William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)

1 Beggar to Beggar Cried

'Time to put off the world and go somewhere And find my health again in the sea air,' Beggar to beggar cried, being frenzy-struck, 'And make my soul before my pate is bare.'	
'And get a comfortable wife and house To rid me of the devil in my shoes,' Beggar to beggar cried, being frenzy-struck, 'And the worse devil that is between my thighs.'	5
'And though I'd marry with a comely lass,	
She need not be too comely — let it pass,'	10
Beggar to beggar cried, being frenzy-struck, 'But there's a devil in a looking-glass.'	
'Nor should she be too rich, because the rich Are driven by wealth as beggars by the itch,' Beggar to beggar cried, being frenzy-struck, 'And cannot have a humorous happy speech.'	15
'And there I'll grow respected at my ease, And hear amid the garden's nightly peace,' Beggar to beggar cried, being frenzy-struck,	

1914

(From *The Collected Poems of W. B. Yeats.* 2nd. ed. London: Macmillan, 1950)

'The wind-blown clamour of the barnacle-geese.'

20