

## O Me! O Life!

BY [WALT WHITMAN](#)

- 1 Oh me! Oh life! of the questions of these recurring,
- 2 Of the endless trains of the faithless, of cities fill'd with the foolish,
- 3 Of myself forever reproaching myself, (for who more foolish than I, and who more faithless?)
- 4 Of eyes that vainly crave the light, of the objects mean, of the struggle ever renew'd,
- 5 Of the poor results of all, of the plodding and sordid crowds I see around me,
- 6 Of the empty and useless years of the rest, with the rest me intertwined,
- 7 The question, O me! so sad, recurring—What good amid these, O me, O life?

### *Answer.*

- 8 That you are here—that life exists and identity,
- 9 That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse.