

## **Edna St. Vincent Millay**

(February 22, 1892 – October 19, 1950, was an American lyrical poet and playwright).

### **"Loving you less than life, a little less"**

Loving you less than life, a little less  
Than bitter-sweet upon a broken wall  
Or brush-wood smoke in autumn, I confess  
I cannot swear I love you not at all.  
For there is that about you in this light—  
A yellow darkness, sinister of rain—  
Which sturdily recalls my stubborn sight  
To dwell on you, and dwell on you again.  
And I am made aware of many a week  
I shall consume, remembering in what way  
Your brown hair grows about your brow and cheek  
And what divine absurdities you say:  
Till all the world, and I, and surely you,  
Will know I love you, whether or not I do.  
1923