

As I stood by yon roofless tower
 The Minstrel At Lincluden
 Melody - "Cumnock Psalms"
 Robert Burns, 1794

As I stood by yon roofless tower,
 Where the wa'flow'r scents the dery air,
 Where the howlet mourns in her ivy bower,
 And tells the midnight moon her care.

Chorus:

A lassie all alone, was making her moan,
 Lamenting our lads beyond the sea:
 In the bluidy wars they fa',
 And our honour's gane an' a',
 And broken-hearted we maun die.

2. The winds were laid, the air was till,
 The stars they shot along the sky;
 The tod was howling on the hill,
 And the distant-echoing glens reply.

Chorus:

3. The burn, adown its hazelly path,
 Was rushing by the ruin'd wa',
 Hasting to join the sweeping Nith,
 Whase roarings seem'd to rise and fa'.

Chorus:

4. The cauld blae North was streaming forth
 Her lights, wi' hissing, eerie din,
 Athort the lift they start and shift,
 Like Fortune's favours, tint as win.

Chorus:

5. Now, looking over firth and fauld,
 Her horn the pale-faced Cynthia rear'd,
 When lo! in form of Minstrel auld,
 A stern and stalwart ghaist appear'd.

Chorus:

6. And frae his harp sic strains did flow,
 Might rous'd the slumbering Dead to hear;
 But oh, it was a tale of woe,
 As ever met a Briton's ear!

Chorus:

7. He sang wi' joy his former day,
 He, weeping, wail'd his latter times;
 But what he said-it was nae play,
 I winna venture't in my rhymes.

Chorus: