

a-shiver

(poetic)

Shivering; shaking slightly with cold. The little a- at the front is an old poetic form, as in a-shiver and a-top.

“Sunset blew its finest raspberry at the Earth, for below was winter snow, ice and a-shiver.”

a-top

(poetic)

On top of something. The little a- at the front is an old poetic form of on, as in a-top and a-shiver.

“Hot chocolate steamed hot, marshmallow pillows bobbing a-top.”

anon

(archaic)

Soon; in a little while.

*“Anon, a throng of rebel rays washes in,
cool-conspiring to warm the frost-bit skin,
to call back halcyon days and heroic ways,
to wake the world to a rescuer’s returned
gaze.”*

behold

(literary)

To look at something and see it.

*“My sight they did fill with more beauty
than any mortal heart can dream, than any
mortal heart has a right to behold.”*

bid

(literary)

To ask or tell someone to do something.

*“Owl, mouse and moth loved her so, and
bid her ne’er to go, yet to stay all the night
full-bright unbowed in her plight to keep
all safe and sound.”*

bounty

(literary)

A large and generous supply of something, especially from nature.

“Autumn's bounty below curls as white moss, yet my childish spirit sees a host of blonde hedgehogs.”

carolled

(literary)

Sang or said something in a happy, cheerful way. Spelt caroled in the US.

“Sunset blew its finest raspberry at the Earth, for below was winter snow, ice and a-shiver. Yet even as it carolled its comfort from above, it secretly created the sky-scape with love.”

ether

(literary)

The sky, or the clear air high above.

“Rain blossomed from the ether as desert flowers to quenched sand, appearing independent of both clouds and gravity.”

faeries

(archaic or poetic)

Fairies: imaginary little beings with magical powers.

*“Hearth fires roared. Music elevated.
Souls found the merriest season's salvation.
Secluded sanctuary. Smiles as gentle
faeries.”*

halcyon

(literary)

Peaceful and happy. Halcyon days are calm, golden days, often remembered from the past.

“Within a howl of operatic range it spoke of its stormy rage. It desired to delete the halcyon days, to deny winter any claim of beauty, any stake in the concept of a wonderland.”

languid

(literary)

Slow, relaxed and without much energy.

*“The wind flows as languid ice-water,
silently deafening as numbness sets deep.”*

marram

(dialect)

A tough grass that grows on sandy shores and holds the sand dunes together.

“The marram grass blanches as salt wind is stuck on repeat.”

morrow

(archaic)

The next day.

*“Come the morrow’s shine it was
mountain-heather gay.”*

ne'er

(poetic)

Never.

“To such bright renegades, black is but the best canvas, a place to create art in light, to declare that they will ne'er surrender the gift of empathic sight.”

nought

(literary)

Nothing.

“Whence otherwise the world could vanish into the grip of night, whence the light failed and withered to nought, she stayed in post and abandoned it not.”

slumbers

(literary)

Periods of sleep.

“For both sights and aromas it was a blank canvas I suppose, one that invited the imagination to bring its easel and stand, to awaken creativity from its pensive slumbers.”

‘twas

(poetic)

It was.

*“A buttermilk eye ‘twas patient aloft in
bonhomie with cosiest clouds,
steel-magnolia clouds that came as
comforters in her long vigil.”*

wending

(archaic)

Going along, slowly and on a winding way.

Wending your way is travelling along a course.

*“Again my eyes follow the rolling dunes,
grooves on a landscape as a wending
fingerprint.”*

whence

(archaic)

From which place; from where.

“From whence it had come, I failed to fathom.”

Woe

(literary)

Great sadness or sorrow.

“Woe was there in the feeble light.”