

Harmony Tree International Speech Festival (HTISF)
2025-2026 Set Pieces for Asia Division

Verse Speaking
Born in 2018-2019

Choice A

The Sandman

by Evalene Stein

The Sandman! hark, I hear him!
He's coming up the stair,
And everybody near him
Is nodding, I declare!
He's peeping in the door now,
And first of all he spies,
As he has done before now,
The little children's eyes!
Then quickly does he throw it,
His golden sleepy-sand,
And all, before they know it,
Are off for sleepy-land!

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Choice B

Bed in Summer

by Robert Louis Stevenson

In winter I get up at night
And dress by yellow candle-light.
In summer, quite the other way,
I have to go to bed by day.

I have to go to bed and see
The birds still hopping on the tree,
Or hear the grown-up people's feet
Still going past me in the street.

And does it not seem hard to you,
When all the sky is clear and blue,
And I should like so much to play,
To have to go to bed by day?