

燈塔

朗斐羅 作

伸展入海裊遙多岩石的海岬，
它的盡頭在幾哩外的遠處，
那裏矗立着雄偉的石碣燈塔，
在夜間是火柱，白晝是雲柱。

儘管在遠處我能觀看海潮，
翻騰，撞着它的根基破碎飛散，
無言的忿怒，升起又復沉消，
顯示蒼白的嘴脣震顫的臉。

當暮色漸暗，看！多麼明亮，
透過那深紫色暮靄的晦暗，
忽然放射出它閃耀的光，
奇異的，非凡的華美光芒顯現。

並非單獨；在每一突出的岬
和危險遍佈暗礁的海洋邊緣，
進入生命黯淡，巨大的形象下，
舉起它的燈超越不息的沖濺。

如同偉大的巨人基道託夫* 站立
在瀕臨着大風暴波濤洶湧，
遠涉外面的沙灘和岩石，
拯救夜暗深壓下水手的生命。

往來的巨舶揚帆外出而又歸巢，
在駭浪巨濤中起伏頓顛，
總是滿有喜樂，當看見燈塔高照，
波浪是他們靜默的歡迎和再見。

他們的帆影從幽暗中衝出，
只在一瞬間瞥見那光焰，
那光將他們急切的臉龐顯露，
注視那碣樓，看時復消失不見。

水手記得當初他們還是孩子，
他處女航時，見它消隱再沉陷；
復歸來，有諸多冒險狂野的經歷，
看它又再升起在海洋的邊緣。

堅定，寧靜，不移動，也不改變，
年復一年，經過所有靜默的晚上
永遠的燃燒着那長久的火焰，
照射着那不能息滅的光！

它見過海洋把根柢緊抱
岩石和海沙親吻着和平；
也見過狂風揚起把它握牢，
舉起又搖撼像一團羊絨。

驚人的海浪跳越它；那暴風
擊打它用所有急雨的刑鞭，
持續的衝激它屹立的身形
在颶風裏它緊裹着巨大的雙肩。

風中的海鳥振翅在它周圍盤旋
不斷的發出鳴叫着孤獨，
裏面的光使它暈眩兼又混亂，
向着那耀眼的光芒衝撞死去。

一個新普羅米修斯被鎖在巨石上，
依然把宙斯的火種握在手裏，
它聽不見呼喊，也不在意搖蕩，
只是向水手歡呼着愛的信息。

“出航！”它說：“雄偉的船，出航！
作成浮動的橋梁連結海洋無垠；
我保持這從不會消滅的光芒，
你把人與人帶得更為接近！”

1848

*基道託夫，即哥倫布(Cristoforo Colombo, 1451-1506)。

The Lighthouse

The rocky ledge runs far into the sea,
And on its outer point, some miles away,
The Lighthouse lifts its massive masonry,
A pillar of fire by night, of cloud by day.

Even at this distance I can see the tides,

Upheaving, break unheard along its base,
A speechless wrath, that rises and subsides
In the white lip and tremor of the face.

And as the evening darkens, lo! how bright,
Through the deep purple of the twilight air,
Beams forth the sudden radiance of its light
With strange, unearthly splendor in the glare!

Not one alone; from each projecting cape
And perilous reef along the ocean's verge,
Starts into life a dim, gigantic shape,
Holding its lantern o'er the restless surge.

Like the great giant Christopher it stands
Upon the brink of the tempestuous wave,
Wading far out among the rocks and sands,
The night-o'ertaken mariner to save.

And the great ships sail outward and return,
Bending and bowing o'er the billowy swells,
And ever joyful, as they see it burn,
They wave their silent welcomes and farewells.

They come forth from the darkness, and their sails
Gleam for a moment only in the blaze,
And eager faces, as the light unveils,
Gaze at the tower, and vanish while they gaze.

The mariner remembers when a child,
On his first voyage, he saw it fade and sink;
And when, returning from adventures wild,
He saw it rise again o'er ocean's brink.

Steadfast, serene, immovable, the same
Year after year, through all the silent night
Burns on forevermore that quenchless flame,
Shines on that inextinguishable light!

It sees the ocean to its bosom clasp
The rocks and sea-sand with the kiss of peace;
It sees the wild winds lift it in their grasp,
And hold it up, and shake it like a fleece.

The startled waves leap over it; the storm
Smites it with all the scourges of the rain,
And steadily against its solid form
Press the great shoulders of the hurricane.

The sea-bird wheeling round it, with the din
Of wings and winds and solitary cries,
Blinded and maddened by the light within,
Dashes himself against the glare, and dies.

A new Prometheus, chained upon the rock,
Still grasping in his hand the fire of Jove,
It does not hear the cry, nor heed the shock,
But hails the mariner with words of love.

"Sail on!" it says, "sail on, ye stately ships!
And with your floating bridge the ocean span;
Be mine to guard this light from all eclipse,
Be yours to bring man nearer unto man!"
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1807 -1882

2000 年秋，偕內子駕車往加拿大賞楓葉。歸途經緬因州伊莉莎白岬(Cape Elizabeth)，並購得一幅燈塔小畫留念。內子郇娟名 Elizabeth。朗斐羅有詩頌揚“燈塔”。當郇娟住世時，對我照顧，指引，對我服事主，忠誠的支持，適與所述的燈塔相同，感謝父神建立安置她在我身邊。此識。

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