

The Stolen Child

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Words: William Butler Yeats

For Amethyst Rose

Am A² Am
Where dips the rocky highland
Dm Am
Of Sleuth Wood in the lake,
Am
There lies a leafy island
Em Am
Where flapping herons wake
Am A² Em
The drowsy water-rats;
Dm D² Dm
There we've hid our faery vats,
Am
Full of berries
Em Am A² Em
And of reddest stolen cherries

D5 G D
Come away, O human child!
G D A
To the waters and the wild
D D² D
With a faery, hand in hand,
Am A²
For the world's more full of weeping
Em Am
than you can understand.

Where the wave of moonlight glosses
The dim grey sands with light,
Far off by furthest Rosses
We foot it all the night,
Dm
Weaving olden dances,
Am Em
Mingling hands and mingling glances
Am
Till the moon has taken flight;
Dm
To and fro we leap
Am Em
And chase the frothy bubbles,
Am
While the world is full of troubles
Em Am
And is anxious in its sleep.

Come away, O human child!
To the waters and the wild
With a faery, hand in hand,
For the world's more full of weeping
than you can understand.

Where the wandering water gushes
From the hills above Glen-Car,
In pools among the rushes
That scarce could bathe a star,
Dm
We seek for slumbering trout
Am Em
And whispering in their ears
Am
Give them unquiet dreams;
Dm
Leaning softly out
Am Em
From ferns that drop their tears
Am
Over the young streams.

Come away, O human child!
To the waters and the wild
With a faery, hand in hand,
For the world's more full of weeping
than you can understand.

Am
Away with us he's going,
D² Dm
The solemn-eyed:
Am
He'll hear no more the lowing
Em Am
Of the calves on the warm hillside
Dm
Or the kettle on the hob
Am Em
Sing peace into his breast,
Am
Or see the brown mice bob
Em Am
Round and round the oatmeal-chest.

For he comes, the human child,
To the waters and the wild
With a faery, hand in hand,
From a world more full of weeping
than he can understand.