"The White Man's Burden"

By Rudyard Kipling

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THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.

By Rudyard Kipling.

- Take up the White Man's burden--
- 2 Send forth the best ye breed--
- 3 Go, bind your sons to exile
- 4 To serve your captives' need;
- 5 To wait, in heavy harness
- 6 On fluttered folk and wild--
- 7 Your new-caught sullen peoples,
- 8 Half devil and half child.
- 9 Take up the White Man's burden--
- 10 In patience to abide,
- 11 To veil the threat of terror
- 12 And check the show of pride;
- 13 By open speech and simple,
- 14 An hundred times mad plain,
- 15 To seek another's profit
- 16 And work another's gain.
- 17 Take up the White Man's burden--
- 18 The savage wars of peace--
- 19 Fill full the mouth of Famine
- 20 And bid the sickness cease;
- 21 And when your goal is nearest
- (The end for others sought)
- 23 Watch sloth and heathen folly
- 24 Bring all your hope to nought.
- 25 Take up the White Man's burden--
- No iron rule of kings,
- 27 But toil of serf and sweeper--
- 28 The tale of common things.
- 29 The ports ye shall not enter,
- The roads ye shall not tread,
- 31 Go make them with your living
- And mark them with your dead.

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33 Take up the White Man's burden--

- 34 And reap his old reward--
- 35 The blame of those ye better,
- 36 The hate of those ye guard--
- 37 The cry of hosts ye humour
- 38 (Ah, slowly!) toward the light:--
- 39 "Why brought ye us from bondage,
- 40 Our loved Egyptian night?"
- Take up the White Man's burden--
- 42 Ye dare not stoop to less--
- 43 Nor call too loud on freedom
- 44 To cloak your weariness.
- 45 By all ye cry or whisper,
- 46 By all ye leave or do,
- The silent sullen peoples
- 48 Shall weigh your God and you.
- 49 Take up the White Man's burden!
- 50 Have done with childish days--
- 51 The lightly proffered laurel,
- 52 The easy ungrudged praise:
- 53 Comes now, to search your manhood
- 54 Through all the thankless years,
- 55 Cold edged with dear-bought wisdom,
- The judgment of your peers.

