

QUEEN

Summer.

OR  
The Journey  
of the  
Lily  
&  
the Rose

Walter Crane

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Queen Summer





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**Q**ueen Summer  
or the **T**ourney  
of the **L**ily & the **R**ose  
penned & portrayed  
by **W**alter **C**rane

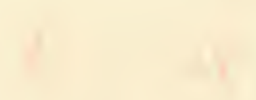


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**W**hen Summer on the earth was queen  
She held her court in gardens green  
Fair hung with tapestry of leaves,  
Where threads of gold the sun enweaves  
With chequered patterns on the floor  
Of velvet lawns the scythe smoothes o'er:  
Their waving fans the soft winds spread  
Each way to cool Queen Summer's head  
The woodland dove made music soft,  
And Eros touched his lute full oft.



Round Time's dial thronged the Hours,  
Masking in the Masque of Flowers



Like knights and ladies fair be-dight  
In silk attire, both red and white.



And as the winds about them played,  
And shook the flowers or disarrayed,



A whispered word among them goes  
Of how the Lily flouts the Rose,



Suitors for Summer's favour dear,  
To win the crown of all the year -  
And how each champion brave would fight  
Queen Summer to decide the right.



Then shrill the wind-winged heralds blew;  
The lists were set in Summer's view



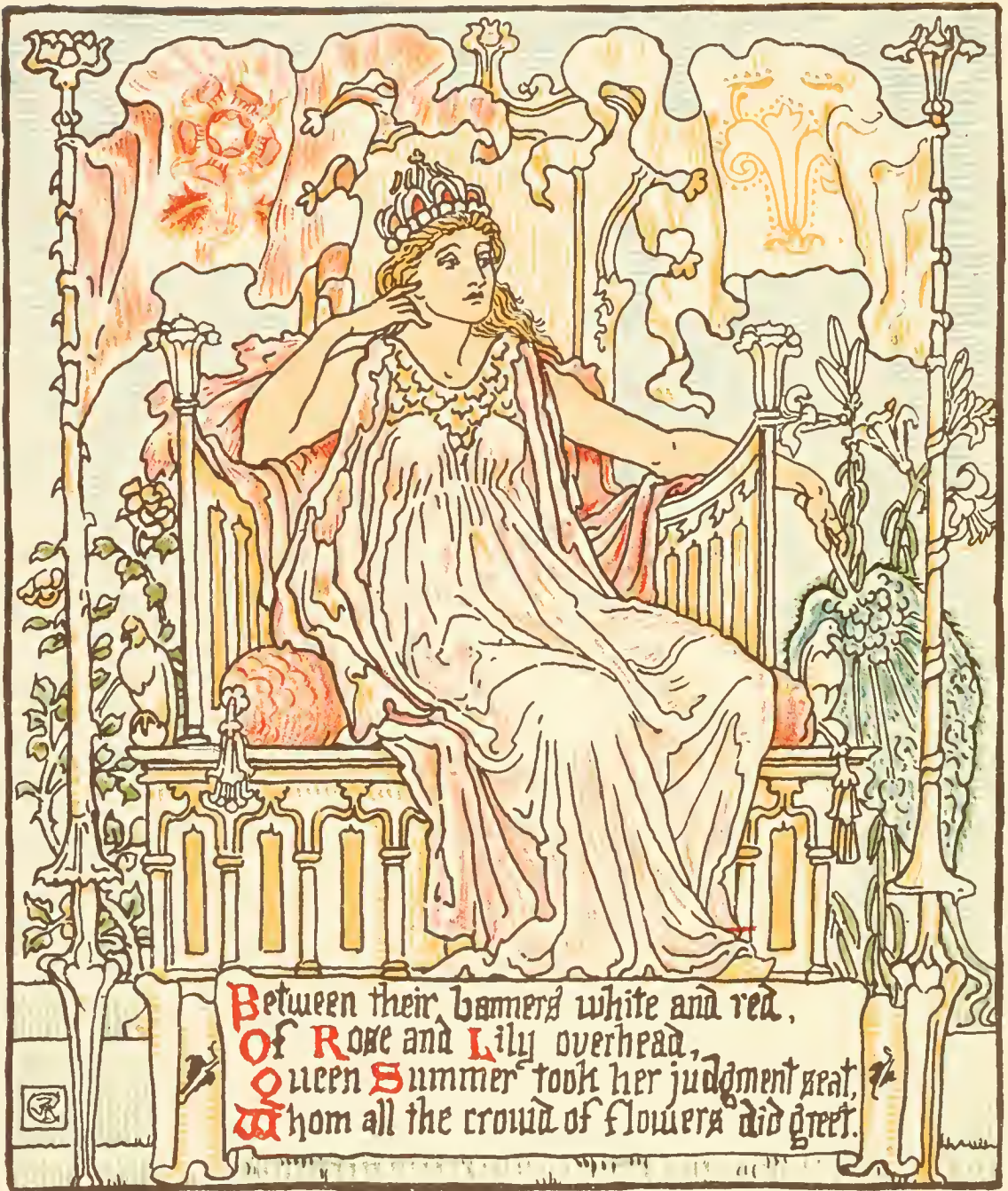
With blazoned shields, & pennons  
Of fluttering flag & fleur-de-luce:  
spruce





And spread with' broidered hangings  
Till all was ready for the fray.    gay,





Between their banners white and red,  
Of **R**ose and **L**ily overhead,  
**Q**ueen **S**ummer took her judgment seat,  
**W**hom all the croud of flowers did greet.

**T**he silver acorn-trumpets sound  
**W**ith tongues of gold, & to the ground  
**T**he shining champions each did ride,  
**T**heir party-colours flaunting wide.





**C**ame first the glowing **R**ose in view,  
**W**ith crimson pennon fluttering new;  
**W**ith glittering spines all armed he came,  
**W**ith lance and shield - a rose aflame;  
**W**ith tossing crest and mantling free,  
**O**n fiery steed, - a sight to see!



**N**or long the **L**ily knight delayed ;  
**I**n silver armour white arrayed ,  
**H**e flashed like light upon the scene ,  
**A** lamp amid the garden green .  
**M**ilk-white his horse , & housings fair  
**W**ith silver lilies shining there .



The summer winds the onset blew :  
With level lance each champion flew,



Pressed eager then the gazing rows :  
Some cried "the **L**ily", some, "the **R**ose"  
But while the Fate of battle hung,  
Again the silver trumpets sung ;





And, sudden charging from each side,  
Of Roses and of Lilies ride  
A host to still maintain the strife  
For roses or for lilies' life





Rose favoured knights of maidens true,  
Their pennons blushing with each hue  
Of Rose-craft, since from wild thorn frail  
Their order grew - through dark & pale  
Of maiden-bloom to damask deep,  
Or Gloire-de-Dijon that doth keep  
Enfolded fire within his breast,  
Still golden hearted like the rest.

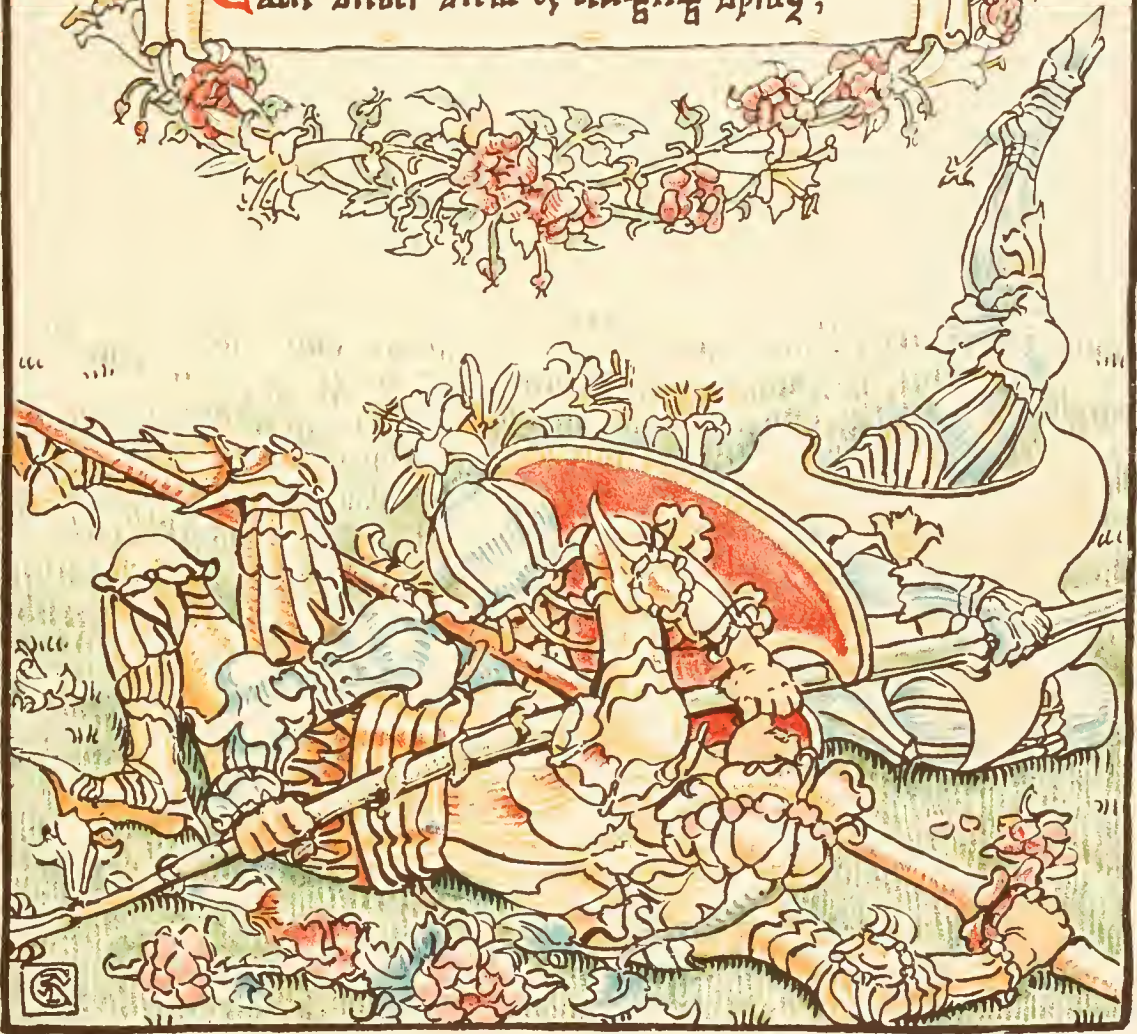


**L**ike a cloud of morn they bore,  
**O**r rosy wave on grassy shore,  
**T**hat, breaking, dashed the silver spray  
**T**hey met - the **L**ily-lances play;  
**I**n crested legends on that came  
**A**gainst them - snow & burning flame  
**M**ixing with the crimson flood  
**O**f roses & their fragrant blood,

**W**hereof the grass undur was rise,  
**A**s surged & rolled the floral strife,  
**W**ith chequered fortune o'er the green,  
**U**ntil at last up-rose the **Q**ueen:



**A**nd caused the zephyr horns to blow  
**A** truce, the victor's crown to show.  
**B**ut like a garland on the ground  
**O**f roses & of lilies found,  
**S**o linked & locked in strife they lay  
**E**ach silver stem & clinging spray,



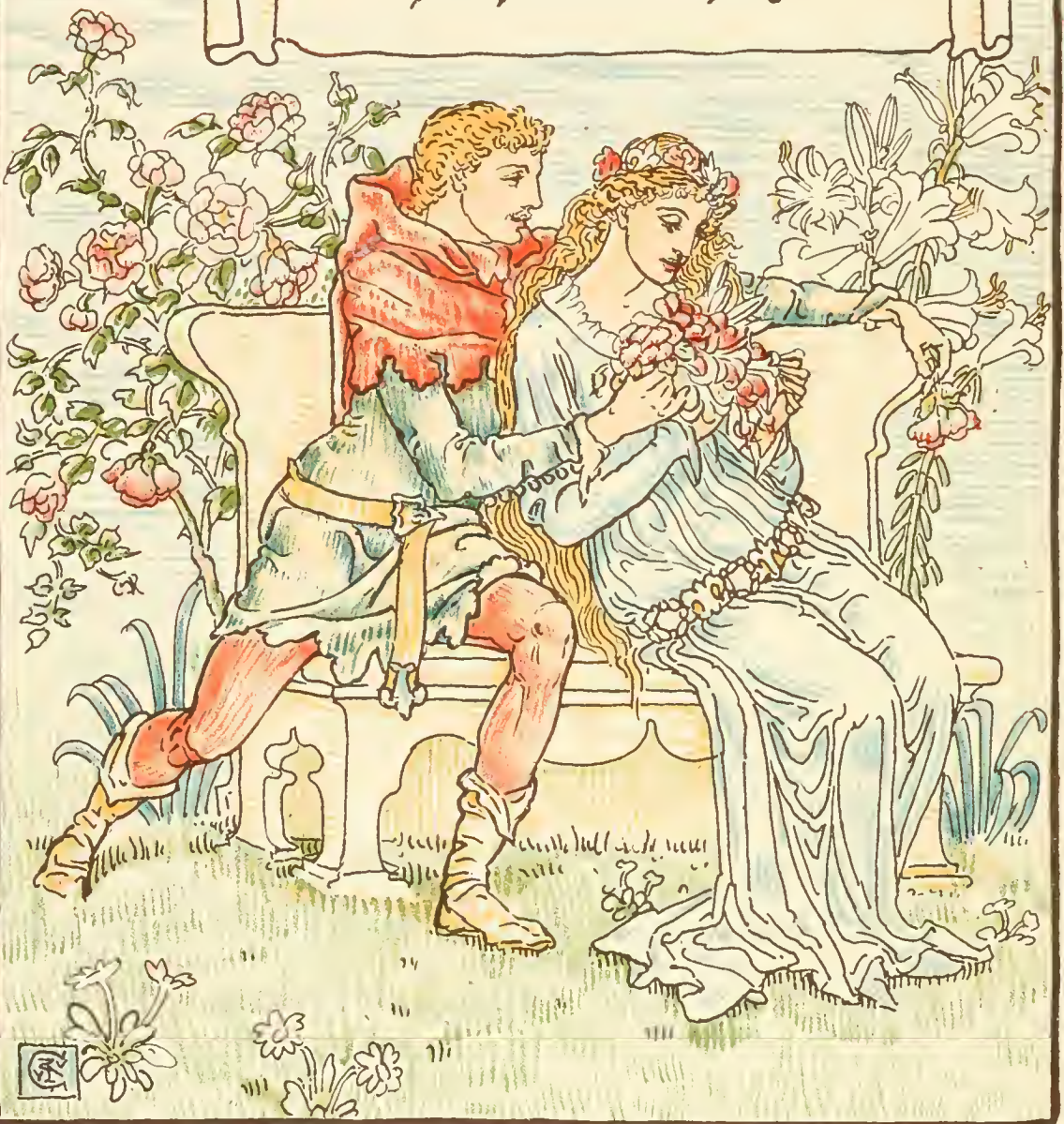
**W**he doughty champions could not rise  
**B**efore the **Q**ueen to claim her prize.  
**S**o to the field of battle down  
**S**he stepped, with rose & lily crown  
**O**f silver & of gold fair wrought;  
**A**nd thus **Q**ueen **S**ummer spake her thought:



**A**nd to each warrior thus did say :  
**R**ead in the fortune of your fray  
**F**it emblem sweet of unity ,  
**N**or **R**ose nor **L**ily plant on high ,  
**B**ut side by side in equal right ,  
**A**nd pleasant cheer the **R**ed & **W**hite :



**T**hat men & maids be glad to see,  
**A**lway in pleasant company,





**L**ife & **L**ove close linked together,  
**A**nd strong to bear times' wintry wea-  
ther



**L**ove not consumed in passion's heat  
**B**ut golden flamed & steadfast, sweet:



Time's snows shall quench not, though  
Each spring renews the rosy tide:  
they hide?



Each lover in his lady's face  
Sees roses blent with lilies' grace :



The poet & the painter praise  
This heraldry of summer days;



And every garden sweet that blows  
Doth get the Lily by the Rose.



**P**ace, then in all my borders be,  
**B**eneath the silvern olive tree. ”



Each rose, each lily's head bent low,  
And each one sought his fallen foe:





And careful hands the wounded bore,  
With balm and honey to restore;



And trimmed the grass & decked  
each seat,  
And made all fit for dancer's  
feet;



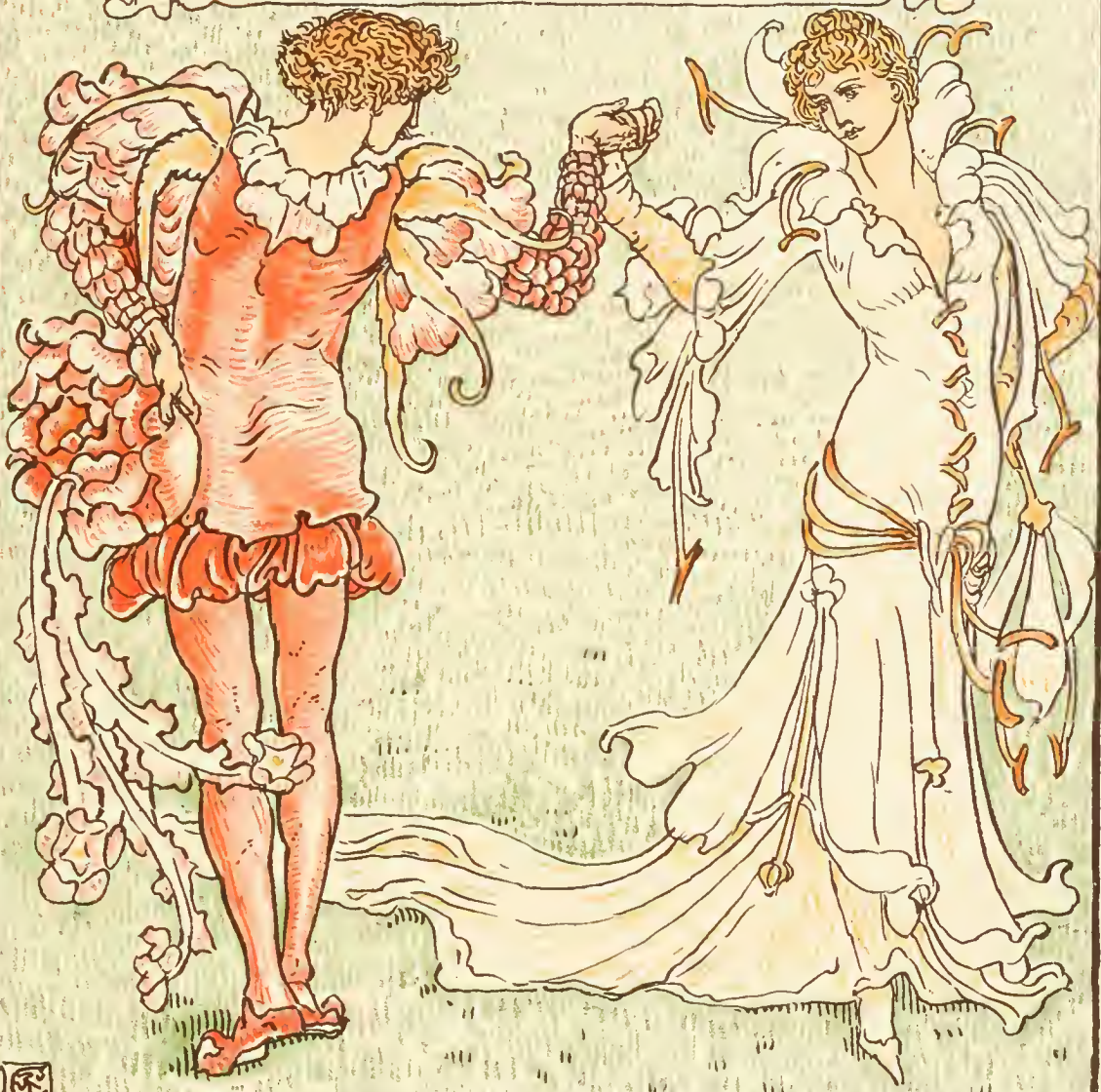
**B**eneath the summer full-orbed moon,  
**R**uddy & gold that rose full soon,  
**L**ike rose & lily fused in fire,  
**E**re the sunset's torch expire.



**T**hen forth each knightly lily led  
**A** blushing rosy dame so red ;



For lily hands or hearts denied  
The rose-hued warriors erst defied.



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**L**ight-footed through the dances' maze,  
**Q**uick they moved like winged fays;  
**A**s measured music soft did swell,  
**A**nd echoed deep from hoaky dell,  
**T**ill from the leafy forest side,  
**T**he sweet-tongued nightingale replied,  
**D**issolved in streams of silver sound,  
**M**erged in the moonlight, lost & found;  
**L**ike the dancers, till in shade,  
**O**f Summer's verdant night they fade.



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