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He Has Come Back

John Dillon Husband

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The Heart Cannot Know Deep Laughter

By JOSEPH JOEL KEITH

The heart cannot know deep laughter till the heart has known deep pain.
Here and hereafter the sun shall follow rain.

The seed that is small might flower as it feels the gentle fall—
good spring shower—
and sunshine cover all.

But far in man's heart are thunder
And a flash and new sweet breath:
this is the wonder
of strange dear life and death.

And neither a blow that is deeper than delight, nor mankind's foe—
great grim reaper—
can still the deep heart's flow.

He Has Come Back

By JOHN DILLON HUSBAND

You who have broken a song in your heart,
You with a blind and yellow flame in your eyes,
Who rode on a bottomless river down past a sightless shore,—
What have you seen of the world that lies beyond?
Have you come back from the river, so strange, so still,
Only to rest like an ember the fire has left?
Have you come down from the mountain, from hearing the long wind talk,
Only to tell of a curious stone you saw? Only to watch
For a halting, familiar step on the walk?