

1899

**THE SONG OF WANDERING AENGUS (From The
Wind Among the Reeds)**

William Butler Yeats

Yeats, William Butler (1865-1939) - Irish poet and dramatist, widely considered one of the greatest English-speaking poets of the 20th century. He was a leader of the Irish Renaissance and later a devoted spiritualist. Yeats received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1923. The Song of Wandering Aengus (1899) - Opening lines: I went out to the hazel wood, / Because a fire was in my head, ...

SONG OF WANDERING AENGUS

I went out to the hazel wood,
Because a fire was in my head,
And cut and peeled a hazel wand,
And hooked a berry to a thread;
And when white moths were on the wing,
And moth-like stars were flickering out,
I dropped the berry in a stream
And caught a little silver trout.

When I had laid it on the floor
I went to blow the fire aflame,
But something rustled on the floor,
And some one called me by my name:
It had become a glimmering girl
With apple blossom in her hair
Who called me by my name and ran
And faded through the brightening air.

Though I am old with wandering
Through hollow lands and hilly lands,
I will find out where she has gone,
And kiss her lips and take her hands;
And walk among long dappled grass,
And pluck till time and times are done
The silver apples of the moon,
The golden apples of the sun.

THE END