

The FACTORY GIRL

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AS I WENT A-WALKING ONE FINE SUMMER'S MORNING
THE BIRDS IN THE BUSHES DID WARBLE AND SING
GAY LADDIES AND LASSES IN COUPLES WERE SPORTING
GOING DOWN TO YON FACTORY THEIR WORK TO BEGIN

I SPIED ONE AMONG THEM WHO WAS FAIRER THAN ANY
HER CHEEKS LIKE THE RED ROSE THAT NONE CAN EXCEL
HER SKIN LIKE THE LILY THAT GROWS IN THE VALLEY
AND SHE WAS A HARD-WORKING FACTORY GIRL!

I WENT IN BESIDE HER MORE CLOSELY TO VIEW HER
AND ON ME SHE CAST SUCH A LOOK OF DISDAIN
SAYING "YOUNG MAN, HAVE MANNERS, AND DO NOT COME NEAR ME
FOR ALTHOUGH I'M POOR GIRL, I THINK IT NO SHAME..."

"IT'S NOT FOR TO SCORN YOU - FAIR MAID, I ADORE YOU
BUT GRANT ME ONE FAVOR - SAY WHERE DO YOU DWELL?"
"KIND SIR, YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, FOR NOW I MUST LEAVE YOU
FOR YONDER'S THE SOUND OF MY FACTORY BELL."

"I HAVE LAND, I HAVE HOUSES ALL COVERED IN IVY
I HAVE GOLD IN MY POCKETS AND SILVER AS WELL
AND IF YOU'LL COME WITH ME, A LADY I'LL MAKE YOU
AND NO MORE NEED YOU HEED YON POOR FACTORY BELL."

"NOW LOVE AND TEMPTATION RUINED MANY IN THE NATION
SO MARRY A LADY, AND MAY YOU DO WELL
FOR I AM AN ORPHAN WITHOUT FRIEND OR RELATION
AND IN TRUTH, I'M A HARD-WORKING FACTORY GIRL."

WITH THESE WORDS SHE TURNED, AND WITH LESS SHE HAD LEFT ME
AND ALL FOR HER SAKE I'LL GO WANDER AWAY
AND IN SOME DEEP VALLEY WHERE NO ONE WILL KNOW ME
I WILL MOURN FOR THE SAKE OF MY FACTORY GIRL!