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Hector, My Boy

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Hector, My Boy

Mia Skaliotis

My dear young boy, only the gods and the winds can hear my cries
On my tongue lie unsaid goodbyes
In a world so harsh, fifty sons no longer here
In a fate so cruel, my fifty first no longer near
In these barren Trojan walls your voice I wish I could hear

My dear young boy, you truly were the bravest of the brave
For your own country your life you gave
Your child will hear of your bravery
For only a brave man would leave his child alone
To go and defend his family's home

My dear young boy, you have fought bravely for me
You may rest now in eternal sleep
Two coins for the boatman I give to thee
A bath of fire to set you free
No one saw the tears in these eyes of old, but groaning where I sat
I felt pain and grief a thousandfold

Allison Klein. *A Little Romance*.
(at left). Digital photograph