

# Hymn Lyrics

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## Beneath the cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,-  
the shadow of a mighty rock  
within a weary land;  
a home within a wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat  
and the burden of the day.

O safe and happy shelter!  
O refuge tried and sweet!  
O trysting-place where heaven's love  
and heaven's justice meet!  
As to the holy patriarch  
that wondrous dream was given,  
so seems my Savior's cross to me  
a ladder up to heaven.

There lies beneath its shadow,  
but on the farther side,  
the darkness of an awful grave  
that gapes both deep and wide;  
and there between us stands the cross,  
two arms outstretched to save,  
like a watchman set to guard the way  
from that eternal grave.

Upon that cross of Jesus,  
mine eye at times can see  
the very dying form of One,  
who suffered there for me:  
and from my smitten heart, with tears,  
two wonders I confess,-  
the wonder of his glorious love,  
and my own worthlessness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow  
for my abiding-place;  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of his face,  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss,-  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all the cross.

Elizabeth Cecilia Clephane (1830-1869)

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