

EMILY DICKINSON

1830-1886



Civilization – spurns – the Leopard! (Fr276, J492)

Civilization – spurns – the Leopard!

Was the Leopard – bold?

Deserts – never rebuked her Satin –

Ethiop – her Gold –

5 Tawny – her Customs –

She was Conscious –

Spotted – her Dun Gown –

This was the Leopard's nature – Signor –

Need – a keeper – frown?

10 Pity – the Pard – that left her Asia!

Memories – of Palm –

Cannot be stifled – with Narcotic –

Nor suppressed – with Balm –

c. early 1862

The Bat is dun, with wrinkled Wings – (Fr1408, J1575)

The Bat is dun, with wrinkled Wings –

Like fallow Article –

And not a song pervade his Lips –

Or none perceptible.

5 His small Umbrella quaintly halved

Describing in the Air

An Arc alike inscrutable

Elate Philosopher.

Deputed from what Firmament –

10 Of what Astute Abode –

Empowered with what malignity

Auspiciously withheld –

To his adroit Creator
Ascribe no less the praise –
15 Beneficent, believe me,
His eccentricities –

c. 1876



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