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Fable of Two Ages

John Miller

Denison University

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Fable of Two Ages

On any legendary page, a girl
Is moved to pity by the shaggy skin.
When beauty bows and brute eyes beg release
From evil spell, a deep well's liquids rinse
Away disguise; and from the outward Beast
Her catalytic love brings forth a prince.

But modern fables warn Red Riding Hood
To heed her Uncle Freud: no girl should swallow
Grandma's tale, or trust a pair of eyes;
And under flannel flanks the beasts arise.
The hair shirt is suspect, though shoes are shined.