

**PROSE FANCIES  
(SECOND SERIES)**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649389452

Prose fancies (second series) by Richard Le Gallienne

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(SECOND SERIES)

BY

RICHARD LE GALLIENNE



LONDON: JOHN LANE

CHICAGO: H. S. STONE AND CO.

1896

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TO  
MAGGIE LE GALLIENNE  
WITH LOVE

Poor are the gifts of the poet—  
Nothing but words !  
The gifts of kings are gold,  
Silver, and flocks and herds,  
Garments of strange soft silk,  
Feathers of wonderful birds,  
Jewels and precious stones,  
And horses white as the milk—  
These are the gifts of kings :  
But the gifts that the poet brings  
Are nothing but words.

Forty thousand words !  
Take them—a gift of lies !  
Words that should have been birds,  
Words that should have been flowers,  
Words that should have been stars  
In the eternal skies.  
Forty thousand words !  
Forty thousand tears—  
All out of two sad eyes.

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