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Dark Blue River

Mak Dizdar

None can say where it is found We know little but 'tis known

Beyond mountain, beyond valley Beyond seven, beyond eight

And still sadder and still madder Over weary, over bitter

Over hawthorn, over thornbush Over drought and over hindrance

Over dread and over doubt Beyond nine and beyond ten

There below beneath the earth Over yonder beneath the sky

And still deeper and still fiercer Beyond silence, beyond nightfall

Where the roosters do not crow And the horn's voice is unknown

And still sadder and still madder Beyond mind and beyond God

For there is a dark blue river It is broad and it is deep

It is broad one hundred years A thousand summers is its depth

And its length not to be thought Murk and darkness unrelenting

For there is a dark blue river

1

For there is a dark blue river And that river we must cross

Translated by Wayles Browne – © 2007 Wayles Browne

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