

EVAN'S VISIT

William Walden

In Wales, not many years ago,
There lived an old man, Evan Low,
Who had a reputation for
Unusual behavior.

When neighbors told him that a young
New doctor had a bragging tongue
In that he'd publicly repeated
He'd healed each patient that he'd treated,
One morning Evan visited
That doctor, and morosely said,
"I find it difficult of late
To swallow." "Yes? Well I'll locate
The cause of it at once, I'm sure,
And then, of course, prescribe the cure,"
The doctor airily remarked.
With great assurance he embarked
Upon the tests designed to show
What ailment had afflicted Low.

An hour later, the perplexed
Physician, flushed and looking vexed,
Confessed, "My tests find nothing wrong.
Your weight is right, your heart is strong,
Your lungs are clear, your throat is fine.
I can't detect a single sign
Of malady. What sort of thing
Do you have trouble swallowing?"

Old Evan's smile was honey sweet
As, winking, he replied, "Conceit."

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