

**THE MELODY OF LIFE. A
PRESENTATION OF
SPIRITUAL TRUTH THROUGH
MUSICAL SYMBOLISM**

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The Melody of Life. A Presentation of Spiritual Truth through Musical Symbolism by Susie C. Clark

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A

Presentation of Spiritual Truth

THROUGH

Musical Symbolism.

BY

SUSIE C. CLARK,

AUTHOR OF "A LOOK UPWARD," "PILATE'S QUERY,"
"TO BEAR WITNESS," "LORITA," ETC.

"Music, with her silver sound,
With speedy help doth lend redress."
— *Shakespeare.*

NEW YORK:
THE ALLIANCE PUBLISHING COMPANY.
1902.

To
My dear Mother,
whose
patience, fidelity, and devotion
have so enriched the harmony
of
Life's song.

The Melody of Life

In
Five Cantos

- I. The Staff Spirit
- II. The Key Love
- III. The Score Life
- IV. The Rhythm Action
- V. The Melody Progression

The Staff Spirit

" Music is the harmonious voice of creation, an echo of the invisible world, one note of the divine concord which the entire universe is destined one day to sound."

Mazzini.

" From Music's centre, Love first springs, and reaches outward by its tendrils tightly drawn, to clasp the universe and all contained therein. Men shall in time this lesson learn, that all of life is sweeter, fairer, more divinely grand because *Music is* — the Soul and Saviour even of all."

" The unbounded universe is one sleepless lyre, whose chords of love, of hope, of purity and peace are fanned into a dreamy and mystic melody by the breath of the invisible God."

Anon.

The Melody of Life.

I.

Music, as it is accepted, produced and loved on earth is not that full-toned harmony which is Life itself, which can only be sensed by the quickened ears of the spirit, when ensphered by those mighty vibrations pulsing through the vast ether, from the wondrous Harp of the Universe. Yet without Music's grand diapason, broken into tuneful fragments and shed broadcast on earth, mortal life would be an empty thing, since it is the beauty of Life and Love made audible. The Soul of Music pervades and inspires all life, and from the wide domain of Nature rings its sweet essence everywhere, its ceaseless *Te Deum*.

This entire visible world which we call the universe, although a mere fraction only of the vast infiniverse—that sum total of all the universes, whose conception transcends the capacity of the finite mind—is a harp of

myriad strings, each one pulsating to the tone struck by the Master Hand—the Creative Mæstro—all blending together in modulated harmony, a symphony of musical vibrations. Schopenhaur says that "were we able to give a thoroughly satisfactory theory of Music, we could give a thoroughly satisfactory theory of the world," which shows that he had caught the truth of vibration as the basis of all creation, all light, sound, thought and life. One can readily believe that "e'en the planets as they roll emit a melody divine," and that ears terrestrial have been purified from earthly dust sufficiently to catch the majestic strain, voicing its anthem of praise to the Infinite Unknowable Source of all Life.

Pythagoras was the first to suggest the idea of the Music of the Spheres, later expressed by Shakespeare in "The Merchant of Venice:"

"There s not the smallest orb which thou beholdest
But in his motion like an angel sings,
Still quiring to the young-eyed cherubim."