1979

The Goblin Market, or, the Sorrows of Satan

Turner Cassity

Follow this and additional works at: http://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview

Part of the Creative Writing Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.2530

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.
The Goblin Market,
or,
The Sorrows of Satan · Turner Cassity

The Southeastern Comic Book and Science Fiction
Fair will be held in Atlanta August 13-15.
—Atlanta Gazette

To bargain hopefully for dog-eared Marvels
Come a stutterer of twenty-nine,
A deaf mute ten. And if the flesh has evils,
Here, in the epic sweep of sword and pen,
Are not the extra syllables subtracted
So the silences can add a tongue?
Ur-hero in whose image, much collected,
These your servants are not made, among

Your Ur-er, more heroic acts, give up
For once omnipotence, the role of prompter;
Deign to know, yourself, the unmoved lip.
Consider: if I promise, I your tempter,

All the world and tights that never crease,
How will you answer dumb, get thee behind me.
You will not? Well, if you need to ease
Clay feet, I shoe them. You know where to find me.

Meanwhile, be that speech of last appeal
To trade for whom the barterers must come.
The stutterer can say "Adida deal";
The mute lips move, around their chewing gum.