Appendix 2A: Step-relations

Negligence is stepdame of lernynge. (OED)
The world hath been a step-dame to me. (OED)
He seem’d to carry Reason along with him, who called
Nature Step-mother, in that she gives us so small a portion
of time. (OED)
Fortune to one is a mother, to another is a step-mother.
(OED)
Turn’d naked into a frowning step-mother world. (OED)
Poverty is the step-mother of genius.

Appendix 2B: Specified similarity

If carall Death (the younger brother) doe / Usurpe the
body, our soule, which subject is / To th’elder death, by
sinne, is freed by this. (Donne)
Hawthorn Hall was not first cousin to the Aspens, having
nothing of the villa about it. (Lloyd, OED)
Science, and her sister Poesy, Shall clothe in ligh: the cities
of the free! (Shelley, OED)
America, thou half-brother of the world; With something
good or bad of every land (Philip James Bailey)
Dieu a fait de moi le frère de Job, / en m’enlevant brutalement / tout ce que j’avais. (Dufournet, trans. Rutebeuf)

Appendix 2C: Unspecified Similarity

Sleep, Death’s twin brother (Tennyson)
There should you behold a Mine of Tynne ’sister to Silver.
(Dekker, OED)
A boat twin-sister of the crescent moon (Wordsworth, OED)
(In this case, perhaps “crescent” as shape specifies the simi-
larity.)