

C Fever, Tim Davis (2010)

I must go code in both C and M, not only C and VI,
And all I ask is a Linux box and a mouse to steer her by,
And the `while`'s break and the `if then` and the `valgrind`'s shaking,
And a dash 0 so the C's fast and a `switch case` break-ing.

I must go code in both C and M, for the call of recursive code
Is a wild call and a clear call that never will be slowed;
And all I ask is a latte (tall, with the white foam frothing),
And no flung err and no blown stack, while the C goes flying.

I must go code in both C and M, to the lonely code frontier,
Where no `goto`'s in the `while`'s way, where the logic is sharp and clear;
And all I ask is a `#define` from a fellow C-programmer,
And quiet `lint` and a clean doc in the \LaTeX grammar.

Sea Fever, John Masefield (1902)

*I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by,
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,
And a grey mist on the sea's face and a grey dawn breaking.*

*I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.*

*I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife;
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.*

A computer scientist's translation of Masefield's Sea Fever. Notes: C and M are programming languages. `#define` is pronounced "pound define." `Valgrind` rhymes with "grinned." VI is an acronym. \LaTeX is pronounced like "la tech." It is a document preparation system preferred by computer scientists and mathematicians for its elegant typesetting of mathematical equations. This document is in \LaTeX .