The Ninety and Nine

Elizabeth Cecelia Douglas Clephane, 1868
Ira David Sankey, 1874

1. There were ninety and nine that safely lay
In the shelter of the fold.
Not enough for Thee? But one was out on the mountain's track?
Shepherd made answer:

2. “Lord, thou hast here ninety and nine;
Are they deep enough for Thee?”
Nor how dark was the night the shepherd made answer:

3. But none of the ransomed ever knew
How many were gone a stray.
For one who had gone a stray, “They are pierced to night by angels—echoed a round the throne, “Rejoice, for the Lord brings

4. “Lord, whence are those blood drops all the way
That mark out the mountain’s track?”
“They were shed for one who had gone a stray.
Ere He found His sheep that was lost. Our gate of heaven, “Rejoice! I have found My sheep!”

5. And all through the mountains, thunder-riven
And hills away, Far off from the gates of gold.
“This of Mine Has wandered away from Me; And the road be rough and steep, I go to the desert

And though the road be wild and bare. Away from the tender

A way on the mountains wild and bare. Away from the tender

A way on the mountains wild and bare. Away from the tender

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Shepherd's care. Away from the tender Shepherd's care.

to find My sheep, I go to the desert to find My sheep."
dy to die; Sick and helpless and ready to die.
many a thorn; They are pierced tonight by many a thorn."
back His own! Rejoice, for the Lord brings back His own!"