

PENGUIN  CLASSICS

THOMAS HARDY  

---

SELECTED POEMS



# Contents

Preface xi

Table of Dates xiii

Further Reading xix

Domicilium 1

From *Wessex Poems and Other Verses* (1898) 3

Neutral Tones 5

Friends Beyond 5

Thoughts of Phena 7

In a Wood 8

'I Look Into My Glass' 10

From *Poems of the Past and the Present* (1901) 11

Drummer Hodge 13

A Wife in London 14

The Souls of the Slain 14

Shelley's Skylark 18

Rome: At the Pyramid of Cestius near the Graves of Shelley and  
Keats 19

The Subalterns 20

To Lizbie Browne 20

A Broken Appointment 22

Birds at Winter Nightfall 23

The Darkling Thrush 23

The Ruined Maid 24

The Self-Unseeing 25

In Tenebris I 26

In Tenebris II 27

Sapphic Fragment 28

From Victor Hugo 28

From *Time's Laughingstocks and Other Verses* (1909) 29

- A Trampwoman's Tragedy 31  
A Sunday Morning Tragedy 35  
The House of Hospitalities 38  
Bereft 39  
Autumn in King's Hintock Park 40  
Shut Out That Moon 41  
Reminiscences of a Dancing Man 42  
On the Departure Platform 43  
'I Say I'll Seek Her' 43  
The Night of the Dance 44  
The Ballad-Singer 45  
Former Beauties 45  
The Inquiry 46  
A Church Romance 46  
The Christening 47  
After the Last Breath 48  
The Pine Planters 49  
The Man He Killed 51

From *Satires of Circumstance, Lyrics and Reveries* (1914) 53

- Channel Firing 55  
The Convergence of the Twain 56  
After the Visit 58  
'When I Set Out for Lyonesse' 59  
A Thunderstorm in Town 59  
'My Spirit Will Not Haunt the Mound' 60  
Wessex Heights 60  
'Ah, Are You Digging on My Grave?' 62  
The Year's Awakening 63  
Under the Waterfall 64

*Poems of 1912-13* 66

- The Going 66  
Your Last Drive 67  
The Walk 68  
Rain on a Grave 69

'I Found Her Out There'	70
Without Ceremony	71
Lament	72
The Haunter	73
The Voice	74
His Visitor	75
A Circular	75
A Dream or No	76
After a Journey	77
A Death-Day Recalled	78
Beeny Cliff	79
At Castle Boterel	80
Places	81
The Phantom Horsewoman	82
The Spell of the Rose	83
St Launce's Revisited	84
Where the Picnic Was	85
The Newcomer's Wife	87
In the Servants' Quarters	87
'Regret Not Me'	89
The Recalcitrants	90
The Sacrilege	91
Exeunt Omnes	95
In the Study	96
In the Moonlight	97
From <i>Moments of Vision and Miscellaneous Verses</i> (1917)	99
'We Sat at the Window'	101
Afternoon Service at Mellstock	101
In a Museum	102
At the Word 'Farewell'	102
Heredity	103
Near Lanivet, 1872	104
Timing Her	105
The Blinded Bird	107
The Faded Face	108
Sitting on the Bridge	108

The Oxen	110
An Anniversary	110
Transformations	111
The Last Signal	112
Great Things	112
Overlooking the River Stour	113
The Musical Box	114
Old Furniture	115
The Last Performance	117
The Interloper	117
Logs on the Hearth	118
The Sunshade	119
The Five Students	120
The Wind's Prophecy	121
During Wind and Rain	122
He Prefers Her Earthly	123
'Who's in the Next Room?'	124
The Something That Saved Him	124
The Shadow on the Stone	125
'For Life I Had Never Cared Greatly'	126
The Pity of It	127
In Time of 'The Breaking of Nations'	128
The Coming of the End	128
Afterwards	129
From <i>Late Lyrics and Earlier</i> (1922)	131
Weathers	133
Faintheart in a Railway Train	133
The Garden Seat	134
'The Curtains Now Are Drawn'	134
Going and Staying	135
A Wet August	136
'A Man Was Drawing Near to Me'	136
The Strange House	137
A Night in November	139
'And There Was a Great Calm'	139
'If It's Ever Spring Again'	141
The Fallow Deer at the Lonely House	142

- At Lulworth Cove a Century Back 142  
 Evelyn G. of Christminster 143  
 Voices from Things Growing in a Churchyard 145  
 On the Way 146  
 'She Did Not Turn' 147  
 A Two-Years' Idyll 148  
 By Henstridge Cross at the Year's End 149  
 'If You Had Known' 150  
 Fetching Her 151  
 'Could I but Will' 152  
 Without, Not Within Her 152  
 Vagg Hollow 153  
 First or Last 154  
 The Marble Tablet 154  
 Last Words to a Dumb Friend 155  
 The Sailor's Mother 157  
 Intra Sepulchrum 157  
 The Whitewashed Wall 158  
 In a London Flat 159  
 Drawing Details in an Old Church 160  
 An Ancient to Ancients 161
- From *Human Shows, Far Phantasies, Songs and Trifles* (1925) 163
- Waiting Both 165  
 A Bird-Scene at a Rural Dwelling 165  
 The Later Autumn 166  
 An East-End Curate 166  
 The Month's Calendar 167  
 When Dead 168  
 Night-Time in Mid-Fall 169  
 A Sheep Fair 169  
 Snow in the Suburbs 170  
 Ice on the Highway 171  
 No Buyers 171  
 The Weary Walker 172  
 Nobody Comes 173  
 Last Look round St Martin's Fair 174  
 When Oats Were Reaped 174

x CONTENTS

The Harbour Bridge	175
'Not Only I'	176
Horses Aboard	177
The Missed Train	177
Cynic's Epitaph	178
The Sundial on a Wet Day	178
Shortening Days at the Homestead	179
Days to Recollect	179
The High-School Lawn	180
'Nothing Matters Much'	181
'Why Do I?'	182
From <i>Winter Words in Various Moods and Metres</i> (1928)	183
'I Am the One'	185
The Mound	186
Evening Shadows	186
Throwing a Tree	187
Lying Awake	188
He Never Expected Much	188
Standing by the Mantelpiece	189
Christmas: 1924	190
'We Are Getting to the End'	190
He Resolves to Say No More	191
Appendix 1: 'Preface' to <i>Select Poems of William Barnes</i>	193
Appendix 2: 'Apology' from <i>Late Lyrics and Earlier</i>	199
Notes	207
Index of Titles	241
Index of First Lines	246