The Fountain of Salmacis

Genesis

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. Hermaphroditus:

"Where are you, my father?

Give wisdom to your son"

Narrator:

Now lost, the boy was guided by the sun"

"Then he could go no fartherAnd as his strength began to fail

He saw a shimmering lake.

A shadow in the dark green depths

Disturbed the strange tranquility. Salmacis:

"The waters are disturbed

Some creature has been stirred"

Narrator:

"The waters are disturbed

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. Salmacis:

"We shall be one

We shall be joined as one"

Narrator:

"She wanted them as one

Yet he had no desire to be one "Hermaphroditus:

"Away from me cold-blooded woman

Your thirst is not mine "Salmacis:

"Nothing will cause us to part

Hear me, O Gods"Unearthly calm descended 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 "Salmacis:

"We are the one We are the one" Narrator:

"The two are now made 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.

Songwriters

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