TO THE RIVER

Edgar Allan Poe

Poe, Edgar Allan (1809-49) - American poet, short-story writer, and critic who is best known for his tales of ratiocination, his fantastical horror stories, and his genrefounding detective stories. Poe, whose cloudy personal life is a virtual legend, considered himself primarily a poet. To the River_ (1829) - One of Poe's poems. Opening lines: Fair river! in thy bright, clear flow / Of crystal, wandering water, ...

To the River

Fair river! in thy bright, clear flow Of crystal, wandering water, Thou art an emblem of the glow Of beauty- the unhidden heartThe playful maziness of art In old Alberto's daughter; But when within thy wave she looksWhich glistens then, and tremblesWhy, then, the prettiest of brooks Her worshipper resembles; For in his heart, as in thy stream, Her image deeply liesHis heart which trembles at the beam Of her soul-searching eyes.

THE END