

1798

I WANDERED LONELY AS A CLOUD

William Wordsworth

Wordsworth, William (1770-1850) - English poet who, along with Samuel Taylor Coleridge, was an early leader of English Romanticism. He is best known for his worship of nature and his humanitarianism. I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud (1798) - One of Wordsworth's best-known nature poems. Opening lines: I wandered lonely as a cloud / That floats on high o'er vales and hills, ...

I WANDERED LONELY

I WANDERED lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced, but they
Outdid the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed- and gazed- but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude,
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

THE END