

Annachie Gordon

By Loreena McKennitt

Harking is bonnie and there lives my love.
My heart lies on him and will not remove.
It will not remove, oh, for all that I have done.
And I never will forget my love Annachie.
For Annachie Gordon, he's bonnie and he's bright.
He'd entice any woman that e'er he saw.
He'd entice any woman and so he has done me.
And I never will forget my love Annachie.

Down came her father and he's standing at the door;
Saying 'Jeannie, you're trying the tricks of the poor.
You care nothing for a man who cares so very much for thee.
You must marry Lord Sultan and leave Annachie.
For Annachie Gordon is barely but a man;
And although he may be pretty but where are his lands?
The Sultan's lands are broad and his towers they run high.
You must marry Lord Sultan and leave Annachie.'

With Annachie Gordon, I'd beg for my bread;
And before I marry Sultan his gold to my head.
With gold to my head and straight down to my knee;
And I'll die if I don't get to love Annachie.
And you who are my parents, to church you may me bring;
But unto Lord Sultan I'll never bear a son.
To a son or a daughter, I'll never bow my knee;
And I'll die if I don't get to love Annachie.

Jeannie was married and from church she was brought home.
And when she and her maidens so merry should have been;
When she and her maidens so merry should have been;
She goes to her chamber and cries all alone.

Come to bed my Jeannie, me honey and me sweet;
For to style you my mistress it would be so sweet.
Be it mistress or Jeannie, it's all the same to me;
But in your bed Lord Sultan I never will lie.
And down came her father and he's spoken with reknown;
Saying 'You who are her maidens, go loosen up her gowns.'
And she fell down to the floor and straight down to his knee;
Saying 'Father look I'm dying for love of Annachie.'

The day that Jeannie married was the day that Jeannie died.
And the day that young Annachie came home on the tide.
And down came her maidens all wringing of their hands;

Saying 'Oh it's been so long; you've been so long on the sands.
So long on the sands and so long upon the flood.
They have married your Jeannie and now she lies dead.'

You who are her maidens, come take me by the hand;
And lead me to the chamber where my love she lies in.
And he kissed her cold lips till his heart it turned to stone;
And he died in the chamber where his love she lies in.

Blow the Candles Out

Traditional

When I was 'prenticed in Claremont,
I went to see my dear.
The candles they were burning.
The moon shone bright and clear.
I knocked upon her window,
To ease her of her pain.
She rose to let me in,
Then she barred the door again.

I like your good behavior darling,
Thus I often say.
And I cannot rest contented,
While you are far away.
The roads they are so muddy,
We canna' gang about.
So roll me in your arms love,
And blow the candles out.

Your father and mother,
In yonder room do lie.
A huggin' one another,
So why not you and I?
A huggin' one another,
Without a fear or doubt.
So roll me in your arms love,
And blow the candles out.

And if you prove successful love,
Pray name it after me.
Keep it neat and kiss it sweet,
And daff it on your knee.
When my three years are ended,
My time it will be out.
Then I will double my indebtedness,
By blowing the candles out.

Caul the Ewes

Traditional

Chorus: Caul the ewes to the knoll.
Caul them where the heather grows.
Caul them where the bourney rolls;
My bonnie dearie.

Hark the mavis evening song,
Soundin' Cluden's Woods amang.
Bend a fort and let us gang.
My bonnie dearie.

(Chorus)

We'll go down by Cluden's side;
Through the hazels spreadin' wide.
O'er the waves that sweetly glide;
To the moon si' clearly.

(Chorus)

Fair and love as thou art;
Thou hast sto'n my very heart.
I can die...but canna' part;
My bonnie dearie.

(Chorus)

Full Moon

Melody & Lyrics by Ivory

High in sky, shines silver overhead.
Looking up, tonight will be the night.
Cloak goes on, through woods I travel softly.
Wild wolf howls; I know he feels it too...

Chorus: Full moon...join the circle.
On our faces, firelight gleaming.
Spirits roam among you now.
Time and place have lost all meaning.

Hand in hand, we close the circle now.
Darkness falls; the grove haven of light.
Flames rise high, anticipation growing.
Here we stand; the time it has drawn nigh...

(Chorus)

Leader speaks, winds rise up from nowhere.
From the soul; words ancient as the dust.
World outside, temptation ever near.
Live the truth; the future says we must.

(Chorus)

Faces up; search for the Great Spirit.
Hold them close, this family you have chose.
In your dreams, the future seen so clearly.
Trust in them; the answer to your woes.

(Chorus)

Gentle Maiden

Melody: Traditional Lyrics by Ivory

The curve of her face...oh!
The light in her green eyes.
Her lips redder than roses I swear;
Her heart it sings a dream to me.

Chorus: Sleepy moth fluttered 'round her white hand;
And her lips grew quiet.
More so than lullabies...oh!
Swaying with reed grass over the stream.

Her smile warms my dreams...ah!
To think of her like a soft mist.
One glimpse seen thru dense hazel boughs;
So like a shimmering sprite she would seem.

(Chorus)

The cool scent of thyme...oh!
Swirls in the cold wind free.
Sweeter than dew that falls in the night.
Who in truth would deny you love?

(Chorus)

Long Ages Ago

Melody & Lyrics by Ivory

In the night I can hear the soft whisper lying on the wind;
And I want to leave my home and wander under moon and star.
Travel far away ere the break of day, where lightning rend.
To go where they reside lost ages...go where they are.

They left us long years ago when the world was young and new.
Mighty was their splendor and in tribute bird and rock spoke.
In sadness passed of kindred bond, miracles we knew.
Such wonders built in stone castles and songs that they wrote.

The shadows came and their swords so bright, cold glint of plunder.
Their splendor terrible in their glory and their scowling wrath.
Tales of wonder passed mouth to mouth through years, ere kindred sundered.
Long ages ago bright sun and moon, a dim aftermath.

But not forgotten are those who passed, so bright and so fair.
Whose song and laughter still ride high upon four mystic winds.
The paths dim are now sought again, courage in the air;
By the bold of heart where all journeys start, valor never ends.

The way is wandering and much faded, overgrown with weeds;
And only the most faint whisper on wind lingers to remain.
But keen eyes can still see, as can rock and olden tree.
May they guide the seeker to their last realm, a wonder found again.

On Eressa, oh that wondrous long isle in the wind swept west;
And few now travel that lost, forgotten, lonely, ancient way.
In the frosted night, by pale moonlight, spirits never rest.
I wish to find the soft path lost, ere the break of day.

It's a Long Winter's Journey

Melody & Lyrics by Ivory

Chorus: It's a long winter's journey, a long winter's journey.
Through bog and dark wood, it is you that I seek.
It's a long winter's journey, a long winter's journey.
To see you once more, there is no snow too deep.

One touch, one glance;
I knew I'd take a chance.
For you, for love,
With blessings from above.
Through snowflakes softly falling,
I wait for your return.
To my heart you are calling;
For your arms I do yearn.

(Chorus)

Your eyes, your hand;
My heart's at your command.
The wild north wind;
As through the woods you wend.
My mind sees you now riding;
On stallion proud and tall.
From highest tower hear me;
As to my love I call.

(Chorus)

My heart, my pain;
To see you once again.
Leave now, ride fast;
Before the darkness pasts.
My cloak it flies behind me;
I ride into the night.
With thoughts of you to warm me;
I fear not winter's bite.

(Chorus)

Lord Randall

Traditional

Oh, where have you been Lord Randall, my son?
Oh, where have you been, my handsome young man?
I have been to the wild wood, mother make my bed soon.
For I'm weary wi' huntin' and fain would lie down.

Where got ye your dinner Lord Randall, my son?
Where got ye your dinner, my handsome young man?
I dined wi' me true love, mother make my bed soon.
For I'm weary wi' huntin' and fain would lie down.

Where got ye to your dinner Lord Randall, my son?
Where got ye to your dinner, my handsome young man?
I had eels boiled and brewed, mother make my bed soon.
For I'm weary wi' huntin' and fain would lie down.

What became of your bloodhounds Lord Randall, my son?
What became of your bloodhounds, my handsome young man?
Oh, they swelled and they died, mother make my bed soon.
For I'm weary wi' huntin' and fain would lie down.

Oh, I fear ye are poisoned Lord Randall, my son.
Oh, I fear ye are poisoned, my handsome young man?
Oh, yes I am poisoned, mother make my bed soon.
For I'm sick at the heart and fain would lie down.

Man Among Men

Melody & lyrics by Ivory

Dark clouds hover overhead,
Thunder rumbling deep inside.
Golden sword, darting through,
Plunging into the earth.
He is my ray of sun,
Lighting up my darkened path.
Opening to me new horizons...

Chorus: He's a man among men,
Born of the stars,
Circling 'round Jupiter and Mars.
All that I am, all I can be,
He gives to me.
As you plainly can see,
He's a man among men.

His words open up my eyes.
Thoughts I'd never had before.
See it then, see it now,
Leaves me wanting much more.
He truly knows the world,
And he shares it all with me.
Opening to me new horizons...

(Chorus)

Bridge: Is he a fantasy,
Or my reality?
Feeling in harmony,
When he is here with me.
Is this my destiny?
Where I am meant to be?
Spiraling ecstasy,
For an eternity.

When the world has gone awry,
Others run and quake with fear.
In he strides, bold and strong,
Calming just to be near.
He is a man of strength,
Noble to his very bones.
Opening to me new horizons...

(Chorus)

The sight of him can warm my heart.
I want him always by my side.
Looking deep in his eyes,
Storms inside me collide.
I offer him my heart,
And he holds it tenderly.
Opening to me new horizons...

(Chorus)

Tag: I'll say it time and again,
He's a man among men.

She Moved Through the Fair

Traditional

My young love said to me, 'My mother won't mind;
And my father won't slight you for your lack of kind.'
And she stepped away from me and this she did say,
'It will not be long love till our wedding day.'

She went away from me, and move through the fair,
And fondly I watched her move here and move there.
Then she went homeward with one star awake,
As the swan in the evening moved over the lake.

The people were saying, no two e'er were wed,
But one has a sorrow that never was said.
And she smiled as she passed me with her goods and her gear.
And that was the last that I saw of my dear.

Last night I lay dreaming, my true love came in.
So softly she came that her feet made no din.
She laid her hand on me and this she did say,
'It will not be long love till our wedding day.'

So Soft the Kiss

Melody by Carl Brehmer; Lyrics by Ivory

Here at my window waiting for you love,
Nothing but wind down the lane.
And yet here I rock to the tick of the clock,
And reflections of tears on the pane.

Chorus: Wild tossed sea, please bring him to me.
Wind at your back give you gain.
I walk on the shore, the fog welcomes me in;
And so soft the kiss of gentle rain.

I dreamt of you and heard your voice calling,
Tis but my grief it is plain.
For long you've been gone, and so sad is my song.
Echoes of lost love's refrain.

(Chorus)

Bridge: Waves they are crashing down on the shore.
On they will go till I see you no more.
My love, where are you?
Why did you leave me here?
My heart is calling,
Longing to have you near.

Late in the night I stand at the cliff side,
Hours I gaze at the sea.
For every wave out that turns back about,
I pray that you come home to me.

(Chorus)

Words that I whispered last that I saw you,
Come to my lips like a song.
Heart of my heart, we never will part.
Together through time we belong.

The Unquiet Grave

Traditional

Bridge is excerpts from an ancient Irish poem "Ringleted Youth of My Love"
translated by Douglas Hyde

Cold blows the wind to my true love;
And gently drops the rain.
I only have but one true love;
And in Green Wood he lies slain.
I'll do as much for my true love;
As any young girl may.
I'll sit and mourn all on his grave;
For twelve months and a day.

When twelve months and a day were past;
The ghost began to speak.
"Why sittest thou all on my grave;
And will not let me sleep?"
There is one thing that I want, sweetheart.
There is one thing that I crave.
And that is a kiss from your lily-white lips;
Then I'll go from your grave.

Bridge: (spoken) I thought, oh my love! You were so...
As the moon is, or the sun on a fountain.
Your kiss a wakening dew;
Were I ever so ill or so dreamy.
Leland, you promised to follow me, never to lose;
Though the ocean were 'round us roaring.
Like a bush in a gap in the wall;
I am now left lonely without thee.

"My lips they are as cold as clay;
My breath comes earthy strong.
And if you kiss my cold, clay lips;
Your days they won't be long.
Go fetch me water from the desert;
And blood from out of a stone.
Go fetch me milk from a fair maid's breast;
That young men never have known."

"T'was down in Cupid's garden;
That you and I did walk.
The finest flower that e'er I saw;
Is withered to a stalk.

The stalk is withered and dried sweetheart;
So shall our heart decay.
So make yourself content, my love;
'Til death calls you away."

When shall we meet again sweetheart?
When shall we meet again?
When the oaken leaves that fall from the trees;
Are green and spring up again.

This is Why

Melody & Lyrics by Ivory

When darkness falls and a blanket of stars,
Freckles the deepening sky.
Then the beat of the drums and my heart are as one.
When you ask, I will say this is why.

When the cast of the firelight is my guide through the night;
And lithe dancers throw caution aside.
Then laughter rings out and my spirit soars forth.
When you ask, I will say this is why.

Bridge: Open your eyes, you'll see;
This is your reality.
Seem so much more real to me;
Than the other life I lead.

When my King strides the land with his Queen at his side;
The vision of glory they glide.
Comes a voice with a lilt of a mystical bell.
When you ask, I will say this is why.

The touch of the moon on our skin as we pass.
Murmurs gentle, so lovely and low.
As the world fades away in soft whispers, we sigh.
When you ask I will say this is why.

(Bridge)

When cold tendrils of wind lift my cloak as great wings;
Feet to earth, arms raised, head to sky.
Spirits dance 'round my head, laughing here you belong.
When you ask, I will say this is why.

Much more than a dream, not dismissed as escape.
To claim fantasy would but belie.
To be one with the night in a time out of time.
I'm alive...I'm alive...I'm alive!

Thunder in My Soul

Melody & Lyrics by Ivory

I'm walking down the lakeside road this day so dreary.
It seems like every step I take sets me back by two.
Through dreamy veil I fight my way.
Fierce winds whip up, the likes of which;
This old world never knew.

The veil breaks free and off I run; rain pelts like water arrows.
I see Pentwyvern just ahead, tucked beneath pine tree shade.
Through the gate and toward the fire;
The day has gone to night; from tent to tent I run.
There's no one in this glade.

Chorus: Sky splits open, clouds roll.
Nature lost control.
Bolts of lightning dance all about.
Thunder in my soul.

I'll wait it out in shelter here; my friends will soon return.
Out in the woods a blue light flies; I rise up to my feet.
From out of darkness shapes appear.
They're coming toward me now; faces pale and bodies lithe.
I hear a distant beat.

From smoking ashes fire ignites; the drums beat loud and strong.
Flames leaping up I feel the heat; the figures gather 'round.
Unearthly screams rip through the hills.
A few then start to sway, soon dancing, flying overhead;
Feet barely touch the ground.

(Chorus)

I know not how but now I'm there; among them as if one.
A puppet in this maddening dance; forced to unbound my chain.
I give myself unto the night;
And howl without a thought; there is no need to worry.
There is no need to feign.

The moon appears from clouds so dark; the rain it tapers off.
The thunder soft and distance now; I ache as if a crone.
The fire is naught but embers there.
My wits about me now; I glance, the figures gone.
I'm standing here...alone.