

RENARDINE

ONE EVENING AS I RAMBLED TWO MILES ABOVE POMEROY
I MET A FARMER'S DAUGHTER ALL ON THE MOUNTAINS HIGH
I SAID "MY PRETTY FAIR MAID, YOUR BEAUTY SHINES MOST CLEAR
AND UPON THESE LONELY MOUNTAINS, I'M GLAD TO MEET YOU HERE!"

SHE SAID "YOUNG MAN, BE CIVIL, MY COMPANY FORSAKE
FOR IN MY GREAT OPINION, I FEAR YOU ARE A RAKE
AND IF MY PARENTS THEY SHOULD KNOW, MY LIFE THEY WOULD DESTROY
FOR KEEPING OF YOUR COMPANY, UPON THE MOUNTAINS HIGH."

I SAID "MY DEAR, I AM NO RAKE, BUT KNOWN FULL-WELL TO FAME
AND LOOKING FOR CONCEALMENT ALL IN THE JUDGE'S NAME
YOUR BEAUTY HAS ENSNARED ME, I CANNOT PASS YOU BY -
AND WITH MY GUN I'LL GUARD YOU ALL IN THE MOUNTAINS HIGH."

THIS PRETTY LITTLE YOUNG THING, SHE FELL INTO A DAZE
WITH HER EYES AS BRIGHT AS AMBER, ON ME DID FONDLY GAZE
HER CHERRY CHEEKS AND RUBY LIPS, THEY LOST THEIR FORMER DYE
AND THEN SHE FELL INTO MY ARMS ALL ON THE MOUNTAINS HIGH.

I HAD BUT KISSED HER ONCE OR TWICE 'TIL SHE CAME TO AGAIN
SHE MODESTLY THEN ASKED ME: "PRAY SIR, WHAT IS YOUR NAME?"
"IF YOU GO TO YONDER FOREST, MY CASTLE YOU WILL FIND
AND WRIT IN ANCIENT HISTORY, MY NAME IS RENARDINE!"

I SAID "MY PRETTY FAIR MAID, DON'T LET YOUR PARENTS KNOW
FOR IF YOU DO THEY'LL PROVE MY RUIN AND FATAL OVERTHROW
AND IF BY CHANCE YOU LOOK FOR ME, PERHAPS YOU'LL NOT ME FIND
BUT I'LL BE IN MY CASTLE - INQUIRE FOR RENARDINE!"

COME ALL YOU PRETTY FAIR YOUNG MAIDS, A WARNING TAKE BY ME
AND BE SURE YOU SHUN NIGHT WALKING AND REJECT BAD COMPANY
FOR IF YOU DON'T YOU'LL SURELY RUE UNTIL THE DAY YOU DIE
AND BEWARE OF MEETING RENARDINE UPON THE MOUNTAINS HIGH!