The water quietly slipped to the shore
After a rain that none could ignore
With gray skies lingering in the sunset
A cool breeze brushing to rid one's sweat
Of walking about hours for certain
A man so maddened by his hurting
His body dragged by legs too weak
Thinking of a future that has gone too bleak
He stepped from the sand to rocks well placed
Boulders of all sizes in a narrowing space
Until he reached the end of land speared
Where the stones all end and the sky is cleared
He leaned against the hardened earth
And pondered his life and all of its worth

Must I be tortured to a stricken life?
He yelled out loud with certain strife
With hands, he laid upon his head
He only wanted peace when he is dead

What vexes thee, handsome prince? An echoed voice that made him wince

He searched about to where it came To match the voice with a name No form to find standing nearby Nobody to claim with his own eyes

You struggle too much just to be sure By the one, your pain was conjured

He turned to see who spoke again Thinking he has finally gone insane There he peered upon the water That is where he had spotted her Upon a rock placed in the sea

A beauty too fine for it to be
Red hair flowing upon her shoulders
About twenty of age and not much older
No clothes found upon her chest
And none covering but bare breasts
Below the waist her skin forego
But scales and fins were to show
A mermaid has sat there just for him
Surrounded by the sea from where it swims

Your cry brought me forth to surely meet I, a goddess, without two feet

Her sweet smile then fancied the man A beautiful so grand no one can stand

And why do you grasp a sharpened blade? Do you wish to end the life you strayed?

The man stood steady to face her In him, anger and fear had stirred

Beauty like yours that caused my grief
But from a woman that is a thief
She spoke to me with words of kind
And then she sought another to find
She left me a servant to her memory
For I found her proud and cleverly
She just had forgotten all of my efforts
To find a new treasure of her comforts

Her smile left and she clenched her fists For anyone denying such a gift

First, to say, no woman can exist
With my beauty for men to resist
Maybe for you, who feels so much
Simply misses her looks and her touch
She has since left your world
You kept secured and unfurled
She has another and gone away
And lost you are at where you stay

He saddens more with teary eyes
For this maiden is true and surely wise
She speaks as though she always knew
Of his plight, so certain and true

She opens her fists and reaches to him With a lovely hand and sweetly grin

Lay your sword upon the sand And come to me by my hand For I grant thee heavenly solace Only given by a benevolent goddess

He reaches towards her in response
Feeling like a child in Renaissance
He walks to sit there next to her
With feelings, a new that began to stir
Then, his heart felt no more pain
And the hurting so does abstain
She embraces the man unto her breast
He feels her kindness and is blessed
For she took the memory from his mind
For which is her power to be kind
To show him mercy and her grace
She wishes she could to his whole race
Then with a kiss on his lips
Back to the sea, she does slip

Now go forth, my good prince
And find another to convince
Of good and strong your heart can be
And give your love like charity
I have given you another chance
To charm another with your trance
You will forget me soon enough
As soon as I go, you will wake up

The man stirs to hear the sea
Splashed against the rocks it must be
He wondered exactly how he came
To be there standing, all the same
He believed he had lost his way
And did not know what to say
For his heart had been cured
By the sea, he had been assured
He turned and walked away
For it was late and he could not stay
For his home to find his peace
While thinking of hair bright as cerise
He will lie quietly upon his bed
And dream of a beauty of fiery red