

ONCE MORE, O COMMONWEALTH!

(August 23, 1927)

Rise up, old ghosts, you dead and dumb,  
To see where the scholars and judges come!—  
Living and eloquent they bear  
New witness to your ancient care:  
They have come in their robes and piled the pitch,  
They have burned their witch, they have  
    burned their witch.

Go back to your graves, you dumb and dead.  
There are other judges in your stead  
Whose hearts, while you lie under sod,  
Are bounden to your jealous God,  
And you and they have eased your itch,  
You have burned your witch, you have  
    burned your witch.

—*Witter Bynner*