

## Yr Arwr

## The Hero

### Yr Eneiniog

Wylo anniddig dwfn fy mlynnyddoedd  
A'm gwewyr glyw-wyd ar lwm greigleoedd  
Canys Merch y Drycinoedd - oeddwyn gynt:  
Criwn ym mawrwynt ac oerni moroedd.  
Dioer wylwn am na welwn fanwylyd,  
Tywysog meibion gwlad desog mebyd,  
Pan nad oedd un penyd hyd - ein dyddiau,  
Ac i'w rhuddem hafau cerddem hefyd.  
Un hwyr pan heliodd niwl i'r panylau  
Rwydi o wead dieithr y duwiau,  
Mi wybum weld y mab mau - yn troi'n rhydd  
O hen fagwyrydd dedwydd ei dadau.  
Y llanc a welwn trwy'r gwyll yn cilio  
I ddeildre hudol werdd Eldorado,  
O'i ôl bu'r coed yn wylo, - a nentydd  
Yn nhawch annedwydd yn ucheneidio.  
Y macwy heulog, paham y ciliodd?  
Ba ryw hud anwel o'm bro a'i denodd?  
Ei oed a'i eiriau dorrodd, - ac o'i drig  
Ddiofal unig efe ddiflannodd.  
A'i rhyw ddawn anwar oedd yn ei enaid?  
Neu ynteu hiraeth am lawntiau euraid?  
O'i ôl mae bro'i anwyliaid - dan wyll trwch  
Heb ei wên a'i degwch pur bendigaid.  
Minnau o'i ôl yng nghymun awelon,  
Troais i gwfert drysi ag afon,  
A churiwyd rhychau oerion - i'm deurudd,  
Is tawch cywilydd a thristwch calon.  
Twrf anniddan y gwynt ar fynyddau,  
A gawr allwynin y wig ar llynnaau,  
Udent ym mhyrth fy nwydau, - oni throes  
Gerddi feinioes yn darth a griddfannau.  
Un nos oer hunais yn sur ewynnau,  
A gwenau aethus y lloergan hithau  
Hyd fy hirwallt fu oriau, - a'r crych pêr  
Yn wylon dyner fel henoed dannau.  
Yno mi gerddais tros drumau gwyrddion  
I bau hir-ddedwydd ym mraich breuddwydion;  
Hiraeth nid oedd yr awron, - canys caid  
Heulwennau euraid a thelynorion.

### The Anointed (The Messiah)

Crying fretfully profound my years  
And my anguish was heard on bare rocky places  
For the daughter of tempests - I was formerly:  
I was crying in the gale and cold of seas.  
By heaven I cried for I saw not my love,  
Prince of men of a sunny country of youth,  
When there was not one tribulation - during our days,  
And to its ruby summers we also walked.  
One evening when mist collected in the hollows  
Strangely woven nets of the gods,  
I knew I saw my own young man - setting out  
From old blessed walls of his fathers.  
I saw the youth retreating through the darkness  
To a magical leaf trace of green Eldorado,  
At his leaving the trees cried, - and streams  
Sighed in an unhappy haze.  
Why did the engaging youth leave?  
What kind of invisible magic attracted him from my locality?  
His tryst and his words not kept, - and from his dwelling  
Uncaring alone he vanished.  
Was it some wild gift that was in his soul?  
Or perhaps a longing for golden lawns?  
With his absence the place of his dear ones is - in thick darkness  
Without his smile and his pure blessed fairness.  
For my part I am in a communion of breezes in his wake,  
I turned to an undergrowth of thorns and a river,  
And cold furrows of pining - were in my cheeks,  
Burdened under a vapour of shame and sadness of heart.  
A miserable thunder of the wind on mountains,  
And a pitiful giant of the forest on lakes,  
Howled in the gates of my passions, - until it turned  
The poems of my life as mist and groans.  
One cold night I slept in acid foams,  
Under poignant smiles of the moonlight  
A lock of my long hair marked the hours as a clock hand, - and the sweet ripple  
of the sea sounded as a tender weeping of aged strings.  
There I walked over green ridges  
To a land long- blissful on an arm of dreams;  
There was no longing now, - for there was found  
Golden sunlights and harpists.

Yn y bau loyw hon roedd teml ysblennydd  
O liwiau breuddwyd a haul boreddydd;  
Ac ar ei rhosliw geyrydd - roedd hwyliau  
O wyn lumannau fel niwl y mynydd.

Oddi fewn gwelwn orsedd o fynor  
Ac arni ogonaid ddi-gryn gynnor;  
Ei lais mwyn fel su y môr, - a'i dalaith  
O wneuthuriad perffaith rhyw hud porffor.  
Yno roedd duwiau cerdd a dyhewyd  
A hoen ac asbri pob ieuanc ysbryd;  
Nid oedd âr annedwydd hyd - y wenfro,  
Ac ni bu yno o'r drwg nai benyd.  
A dull y gwron di-wall a gerais  
Ger allor heulog ar y llawr welais,  
Ac yn ei lyfn ysgawn lais - yr awron  
Hud ag alawon uwch gwybod glywais.  
Cans rhyw dduw â rhin ei fedr dewinol  
I'w ganaid wefus roes egni dwyfol;  
A rhoed lliw disgrair hudol - i'w enaid  
O hafau euraid yr oes anfarwol.  
A rhoed dyhewyd hendre y duwiau  
Yn hud anorfod i'w danllyd nerfau,  
A chrisiant serch yr oesau - fel haen ddrud  
O ryfedd olud ar ei feddyliau.  
Ei law fynoraidd gariai lafn eurad  
A heriai dras pob diras ei doriad,  
Ac ar ei harddaf safiad - gwelwn ddelw  
Un allo farw i ennill ei fwriad.  
Yna rhyw faddon o dân rhyfeddol  
Welid yno trwy olau dewinol;  
Wedi hyn y mab denol - o'i fynwes  
I hwnnw a fwries y duw anfarwol.  
Codwyd y macwy, ac ymhen ennyd  
Doi nodau hudol y down dywedyd:  
Y mab hwn fydd grym y byd, - a'i eiriau  
Yn win y duwiau, yn dân dyhewyd.  
"Gwn y bydd creulon droeon i'w drywydd,  
A du iawn adwyth a byd annedwydd;  
Eithr efe athro a fydd, - yn nysg gel  
Y dyddiau anwel ar oed ddihenydd.  
"Didlawd felyswawd y dwyfol oesau  
Au gloywaf fiwsig lif o'i wefusau;  
Ac yn asur dig nosau - pawb a'i gwêl  
Yn lloer dawel ac yn allur duwiau.  
"Merchyg fel drycin ar flaen y trinoedd,

In this bright country was a splendid temple  
Of colours of a dream and a dawn sun;  
And on its rose coloured ramparts - like sails  
Were ensigns white as the mountain mist.

Inside I saw a marble throne  
And on it exalted one of unintimidating glory;  
His gentle voice like the murmur of the sea, - and his diadem  
Perfectly made like a purple apparition.  
There were gods of music and earnest devotion  
And a gladness and vivacity in every young spirit;  
There was not an unhappy man - throughout the blessed place,  
And there was no evil or its tribulation.  
And the likeness of the faultless hero that I loved  
I saw near a sunny altar on the floor,  
And in his calm mellow voice - now  
I heard enchantment with melodies above knowing.  
For some god with an essence of his wizard ability  
To his songful lip gave a divine energy;  
And a brilliant magical colour - was given to his soul  
Of golden summers of the immortal age.  
And earnest devotion was imparted to the gods' winter dwelling  
As an unfailing charm to their fiery nerves,  
And the love of the ages formed crystals - like a precious stratum  
Deposited richly on their minds.  
His marble hand carried a gold blade  
That challenged all of a graceless sort with its cut,  
And on a most beautiful plinth - I saw a statue  
Of one that may be able to die to gain his purpose.  
Then a kind of baptismal font of wonderful fire  
Was seen there through wizardlike light;  
At his anointing the alluring son - of his love  
To that purpose which the immortal god intended  
Was raised up, and in a moment  
Came charming notes the god saying:  
This young man will be the power of the world, - and his words  
Will be wine of the gods, a resolute fire.  
"I know there will be cruel times in his trail,  
And very black misfortune and an unhappy world;  
But he will be a teacher, - in secret instruction  
To tutor a blind age bent on destruction.  
"He will pour out on the deviant ones the sweet scorn of divine ages  
Brightest honourable music will flow from his lips;  
And in azure of angry nights - all will see him  
In a quiet moon and in chainmail of gods.  
"He shall ride his horse like a tempest at the front of the battles,

A baidd â'i anadl ysgwyd byddinoedd;  
Ei wŷs a chwâl lynghesoedd, - a'i nerth maith  
Ofwya'n oddaith ar wylt fynyddoedd.  
"Geilw ar fywyd o'i benyd a'i boenau  
I fyd didranc yr ieuanc foreau,

Ar oes wen liw rhosynnau - ddaw yn ôl  
Ar li anfarwol ei nwyf a'i eiriau.  
"Er i helynt y gerrynt ei guro,  
A bwrw ei hirnych o'r wybyr arno,  
Ni wêl hwn ddim a'i blino, - canys bydd  
Awen y gwynddydd pellennig ynddo.  
Rhyw ddydd llachar ofwya'r tyrfaoedd;  
I'w oed urddasol 'rôl dadwrdd oesoedd;  
Yna holl wae ei drinoedd - dry'n nerfus  
Gân ar wefus moliannus ganrifioedd.  
Tros wefus ddi-wrid y pyramidiau  
Efe a lefair am ddwyfol hafau;  
Ac o'i lyfn gofgolofnau - efe fydd  
Duu a thywysydd gorymdaith oesau."  
Gwelwn y macwy mwy yn tramwyo  
I'w henwlad irad yn ôl i dario;  
Ond ar hyd Eldorado - llu mwynllais  
Yn dawsio welais, a'r duw'n noswylio.  
Galwyd finnau o 'mreuddwyd mawreddog  
Gan wyntoedd oerfin cethrin ysgythrog;  
A chanai crych ewynog - ar y traeth  
Ogonedd hiraeth fy mron gynddeiriog.

And dare with his breath to shake armies;  
His summons will scatter navies, - and his limitless strength  
Shall visit as a beacon on the wild mountains.  
"He will call life from its tribulation and its pains  
To the deathless world of young mornings,

On a blessed age the colour of roses - he will return  
On the immortal sea of his vigour and his words.  
"Although with trouble the way will buffet him,  
And cast its long affliction from the sky on him,  
This one will see nothing to weary him, - for there will be  
The muse of the blessed distant day in him.  
Some brilliant day the multitudes will yearn for  
His noble era after the uproar of ages;  
Then all the woe of his battles - will turn into a nervous  
Song on a praising lip of centuries.  
Across the unblushing lip of the pyramids  
He shall speak of divine summers;  
And from his sleek monuments - he will be  
A god and guide to a procession of ages."  
We will see more of the youth on the way  
Back to his old green country to tarry;  
But throughout Eldorado - a gentle voiced multitude  
I saw dancing, and the god resting from work at eventide.  
I was called from my majestic dream  
By cold edged winds piercing and scraping;  
And a frothy ripple sang - on the beach  
A glory of longing in my raging breast.

### Y Gŵr Gofidus

Y gŵr mwynllais gerais gynt  
Guriodd o gof i'r gerrynt,  
Ac aeth o gof atgof oed  
Moliangerdd mil o wingoed.  
Rhyw welw rwyg rywelwr oedd  
Ar hyn yn dod o'r trinoedd:  
Nid oedd hud na golud gwyn  
I'w grwm olwg, âr melyn.  
Yn ei wallt roedd chwaon hwyr  
A nos enaid i'w synnwyr.  
A thrwy'r fro oedd yno'n wen  
Gan eira, freugaen oerwen,  
Nid oedd âr na channaid ddyn  
I'w arddel, ledfyw furddyn.  
Lliw drysau llwyd yr oesoedd

### The Sorrowful Man

The gentle voiced man I formerly loved  
Faded from memory on the way,  
And from recollection went a remembrance of an age  
A eulogy of a thousand struggles.  
Some pale and tattered warrior he was  
Then coming from the battles:  
There was no magic or blessed opulence  
To his bowed look, a sallow man.  
In his hair was evening breezes  
And a night of the soul to his consciousness.  
And through the vale that was then white  
With snow, brittle surfaced cold white,  
There was not a hero or a man of purity  
To acknowledge him, a partly alive ruin.  
The colour of grey doors of the ages

Hyd y trwm gardotwr oedd;  
A chan ei dristed, dwedyd  
Bwy oedd nid allai y byd;  
I'w wedd roedd agwedd dreigiau  
Welodd fil o ymladdfâu;  
A thwrf alaeth rhyfeloedd

Yn y chwa o'i amgylch oedd.  
Eithr o'i ing aruthr yng  
A diwyd iaith dwedai o:  
"I'w hoed mewn cyflawn adeg  
Y gelwais bob dyfais deg;  
Ban gawn gynt ar helynt rwydd  
Eurglod goruwch pob arglywydd,  
Trigais yng nghanol golud  
Aneddau aur bonedd hud,  
Ac yn serch pob gwenferch gain  
Lledais fy ngwenlliw adain;  
Tithau a'm bwriaist weithion  
O oedfa rwyg serch dy fron.  
Heddiw 'rwyn dlawd anniddos,  
Yn rhan o wynt chwerw y nos.  
"Daear anghyffwrdd duwiau  
Ac aml bell ddigwmwl bau  
Lle na bu y gwyll yn bod  
Dirialis o'm mebyd erod  
Erwau Valhala'r arwyr  
Ar deg Eldorado wyr.  
"Sgrifennais a welais i  
A phwyntil haul a phaent lili;  
Gwsgais bob traith ag iaith gêl  
Cewri'r pellterau cwrel,  
A byd hardd pob gwybod hen  
Dramwyais i drwym hawen;  
A thrwy fil o athrofâu  
Heliaisia i ti feddyliau;  
Erod pob rhyw wybod ros  
Anwyd om deall dinos.  
Enwau'r sêr au niferoedd  
A'u lliw yn nail fy llên oedd;  
A thrwy drwm a dieithr drais  
Erod pob gwyddor huriais.  
"Fy nerthoedd tymestl oeddynt  
Yn huodl gerdd Handel gynt;  
Cenais drom oerlon hirlef  
Uffern, a hoff eiriau nef,

An encumbrance of a beggar he was;  
And he indicates by his unique sadness,  
That who he was the world couldn't be;  
His countenance was dragon like  
He had seen a thousand battles;  
And a wailing thunder of wars

Was in the gale around him.  
But in his strange anguish there  
With sincere speech he said:  
"To its age in fulness of time  
I called all fair invention;  
I had prominence formerly and life of ease  
A gold reputation above every Lord,  
I dwelt amidst wealth  
Gold dwellings of a magic nobility,  
And in the affection of every fair blessed maiden  
I spread my blessed white wing;  
You cast me away now  
Torn from the bosom of your love.  
Today I am poor comfortless,  
Part of the bitter wind of the night.  
"A godless earth  
And many a far away cloudless country  
Where the darkness never existed  
I settled from my youth for you  
In the heroes' acres of Valhala  
On a fair Eldorado of men.  
"I wrote what I saw  
With pencil of sun and paint of lily;  
I dressed each essay with secret language  
Of the distant coral giants,  
And a lovely world of ancient knowledge  
I travelled through my muse;  
And through a thousand academies  
I gathered thoughts for you;  
For you every kind of rose knowledge  
Was born of my understanding undarkened.  
Names of the stars and their numbers  
And their colour was in the leaves of my literature;  
And despite my violent environment  
I recorded every principle for you  
"My strengths were a tempest  
Eloquent Handel music of former time;  
I sang heavy cold dreary long notes  
Of hell, and favourite words of heaven,

A llawer clir gywir gân  
O hawddfyd dyn a'i riddfan.  
"Mae twrf gwyntoedd cymoedd cau  
Yn hud ar fy nghaniadau,  
A llam hoyw pob lli miwail  
A su dwys isleisiau dail.  
Tithau wrandewaist weithian

With many a clear truthful song  
Of prosperity of man and also his moaning.  
"A thunder of winds in valleys' trough  
Is an enchanting feature in my songs,  
So is a gay leap over every soft stream  
And an intense low voiced hum of leaves.  
You heard at last

Fy angerdd, fy ngherdd, fy nghân;  
A'r tâl mau fu treisiau trwm.  
Eiddig warthrugg a gorthrwm.  
"A'm hewyd fu'n fflam awen  
Mewn llawer i Homer hen;  
Gwisgais bob cân â manaur  
O geyrydd yr hwyrdydd aur;  
Ac yn hedd y nos cawn wau  
Soned o wrid rhosynnau;  
Ac yn honno atgo hen  
Holl hiraeth mîr y lloerwen.  
"Cenais obaith maith fy myd  
A hud ieuanc dyhewyd;  
Yn fy ngherdd roedd angerdd wynt  
Ac arogl mellt y gerrynt.  
Fy awen i, - llef ddofn oedd,  
A'i llais a glywr holl oesoedd;  
A'r wobr fau fu treisiau trwm  
A diarlwy fyd hirlwm.  
"O bu ar lawer i baith  
Firagl afar y gleifwaith,  
Yn ei oddaith a'i weiddi,  
Yn ei dân bum henaid i;  
Ysgydwais ddur Arthur hen  
A chawraidd freichiau Urien;  
Am hoywlafn gwenfflam welwyd  
Is tywyll oer gestyll llwyd:  
Ffoai crin ffeils frenhinedd  
Ar gyfyng hynt rhag fy ngwedd.  
"Rhin claer pob cronicl euriaith  
Yw cyni nghymhelri maith."  
"Bûm yn ddraig pan godai gad  
Aerwyr i'r trinoedd irad;  
A bûm darian i'r gwan gynt  
Ar draeth alaeth a helynt;  
Ac ar fy rhydd gywir fron  
Mae gwaed pob Armagedon  
"Od ymleddais ymgais oedd

My passion, my poetry, my song;  
And my recompense was terrible violence  
Shameful disgrace and oppression.  
"And my zeal was a fiery muse  
In many old Homers;  
I dressed every song with fine gold  
From the ramparts of golden evening;  
And in the peace of night I weaved  
A sonnet of red roses;  
In which verse was an old remembrance  
Of all the longing of the passing moonlight.  
"I sang the extensive hope of my world  
And young wholehearted enchantment;  
In my poetry was the passion of wind  
And a scent of lightning in my way.  
My muse, - Was a deep cry,  
And its voice all the ages hear;  
And my own reward was terrible violence  
And an unfeasting world long bleak.  
"And there was on many a prairie  
A mighty grief of the wounded,  
In its burning and its shouting,  
In its fire was my soul;  
I shook the steel of ancient Arthur  
And the giant arms of Urien;  
My lively blazing blade was seen  
Beneath cold sombre grey castles:  
Trembling kingly ranks fled  
In distress before my presence.  
"Recorded as shining virtue in every gold tongued chronicle  
Is bitter anguished struggle."  
"I was a dragon when conflict arose  
As warriors marched to the battles fresh;  
And I was a shield to the weak  
Beside a sea of grief and trouble;  
Shed for freedom and justice on my breast  
Is blood of every Armageddon  
"Frantically I fought, it was an attempt

Er ennill i ti rinoedd;  
A'th ennill o byrth unig  
Y nos ddofn a'i theyrnas ddig;  
Ac ar y daith hirfaith oed  
Lluniais rhag tywyll henoed  
Hafod wen i'th fywyd di  
O lelog teg a lili  
"Er dy fwyn bu'r crwydrad, ferch,

Trosot bu trinoedd traserch;  
A throsot ti gweddïais  
A haenau llosg yn fy llais.  
Gwyddost, Wen, na fu gennyf  
Un lôn na fawn arno'n hyf.  
Eithr daeth oer fâr i'th gariad  
A niwl o fro anial frad;  
Minnau, fu gynt ym mhenyd,  
Yng nghymhelri'r cewri cyd,  
A chwythaist o'th serch weithion  
Ail ewyn deifl blaen y don.  
Eithr ba waeth, ni fathr y byd  
Actau ieuanc dyhewyd;  
Gwedi cŵyn ac oed cyni,  
I'r hafod wen cariaf di:  
Yno cei fywn unbennes  
Yng ngwlad hardd anneongl des."  
"Ffo, âr crin", ebe finnau,  
"I rwyg fyd yr ogofâu,  
O'th ôl mae maith ddialydd  
O dremyn storm nos a dydd.  
Gwell rhag llaw yw'r glaw ar glog  
I ymhonnwr crwm heiniog;  
Wr di-wawr, o'th garu di  
Amarch fy mro f'ai imi"  
Ynar gŵr brau garw ei bryd  
Giliodd fel cwmwl gwylyd  
Efo'r gwynt cyforiog oedd  
Yn cwyno'n niwl drycinoedd;  
Eithr o'i ôl roedd dieithr hud  
I'r nos amur yn symud.

To win battles for you;  
And to win you from lonely portals  
Of the deep night and its angry kingdom;  
And on my tedious journey  
Against gloom of a long age I built  
A blessed summer dwelling for you  
Of fair lilac and lily  
"For your sake was the wandering, girl,

In your cause were the battles of ardent love;  
And for you I prayed  
With burning strains in my voice.  
You knew, fair maiden, there was not  
One road where I dare not venture for you.  
But there came a cold indignation into your love  
And fog from a treacherous desert place;  
I, was formerly in tribulation,  
In a battle of the assembled giants,  
And you imparted from your love now  
A second foam dancing on the crest the wave.  
But what matter, the world is not able to crush  
Young impassioned actions;  
After grievance and an age of anguish,  
I will carry you to the blessed summer dwelling:  
There you shall have a gentle sovereign mistress  
In a beautiful land of inexplicable warmth."  
"Flee withered man", I tell myself,  
"To a hermit world of caves,  
On your trail is a ceaseless avenger  
An attack of a storm night and day.  
A rain soaked cloak the lowly garb  
Of a bowed anointed pretender;  
A man without a hope, because of loving you  
Often enduring the disrespect of my peers"  
Then the fragile man of rough appearance  
Retreated like a fading cloud  
With the gusting wind he  
Mourned in a fog of tempests;  
But in his wake was a strange magic  
Moving towards the impure night.

### Y Merthyr

Yng nghwm fy ngwyll a nghamwedd - oedais i  
Ogylch doi wynt fy nrygedd  
O ddinas ddu nos ddi-hedd.

### The Martyr

In the valley of my darkness and my iniquity – I tarried  
Amidst a smell of my corruption  
From a city of black night without peace.

Yno daeth rhyw chwerthin du - o lawer  
O greigleoedd pygddu;  
Yntau noswynt yn nesu  
Fal gawr oer neu ddieflig ru.  
Ar hyn trwyr coedydd crinion - heibio death  
Wynebau du creulon,  
A nodau brad nwyd eu bron  
Yn eu mil ffurfiau moelion.  
Yr ymhonnwr crwm yno - a welwn

Mewn hualau'n rhodio;  
Ac olion ing ac wyllo  
Oedd ar ei ddwys ddeurudd o.  
Yn sŵn dig y coedwigodd - a dirmyg  
Yr ystormalus wyntoedd  
Holais ryw fab o'r niwlodd  
Ba oed o wae enbyd oedd.  
"Ar antur fer," ebr yntau, - "y daeth gŵr  
Ar daith gêl o'r deau;  
Heno bydd. cwsy y bedd cau  
Ar ei wynion amrannau  
"Holai am ryw anwylyd - garodd gynt  
Is gwerdd gaer ei febyd;  
Er ei mwyn crwydrai mhenyd  
A duoer boen tlodi'r byd.  
"Dwedai mai caethglud ydoedd - ei fun ef  
Yn niwl du ein tiroedd;  
Ac amu'r wynt y cymoedd,  
Ebr ef, tros ei llwybrau oedd.  
"Er hon cydrhwng ein bryniau - ni ddroedd  
Ddyhirwawd i'r duwiau;  
A bu ofn pan glywai'r bau  
Lef ei ysol wefusau.  
"Ei fun aethus fynnai weithion - o deml  
Oes ddideimlad greulon;  
I'w diroedd di-bryderon,  
I'w wlad deg tros emraid don.  
"Gwaeau tost feiddiodd trosti, - o'i hachos  
Chwenychodd faith dlodi;  
Ei harddwch golloedd erddi  
A'i wrid oll i'w gwared hi.  
"Eithr er drycin a thrinoedd - a chwerwedd  
Carcharau yr oesoedd  
I'w enaid nerth byddinoedd  
A gwayw dân i'w lygaid oedd.  
"I'w neithior tros y moroedd - galwa'i wreng

There came some black laughter - too black  
From pitch-black rocky places;  
A nightwind approaching  
As an ice-age mammoth with a devilish roar.  
At that through the sapless woods - past understanding  
Appeared cruel black faces,  
Their treacherous intentions was the passion of their breast  
In a thousand manifest forms.  
The bowed pretender there - I saw  
  
Walking In fetters;  
And the appearance of anguish and crying  
Were on his intense cheeks.  
In a sound of the forests' anger - and scorn  
Of the stormy winds  
I asked some son of the mists  
What age of pressing woe it was.  
"On a short venture, " says he - "A man came  
On a secret journey from the South;  
Tonight will be a sleep of the grave to close  
His white eyelashes  
"He asked about some dear one - whom he formerly loved  
Beneath the green citadel of his youth;  
For her sake he roamed in tribulation  
And cold black pain of the destitution of the world.  
"He said that he was an exile - his sweetheart  
Now dwells in the black mist of our lands;  
And the striding of the wind of the valleys,  
He said, had blown her from her course.  
"In sojourn in our rugged hills - she cared not  
The straying her false gods mocked;  
But fear would grip the country when it heard  
The shrill cry of the exile's withering lips.  
"The release of his love he demanded now - from a temple  
Of an unfeeling cruel age;  
To escape to his lands without anxieties,  
To his fair country over emerald wave.  
"Bitter woes he endured for her, - for her sake  
He volunteered his prolonged impoverishment;  
His beauty had faded in her eyes  
And of his ruddy glow she had rid her memory.  
"But despite a tempest and battles - and bitterness  
The prisons of the ages  
His soul possessed the strength of armies  
And his eyes were a dart of fire.  
"To his wedding feast across the seas - he called his pale cheeked proletariat

Gwelw rudd y mynyddoedd;  
Ar ei air tyrrai'r tiroedd -  
Rhuthr a chyrch anorthrech oedd.  
"Deffrowyd y breuddwydion - a hunent  
Rhwng ein bryniau llwydion;  
A thorf aruthr o feirwon  
A fywheid gan y llef hon.  
"Gadawent drig y duwiau - tua'r wawr  
Megis trin o ddreigiau:  
O'u hól roedd sŵn dialau

Yn holl byrth y dywell bau.  
"Ar gŵr tros dduoer geyrydd - a orug  
Eu harwain o'u tywydd,  
Drwy chwyldro wen ysblennydd,  
I ryddid oes werdd ei dydd.  
"Yno, ebr ef, cai fanon - ado'i hen  
Anghrediniaeth greulon;  
Duwiau'r hwyr o'i mynwes drôn,  
Eilwaith daw serch i'w chalon.  
"Ond diarbed i'w erbyn - y duwiau  
Duon a godesyn;  
Heno bydd salm y bedd syn  
Yn torri trwy'i wallt hirwyn.  
Yna y llais ddiflannodd, - ar hwyrwynt  
Trwy'r oror drist wylodd;  
A niwl du anaele dodd  
Lwyd dwyni y wlad danodd.  
Eithr yn ddirlgel rhywelais - heibio oer  
Aberoedd du tristlais;  
Ac i'r oed doi'r gŵr wawdais  
Yngo fal hud angof lais.  
Ar ei grog draw yn crogi - yn ei waed  
Gwelwn ef ar drengi;  
A'r awel oer a'i phêr li  
Hyd ei hirwallt yn torri.  
Rhyw aethus lwydwawr weithion - hyd oror  
Y dwyrain diglion  
Dorrai fel ar arch dirion  
Y gŵr gaid ar y grog hon.  
Un ennyd cyn ei huno - dywedodd:  
Diadwyth a drengo  
A dydd ei ddyhewyd o  
I'r awyr yn dwyrelo.  
"Wele, ferch, dyrchafael fydd, - yno tau  
Pob rhyw storm annedwydd;

of the mountains;  
At his word surged the lands -  
A rapid onslaught became unconquerable.  
"The dreams were awakened - that were sleeping  
Between our grey hills;  
And a strange crowd of dead  
Were brought alive by this cry.  
"They left the abode of the gods - moving towards the dawn  
Like a battle array of dragons:  
Behind them was a sound of vengeances

In all the portals of the dark country.  
"And the man over cold black ramparts - acts  
Leads them from their habitation,  
Through a blessed splendid revolution,  
To freedom of a fresh age.  
"There, says he, he would have a queen - who repents her old  
Cruel unbelief;  
And will leave her love of her former gods,  
A second time love for him will come to her heart.  
"But unsparing against the man - the black gods  
rise up;  
This evening a psalm will be sung  
Cut short by the senseless grave."  
Then the voice vanished, - and the evening wind  
Lamented through the sad frontier;  
And a black awful mist covered over  
Grey hillocks of the country below it.  
But mysteriously I journeyed on to war- past cold  
Black sad voiced bays;  
And to that era came the man that I mocked  
There like magic came a forgotten voice.  
On yonder cross hanging - in his blood  
I saw him about to die;  
The cold breeze and it's melodious flow  
Cutting a lock of his long hair.  
A poignant grey dawn now - along the eastern frontier  
Angry legions were breaking forth  
meanwhile gently praying  
The man was found on his cross.  
One moment before his slumber - he said:  
When he dies untainted  
A day he earnestly desired  
To be to the sky lifted up.  
"Behold, girl, an ascension will result, - then will come  
Every type of wretched storm;

Ac i'r oed is y coedydd  
Cariad rhos o'i dranc hir drydd."  
Dy enaid o'r gwyll dynnais ; - oth herwydd  
At ferthyron cerddais;  
Cans hiraeth meddf dy leddf lais  
Drwy gloiau dur a glywais.  
"Pnid gwell ydyw'r poenau - ddaw a gwawr  
Tros brudd geyrydd oesau  
Na dewis breuglod duwiau  
Yn niwl y bell anial bau?  
"Cyn hir fe'n hunir ninnau - ym mhaladr

Y melyn foreau;  
Eisys mae llewych oesau  
Y deyrnas hud ar nesháu."  
Weithion di-fraw y tawodd, - ar wawr oer  
Ar ei wallt chwaraeodd,  
A'i lydain lygaid lwydodd  
Yn y tarth cyfrin a'u todd.  
Yna holais y niwloedd, - a hwythau  
Y creithiog fynyddoedd,  
Ai duw hud mewn oed ydoedd,  
A'i rhyw wyllt ymhonnwr oedd?

While to the tryst beneath the wooded boughs  
From his death love roses will follow."  
I plucked your soul from the darkness; - because of you  
Towards martyrs I walked;  
The delicate longing of your plaintive voice  
I heard through locks of steel.  
"Are not the pains better - that will bring a dawn  
Over joyless ramparts of ages  
Than to choose the fragile praise of gods  
In a mist of the far desert country?  
"Before long we will be sleeping - in a ray of light

Of the golden mornings;  
Already are times of the luminosity  
Of the approach of the magic kingdom."  
Now fearless he became quiet, - and a cold dawn  
Played on his hair,  
And his wide eyes became grey  
In the secret haze that covered them.  
Then I questioned the mists, - and they  
Asked the scarred mountains,  
Was he a magic aged god,  
Or was he some sort of wild pretender?

### Y Dyrchafael

A'r huan megis troell  
O aur pur uwch y mŷr pell,  
Llifodd ias boeth o draserch  
I'm mynwes i o'm hen serch;  
A llais ar ddull eosydd:  
"Wele, ferch, dyrchafael fydd".  
Yna wrth borth traeth y bau  
Gwelwn sidanog hwyliau  
Rhyw long o gwrel, a'i hynt  
O deg orwel di gerrynt;  
Ar ei bron roedd gŵr o bryd  
Rhosiwyn, ag hirwallt dryslyd;  
Ataf ei dremyn ytoedd,  
A fewn i ar ei fin oedd.  
Minnau gan hud a gludwyd  
I'r llong ar y dyfnder llwyd;  
Wedyn awelon gododd,  
A hithau draw ymaith drodd.  
O fôl roedd hen adfeilion  
Yn oer a du ger y don;

### The Ascension

And the sun was like a spinning wheel  
Of pure gold above the far walls,  
A warm shudder of ardent love streamed  
To my bosom from my old love;  
And a voice like a nightingale was heard:  
"Behold, girl, there will be an ascension".  
Yonder by the harbour of the country  
I saw silken sails  
They belonged to some ship of coral, and its course  
Was from a fair pathless horizon;  
At its helm was a man the complexion  
Of a rosebush, with long tangled hair;  
The purpose of his journey was to find me,  
And my name was on his lip.  
I was conveyed by a charm  
To the ship on the grey deep;  
Afterward breezes arose,  
And yonder vessel turned away.  
Behind me I left ancient ruins  
Cold and black by the wave;

Is eu lawnt roedd treisiol wyr,  
A thremyn hen orthrymwyr  
Wanwyd gan y mab gwynwawr  
Yn nydd mellt ei drinoedd mawr;  
Pand yno bu caddug cau  
Ac oed hen y cadwynau?  
O'm blaen bryd hyn ymdaenai  
Y lli mwyn fel mantell Mai;  
Ac uwch y môr porffor pell  
Weithian ar ddiethir draethell  
Roedd cwmwl mawr liw gwawr gêl  
Ceyrydd canrifoedd cwrel.

Cyn hir y llon a diries  
Wrth ryw bau liw tonnau tes;  
A swyn haf glas ei nefoedd  
Dros ei thir fel dryswaith oedd,  
A thremyn teml ddi-semi sud,  
Wele, is coediog olud  
Ac iddi o'r gelli'oedd  
Diri' dorf ar grwydrad oedd.  
Ymlaen tua'r deml yno  
Hyd erwau aur rhoddais dro,  
A phob tlysni ynddi oedd  
Fel yn hafal i nefoedd;  
Ac ar orsedd unwedd haul  
Ym mro hwyr y mîr araul,  
Anwylyd fy mebyd maith  
Welwn mewn harddwch eilwaith;  
Iddo roedd talaih ruddaur  
O hudol sud deilios aur;  
Ac i'r llawr rhag ei fawredd  
Y syrthiais i wrth ei sedd.  
Arglwydd, ebr fenaid, erglyw,  
Dy ras eurad afiad yw;  
Haeddiant i'th fydd ni feddaf,  
Fy lôr, a'm haneisior Naf,  
Canys yn oriau'r cyni  
Gwerthais a bradychais di;  
Ac yn ing drycin angau  
Tybiais ddiwedd dy wedd dau;  
Eithr er craith byw eilwaith wyt,  
Duw ar dud euraid ydwy  
"Eilwaith i 'mron dychweli  
Fel murmur pêr llawer lli;  
Eilwaith 'rwyt ar heolydd

Buried beneath their grassland were violent men,  
And a vision of ancient oppressors  
Pierced by the son of the blessed dawn  
In a day of thunderbolts of his great battles;  
Do not these gloomy hollows form  
Like captive bands their tombs?  
Before me then spread  
The gentle water like a mantle of May;  
And above the purple horizon  
Now on a foreign sand bank  
Was a great cloud the colour of a hidden dawn  
Like ramparts of coral centuries.

Before long the ship docked  
In a country by sun drenched waves;  
And summer magic of its blue heaven  
Intricately overspread its land,  
And a vision of a wonderful temple,  
Was beheld, below a verdant wood  
And to it from the groves  
A numberless crowd was wending.  
Onward toward the temple  
Along golden acres I walked a while,  
Admiring its every elegant feature  
Comparable to heaven;  
And on a throne like the sun  
In a peaceful evening vale,  
Was the love of my youthful days  
Whom I now saw in beauty a second time;  
On his head was a diadem of crimson and gold leaf  
Of a magical sort;  
And to the floor before his majesty  
I fell by his seat.  
Lord, my soul said, please listen,  
Your golden grace is squandered;  
I am not worthy of your world,  
My Lord, and my God,  
For in my hours of adversity  
I sold and betrayed you;  
And in anguish of the tempest of death  
I presumed an end of your prayers;  
But though I wounded you, you live anew,  
You are a God on a golden headed page  
"You will return again to my bosom  
Like a sweet murmur of many seas;  
A second time you appear

Yn fain rhos, yn fynor rhydd;  
Gawr wen im ac a utgorn wyt,  
A rhi gwlad miragl ydwyt;  
Ni ddawr trwy'r byd yr awran  
Ond gwrid teg dy gariad tân."  
Ar hyn fy arglywydd a drodd,  
Ail llif hwyrywynt llefarodd:  
"Yn y ddihedd hendre ddu  
Gwelais dy drist fygylu;  
A gwyliais aethog helynt  
Dy gorff llesg is gormes gynt,  
A'th serch fel tymestl erchyll  
O uthr niwl a chethrin wyll,

A mil o ddu gymylau  
Adwyth ag ing wedi'th gau,  
Mal eiddig yr ymleddais,  
Ac erod, ferch, curiwyd f'ais;  
Rhyw isel gur islaw gwerth  
Hebot f'ai poen fy aberth.  
"Tithau a ddaethost weithion  
I'r wladd o wull emrald hon,  
Lle 'rwyf fi 'r ôl cyni cyd  
Yn dduw pob cain ddyhewyd.  
"I'm gwlad fwyn ddialwynin  
Ni ddaw traus na chwerwedd trin;  
Canys ysbrydion cynnydd  
Elwir i oed fy nheml rydd;  
Yno tanllyd ysbryd wyf  
A thad pob campwaith ydwyf;  
A chyrch llongau'n dyrfâu fil  
O dranc y duoer encil  
I borth llawen dadeni  
Ar amnaid fy enaid i.  
"Pob cân anfarwol ganwyd  
Ar wefus pob nerfus nwyd,  
A brud hen ddiwygwyr bro,  
A'u gwronwaith geir yno,  
A phob gwae cudd ddatguddir  
Yng ngwrid haf di-angred hir.  
"Teyrn i'r bau er angau wyf,  
A'i godidog hud ydwyf;  
Awen ei llên dragwywyd,  
A'i hoesau aur ynof sydd;  
Miliynau'r mellt melynion  
I'r bys mau'n fodrwyau drôn;

Now as a slender rose, you are marble no longer;  
You are a blessed giant to me and a clarion,  
A king of a miracle country;  
Our hour will not come via the world  
But through a fair blush of your love's fire."  
At that my Lord turned,  
A second gust of evening wind spoke:  
"Formerly In the peaceless black winter habitation  
I saw the miserable intimidation you experienced;  
And observed your sore predicament  
Your weak body under oppression,  
And your love of me had become as a hideous tempest  
Of tremendous mist and a horrid darkness,

And a thousand black clouds  
Misfortune and anguish having enclosed you,  
I fiercely fought evil jealous to deliver you,  
And for you, girl, my ribs were emaciated;  
I was brought low by grievous misfortune  
Without you my pain became my sacrifice.  
"You have come now  
To this emerald country,  
Where I dwell after all the adversity  
A God of all desired elegance.  
"To my gentle country without sorrow  
Violence nor bitterness of battle will come;  
For lovers of creativity, culture and civilisation  
Are called as free souls to my temple;  
There I am a fiery spirit  
And father of every exploit ;  
My armament is well stocked  
There is no turning back  
Happy victory is assured  
At my direction.  
"Each immortal song was sung  
On a lip of every nervous passion,  
And a chronicle of societies' revivalists,  
And their heroes' work is found there,  
And every hidden woe is revealed  
In the blush of a long faithful summer.  
"I am king of the country although I am death,  
And I am its splendid magic;  
The muse of its everlasting literature,  
And its golden ages are embodied in me;  
Millions of yellow lightnings  
On my finger turn as rings;

Ac fel duw di-fraw, llawen,  
Adeiniaf fyd y nef wen.  
"Er maith sen Prometheus wyf,  
Awdur pob deffro ydwyf,  
Ar oes well wrth wawrio sydd  
Ar dân o'm bri dihenydd."  
Ar gŵr glew yno'n tewi,  
Nid oedd yn fy enaid i  
Onid wyneb a daniwyd  
Yn nef pob anfarwol nwyd.

And like a fearless happy god  
On wings I fly in the blessed heavenly world.  
"Despite the world's reviling I am Prometheus,  
I am author of all awakening,  
A better age is about to dawn  
On fire from fame of my death."  
The silence of my courageous soul is but transient,  
I will be shown forth by fire  
In every flaming countenance  
In a heaven of all immortal passion.

English Translation by Len Shurey of Caerphilly