

Last Leaf

andantino

Lance Wheelwright

Jo an a lies up on her bed. Cough ing and chills tor ment her head.
One chance in ten to pass the night. The words give me an aw ful fright.
A mas ter piece he longs to give. To sell for wealth to help us live.
The next morn ing full of fear out of the win dow I did peer.
Where in this chill had Behr man gone? Jan i tor found his corpse at dawn.
His mas ter piece you will not see a dorn ing some fine gal ler y

5 *mp*

p

Pneu mon ia stalks Nov em ber's days sick en ing folks for days.
On ly if she de cides to live. These words the doc tor gives.
For thir ty years his can vas waits a scene he can not paint.
Yel low and red still on that wall. one leaf that can not fall.
A lad der, lant tern and some paint these clues de note his fate.
Jo an a's face a glow with life. Smil ing still here be low.

9 *mf*

Her at tic win dow on ly shows a brick wall where some i vy grows.
Behr man an art ist lives be low For you he made warm soup you know
Se ven six four and three. Most of the leaves all go and flee
One chance in two is now the claim. Those are the odds the doc pro claims
Braving the i cy bit ter night. Work ing on ly by lan tern light.
Words of a mas ter long a go. Sink in my heart and fill my soul.

(c) 2022 Lance Wheelwright

based on a 1907 short story by W. Sidney Porter

which you can read at <https://americanliterature.com/author/o-henry/short-story/the-last-leaf>

a little faster

13 *mp*

p

f

Twelve e le ven ten and nine. She counts leaves on the vine Tell me
 He says no girl should pass a way for leaves that will not stay Tell me
 Twen ty feet up that old brick wall. One leaf re fused to fall. Tell me
 Bet ter than the old man be low who froze out in the snow. Tell me
 Up on a lad der o so tall. paint ing leaves on a wall. Tell me
 A great er love can no man send than give life for a friend. Tell me
 One last

17

Sue what do you see? How man y leaves re main for me. When the
 Sue what do you see? How man y leaves re main for me? When the
 Sue what do you see? How man y leaves re main for me? When I
 Sue what do you see? How man y leaves re main for me? When the
 Sue what do you see? How many y leaves re main for me? One last
 leaf up on a wall. No win ter chill can make it fall. Un touched

21

p

last leaf takes its drop that is the time my life must stop.
 last leaf goes to fly that is the time that I must die.
 see the last leaf go my soul its path will then fol low
 last leaf meets the snow my wear y spir it to will go.
 leaf by the wind's ti fall for e ver paint ed on the wall.
 by the wind's ti rade A gift of love that will not fade.