

**1913**

**A PACT From Lustra**

**Ezra Pound**

*Pound, Ezra (1885-1972) - Controversial American poet, editor, and critic who had a major influence on 20<sup>th</sup> century literature. After making hundreds of broadcasts for the Italian Fascist regime, he was tried for treason, judged insane, and held in a mental hospital for over ten years. A Pact (1913) - First published in 1913 and later collected in "Lustra," this is Pound's homage to Walt Whitman.*

Opening lines: I make a pact with you, Walt Whitman- / I have  
detested you long enough. ...

***PACT***

I MAKE a pact with you, Walt WhitmanI have detested you long  
enough.

I come to you as a grown child Who has had a pig-headed father; I  
am old enough now to make friends.

It was you that broke the new wood, Now is a time for carving.

We have one sap and one rootLet there be commerce between us.

**THE END**