the word En-Masse. ◦

Of physiology from top to toe I sing,
Not physiognomy alone nor brain alone is worthy for the Muse, I say the Form
complete is worthier far,
5 The Female equally with the Male I sing. ◦

Of Life immense in passion, pulse, and power,
Cheerful, for freest action form'd under the laws divine,
The Modern Man I sing. ◦

The Runner.

On a flat road runs the well-train'd runner,
He is lean and sinewy with muscular legs,

<p><i>Title:</i> 71 ONE'S-SELF I SING. 81: [As above] [See <i>Title</i>-note, II 557] 71: [Stanza numbers] 1 71: sing—a simple, separate Person; 2 71: <i>En-masse</i>.</p>	<p>3 71: Of Physiology ~ sing; 4 71: alone, nor ~ alone, is ~ muse—I ~ far; 5 71: male 7 71: Cheerful—for ~ form'd, under</p>
---	---

Title: 67-71: THE RUNNER.

<p>1 67-71: runner;</p>	<p>2 67-71: sinewy, with ~ legs;</p>
-------------------------	--------------------------------------

He is thinly clothed, he leans forward as he runs,
With lightly closed fists and arms partially rais'd. ◦

Tears.

Tears! tears! tears!
In the night, in solitude, tears,
On the white shore dripping, dripping, suck'd in by the sand,
Tears, not a star shining, all dark and desolate,
Moist tears from the eyes of a muffled head; 5
O who is that ghost? that form in the dark, with tears?
What shapeless lump is that, bent, crouch'd there on the sand?
Streaming tears, sobbing tears, throes, choked with wild cries;
O storm, embodied, rising, careering with swift steps along the beach!
O wild and dismal night storm, with wind—O belching and desperate! 10
O shade so sedate and decorous by day, with calm countenance and regulated
pace,
But away at night as you fly, none looking—O then the unloosen'd ocean,
Of tears! tears! tears! ◦

3 67-71: clothed—he

4 67-71: fists, and

Title: 67: Leaves of Grass. 2. 71[PI]: TEARS.

2 67-71 [PI]: tears;

3 67-71[PI]: sand;

4 67-71[PI]: Tears—not ~ shining—all ~
desolate;

5 67-71[PI]: head:

6 67-71[PI]: —O ~ ghost?—that

8 67-71[PI]: tears—sobbing tears—throes,

9 67-71[PI]: careering, with ~ beach;

10 67-71[PI]: wind! O

11 67-71[PI]: shade, so ~ pace;

12 67-71[PI]: away, at night, as

Aboard at a Ship's Helm.

Aboard at a ship's helm,
A young steersman steering with care. ◦

Through fog on a sea-coast dolefully ringing,
An ocean-bell—O a warning bell, rock'd by the waves. ◦

5 O you give good notice indeed, you bell by the sea-reefs ringing,
Ringing, ringing, to warn the ship from its wreck-place. ◦

For as on the alert O steersman, you mind the loud admonition,
The bows turn, the freighted ship tacking speeds away under her gray sails,
The beautiful and noble ship with all her precious wealth speeds away gayly
and safe. ◦

10 But O the ship, the immortal ship! O ship aboard the ship!
Ship of the body, ship of the soul, voyaging, voyaging, voyaging. ◦

- Title:* 67: Leaves of Grass. 3. 71[PI]: ABOARD, AT A SHIP'S HELM. 67: [Stanza numbers]
- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|----|--|
| 1 | 67: Aboard, at the | 71[PI]: Aboard, at | 7 | 67-71[PI]: For, as ~ alert, O ~ the bell's admonition, |
| 2 | 67-71[PI]: steersman, steering | | 8 | 67-71[PI]: turn,—the ~ ship, tacking, speeds |
| 3 | 67-71[PI]: A bell through | | 9 | 67-71[PI]: ship, with ~ wealth, speeds ~ gaily |
| 5 | 67-71[PI]: sea-/reefs | | 11 | 67-71[PI]: O ship ~ body—ship ~ soul —voyaging, |
| 6 | 67: wreck-/place. | | | |

I curious pause, for lo, an outcast form, a poor dead prostitute brought,
 Her corpse they deposit unclaim'd, it lies on the damp brick pavement,
 5 The divine woman, her body, I see the body, I look on it alone,
 That house once full of passion and beauty, all else I notice not,
 Nor stillness so cold, nor running water from faucet, nor odors morbific
 impress me,
 But the house alone—that wondrous house—that delicate fair house—that ruin!
 That immortal house more than all the rows of dwellings ever built!
 Or white-domed capitol with majestic figure surmounted, or all the old
 10 high-spired cathedrals,
 That little house alone more than them all—poor, desperate house!
 Fair, fearful wreck—tenement of a soul—itself a soul,
 Unclaim'd, avoided house—take one breath from my tremulous lips,
 Take one tear dropt aside as I go for thought of you,
 15 Dead house of love—house of madness and sin, crumbled, crush'd,
 House of life, erewhile talking and laughing—but ah, poor house, dead
 even then,
 Months, years, an echoing, garnish'd house—but dead, dead, dead. o

3 67-71: pause—for lo! an ~ brought;

4 67: pavement; 71: unclaim'd—it ~ pavement;

5 67-71: body—I ~ Body—I

6 67-71: beauty—all ~ not;

7 67-71: me;

9 67-71: house, more

10 67: Capitol itself, with ~ surmounted—
or 71: Capitol itself, with ~ surmounted

—or ~ cathedrals;

11 67-71: alone, more

12 67-71: wreck! tenement ~ Soul! itself ~ Soul!

13 67-71: house! take ~ lips;

14 67-71: tear, dropt ~ go, for

15 67-71: love! house ~ crumbled! crush'd!

16 67-71: life—erewhile ~ house! dead, even then;