

# LOREENA MCKENNITT

From the Quinlan Road recording *Elemental*

## **KELLSWATER**

*Words and music traditional, arranged and adapted by Loreena McKennitt*

Here's a health to you bonny Kellswater  
Where you get all the pleasures of life  
Where you get all the fishing and fowling  
And a bonny wee lass for your wife.

Oh it's down where yon waters run muddy  
I'm afraid they will never run clear  
And it's when I begin for to study  
My mind is on him that's not here.

And it's this one and that one may court him  
But if any one gets him but me  
It's early and late I will curse them  
The parting lovely Willy from me.

Oh a father he calls on his daughter  
Two choices I'll give unto thee  
Would you rather see Willie's ship a'sailing  
See him hung like a dog on yonder tree.

Oh father, dear father, I love him  
I can no longer hide it from thee  
Through an acre of fire I would travel  
Along with the lovely Willie to be.

Oh hard was the heartbreak I'm finding  
She took from her full heart's delight  
May the chains of old Ireland come find them  
And softly their pillows at night.

Oh yonder there's a ship on the ocean  
And she does not know which way to steer  
From the east and the west she's a'blowing  
She reminds me of the charms of my dear.

Oh it's yonder my Willie will be coming  
He said he'd be here in the spring  
And it's down by yon green shades I'll meet him  
And among wild roses we'll sing.

For a gold ring he placed on my finger  
Saying love bear this in your mind  
If ever I sail from old Ireland

You'll mind I'll not leave you behind.

Here's a health to you bonny Kellswater  
Where you get all the pleasures of life  
Where you get all the fishing and fowling  
And a bonny wee lass for your wife.

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