

THE DYING CHILD

He could not die when trees were green,
For he loved the time too well.
His little hands, when flowers were seen,
Were held for the bluebell,
As he was carried o'er the green.

His eye glanced at the white-nosed bee;
He knew those children of the spring:
When he was well and on the lea
He held one in his hands to sing,
Which filled his heart with glee.

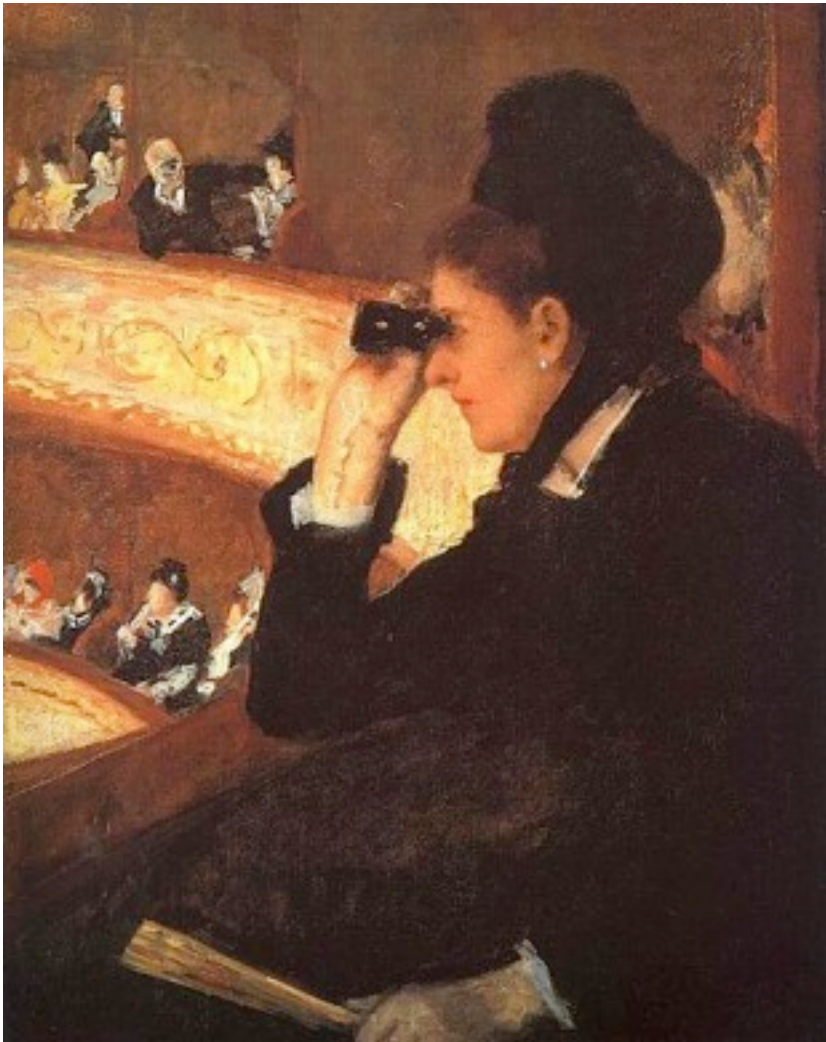
Infants, the children of the spring!
How can an infant die
When butterflies are on the wing,
Green grass, and such a sky?
How can they die at spring?

He held his hands for daisies white,
And then for violets blue,
And took them all to bed at night
That in the green fields grew,
As childhood's sweet delight.

And then he shut his little eyes,
And flowers would notice not;
Birds' nests and eggs caused no surprise,
He now no blossoms got;
They met with plaintive sighs.

When winter came and blasts did sigh,
And bare were plain and tree,
As he for ease in bed did lie
His soul seemed with the free,
He died so quietly.

-John Clare-



In the Loge
1880
Mary Cassatt

In the Loge

In the loge, the woman in black watching the opera with her dark raven eyes
In the loge, the man in the tuxedo, watching the woman with his half-smitten eyes
In the loge, the girl with the pearls watching in amazement with her small almond eyes
In the loge, many people with eyes that watch with curiosity and passion

Christine Lee