

## A Poem Before Bedtime

By Alexei Edwards

By what, should character be judged?  
By bravery, wit, nobility and calm.  
Our perception of character is often fudged.  
By slavery, shit, docility and harm.  
We often sit when we think we stand.  
And believe far less strongly than we think we do.  
We explore so little of such expansive land.  
The ubiquitous eyes show no clarity, no clue.  
As I stand on my soapbox of woe and pride.  
And constantly recite these prosaic words.  
My mind, my senses are my only guide.  
I'm surrounded by masses, gangs and herds.

**Alexei Edwards bio:** Born and raised in London, England, I've always loved to write mainly as a tool to shed the weight off my mind. I work in adland so there's a fair bit of weight to shed. I jest, of course. I've written plays, poetry, short stories - all mainly for pleasure. I did have a short play performed at a prestigious London theatre which is my proudest writing moment - so far. I intend to extend that list before I expire.