

The Collar-bone of a Hare

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Words: William Butler Yeats, from *The Wild Swans at Coole*, 1919

G C D7 G
 Would I could cast a sail on the water
 C* D C G
 Where many a king has gone
 C G Em G
 And many a king's daughter,
 G D7
 And alight at the comely trees and the lawn,
 G C D7 G
 The playing upon pipes and the dancing,
 C* D C G
 And learn that the best thing is
 C* D C G
 To change my loves while dancing
 D7 G
 And pay but a kiss for a kiss.
 G C D7 G
 C* D C G
 C G Em G
 Em D7
 G C D7 Em
 Am D Am Em
 Am D Am Em
 D7 Em

Em Am
 I would find by the edge of that water
 Am G Em
 The collar-bone of a hare
 Em G
 Worn thin by the lapping of water,
 Em D7
 And pierce it through with a gimlet and stare
 Em Am D7 G
 At the old bitter world where they marry in churches,
 C* D7 C G
 And laugh over the untroubled water
 Em D C Em
 At all who marry in churches,
 Am C G
 Through the white thin bone of a hare.

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This used to be one of my favorites back when I was young, lonely, and depressed. I found it tickling the back of my mind as I was working on something else in waltz time with dancing in it. Not sure I really like the setting yet.