

The THREE FLOWERS

(Norman Reddin)

ONE TIME WHEN WALKING DOWN A LANE
AS NIGHT WAS DRAWING NIGH
I MET A LASSIE WITH THREE FLOWERS
AND SHE MORE YOUNG THAN I
"SAINT PATRICK BLESS YOU, DEAR," I SAID,
"AND QUICKLY TO ME TELL
THE PLACE THAT YOU DID FIND THOSE FLOWERS
I SEEM TO KNOW SO WELL ..."

SHE TOOK A FLOWER AND KISSED IT ONCE
AND SOFTLY SAID TO ME
"THIS FLOWER I FOUND IN THOMAS STREET,
IN DUBLIN CITY," SAID SHE
"ITS NAME IS ROBERT EMMET,
IT'S THE YOUNGEST FLOWER OF ALL
AND I KEEP IT FRESH BESIDE MY BREAST
THOUGH ALL THE WORLD SHOULD FALL."

SHE TOOK A FLOWER AND KISSED IT TWICE
AND SOFTLY SAID TO ME
"THIS FLOWER COMES FROM THE ANTRIM HILLS
OUTSIDE BELFAST," SAID SHE
"THE NAME I CALL IT IS WOLFE TONE
THE GREATEST FLOWER OF ALL
AND I'LL KEEP IT FRESH BESIDE MY BREAST
THOUGH ALL THE WORLD SHOULD FALL."

SHE TOOK A FLOWER AND KISSED IT THRICE
AND SOFTLY SAID TO ME
"THIS FLOWER COMES FROM THE WICKLOW HILLS
ITS NAME IS DWYER," SAID SHE
"AND EMMET, TONE AND DWYER,
FOR I DO LOVE THEM ALL
I KEEP THEM FRESH BESIDE MY BREAST
THOUGH ALL THE WORLD SHOULD FALL!"