

# Bleak House

Anthony Phillips

Say no word  
She watched as she waited  
By the iron gate  
Veiled in black brocade  
Tom was all alone  
She spoke soft but breathless,  
He took the half-a-crown  
And thought how strange

Long ago, she knew a man  
Who sailed the seas  
And gave her a daughter  
Through the vanished years  
Fate bestowed a lady's seat  
She honoured it with grace  
Hid the past and with it me

And now, she is everything to me  
Though I was denied her tenderness  
Years spent in gloom  
I cried in my room  
I believed I'd been quite deserted  
But now that I find  
She gave everything to me  
Until it became quite impossible  
Scorn upon scandal  
Helpless to handle  
She's bitterly breaking now  
Why is my dream disturbed?

Cold cut the wind  
We pitched as we tossed  
From cobblestone to track  
Along the old canal  
Fierce came the frost  
The stone changed to pasture  
Could anyone survive?  
Has anybody seen?

Long ago a fox found out,  
They laid the captain dead at his masthead  
Searching everywhere,  
Questioning the wind and trees  
I beat the empty air,  
Knowing it has seen her face  
And now, I'd give everything to know  
Why my flesh and blood must suffer so  
Turning and tossing  
From river to crossing  
Causing great confusion  
If only she knew she was everything to me,  
Alone now, somewhere, she's imploring me  
Oh, please forgive me  
I've been so thoughtless  
She's bitterly breaking now

For, she is everything to me

Though I denied her tenderness  
Years spent in gloom  
I cried in my room  
I believed I'd been quite deserted  
But now that I find  
She gave everything to me  
Until it became quite impossible  
Scorn upon scandal  
Helpless to handle  
I pray we are not too late...

Bleak rose the towers  
The rain lashed the horses  
We found the gate ajar  
Her cloak lay in a heap  
The captain's furled his sails  
It comes as no surprise  
She's no longer here.