

# ONE HUNDRED *Best* POEMS

## *For Boys AND GIRLS*

*By*

DOROTHY ALDIS  
HILAIRE BELLOC  
MILDRED BOWERS  
GELETT BURGESS  
HILDA CONKLING  
EMILY DICKINSON  
A. E.  
ELEANOR FARJEON  
EUGENE FIELD  
ROBERT FROST  
OLIVER HEREFORD  
A. E. HOUSMAN  
JOYCE KILMER  
RUDYARD KIPLING  
VACHEL LINDSAY  
AMY LOWELL  
MAJORIE BARROWS  
KATHARINE LEE BATES  
CHARLES E. CARRYL  
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HENRY VAN DYKE  
JOHN FARRAR  
AILEEN FISHER  
ROSE FYLEMAN  
RALPH HODGSON  
E. L. M. KING  
EDWARD LEAR  
WALTER DE LA MARE  
JOHN MASEFIELD  
JOAQUIN MILLER  
CHRISTOPHER MORLEY  
ALFRED NOYES  
PSALM OF PRAISE  
BEATRICE CURTIS BROWN  
MARY CAROLYN DAVIES  
RACHEL LYMAN FIELD  
FLORENCE PAGE JACQUES  
HENRY W. LONGFELLOW  
MILDRED PLEW MERRYMAN  
JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY  
ELIZABETH MADDOX ROBERTS  
CARL SANDBURG  
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON  
JAMES STEPHENS  
NANCY BYRD TURNER  
MARGARET WIDDEMER  
DIXIE WILLSON  
ANNETTE WYNNE  
WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

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Dorothy Aldis  
Hilaire Belloc  
Mildred Bowers  
Gelett Burgess  
Hilda Conkling  
Emily Dickinson  
A. E.  
Eleanor Farjeon  
Eugene Field  
Robert Frost  
Oliver Hereford  
A. E. Housman  
Joyce Kilmer  
Rudyard Kipling  
Vachel Lindsay  
Amy Lowell

Marjorie Barrows  
Katharine Lee Bates  
Charles E. Carryl  
Padraic Colum  
Henry van Dyke  
John Farrar  
Aileen Fisher  
Rose Fyleman  
Ralph Hodgson  
E. L. M. King  
Edward Lear  
Walter de la Mare  
John Masefield  
Joaquin Miller  
Christopher Morley  
Alfred Noyes  
Psalm of Praise

Beatrice Curtis Brown  
Mary Carolyn Davies  
Rachel Lyman Field  
Florence Page Jaques  
Henry W. Longfellow  
Mildred Plew Merryman  
James Whitcomb Riley  
Elizabeth Madox Roberts  
Carl Sandburg  
Robert Louis Stevenson  
James Stephens  
Nancy Byrd Turner  
Margaret Widdemer  
Dixie Willson  
Annette Wynne  
William Butler Yeats

*Compiled By Marjorie Barrows*

*(Associate Editor "Child Life")*

*Illustrated by Paula Rees Good*

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RACINE, WISCONSIN



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TO MY MOTHER

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## The Day before April

*Mary Carolyn Davies*

The day before April  
Alone, alone,  
I walked in the woods  
And sat on a stone.

I sat on a broad stone  
And sang to the birds.  
The tune was God's making  
But I made the words.

## Cobwebs

*E. L. M. King*

Between me and the rising sun,  
This way and that the cobwebs run;  
Their myriad wavering lines of light  
Dance up the hill and out of sight.

There is no land possesses half  
So many lines of telegraph  
As those the spider-elves have spun  
Between me and the rising sun.



## Barefoot Days

*Rachel Field*

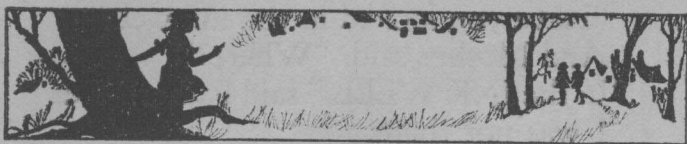
In the morning, very early,  
That's the time I love to go  
Barefoot where the fern grows curly  
And grass is cool between each toe,  
On a summer morning-O!  
On a summer morning!

That is when the birds go by  
Up the sunny slopes of air,  
And each rose has a butterfly  
Or a golden bee to wear;  
And I am glad in every toe—  
Such a summer morning-O!  
Such a summer morning!

## Roads

*Rachel Field*

A road might lead to anywhere—  
To harbor towns and quays,  
Or to a witch's pointed house  
Hidden by bristly trees.



It might lead past the tailor's door,  
Where he sews with needle and thread,  
Or by Miss Pim the milliner's,  
With her hats for every head.  
It might be a road to a great, dark cave  
With treasure and gold piled high,  
Or a road with a mountain tied to its end,  
Blue-humped against the sky.  
Oh, a road might lead you anywhere—  
To Mexico or Maine.  
But then, it might just fool you, and—  
Lead you back home again!

## Hiding

*Dorothy Aldis*

I'm hiding, I'm hiding,  
And no one knows where;  
For all they can see is my  
Toes and my hair.

And I just heard my father  
Say to my mother—  
"But, darling, he must be  
Somewhere or other;

"Have you looked in the ink well?"  
And Mother said, "Where?"  
"In the INK WELL," said Father. But  
I was not there.

Then, "Wait!" cried my mother—  
"I think that I see  
Him under the carpet." But  
It was not me.

"Inside the mirror's  
A pretty good place,"  
Said Father and looked, but saw  
Only his face.

"We've hunted," sighed Mother,  
"As hard as we could  
And I AM so afraid that we've  
Lost him for good."

Then I laughed out aloud  
And I wiggled my toes  
And Father said—"Look, dear,  
I wonder if those

Toes could be Benny's.  
There are ten of them. See?"  
And they WERE so surprised to find  
Out it was me!





# Little Tiger Cat

*Annette Wynne*

Little Tiger Cat with the spotted face,  
Do you think you've found a baby-jungle-  
place?

Going through the grass, stealthily and slow,  
Are you waiting to jump out and scare the  
folks you know?

And send them running to the house as fast  
as they can go?

Little Tiger Cat, it's no use at all,  
No matter what you think yourself, you're  
rather tame and small,

And with all your hiding and your stern con-  
templation,

You cannot scare a single one of high or  
lowly station,

And so, there's no use trying to be like your  
wild relation.

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# The Animal Store

*Rachel Field*

If I had a hundred dollars to spend,  
Or maybe a little more,  
I'd hurry as fast as my legs would go  
Straight to the animal store.

I wouldn't say, "How much for this or  
that?"

"What kind of a dog is he?"  
I'd buy as many as rolled an eye,  
Or wagged a tail at me!

I'd take the hound with the drooping ears  
That sits by himself alone;  
Cockers and Cairns and wobbly pups  
For to be my very own.

I might buy a parrot all red and green,  
And the monkey I saw before,  
If I had a hundred dollars to spend,  
Or maybe a little more.

# The Circus

*Elizabeth Madox Roberts*

Friday came and the circus was there,  
And Mother said that the twins and I  
And Charles and Clarence and all of us  
Could go out and see the parade go by.

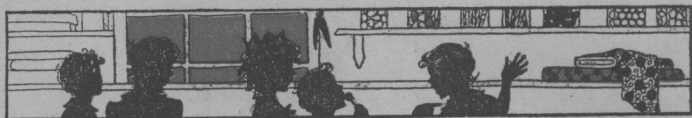
And there were wagons with pictures on,  
And you never could guess what they had inside,  
Nobody could guess, for the doors were shut,  
And there was a dog that a monkey could ride.

A man on the top of a sort of cart  
Was clapping his hands and making a talk.  
And the elephant came—he can step pretty far—  
It made us laugh to see him walk.

Three beautiful ladies came riding by,  
And each one had on a golden dress,  
And each one had a golden whip.  
They were queens of Sheba, I guess.

A big wild man was in a cage,  
And he had some snakes going over his feet.  
And somebody said, "He eats them alive!"  
But I didn't see him eat.





## General Store

*Rachel Field*

Some day I'm going to have a store  
With a tinkly bell hung over the door,  
With real glass cases and counters wide  
And drawers all spilly with things inside.  
There'll be a little of everything:  
Bolts of calico; balls of string;  
Jars of peppermint; tins of tea;  
Pots and kettles and crockery;  
Seeds in packets; scissors bright;  
Kegs of sugar, brown and white;  
Sarsaparilla for picnic lunches,  
Bananas and rubber boots in bunches.  
I'll fix the window and dust each shelf,  
And take the money in all myself.  
It will be my store and I will say:  
"What can I do for you today?"

## Bread Making

*E. L. M. King*

Mother's kneading, kneading dough,  
In and out her knuckles go;  
Till the sticky, shapeless lump  
Grows a pillow, smooth and plump.