





POEMS OF THE

MARGUERITE RADCLYFFE-HALL

PAST & PRESENT



Madam Xmas



To Mr Woodford. Linden  
with the compliments of  
the Author



Sept 15<sup>th</sup> 10.



POEMS OF THE  
PAST & PRESENT

BY  
MARGUERITE RADCLYFFE-HALL

LONDON  
CHAPMAN AND HALL

1910



Printed by BALLANTYNE & CO. LIMITED  
Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London

DEDICATED  
TO  
MRS. GEORGE BATTEN



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“NON OMNĒS MORIAR”

TO-DAY I pictured to myself the years  
When you and I will long have lain at rest,  
When those who mourned us shall have deemed it  
best  
To mourn no more, and will have dried their tears.  
And there remains of you a little song,  
And there remains of me a fleeting rhyme,  
With which to bind the memory of time  
Unto our names men have forgotten long.  
Or if remembered, they may call you fair,  
With no more passion than a pictured face  
Can stir in us to-day, who see its grace  
But have not known it when the soul was there.  
Some few may know you as beloved of those  
Themselves immortal, those whose deathless fame  
Has cast an afterglow about your name:  
And you will live in memory as a rose



## SOUNDS

BEFORE I die, I would hear

The sound of the lotus buds at dawn,  
As they fall apart in the opal morn,  
On the brink of pools that are deep and clear.

Before I die, I would hear

The song that the wild canaries sing  
In the still Barancos at time of Spring,  
When the moon has scented the atmosphere.

Before I die, I would hear

The thrilling notes of the cuckoo's call,  
As it smites the air where the waters fall  
From the river over the rushing weir.

And sweeter than all of these,

Aye, sweeter than any living strain,  
I would hear the voice of my love again,  
Singing softly under the Nispero trees.



*The following poems*  
by MARGUERITE  
*music :*

By MR. HUBERT

- "A SONG." *Chappell and Co.*
- "ITALIAN SPRING." *Boosey and Co.*
- "ON THE LAGOON." *Boosey and Co.*
- "A SEA CYCLE." (No. XV.) *Chappell and Co.*

By MR. CUTHBERT WYNNE

- "LET NOT THE MORNING BREAK," ETC. *John Church Co., Ltd.*

By MR. EASTTHROPE MARTIN

- "SHALL I COMPLAIN?" *Metzler and Co.*

*The following poems from "A SHEAF OF VERSES" are*  
*set to music :*

By MR. ROBERT CONINGSBY CLARKE

- "IN COUPLES." *Chappell and Co.*
- "TO MY LITTLE COUSIN." *Chappell and Co.*
- "TO A BABY." *Chappell and Co.*
- "BUTTERFLY." *Chappell and Co.*
- "OUR LITTLE LOVE IS NEWLY BORN." *Chappell and Co.*
- "HANDS AND LIPS." *Chappell and Co.*
- "GENTLE DAME PRISCILLA." *Chappell and Co.*

*The following poems from "POEMS OF THE PAST AND*  
*PRESENT" have been set to music :*

By MR. ROBERT CONINGSBY CLARKE

- "FRUIT OF THE NISPERO," NOS. I AND XX. *Chappell and Co.*
- "A FAREWELL." *Chappell and Co.*
- "TO A LILY." *Chappell and Co.*
- "THE RHYME OF THE SHEPHERD." *Chappell and Co.*
- "THE HILLS OF BY-AND-BYE." *Chappell and Co.*

By MR. GEORGE BATTEN

- "A SONG OF YOUTH." *The John Church Co., Ltd.*

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By MR. HUBERT BATH

- "A SONG." Chappell and Co.
- "ITALIAN SPRING." Boosey and Co.
- "ON THE LAGOON." Boosey and Co.
- "A SEA CYCLE." (No. XV.) Chappell and Co.

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## PRESS NOTICES

### "TWIXT EARTH AND STARS"

"Miss Radclyffe-Hall is a poet. She has a gift of expression always felicitous, not infrequently spontaneous, and her rhythms are really musical. Moreover, the level of her book is uniformly high. In writing of nature her intuition and sympathy are remarkable. Nearly every poem contains something which clings to your memory and sets you thinking. . . . The main note is vigorous, joyous youth, thankful for the right to exist in such a lovely world."

"If Miss Radclyffe-Hall acquires a higher finish she may confidently look forward to taking her place among the poetesses of this country. It is not often one can so honestly recommend the public to buy a volume of poetry."

*The Queen*, July 4, 1906.

"The author of 'Twixt Earth and Stars' has a real talent for versification and the subjects chosen are all poetical, added to which she has real feeling and the power to express it. I am so charmed with this little book of poems that I cannot help recommending it to you, that you also may enjoy it."—*The Lady*, July 5, 1906.

"A little book of short poems most of which are very pleasant, being marked by sincerity and sweetness."

*Evening Standard*, July 21, 1906.

"'Twixt Earth and Stars' is a dainty little volume of verse, some of which is of considerable merit."

*Publisher and Bookseller*, July 28, 1906.

### "A SHEAF OF VERSES"

"'Winter on the Zuyder Zee' is a bright attractive poem which shows considerable originality. She calls the Zuyder Zee

'A fettered slave grown old between  
The dykes and marshes low and green.'

'Moth to the Flame' and 'On the Seashore' show her metrical skill, for the handling of such short lines is very difficult. The long poem call 'Finis' shows also that she has sustained power, alike in beauty of form and thought. The present volume is much more impassioned than the last was; the love poetry in it shows real feeling."

Mr. DOUGLAS SLADEN, in *The Queen*.



"Miss Marguerite Radclyffe-Hall has just brought out a new volume of poems called 'A Sheaf of Verses,' which is full of tuneful numbers written with spontaneous and imaginative talent. Her muse is a varied one, grave and gay, but always sincere; and her poems reveal a nature capable of deep feeling, to which she is able to give full emotional expression. Miss Radclyffe-Hall's first book, 'Twixt Earth and Stars,' achieved a well-merited success, and several of the poems it contained have been set to music. Amongst these were 'Italian Spring' and 'On the Lagoon,' by Mr. Hubert Bath, and 'Shall I Complain?' by Mr. Eastrope Martin."

*The Lady.*

"Miss Radclyffe-Hall's verses, without being exactly love poems, are principally occupied with aspects of the passion of love. Men write love poems, women write about love. A man, though he be as individual as Donne, or as unlike his fellows as Chapman, when stirred by a beauty to his verse, is primitive and universal. A woman, though she may be more moved than the other, is in the same case conventional, personal, herself. The passion is something intimate—her secret, a thing to be looked at shyly when none else looks, then locked up like the cup in the poem. The pleasure given to us by these poems is not derived from the poems so much as from the illustration which they give of the truth just stated. They are neat statements of the woman's point of view."—*The Daily News.*

"Minor poets abound nowadays, but among the many volumes of verse issued [one rarely finds the true poetical thought and expression that distinguish 'A Sheaf of Verses,' by Marguerite Radclyffe-Hall. There is a touch of sadness in nearly all the verses, or rather they all voice the wistful unrest which inevitably characterises the idealist, as in 'A Complaint':

'Must we for ever see the golden portal,  
Yet ne'er in glad abandon enter in?  
Dear heart, if loving be so great a sin,  
Why have the gods decreed that man be mortal?'

In many of the Nature poems the note is joyous, exhilarating, and some of the lyrics are light and graceful. The little book is aptly 'dedicated to sad days and glad days.' (John and Edward Bumpus.)"—*The Lady.*



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THE SMILE  
AN ITALIAN GARDEN  
SADNESS



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