

EVENSONG

*On lines from Dylan Thomas' "The Hunchback
in the Park."*

Until the Sunday somber bell at dark
Made dozing tigers jump out of their eyes
By casting its summer song over the park,

Drenching us daylight creatures with surprise,
Startling the nurses near the willow grove --
Until the tigers jumped out of their eyes

We had no notion it was time to leave.
But evening calls and it is time to go.
Until next weekend there is no reprieve,

For we must work or study and the zoo
Must bide its time among its ponds and fountains.
Evening summons us. It is time to go;

Shades lengthen, shadows fall out of the mountains
Onto the streets where we must travel home.
We may not spend more time with ponds and fountains

But travel the ways and byways we have come.
We must arise, begin to travel home
Because the Sunday somber bell at dark
Casts its evensong across the park.

Lewis Turco Dresden