

# Antony And Cleopatra - - song lyrics

American Old-time song lyrics from [www.traditionalmusic.co.uk](http://www.traditionalmusic.co.uk)

ANTONY AND\_CLEOPATRA.

I am dying, Egypt, dying,  
Ebbs the crimson life-tide fast,  
And the dark Plutonian shadows  
Gather on the evening blast;  
Let thine arms, O Queen, enfold me!  
Hush thine sobs and bow thine ear;  
Listen to the great heart-secrets,  
Thou, and thou alone, must hear.

Though my scarred and veteran legions  
Bear their eagles high no more,  
And my wrecked and scattered galleys  
Strew dark Actium's fatal shore;  
Though no glittering guards surround me,  
Prompt to do their master's will,  
I must perish like a Roman,  
Die the great Triumvir still.

Let not Caesar's servile minions  
Mock the Lion thus laid low;  
'Twas no foeman's arm that felled him-  
'Twas his own that struck the blow,-  
His, who, pillowed on thy bosom,  
Turned aside from glory's ray-  
His, who, drunk with thy caresses,  
Madly threw a world away.

Should the base plebeian rabble  
Dare assail my name at Home,  
Where my noble spouse, Octavia,  
Weeps within her widowed home,  
Seek her; say the Gods bear witness-  
Altars, augurs, circling wings-  
That her blood, with mine commingled.  
Yet shall mount the throne of kings.

And for thee, star-eyed Egyptian!  
Glorious sorceress of the Nile,  
Light the path to Stygian horrors  
With the splendours of thy smile.  
Give the Caesar crowns and arches,  
Let her brow the laurel twine;  
I can scorn the Senate's triumphs,  
Triumphing in love like thine.

I am dying. Egypt, dying;  
Hark! the insulting foeman's cry.  
They are coming! quick, my falchion!  
Let me front them ere I die.  
Ah! no more amid the battle  
Shall my heart exulting swell-  
Isis and Orisis guard thee!  
Cleopatra, Rome, farewell!