

## Och nan Och 's Mi fo Leireadh

Mary McLeod, Harris

**Och nan och 's mi fo lèireadh,**  
Woe of woe, I am in torment  
**Mar a dh' eirich don ghaisgeach**  
About what befell the hero  
**Chan eil sealgair na sìthne,**  
There is no hunter of venison,  
**'N diugh am frìth nam beann casa.**  
Today in the deer forest of the steep mountains.

**Bha mi uair nach do shaoil mi,**  
There was a time when I would not have thought  
**Ged is faoin bhith 'ga agradh,**  
Although it would be foolish to dispute it,  
**Gun rachadh do bhàthadh,**  
That you would be drowned  
**Gu bràth air cuan farsuinn.**  
For ever in the wide ocean.

**Ach bi 'n doineann bha iargalt,**  
But the storm was so violent,  
**Le gaoth 'n iar-thuath 's cruaidh fhrasan**  
With a wind from the north-west and heavy showers  
**Thog i muir 'na mhill dhubh-ghorm**  
It raised a sea in lumps of dark blue  
**'Smuais i 'n iùbhrach 'na sadan**  
And it smashed the ship in pieces

**Lèireadh** – torment;  
**mar** – about; **dh' eirich** – happened, befell;  
**ghaisgeach** – champion, hero, warrior; **sealgair** – hunter; **sìthne** – venison; **'N diugh** – today; **frìth** – deer forest; **beann** – mountains; **casa** – steep;

**uair** – time; **shaoil** – believed, thought;  
**ged** – although; **faoin** – vain, foolish; **agradh** – claim, dispute; **rachadh** – would go; **bhàthadh** – drowned; **bràth** – ever; **cuan** – ocean; **farsuinn** – wide;

**Ach** – but; **doineann** – storm; **iargalt** – turbulent, violent; **gaoth** – wind; **iar-thuath** – north-west; **cruaidh** – hard; **fhrasan** – showers; **Thog** – raised; **muir** – sea; **mhill** – lumps; **dhubh-ghorm** – dark blue; **Smuais** – smashed; **iùbhrach** – ship; **sadan** – dust, small pieces;