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This Much I Know About Time

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THIS MUCH I KNOW ABOUT TIME

There is safety
Only in the heart
Guard it well
My love

Where is beauty
Lonely in the mart
Hard to sell
My dove

Fame is rider
Pawing wind and cloud
Fool to reach
So far

Blame is spider
Drawing in the crowd
Cruel of speech
They are

Joys are token
Mainly for regret
High the score
I played

Toys are broken
Plainly to forget
Buy no more
I said

Breath is fearless
Bolder than the mind
Few will sight
My spire

Death is cheerless
Colder than its rind
Who will light
My fire

—ELIZABETH BARTLETT