



# Bealtainski svetilniki

*Seamus Heaney*



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*Seamus Heaney*  
The Estate of Seamus Heaney

 LITERATURE  
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Seamus Heaney (1939-2013) je bil irski pesnik, prevajalec, učitelj in kritik. Eden najslavnejših pisateljev svoje generacije je izdal 12 pesniških zbirk. Seamus Heaney je leta 1995 prejel Nobelovo nagrado za književnost.

Pesem 'Bealtainski svetilniki' je bila spisana po naročilu Vlade Irske, v obeležitev Dneva dobrodošlic v Dublinu 1. maja 2004 ob praznovanju pristopa desetih novih držav članic k Evropski uniji.

Ob dvajseti obletnici tega zgodovinskega dne je bila pesem prevedena in objavljena v nacionalnih jezikih teh desetih držav.

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File, aistritheoir, múinteoir agus léirmheastóir Éireannach ab ea Seamus Heaney (1939-2013). Duine de na scríbhneoirí ba chhlúití dá ghlúin ab ea é, a d'fhoilsigh 12 chnuasach filíochta. Bronnadh Duais Nobel na Litríochta ar Seamus Heaney sa bhliain 1995.

Choimisiúnaigh Rialtas na hÉireann 'Beacons at Bealtaine' don Lá speisialta Fáilte i mBaile Átha Cliath ar an 1 Bealtaine 2004, nuair a ceiliúradh aontachas deich mBallstát nua leis an Aontas Eorpach.

Mar cheiliúradh fiche bliain an lae stairiúil sin, tá an dán aistrithe agus foilsithe i dteangacha náisiúnta na ndeich stát.

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Seamus Heaney (1939-2013) was an Irish poet, translator, teacher and critic. One of the most celebrated writers of his generation, he published 13 collections of poetry and was awarded the 1995 Nobel Prize in Literature.

'Beacons at Bealtaine' was commissioned by the Government of Ireland for the Day of Welcomes in Dublin on 1st May 2004, celebrating the accession of ten new Member States to the European Union.

To mark the twentieth anniversary of this historic day, the poem has been translated and published in the national languages of the ten states.



## Bealtainski svetilniki

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V keltskem koledarju, ki je svojčas uravnaval letne čase v mnogih predelih Evrope, je bil prvi maj, poznan v irščini kot *bealtaine*, praznik svetlega ognja in prvi praznik poletja, eden od štirih kvatrnih dni v letu. V zgodnji irski Knjigi vdorov (*Leabhar Gabhála*) beremo, da so na praznik bealtaine prišli v deželo njeni prvi magični prebivalci, *Tuatha Dé Danaan*, v besedilu iz devetega stoletja pa izvemo, da so tega dne druidi gnali zbrane črede na pašo med dvema kresovoma. Zato je spodbudno, da se stari evropski narodi vnovič zbirajo prav na dan mitološkega prihoda na Irsko, še spodbudneje pa je, da to priložnost slavimo v parku z imenom mitičnega ptiča, ki pooseblja možnost nenehnega pomlajevanja. Toda nekateri trdijo, da ime Phoenix Park, Feniksov park, izvira iz irskih besed fionn uisce, “bistra voda”, in ta naključna podobnost v zvenu je navdihnila mojo pesem. Pesnik Horacij bi jo nemara označil kot *carmen saeculare*, pesem, ki pozdravlja in slavi zgodovinski preobrat v neki dobi, *saeculum*.

*Prevedla Nada Grošelj*

## Bealtainski svetilniki

Phoenix Park, 1. maj 2004

*Uisce*: voda. *Fionn*: ki se bistri. Vendar je gelska voda grška, izveš. Na *uisce fionn* tu feniks vzplameni.

Tujci so Grkom *bárbaroi* bili. Potomci vseh, ki niso še besed jezika znali, žlobudračev – ti

naj meje odpro z jezičnimi darmi in najdejo odmev, ki ga žele, kot v feniksu odmeva *uisce fionn*.

Za prvi maj zagorel je vsak hrib, ko prvi čolni so dosegli breg v prej tujih, a brž jasnih *uisce fionn*;

tako naj, ko prispejo prišleki, bo to vrnitev, in naj zazvene ne-tuji zvoki, kot nam pristoji,

zganite usta, um, naj sveža vest vzplamti kot nekdej med svetilniki do severnega morja; naj žaré kot zublji feniksa na *uisce fionn*.

## Beacons at Bealtaine

*by Seamus Heaney*

In the Celtic calendar that once regulated the seasons in many parts of Europe, May Day, known in Irish as *Bealtaine*, was the feast of bright fire, the first of summer, one of the four great quarter days of the year. The early Irish *Leabhar Gabhála* (*The Book of Invasions*), tells us that the first magical inhabitants of the country, the *Tuatha Dé Danaan*, arrived on the feast of Bealtaine, and a ninth century text indicates that on the same day the druids drove flocks out to pasture between two bonfires. So there is something auspicious about the fact that a new flocking together of the old European nations happens on this day of mythic arrival in Ireland; and it is even more auspicious that we celebrate it in a park named after the mythic bird that represents the possibility of ongoing renewal. But there are those who say that the name Phoenix Park is derived from the Irish words, *fionn uisce*, meaning “clear water” and that coincidence of language gave me the idea for this poem. It’s what the poet Horace might have called a *carmen saeculare*, a poem to salute and celebrate an historic turn in the *saeculum*, the age.

*Slovenian translation by Nada Grošelj*

## Beacons at Bealtaine

Phoenix Park, May Day, 2004

*Uisce*: Water. And *fionn*: the water’s clear. But dip and find this Gaelic water Greek: A phoenix flames upon *fionn uisce* here.

Strangers were barbaroi to the Greek ear. Now let the heirs of all who could not speak The language, whose ba-babbling was unclear,

Come with their gift of tongues past each frontier And find the answering voices that they seek As *fionn* and *uisce* answer phoenix here.

The May Day hills were burning, far and near, When our land’s first footers beached boats in the creek In *uisce, fionn*, strange words that soon grew clear;

So on a day when newcomers appear Let it be a homecoming and let us speak The unstrange word, as behoves us here,

Move lips, move minds, make new meanings flare Like ancient beacons signalling, peak to peak, From middle sea to north sea, shining clear As phoenix flames upon *fionn uisce* here.