

Earth Moon

A Ted Hughes Website

Poems

Keith Sagar: »Death of a Poet«

Death of a Poet

A ghost crab sidled into his body
By moonlight
Laid its thousand eggs.

*

When that oak fell a tremor passed
Through all the rivers of the West.
The spent salmon felt it.

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A rare familiar voice
Entered the October silence
While red leaves fell.

Note: This poem was inscribed on the flyleaf of a copy of *The Laughter of Foxes* for auction by the Cancer Research Campaign to raise money for its work. Enclosed with the book was the manuscript of an unpublished poem by Ted called »Knave of Clubs«. Details were published in the Independent on Sunday, 12 November 2000.

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