

**“Edward Lear”**

**by W.H. Auden**

Season 11, Episode 5

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Left by his friend to breakfast alone on the white  
Italian shore, his Terrible Demon arose  
Over his shoulder; he wept to himself in the night,  
A dirty landscape-painter who hated his nose.

The legions of cruel inquisitive They  
Were so many and big like dogs: he was upset  
By Germans and boats; affection was miles away:  
But guided by tears he successfully reached his Regret.

How prodigious the welcome was. Flowers took his hat  
And bore him off to introduce him to the tongs;  
The demon's false nose made the table laugh; a cat  
Soon had him waltzing madly, let him squeeze her hand;  
Words pushed him to the piano to sing comic songs;

And children swarmed to him like settlers. He became a land.

