

# Fountain of Salmacis

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From a dense forest of tall dark pinewood  
Mount Ida rises like an island  
Within a hidden cave, nymphs had kept a child  
Hermaphroditus, son of gods, so afraid of their love  
As the dawn creeps up the sky  
The hunter caught sight of a doe  
In desire for conquest  
He found himself within a glade he'd not beheld before

"Where are you, my father? / "Then he could go no further  
Give wisdom to your son" / Now lost, the boy was guided by the sun"

And as his strength began to fail  
He saw a shimmering lake  
A shadow in the dark green depths  
Disturbed the strange tranquility

"The waters are disturbed / "The waters are disturbed  
Some creature has been stirred" / Naiad queen Salmacis has been stirred"

As he rushed to quench his thirst  
A fountain spring appeared before him  
And as his heated breath brushed through the cool mist  
A liquid voice called, "Son of gods, drink from my spring"  
The water tasted strangely sweet  
Behind him the voice called again  
He turned and saw her, in a cloak of mist alone  
And as he gazed, her eyes were filled with the darkness of the lake

'We shall be one / 'She wanted them as one  
We shall be joined as one' / Yet he had no desire to be one'

"Away from me, cold-blooded woman  
Your thirst is not mine"

"Nothing will cause us to part  
Hear me, O Gods!"

Unearthly calm ascended from the sky  
And then their flesh and bones were strangely merged  
Forever to be joined as one

The creature crawled into the lake  
A fading voice was heard:  
"And I beg, yes I beg, that all who touch this spring  
May share my fate"

"We are the one / "The two are now made one  
We are the one" / Demi-god and nymph are now made one"

Both had given everything they had  
A lover's dream had been fulfilled at last  
Forever still beneath the lake