

Bob Kuhn's Celebration of Life
Bob's Request

“What would you have me do?
Seek for the patronage of some great man,
And like a creeping vine on a tall tree
Crawl upward, where I cannot stand alone?
No thank you!

<snip>

Seek introductions, favors, influences? -
No thank you! No, I thank you!
And again I thank you! -

But...

To sing, to laugh, to dream
To walk in my own way and be alone,
Free, with a voice that means manhood -
to cock my hat Where I choose -
At a word, a Yes, a No. To fight-or write.
To travel any road under the sun, under the stars,
nor doubt If fame or fortune lie beyond the bourne -

Never to make a line I have not heard In my own heart;
yet, with all modesty To say: "My soul, be satisfied
with flowers, With fruit, with weeds even;
but gather them In the one garden you may call your own."

So, when I win some triumph, by some chance,

Render no share to Caesar -
in a word, I am too proud to be a parasite,

And if my nature wants the germ that grows
Towering to heaven like the mountain pine,
Or like the oak, sheltering multitudes -

I stand -- not high it may be – but alone!”

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/703731-what-would-you-have-me-do-seek-for-the-patronage>

Read by Milo Schield as requested by Carol Bishop. June 20, 2019