



# The Excursion: A Poem.

By William Wordsworth

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## The Excursion: A Poem. By William Wordsworth

Book may have numerous typos, missing text, images, or index. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. 1853. Not illustrated. Excerpt: ... A Humming BEE--a little tinkling rill-- A pair of falcons wheeling on the wing, In clamorous agitation, round the crest Of a tall rock, their airy citadel-- By each and all of these the pensive ear Was greeted, in the silence that ensued, When through the cottage-threshold we had passed, And, deep within that lonesome valley, stood Once more beneath the concave of a blue And cloudless sky.--Anon exclaimed our Host, Triumphant dispersing with the taunt The shade of discontent which on his brow Had gathered,--" Ye have left my cell,--but see How Nature hems you in with friendly arms! And by her help ye are my prisoners still. But which way shall I lead you ?--how contrive, In spot so parsimoniously endowed, " Behold a cabinet for sages built, Which kings might envy!"--Praise to this effect Broke from the happy old Man's reverend lip; Who to the Solitary turned, and said, " In sooth, with love's familiar privilege, You have decried the wealth which is your own. Among these locks and stones, mchthinks, I see More than the heedless impress that belongs To lonely nature's casual work : they bear A semblance strange of power intelligent, And of design not wholly worn away. Boldest of plants that ever faced the wind, How gracefully that slender shrub looks forth From its fantastic birth-place ! And I own, Some shadowy intimations haunt me here, That in these shows a chronicle survives Of purposes akin to those of Man, But wrought with mightier arm than now prevails. --Voiceless the stream descends into the gulf With timid lapse;--and lo! while in this strait I stand--the chasm of sky above my head Is heaven's profoundest azure; no domain For fickle, short-lived clouds to occupy, Or to pass through ; but rather an abyss In which the everlasting stars abide; And whose soft g...

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## The Excursion: A Poem. By William Wordsworth Bibliography

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#### Review

"With the publication of the complete Excursion in this new volume, the Cornell series now presents the longest poem that Wordsworth published in his lifetime whole. Moreover, the lack of the printer's manuscripts for the complete poem has supported the decision of the editors to choose as their reading text the corrected second issue of the poem in 1814. Many will feel that the lack is fortunate, because the consequence is that the edition presents, for the first time, an annotated text of the poem as it entered literary history. One cannot overestimate the importance of this achievement for anyone interested in the British Romantics. The volume is a triumphant capstone to the series it concludes."?Peter Manning, Stony Brook University

#### About the Author

William Wordsworth, one of the leaders of the Romantic Movement in English literature, first published "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" in 1807. This timeless tribute to nature's beauty and its ability inspire the human spirit is used with permission of the Wordsworth Trust.

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