

Walter de la Mare (1873-1956)

2 *The Silver Penny*

‘Sailorman, I ’ll give to you  
My bright silver penny,  
If out to sea you ’ll sail me  
And my dear sister Jenny.’

‘Get in, young sir, I ’ll sail ye 5  
And your dear sister Jenny,  
But pay she shall her golden locks  
Instead of your penny.’

They sail away, they sail away, 10  
O fierce the winds blew!  
The foam flew in clouds,  
And dark the night grew!

And all the wild sea-water  
Climbed steep into the boat;  
Back to the shore again 15  
Sail they will not.

Drowned is the sailorman,  
Drowned is sweet Jenny,  
And drowned in the deep sea  
A bright silver penny. 20

*1902*

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and Co. Ltd., 1920)