

MURHABALLADEJA

MURDER BALLADS — HEIKKI LATTINEN & KIMMO POHJONEN



SIBARECORDS

KEISARI ALEKSANTERI

sanomakellot soivat
ja pauhaa pasuunat
suruhun vaipuu kansat
miljoonat lukuisat

haltian hovin alle
on murhe vaipunut
rikkaan ja köyhän majaan
murheella täytetty

kirkaasti päivä koitti
kolmastoist maaliskuun
kellot ne somasti soitti
jo kansa kokoontuu

palatsis majesteetin
kerrottiin käyneen
katriina mihailovnan
suuriruhtinattaren

kotia ajaessa
omissa vaunuissaan
oli tulipommein kanssa
murhaajat vastassa

vaunujen alle ensin
tuo pommi paiskattiin
ne tästä halki meni
tuli monta haavoihin

keisari eheänä
vaunuista nousi pois
hän haavoitetuille vielä
apunsa silloin soi

räjähdyks maahan kaato
ken läsnä oli siin
itse majesteetin saatto
kovasti haavoihin

kun savu oli poissa
niin nähtiin kauheaa
verissä makas maassa
keisari korkea

murskaksi menneet jalat
ne oli molemmat
monessa kohdas kanssa
haavat oli kauhiat

hän jalo hallitsija
keisari korkea
miljoonien suojelija
jo vaipuu kuolemaan

keisari armollinen
lempeä luonnoltaan
hän Aleksander toinen
ei enää elossa

nyt Aleksander toinen
tuo nimi suloinen
kätetty kansan poveen
iäti Suomehen

lukuisat armotyönsä
maassamme todistaa
että hän oli isä
rakkahin kaikista



*The bells are ringing out a message,
and the trumpets are blaring.
The people are sinking into sorrow,
millions upon millions of them.*

*Misery has struck deep
into the court of the ruler.
The houses of both rich and poor
are filled with sorrow.*

*The day dawned brightly,
it was the thirteenth of March
and the bells rang sweetly
and the people were all gathered.*

*In the palace it was said
that His Majesty had been on a visit
to Katriina Mikhailovna –
the Grand Duchess.*

*When he was driving home
there were murderers waiting for him
in their own carriage.
They had firebombs ready.*

*First they threw a bomb
under the carriage.
It broke the carriage in two.
Many were wounded then.*

*But the Tsar was unharmed
and got out of the carriage
and even began to help
the people who were wounded.*

*Then another explosion
struck down all at the scene
and His Majesty himself
received a terrible wound.*

*When the smoke had cleared
what a terrible sight it was!
The noble Tsar was lying on the ground
all covered in blood.*

*His legs were broken –
both of them were shattered,
fractured in many places.
His wounds were terrible.*

*The noble ruler,
the Great Tsar
protector of the millions
sank down into death.*

*The gracious Tsar,
so gentle in his nature,
Alexander the Second
is no longer alive.*

*Now Alexander the Second –
the very name is sweet –
is clasped in the bosom of the people
of Finland for ever.*

*His many deeds of mercy
done in our country prove
that he was a father
beloved of us all.*

REKILAULUJA MURHAMIEHISTÄ

enkä minä hurjan luontoni tähden
päättäni alaha paina
iloonen ja irti maasta
meinaan olla aina

no lyökää ny saatanat puukoolla
kun teirän teköö mieli
minä vaan ringissä retkuttelen
vaikka oon näin musta ja pieni

voi kuin se yö oli kauhia
ku juotihin ja tapeltihin
ja pirunmoosella lehemän kiululla
verta vaan kannettihin

on mua lyöty puukoolla
ja rautapuntarilla
seittemän kertaa suolet sylis
olen hyppiny permannolla

kaksi löi helapääpuukoolla
ja kolomas airaksella
eikä sen tarvinnu sen mänty iiskan
kauan sairastella

meltoo-jussin puukkoo oli
tërävä ku nuoli
härsilän martin tallin taa
se ketoolan jukka kuoli

pois on viety hallin janne
laulamasta täältä
kun ei se jaksanu kuunnella
sitä postikellon ääntä

*Also Hallin Janne
has ceased from singing here any more
because he couldn't stand hearing
the bell of the postman.*

*It was on a black hill on the road to Halli
that the postman was killed,
at exactly the same spot
where Janne was shot.*

*He was shot full of holes –
there were twelve rifles that did it –
and all the people who were present
were weeping at the sight.*

*Antti Kangas bought a knife.
He paid a whole crown for it
Then he used it to slice open
the neck of a Swedish-speaking man.*

*Antti Kangas got a knife
that was made of English steel.
It made the blood gush
from the heart of that Swedish-speaker.*

*The Swedish-speaking man lay in a ditch
by the road, praying and yelling.
There were three Finnish lads
and six Swedes.*

*The Swedish-speaker lay by the roadside,
praying and weeping
and a Finnish lad
stabbed the Swedish one under the jaw.*

*Even if I am imprisoned
that's no reason for you grin
because nobody knows which of you
will be calmed down in fetters.*

*Don't be sorrowful mum and dad,
even if your son is jailed
for this son of yours will be safe
only when he's under lock and key.*

*Don't be sorrowful brother and sister
and my own darling.
Your boy will only be in a safe place
only when he's covered with black earth.*

KATRIINA

*Katriina piennä palveli
hovissa kuninkaan
hän tähtein lailla loisteli
toisien seurassa*

*kuningas kultasanoilla
puhutteli Katriinaa
"kuuleppas Katri pienoinen
tule sä minulle"*

*"kuuleppas Katri pienoinen
jos tulet minulle
niin parhaan kultasormukseni
minä annan sinulle"*

*"en huoli sormuksestasi
en huoli ollenkaan
se anna puolisollesi
jos kunniani vaan saan"*

*"kuuleppas Katri pienoinen"
jos tulet minulle
niin parhaan kultakruunun
minä annan sinulle"*

"en huoli kultakruunustas
en huoli ollenkaan
se anna puolisollesi
jos kunniani vaan saan"

"kuuleppas Katri pienoinen
jos tulet minulle
niin puolen valtakuntaani
minä annan sinulle"

"en huoli valtakunnastas
en huoli ollenkaan
se anna puolisollesi
jos kunniani vaan saan"

"kuuleppas Katri pienoinen
jos et tule minulle
niin panen sun piikkitynnöriin
ja annan pyörittää"

"jos paatte piikkitynnöriin
annatte pyörittää
niin taivaan Herra minulle
armonsä lievittää"

Katriina sitten tuomittiin
tuonne piikkitynnöriin
ja koko vahtiväki nyt
sai häntä pyörittää

Katriina uskollisesti
kärsi kaikki vaivansa
yks enkel lens alas taivaasta
joka vapautti vaivoisista



*Katriina was a little servant girl
in the court of the king
she shone like a star
among all the others.*

*The king addressed Katriina
with golden words:
"Listen now, little Katriina,
and come to me now."*

*"Listen little Katriina
if you come to me
I will give to you
my best gold ring!"*

*"I care nothing for your gold ring
care nothing at all,
give it to your wife
if I can only keep my honour."*

*"Listen little Katriina
if you come to me
I will give to you
my best golden crown."*

*"I care nothing for your golden crown,
care nothing at all,
give it to your wife
if I can only keep my honour"*

*"Listen little Katriina
if you come to me
then I will give to you
half of my kingdom."*



*"I care nothing for your kingdom,
care nothing at all,
give it to your wife
if I can only keep my honour."*

*"Listen little Katriina
if you won't come to me
I'll put you in a barrel full of spikes
and start it rolling."*

*"If you put me in a barrel full of spikes
and start it rolling
then the Lord in heaven
will lessen the pain with his mercy."*

*Katriina was then condemned
to go into that barrel full of spikes
and all the men of the king's guard
started to roll her.*

*Katriina steadfastly
suffered all that pain
and an angel flew down from heaven
and released her from the torment.*

MURHA MUSIIKKITALOSSA

*(Konsertissa tapahtuva murha,
konsertissa improvisoitu murhaballadi.)*

Muistatko beibi,
tämä balladi kertoo murhasta,
joka tapahtui, joka tapahtuu,
joka tulee tapahtumaan
tänään ja tässä salissa.

Herättiin aamulla hotellihuoneessa
ja mä sanoin sulle ystävällisesti:
"Hyvää huomenta kultaseni."

Mutta sä vastasit aivan yllättäen:
"Mä en oo enää sun kaa!"
Kuinka sä saatoit sanoa mulle noin!
Mistä olit oppinut noin rahvaanomaista kieltä!

No, kyllähän se päivä, tämä päivä,
oli pakko saada kulumaan.
Mutta sitten lähdettiin Musiikkitalolle,
siellä soitti se maailmankuulu haitarinsoittaja!

Kun tultiin talolle, niin kyllä oli ulkoapäin ruma
ja sisältä sokkeloinen, mutta löydettiin
se konserttisali ja kuudes penkkirivi.

Olihan se oikein mukavaa,
mutta kun se harmaapäinen äijänkappänä
lauloi balladia pettäjänaisesta,
petollisesta pettäjänaisesta,
niin aattelin, että se oli sitte tässä,
se on nyt sitte kerta kaikkiaan tässä.

Ja mä juoksin ovesta ulos ja portaat ylös
ja baaritiskille ja huusin: "Veitsi tänne!"

Ja mä juoksin takasin portaat alas ja
takaisin saliin ja kuudes penkkirivi.

Muistaks sä beibi!
No etähän sä voi sitä muistaa!
Sillä mä pistin sen veitsen sun petolliseen rintaasi,
sun petolliseen rintaasi,
keskiviikkona ensimmäinen helmikuuta
kakstuhatta kakstoista.

tuuli, tuuli se taivutti koivun larvan
ja meri oli lainehissa,
nyt mua vierähän, nyt mua vierähän
linnasta linnahan
kantaen kahlehia, kantaen kahlehia



*(A murder that happened at a concert:
a murder ballad improvised at a concert.)*

*Just remember babe –
this ballad tells of a murder
that happened, is happening,
is going to happen
today, and in this hall.*

*We woke up in the hotel room in the morning
and I spoke to you in a friendly way:
"Good morning my love."*

*But you answered completely out of the blue:
"Fuck off, we're not an item any more!"
How could you speak to me like that!
Where did you learn such a coarse way of speaking!*

*Well, this day, that day
was something we had to get through.
But then we left for the Music House
where the world-famous accordion player was going
to perform.*

*When we came to the house, well from outside
it was ugly, and inside labyrinth,
but we found the concert and the hall, the sixth row.*

*And it was really nice to be there
but when that little grey-haired fellow*

*started to sing a ballad about a cheating woman,
about a cheating woman,
then I thought this is it,
this is it for once and for all.*

*And I ran out of the door and up the stairs
and to the bar and yelled: "Give me a knife!"*

*And I ran back down the stairs and
back to the hall and to the sixth row.*

*Remember babe!
Well actually you can't remember!
For I stuck that knife into your cheating heart,
your cheating heart,
on Wednesday the first of February
in the year two thousand and twelve.*

*The wind, the wind was bending the tops of the birches.
and there were waves out on the sea.
Now I'm being taken, now I'm being taken
from one jail to another
wearing my shackles, wearing my shackles.*

ITKUVIRSI SODISSA KAATUNEILLE

miks sie heitteljt miun aniarmottomaks,
tukiturvattomaks
miks sie jätteljt miun niille ikuikäväisille,
niille ikuikäväisille

milläs mie suuttelin sen
suloisen suuren luojaisen
milläs mie vihasuttelin sen
ylhäisen yhen jumalaisen
kun hän heitteli miun tukiturvattomaks,
aniarmottomaks
kun hän jätteli miun niille ikuikäväisille

*His uncle's only daughter
beautiful as a flower on the meadow –
Kerttu was her name
and her age was seventeen.*

*And in the hearts of the young people
love started to burn
so that they pledged union
and their hearts became one.*

*It was a lovely day
when on the banks of the River Elbe
Kaarlo and Kerttu walked
and dreamed of happiness.*

*That day was truly
so festive
when Kaarlo was able to place
a gold ring on Kerttu's finger.*

*They swore a solemn vow
in the name of holy heaven
so that nothing would separate them,
not life, not death.*

*Thus Kaarlo said to Kerttu
to the innocent maiden
"Oh my own Kerttu
my destiny, my happiness"*

*"I want to love you,
to have you for ever
the River Elbe confirms my vow,
the stars of heaven bear witness."*

*Off went Kaarlo, far away,
and went about his studies
but Kerttu sighed alone
and longed for her Kaarlo.*

*But Kaarlo had completely
forgotten his vow already,
no letter came from him now
no word to Kerttu at all.*

*Now Kerttu's grief was made even worse
when her father said:
"You have a new fiancé
a young and joyful boy."*

*Because she was shy by nature
she could not resist
and a new union was pledged
but still the maiden missed the old one.*

*It was the day before the wedding
when on the banks of the Elbe
Kerttu sighed once again
and longed for her Kaarlo.*

*"Oh how could I ever be a betrayer:
even if a friend should leave me –
he is the one I want to have
not in life but death."*

*And she also saw that linden tree
and remembered how in its shade
she had sat down with Kaarlo
and pledged holy union.*

*and she came near to fainting
when she remembered her vow
"Oh how should I wed another
when I promised myself to Kaarlo?"*

*And Kerttu walked in the park
and stepped on a bridge there
and from that bridge she jumped into the river
and then the waves buried the maiden.*

*So Kerttu ended her days,
thus she spent her wedding day
It was Kaarlo's falseness that caused it.
The wicked slyness of his heart.*

*When Kaarlo came back at last
he saw Kerttu, dead,
but he didn't care
since his heart was so cold.*

*It didn't move him at all,
for his heart was made of stone.
He set out to seek his own pleasures
and to live his life wantonly.*

*It was again a lovely evening
when Kaarlo was walking the streets
thinking of places of joy
and his amusing companions.*

*Astonishment overcame Kaarlo
when on his neck he noticed
just these cold arms
with hands crossed over his chest.*

*He saw also the ring
that he had once given to Kerttu.
Oh the terrible hardness of revenge!
Oh Kerttu's faithfulness!*

*These hands hugged Kaarlo
several more times.
It was in a certain dancing hall
that they strangled their victim.*

*Now I end my song
and what's more I warn all of you:
don't deceive anyone
or leave them to be overcome by sorrow.*

Kansikuva

Eteläpohjalaisten rekilaulujen murhamiessankarit Antti Rannanjärvi (1828–1882) ja Antti Isotalo (1831–1911). Laulun mukaan "Isoo-Antin raurat painoo sataneljä naulaa" eli peräti kuusikymmentä kiloa. Valokuvan on ottanut keväällä 1869 vaasalainen ateljeekuvaaja Julia Widgren (1842–1917). (Pohjanmaan museon arkisto, Vaasa.)

Cover photo

The murder-heroes of the 'reki songs' from Southern Ostrobothnia, Antti Rannanjärvi (1828–1882) and Antti Isotalo (1831–1911). According to the song, "the fetters of Big-Antti weighed 104 pounds" or as much as 60 kilos. The photo was taken in the spring of 1869 by the portrait photographer Julia Widgren (1842–1917), who lived in Vaasa. (Archive of the Ostrobothnia Museum, Vaasa.)

Murhaballadeja (SACD-1010)

Heikki Laitinen & Kimmo Pohjonen

Äänitetty 1.2.2012 Musiikkitalon Sonore-salissa Sibafest-festivaalin konsertissa.

Live-miksaus: Hessu Iso-Ahola

Äänitys: Marko Myöhänen, Heikki Savolainen

Miksaus: HSS Production / Heikki Savolainen

Masterointi & SACD-authorointi: DER Digital Editing Room / Janne Malén

Valokuvat: Tuomo Manninen

Kannet: Tiina Laino

Käännökset: Donald Adamson

SibaRecords-tuottaja: Joni Käenmäki

Murder Ballads (SACD-1010)

Heikki Laitinen, vocals, & Kimmo Pohjonen, accordion

Recorded 1st of February 2012 in the Sonore Hall of Helsinki Music Centre, during Sibelius Academy's winter festival Sibafest.

Live mixing: Hessu Iso-Ahola

Recording: Marko Myöhänen, Heikki Savolainen

Editing: HSS Production / Heikki Savolainen

Mastering & SACD authoring: DER Digital Editing Room / Janne Malén

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