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Ririro

IMAGINATION OVER KNOWLEDGE

Ririro

Lenore

Ah broken is the golden bowl! the spirit flown forever!
Let the bell toll!—a saintly soul floats on the Stygian
river;

And, Guy De Vere, hast thou no tear?—weep now or
never more!

See! on yon drear and rigid bier low lies thy love,
Lenore!

Come! let the burial rite be read—the funeral song be
sung!—

An anthem for the queenliest dead that ever died so
young—

A dirge for her the doubly dead in that she died so
young.



“Wretches! ye loved her for her wealth and hated her
for her pride,
And when she fell in feeble health, ye blessed her—that
she died!
How shall the ritual, then, be read?—the requiem how
be sung
By you—by yours, the evil eye,—by yours, the slanderous
tongue
That did to death the innocent that died, and died so
young?”

Peccavimus; but rave not thus! and let a Sabbath song
Go up to God so solemnly the dead may feel no wrong!
The sweet Lenore hath “gone before,” with Hope, that
flew beside
Leaving thee wild for the dear child that should have
been thy bride—
For her, the fair and debonair, that now so lowly lies,
The life upon her yellow hair but not within her eyes—
The life still there, upon her hair—the death upon her
eyes.

“Avaunt! to-night my heart is light. No dirge will I
upraise,
But waft the angel on her flight with a Paean of old
days!
Let no bell toll!—lest her sweet soul, amid its hallowed
mirth,
Should catch the note, as it doth float up from the
damned Earth.
To friends above, from fiends below, the indignant ghost

is riven—

From Hell unto a high estate far up within the Heaven—
From grief and groan, to a golden throne, beside the
King of Heaven.”