

**THE CAPTIVE LION  
& OTHER POEMS**

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The Captive Lion & Other Poems by William Henry Davies

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**WILLIAM HENRY DAVIES**

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& OTHER POEMS**



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&  
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By William Henry Davies



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## The Captive Lion

**T**HOU that in fury with thy knotted tail  
Hast made this iron floor thy beaten drum;  
That now in silence walks thy little space—  
Like a sea-captain—careless what may come:

What power has brought your majesty to this,  
Who gave those eyes their dull and sleepy look;  
Who took their lightning out, and from thy throat  
The thunder when the whole wide forest shook?

It was that man who went again, alone,  
Into thy forest dark—Lord, he was brave!  
That man a fly has killed, whose bones are left  
Unburied till an earthquake digs his grave.