

1829

ROMANCE

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 genre-founding detective stories. Poe, whose cloudy personal life is a virtual legend, considered himself primarily a poet. Romance (1829) - One of Poe's poems. Opening lines: Romance, who loves to to nod and sing, / With drowsy head and folded wing, ...

ROMANCE

Romance, who loves to nod and sing, With drowsy head and folded wing,
Among the green leaves as they shake Far down within some shadowy lake, To
me a painted paroquet Hath been- a most familiar bird Taught me my alphabet
to say To lisp my very earliest word While in the wild wood I did lie, A child-
with a most knowing eye.

Of late, eternal Condor years So shake the very Heaven on high With tumult as
they thunder by, I have no time for idle cares Through gazing on the unquiet
sky.

And when an hour with calmer wings Its down upon my spirit flings That little
time with lyre and rhyme To while away- forbidden things!

My heart would feel to be a crime Unless it trembled with the strings.

THE END