# GOOD FRIDAY, AND OTHER POEMS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649759460

Good Friday, and other poems by John Masefield

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

### JOHN MASEFIELD

# GOOD FRIDAY, AND OTHER POEMS



## GOOD FRIDAY

### AND OTHER POEMS

#### BY

### JOHN MASEFIELD

AUTHOR OF "THE EVERLASTING MERCY" "THE WIDOW IN THE BYE STREET" "THE TRAGEDY OF POMPEY THE GREAT," ETC.

New York
THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
1916

All rights reserved

# GOOD FRIDAY A DRAMATIC POEM

### PERSONS

Pontius Pilate, Procurator of Judges.

Procula, His Wife.

Longinus, A Centurion.

A Jew, Leader of the Rabble.

A Madman.

A Sentry.

Joseph of Ramah.

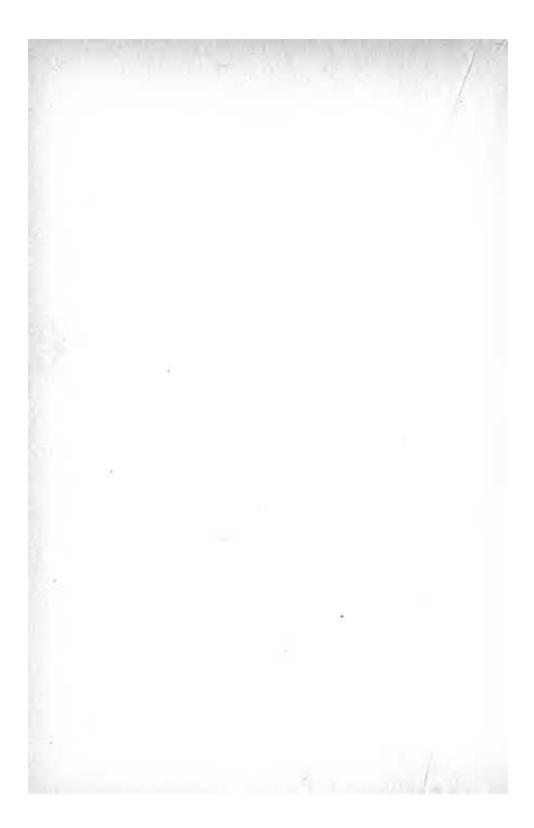
Herod.

Soldiers, Servants, the Jewish Rabble, Loiterers,

IDLERS.

#### THE SCENE

The Pavement, or Paved Court, outside the Roman Citadel in Jerusalem. At the back is the barrack wall, pierced in the centre with a double bronze door, weathered to a green color. On the right and left sides of the stage are battlemented parapets overlooking the city. The stage or pavement is approached by stone steps from the front, and by narrow stone staircases in the wings, one on each side, well forward. These steps are to suggest that the citadel is high up above the town, and that the main barrack gate is below. The Chief Citizen, The Rabble, Joseph, The Madman, Herod, and The Loiterers, etc., enter by these steps. Pilate, Procula, Longinus, The Soldiers and Servants enter by the bronze doors.



### GOOD FRIDAY

### A DRAMATIC POEM

PILATE. Longinus.

LONGINUS.

Lord.

PILATE [giving scroll]. Your warrant. Take the key.

Go to Barabbas' cell and set him free, The mob has chosen him.

Longinus.

And Jesus?

PILATE.

Wait.

He can be scourged and put outside the gate, With warning not to make more trouble here. See that the sergeant be not too severe.

I want to spare him.

LONGINUS.

And the Jew, the Priest,

Outside?

PILATE. I'll see him now.

#### 4 GOOD FRIDAY AND OTHER POEMS

Longinus. Passover Feast

Always brings trouble, Lord. All shall be done.

Dismiss?

PILATE. Dismiss.

Exit LONGINUS.

There's blood about the sun,

This earthquake weather presses on the brain.

Enter PROCULA.

You?

PROCULA. Dear, forgive me, if I come again
About this Jesus, but I long to know
What Herod said. Did he dismiss him?
PILATE. No.

He sent him back to me for me to try, The charge being local.

PROCULA.

Have you tried him?

PILATE.

Ay,

Henceforth he will be kept outside the walls.

Now, listen, wife: whatever dream befalls,

Never again send word to me in Court

To interrupt a case. The Jews made sport

Of what you dreamed and what you bade me fear