

## Miniver Cheevy

Edwin Arlington Robinson (1869-1935)

MINIVER CHEEVY, child of scorn,  
Grew lean while he assailed the seasons;  
He wept that he was ever born,  
And he had reasons.

Miniver loved the days of old                    5  
When swords were bright and steeds were prancing;  
The vision of a warrior bold  
Would set him dancing.

Miniver sighed for what was not,  
And dreamed, and rested from his labors;            10  
He dreamed of Thebes and Camelot,  
And Priam's neighbors.

Miniver mourned the ripe renown  
That made so many a name so fragrant;  
He mourned Romance, now on the town,            15  
And Art, a vagrant.

Miniver loved the Medici,  
Albeit he had never seen one;  
He would have sinned incessantly  
Could he have been one.                    20

Miniver cursed the commonplace  
And eyed a khaki suit with loathing;  
He missed the mediaeval grace  
Of iron clothing.

Miniver scorned the gold he sought,            25  
But sore annoyed was he without it;  
Miniver thought, and thought, and thought,  
And thought about it.

Miniver Cheevy, born too late,  
Scratched his head and kept on thinking;            30  
Miniver coughed, and called it fate,  
And kept on drinking.