

The Sundial "Sonnet Of Silence"

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[Edgar Allan Poe]

There are some qualities - some incorporate things,
That have a double life, which thus is made
A type of that twin entity which springs

From matter and light, evinced in solid and shade.
There is a two-fold Silence - sea and shore -
Body and Soul. One dwells in lonely places,

Newly with grass o'ergrown; some solemn graces,
Some human memories and tearful lore,
Render him berrorless: his name's "No more."

He is the corporate Silence: dread him not!
No power hath he of evil in himself;
But should some urgent fate (untime ly lot!)

Bring thee to meet his shadow (nameless elf,
That haunteth the lone regions where hath trod
No foot of man), commend thyself to God!

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