

LEAN HARD.

Child of my love, "lean hard,"
And let Me feel the pressure of thy care,
I know thy burden, child; I shaped it,
Poised it in mine own hand, made no proportion
In its weight to thine unaided strength;
For even as I laid it on, I said,
"I shall be near, and while she leans on me,
This burden shall be mine, not hers;
So shall I keep my child within the circling arms
Of mine own love." Here lay it down, nor fear
To impose it on a shoulder which upholds
The government of worlds. Yet closer come;
Thou art not near enough; I would embrace thy care,
So I might feel my child reposing on my breast.
Thou lovest me? I know it. Doubt not then;
But, loving me, LEAN HARD.

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