

***An CAILIN RUA***  
**(The Red-headed Girl)**

**NACH DOILIGH DOMHSA MO CHAILIN A MHOLADH  
'S NI HE AMHAIN MAR BHI SI RUA  
BHI SI MAR GATH GREINE A DHUL IN EADAN NA GLOINNE  
IS BHI SCEIMH MHNA NA FINNE LE MO CAILIN RUA!**

***THUG ME LIOM I O BHAILE GO BAILE  
O GHEAFTAI DHOIRE IS GO BAILE AN LUAIN  
CHAN FHUIL AON MHILE AR SHIUL ME 'R A FAD SIN  
NACH DTUG ME DEOCH LEANNA DO MO CHAILIN RUA***

**B'FHEARR LIOM I NA BO IS NA BEARRACH  
A BHFUIL DA LOINGHIS A' TARRAINGT CHUN CUAIN  
B'FHEARR LIOM ARIS NA CIOS CLUAIN MAIDNE  
GO MBEINN IS MO CHAILIN IN MBAILE AN LUAIN!**

**CHUIR ME MO CHAILIN GO MARGADH SHLIGIDH  
B'E SIN FEIN AN MARGADH BHI DAOR  
BHI SCILLING AGUS PUNT AR A PHEICE MINE  
NO GO DTUG MISE NA FUINNEADH DO MO CHAILIN RUA -**

**CHUAIGH SI SIAR LE BROGA BREACH' UIRTHI  
RIBINI GLASUAIN TEANNTA 'AR A GRUAIG  
D'EALAIGH SI UAIMSE LE BUACHAILL AN TSIOPA  
'S A RI, NAR DHEAS I MO CHAILIN RUA!**

**(Translation on next page)**

It isn't hard for me to praise my girl  
And not only because she's a red-head:  
She's like a sunbeam reflecting from a glass  
And she resembles the [classical] women of beauty!

Chorus:

I went from town to town  
From Derry's gates to Baile an Luain [?]  
And not even a mile did I walk along that road  
Without giving a drop of ale to my red-headed girl!

I prefer her to cows and ???  
And ships drawing near to the harbors  
I prefer her too to the rent from an east-facing meadow  
If only I were with my red-headed girl in Baile an Luain!

I sent my girl to the market in Sligo  
- That one was the most expensive!  
A shilling and a pound for a peck of meal  
So I gave it to my red-headed girl for kneading

Back she came with fancy shoes on  
Blue ribbons tied in her hair  
She had slipped away from me with the shop-boy  
But begod, my red-headed girl was a fine one!