

# LOREENA MCKENNITT

From the Quinlan Road recording *The Book Of Secrets*

## SKELLIG

*Words and Music by Loreena McKennitt*

*O light the candle, John  
The daylight has almost gone  
The birds have sung their last  
The bells call all to mass*

Sit here by my side  
For the night is very long  
There's something I must tell  
Before I pass along

I joined the brotherhood  
My books were all to me  
I scribed the words of God  
And much of history

Many a year was I  
Perched out upon the sea  
The waves would wash my tears,  
The wind, my memory

I'd hear the ocean breathe  
Exhale upon the shore  
I knew the tempest's blood  
Its wrath I would endure

And so the years went by  
Within my rocky cell  
With only a mouse or bird  
My friend; I loved them well

And so it came to pass  
I'd come here to Romani  
And many a year it took

Till I arrived here with thee

On dusty roads I walked  
And over mountains high  
Through rivers running deep  
Beneath the endless sky

Beneath these jasmine flowers  
Amidst these cypress trees  
I give you now my books  
And all their mysteries

Now take the hourglass  
And turn it on its head  
For when the sands are still  
'Tis then you'll find me dead

O light the candle, John  
The daylight is almost gone  
The birds have sung their last  
The bells call all to mass

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