

# *Sonnet Scroll*

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## **Guest Cottage**

By Richard Dey

*For David & Janna Smith, Vinalhaven*

“The problem with an island summer house  
is guests and what to do with them. E.g.,  
How to house that unholy sailorman  
who just happens, along this coast of one  
thousand islands, to stop by, a bottle  
of rum in tow? What does he think we run  
here in Maine, a B & B in Lotus Land?  
a Laundromat for Little Lost Argonauts?

“What better place to put him after brandy,  
than our chicken house furnished with a bed  
bought at a church auction and maybe with  
the minister’s daughter? Let *her* hear his poems about  
abandoned boats & notes found in bottles,  
mermaids, treasure, St. Elmo’s fire, & storms!”