

A Poem by the Empress of Japan

(From "The Mid-Pacific")

*Minato bune,
Ikari wo aguru
Koe no uchi ni,
Namiji shiramite,
Yo wa ake ni keri.*

*In the small hours of night,
When all is dark, and rocks nor islets show
To guide the steersman, lo! the noisy crew
Of mariners, with many a yo-heave-ho and shout,
Raise up the anchor. Ere the lusty strains
Have ceased, day breaks on the whitening waves,
And all the course lies clearly to be seen.*

—Translated by Arthur Lloyd.