

Ballad of Niamh O'Driscoll

Verse 1

When Seamus laid the bottle down,
The light came back to Clonfiddle town.
At break of day, by wind and foam,
He sailed for bread and brought it home.

Verse 2

His children grew by the warming fire,
With cheeks of rose and hearts of lyre.
And Niamh's eyes, once dim with pain,
Learned how to love her man again.



Verse 3

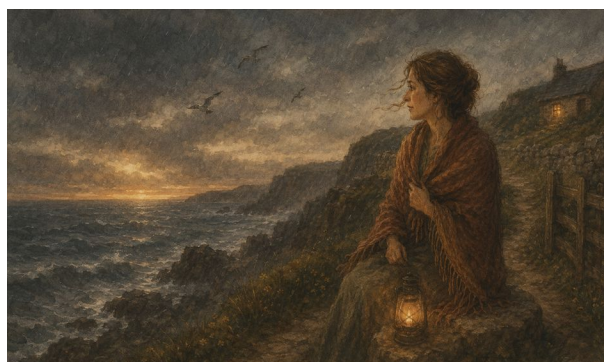
Each evening by the cliff she'd stand,
A shawl drawn close, a lamp in hand.
To meet him there when work was done,
And walk beside him through the gloam.

Verse 4

She waited there through mist and rain,
Through crying gulls and winds of wane.
Though stars grew pale and hours were late,
Still Niamh kept her faithful wait.

Verse 5

But one black night he did not come;
The sea lay wild, the village numb.
The fishers spoke with lowered breath:
"The storm has taken him to death."



Verse 6

Yet evening after evening still,
She climbed the path beside the hill.
And there, where sea and sorrow meet,
They found her cold at morning's feet.

Verse 7

So guard such love where it is found,
Like holy seed in stony ground.
For faithful hearts are rare and bright,
And shine beyond the longest night.



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