

# NYMPHS

*Michael Fantina*

On the frigid midnight air,  
Near the fallen turret's spire  
Phantoms took me unaware  
Round the gates of ancient Tyre.

Near the fallen turret's spire  
Smokey fragments of a dream  
Round the gates of ancient Tyre  
Drift along a silent stream.

Smokey fragments of a dream  
Thrilled me to a quick suspire,  
Drift along a silent stream  
Burn me with an ice cold fire.

Thrilled me to a quick suspire  
Did the vision in the glade.  
Burn me with an ice cold fire  
Woo me with a serenade!

Did the vision in the glade  
Come from valleys of the Fey?  
Woo me with a serenade,  
Here to love and ever stay.

Come from valleys of the Fey,  
Sweet nymphs of my own desire,  
Here to love and ever stay,  
Play your pipes and silver lyre.

Sweet nymphs of my own desire,  
Lay here in the tall oak's shade,  
Play your pipes and silver lyre,  
Stay here in this rushy glade.

Lay here in the tall oak's shade,  
Hear the gently bleating sheep,  
Stay here in this rushy glade,  
Till your eyes are filled with sleep.

Hear the gently bleating sheep

Play until the sunset dies,  
Till your eyes are filled with sleep,  
Till your dreams are filled with sighs.

Play until the sunset dies  
Lyre and your reed pipes then  
Till your dreams are filled with sighs  
Mingled with the thrush and wren.

Lyre and your reed pipes then  
Carry tunes upon the breeze  
Mingled with the thrush and wren  
Singing there among the trees.

Carry tunes upon the breeze  
Sweet nymphs of a sweet allure,  
Singing there among the trees  
Sirens from a distant shore.

Sweet nymphs of a sweet allure,  
Love me with an earnest will,  
Sirens from a distant shore  
Love me till the world is still!

Love me with an earnest will  
While I kiss your hands and face  
Love me till the world is still,  
Jeweled in jade and tatted lace.

While I kiss your hands and face  
Long and lavish crimson hair  
Jeweled in jade and tatted lace  
Drown me, make me gulp for air!

Long and lavish crimson hair  
Like a never lapsing tide  
Drown me, make me gulp for air,  
Never will this sea subside!

Like a never lapsing tide  
Never will my praises fail  
Never will this sea subside,  
Always will my love prevail.

Never will my praises fail  
Till the seas are deserts dry,

Always will my love prevail,  
Till the stars flee from the sky.

Till the seas are deserts dry,  
All's forgotten from the prime,  
Till the stars flee from the sky,  
Love will last outside of Time!

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