

'WHOSE DARK HAS NO STARS?'

WRITING A RIDDLE

A thousand years ago poets loved writing riddles. Nearly a hundred of these were copied into a big manuscript book called The Exeter Book, so named because it's kept in the library of Exeter Cathedral. These riddles are in a very old form of English sometimes called Old English, or Anglo-Saxon. We have translated some into modern English, making them as short as we can at the same time. We have tweeted some at @ExeterTwiddle. Can you guess the answers? See what else you can find out about the Exeter Book Riddles online.

Here is a new riddle by poet Jacob Polley:



NIGHT-SWIMMER

*He swims through the dark
where there are no stars.*

*Whose dark has no stars?
The blind potato's
and the blinder stone's.*

*He's softer than night.
His breaststroke throws
up constellations of bones.*

