

Alexander Search

THE WORLD OFFENDED

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I said unto the world one day:
 «I suspect thee of existence!»
And the world showed a smiled resistance
 To what I did say.
«Let us go to court», he replied; «go we
Before a Court both wise and rare.

Let *Reason* one judge of our cause be;
Imagination be also there
And *Feeling* the judges our cause to hear.»
We went before the Court, and *Reason*
Said to me: «*Thy* crime is half-treason!
The World's acquitted of what thou say'st:
 Of existence 'tis guilty not.
This by the written code of Thought
 In the pages of Unrest.»
(I was but in the costs condemned
Of the suit I lost as play;
But those, they leave me poor and yet
 Are more than I can pay.)

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Poesia Inglesa. Fernando Pessoa. (Organização e tradução de Luísa Freire. Prefácio de Teresa Rita Lopes.) Lisboa: Livros Horizonte, 1995: 160.

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