Rain on the Roof

When the humid shadows hover Over all the starry spheres And the melancholy darkness Gently weeps in rainy tears,

What a bliss to press the pillow Of a cottage-chamber bed And lie listening to the patter Of the soft rain overhead!

Every tinkle on the shingles
Has an echo in the heart;
And a thousand dreamy fancies
Into busy being start,

And a thousand recollections
Weave their air-threads into woof,
As I listen to the patter
Of the rain upon the roof.

Now in memory comes my mother, As she used in years agone, To regard the darling dreamers Ere she left them till the dawn:

O! I feel her fond look on me As I list to this refrain Which is played upon the shingles By the patter of the rain.

