

AMARANTHOS (unfading)

For E.E

Sigh not so sadly as last petals fall!
All flowers must wilt and wither, timely die;
No ageless amarants survive, for all
Those holy myths once held in days gone by,
Ere flowering faith began to fade for men
Who deemed, in dying flower, their winter's doom,
Their shrivelling shivering three score fears and ten,
Daring to doubt both death and deathless bloom . . .
Be glad, instead, that from some dark unknown
Life came to light for all its summer's worth,
For man or flower is no less lovely grown
Because, come winter, each sinks back to earth,
Both unaware if this be grave or grace
Of amaranthine garden's commonplace. . .

*"Amarantus flos,
Symbolum est
immortalitatis, "*

Clement of Alexandria.