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POETRY

Disillusionment of Ten O'Clock*

By Wallace Stevens (1879-1955)

The houses are haunted By white night-gowns. None are green, Or purple with green rings, Or green with yellow rings, Or yellow with blue rings. None of them are strange, With socks of lace And beaded ceintures. People are not going To dream of baboons and periwinkles. Only, here and there, an old sailor, Drunk and asleep in his boots, Catches tigers In red weather.

> /Only, here and there, an old sailor, Drunk and asleep in his boots, Catches tigers In red weather.



*Transcribed from audio source: Internet Archive, Public Domain Poems by Wallace Stevens; 7/31/2007