



'Lilli Marlene' was originally composed by Norbert Schultze of Germany with the original German words penned by Hans Leip. Although the song is German in origin, it was quickly picked up by British soldiers who heard the song being sung by German prisoners. The song quickly became popular and English lyrics were apparently commissioned by the British Government to prevent any hint of sympathy for the enemy that the song in German might generate. The English lyrics were written by Tommie Connor.

Lyrics:

Underneath the lantern by the barrack gate, Darling I remember the way you used to wait; 'Twas there that you whispered tenderly, That you loved me, yould always be, My Lilli of the lamplight, My own Lilli Marlene.

Time would come for roll call, time for us to part. Darling I'd caress you and press you to my heart And there 'neath that far off lantern light, I'd hold you tight, we'd kiss "Good-night", My Lilli of the lamplight, My own Lilli Marlene.

Orders came for sailing somewhere over there,
All confined to barracks was more than I could bear;
I knew you were waiting in the street,
I heard your feet, But could not meet,
My Lilli of the lamplight,
My own Lilli Marlene.

Resting in a billet just behind the line, Even tho' we're parted your lips are close to mine; You wait where that lantern softley gleams, Your sweet face seems to haunt my dreams, My Lilli of the lamplight, My own Lilli Marlene.