

*Translated by Lelio*

As the story goes in the meadows below Rossi's shelter in the mountain, a shepherd and a young shepherdess used to take their flocks to feed in the close by pastures. A deep love grew between them, troubled only by the dreams of the young man made restless by his decision not to spend the rest of his life on those mountains.

He stared with mounting longing at the sea shimmering in the distance and finally one day, throwing his doubts to the wind, he left.

The young shepherdess was lost without him; she spent most of her time crying while gazing toward the sea in the horizon, hoping to glimpse her love return to her. Time went by and another shepherd, named " Baldo" moved in the area and immediately fell madly in love with the very beautiful maiden, but she, however, never returned his affection, still saddened by the memory of her lost love. Baldo would have done anything to help her forget the past and smile again, but he was unable to succeed despite all his effort.

Frantically he implored the Gods for help; they told him that to make her forget her pain there was only one way; remove the sea from her vision. To achieve this the young man would have to lay on the ground and be transformed into a gigantic stone barrier in order to block her view of the sea. The shepherd agreed immediately to sacrifice himself for the sake of his love and since that time another mountain obstructs the way to the sea in the Apuan Mountains.