

## I'M A ROVER (Scots traditional)

*I'm a rover  
and seldom sober,  
I'm a rover o' high degree;  
it's when I'm drinkin'  
I'm always thinkin'  
how to gain my love's company.*

Tho' the nicht be as dark as dungeon,  
no' a star may be seen above,  
I will be guided without a stumble  
intae the airms o' my ain true love.

He steppit up tae her bedroom windae,  
kneelin' gently upon a stane;  
he rappit at her bedroom windae:  
"My darlin' dear, dae ye lie alane?"

She raised her heid on her snaw-white pillow,  
wi' her airms about her breast:  
"Wha' is that at my bedroom windae,  
disturbin' me at my lang nicht's rest?"

"It's on'y me, your ain true lover;  
open the door, and let me in,  
for I hae come on a lang journey  
and I'm near drenched untae the skin."

She opened the door wi' the greatest pleasure,  
she opened the door and she let him in;  
they baith shook hands then embraced each ither;  
until the mornin' they slept as ane.

The cocks were crawin', the birds were whistlin',  
the burns they ran free abune the brae:  
"Remember, lass, I'm a ploughman laddie,  
and tae the fairmer I must obey".

"Noo, my love, I must go and leave thee,  
and tho' the hills they are high above,  
I will climb them wi' greater pleasure  
since I hae been in the airms o' my love."

## Cornish translation by Ken George

*Gwyll an nosow  
a gar diwozow,  
gwyll ov vy a'n ughella bri;  
ha pan ov meri  
y hwrav prederi  
fatell boz gans ow hares vy.*

Kyn fo an nos mar dewl 'vel dorgell,  
pub sterenn gyllyz yn-dann gel,  
gidyz vydhav heb trebuchya  
byz yn diwvregh ow hares lel.

Nesa a wrug byz hy fenester,  
war benn-dewlin yth eth war ven,  
ha gelwel kosel byz hy fenester:  
"Ow thurenn deg, es'ta jy hepken?"

A'n pluvek gwynn hy fenn a sevis,  
ha'y diwvronn kudhyz gans diwvregh klos:  
"Piw eus devedhyz dhe'm fenester,  
orth ow tifuna yn kres an nos?"

"Nynz yw saw my, dha garer gwiryon,  
dibrenn an daraz mayth av a-ji,  
rag pell lavuris rag donez dhizo  
ha byz y'm kroghen glyb ov vy.

Dibrenn' an daraz a wrug gans plesour,  
dibrenn' an daraz mayth eth a-ji,  
y shaksons diwla, hag ena byrla,  
byz tardh y kosksons war-barth defri.

Yth eza kana, ha hwath hwibana  
diworth an ydhyn a-ugh an vre:  
"Porth kov, ow hwegoll, ow boz aradror,  
ha byz dhe'n tiek yth av hware.

"Farwell, ow thurenn, kemmerav kummyaz,  
ha'n breow, ughel kynth ynz i,  
hwath my a's yskynn gans moy a blesour  
woza boz gans ow melder vy."