

1896

LOVELIEST OF TREES, THE CHERRY NOW (From A Shropshire Lad)

Alfred Edward Housman

Housman, A. (Alfred) E. (Edward) (1859-1936) - English poet and scholar whose reputation arose from a single volume, "A Shropshire Lad." Housman later became a professor of classics at Cambridge and refused, until shortly before his death, to even speak about his verse. Loveliest of Trees, The Cherry Now (1896) - Opening lines: Loveliest of trees, the cherry now / Is hung with bloom along the bough, ..

LOVELIEST OF TREES, THE CHERRY NOW

Loveliest of trees, the cherry now
Is hung with bloom along the bough,
And stands about the woodland ride
Wearing white for Eastertide.

Now, of my threescore years and ten,
Twenty will not come again,
And take from seventy springs a score,
It only leaves me fifty more.

And since to look at things in bloom
Fifty springs are little room,
About the woodlands
I will go To see the cherry hung with snow.

THE END