

An t-Alltan Dubh - *Dòmhnall Friseal*

Tha ligh' an-diugh san alltan dubh
'S chan urra mi dhol thairis air;
Tha eagal orm aig meud an t-sruth
Nach fhaigh mi 'n-diugh a-null air.

Tha 'n t-alltan dubh cho bagarrach,
'S e 'n dùil gun till e dhachaigh mi
Le thurraraich is le thartaraich,
Le bhagartaich 's le bhùitich.

Chì mi na daimh chràiceach thall
'S an lagan bheag sam b' àbhaist dhaibh;
'S nan tiginn uair mun tàinig mi
Cha bhiodh iad slàn sa chunntas.

Saoil thu Mhòraig nighinn Fhionnlaigh
An glèidh thu dhomh do ghealltanais,
Ma gheibh sinn thar an alltain seo
Nach toll thu fear den triùir ud?

Nuair ràinig mis' an t-àite
Far an do gheall i dhomh bhith sàbhailte,
Bha mac nan sonn ri làr aice
Mun tug mi mhàin om shùil i.

Tha seachd bliadhn' is tamall ann
Bhon thug mi à Srath Charrainn thu;
'S i Nic an t-Saoir a cheannaich thu
'S chan aithreach leam an cùmhnant.

Additional verse

Thuir Mòrag is i freagairt rium –
“Na cuireadh e bonn eagail ort
Nach faigh thu 'm fear is treise dhiubh
Ma fhreagras do chuid fùdair.”

Translation

There is a flood today in the black stream
And I cannot go across it
I fear the size of the current
I will not be able to traverse it today.

The black stream is so ominous
Expecting that it will turn me back home
its warbling and its noisiness
Its menacing and its threatening.

I see the antlered stags over there
In their usual little hollow
If I had arrived an hour before I came,
They would not be full in number.

What do you reckon Morag daughter of
Finlay*?
Will you keep to me your promise,
If we get over this stream,
Won't you put a hole in on of that three?

When I reached the place
Where she promised I'd be safe,
The son of the heroes** was downed by her,
Before I took her down from my eye.

It's seven years and a little more
Since I took you from Strathcarron.
It was Miss MacIntyre who bought you,
And I do not regret the bargain.

Marion said in reply to me,
"Do not allow that to give you cause for
alarm.
We will surely get the strongest one
If your powder is suitable."

**(Morag, daughter of Finlay) was his gun.*

***Stag*