

Welcome to Yeats and nine emblematic poems; plus, as we continue our study of these nine, I will also be adding some bonus pieces.

For our first session I have attached three poems. I'm calling them "the landscape poems," just as a way of distinguishing these from others we will be studying. (I will be sending poems particular to each session as we proceed through the course.)

I highly recommend checking the link for "Down by the Salley Gardens," sung in Irish by a school chorus in Texas. In the second link, from I believe a school in Ireland, please note the child with the red sleeves, chin leaning on his hands...sorry to be giving you an "ear worm" afterwards, but I hope you do enjoy recalling this haunting melody.

[Gort na Saileán](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qCMShuGFmM&list=RDxVDbzVz-hfs&index=11) (Down by the Sally Gardens) – YouTube

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"[Down by the Sally Gardens](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SxCZzREUtDk&list=RDxVDbzVz-hfs&index=9)" - traditional Song - (Irish: Gort na Saileán) – YouTube

([youtube.com/watch?v=SxCZzREUtDk&list=RDxVDbzVz-hfs&index=9](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SxCZzREUtDk&list=RDxVDbzVz-hfs&index=9))

We will be making references to Irish history, and so for a fictional read through Ireland's troubles, you could check out the following novels by Thomas Flanagan, former professor of English at University of California at Berkeley, and SUNY Stony Brook.

- *The Year of the French*
- *The Tenants of Time*
- *The End of the Hunt*

If you want to read more of Yeats, I highly recommend *The Collected Poems of William Butler Yeats* edited by Richard J. Finneran, ISBN 978-0-684-80731-7.

For a very readable biography, published first in 1948, reissued in 1999, I recommend *Yeats: The Man and the Masks* by Richard Ellmann.

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