

ERNEST DOWSON

“Vitae Summa Brevis Spem Nos Vetat Incohare Longam”

[Life's brief span forbids long-enduring hope] (1896)

They are not long, the weeping and the laughter,
Love and desire and hate:
I think they have no portion in us after
We pass the gate.

They are not long, the days of wine and roses:
Out of a misty dream
Our path emerges for a while, then closes
Within a dream.