

Nr11 The Suitors

The bard long debated how to woo and win the daughter
How to lead the bride of beauty fairy maiden of the rainbow
Paints his boat in blue and scarlet sings his ship down gliding
Steers the bark across the water on the blueback of the broad sea
Blacksmiths sister daughter of night and dawn who awakes early in the morning
Stood one morning on the sea shore washing in the foam her dresses
Looking through the clouds of heaven gazing far out on the blue sea
There she sees on the horizon something blue upon the billow

Speaks the maid whither sails you friend of water
Minstrel said I come to catch some seatrout hiding in these reeds and rushes
Do not speak to me in falsehood know I well the time of fishing
How the fisherman disposes how he rigs his fishing vessel
I have come to catch some wild-geese in these extending borders
Know I well a truthful speaker how the hunter rigs his vessel
To the wars my ship is sailing to the bloody fields of battle
Know I well the ship of battle speak no longer fruitless falsehood
Now I make a truthful answer I am sailing to the Northland
There to woo the maid of beauty bring her to my home and kindred

Then graceful maiden left unwashed her linen garments
To the blacksmith`s home and smithy here to found the hero artist
These the words his sister uses do you ever think to marry
Beautiful maiden of the rainbow fairest virgin of the Northland
Haste you then upon your journey to thy wooing in the Northland
Sails another now before you woo and win the maid of beauty

Straight way did the sister bring the finest of his raiment
Bring the softest of his linen brought to him his silken stockings
Brought him shoes of marten-leather brought a vest of sky blue color
Brought him scarlet colored trouser brought a fur coat made of sealskin
Brought for him his magic girdle

Hitch for me a fleet-foot racer hitch him to my sledge of magic
Place six cuckoos on the break board seven bluebirds on the crossbars
Merrily the steed flies onward bluebird singing cuckoos calling
On the seashore looking northward as he glides up on his journey
Travels one day then a second third day he overtakes the minstrel
Let us woo in peace the maiden let her wed the one she chooses
I agree to thy proposal let us woo in peace the maiden
Let the unsuccessful suitor harbor neither wrath or envy

Thus agreeing on the journey each according to his pleasure
Fleety does the steed fly onward swiftly sails minstrels ship of beauty