

What shall I bring for thee?
Dear knight, bring back a falcon brown: 35
The Sword went out to sea.

But my Roland, no word he said
When the Sword went out to sea,
But only turn'd away his head;
A quick shriek came from me: 40
Come back, dear lord, to your white maid.
The Sword went out to sea.

The hot sun bit the garden-beds
When the Sword came back from sea:
Beneath an apple-tree our heads 45
Stretched out toward the sea;
Grey gleam'd the thirsty castle-leads,
When the Sword came back from sea.

Lord Robert brought a ruby red,
When the Sword came back from sea: 50
He kissed Alicia on the head:
I am come back to thee;
'Tis time, sweet love, that we were wed,
Now the Sword is back from sea!

Sir Miles he bore a falcon brown, 55
When the Sword came back from sea:
His arms went round tall Ursula's gown:
What joy, O love, but thee?
Let us be wed in the good town,
Now the Sword is back from sea! 60

My heart grew sick, no more afraid,
When the Sword came back from sea:
Upon the deck a tall white maid
Sat on Lord Roland's knee;
His chin was press'd upon her head, 65
When the Sword came back from sea!

1858

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