

Originally published in John Marr and Other Sailors. Herman Melville. Privately printed, 1888.

## THE MALDIVE SHARK

About the Shark, phlegmatical one,

Pale sot of the Maldive sea,

The sleek little pilot-fish, azure and slim,

How alert in attendance be.

From his saw-pit of mouth, from his charnel of maw,

They have nothing of harm to dread,

But liquidly glide on his ghastly flank

Or before his Gorgonian head;

Or lurk in the port of serrated teeth

In white triple tiers of glittering gates,

And there find a haven when peril's abroad,

An asylum in jaws of the Fates!

They are friends; and friendly they guide him to prey,

Yet never partake of the treat--

Eyes and brains to the dotard lethargic and dull,

Pale ravener of horrible meat.

From Chamber Music. James Joyce. London: Elkin Mathews, 1907.

## STRINGS IN THE EARTH AND AIR

Strings in the earth and air

Make music sweet;

Strings by the river where

The willows meet.

There's music along the river

For Love wanders there,

Pale flowers on his mantle,

Dark leaves on his hair.

All softly playing,

With head to the music bent,

And fingers straying

Upon an instrument.