

The Works Of Alfred Lord Tennyson Wordsworth Poetry Library

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Tennyson s central poem is presented with an extensive introduction that provides background

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information on the poet and poem as well as an overview of In Memoriam s formal and thematic peculiarities, including Tennyson s use of the stanza and the poem s rhyme scheme."

Alfred, Lord Tennyson was a more complex writer than his status as Queen Victoria's favorite poet might suggest. Though capable of rendering rapture and delight in the most exquisite verse, in another mode Tennyson is brother in spirit to Poe and Baudelaire, the author of dark, passionate reveries. And though he treasured poetic tradition, his work nevertheless engaged directly with the great issues of his time, from industrialization and the crisis of faith to scientific progress and women's rights. A master of the short, intense lyric, he can also be sardonic, humorous, voluptuous, earthy, and satirical. This collection includes, of course, such famous poems as "The Lady of Shalott" and "The Charge of the Light Brigade." There are extracts from all the major masterpieces—"Idylls of the King," "The Princess," "In Memoriam"—and several complete long poems, such as "Ulysses" and "Demeter and Persephone," that demonstrate his narrative grace. Finally, there are many of the short lyrical poems, such as "Come into the Garden, Maud" and "Break, Break, Break," for which he is justly celebrated.

Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-1892) was Poet Laureate of the United Kingdom during much of Queen Victoria's reign and remains one of the most popular poets in the English language. Idylls of the King, is a cycle of twelve narrative poems retelling the legend of King Arthur.

This historic book may have numerous typos or missing text. Not indexed. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. 1908. Not illustrated.

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Excerpt: ... TO E. FITZGERALD. Old Fitz who from
your suburb grange, Where once I tarried for a while,
Glance at the wheeling Orb of change, And greet it
with a kindly smile; Whom yet I see as there you sit
Beneath your sheltering garden-tree, And while your
doves about you flit, And plant on shoulder, hand
and knee, Or on your head their rosy feet, As if they
knew your diet spares Whatever moved in that full
sheet Let down to Peter at his prayers; Who live on
milk and meal and grass; And once for ten long
weeks I tried Your table of Pythagoras, And seem'd
at first 'a thing enskied' (As Shakespeare has it) airy-
light To float above the ways of men, Then fell from
that half-spiritual height Chill'd, till I tasted flesh again
One night when earth was winter-black, And all the
heavens flash'd in frost; And on me, half-asleep,
came back That wholesome heat the blood had lost,
And set me climbing icy capes And glaciers, over
which there roll'd To meet me long-arm'd vines with
grapes Of Eshcol hugeness; for the cold Without,
and warmth within me, wrought To mould the-dream;
but none can say That Lenten fare makes Lenten
thought, Who reads your golden Eastern lay, Than
which I know no version done In English more
divinely well; A planet equal to the sun Which cast it,
that large infidel Your Omar; and your Omar drew
Full-handed plaudits from our best In modern letters,
and from two, Old friends outvaluing all the rest, Two
voices heard on earth no more; But we old friends

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are still alive, And I am nearing seventy-four, While
you have touch'd at seventy-five, And so I send a
birthday line Of greeting; and my son, who dipt In
some forgotten book of mine With sallow scraps of
manuscript, And dating many a year ago, Has hit on
this, which you will take My Fitz, and welcome, as I

...

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The Wordsworth Poetry Library comprises the works of the greatest English-speaking poets, as well as many lesser-known poets. Each collection has a specially commissioned introduction.

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