



Hero and

Leander

POEM BY C

DEAN

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FP: *“The Last Watch of*

Hero” by [Frederic Leighton](#), depicting Hero anxiously waiting for Leander during the storm(1887)

PUBLISHERS
INTRODUCTION
N

Ah what be this Hero
and Leander

this be maybe it be a
cautionary tale of how woe
may follow love a tale of
how great tasks show how
great be our love or be it a
reckless passion ast

mentioned in Ovids
Amores 2.16 or perhaps
 something to do with again
 ast in Ovids *Heroides* 18
 & 19 again doth the
 drowning of Leander
 symbolise his enfeebled love
 for Hero or again be there
 but allusion to Homers
Odyssey andst Greek
 novels ast doth say
 Musaeus in chapter 2 of
 his "*Hero and Leander*" a
 Greek epyllion of 343 lines a

source for Marlowes andst
Chapmans poems or be

Hero and

Leander

open to Christian
interpretation or Heros death
an act of courtly love
perhaps e'en it might contain
misogyny ast doth
Musaeus say in his 3
chapter "Lustful
Fornicators or Courtly

***Lovers?" andst don't forget
what Chaucer said in his
"The Legend of Good
Women" andst the
Introduction to "The Man
of Law's Tale" But who
cares for this work be
literature full of
mythological allusions
philosophical hints literary
ornamentations andst
enhancements rhetorical
twists grammatical plays so
enjoy without the pedantry***

PREFACE

Unto that ocean of love unbounded
 longing doth run andst with our
 harts full of zeal the measure of our
 longing our action do reveal our
 flesh charged with desires within
 our eyes lights with fires andst doth
 enrol all our inventiveness for us
 our longing to resolve for whenst we
 love we all we want is to be with our
 love andst the truth be true that
 that longing is the stronger in our
 youth that we wouldst do anything
 that couldst bring us to our love e'en
 face death just Ohh just to feel upon
 our face our loves hot breath

Leander of Abydos didst love that
priestess of Aphrodite of Sestos But But
were separated by the Hellespont But love
doth its way doth get so didst Leander that
strait didst do swim in the evenings by a
candle light lit by Hero to guide her love in
the night to guide her love to be in her sight
throughout the summer months their love
they didst fulfil till didst the autumn dawn so
agreed they that their meetings should cease
for the stormy winter months Yet they found
no peace so one night in winters blight Hero
desperate for Leander lit the candle to
which Leander set out But Ohh But a
storm didst rage that the winds the candle
blew out andst lost became Leander andst
whenst tied didst he sink beneath the waves

Sink 'neath the waves do ♪

One breath more take do ♪

Thenst to submerge

Whilst

Thinking of thee Dearest Hero

**Where the fish do swim andst the
seaweed doth grow sinking Ohh so
slow Dearest Hero thinking of thee
whilst above the waves sing out their
dirge whilst ♪ sink below into the
blue-green abyss with which to merge
Dearest Hero thinking of thee
thinking of howeth thee ♪ didst kiss
with thy lips of roses hue that doth
seem the colour of those fish ♪ do
view thy kiss Dearest Hero of bliss**

Oh Dearest Leander wait I for thee

The candle be out andst the darkness
 doth shroud I whilst think of thee I do
 in the dark in that storm in the waters
 blackness I sigh aloud thinking of thee
 Come to me Come to me Ohh Leander
 safely andst with thy arms wrap around
 I or else I willst cry Ohh Leander for
 without thee I die Come quickly
 Leander hear the sound the wind Ohh
 Leander the waves those waves Ohh
 Leander seem to sing in chorus Ohh
 a threnody that doth shiver my flesh
 andst freeze my breath

Like the feel on thy face of an ice sliver

Like the feel on thy soul of deaths quiver

The sea doth froth andst foam sprays
 upon the sand no halcyon stills the
 surge Ohh Leander be safe the hart of I
 prays ast it with woes and fears it fills

**The seaweed wraps its arms around my
 limbs andst pulls me down no more
 shall thy arms Hero lift up my soul to
 in thy soul to dissolve Ohh Hero
 remember √ thee Hero ast mine eyes do
 with tears do weep ast the salt of mine
 eyes with the seas brine to meet to melt
 to merge ast in thy arms didst once my
 flesh**

**No more thy face shallst mine eyes to
 see**

No more thy smile to set the sky alight

**No more thy eyes to light the world for
 me**

No more thy kiss to my flesh to ignite

To sink to vanish into the sea Oh

Hero how sad that √ alone thee leave

My hair blows back fromst the face of I
Tangled it be in the air fromst the wind
that blows o'er I like my thoughts
knotted upon which my woes be fed
that inst this storm all my fears be bred
upon the wind that seems to blow
fromst Hades breath andst sends Ohh
Dearest Leander forebodings of death
that's seems to give shudderings to my
flesh those waves that be like Harpies
wings that to my hart sorrow brings my
eyes deign to look Yet my eyes into the
night stare looking looking Ohh
Leander for for thee who that with all
longing I do care here I stand with
eyes quite dazed locked glued upon
those waves for Poor Dear Leander My
Leander thee be alone andst mine hart
doth melt andst my tears flow for thee I
cherish andst Ohh alone thee may
perish into the seas dark abyss below

**Looketh how the seaweed curls ast
 thy hair that didst in the wind blow
 howeth it didst furl Ohh Hero about
 the face of ♪ it now twines andst doth
 grow along my limbs ast thy hair
 Dearest Hero didst about my neck
 didst climb whenst we in the wind didst
 our lips combine Looketh how its tips
 flash emerald green like thy eyes
 shifting slivers of light that danced o'er
 my face andst brought delight to my soul
 see how the furling green translucent
 ribbons that now bind ♪ like Ohh Hero
 thy arms didst once ♪ enclose that ♪
 weep for thee Hero that thee without me
 be in thy sadness ♪ do weep andst long
 long to hold thee safe to comfort to
 press my lips to thy lips andst to all
 those fears of thee to oppose**

Oh this storm but doth increase its rage
 Andst howl andst blast ast if blown
 fromst the Erinyes breath that seem to
 above the waves to swarm andst to
 make my hart to moan Ohh Dearest
 Leander my fears for thee do not
 decrease for weary be this night andst
 long I for the morn but my ears only
 hear sounds forlorn that do but send
 my thoughts into disarray Ohh Ohh
 Leander Dearest Leander that I willst
 see thee in the bright day be the hopes
 of I Yet affrayed be I for thee for the
 roar of the wind sends my soul to
 dismay andst rends my hart which
 naught doth rescind Ohh Leander I sigh
 for thee lost in the dark dark cold sea
 that I couldst come to thee to cradle
 thee in my arms to kiss away thy fears
 to comfort andst to kiss away thy tears

Sliding down into the depths the
 ears of I do hear the bubbles froth
 andst in their gleams again the eyes
 of thee I hast found that that Ohh
 Hero do I surround andst bringeth
 back those sights of thee that upon
 which I do delight e'en now my
 Sweet Sweet Dearest Hero I see
 the very love that once on I shone
 those bubbles that dance andst swirl
 white light the shimmer of pearl now
 Ohh Ohh Hero they clasp me in
 their foam andst do seem to cradle
 andst cuddle I whilst of thee
 Dearest Hero I wish my love
 couldst thy grief stay andst to
 shield thee fromst any woe ast thee
 doth wait for I ast I sink below

Ohh do I but hear a cry a faint sigh that
drifts upon the wind be it fromst Clotho
Dearest Leander that hear I the weave
that she doth spin that weaves inst the
hart of I my woes my tears that fall my
sighs that groan that doth my fears to
disclose that into despair throw I in this
night the night that doth close around I
Ohh Dearest Leander ast doth the sea
around thee Ohh Dearest Leander that I
thy tremulous hands canst hold andst
stem thy fears that thee not loose thy
hold enclasped that twixt thee andst
me our flesh doth kiss like lips that
doth fromst thy cold flesh the cold
relieve whilst in this storms desolation
pine I for thee within this hart of I
weeps such misery that echos thru the
wind to muff those furies shrieks for
my beloved I long to comfort thee alone
thee with only my kiss upon thy cheeks

**Andst in the deeps that be the bane of
 all my woes fromst the eyes of *I*
 weeps my tears for fromst thee *Hero* *I*
 go andst all my joy fromst those eyes
 do but flow that be the envoy of my
 hart that the darkness of the abyss doth
 swallow whilst about *I* fish do dart
 rings of light that flash to my sight
 swirling slivers of silver purple flicking
 fins gold tips burning bright that upon
 the flesh of *I* do seem to bite Yet do
 seem to kiss *Dearest Hero* ast if those
 ruddy mouths be but thy loving lips that
 enclasped my lips to heat me with thy
 breath *Ohh* that *Dearest Hero* that
 couldst *I* upon thy mouth place my
 mouth andst take into *I* thy sighs thy
 cries of distress andst plant within
 thy hart my hart to dry the tears in thy
 eyes**

Ohh that Ohh do I see that floats o'er
the sea that beauty that Lachesis that
Allotter of lifes span that Ohh Dearest
Leander portions out thy hours andst
limits that life thee hast ran that sight
of she fills I with grief with unchained
thoughts that do race andst give I no
peace for Ohh Leander think I of thee
without my love to embrace 'neath that
sea e'en there my love doth not cease
for all I view is thy mishap andst
imagine thy fears that don't relent
whilst 'neath those waves thy life be
spent where Ohh Leander my arms
cannot reach my lips to thy lips of
which the Gods I beseech in that
darkness parted fromst each to each Yet
the fire of love in my hart burns bright
sparkles thru my eyes red light lit my
tears drip into the sea

To melt to merge with the tears of thee

Ohh Dearest Hero now do I go to
 sleep within these watery depths but
 within my chest this hart this love for
 thee sleepeth not it burns my flesh
 andst fires my eyes that though they
 weep they weep my loss of thee

Dearest Hero my treasure my only only
 pleasure was thee Dearest Ohhh

Dearest Hero so Dearest Love in the
 morrow do think of we andst I what
 hadst we each to each in love andst

Ohh Dearest Hero feast not on sorrow
 but light thy eyes with light that in this
 darkness they be my guide that doth but
 show I the way back to thee so exhale
 my breath that the bubbles it doth grow
 burst upon the surface andst take my
 love to thee with my death andst so

Dearest Love thinking of THEE do
 I take my last breath

Ohh Dearest Leander out of the rage of the
 wind the roaring sound hear I Ohh Ohh
 Dearest Leander around I thy sighs of love
 doth the noise muff as here I stand to hear
 the dirge but Ohh Ohh do hear I thy love
 that kisses the hart of I andst doth thru
 my flesh surge that in my woe doth to the
 eyes of I light to the hart of I set alight
 with loves fires

Thy lips I feel upon my lips

Thru my flesh the heat of thy love doth
 spread

Thy smile feel I upon my cheeks

Thru my flesh flowers bloom that upon thy
 love are bred

Andst I care to place my lips upon thy
 eyes to kiss away the tears of thine Oh
 feel I a sting ast I hear Atropos cut the
 string