

Chapter XLVII: "The Peasant and Contadina"
The Marble Faun

Miriam says, "The story of the fall of man! Is it not repeated in our romance of Monte Beni? And may we follow the analogy yet further? Was that very sin, into which Adam precipitated himself and all his race, was it the destined means by which, over a long pathway of toil and sorrow, we are to attain a higher, brighter, and profounder happiness, than our lost birthright gave?"

How does the story confirm or deny Miriam's suggestion? Write an essay to argue your position, using details from the text to support your answer.