

Ode to the Sea

A Sonnet by Jacques de La Mer (Jack McCourt - Jul 2019)

Oh, stormy sea, you inspire me to write,
Of ships at sea, sailing with lofty sails,
Consume my mind all day and through the night,
Standing dogwatch, while steering through rough gales.

I have sailed the seas of fortune and of fate,
Have triumphed with the help of wind and wave,
Yet failed, when nature's rules I violate,
Only by Poseidon's grace am I saved.

The sea, my salty mistress and my love,
A fickle love both stormy and serene,
As I must balance nature's will above,
With seas that shroud me forward, aft, abeam.

My life does amount to all my days at sea,
And I would not trade for all of China's tea.