

## The Waterboys

### "The stolen child"

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(WB Yeats)

Come away, human child  
to the water  
Come away, human child  
to the water and the wild  
With a faery, hand in hand  
for the world's more full of weeping than you can  
understand

Where dips the rocky highland  
of Sleuth Wood in the lake  
There lies a leafy island  
where flapping herons wake  
The drowsy water rats;  
there we've hid our faery vats  
Full of berries  
and of reddest stolen cherries

Come away, human child  
to the water  
Come away, human child  
to the water and the wild  
With a faery, hand in hand  
for the world's more full of weeping than you can  
understand

Where the wave of moonlight glosses  
the dim gray sands with light  
Far off by furthest Rosses  
we foot it all the night  
Weaving olden dances  
mingling hands and mingling glances  
Till the moon has taken flight;  
to and fro we leap  
AND chase the frothy bubbles  
while the world is full of troubles  
And is anxious in its sleep

Come away, human child  
to the water

Come away, human child  
to the water and the wild  
With a faery, hand in hand  
for the world's more full of weeping than you can  
understand

Where the wandering water gushes  
from the hills above Glen-Car  
In pools among the rushes  
the scarce could bathe a star  
We seek for slumbering trout  
and whispering in their ears  
We give them unquiet dreams;  
leaning softly out  
From ferns that drop their tears  
over the young streams

Away with us he's going  
the solemn-eyed:  
He'll hear no more the lowing  
of the calves on the warm hillside;  
Or the kettle on the hob  
sing peace into his breast  
Or see the brown mice bob  
around and around the oatmeal-chest

For he comes, the human child  
to the water  
He comes, the human child  
to the water and the wild  
With a faery, hand in hand  
from a world more full of weeping than he can  
understand  
Human child  
human child  
With a faery, hand in hand  
from a world more full of weeping than he can  
understand...  
than he can understand...  
he can understand...

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