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A Farewell (Sonnet)

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A Farewell (Sonnet)

By JOSEPH THORNTON MOZLEY

I will leave you tenderly while the dawn
Is still loitering behind the horizon's rim;
Before one naked shaft has pierced the dim
Deep silence, or one glittering star grown wan.
I must not wait until night's dark has withdrawn
One drop of black from its overflowing brim
Which borders the land where the planets swim
In abyss and strike off their sparkling spawn.
With midnight's blackness I'll blind my eyes,
And plug my ears from the sounds of earth.
The path of life I have trod in drab disguise
From the very day I became myself in birth—
Leave no song-bird of the dawn in my track
That love for fleeing Beauty may not call me back.