

## Morte D' Arthur (Original version)

King Arthur lay dying, upon the field at Camlann  
In his aid, Sir Lucan died also  
Sir Bedwyr stood alone, of all the hosts of knighthood  
His body sorely wounded, and his heart so full of woe

Said Arthur unto Bedwyr, take up my sword Excalibur  
Go down yonder to the waterside  
And with a mighty arm throw it far across the water  
Return it to the Lady of the Lake, where she abides  
    For the King that once was, shall be King yet again  
    And the Glory of England shall rise  
    For the King that once was, is a King for all time  
    And a Dream that is mighty never dies

But Bedwyr could not bring himself to cast away Excalibur  
And hid it in the rushes by the shore  
"I did as ye commanded, Sire, but all that I did see  
Were the waves a-rippling on the water  
That, and nothing more."

"Oh, Bedwyr, oh Bedwyr, my first and last companion  
Do not betray me now at my life's end  
But do as I command, and cast away my sword.  
I charge you as your liege lord, I ask it as your friend."                      CHORUS

Again could Bedwyr not, and again the King commanded  
And at the last he cast the sword away  
From the waters rose an arm, clad in samite all bejeweled  
It brandished great Excalibur, and sank beneath the waves.

Then gliding cross the lake in a boat with blackened sails  
Came three queens all dressed alike in ebon gowns  
The Queen of Northgalis, and the Queen of the Far Isles  
And Morgaine the King's own sister, the chief in Avalon.                      CHORUS

The queens with great mourning took King Arthur in the boat  
And laid his head upon his sister dear  
"Oh my lord, do not abandon me, alone among my foes,  
Oh my King do not depart this world anon, and leave me here."

"Oh Bedwyr, I go to the Vale of Avalon  
Mayhap to heal my wounds or shrive my soul.  
Keep alive our dream of nobility and knighthood  
Fight for what is right, and keep my kingdom whole.                      CHORUS

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