

Maiden Iron

"Rime Of The Ancient Mariner Harris 1303"

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Hear the rime of the Ancient Mariner
See his eyes as he stops one of three
Mesmerises one of the wedding guests
Stay here and listen to the nightmares of the Sea.
And the music plays on, and the bride passes by
Caught by his spell and the Mariner tells his tale.
Driven south to the land of the snow and ice
To a place where nobody's been
Through the snow fog flies the albatross
Hailed in God's name, hoping good luck it brings.
And the ship sails on, back to the North
Through the fog and the ice the albatross follows on
The mariner kills the bird of good omen
His shipmates cry against what he's done
But when the fog clears, they justify him
And make themselves part of the crime.
Sailing on and on and North across the sea
Sailing on and on and North 'till all is calm.
The albatross begins with its vengeance
A terrible thirst a curse has begun
His shipmates blame bad luck on the Mariner

About his neck, the dead bird is hung.

And the curse goes on and on at sea

And the curse goes on and on for them and me.

"Day after day, day after day, we stuck nor breath nor motion

As idle as a painted ship upon a painted ocean

Water, water, everywhere and all the boards did shrink

Water, water, everywhere nor any drop to drink."

(Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1798-1834))

There, calls the mariner, there comes a ship over the line

But how can she sail with no wind in her sails and no tide.

See...onward she comes

Onward she nears, out of the sun

See...she has no crew

She has no life, wait but there's two.

Death and she Life in Death, they throw their dice for the crew

She wins the Mariner and he belongs to her now.

Then...crew one by one

They drop down dead, two hundred men

She...She, Life in Death.

She lets him live, her chosen one.

Narrative

"One after one by the star dogged moon, too quick for groan or sigh

Each turned his face with a ghastly pang, and cursed

me with his eye

Four times fifty living men (and I heard nor sigh nor groan),

With heavy thump, a lifeless lump. they dropped down one by one."

(Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1798-1834))

The curse it lives on in their eyes

The Mariner he wished he'd die

Along with the sea creatures

But they lived on, so did he.

And by the light of the moon

He prays for their beauty not doom

With heart he blesses them

God's creatures all of them too.

Then the spell starts to break

The albatross falls from his neck

Sinks down like lead into the Sea

Then down in falls comes the rain.

Hear the groans of the long dead seamen

See them stir and they start to rise

Bodies lifted by good spirits

None of them speak and they're lifeless in their eyes.

And revenge is still sought, penance starts again

Cast into a trance and the nightmare carries on.

Now the curse is finally lifted

And the Mariner sights his home

Spirits go from the long dead bodies

Form their own light and the Mariner's left alone.

And then a boat came sailing towards him

It was a joy he could not believe

The Pilot's boat, his son and the hermit.

Penance of life will fall onto Him.

And the ship it sinks like lead into the sea

And the hermit shrieves the mariner of his sins.

The Mariner's bound to tell of his story

To tell his tale wherever he goes

To teach God's word by his own example

That we must love all things that God made.

And the wedding guest's a sad and wiser man

And the tale goes on and on and on

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