



Cambridge International AS & A Level

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

9695/53

Paper 5 Shakespeare and other pre-20th Century Texts

October/November 2020

2 hours



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer **one** question.
 - Section B: answer **one** question.
- You must answer at least **one** (b) passage-based question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- All questions are worth equal marks.

This document has **20** pages. Blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **one** question from this section.

Remember, at least **one** of the questions you answer must be a **(b) passage-based** question chosen from **either** Section A **or** Section B.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: *Richard II*

- 1 **Either** (a) Discuss Shakespeare's presentation of different kinds of conflict in the play *Richard II*.
Or (b) Paying close attention to the detail of the writing, discuss the following passage, showing what it adds to Shakespeare's presentation of King Richard.

Bolingbroke: Fetch hither Richard, that in common view
 He may surrender; so we shall proceed
 Without suspicion.

York: I will be his conduct. [Exit.]

Bolingbroke: Lords, you that here are under our arrest, 5
 Procure your sureties for your days of answer.
 Little are we beholding to your love,
 And little look'd for at your helping hands.
 [Re-enter YORK, with KING RICHARD, and Officers
 bearing the regalia.] 10

King Richard: Alack, why am I sent for to a king,
 Before I have shook off the regal thoughts
 Wherewith I reign'd? I hardly yet have learn'd
 To insinuate, flatter, bow, and bend my knee.
 Give sorrow leave awhile to tutor me 15
 To this submission. Yet I well remember
 The favours of these men. Were they not mine?
 Did they not sometime cry 'All hail!' to me?
 So Judas did to Christ; but he, in twelve,
 Found truth in all but one; I, in twelve thousand, none. 20
 God save the King! Will no man say amen?
 Am I both priest and clerk? Well then, amen.
 God save the King! although I be not he;
 And yet, amen, if heaven do think him me.
 To do what service am I sent for hither? 25

York: To do that office of thine own good will
 Which tired majesty did make thee offer –
 The resignation of thy state and crown
 To Henry Bolingbroke.

King Richard: Give me the crown. Here, cousin, seize the crown. 30
 Here, cousin,
 On this side my hand, and on that side thine.
 Now is this golden crown like a deep well
 That owes two buckets, filling one another;
 The emptier ever dancing in the air, 35
 The other down, unseen, and full of water.
 That bucket down, and full of tears am I,
 Drinking my griefs, whilst you mount up on high.

<i>Bolingbroke:</i>	I thought you had been willing to resign.	
<i>King Richard:</i>	My crown I am; but still my griefs are mine. You may my glories and my state depose, But not my griefs; still am I king of those.	40
<i>Bolingbroke:</i>	Part of your cares you give me with your crown.	
<i>King Richard:</i>	Your cares set up do not pluck my cares down. My care is loss of care, by old care done; Your care is gain of care, by new care won. The cares I give I have, though given away; They tend the crown, yet still with me they stay.	45
<i>Bolingbroke:</i>	Are you contented to resign the crown?	
<i>King Richard:</i>	Ay, no; no, ay; for I must nothing be; Therefore no no, for I resign to thee. Now mark me how I will undo myself: I give this heavy weight from off my head, And this unwieldy sceptre from my hand, The pride of kingly sway from out my heart; With mine own tears I wash away my balm, With mine own hands I give away my crown, With mine own tongue deny my sacred state, With mine own breath release all duteous oaths; All pomp and majesty I do forswear; My manors, rents, revenues, I forgo; My acts, decrees, and statutes, I deny. God pardon all oaths that are broke to me! God keep all vows unbroke are made to thee! Make me, that nothing have, with nothing griev'd, And thou with all pleas'd, that hast all achiev'd. Long mayst thou live in Richard's seat to sit, And soon lie Richard in an earthy pit. God save King Henry, unking'd Richard says, And send him many years of sunshine days!	50 55 60 65 70

Act 4, Scene 1

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: *The Winter's Tale*

- 2 **Either** (a) In what ways and with what effects does Shakespeare present loyalty in *The Winter's Tale*?
- Or** (b) Paying close attention to language, tone and action, discuss the following passage, showing what it adds to your understanding of the comic characters.

[Enter AUTOLYCUS singing.]

When daffodils begin to peer,
 With heigh! the doxy over the dale,
 Why, then comes in the sweet o' the year,
 For the red blood reigns in the winter's pale. 5

The white sheet bleaching on the hedge,
 With heigh! the sweet birds, O, how they sing!
 Doth set my pugging tooth on edge,
 For a quart of ale is a dish for a king. 10

The lark, that tirra-lirra chants,
 With heigh! with heigh! the thrush and the jay,
 Are summer songs for me and my aunts,
 While we lie tumbling in the hay.

I have serv'd Prince Florizel, and in my time wore three-
 pile; but now I am out of service. 15

But shall I go mourn for that, my dear?
 The pale moon shines by night;
 And when I wander here and there,
 I then do most go right.

If tinkers may have leave to live,
 And bear the sow-skin budget,
 Then my account I well may give
 And in the stocks avouch it. 20

My traffic is sheets; when the kite builds, look to lesser
 linen. My father nam'd me Autolycus; who, being, as I
 am, litter'd under Mercury, was likewise a snapper-up of
 unconsidered trifles. With die and drab I purchas'd this
 caparison; and my revenue is the silly-cheat. Gallows
 and knock are too powerful on the highway; beating and
 hanging are terrors to me; for the life to come, I sleep
 out the thought of it. A prize! a prize! 25 30

[Enter CLOWN.]

Clown: Let me see: every 'leven wether tods; every tod yields
 pound and odd shilling; fifteen hundred shorn, what
 comes the wool to? 35

Autolycus [Aside]: If the springe hold, the cock's mine.

Clown: I cannot do 't without counters. Let me see: what am I
 to buy for our sheep-shearing feast? Three pound of
 sugar, five pound of currants, rice – what will this sister of
 mine do with rice? But my father hath made her mistress
 of the feast, and she lays it on. She hath made me four
 and twenty nosegays for the shearers – three-man
 song-men all, and very good ones; but they are most of 40

	them means and bases; but one Puritan amongst them, and he sings psalms to hornpipes. I must have saffron to colour the warden pies; mace; dates – none, that's out of my note; nutmegs, seven; a race or two of ginger, but that I may beg; four pound of prunes, and as many of raisins o' th' sun.	45
<i>Autolycus</i>	[<i>Grovelling on the ground</i>]: O that ever I was born!	50
<i>Clown:</i>	I' th' name of me!	
<i>Autolycus:</i>	O, help me, help me! Pluck but off these rags; and then, death, death!	
<i>Clown:</i>	Alack, poor soul! thou hast need of more rags to lay on thee, rather than have these off.	55
<i>Autolycus:</i>	O sir, the loathsomeness of them offend me more than the stripes I have received, which are mighty ones and millions.	
<i>Clown:</i>	Alas, poor man! a million of beating may come to a great matter.	60
<i>Autolycus:</i>	I am robb'd, sir, and beaten; my money and apparel ta'en from me, and these detestable things put upon me.	
<i>Clown:</i>	What, by a horseman or a footman?	
<i>Autolycus:</i>	A footman, sweet sir, a footman.	65
<i>Clown:</i>	Indeed, he should be a footman, by the garments he has left with thee; if this be a horseman's coat, it hath seen very hot service. Lend me thy hand, I'll help thee. Come, lend me thy hand. [<i>Helping him up.</i>]	
<i>Autolycus:</i>	O, good sir, tenderly, O!	70
<i>Clown:</i>	Alas, poor soul!	
<i>Autolycus:</i>	O, good sir, softly, good sir; I fear, sir, my shoulder blade is out.	
<i>Clown:</i>	How now! Canst stand?	
<i>Autolycus:</i>	Softly, dear sir [<i>Picks his pocket</i>]; good sir, softly. You ha' done me a charitable office.	75
<i>Clown:</i>	Dost lack any money? I have a little money for thee.	
<i>Autolycus:</i>	No, good sweet sir; no, I beseech you, sir. I have a kinsman not past three quarters of a mile hence, unto whom I was going; I shall there have money or anything I want. Offer me no money, I pray you; that kills my heart.	80

Act 4, Scene 3

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section.

Remember, at least **one** of the questions you answer must be a **(b) passage-based** question chosen from **either** Section A **or** Section B.

JANE AUSTEN: *Northanger Abbey*

- 3 **Either** (a) Discuss some of the effects created by Austen's presentation of male attitudes to women in *Northanger Abbey*.
- Or** (b) Paying close attention to language, tone and narrative methods, discuss the following passage, showing what it adds to Austen's presentation of Catherine.

Miss Tilney, at Catherine's invitation, now read the letter likewise; and, having expressed also her concern and surprize, began to inquire into Miss Thorpe's connexions and fortune.

"Her mother is a very good sort of woman," was Catherine's answer.

"What was her father?"

5

"A lawyer, I believe.—They live at Putney."

"Are they a wealthy family?"

"No, not very. I do not believe Isabella has any fortune at all: but that will not signify in your family.—Your father is so very liberal! He told me the other day, that he only valued money as it allowed him to promote the happiness of his children." 10

The brother and sister looked at each other. "But," said Eleanor, after a short pause, "would it be to promote his happiness, to enable him to marry such a girl?—She must be an unprincipled one, or she could not have used your brother so.—And how strange an infatuation on Frederick's side! A girl who, before his eyes, is violating an engagement voluntarily entered into with another man! Is not it 15
inconceivable, Henry? Frederick too, who always wore his heart so proudly! who found no woman good enough to be loved!"

"That is the most unpromising circumstance, the strongest presumption against him. When I think of his past declarations, I give him up.—Moreover, I have too good an opinion of Miss Thorpe's prudence, to suppose that she would part with 20
one gentleman before the other was secured. It is all over with Frederick indeed! He is a deceased man—defunct in understanding. Prepare for your sister-in-law, Eleanor, and such a sister-in-law as you must delight in!—Open, candid, artless, guileless, with affections strong but simple, forming no pretensions, and knowing no disguise." 25

"Such a sister-in-law, Henry, I should delight in," said Eleanor, with a smile.

"But perhaps," observed Catherine, "though she has behaved so ill by our family, she may behave better by your's. Now she has really got the man she likes, she may be constant."

"Indeed I am afraid she will," replied Henry; "I am afraid she will be very constant, 30
unless a baronet should come in her way; that is Frederick's only chance.—I will get the Bath paper, and look over the arrivals."

"You think it is all for ambition then?—And, upon my word, there are some things that seem very like it. I cannot forget, that, when she first knew what my father would do for them, she seemed quite disappointed that it was not more. I 35
never was so deceived in any one's character in my life before."

"Among all the great variety that you have known and studied."

"My own disappointment and loss in her is very great; but, as for poor James, I suppose he will hardly ever recover it."

“Your brother is certainly very much to be pitied at present; but we must not, in our concern for his sufferings, undervalue your’s. You feel, I suppose, that, in losing Isabella, you lose half yourself: you feel a void in your heart which nothing else can occupy. Society is becoming irksome; and as for the amusements in which you were wont to share at Bath, the very idea of them without her is abhorrent. You would not, for instance, now go to a ball for the world. You feel that you have no longer any friend to whom you can speak with unreserve; on whose regard you can place dependence; or whose counsel, in any difficulty, you could rely on. You feel all this?” 40 45

“No,” said Catherine, after a few moments’ reflection, “I do not—ought I? To say the truth, though I am hurt and grieved, that I cannot still love her, that I am never to hear from her, perhaps never to see her again, I do not feel so very, very much afflicted as one would have thought.” 50

Volume 2, Chapter 10

GEOFFREY CHAUCER: *The Knight's Tale*

- 4 **Either** (a) Compare and contrast the roles and characterisation of Palamon and Arcite in *The Knight's Tale*.
- Or** (b) Paying close attention to poetic methods, discuss the following extract, showing what it adds to your understanding of Chaucer's concerns in *The Knight's Tale*.

'Chaste goddesse, wel wostow that I
 Desire to ben a mayden al my lyf,
 Ne nevere wol I be no love ne wyf.
 I am, thow woost, yet of thy compaignye,
 A mayde, and love huntynge and venerye, 5
 And for to walken in the wodes wilde,
 And noght to ben a wyf and be with childe.
 Noght wol I knowe compaignye of man.
 Now help me, lady, sith ye may and kan,
 For tho thre formes that thou hast in thee. 10
 And Palamon, that hath swich love to me,
 And eek Arcite, that loveth me so soore,
 (This grace I preye thee withoute moore)
 As sende love and pees bitwixe hem two,
 And fro me turne away hir hertes so 15
 That al hire hote love and hir desir,
 And al hir bisy torment, and hir fir
 Be queynt, or turned in another place.
 And if so be thou wolt nat do me grace,
 Or if my destynnee be shapen so 20
 That I shal nedes have oon of hem two,
 As sende me hym that moost desireth me.
 Bihoold, goddesse of clene chastitee,
 The bittre teeris that on my chekes falle.
 Syn thou art mayde and kepere of us alle, 25
 My maydenhede thou kepe and wel conserve,
 And whil I lyve, a mayde I wol thee serve.'

The fires brenne upon the auter cleere,
 Whil Emelye was thus in hir preyere.
 But sodeynly she saugh a sighte queynte, 30
 For right anon oon of the fyres queynte,
 And quyked agayn, and after that anon
 That oother fyr was queynt and al agon;
 And as it queynte it made a whistelynge,
 As doon thise wete brondes in hir brennynge, 35
 And at the brondes ende out ran anon
 As it were bloody dropes many oon;
 For which so soore agast was Emelye
 That she was wel ny mad, and gan to crye,
 For she ne wiste what it signifyed; 40
 But oonly for the feere thus hath she cried,
 And weep that it was pitee for to heere.
 And therewithal Dyane gan appeere,
 With bowe in honde, right as an hunteresse,
 And seyde, 'Doghter, stynt thyn hevynesse. 45
 Among the goddes hye it is affermed,
 And by eterne word writen and confermed,

Thou shalt ben wedded unto oon of tho
That han for thee so muchel care and wo;
But unto which of hem I may nat telle. 50
Farwel, for I ne may no lenger dwelle.
The fires which that on myn auter brenne
Shulle thee declaren, er that thou go henne,
Thyn aventure of love, as in this cas.’
And with that word, the arwes in the caas 55
Of the goddesse clateren faste and rynges,
And forth she wente, and made a vanysshynge;
For which this Emelye astoned was,
And seyde, ‘What amounteth this, allas?
I putte me in thy proteccioun, 60
Dyane, and in thy disposicioun.’

from *The Knight's Tale*

CHARLES DICKENS: *Oliver Twist*

- 5 **Either** (a) Discuss some of the uses and effects of Dickens's presentation of poverty and the poor in *Oliver Twist*.
- Or** (b) Paying close attention to language, tone and narrative methods, discuss the following passage, showing what it adds to Dickens's presentation of Bill Sikes and the criminal gang.

Crackit went down to the door, and returned followed by a man with the lower part of his face buried in a handkerchief, and another tied over his head under his hat. He drew them slowly off. Blanched face, sunken eyes, hollow cheeks, beard of three days' growth, wasted flesh, short thick breath; it was the very ghost of Sikes.

He laid his hand upon a chair which stood in the middle of the room, but shuddering as he was about to drop into it, and seeming to glance over his shoulder, dragged it back close to the wall—as close as it would go—ground it against it—and sat down. 5

Not a word had been exchanged. He looked from one to another in silence. If an eye were furtively raised and met his, it was instantly averted. When his hollow voice broke silence, they all three started. They seemed never to have heard its tones before. 10

'How came that dog here?' he asked.

'Alone. Three hours ago.'

'To-night's paper says that Fagin's took. Is it true, or a lie?' 15

'True.'

They were silent again.

'Damn you all!' said Sikes, passing his hand across his forehead. 'Have you nothing to say to me?'

There was an uneasy movement among them, but nobody spoke. 20

'You that keep this house,' said Sikes, turning his face to Crackit, 'do you mean to sell me, or to let me lie here till this hunt is over?'

'You may stop here, if you think it safe,' returned the person addressed, after some hesitation.

Sikes carried his eyes slowly up the wall behind him: rather trying to turn his head than actually doing it: and said, 'Is—it—the body—is it buried?' 25

They shook their heads.

'Why isn't it!' he retorted with the same glance behind him. 'Wot do they keep such ugly things above the ground for?—Who's that knocking?'

Crackit intimated, by a motion of his hand as he left the room, that there was nothing to fear; and directly came back with Charley Bates behind him. Sikes sat opposite the door, so that the moment the boy entered the room he encountered his figure. 30

'Toby,' said the boy, falling back, as Sikes turned his eyes towards him, 'why didn't you tell me this, down stairs?' 35

There had been something so tremendous in the shrinking off of the three, that the wretched man was willing to propitiate even this lad. Accordingly he nodded, and made as though he would shake hands with him.

'Let me go into some other room,' said the boy, retreating still farther.

'Charley!' said Sikes, stepping forward. 'Don't you—don't you know me?' 40

'Don't come nearer me,' answered the boy, still retreating, and looking, with horror in his eyes, upon the murderer's face. 'You monster!'

The man stopped half-way, and they looked at each other; but Sikes's eyes sunk gradually to the ground.

'Witness you three,' cried the boy, shaking his clenched fist, and becoming more and more excited as he spoke. 'Witness you three—I'm not afraid of him—if 45

they come here after him, I'll give him up; I will. I tell you out at once. He may kill me for it if he likes, or if he dares, but if I am here I'll give him up. I'd give him up if he was to be boiled alive. Murder! Help! If there's the pluck of a man among you three, you'll help me. Murder! Help! Down with him!

50

Pouring out these cries, and accompanying them with violent gesticulation, the boy actually threw himself, single-handed, upon the strong man, and in the intensity of his energy and the suddenness of his surprise, brought him heavily to the ground.

The three spectators seemed quite stupefied. They offered no interference, and the boy and man rolled on the ground together; the former, heedless of the blows that showered upon him, wrenching his hands tighter and tighter in the garments about the murderer's breast, and never ceasing to call for help with all his might.

55

Chapter 50

THOMAS HARDY: *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*

- 6 **Either** (a) In what ways and with what effects does Hardy present mothers and motherhood in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*?
- Or** (b) Paying close attention to language, tone and narrative methods, discuss the following passage, showing what it adds to your understanding of the role and characterisation of Angel.

It was three weeks after the marriage that Clare found himself descending the hill which led to the well-known parsonage of his father. With his downward course the tower of the church rose into the evening sky in a manner of inquiry as to why he had come; and no living person in the twilighted town seemed to notice him, still less to expect him. He was arriving like a ghost, and the sound of his own footsteps was almost an encumbrance to be got rid of. 5

The picture of life had changed for him. Before this time he had known it but speculatively; now he thought he knew it as a practical man; though perhaps he did not, even yet. Nevertheless humanity stood before him no longer in the pensive sweetness of Italian art, but in the staring and ghastly attitudes of a Wiertz Museum, and with the leer of a study by Van Beers. 10

His conduct during these first weeks had been desultory beyond description. After mechanically attempting to pursue his agricultural plans as though nothing unusual had happened, in the manner recommended by the great and wise men of all ages, he concluded that very few of those great and wise men had ever gone so far outside themselves as to test the feasibility of their counsel. 'This is the chief thing: be not perturbed,' said the Pagan moralist. That was just Clare's own opinion. But he was perturbed. 'Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid,' said the Nazarene. Clare chimed in cordially; but his heart was troubled all the same. How he would have liked to confront those two great thinkers, and earnestly appeal to them as fellow-man to fellow-men, and ask them to tell him their method! 15 20

His mood transmuted itself into a dogged indifference till at length he fancied he was looking on his own existence with the passive interest of an outsider. 25

He was embittered by the conviction that all this desolation had been brought about by the accident of her being a d'Urberville. When he found that Tess came of that exhausted ancient line, and was not of the new tribes from below, as he had fondly dreamed, why had he not stoically abandoned her, in fidelity to his principles? This was what he had got by apostasy, and his punishment was deserved. 30

Then he became weary and anxious, and his anxiety increased. He wondered if he had treated her unfairly. He ate without knowing that he ate, and drank without tasting. As the hours dropped past, as the motive of each act in the long series of bygone days presented itself to his view, he perceived how intimately the notion of having Tess as a dear possession was mixed up with all his schemes and words and ways. 35

In going hither and thither he observed in the outskirts of a small town a red-and-blue placard setting forth the great advantages of the Empire of Brazil as a field for the emigrating agriculturist. Land was offered there on exceptionally advantageous terms. Brazil somewhat attracted him as a new idea. Tess could eventually join him there, and perhaps in that country of contrasting scenes and notions and habits the conventions would not be so operative which made life with her seem impracticable to him here. In brief he was strongly inclined to try Brazil, especially as the season for going thither was just at hand. 40

With this view he was returning to Emminster to disclose his plan to his parents, and to make the best explanation he could make of arriving without Tess, short of revealing what had actually separated them. As he reached the door the new moon 45

shone upon his face, just as the old one had done in the small hours of that morning when he had carried his wife in his arms across the river to the graveyard of the monks; but his face was thinner now.

Clare had given his parents no warning of his visit, and his arrival stirred the atmosphere of the Vicarage as the dive of the kingfisher stirs a quiet pool. His father and mother were both in the drawing-room, but neither of his brothers was now at home. Angel entered, and closed the door quietly behind him. 50

Chapter 39

JOHN MILTON: *Paradise Lost, Books IX and X*

- 7 **Either** (a) In what ways and with what effects does Milton present sin and the punishment of sin in *Paradise Lost, Books IX and X*?
- Or** (b) Paying close attention to the poetic methods, discuss the following extract, showing what it adds to your understanding of Milton's concerns in *Paradise Lost, Books IX and X*.

At last as from a cloud his fulgent head
 And shape star-bright appeared, or brighter, clad
 With what permissive glory since his fall
 Was left him, or false glitter. All amazed
 At that so sudden blaze the Stygian throng 5
 Bent their aspect, and whom they wished beheld,
 Their mighty Chief returned: loud was th' acclaim.
 Forth rushed in haste the great consulting peers,
 Raised from their dark divan, and with like joy
 Congratulant approached him, who with hand 10
 Silence, and with these words attention won:
 "Thrones, Dominations, Princedoms, Virtues, Powers,
 For in possession such, not only of right,
 I call ye and declare ye now, returned
 Successful beyond hope, to lead ye forth 15
 Triumphant out of this infernal pit
 Abominable, accurst, the house of woe,
 And dungeon of our tyrant. Now possess,
 As lords, a spacious world, to our native heaven
 Little inferior, by my adventure hard 20
 With peril great achieved. Long were to tell
 What I have done, what suffered, with what pain
 Voyaged th' unreal, vast, unbounded deep
 Of horrible confusion, over which
 By Sin and Death a broad way now is paved 25
 To expedite your glorious march; but I
 Toiled out my uncouth passage, forced to ride
 Th' untractable abyss, plunged in the womb
 Of unoriginal Night and Chaos wild,
 That jealous of their secrets fiercely opposed 30
 My journey strange, with clamorous uproar
 Protesting fate supreme; thence how I found
 The new-created world, which fame in heav'n
 Long had foretold, a fabric wonderful
 Of absolute perfection, therein man 35
 Placed in a Paradise, by our exile
 Made happy. Him by fraud I have seduced
 From his Creator, and the more to increase
 Your wonder, with an apple; he thereat
 Offended, worth your laughter, hath giv'n up 40
 Both his beloved man and all his world
 To Sin and Death a prey, and so to us,
 Without our hazard, labor, or alarm,
 To range in, and to dwell, and over man
 To rule, as over all he should have ruled. 45

Book X

Turn over for Question 8.

PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY: Selected Poems

- 8 **Either** (a) Discuss some of the effects created by Shelley's presentation of rebellion. You should refer to **three** poems in your answer.
- Or** (b) Paying close attention to the poetic methods, discuss the following extract from *Ode to the West Wind*, showing what it adds to your understanding of Shelley's concerns.

from *Ode to the West Wind*

I

O wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being,
Thou, from whose unseen presence the leaves dead
Are driven, like ghosts from an enchanter fleeing,

Yellow, and black, and pale, and hectic red,
Pestilence-stricken multitudes: O Thou,
Who chariotest to their dark wintry bed

5

The winged seeds, where they lie cold and low,
Each like a corpse within its grave, until
Thine azure sister of the Spring shall blow

Her clarion o'er the dreaming earth, and fill
(Driving sweet buds like flocks to feed in air)
With living hues and odours plain and hill:

10

Wild Spirit, which art moving everywhere;
Destroyer and Preserver; hear, O hear!

II

Thou on whose stream, 'mid the steep sky's commotion,
Loose clouds like Earth's decaying leaves are shed,
Shook from the tangled boughs of Heaven and Ocean,

15

Angels of rain and lightning: there are spread
On the blue surface of thine aery surge,
Like the bright hair uplifted from the head

20

Of some fierce Mænad, even from the dim verge
Of the horizon to the zenith's height,
The locks of the approaching storm. Thou Dirge

Of the dying year, to which this closing night
Will be the dome of a vast sepulchre,
Vaulted with all thy congregated might

25

Of vapours, from whose solid atmosphere
Black rain and fire and hail will burst: O hear!

III

Thou who didst waken from his summer dreams
The blue Mediterranean, where he lay, 30
Lulled by the coil of his chrystalline streams,

Beside a pumice isle in Baiæ's bay,
And saw in sleep old palaces and towers
Quivering within the wave's intenser day,

All overgrown with azure moss and flowers 35
So sweet, the sense faints picturing them! Thou
For whose path the Atlantic's level powers

Cleave themselves into chasms, while far below
The sea-blooms and the oozy woods which wear
The sapless foliage of the ocean, know 40

Thy voice, and suddenly grow grey with fear,
And tremble and despoil themselves: O hear!

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