

## **The Hairdresser in Espoo (Espoon Kampaaja)**

In the island town of Tornio, where Lapland meets the sea  
A light began to flicker in the year of seventy-three  
Tarja found the gospel there, right next to Sweden's line  
A seed was planted in her heart, destined to entwine  
Through fifty years of faith and love, the family legacy grew  
As missionaries left their homes to start their lives anew

It's a story of a friend who found the light  
Not in a moment, but through a long and steady fight  
From Tornio to Espoo, where the southern breezes blow  
The spirit moves in whispers, patient and slow

For six and twenty winters, through the Finnish cold and grey  
Tarja visited the same shop, every six weeks to the day  
While the scissors trimmed her hair, they spoke of visions bright  
Of apostasy and restoration, and the coming of the light  
The hairdresser would listen, with questions in her mind  
Wishing for the same conviction Tarja seemed to find

"You know, they say time in Finland moves differently when you're waiting for the spring.  
For twenty-six years, those conversations continued.  
No pressure, just friendship and truth.  
And then one day, after all those seasons, the hairdresser looked at her and said simply:  
"I am ready.  
Thank you for your patience with me.  
Twenty-six years of talking... and now, finally, I am ready.""

Tarja felt the joy that day she'd known so long ago  
When she first accepted truth in the northern winter snow  
The Wade mission didn't end when the two-year call was through  
It lives in every conversation, in everything we do  
We are instruments of Heaven, though the work we may not see  
Until we meet again in a brighter day's decree

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In the quiet of a salon... the light was found  
On holy, Finnish ground.  
Heavenly Father's work goes on . . . Until the brighter day.