

# Rubicon

## Peter Hammill

I lay down beside you : I am a unicorn, you a virginal maid,  
And I come in laughing play

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But, maybe, to be saved.

Peer through the backcloth : I am a character in the play,  
The words I slur are pre-ordained

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We know them anyway.

Don't change your mind, don't be a fickle friend;  
Don't change your mind, don't pretend  
to something false.

Open the toy-box : you are Pandora, I am the World.

If you cross the stream, you never can return;  
If you stay, you'll surely burn.

Don't change your mind, don't come all orchid eyes;  
Don't change your mind, don't disguise the fear  
you feel :

It's real, and you must  
Guard your castle well, for I am the lone wolf,  
and the boar at bay

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Grant me your Pax, you know we only live today,

And on, and on, and into :

"so Long" -- it takes so long to drown;

It takes so very long to choke on the taste you'd spurned.

If you cross the stream you never can return;  
If you stay you'll surely burn.

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