

1889

CROSSING THE BAR

Alfred Tennyson

Tennyson, Alfred (Lord) (1809-1892) - English poet, appointed Poet Laureate in 1850. The most popular poet of the Victorian era, he remains one of the most frequently quoted English writers. Crossing the Bar (1889) - Tennyson uses a description of putting out to sea as a metaphor for death. Before he died he requested that this poem be placed at the end of each edition of his works. Opening lines: Sunset and evening star, / And one clear call for me! ...

CROSSING THE BAR

SUNSET and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crost the bar.

THE END