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They Run Again

By LEAH BODINE DRAKE

Beyond the black and naked wood
 In frosty gold has set the sun,
 And dusk glides forth in cobweb hood. . . .
 Sister, tonight the werewolves run!

With white teeth gleaming and eyes aflame
 The werewolves gather upon the howe!
 Country churl and village dame,
 They have forgotten the wheel and plow.

They have forgotten the speech of men;
 Their throats are dry with a dreadful thirst;
 And woe to the traveler in the glen
 Who meets tonight with that band accurst!

Now from the hollows creeps the dark;
 The moon like a yellow owl takes flight;
 Good people on their house-doors mark
 A cross, and hug their hearths in fright.

Sister, listen! . . . The King-Wolf howls!
 The pack is running! . . . Drink down the brew,
 Don the unearthly, shaggy cowls,—
We must be running, too!