

**POEMS:
FIRST SERIES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649760183

Poems: first series by Sir John Collings Squire

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

SIR JOHN COLLINGS SQUIRE

**POEMS:
FIRST SERIES**

P O E M S
FIRST SERIES
BY J. C. SQUIRE



ALFRED · A · KNOPF
NEW YORK MCMXIX

DEDICATION

*Lord, I have seen at harvest festival
In a white lamp-lit fishing-village church,
How the poor folk, lacking fine decorations,
Offer the first-fruits of their various toils:
Not only fruit and blossom of the fields,
Ripe corn and poppies, scabious, marguerites,
Melons and marrows, carrots and potatoes,
And pale round turnips and sweet collage flowers,
But gifts of other produce, heaped brown nets,
Fine pollack, silver fish with umber backs,
And handsome green-dark-blue-striped mackerel,
And uglier, hornier creatures from the sea,
Lobsters long-clawed and eyed, and smooth flat crabs,
Ranged with the flowers upon the window-niches,
To lie in that symbolic contiguity
While lusty hymns of gratitude ascend.*

*So I
Here offer all I have found;
A few bright stainless flowers
And richer, earthlier blooms, and homely grain,
And roots that grew distorted in the dark,
And shapes of livid hue and sprawling form
Dragged from the deepest waters I have searched,
Most diverse gifts, yet all alike in this:
They are all the natural products of my mind
And heart and senses;
And all with labour grown, or plucked, or caught.*

PREFACE

The title of this book was chosen for this reason. Had the volume been called ——— and Other Poems it might have given a false impression that its contents were entirely new. Had it been called Collected Poems the equally false impression might have been given that there was something of finality about it. The title selected seemed best to convey both the fact that it was a collection and that, under Providence other (and, let us hope superior) collections will follow it.

The book contains all that I do not wish to destroy of the contents of four volumes of verse. A number of small corrections have been made. There are added, also, a few recent poems not previously published. The earliest of the poems now printed is dated 1905, in which year I was twenty-one. Some of the subsequent years, such as 1914 and 1915, contributed nothing to this book: the greater number of the poems were written in 1911-1912 and 1916-1917.

Some of the poems were not written as I should now write them; and many of them reflect transient, though mostly recurrent, moods which I do not necessarily think worthy of esteem.

J. C. S.

March, 1913.

CONTENTS

Year		Page
	DEDICATION	5
	PREFACE	7
1905	IN A CHAIR	13
	A DAY	14
1907	THE ROOF	16
1910	TOWN	18
	FRIENDSHIP'S GARLAND	23
1911	A CHANT	26
	THE THREE HILLS	27
	AT NIGHT	28
	LINES	29
	FLORIAN'S SONG	32
1912	ANTINOMIES ON A RAILWAY STATION	33
	TREE-TOPS	33
	ARTEMIS ALTERA	38
	EPILOGUE	39
	DIALOGUE	40
	STARLIGHT	43
	SONG	44
	CREPUSCULAR	45
	FOR MUSIC	46
	THE FUGITIVE	47
	ECHOES	49
1913	THE MIND OF MAN	51
	A REASONABLE PROTESTATION	54
	IN THE PARK	59
	IN AN ORCHARD	61

	THE SHIP	62
	ODE: IN A RESTAURANT	63
	FAITH	72
	A FRESH MORNING	73
	INTERIOR	74
1913-14	ON A FRIEND RECENTLY DEAD	75
1916	THE MARCH	81
	PROLOGUE: IN DARKNESS	82
	THE LILY OF MALUD	83
1917	A HOUSE	87
	BEHIND THE LINES	89
	ARAB SONG	90
	THE STRONGHOLD	92
	TO A BULL-DOG	93
	THE LAKE	96
	PARADISE LOST	97
	ACACIA TREE	98
	AUGUST MOON	100
	SONNET	102
	SONG	103
	A GENERATION	104
	UNDER	105
	RIVERS	107
	I SHALL MAKE BEAUTY	114
	ENVOI	115