Life's Tests

If never a sorrow came to us,
and never a care we knew;
If every hope were realized,
and every dream came true;
If only joy were found on earth,
and no one ever sighed,
And never a friend proved false to us,
and never a loved one died,
And never a burden bore us down,
soul-sick and weary, too,
We'd yearn for tests to prove our worth
and tasks for us to do.

Edgar Albert Guest (1881-1959)