

Robert Browning's "Deaf and Dumb: A Group by Woolner"  
from *Dramatis Personae* (1864)

Only the prism's obstruction shows aright  
The secret of a sunbeam, breaks its light  
Into the jeweled bow from blankest white;  
So may a glory from defect arise:  
Only by Deafness may the vexed Love wreak                   5  
Its insuppressive sense on brow and cheek,  
Only by Dumbness adequately speak  
As favored mouth could never, through the eyes.