A LADY WALKING

A LADY FAIR IN A GARDEN WALKING, WHEN A WELL-DRESSED GENTLEMAN CAME RIDING BY. HE STEPPED UP TO HER FOR TO VIEW HER AND SAID, "FAIR LADY, WOULD YOU FANCY I?"

"I AM NOT A LADY, BUT A POOR YOUNG MAIDEN, AND A POOR GIRL THE LORD AGREES. THEREFORE, YOUNG MAN, I'VE ANOTHER SWEETHEART, FOR I'M NOT FITTING YOUR SERVING MAID TO BE.

AND OH, KIND SIR, I HAVE A LOVER, THOUGH TIS SEVEN LONG YEARS SINCE I DID HIM SEE. AND IN SEVEN YEARS MORE I WOULD WAIT UPON HIM, AND IF HE LIVES, HE'LL RETURN TO ME."

"PERHAPS YOUR LOVER IS DEAD OF DROWNING, OR SAILING SOMEWHERE ON THE SEA, OR MAYBE HE IS SOME OTHER'S HUSBAND, AND MAY NEVER RETURN TO THEE."

"WELL IF HE'S MARRIED, I WISH HIM HAPPY, AND IF HE'S DEAD, I WISH HIM REST. NO OTHER YOUNG MAN SHALL E'ER ENJOY ME FOR HE'S THE ONE THAT I LOVE THE BEST."

HE PUT HIS HAND ALL IN HIS BOSOM, HIS LILY-WHITE FINGERS, THEY WERE LONG AND SMALL, HE PULLED OUT A RING THAT WAS BROUGHT BETWEEN THEM. WHEN SHE SAW THIS DOWN SHE DID FALL. HE PICKED HER UP AND STOOD BESIDE HER AND HE GAVE HER KISSES MOST TENDERLY, SAYING, "YOU'RE MY DEAR AND I'M YOUR SINGLE SAILOR AND NOW AT LAST I'VE COME HOME TO THEE.

"YES, I'M YOUR TRUE AND YOUR SINGLE SAILOR YOU THOUGHT WAS DROWNED OUT IN THE SEA BUT I'VE PASSED OVER ALL TIMES AND DANGERS AND NOW AT LAST, I'VE COME HOME TO THEE."

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> > SHALOM, from SPIKE and JAMIE