

*BELIEVE ME IF ALL THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS*

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Believe me if all those endearing young charms  
That I gaze on so fondly today  
Were to change by tomorrow and fleet in my arms  
Like fairy gifts fading away  
Thou wouldst still be adored  
As this moment thou art  
Let the loveliness fade as it will  
And around the dear ruin each wish of my heart  
Would entwine itself verdantly still!

It is not while beauty and youth are thine own  
And thy cheeks unprofaned by a tear  
That the fervour and faith of a soul can be known  
To which time will but make thee more dear.  
No, the heart that has truly loved never forgets  
But as truly loves on to the close  
As the sun-flower turns on her God when he sets  
The same look which she turned when he rose.