

## by Loreena McKennitt

### "Courtyard Lullaby"

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Music and Lyrics by Loreena McKennitt

Wherein the deep night sky  
The stars lie in its embrace  
The courtyard still in its sleep  
And peace comes over your face

'Come to me' it sings  
'Hear the pulse of the land  
The Ocean's rhythms pull  
To hold your heart in its hand'

And when the wind draws strong  
Across the cypress trees  
The Nightbirds cease their songs  
So gathers memories.

Last night you spoke of a dream  
Where forests stretched to the east  
And each bird sang its song  
A Unicorn joined in a feast

And in a corner stood  
A pomegranate tree  
With wild flowers there  
No mortal eye could see

Yet still some mystery befalls  
Sure as the cock crows at morn  
the world in stillness keeps  
The secret of babes to be born

I heard an old voice say  
'Don't go far from the land  
The seasons have their way  
No mortal can understand.'

The photographs which appear in this booklet were taken at a 16th century hunting lodge in Portugal, where Elisabeth Feryn and I stayed for a week. Within the lodge was a courtyard, marked at each corner by

orange trees. The feel of the place reminded me of the Unicorn tapestries which hang in The Cloisters in New York City. The tapestries and the lodge are both rich with earthy, pre-Christian iconography - depicting the mysterious life and death cycle of the seasons. It was in this courtyard that this piece was conceived. - L.M.

L.M.: Vocals, Harp, Keyboards, Ukalin

BRIAN HUGHES: Electric Guitar

ANNE BOURNE: Cello

TOM HAZLETT: Bass

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