

**1869**

**ACROSTIC:    AROUND    MY    LONELY    HEARTH**  
**TONIGHT**

**Lewis Carroll**

**Carroll, Lewis (pen name of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson) (1832-1898) - English novelist, poet, photographer, and mathematician, best known for his fantastical childrens' classics. He was a mathematical lecturer at Oxford.**

**Acrostic: Around my lonely hearth to-night (1869) - An acrostic is a poem in which certain letters in the lines (often the first) taken in order form a name, a word, a motto, or an alphabetical sequence. Opening lines: Around my lonely hearth tonight, / Ghostlike the shadows wander:...**

**ACROSTIC: AROUND MY LONELY HEARTH TONIGHT**

AROUND my lonely hearth to-night,  
 Ghostlike the shadows wander:  
 Now here, now there, a childish sprite,  
 Earthborn and yet as angel bright,  
 Seems near me as I ponder.

Gaily she shouts: the laughing air  
 Echoes her note of gladness  
 Or bends herself with earnest care  
 Round fairy-fortress to prepare  
 Grim battlement or turret-stair  
 In childhood's merry madness!

New raptures still hath youth in store.  
 Age may but fondly cherish  
 Half-faded memories of yore  
 Up, craven heart! repine no more!  
 Love stretches hands from shore to shore:  
 Love is, and shall not perish!

**THE END**