# **POEMS**

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Poems by Josie T. Hatman

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### BY

### JOSIE T. HATMAN

"Everything comes and goes. To-day in foy, to-morrow in sorrow. We advance, we retreat, we struggle; then the eternal and profound silence of death!"—Victor Hugo.



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MAY.

Come where the pure heart of Nature is singing Praises to God.

Come where the woodland glades peans are ringing—

Where on the sod

What the sweet flowers are whispering together, Low, oh, so low,

Only the sunbeams and dew-covered heather Ever may know.

Come where the lily, its blue heart unfolding, Scents all the air;

Where the bright buttercup, sunlight beholding, Catches its glare.

May, crowned with beauty, trips light over the meadow,

Valley and hill,

Scattering her emblems in sun and in shadow. Laugh, happy rill;

Revel, O May, in your innocent pleasure; Carol, you bird;

Echo, my heart, and "rejoice in great measure"! Love hath averred That while her life lasts he'll shower his kisses
Warm on her lips—
Eager and ardent, those soul-thrilling blisses.
Now, while he sips

Rapturous nectar from violet glances, Till a warm blush Glowing in roses her beauty enhances. Come, see the flush

Love gave her beautiful face in his ardor; Bid cares adieu:

Come, see the fair one, whom Love's heart doth harbor, And worship her too.

#### NATURE.

VAIN, vain my words,—they cannot tell The secret charms of this wild dell; They cannot paint the flower-fringed rill, And the sound of wild birds as they bill And coo, and trill their merry lays.

Nor can they paint the sunset rays Falling aslant the dusky leaves, Where the nymph of fancy weaves Her frail and fairy web of dreams; Nor the evening star that gleams On the breast of the western sky; Nor trembling breezes as they sigh,-Sigh in mad, ecstatic bliss, When the limpid lake they kiss; Nor the silvery shafts of the moon, Glancing through the forest gloom, Till light and shadow seem to be Holding a witch-like revelry, Till dawn's messengers appear Over the hill tops, making clear Morning's undisputed way, Now midnight has lost her sway.

Nor can they sing the matin song That through the templed grove rings long

#### NATURE.

In honor to the Goddess Dawn.

As glistening dew-drops on the lawn
Vanish beneath the sun's warm ray,
So vanishes each word away,
Each poor, weak word that would express
The depths of Nature's loveliness,
Beneath her warm and genial rays
That set my heart and soul ablaze.

And as the shell that once had lain Amid the treasures of the main, So faintly, faintly, evermore, Seems echoing to its distant roar; So ever in me, echo there, Nature's voicings grand and rare.

#### EARTH'S JUBILEE.

EARTH holds her jubilee,
In haunts secluded, in dusk ravine,
O'erhung by lichened rocks;
Light clouds, in snowy flocks,
Floating in nether air, half way between
Faint blue and towering tree.
A thousand tinkling rills
Spray diamond drops on moss and feathery frond,
Leap with exultant bounds
And rush of swelling sounds
The precipice, while dizzy depths respond
And echoing ether thrills.

The roses high carnival hold,
And dainty missiles far and near
Send fluttering to the ground.
While with gay, playful bound
And many a caper queer,
The fickle wind, advancing bold,
Casts an admiring glance
At even the lily chaste.
The peony blushes red,
And trembling fuchsias thrill,
As kissing them, with reckless haste,
He hurries on to join the dance