

## **RIDDLES OF MERLIN**

### **Alfred Noyes**

AS I was walking  
Alone by the sea,  
"What is that whisper?"  
Said Merlin to me.  
"Only," I answered,  
"The sigh of the wave"—  
"Oh, no," replied Merlin,  
"'Tis the grass on your grave."

As I lay dreaming  
In churchyard ground  
"Listen," said Merlin,  
"What is that sound?"  
"The green grass is growing,"  
I answered; but he  
Chuckled, "Oh, no!  
"Tis the sound of the sea."

As I went homeward  
At dusk by the shore,  
"What is that crimson?"  
Said Merlin once more.  
"Only the sun," I said.  
"Sinking to rest"—  
"Sunset for East," he said,  
"Sunrise for West."