

# Two Emerald Cities

Two sisters twirl to a mandolin round  
with golden daisies sewn into braids.  
Bright eyes candescent in bonfire's glow  
flickering brilliant as embers cascade.

Two sisters parted by five thousand miles  
mountains bound Dublin, the seaside by Bray.  
An Irish moon waxes o'er California  
brought close together on St. Patrick's Day.

*Two emerald cities  
share friendship's delight.  
Two emerald cities  
as fires ignite.*

Sisters will gather for céilí dances  
hair set in curls, richly stitched dresses.  
Their synchronized hornpipes, slip-jigs, and reels  
perfectly practiced, always impressive.

Or up sharp at dawn to wait by the curb  
for crisp-marching Gaels and floats row-on-row  
Newborns in strollers, grandparents in pairs  
children rejoicing with siblings in tow

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The sisters sprint with a treasure hunt map  
searching for clues on the festival grounds.  
Nearby are lovers embracing in twirls  
as barkeeps form clovers in foamy rounds.

As daylight rests with evensong rising  
sisters together, approaching midnight.  
Then "Oh Danny Boy, the pipes are calling"  
sung by the sparkle of firefly light.

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Celebrating the Sister Cities of Bray, IE and Dublin, CA, US  
for the City of Dublin St. Patricks Day Celebration, 2024.