

Tell me why must a man be of service  
To his lord and the gods seldom high  
From the grave sprang the name of our fathers  
But there's no glint in a dead man's eye.  
Tell me why are our fields filled with hunger  
And fruitless the crop bitterd soil  
So I say my farewell to a nation  
As the leaf waves goodbye to its sun  
So it's to youth I sing you this story  
And it's of youth I sing it now  
Like the train that derails without warning  
I must leave what I left far behind  
So goodbye my sweet Roisin Dubh  
I say goodbye  
Tell me why must our peace be this puzzle  
That fractures the land splinters war  
The last nail sank the shame on our coffin  
But in the end we must all die alone  
So it's to youth I sing you this story  
And it's of youth I sing it now  
Like the train that derails without warning  
Some must leave what they left far behind  
So goodbye my sweet Roisin Dubh  
I say goodbye  
And the bark fell from tree  
To the ground that now bleeds  
On the anguish that never learnt to shout  
When the clash of the drum will surrender the gun  
And of this sadness we shall no longer speak  
Until tank and bomb are but all forgotten songs  
That's when I and we will sing again  
So goodbye my sweet Roisin Dubh  
Goodbye now until we meet again  
Tell me why must our grief still be grieving  
For a language that never spoke its loss  
But this tongue spit with fire will tear down the barbwire  
And rip the belly from the waxy ghost  
So it's to youth I sing you this story  
And it's of youth I sing it now  
Like the train that derails without warning  
We must leave what We left far behind  
So goodbye my sweet Roisin Dubh  
I say goodbye  
Until we meet again  
She'll rise to beautify  
But slumber now must rest  
O my Roisin Dubh I'll forever love  
The youth you once possessed.