

Bards in the Bog

Chosen by Shetland Library staff and their Reader-in-Residence. Learn more at www.shetland-library.gov.uk

THE HEART OF THE ROSE

After Margaret MacDonald

In this night of darkening calm
I sense you place you wrist to mine
that through the membrane of our skin
your blood's warmth might birth me again.

This is old magic, older love,
heart that fed me before I was,
sounding through your old woman's veins
lullaby to flesh of your flesh.

I am once more your unborn bud,
uncankered yet; newly painted
in gesso thick as our blood-line,
gem-scattered, the heart of the rose.

Anne Welsh

Readers in Residence is developed and administered by Shetland Arts Development Agency and part of Creative Scotland's Creative Futures programme <<http://www.creativescotland.com/investment/creative-futures>>: promoting, connecting and developing Scotland's creative practitioners.

