

At Shade Lake, at Ashen Shore  
Drifted a man alone  
Through countless lands he'd been through  
And soul he had no more

At the shore a shadow waited  
Weathered, old and torn  
The hooks on its silver line it baited  
And fishes for lost souls

"Old man hey, lone shade ho"  
Cried the soulless shell  
"Head my plea, answer my call  
And fish up my old soul"

The shade, it stared, then it rose  
"A special bait I need  
Amongst heart ache and painful loss  
Your soul out to lead

Heed my words, young man, be warned  
The water's no kind place  
Others lost for light still war  
Within its cold embrace"

Ponder did the young man long  
A bait to find correct  
For many things he had in thought  
And hard was to select

"Hair, a red stream, eyes sea-blue

Smile in mystery wrapped  
Are sure to guide my soul through  
Are due to bring my heart back”

Alas, the young man had no clue  
Millions to those did flock  
For his own soul to rise true  
This was but close to naught

And for new bait on the wicked hook  
The lost soul out to guide  
The man did linger in deep thought  
Until he could decide

“Spin the sharing of worlds  
Round the hook’s sharp blade  
Smiles, dreams, tears and kind words  
For my soul not to fade”

Deep down did the sinker go  
‘Neath water and mud  
But still the lost followed the flow  
And drove the sought soul back

“Visage and charm are not enough”  
The man told the shade  
“Only with another heart  
Can my own soul be saved”

And so the shade did drag from Lethe  
A soul that’s those and more

And cast it in the blackened depth  
To bring the lost one forth

True did rise then the lost soul  
Out from water's embrace  
But the bait was forever gone  
Beneath its mirror face

No! The young man in pain cried  
How can this ever be?  
That, though my own soul I hold  
I'm hollow as can be

The shade then smiled, in knowing chuckled  
For it had forever known  
A soul can never exist once touched  
And with the wind was gone

At Shade Lake, at Ashen Shore  
Fishes a man forlorn  
What he seeks in water's lost  
So he baits it with his soul