

Riddles in the dark

What has roots as nobody sees?
Is taller than trees
Up, up it goes
And yet never returns?

Voiceless it cries
Wingless it flutters
Toothless bites
Mouthless mutters

It cannot be seen, cannot be felt
Cannot be heard, cannot be smelt
It lies behind stars and under hills
And empty holes it fills
It comes out first and follows after
Ends life, kills laughter.

Alive without breath
As cold as death
Never thirsty, ever drinking
All in mail, never clinking.

This thing all things devours
Birds, beasts, trees, flowers
Gnaws iron, bites steel
Grinds hard stones to meal
Slays king, ruins town
And beats mountain down.