

Lullaby

James Shayfer

Mother, there's a memory
That recently returned to me
You took me to the river
You taught me how to swim
And when my legs grew tired
You sang to me a lullaby
To help me catch my breath
How did it go again?

The moon is new
The water's dark
The sun has died
But I am here
My darling dear
Come sit by mother's side
The stars are black
The air is still
The sky is wide
But I am here
My darling dear
Don't worry, dry your eyes

Mother, it occurred to me
The lesson of this memory
To swim against the current
I never learned to float

Mother, oh this tragedy
My life has made a mess of me
With all this wasted energy
I could've built a boat

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The water's dark
The sun has died
But I am here
My darling dear
Come sit by mother's side
The stars are black
The air is still
The sky is wide
But I am here
My darling dear
Don't worry, dry your eyes

Mother, all my life you taught me
People can't be trusted
And we have to fight to stay alive
We'll always be the enemy

Oh, eye for eye and limb for limb
The blood that I've been swimming in
Oh, mother, I've grown tired of this
Mother, I've grown tired of this

There's beauty and there's empathy
Some people might've cared for me

I hid my heart and stayed inside
Instead of moving with the tide

Oh, mother, I've grown tired of this
Grown tired of this

The moon is new
The water's dark
The sun has died
But I am here
My darling dear
Come sit by mother's side
The stars are black
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My darling dear
Don't worry, dry your eyes