

## **Road to Madness**

by Brandon M. Dennis

Like the candles of a church  
that flicker in the dusk wind,  
and drain until they sputter out,  
I stand against a raging tide.

I can only bear so much,  
for the waves beat upon my head,  
and soon I will be buried in  
the sands of forgotten men.

Perhaps if one would stand with me  
and be assailed by my waves,  
together we might hold them back  
for just a little longer.

But I can smell it on the wind, forgotten,  
I will be forgotten, nay I am already,  
and the storm is oh, so harsh,  
so harsh.

To die seems sweet, ah! to forget  
and lie back in the sand and let the sea claim me.  
Oh, she wants me, she desires me.  
I guess I'm not that alone.

Devour my flesh she may, but see!  
I am still standing, what?  
Why haven't I fallen? But alas,  
I am not that weak. If only.

A little rest perhaps, but no, no rest, none for me.  
Ha! See, laughter is the cure, I can bear anything as long as I laugh.  
But there are two kinds,  
and mine is full of despair.

Madness comes upon me, but it was either that or death,  
hehe, aye that or death, mmm...  
But no, no! I cannot, must not. Just keep talking,  
tell them all your sorrows and woes, they will pity you.

Nay, I wont. I can endure!  
for mine are no different from anyone else's.  
I won't be weak and bewail my sorrow,

for I have the strength to endure.

Ah, so you think, but look at you! You are wavering.  
The sea is too strong and too cold,  
you cannot prevail.  
Just lie back and let death sweep over you.

Oh, don't tempt me! For this,  
this very moment is that for which I was born,  
and I cannot give up now, no, not ever.  
For if I do, I have failed, and I cannot fail Him.

But you are alone! You will always be alone!  
You cannot endure alone, my dainty, no, not alone.  
And in the end you will fall just like all the others,  
for you are man.

So you say, but you know not what is to come.  
Speak your poisons, but they will not harm me.  
I am still standing, and this moment is all that matters.  
So think what you will. We will see.

Yes my dainty, we will see.