Sir John Suckling, English Cavalier poet, dramatist, and courtier, best known for his lyrics. He was educated at Cambridge and inherited his father’s considerable estates at the age of 18. He entered Gray’s Inn in 1627 and was knighted in 1630.

Suckling was the author of four plays, the most ambitious of which is the tragedy Aglaura, magnificently staged in 1637 and handsomely printed at the author’s expense (1638); the best is the lively comedy The Goblins (1638). They all contain echoes of Shakespeare and Beaumont and Fletcher. His reputation as a poet rests on his lyrics, the best of which justifies the description of him as a “natural, easy” poet. He inherited from Donne the tradition of the anti-platonic deflation of high-flown love sentiment and uses it with insouciance.