

## Heather Dale

### "Pierre & Marianne"

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There was a fair and youthful man  
Called Pierre Le Blanc was he  
Who loved a girl called Marianne  
Who lived in far Paris

One day there came by messenger  
A letter in her hand  
That begged him come and marry her  
And travel across the land

"Ho-ho!" said Pierre, "my fortune's fair  
My lady calls to me"  
He packed his bags upon his mare  
And off on the quest went he

Once in Province he met by chance  
A man whose back was bare  
"Good sir," said he, "come pity me  
I have not a stitch to wear

I'll offer for your threadbare cloak  
This blessed and rare acorn  
That grows into a silver oak  
Sure as the lord was born"

"Ho-ho!" said Pierre, "my fortune's fair  
To own such a useful tree"  
He tucked it safe in his underwear  
And went of cloaklessly

As Pierre rode on he chanced upon  
A man who came beside  
"Good sir," said he, "it saddens me  
to see that poor beast you ride  
  
That neg won't carry you a mile

Then she'll be surely dead  
To save you trouble give her here  
I'll give you this ass instead"

"Ho-ho!"said Pierre, "my fortune's fair  
To dodge a calamity"  
So off he went on the donkey's back  
To travel towards Paris

As Pierre approached the city gates  
A beggar raised a cry  
"By God it is the King of France!"  
And bowed as Pierre rode by

"Your majesty I know it's you  
Though you don't weary our crown  
For royal men ride as you do  
A-jouncing up and down"

"Ho-ho!"said Pierre, "my fortune's fair  
Mistaken for King Louis"  
He gave his purse with a lofty air  
For the beggar's flattery

As Pierre rode down the Paris street  
Waving left and right  
Marianne came out to greet  
Her bold and shining knight

"My dear, I bring you my good ass  
I'm told I ride it well  
I've got a gift in my underwear  
We'll share at the wedding bell"

"Ho-ho," said she, "my fortune's fair  
To find such a lusty man"  
So with their wedding ends  
the tale Of Pierre and Marianne

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