OLD OCCITAN SERIES · VOLUME 17

Flamenca

Flamenca

Part Two: The Lovers

---

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order

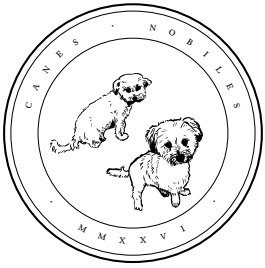


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Volume 17 of the Canes Nobiles Old Occitan interlinear texts

The Old Occitan text follows Paul Meyer's Le Roman de Flamenca, publié d'après le manuscrit unique de Carcassonne, second edition, tome I (Paris: Bouillon, 1901), verses 3947 to 8095

Set from a page scan of the 1901 printing

Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench
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The text and its spelling are Meyer's, from the unique manuscript of Carcassonne, which has lost leaves and its end; the verses are numbered as he numbers them, every fifth in the margin, and the paragraphs are his. Brackets mark letters and words he supplied, and ∗ ∗ ∗ a leaf or a verse the manuscript has lost; he opens every line of a speech with a guillemet and closes it once, and opens each line of a speech quoted within a speech with a closing one. The reading sections and their English heads are this press's.

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Alas

I

At mass, as Flamenca kisses the psalter, Guillem whispers "Alas" and goes away happier than if he had won a tourney. Alone in his chamber, he finds his joy turning to doubt: her veil must have stopped her ears, and he curses all veils. He argues with Love and with himself, likens himself to Tantalus beside the siren, and reasons that a lady shows nothing until she has thought; perhaps she heard, and understood that a clerk speaks so because she is guarded. Flamenca did hear, and is troubled, but hides it from her husband.

Guillems davan si donz estet;
Guillem before his lady stood
quan il lo sauteri baiset,
when she the psalter kissed
el li dis suavet: «Hai las!»
and-he to-her said softly Ah alas
Pero ges non o dis tam bas
Yet at-all not it he-said so low
ques il fort be non o ausis.
that she very well not it heard
Guillems s'en vai humils e clis
Guillem himself-thence goes humble and bowed
e cuj'aver mout enansat.
and thinks-to-have much advanced
S'el agues ara derochat
If-he had now overthrown
en un tornei .c. cavalliers
in a tourney hundred knights
e gasainatz .v.c. destriers,
and won five-hundred chargers

non agra joia tan perfecha,
not he-would-have joy so perfect
car res el mon tan non delecha
for anything in-the world so-much not delights
tot fin aman con cel jois fa
every true lover as that joy does
3960 que ven de lai on son cor ha.
that comes from there where his heart he-has
Le capellans nos bi[s]tenset,
The chaplain not-himself delayed
apres la messa comenset
after the mass he-began
so mieijorn, aisi con solia.
his midday thus as he-was-wont
Guillems lo sauteri tenia
Guillem the psalter held
3965 e fes parer los salms i vis,
and made appear the psalms there he-saw
mais avan que d'el si partis
but before that from-it himself he-parted
al fueil plus de .c. ves baisat,
at-the leaf more than hundred times kissed
e cel mot ai las recordat.
and that word ah alas recalled
En Archimbautz s'en eis dese
Sir Archimbaut himself-thence goes-out at-once
3970 e menan sa moiller ab se,
and leading his wife with himself
que ges non la vol oblidar.
for at-all not her he-wishes to-forget

Aitant com la poc endreissar
As-much as her he-could to-direct
Guillems ab oils de cor l'endreisa;
Guillem with eyes of heart her-directs
lo vestir plega e l'adreissa,
the vestment folds and it-he-puts-away
lo calici e la patena
the chalice and the paten
met en luc salv, e pois ne mena
puts in place safe and then thence leads
son hoste e son capella.
his host and his chaplain
Apres disnar l'ostes s'en va
After dinner the-host himself-thence goes
ab don Justi per compaino,
with sir Justin for companion
e Guillems reman a maiso.
and Guillem remains at house
Quan mangeron li servidor
When had-eaten the servitors
el intret en son dormidor,
he entered into his bedchamber
so es li cambra en que jai.
this is the chamber in which he-lies
Ben poc far camba sai e lai
Well he-could to-make leg here and there
car ben l'es pres a son vejaire:
for well to-him-is taken to his seeming
gran joi agra sil dures gaire,
great joy he-would-have if-it lasted long

mais aqui eis si desconorta,
but there same himself he-discomforts
car aitan pauc estai a porta
for so little stays at door
gauhz entiers de ver aimador
joy entire of true lover
con fai ad uis de jugador,
as does at door of gambler
et e menz d'oral camja cor.
and in less than-hour-to-him changes heart
Zo dis Guillems: «Las! con no mor?
This said Guillem Alas how not I-die
«Amors! ben pauc enansat m'as:
Love very little advanced me-thou-hast
«.vi. cujei far et ai fait as!
six I-thought to-make and I-have made ace
«Car hanc mi dons nom poc ausir
For ever my lady not could to-hear
«zo qu'ieu ai dig ab un sospir,
this that-I have said with a sigh
«c'a pauc lo cors nom trasanet;
that-by little the heart me fainted
«e quan mi dons so cap levet
and when my lady her head raised
«un pauquet sivals m'esgardera,
a little-bit at-least me-she-would-have-looked-at
«e ja si tost non s'escondera
and ever so soon not herself-she-would-have-hidden
«si tant ni quan m'agues ausit.
if so-much or how-much me-she-had heard

«Li benda sai que m'a traït
The veil I-know that me-has betrayed
«quel tenc las aurellas serradas.
that-to-her holds the ears closed
«Bendas, mal fosses hanc obradas!
Veils ill were-you ever wrought
«Pendutz fos qui bendas fes primas,
Hanged may-he-be who veils made fine
«quar hom non las poc far tam primas
for one not them could to-make so fine
«la vista d'ome non affollon,
the sight of-man not they-impair
«et ad home l'ausir non tollon!
and to man the-hearing not they-take-away
«Lasset! caitiu! que dem farai
Alas wretch what of-me I-shall-do
«ni qual consseil ara penrai?
or what counsel now I-shall-take
«Non sai qui donc, Amors, quet val?
Not I-know who then Love what-to-thee avails
«Qu'il non s'entremet d'autrui mal.
For-she not herself-meddles of-another's ill
— Tort has. — Per que? — Si fai. — Cossi?
Wrong thou-hast For what Yes she-does How
— Deu! fez ti parlar hui ab si.
God made thee to-speak today with her
— Vers es ab ma dona parliei,
True it-is with my lady I-spoke
«mas qual pro i hai, ni qu'enanciei?
but what profit there have-I or what-I-advanced

— Tu si fesist; digas mi quan
Thou yes didst tell me how-much
«tu enansiest sivals aitan?
thou advancedst at-least so-much
«Qu'enanz que li domna baises
That-before that the lady kissed
«lo sauteri nis re[s]condes
the psalter nor-herself hid
«poguist vezer desliuramen
thou-couldst see freely
«sa bella boqueta risen.
her fair little-mouth laughing
— Tot so es vers, e ben confes
All this is true and well I-confess
«que de ma dona fui tan pres
that to my lady I-was so near
«qu'ambedui un libre tenguem;
that-both one book we-held
«e s'acordat nos o acssem,
and if-agreed us it we-had
«e nonz o destorbes paors,
and not-us it hindered fear
«e no i acsem aitans auctors,
and not there we-had so-many witnesses
«bem pogram dir don melz nos fora.
well-me we-could to-say whence better to-us it-would-be
«Mais hom dis que Tantalus plora
But one says that Tantalus weeps
«car mor de fam e mor de set,
for he-dies of hunger and dies of thirst

«e per so, ins en l'aigas met
and for this inside into the-water-himself he-puts
«que l'atein entro al mento;
that him-reaches up-to to-the chin
«bellas pomas a enviro;
fair apples he-has around
«quan cuja beure l'aigal fug,
when he-thinks to-drink the-water-from-him flees
«atertal l'esdeve del frug;
likewise to-him-happens of-the fruit
«zol fon per gran pena donat
this-to-him was for great pain given
«car un conseil non tenc celat.
for a secret not he-held hidden
«Doncas no fo ren als mas pena,
Then not was anything else but pain
«car fui tan pres de la serena
for I-was so near to the siren
«que vaus sim trais ab la douzor
that toward herself-me she-drew with the sweetness
«de som pres e de sa valor,
of her worth and of her merit
«de que fag m'a aital reclam
of which done to-me-has such lure
«que de set m'auci e de fam,
that of thirst me-she-kills and of hunger
«e tal talens, dejosta leis.
and such desire beside her

«Se i faiz follor beu la m'eu eis
If there I-do folly drink it me-I myself
«car ben es dreitz qu'eu ei[s] la beva
for well it-is right that-I myself it drink
«e ja per autre no m'en pleva,
and ever for another not myself-thereof pledge
«quar soletz vo[i]l lo mal sufrir,
for alone I-wish the ill to-bear
«sol que siam dui al garir;
only that we-be two at-the healing
«quar de mi dons non gausiria
for of my lady not I-would-enjoy
«si del mieu gaug il non gausia;
if of-the my joy she not enjoyed
«quar aissim pren bona sabor
for thus-me takes good savor
«lo bon saber c'om ha d'amor:
the good taste that-one has of-love
«quan l'us de l'autre si gausis
when the-one from the-other himself enjoys
«le bon saber assaboris;
the good taste savors
«car s'eu am fort, aissi con fas,
for if-I love greatly thus as I-do
«e tenc mi dons antre mos bras,
and hold my lady between my arms
«bais et acol e fas quem voil,
kiss and embrace and do what-I wish
«sem pes qu'il s'o teng'as ergoil,
if-to-me it-weighs that-she herself-it holds-as pride

«o sim cuh qu'en ren non s'o te,
or if-me I-think that-in anything not herself-it she-holds
«mas suffris o non sai per que,
but suffers it not I-know for what
«n'o m'a sabor mos bos sabers.
not to-me-has savor my good taste
«Doncas m'a obs le sieu plazers
Then to-me-has need the her pleasure
«que mon bon saber adousisca
that my good taste sweeten
«e l'us per l'autre saborisca.
and the-one through the-other savor
«E qui non sap aiso saber
And who not knows this to-know
«non sap gaire de bon saber;
not knows much of good taste
«e qui aiso leu non entent
and who this easily not understands
«anc non ausi, mon eisient,
ever not heard to-my knowing
«lo proverbi: d'aital grat n'aia
the proverb of-such thanks thereof-let-have
«cel qu'en dormen sa donna baia.
he who-in sleeping his lady kisses
«Mais eu non sai per que m'azire
But I not know for what myself-I-vex
«ni per quem vo[i]l aisi aussire;
or for what-me I-wish thus to-kill

«car so hon l'ave a doptar
for this where to-him-befalls to fear
«e meillor part deu om tornar;
and better part ought one to-turn
«e ben cre que mi donz ausi
and well I-believe that my lady heard
«so qu'eu li dis, mas suffris si,
that which-I to-her said but suffered so
«quar donna es cuberta res,
for lady is covered thing
«zo dison, e sai que vers es,
this they-say and I-know that true it-is
«e non vol far negun semblan
and not wishes to-make any sign
«tro s'o agues pensat avant.
until herself-it she-had thought before
«Bem conoc per homen estrang,
Well-me she-knew for man strange
«e dis ben leu: «D'aicest clergang
and said very likely Of-this clerkling
»quem dis ai las! eu enten so
who-me said ah alas I understand that
»que cuja dir, mas s'alcun pro
which he-thinks to-say but if-any profit
»de mi aver el nos pesses
from me to-have he not-himself thought
»non cug qu'en tal luc mi parles,
not I-think that-in such place to-me he-would-speak
»e son dig voil eu ben entendre,
and his word I-wish I well to-understand

»mas car ve c'om mi vol defendre
but because he-sees that-one me wishes to-forbid

»e tener presa et enclausa,
and to-hold captive and enclosed

»que negus hom parlar non m'ausa
that any man to-speak not me-dares

»nim pot, em pla ni en carriera,
nor-me can in plain or in street

»el a trobat cesta maniera
he has found this manner

»de parlar am mi si com pot,
of speaking with me so as he-can

»cais per descug e per desnot.»
as-if through disdain and through boldness

«Ar qu'en vail meinz car mi conort?
Now what-thereof am-I-worth less for myself I-comfort

«Ans mi val mais, que desconort
Rather to-me it-is-worth more for discomfort

«aconsec hom assas per tems.
achieves one enough in time

«Hom dis: Si ben amas, ben tems;
One says If well thou-lovest well thou-fearest

«e per so car ben am ben tem,
and for this because well I-love well I-fear

«e ja non aurai gaug massem
and ever not I-shall-have joy supreme

«si davaus mi donz gauh nom ve
if from my lady joy not-to-me comes

«quem pot de gaug d'u mot far ple,
who-me can of joy with-one word make full

«e nom pot fallir penssamens,
and not-to-me can to-fail thought
«conort, desir ni marrimens.
comfort desire or distress
«Et aitals es totz fis amaire
And such is every true lover
«que per un ben vol .c. mals traire.»
that for one good wishes hundred ills to-bear
Mout es Guillems en greu pantais:
Much is Guillem in grievous torment
leu s'alegra e leu s'irais,
easily himself-be-cheers and easily himself-be-grieves
leu ha conort, leu ha esmai.
easily he-has comfort easily he-has dismay
Flamenca, que pres li estai,
Flamenca who near to-him stands
quan de la gliesa fon venguda,
when from the church she-was come
e son cor ha ben retenguda
and her heart has well retained
la paraula ques ac ausida.
the word that she-had heard
Quesacomet ne fo marrida,
Somewhat thereof she-was distressed
pero bellamens s'en cubri
yet fittingly herself-thereof she-covered
aitan con sos maritz o vi.
as-much as her husband it saw

Flamenca and Her Maidens

II

Alone after dinner, Flamenca weeps: the stranger's "Alas" must mock her misery, when he is neither sick nor captive and her husband wars on her. Margarida thinks the fair clerk spoke from love, since he can reach her no other way; Flamenca tells Alis he sighed and blushed. She wants a reply that raises no hope and breeds no despair, yet holds that a lady whom mercy never conquers is worse than any beast. Alis offers "What do you lament?" and on Sunday, tilting the psalter as she kisses it, Flamenca says it and watches him change color.

Quant En Archimbautz fon disnatz,
When Sir Archimbaut was dined
aisi com era costumatz
thus as he-was accustomed
ieis de la tor et intra s'en
he-goes-out from the tower and enters himself-thence
el palais on manjol sirven.
in-the palace where eat-the sergeants
Flamenca remas consirosa;
Flamenca remained anxious
mout si clamet malaürosa,
much herself she-called ill-starred
mout si doloira es gaimenta,
much herself she-grieves and-herself laments
trista s'apella e dolenta;
sad herself-she-calls and grieving
ab l'aiga del cor sos oils moilla;
with the-water of-the heart her eyes she-wets
ben fai parer que trop si doilla.
well she-makes appear that too-much herself she-grieves

Anc mais per caitiva nos tenc;
Ever more for wretched not-herself she-held
del mot de Guillem li sovenc
of-the word of Guillem to-her it-recalled
e dis: «Eu dei ben dir: Ai lassa!
and said I ought well to-say Ah wretched
«Mas cel que dis ai las! nons lassa
But he who said ah alas not-himself wearies
«e non es malautes ni pres,
and not is sick or captive
«ans [es] bels e gra[n]s, mais cortes
rather is fair and great and courtly
«nos es ges trop quar m'esquarni.
not-himself is at-all very for me-be-mocked
«Peccat i fes, e pesa mi,
Sin there he-did and it-grieves to-me
«car nol pesa del mieu enfern.
for not-to-him it-weighs of-the my hell
«Ja non degra dir ver esquern,
Ever not he-ought to-say true mockery
«quar esquerns vers enuja plus,
for mockery true irks more
«e ja non sia neis mais us,
and ever not be even but one
«que non farion .c. messongier.
than — would-do hundred liars
«Dieu! e que dis? que vol? quem quer?
God and what said what wishes what-me seeks
«Non sui assaz lassa, ca[i]tiva!
Not am-I enough wretched wretched

«Non estauc per mal traire viva?
Not I-stay for ill to-bear alive
«Bel sener Dieus! que l'ai forfag
Fair lord God what to-him-have-I misdone
«qu'en tal luc m'aia mes agag?
that-in such place me-he-have put ambush
«En estrang loc m'a donat saut.
In strange place me-he-has given assault
«Pero bes garet que tan aut
Yet well-himself he-took-care that so high
«nom parlet ques hom lo pogues
not-to-me he-spoke that one him could
«auzir, et avan ques mogues
hear and before that-himself he-moved
«mi fo veja[i]re que mudes
to-me it-was seeming that he-changed
«color, et un pauc sospires,
color and a little sighed
«aisi com cel ques a paor
thus as he who has fear
«e pois vergoina e calor.
and then shame and heat
«Non sai donc que dire m'en deja.
Not I-know then what to-say myself-thereof I-ought
«Auria donc de mi eveja?
Would-he-have then of me envy
«Volriam ges aissi enquerre?
Would-he-wish-me at-all thus to-woo
«Autr'amor li cove aquerre:
Other-love to-him befits to-seek

«li mi'amors non es amors,
the my-love not is love
«ans es angoissa e dolors,
rather is anguish and pain
«plena d'enui e de trebaill.
full of-annoyance and of toil
«Sanglot e sospir e badaill,
Sob and sigh and yawn
«caitivers, destrechas e plors,
wretchedness afflictions and tears
«tristors de cor et amarors
sadness of heart and bitterness
«so mei vezi e mei privat,
are my neighbors and my intimates
«e N'Archimbautz, c'ap mis combat,
and Sir-Archimbaut who-with me fights
«non sap per que, la nug el dia,
not knows for what the night and-the day
«e per mon vol morta m'auria.
and by my will dead me-he-would-have
«Bem fora melz esclava fos
Well-to-me it-would-be better slave I-were
«ab Erminis o ab Grifos,
with Armenians or with Greeks
«en Corsega o en Sardeina,
in Corsica or in Sardinia
«e que tires peira o leina,
and that I-drew stone or wood
«car per ren pejurar nom pogra,
for by anything worsen not I-could

«s'agues neis rivala e sogra.»
if-I-had even rival and stepmother
E so qu'il dis ausi Elis,
And that which-she said heard Alis
mas non sap per que si marris
but not knows for what herself distresses
si dons, que Margarid 'apella:
her lady who Margarida calls
«Sa[i] vines, ma douza piuzella,
Here come my sweet maiden
«e vos Alis, aujas mon dol:
and you Alis hear my grief
«morta seria per mon vol,
dead I-would-be by my will
«quar al cor ai tan gran destrecha
for at-the heart I-have so great distress
«c'ap pauc non case morta freja,
that-with little — I-fall dead cold
«quar us vassalz, non sai qui s'es,
for a vassal not I-know who himself-is
«ni mais nol vi quel conogues
nor ever not-him I-saw that-him I-knew
«m'a hui laiamen escarnida.
me-has today foully mocked
— Donna, qui fo? «dis Margarida,
Lady who was said Margarida
— Amiga, cel quem donet pas.
Friend he who-me gave peace

«Dejosta mi vos estavas
Beside me you stood
«et empero non entendes
and however not you-understood
«so qu'el mi dis, fe quem deves.
that which-he to-me said faith that-me you-owe
— Donna, sius plas, digas nos o.
Lady if-to-you it-pleases tell us it
— Amiga, nom fai si mal no,
Friend not-to-me does if ill not
«quan m'en soven, e nomperquant
when myself-thereof I-remember and nonetheless
«dirai vos o, conssi quem n'an:
I-will-say to-you it how what-to-me thereof-goes
«per mal de mi e per despieh,
for ill of me and for contempt
«e car sap qu'ieu non ai deleig,
and for he-knows that-I not have delight
«solaz ni joi ni benanansa,
cheer or joy or happiness
«mais dol et ira e pesansa,
but grief and anger and sorrow
«mi dis: Ai las! con si el fos
to-me he-said Ah alas as if he were
«mout fort, et eu non, consiros.
very greatly and I not anxious
«Hanc non ho dis mais per menbrar
Ever not it he-said but for reminding
«quem dei tot jorn lassa clamar.»
that-me I-ought all day wretched to-call

Adon Margarida respos:
Then Margarida answered

«Douza donna, fe que dei vos,
Sweet lady faith that I-owe you

«non cug que per mal o disses,
not I-think that for ill it he-said

«quar ges nom par ta mal apres
for at-all not-to-me he-seems so ill taught

«ques a vos disses vilania.
that to you he-said churlishness

«Ges aquest patz dar non solia,
At-all this-one peace to-give not was-wont

«car cest es plus bels e plus grans
for this-one is more fair and more great

«e mielz legens e meilz cantans,
and better reading and better singing

«e fort ben gentil home sembla;
and greatly well noble man seems

«son cor li tol, som cug, et embla
his heart from-him takes this-I think and steals

«vostra beutatz, mais quar parlar
your beauty but because to-speak

«nous pot d'autramen ni pre[g]ar,
not-you he-can otherwise or to-beg

«el si mes en gran aventura
he himself put in great adventure

«consius pogues dir s'aventura.»
how-to-you he-could to-say his-adventure

Alis ha dig: «Si Deus m'ajut,
Alis has said So God me-help
«mas vos [o] aves conegut,
but you it have known
«aici es vers; mas qual semblan,
thus it-is true but what look
«domna, vos fes quan fon davan?
lady to-you he-made when he-was before
— Alis, non garet ges dretz oilz.
Alis not he-looked at-all straight eyes
— Ha! ha! don non fon ges ergulz
Ah ah whence not was at-all pride
«ni malesa ni vilanesa
nor ill-will nor churlishness
«so queus dis, mas vera temensa.
that which-to-you he-said but true fear
— Amiga, un pauc sospiret,
Friend a little he-sighed
«quant m'o dis, e vermeilz tornet.
when it-to-me he-said and red turned
— Nous o qual dir; per qu'en doptas?
Not-to-you it is-needful to-say for what-thereof you-doubt
«Eu vos enten, so sapias.
I you understand this know
«Eu nol conosc ni sai qui sia,
I not-him know nor know who he-be
«mais vos fares gran cortesia
but you will-do great courtesy
«s'adrejamen li respondes.
if-fitly to-him you-answer

— Amiga, ben leu o dises,
Friend very likely it you-say
«ans [nos] coven, so sai, trobar
rather us befits this I-know to-find
«tal mot que puescam acordar
such word that we-can accord
«a so quem dis prumierament;
to that which-me he-said first
«quar ges fort ben adreitament
for at-all greatly well fitly
«noil puesc en escofet respondre;
not-to-him I-can on the-spot to-answer
«e donna deu son cor rescondre,
and lady ought her heart to-hide
«sivals de primas, tant o quant,
at-least at first so-much or how-much
«c'om non conosca son talan;
that-one not know her desire
«e deu motz dir d'aital egansa
and ought words to-say of-such evenness
«que non adugon esperansa
that not bring hope
«ni non fasson dese[s]perar.
nor not make despair
— Donna, mais sabes de jugar
Lady more you-know of playing
«ques eu non fas, mas, per ma fe,
than I — do but by my faith

«ja nol dires, per mon grat, re
ever not-to-him you-will-say by my will anything
«que nol fassal cor ben gausen.
that not-to-him make-the heart well rejoicing
«Dieus lo[u]s trames propriamen
God him-to-you sent expressly
«per vos desliurar de preiso:
for you delivering from prison
«si vos meseisa vostre pro
if you yourself your profit
«vos tolles, quius [en] planera?
yourself you-take-away who-you thereof will-pity
«Ja hom planer nous en deura.
Ever one pity not-you thereof will-owe
— Amiga, quan sabrai del tot
Friend when I-shall-know of-the whole
«son cor, quem dira mot e mot,
his heart which-me he-will-say word and word
«(e d'aici a dos mes sabrem
and from-here to two months we-shall-know
«tot som pensat, s'aitan vivem),
all his thought if-so-long we-live
«s'ieu conosc qu'amors lo destreina
if-I know that-love him afflicts
«eil serai donna bon'e fina
and-to-him I-shall-be lady good-and true
«e ja mon cor noil celarai,
and ever my heart not-to-him I-will-hide
«mais tant cant el volra volrai.
but as-much as he will-wish I-will-wish

«E mout pot leu domna percebre
And very can easily lady to-perceive
«qui l'ama o la vol decebre,
who her-loves or her wishes to-deceive
«e mais conois que sens bausia
and more she-knows that without deceit
«es amada, e pois forvia,
she-is loved and then goes-astray
«s'amors es falsa e truanda
if-love is false and knavish
«et es folz qui ja la demanda.
and is foolish who ever it asks
«Amors non vol ges domna vaira,
Love not wishes at-all lady fickle
«non es domna pos son cor vaira
not is lady since her heart changes
«e non atent aisso que dis.
and not keeps this that she-said
«E ques es donc? Dieu! truphairitz
And what is then God deceiver
«que fai languir ab totz destrics
who makes to-languish with all torments
«aicel que l'es corals amics
him who to-her-is hearty friend
«e tot jorn la ser e la blan.
and all day her serves and her flatters

«Diabols es fers, [s']a cap d'an
Devil is fierce if-at end of-year
«merces non l'a d'aitan forsada
mercy not her-has so-much forced
«qu'a son amic, una vegada
that-to her friend one time
«savals, que no fassa plazer
at-least that — she-do pleasure
«tal que de leis non desesper.
such that of her not he-despair
«E, pos l'aura un plazer fag,
And when to-him-she-will-have a pleasure done
«si pois li met s'amor em plag
if then to-him she-puts her-love in plea
«que noil fassa tot quan volra,
that not-to-him she-do all as-much-as he-will-wish
«segon que tems e luecs sera,
according-to that time and places will-be
«ben pot saber quel jois prumiers
well can know that-the joy first
«era falses e messongiers,
was false and lying
«e ges de bon cor non venia,
and at-all of good heart not came
«mais car enganar lo volia
but because to-deceive him she-wished
«e far musar tro l'agues mort.
and to-make to-dally until him-she-had dead
«Si pois s'en part cel non a tort,
If then himself-thence parts he not has wrong

«ans deu cel loc pois esquivar
rather ought that place then to-shun
«on il estai ni deu estar.
where she stays nor ought to-stay
«El mon non a drago ni vibra,
In-the world not has dragon or viper
«ors ni leon ni lop ni sibra,
bear or lion or wolf or wildcat
«qu'om nol pusca adomeschar
that-one not-it can to-tame
«ab gent tener, siei vol poinar.
with gently holding if-there wishes to-strive
«Doncs es piegers ques autra res
Then is worse than other thing
«cil domna cui non venz merces,
that lady whom not conquers mercy
«car Amors vens los venzedors,
for Love conquers the conquerors
«e lai on ren non val Amors,
and there where anything not avails Love
«dreg ni rasos ni cartenensa,
right or reason or conduct
«si merces i fai capten[en]sa
if mercy there does management
«acabat es senes fallida.
achieved it-is without fail
«E mais vostre conseilz m'envida
And but your counsel me-invites
«de respondre, que respondrai?
of answering what I-will-answer

«E[l] dis ai las! e que dirai?
He said ah alas and what I-shall-say
— Donna, per Crist, si fos en me,
Lady by Christ if it-were in me
«so dis Alis, eu sa[u]pra ben
this said Alis I would-know well
«de qual guisa li respondera,
in what manner to-him I-would-answer
«e ja, som cug, no m'i pecquera:
and ever this-I think not myself-there I-would-sin
«el dis ai las! ara diguas
he said ah alas now say
«ai las! que plans ni demandatz?
ah alas what complainest-thou or ask-you
— Ai las! que plans? certas, fa si;
Ah alas what complainest-thou certainly does so
«ben aia qui cest mot chausi!
well may-have who this word chose
«Ai las! que plans? trop ben si fa.»
Ah alas what complainest-thou too well so does

A Dieus! aital con obs i a
Ah God such as need there has
mais de mil vez aun ajostat
more than thousand times they-have joined
ai las! que plans? e recordat
ah alas what complainest-thou and recalled
la semana enans que venc
the week before that came
al dimenegue; adonc nos tenc
at-the Sunday then not-himself held
Guillems de servir a la messa.
Guillem from serving at the mass
En gran pess[i]er avia messa
In great thought had put
Flamenca, ques ades l'aten
Flamenca who ever him-awaits
qu[e]il porte pas e gauzimen.
that-to-her he-bear peace and joy
Quan luecs fo, nos fes a mandar
When place was not-himself he-made to order
de penre pas ni de portar
of taking peace or of bearing
Guillems, si poc; mais ben garet
Guillem if he-could but well he-took-care
qu'a N'Archimbaut ges non donet,
that-to Sir-Archimbaut at-all not he-gave
quar fora del cor non issia
for outside of-the choir not he-went
entro que d'autre pres n'avia.
until that from-another taken thereof-he-had

Vas Flamenca venc simplamen,
Toward Flamenca he-came simply
e Margarida gardas pren,
and Margarida watch takes
et Alis, de sa contenensa.
and Alis of his bearing
Cascuna jura sa cresensa,
Each swears her faith
tot suavet, c'om non l'ausi,
all softly that-one not it-heard
anc mais tam bel clergue non vi.
ever more so fair cleric not she-saw
Res non es Amors non ensein:
Anything not is Love not teaches
Flamenca fes un cortes gein.
Flamenca made a courtly ruse
Quant el'ac lo sauteri pres,
When she-had the psalter taken
devaus destre, on s'era mes
toward right where himself-had put
En Archimbautz que pres l'estet,
Sir Archimbaut who near to-her-stood
quais per escrima plus l'ausset
as-if by fencing more it-she-raised
e l'autra part fes biaissar,
and the-other part made to-slant

e quant volc la carta baisar
and when she-wished the page to-kiss
tot planamenz e senes gap
all quietly and without jest
a dig: «Que plains?» pois dreissal cap
has said What complainest-thou then raises-the head
et esgaret ben la semblansa
and gazed well the countenance
de son amic e la mudansa
of her friend and the change
de sa color, e ben conois
of his color and well knows
que savis es e trics e mois,
that wise he-is and cunning and discreet
e canta ben et a bels pels.
and sings well and has fair hair
E si daus ella nos pert cels,
And if from her not-itself loses hiding
ja per lui non sera sauput
ever by him not will-be known
res qu'il diga ni conogut.
anything that-she say or recognized
Non sai qual plus ar desires
Not I-know which more now desired
qu'a maiso fos e recordes
that-at house he-were and recalled
zo que l'us a de l'autre vist;
that which the-one has of the-other seen
mout cuj'aver cascus conquist,
much thinks-to-have each conquered

mais Guillems es plus gauzions
but Guillem is more joyful
tan quan plus era desirons.
as-much as more he-was desirous

What Do You Lament?

III

Guillem spends the day on her words. That night his eyes and ears, his heart and his mouth argue whether a lady's answer means love, and he recalls a knight whose lady kept him waiting for years on "I do not know." Flamenca fears he did not hear, so Alis mimics the scene with the romance of Blancaflor to prove the words carry. Next Sunday Guillem answers "I die." When Archimbaut goes out in a sulk, the women rejoice; Margarida praises the clerk's beauty and devises the next reply, "Of what?" and Flamenca calls her a trobairitz.

Can fon ve[n]gutz a son hostal
When he-was come to his lodging
en dir: que plans? hac son jornal
in saying what complainest-thou he-had his day
pero non voil ques entendas
yet not I-wish that thou-understand
a vespras non vengues vivas,
to vespers not he-came quickly
ans ausi ben totas sas horas,
rather he-heard well all his hours
nom pert una, tart ni aboras,
not he-loses one late or early
e non giquis el salm un vers.
and not he-left in-the psalm a verse

Si fos vaus Dieu aisi convers
If he-were toward God thus converted
con vas Amor e vas si dons,
as toward Love and toward his lady
de paradis fora totz dons.
of paradise he-would-be all lord
Quan la nug adormir si cuja
When the night to-sleep himself he-thinks
s'agues los uils totz plens de suja
if-he-had the eyes all full of soot
nol dissera[n] ja meilz de no:
not-to-him they-would-say ever better of no
«Adormir! Pron dormirem, pro,»
To-sleep Enough we-shall-sleep enough
so dison l'uil; «sovenga ti
this say the-eyes let-it-recall to-thee
«de so quet mostrem oi mati.
of that which-to-thee we-showed today morning
«Non o vist donc consi levet
Not it thou-sawest then how she-raised
«lo sauteri quan lo baiset,
the psalter when it she-kissed
«e fes biaissar l'autra part
and made to-slant the-other part
«li bella cui Deus salv e gart?
the fair-one whom God save and guard
«Domnas aurellas, tort n'aves
Ladies ears wrong thereof-you-have
«car ades sivals non bondes,
for just-now at-least not you-echoed

«e non dises: [Ai las!] que planz?
and not you-said Ah alas what complainest-thou
«Anc non fon mais si rix gasanz
Ever not was more so rich gain
«con vos aves hoi conquistat.
as you have today conquered
«Per tostems deu aver comprat
For always ought to-have bought
«Amors e sol hui mon senor,
Love and only today my lord
«quar li fes oi tan gran honor.
for to-him she-did today so great honor
«Cascuna deu esser curosa
Each ought to-be careful
«d'aicella vos bonaürosa
of-that voice fortunate
«que tot cor reven et adousa:
which every heart restores and sweetens
«manna de cel non es tan douza
manna of heaven not is so sweet
«que cai plus suau que rosada.
which falls more gently than dew

«Parlat nos a una vegada
Spoken to-us she-has one time
«Amors; hoimais es sobre nos
Love henceforth is on us
«de respondre, quar davan vos
of answering for before you
«nos a tornada la pilota
to-us she-has returned the ball
«aicil que ben garda e nota
she who well watches and notes
«et entent so ques hom li dis,
and understands that which one to-her says
«de tot ben es emperairis.»
of all good is empress
Le cors dis: «Hoc, sol que non falla
The heart said Yes only that not fail
«merces.» Aqui eis la batailla.
mercy There same the battle
Li boca dis iradamen,
The mouth said angrily
e fes un estrain sacramen:
and made a strange oath
«Per Crist, don cors, fols es quius poina.
By Christ lord heart foolish is who-for-you strives
«A tot home faratz vergoina
To every man you-will-do shame
«que per vostre sen vos segues
who by your sense you followed
«ni vostre fol desir crezes.
or your foolish desire believed

«Cors caitius, e per quet rancuras?
Heart wretched and for what-thee thou-complainest
— Deus ajuda! domna, que juras?
God help lady what thou-swearest
— Sitot mi jur ja not ferrai,
Though to-myself I-swear ever not-thee I-will-strike
«mas trop grans meravillas ai
but too great marvels I-have
«quar de ren non t'es apagatz,
for of anything not thyself-art paid
«e tot jorn parlas com iratz.
and all day thou-speakest as angered
«E no i ac donc trop gran merce
And not there had then too great mercy
«car nos deinet dir nulla ren?
for to-us she-deigned to-say any thing
— Donna, ben fon, som cug, us rams.
Lady well it-was this-I think a sprig
— E dont ven doncas aquest clams?
And whence comes then this complaint
— Dieu! soven mi del cavallier
God recalls to-me of-the knight
«qu'ab mon senor anet l'autrier
who-with my lord went the-other-day
«quel det lo falcon montarzi
who-to-him gave the falcon mountain-bred
«lo jorn que fun de Montardi;
the day that we-were at Montardi

«si te membra, el nos disia
if to-thee it-recalls he to-us said
«que mout lonc tems amat avia
that very long time loved he-had
«una dona bella e plazen,
a lady fair and pleasing
«joveneta e covinen,
young and comely
«de bon adaut en tota ren;
of good grace in every thing
«e tot avan que renl disses
and all before that anything-to-her he-said
«l'ac amada plus de doz anz.
her-he-had loved more than two years
«Un jorn lo forset sos talanz,
One day him forced his desire
«son cor li dis; ella respos:
his heart to-her he-said she answered
»Ja mais non sias consiros
Ever more not be anxious
»de mi amar, sener, sius plaz,
of me loving lord if-to-you it-pleases
»car ja per ren pro no i auratz.
for ever by anything profit not there you-will-have
— Dises o, donna, de jamai?
Say-you it lady of ever-more
— Sener, de ja ben leu non sai.»
Lord of ever very likely not I-know
«Quar dis: «Ben leu non sai de ja,»
For said Very likely not I-know of ever

«Amors li dis: «Ben t'amara;
Love to-him said Well thee-she-will-love
»non t'esperdas, prega, blandis,
not thyself-lose-heart pray flatter
»solassa, domneja, servis,
solace court serve
»esforsa ti e fai que sols;
strive thee and do as thou-art-wont
»eu t'en farai aver quet vols.»
I to-thee-thereof shall-make to-have what-thou wishest
«Tan lonc temps aissi lo menet
So long time thus him she-led
«quel meilz de son tems i gastet,
that-the best of his time there he-wasted
«e non ac plus que fass'a dire
and not had more as it-be-to say
«quel primer jorn. Per so m'albire
than-the first day For this myself-I-judge
«que trop que nescis i faria
that too-much than foolish there I-would-do
«si, per que pauzas, m'esbaudia.
if because that you-rested I-rejoiced
«Mais vos, oilz, aureillas e boca,
But you eyes ears and mouth
«pausas tal ora que mi toca
you-rest such hour that to-me touches
«gran angoissa e grans martires
great anguish and great martyrdom
«quar a vos non s'atain cossires;
for to you not itself-befits care

«e domnas parlon volontieras
and ladies speak willingly
«e volon esser plasentieras:
and wish to-be pleasing
«si Flamenca non resposes
if Flamenca not had-answered
«cujera si c'om la tengues
she-would-have-thought so that-one her held
«per sorda o per erguillosa;
for deaf or for proud
«ges per tan non es amorosa.
at-all for so-much not is amorous
«Se dis que plans a ton ai las,
If she-says what complainest-thou to thy ah alas
«ja per aiso nom proaras
ever for this not-to-me thou-wilt-prove
«que t'ame ni quet voill'amar;
that thee-she-love or that-thee she-wish-to-love
«d'al re ti coven a pensar.»
of-other thing to-thee befits to think
Aissis combat, aissis tensona
Thus-himself fights thus-himself argues
Guillems, que mout pensier si dona.
Guillem who much thought himself gives

Flamenca es en gran doptansa;
Flamenca is in great doubt
a si meseissa pren esmansa
to herself self takes guess
se poc auzir so qu'il a dig
if he-could to-hear that which-she has said
cel qu'en son cor o a escrig.
he who-in his heart it has written
«Alis,», dis il, «vostr'ensenat
Alis said she your-teaching
«ai hoi retrag e comandat;
have-I today repeated and commended
«ausist o tu, bell'amigueta?
heard it thou fair-little-friend
— Eu non. — E tu, Margarideta?
I not And thou little-Margarida
— Domna, eu non, con o dises?
Lady I not how it you-said
«Digas nos o un'autra ves;
Say us it another time
«adonc sabrem s'ausir o poc.
then we-shall-know if-to-hear it he-could
«Voles o vos, domna? — Nos, hoc.
Wish-you it you lady We yes
«Vai sus, Alis, e contrafai
Go up Alis and mimic
«quem dones pas si con il fai;
that-me thou-give peace so as he does
«pren lo romanz de Blancaflor.»
take the romance of Blancaflor

Alis si leva tost, e cor
Alis herself rises soon and runs
vas una taula on estava
toward a table where stood
cel romans ab qu'ella mandava
that romance with which-she ordered
qu'il dones pas, e pois s'en ven
that-she give peace and then herself-thence comes
a si dons, c'a penas si ten
to her lady who-with pains herself holds
de rire quan vi ques Alis
from laughing when she-saw that Alis
a contrafar ap pauc non ris.
at mimicking at little — laughed
Lo romanz ausa davaus destre
The romance she-raises toward right
e fal biaissar a senestre,
and makes-it slant to left
e quan fes parer quel baises
and when she-made appear that-it she-kissed
il dis: «Que plans?» et en apres
she said What complainest-thou and there after
a demandat: «Et ausist o?
has asked And heardst-thou it
— Hoc, dona, ben, s'en aquest to
Yes lady well if-in this tone
«o dissest oi, ben o auzi
it thou-saidst today well it I-heard
«cel quem fai parlar cest lati.»
he who-me makes speak this Latin

Cesta lisson ben recorderon
This lesson well they-recalled
la semana, tro que aneron
the week until that they-went
al mostier on Guillems esta
to-the minster where Guillem stays
ben apensatz que respondra.
well bethought what he-will-answer
Quan fon sazos nos demoret
When was season not-himself he-delayed
de penre pas, ans la portet
of taking peace rather it he-carried
pel mostier a tota la gent.
through-the minster to all the folk
Vas si dons venc prumeirament
Toward his lady he-came first
que non s'estreis tan de la benda
who not herself-pressed so-much from the veil
con sol, per so que mielz l'entenda.
as she-was-wont for this that better him-she-hear
Quant il pren pas, el dis: «Mor mi»,
When she takes peace he said Die I
et aitan tost part si d'aqui.
and so soon parts himself from-there
Non fes parer motz n'i agues;
Not he-made appear words thereof-there there-were
s'o aguesson totz tems empres
if-it they-had all time learned
l'us l'autre melz non entendera.
the-one the-other better not would-have-understood

Quils vis amdos ja nos cujera
Who-them saw both ever not-himself would-think
que l'us agues de l'autre soin.
that the-one had of the-other care
Amors tan sotilmens los join
Love so subtly them joins
que, vezent N'Archimbaut, domneja
that seeing Sir-Archimbaut courts
Guillems, e sa moiller autreja
Guillem and his wife grants
tan que respon, et es li tart
so-much that she-answers and it-is to-her late
que puesca dir la soa part.
that she-can to-say the her part
De Mon Musart es dons e sener
Of My Idler is lord and master
gilos qui vol domna destreiner
jealous-one who wishes lady to-constrain
de far tot so quel plazera,
from doing all that which-to-her will-please
quar ja per lui non remanra.
for ever by him not it-will-remain
Quan fon en sa cambra tornada
When she-was into her chamber returned
Flamenca, el lieg s'es colgada;
Flamenca in-the bed herself-is laid

* * *

(lacuna)

Ques disne si to[s]t non l'asauta,
That-himself he-dine so soon not her-pleases

ans dis a N'Archimbaut ques n'an
rather says to Sir-Archimbaut that-himself thence-go
deportar deforas avan.
to-disport outside before
Iratz s'en eis fort e regaina.
Angered himself-thence goes-out greatly and grumbles
Flamenca dis: «Aitan gasa[i]na
Flamenca said So-much gains
«qui es gilos ni envejos
who is jealous and envious
«e malastrucs aisi com vos.»
and ill-starred thus as you
Quan fon defors ab cor dolent,
When he-was outside with heart grieving
il levet sus e dis risen:
she rose up and said laughing
«Sai vines, sa[i] vines, puncellas,
Here come here come maidens
«voles ausir bonas novellas?
do-you-wish to-hear good news
— E! donna, per Dieu! digas las.
Oh lady by God tell them
«Mon sener s'en eis totz auras
My lord himself-thence goes-out all crazy
«quar nos disna, e tornara,
for not-himself he-dines and will-return
«que ja gaire non estara.
for ever long not he-will-stay
— Aujas cal lison ai apresa,
Hear which lesson I-have learned

«non vist tan leu ni tan cortesa:
not you-saw so easy or so courtly
«Mur mi.» Alis respont adonc:
Die I Alis answers then
«Si m'ajut Dieu, cochatz es donc!
So me-help God pressed he-is then
«Domna, fort vos deves penedre
Lady greatly you ought to-repent
«e vaus Amors colpavol rendre
and toward Love guilty to-render
«quar hanc pensest qu'el si penses
for ever you-thought that-he himself thought
«causa que a vos enujes.»
thing that to you irked
Margarida nos pot tener
Margarida not-herself can to-hold
non dig'un pauc de son plazer:
— she-say-a little of her pleasure
— Domna,» fai s'il, «ben puesc jurar
Lady says she well I-can to-swear
«seguramen, ses perjurar,
safely without perjuring
«qu[e] ieu non vis aisi bel clerc;
that I not saw so fair cleric
«et on plus sas faissos encerc
and the more his fashions I-search
«plus belz mi par e plus complitz.
more fair to-me he-seems and more accomplished
«Si es segon faissos aibitz,
If he-is according-to fashions endowed

«non sai nul home tant asaut;
not I-know any man so pleasant
«bel deuri'om amar de saut;
well ought-one to-love at leap
«e Dieus volla quel sieu saber,
and God grant that-the his knowledge
«domna, sius plas, voillas saber.
lady if-to-you it-pleases you-wish to-know
«E d'aisso nous meravillez
And of-this not-yourselves marvel
«si nos volem que vos ametz,
if we wish that you love
«quar mout val mais d'amic parlar
for much is-worth more of-friend to-speak
«que de marit que fai plorar
than of husband who makes weep
* * *
(lacuna)
«Del respondre vos apensatz,
Of-the answering yourselves bethink
«quar ben es obs al mieu vejaire;
for well it-is needful to-the my seeming
«mon sener non estara gaire.
my lord not will-stay long
«E nonperquant tost er pessat
And nonetheless soon it-will-be thought
«qu'ieu ai, som cug, bon mot trobat;
for-I have this-I think good word found
«mas avan dires vos lo vostre,
but before will-say you the yours

«et Alis lo sieu, qu'ieu lo mostre.
and Alis the hers that-I it show
— Amiga, per que i pessaram
Friend for what there shall-we-think
«si de vos bon mot aviam.
if from you good word we-had
— Voles, domna, doncas qu'ieil diga?
Do-you-wish lady then that-I-to-him say
— S'o voil! ans vos o prec, amiga.
If-it I-wish rather you it I-beg friend
— Ar augas donc se i ave:
Now hear then if there it-befits
«Ai las! — Que plans? — Muer mi. — De que?
Ah alas What complainest-thou Die I Of what
«De que? Deu! hoc, domna, bos es?
Of what God yes lady good it-is
— Margarida, trop ben t'es pres
Margarida too well to-thee-has-it taken
«e ja iest bona trobairis.
and already thou-art good trobairitz
— O eu, domna, mellor non vist,
Oh I lady better not you-saw
«daus vos e daus Alis en fora.»
from you and from Alis set apart

The Masons

IV

Archimbaut comes back bellowing; Margarida pulls a face at him, and the women laugh. Guillem shuns company and turns "I die" over: Love and his heart are his murderers, as Aeneas killed Dido without a blow. Mercy, he reasons, grows from love through pity to flower and fruit; his harvest will be late, with only two words sown, yet his lady is spring and rose. On Sunday his workmen, sworn to secrecy, begin; working by night, they finish in seven days a passage so neat that Guillem can hardly see it was touched; he often walks it to test it.

En Archimbautz plus non demora,
Sir Archimbaut more not delays
ans venc mugent coma taurelz,
rather came bellowing like bullock
de malesa coma sas pelz
from ill-temper like his furs
e dis: «Qu'en faitz? ses mellurada?
and said What-thereof you-do herself-is improved
«Ben garretz quant seres disnada.
Well you-will-heal when you-will-be dined
— Sener,» so respon Margarida,
Lord this answers Margarida
«ben agra obs mieilz [fos] garida;»
well she-would-have need better she-were healed
e fail de la lenga bossi.
and makes-to-him with the tongue grimace
Cascuna en som poin s'en ri.
Each in her fist herself-thence laughs

Guillems non [a] pausa ni fina,
Guillem not has rest or end
tot jorn recorda e declina
all day he-recalls and recites
e despon sos motz e deriva;
and expounds his words and derives
al plus que pot solas esquiva,
to-the most that he-can cheer he-shuns
car sols si ten per solassatz,
for alone himself he-holds for solaced
et ab solatz per asolatz,
and with cheer for desolate
e per meins sols adonc si te
and for less alone then himself he-holds
on mais ha de solatz ab se.
the-more more he-has of cheer with himself
«Mur mi», fai s'el, «hoc veramen;
Die I says he yes truly
«car soletz am mur solamen,
for alone I-love I-die solely
«totz soletz mur car soletz am.
all alone I-die for alone I-love
«Amors e mos cors n'aura clam,
Love and my heart thereof-will-have complaint
«cascus la mort donada m'a
each the death given to-me-has
«per occaiso, non ges per ma.
by occasion not at-all by hand
«Qui a fol met coutel em poin,
Who to fool puts knife in fist

«s'el s'en auci, non es ges loin
if-he himself-thence kills not is at-all far
«del forfag quil det lo coutel.
from-the misdeed who-to-him gave the knife
«Si eu homicidam apel
If I murderers call
«mon cor et Amors, es rasos,
my heart and Love it-is reason
«qu'il mi son de mort occaisos:
for-they to-me are of death occasions
«Eneas aucis en aisi
Aeneas killed in this-way
«Dido, ques hanc non la feri.
Dido that ever not her he-struck
«Bel sener Dieus! si ja m'aura
Fair lord God if ever me-she-will-have
«merce, ni ja s'o pensara
mercy or ever herself-it she-will-think
«cil quem pogra del tot garir?
she who-me could of-the whole to-heal
«A la fe non; ben posc morir.
By the faith not well I-can to-die
«E con sembla que dolor n'aia
And how it-seems that pain thereof-she-have
«si de ma dolor non esaia?
if of my pain not she-tries
«Qui mal non sen non a merce.
Who ill not feels not has mercy

«Mas s'il la demandes a me
But if-she it asked from me
«eu l'agra neis aparellada
I it-would-have even prepared
«avan qu'il l'agues demandada,
before that-she it-had asked
«car eu sai ques es mals e bes
for I know what is ill and good
«e conosc don si ven merces.
and know whence itself comes mercy
«Autrui mals et autrui miseria
Other's ill and other's misery
«es de merce caps e materia:
is of mercy head and matter
«si per dolor ques autre sen
if through pain that another feels
«pietatz e mon cor descen,
pity into my heart descends
«que debonairitat y mena
which gentleness there leads
«per una sotileta vena,
through a subtle-little vein
«so es de merce la radis.
this is of mercy the root
«Si poissas mi fai tan nim dis
If then to-me it-does so-much or-to-me says
«cil pietatz que bom saupes
that pity that good-to-me knew
«sos guerrers, s'aver lo pogues,
her warrior if-to-have him she-could

«aisso es de merce la flors.
this is of mercy the flower
«Pois s'en mou tant qu'il fai secors
Then herself-thence moves so-much that-she gives succor
«senes fenchas e senes cuitz,
without feints and without conjectures
«aisso es de merce sos fruitz;
this is of mercy her fruit
«et es florida e granada
and is flowered and seeded
«et em bona rasis fe[r]mada,
and in good root set
«car ab si mena caritat
for with herself she-leads charity
«per cui tut ben son coronat;
by whom all goods are crowned
«e quan val cesta sotillanza,
and how-much is-worth this subtlety
«qu'ieu vei per eissa ma proansa
that-I see by very my proof
«que merces non val ses amor.
that mercy not is-worth without love
«D'amor ha hom cella douzor
From-love has one that sweetness
«ques dol per la do[lo]r d'autrui.
that-oneself grieves for the pain of-another
«Anc mais tan piatos non fui
Ever more so pitying not I-was
«nim duelc per las autrui dolors.
nor-myself I-grieved for the other's pains

«E tot aiso m'a fag Amors,
And all this to-me-has done Love
«qu'ieu ai de mi donz pietat
that-I have of my lady pity
«quar estai presa mal son grat,
for she-stays captive against her will
«e non es mals qu'ieu non volgues
and not is ill that-I not would-wish
«avanz aver ques il l'agues,
rather to-have than she it-had
«e per tot ben plus mi plairia
and for all good more to-me it-would-please
«ques il l'agues que s'ieu l'avia,
that she it-had than if-I it-had
«e de so mal sui eu dolenz;
and of her ill am I grieving
«so es amors e chausimentz.
this is love and clemency
«D'amor ven merces e comensa,
From-love comes mercy and begins
«d'amor pren merces la creissensa
from-love takes mercy the growth
«qui la fai esser tan humana,
that her makes to-be so human
«e ses amors merces non grana.
and without love mercy not seeds

«Ben tart aurai eu doncas broilla
Very late shall-have I then sprout
«si atent que mi donz si doilla
if I-wait that my lady herself grieve
«de mas dolors tan que descenda
for my pains so-much that descend
«merces en leis, tan qu'ieu entenda
mercy in her so-much that-I understand
«qu'il mi fassa qualque parvensa
that-she to-me make some sign
«quem port alcuna benvolensa,
that-me she-bear some goodwill
«el benvolensa tan mi dure
and-the goodwill so-much to-me last
«que totas mas dolors mi cure.
that all my pains to-me it-cure
«Amors! Amors! trop m'o alongas,
Love Love too-much it-to-me you-lengthen
«que la[s] setmanas son trop longas
for the weeks are too long
«el mot trop breu el mal cochos;
and-the word too short and-the ill pressing
«ades seran autras meissos
soon will-be other harvests
«et eu ai tan pauc semenat!
and I have so little sown
«Cujas aver tant enansat
Thinkest-thou to-have so-much advanced
«quar sol as .ii. mugz semenatz?
for only thou-hast two measures sown

«Tardius sera, som cug, mos blatz;
Late will-be this-I think my wheat
«ges non er madurs al voïbre
at-all not will-be ripe in-the aftermath
«ans atenda lo glas el gibre.
rather it-will-await the frost and-the rime
«Et om dis que vens ni gelada
And one says that wind or frost
«non tol frucha endestinada!
not takes-away fruit destined
«Non sai per que tal aissam mene,
Not I-know for what such anxiety-myself I-lead
«car, segon so ques eu semene,
for according-to that which I sow
«la merce Dieu! naisso mieu broil.
the grace-of God are-born my shoots
«Anc mais set jornz non fon e moil
Ever more seven days not was in wet
«ai las, et a l'uchen b[r]uillet;
ah alas and at the-eighth it-sprouted
«e poiniei [i] pois autre[s] set
and I-strove there then other seven
«e sol mur mi a semenar,
and only die I there-is to-sow
«et el deu ben aitan poinar
and it ought well so-much to-strive
«avan que bruille ni paresca,
before that it-sprout or appear

«don Deus per sa merce l'acresca
whence God by his mercy it-increase
«el fassa naisser al mieu gaug!
and-it make be-born to-the my joy
«Car nulla ren non veg ni aug
For any thing not I-see or hear
«don espere que bes m'en veina
whence I-hope that good to-me-thence come
«si non de lai on totz bes reina.
if not from there where all good reigns
«Anc non vi malaute leumen
Ever not I-saw sick-man easily
«d'aiga de riu agues talen,
of-water of river had desire
«ans vei que tut son desiron
rather I-see that all are desirous
«de cella que nais en la fon;
of that which is-born in the spring
«e pauc val flor d'aguilensier
and little is-worth flower of-eglantine
«escontra cella del rosier:
against that of-the rose-bush
«ma domna es e fons e rosa
my lady is both spring and rose
«que tot ben daura et arosa,
who all good gilds and bedews
«e son de leis tant envejos
and I-am of her so desirous
«quel pensars m'en es saboros;
that-the thinking to-me-thereof is savory

«et on mais pens mai voil pensar
and the-more more I-think more I-wish to-think
«que no m'en puesc neis abenar.
for not myself-thereof I-can even to-refrain
«Ara vejas doncs que faria
Now see then what I-would-do
«s'entre mos brasses la tenia
if-between my arms her I-held
«que la sentis e la baises
that her I-felt and her kissed
«et a ma guisa la menes!
and at my manner her led
«Mais trop ai dig senes comjat
But too-much have-I said without leave
«quar de son tener ai parlat,
for of her holding have-I spoken
«quar non s'atain aisi la tenga;
for not itself-befits thus her I-hold
«non voil que per orat m'avenga
not I-wish that for mad-man it-befall-me
«si non avia son autrei.
if not I-had her grant
«Per dreg sobredesir follei
By right over-desire I-went-mad
«quem fai esser outracujat,
which-me makes to-be presumptuous

«mais per Amor o ai vesat
but through Love it I-have made-a-habit
«quem fai tener mi don soven
who-me makes to-hold my lady often
«tot a ma guisa en dormen.
all at my manner in sleeping
«Mais ges aiso fort nom trigava
But at-all this greatly not-to-me seemed-long
«quo disses ses Amors mi dava
that-it I-said whether Love to-me gave
«negun ben, dormen ni veillan:
any good sleeping or waking
«celar lan dei a mon semblan.
hide it I-ought to my seeming
«S'Amor mi fai nulla lauzenga
If-Love to-me does any flattery
«eu dei ben castiar ma lenga,
I ought well to-chastise my tongue
«que ja per ren non la mentava
that ever for anything not it I-mentioned
«si eiss'Amors non lam mandava,
if very-Love not it-me commanded
«car ieu sui totz en sa comanda
for I am all in her command
«e non dei far mais so qu'il manda.»
and not I-ought to-do but that which-she commands

Cel dimenegue siei obrier vengron;
That Sunday his workmen came
a gra[n] meravilla so tengron
at great marvel it they-held
de[l] sacramen que lur enquis
of-the oath that of-them he-required
avan que ren lur descubris
before that anything to-them he-disclosed
de l'obra que volia far;
of the-work that he-wished to-do
ben son maïstre de l'obrar
well they-are masters of-the working
e de far so ques el volia.
and of doing that which he wished
En cambras esteron lo dia
In chambers they-stayed the day
e la nug obron ab lumniera;
and the night they-work with light
bes gara cascus que non fera
well-himself looks each that not he-strike
tal colp que fassa gap ni b[r]uis,
such blow that make noise or clamor
non reten fers ni fustz no i cruis.
not rings iron or wood not there creaks

Dedins .vii. jorns agron complida
Within seven days they-had completed
tota lur obra, e polida
all their work and polished
tan ben als caps que no i pareis
so well at-the ends that not there appears
qu'anc i toques; Guillems meseis
that-ever there one-touched Guillem himself
que [i] fon ades es o sabia
who there was always and it knew
a grans penas o conoissia.
with great pains it he-knew
Per cella via soen treva,
By that way often he-goes
ginosamen las peiras leva,
cunningly the stones he-raises
e tot o fai per esproar
and all it he-does for testing
s'om re i pogra mellurar.
if-one anything there could to-improve

Of Love

V

The workmen leave. At mass Flamenca asks "Of what?" and Guillem stores the words. At home Margarida hopes he heard, and Flamenca is sure he could. Alis praises letters, without which no man is worth bread or salt. Guillem, delighted that her words fit his, takes them for favor, and on Ascension Thursday answers "Of love." Flamenca tells her maidens he is wounded by love; Alis bids her think of her answer. On Sunday she asks "For whom?"; Guillem, transported, wonders whether she doubts his love, but rejoices that he may now tell her all his desire.

A l'uchen jorn s'en van l'obrier,
At the-eighth day themselves-thence go the-workmen
e Guillems tenc vas lo mostier,
and Guillem held toward the minster
que de servir non s'anuialla;
that from serving not himself-wearies
bes garda que per ren non falla
well-himself he-guards that for anything not he-fail
a penre paz quant es sasos,
at taking peace when it-is season
quar aqui es s'ententios;
for there is his-attention
quan si tain la dona e la pren,
when itself befits it he-gives and it he-takes
que d'als pens'e non fai parvent.
that of-other-thing she-thinks-and not makes sign

Flamenca: «De que?» li demanda,
Flamenca Of what to-him asks
et el nota ben e garanda
and he notes well and guards
lo mot e met en cor prion,
the word and puts in heart deep
et abtan la donnas rescon
and thereupon the lady hides
e torna e sa cambiola
and returns into her cage
on Amor[s] la ten ad escola
where Love her holds at school
e dis li que nol sia greu
and says to-her that not-to-her it-be grievous
de sufrir un pauc, car plus leu
of suffering a little for more easily
que nos cuja l'estorsera
than herself she-thinks her-will-release
de la greu pena on esta.
from the grievous pain where she-stands
Alis e Margarida gardon
Alis and Margarida watch
Guillem, et on plus fort l'esgardon
Guillem and the-more more strongly him-they-gaze-at
plus i troban ad esgardar,
more there they-find to gaze-at
car de beutat noil trobon par.
for of beauty not-to-him they-find peer

Quant a maiso foron anadas,
When to house they-were gone
en la cambra s'en son intradas,
into the chamber themselves-thence are entered
e N'Archimbautz s'en eis defors.
and Sir-Archimbaut himself-thence goes-out outside
«Margarideta, bella sors,
Little-Margarida fair sister
dis Flamenca, «vostre motet
said Flamenca your little-word
«que m'e[n]senest tan asautet
which me-you-taught so pleasantly
«ai eu dig [oi] tot a rescost.»
have I said today all in hiding
Dese Margarid'a respost:
At-once Margarida-has answered
«Domna, Deus en sia grazitz,
Lady God thereof be thanked
«sol que sia per lui ausitz
only that it-be by him heard
«queus fai lo sieu tam ben entendre.
who-you makes the his so well understand
— Amiga, nous en qual encendre
Friend not-yourself thereof it-is-needful to-flush
«ni batre le cor de paor,
nor to-beat the heart from fear
«car, fe que dei la vostr'amor,
for faith that I-owe the your-love

«sitot davan mi tost si tolc
though before me soon himself he-removed
«fort ben o poc ausir sis volc,
greatly well it he-could to-hear if-himself he-wished
«e ja d'aiso nous cal temer.
and ever of-this not-to-you it-is-needful to-fear
«Pero dijous en sabrem ver,
Yet Thursday of-it we-shall-know truth
»qu'es festa de l'Assension.»
which-is feast of-the Ascension
Alis a dig: «Ben pauc ne son,
Alis has said Very few thereof are
«domna, de festas vas que solon.
lady of feasts toward what they-were-wont
«Certas, eu cug que mal nos volon
Certainly I think that ill to-us they-wish
«l'an el mei an, can pron non tenon.
the-year and-the mid year when enough not they-hold
«Van tot jorn las festas e venon;
Go all day the feasts and come
«consi n'es tam pauc en estat!
how thereof-is so few in summer
«.v. semanas n'avem estat
five weeks thereof-we-have been
«que no i ac festas mas dimenegues,
that not there had feasts but Sundays
«mais celz nos mellura le clergues;
but these to-us improves the cleric

«e fort bon son ara dimergue
and greatly good are now Sundays
«la merce [Deu] e del bel clergue,
the grace-of God and of-the fair cleric
«que ben aia qui l'ensenet
that well may-have who him-taught
«ni hanc primas letral mostret!
or ever first letters-to-him showed
«Quar ben conosc que pa ni sal
For well I-know that bread or salt
«negus hom ses letras non val,
any man without letters not is-worth
«e trop ne val meins totz rix hom
and too-much thereof is-worth less every rich man
«si non sap letras queacom,
if not he-knows letters somewhat
«e dona es trop melz aibida
and lady is too-much better endowed
«s'es de letras un pauc garnida.
if-she-is with letters a little furnished
«Ara digas, fe quem deves,
Now say faith that-me you-owe
«si non saupses tan con sabes
if not you-had-known so-much as you-know
«ques agras fag ar a dos anz
what you-would-have done now at two years
«qu'aves durat aquestz afanz?
that-you-have endured these troubles
«Morta foras e cruciada!
Dead you-would-have-been and tormented

«Mais non seres ja tan irada,
But not you-will-be ever so angered
«quan leges, que l'ira nos fonda.»
when you-read that the-anger not-itself melt
Nos pot tenir que noil responda
Not-herself can to-hold that to-her answer
Flamenca, e dau[s] si l'acolla:
Flamenca and toward herself her-embraces
«Amiga, vos non es ges folla,
Friend you not are at-all foolish
«e be m'acort d'aitant ab vos
and well myself-I-agree in-so-much with you
«que negus repaus non es bos
that any rest not is good
«ad home si letras non sap,
to man if letters not he-knows
«ans es vizis e quais mort sap;
rather is vice and almost death it-tastes
«e ja tant non encercares
and ever so-much not you-will-search
«que negun home atrobes,
that any man you-find
«si letras sap, que non volgues
if letters he-knows that not he-would-wish
«ancara mais aver apres;
still more to-have learned
«e cel que non sap molt volria
and he who not knows much would-wish
«ancar apenre si podia.
yet to-learn if he-could

«E quil saber pogues comprar,
And who-the knowledge could to-buy
«anc non vist home tan avar
ever not you-saw man so avaricious
«que sivals un pauc non compres,
that at-least a little not he-would-buy
«sol que a vendre n'atrobes.
only that for sale thereof-be-found
«Ja hom que letras non saupes
Ever man who letters not knew
«d'aiso nos fora entrames.»
of-this not-himself would-be meddled
Daus l'autra part Guillems recorda
From the-other part Guillem recalls
sos motz, e l'un ab l'autr'acorda:
his words and the-one with the-other-accords
«De que» fai s'el, «m'a demandat
Of what says he me-has asked
«cil que cel de que m'a donat;
she who that of what to-me-has given
«pero, mout li fai a grasir
yet much to-her it-makes to thank
«car hanc mi volc neis tan ausir
for ever me she-wished even so-much to-hear
«que de quem deines demandar.
that of what-to-me she-deigned to-ask

«Ja nom calra gaire poinar
Ever not-to-me it-will-matter much to-strive
«al respondre, qu'eu ben o sai
at-the answering for-I well it know
«que d'amor es le mals qu'eu ai,
that of-love is the ill that-I have
«e cel'amors de leis mi ten
and that-love of her me holds
«que m'a demandat sol de que.
who to-me-has asked only of what
«En dreg amor de lei mi lau.
In right love of her myself-I praise
«Car ren noil puesc dir tan suau
For anything not-to-her I-can to-say so softly
«ques a lei fort be non sovenga.
that to her greatly well not it-recall
«Tan grans bon'aventural venga
So great good-fortune-to-her may-come
«com pot voler ni desirar,
as she-can wish or desire
«ni eu sai a sos obs orar!
nor I know at her needs to-pray
«Quar beil mou de gran gentilesa
For well-to-her it-moves from great nobility
«qu'il ja pense tal sotilesa
that-she ever think such subtlety
«que sos motz ab los mieus acort.
that her words with the mine accord

«On plus los pessi nil[s] recort
The-more more them I-think or-them recall
«melz los trop juns et aresatz
better them I-find joined and arrayed
«que s'ieu eis los [agues] trobatz.
than if-I myself them had composed
«Poiria esser ja per ren
Could it-be ever for anything
«ques el mi volgues negun ben?
that she to-me wished any good
«Quar mi respon si a rason
For to-me she-answers so to reason
«semblera que volgues mon pron.
it-would-seem that she-wished my profit
«Si nom volgues ben nom pensera,
If not-to-me she-wished well not-thereof she-would-think
«si nom pesses ja non parlera,
if not-thereof she-thought ever not she-would-speak
«e per so fas tal argumen:
and for this I-make such argument
«cesta m'a donc a pessamen.
this-one me-has then in thought
«Estru sabra so que m'auci
Surely she-will-know that which me-kills
«ni per quel dis l'autrer mur mi.»
or for what-it I-said the-other-day die I

Le jous de Roasos a tersa
The Thursday of Rogations at terce
Guillems fort ben sa paz a tersa;
Guillem greatly well his peace has wiped

non vol per ren sa pas ad esme,
not he-wishes for anything his peace at random
ans garet ben lo poin el terme;
rather he-watched well the point and-the term
et a si dons que ben l'enten
and to his lady who well him-understands
a dig: «D'amor»; pois torna s'en.
has said Of-love then turns himself-thence
En Archimbautz non s'adormi,
Sir Archimbaut not himself-slept
totz primiers del mostier issi;
all first from-the minster he-went-out
e nous pesses apres disnar
and not-yourselves think after dining
issis de cambra per jugar;
he-went-out from chamber for playing
mais Deus volc c'us messages venc
but God wished that-a messenger came
que tot jorn deforas lo tenc.
who all day outside him held
Flamenca fon un pauc doptosa
Flamenca was a little doubtful
plus que non sol e consirosa,
more than — she-was-wont and anxious
e jac en so lieg cais marrida.
and lay in her bed as-if distressed
Davan leis estet Margarida
Before her stood Margarida
e dis li: «Domna, con estatz?
and said to-her Lady how are-you

«Ja dises ques hui sabriatz
Already you-said that today you-would-know
«del mot qu'ieu dis si l'e[n]tendet
of-the word that-I said if it-be-understood
«cel que l'autrier ab vos parlet.
he who the-other-day with you spoke
— Ai! bella dous'amiga mia,
Ah fair sweet-friend mine
«non sabratz s'ieu nous o disia!
not you-would-know if-I not-to-you it said
«Tot es al re que nous pessatz:
All is other thing than yourselves you-think
«d'amor ha dig ques es nafratz,
of-love he-has said that he-is wounded
«e d'amor mor e d'amor plain;
and of-love dies and of-love complains
«et anc non vi homen estrain
and ever not I-saw man strange
«que tan leu d'amor si plaisses
who so easily of-love himself complained
«a domna que non conogues.»
to lady whom not he-knew
Abtan Elis s'es embatuda
Thereupon Alis herself-is thrown
en las novas, e ges non muda
into the news and at-all not she-changes
que tot non diga son talan:
that all — she-say her will

«Domna», dis el', «e de cal dan
Lady said she and of what harm
«pensavas ques vengues clamar?
thought-you that-himself he-came to-complain
«Ja nous vengra sai rancurar,
Ever not-to-you he-would-come here to-grieve
«qui l'agues ferit ni raubat.
who him-had struck or robbed
«Desel tin[c] per enamorat,
Since-then I-held for enamored
«pos saup ques a vos si plania;
since I-knew that to you himself complained
«beus o dis, sius en sovenia;
well-to-you it I-said if-to-you thereof it-recalled
«e que vos non am non doptes,
and that you not he-love not doubt
«mas pensas vos que respondres.
but think you what you-will-answer
— Amiga, non m'i qual pensar,
Friend not to-me-there it-is-needful to-think
«car per cui li vol demandar;
for for whom to-him I-wish to-ask
«e quan serai certa per lui,
and when I-shall-be certain through him
«aissi con sui de que, per cui,
thus as I-am of what for whom
«adonc aurai major mestier
then I-shall-have greater need
«de bon conseil que de prumier.»
of good counsel than at first

Alis respont: «Anc bos conseilz
Alis answers Ever good counsel
«lai non falli on tals parelz
there not failed where such pair
«en una causa volc entendre.
in one thing wished to-attend
«Res nous pot tolre ni defendre
Anything not-you can to-take-away or forbid
«que non fassas vostre talen,
that — you-do your will
«sol que trop nous anes feinen
only that too-much not-you you-go feigning
«ni tengas vostre cor enclaus.
nor hold your heart enclosed
«Sovenga vos conssi es braus
Let-it-recall to-you how is harsh
«monsener, qu'ades si rancura;
my-lord who-always himself complains
«mas per vostra bon'aventura,
but for your good-fortune
«e queus plaza mais benanansa
and that-to-you please more happiness
«vos dona Dieus tal malanansa;
to-you gives God such misfortune
«e per far vostre ben meillor
and for making your good better
«vos donet Deus aital senor.
to-you gave God such lord

«Ancara, se Dieu plaz, venra
Still if God pleases will-come
«tals sazos que cest mals sera
such season that this ill will-be
«salsa del ben que vos aures,
sauce of-the good that you will-have
«e ja per so nous esmagues.»
and ever for this not-yourself dismay
Al dimergue, quant venc li ora
At-the Sunday when came the hour
de penre pas, ges non demora
of taking peace at-all not delays
Flamencha que non demandes:
Flamenca that — she-ask
«Per cui?» ans quel libre toques,
For whom before that-the book she-touched
e cant Guillems ac entendut
and when Guillem had understood
«per cui?» tenc si per ereubut;
for whom he-held himself for transported
e dis soven quan fo soletz:
and said often when he-was alone
«Bel sener Dieus, es so abetz
Fair lord God is this wile
«quan dis: Per cui? e dopta y
when she-said For whom and doubts there
«qu'eu non l'ami de bon cor fi?
that-I not her-love with good heart true
«Ben pot saber veramen l'ame,
Well she-can know truly I-her-love

«e que d'autrui a lui nom clame
and that of-another to her not-myself I-complain
«et a lei sui del tot rendutz
and to her I-am of-the whole rendered
«e per leis sui aissi vencutz; 4950
and through her am-I thus vanquished
«mais, pos li plai quem dein sufrir
but since to-her it-pleases that-me she-deign to-suffer
«queil diga del tot mon desir,
that-to-her I-say of-the whole my desire
«leu mi sera del tot a dire;
easily to-me it-will-be of-the whole to say
«quar per lui sufri tal martire
for through her I-suffer such martyrdom
«e per leis Amors mi tormenta 4955
and through her Love me torments
«ab un dous mal que m'atalenta;
with a sweet ill which me-pleases
«tant mi sap bo, hon plus m'en doil,
so-much to-me it-tastes good the-more more myself-thereof I-grieve
«que ges garitz esser non voil.»
that at-all healed to-be not I-wish
Flamenca e sas puncelletas,
Flamenca and her little-maidens
que ges non son follas ni bretas, 4960
who at-all not are foolish or stupid
tenon solatz e parlamen
hold cheer and speech
entre lur, quan podon, soven,
among them when they-can often

totz lur motz recordon e dison
all their words they-recall and say
el fuec d'amor ab els atison.
and-the fire of-love with them they-stir

For You

VI

At Pentecost Guillem answers "For you," and Flamenca marvels at a wooing that has come so quickly to prayers. Her maidens urge her not to delay, since delay wakes slanderers, and she chooses "What can I do?" a word neither yes nor no. Guillem weighs it, leans toward yes, and offers God his paradise for her, with her consent. On Saint Barnabas' day he answers "Heal"; Flamenca cannot see how, and her maidens trust him to find a way. On Saint John's day she asks "How?" almost touching his finger, and he is sure a ruse will free them both.

A Pantacosta, dreit per jorn,
At Pentecost straight by day
Guillems det paz, et ans que torn
Guillem gave peace and before that he-return
al capella, mout temeros
to-the chaplain very fearful
a dig a sa domna: «Per vos;»
has said to his lady For you
et [il] a dig en son corage:
and she has said in her heart
«Ben a [donc] passat vassallage
Well has then surpassed valor
«aquest rix homs c'aisi m'enquiera;
this rich man who-thus me-woos

«eu cug que sia la prumiera
I think that I-be the first
«ques anc mais fos aissi enquista;
who ever more was thus wooed
«ab breu solatz, ab pauc de vista,
with brief cheer with little of sight
«es vengutz de l'amor al[s] precs.
he-is come from the-love to-the prayers
«Ben es monseiner folz e pecs
Well is my-lord foolish and dull
«car mi ten presa ni serrada!
for me he-holds captive and locked
«Aras ai trobat, si m'agrada,
Now I-have found if to-me-it-pleases
«qui de sa preisom gitara,
who from his prison will-throw
«que ja garda pron no i tenra.»
that ever guard profit not there will-hold
Tot aiso dis a sas donzellas
All this she-said to her damsels
quant ella cambra fon ab ellas;
when in-the chamber she-was with them
pois demandet quais sospiran:
then she-asked as-if sighing
«E que dirai eu plus aitan?
And what shall-say I more so-much
«Quar deman sai que sera lucs;
For tomorrow I-know that will-be place

«e si daus mi partia jocs
and if from me parted game
«non cug que m'estes ben ni gen.»
not I-think that to-me-it-stood well or nobly
Margarida respon corren:
Margarida answers running
«Domna, si tan faire volses
Lady if so-much to-do you-wished
«que vostre cor nos mostrasses,
that your heart to-us you-showed
«meilz vos en saupram consseillar;
better you thereof we-would-know-how to-counsel
«mais, qu'en faretz ni queus en par,
but what-thereof you-will-do or what-to-you thereof seems
«non suffrires queus am eus blanda
not you-will-suffer that-you love and-you flatter
«cel rix hom cui Amors vos manda
that rich man whom Love to-you sends
«per vostre cor amor tener.
for your heart love to-hold
«Domna, mout vos degra plazer
Lady much to-you it-ought to-please
«tals oms cui Amors vos tramet,
such man whom Love to-you sends
«quar si de bon cor s'entremet
for if of good heart himself-he-meddles
«de vos garir e desliurar.»
of you healing and delivering
Alis nom poc mais escoutar,
Alis not could more to-listen

ans dis: «Domna, trop alongiers
rather said Lady too-much lengthening
«esveilla falses lausengiers,
wakes false slanderers
«e fai tan blandir em perdos
and makes so-much flattering in vain
«que refrena cor volontos;
that restrains heart willing
«alonguis fa man destorbier.
lengthening makes many-a hindrance
«Per vous don'eu per don intier
For you give-I for gift entire
«que vostre cor plus non celez;
that your heart more not you-hide
«fai[tz] li saber que ben volrez
make to-him know that well you-will-wish
«s'amor, som pres e sa paria,
his-love his worth and his company
«quar sener es de cortesia.
for lord he-is of courtesy
«Tant es savis et enginnos,
So he-is wise and ingenious
«si con ieu pes, et amor[o]s,
so as I think and amorous
«que ben gardara vos e se,
that well he-will-guard you and himself
«que ja nulz hom non sabra re
that ever any man not will-know anything
«ques el vos ame ni vos lui.
that he you love or you him

«E dic vos, quan sere[tz] amdui,
And I-say to-you when you-will-be both
«el mon non aura tal pareil,
in-the world not will-have such pair
«negeis la luna nil soleil.
not-even the moon or-the sun
«El es soleilz e vos soleilla.
He is sun and you she-sun
«E pos Amors o apareilla,
And since Love it prepares
«per Dieu! non o tolla mas geins;
by God not it let-take-away but guile
«res non seria mas deseins
anything not would-be but folly
«si tals jocs fallia per vos.
if such game failed through you
«Respondet li un mot doptos
Answer to-him a word doubtful
«quil fassa bon entendement
that-to-him make good understanding
«el don amor ab espavent.
and-to-him give love with fear
— Bell'amigueta, sius plasia,
Fair-little-friend if-to-you it-pleased
«sol qu'en pues[c]? li demandaria,
only what-thereof can-I to-him I-would-ask

«car cest motz es aissi cubertz
for this word is thus covered
«que ja per lui non sera certz
that ever by it not he-will-be certain
«qu'ieu l'ami ni dese[s]peratz.
that-I him-love or despaired
— Per Dieu! non sia oblidatz,»
By God not let-it-be forgotten
zo dis Margarida, «cest motz,
this said Margarida this word
«car mieller es, dona, de totz.
for better is lady than all
— Amiga non l'oblidarai;
Friend not it-I-will-forget
«se Dieu plaz, deman lo dirai.»
if God pleases tomorrow it I-will-say
Aicest vanat ben attendet,
This pledge well she-kept
quar l'endeman, que pas li det
for the-next-day when peace to-her he-gave
Guillems, li dis: «Qu'en pucs?» suau,
Guillem to-her said What-thereof can-I softly
mais el o enten ben et au
but he it understands well and hears
car ben entendre o volia.
for well to-understand it he-wished

Nos bistenset, ans tenc sa via
Not-himself he-delayed rather he-held his way
e dis: «Cest motz aitan m'aporta
and said This word so-much to-me-brings
«que daus una part mi conorta
that from one part me comforts
«e daus l'autra part si m'esglaia,
and from the-other part so me-dismays
«que non sai cal conort m'en traia
that not I-know what comfort to-me-thence I-draw
«en qu'en puesc? non ai dan ni pron;
in what-thereof can-I not I-have harm or profit
«ab quen puesc? non dis hoc ni non.
with what-thereof can-I not she-said yes or no
«Pero, qui ben [i] vol entendre,
Yet who well there wishes to-understand
«ben sembla que mais deja penre
well it-seems that more it-ought to-take
«vaus hoc que vaus non tal doptansa.
toward yes than toward no such doubt
«Ben atrobet mot de balansa;
Well she-found word of balance
«veramens es domna reials
truly she-is lady royal
«que motz faitisses naturals
who words fashioned natural
«atroba dese contrals mieus.
finds at-once against-the mine
«Dirai vos o, bel sener Dieus:
I-shall-say to-you it fair lord God

«del paradis quem deves dar
of-the paradise that-to-me thou-owest to-give
«pogras ab mi fort ben passar,
thou-couldst with me greatly well pass
«passar! ans i faria gietas,
pass rather there I-would-make throws
«els apostols e las prophetas
and-the apostles and the prophets
«vos en daria per fermansa
to-you thereof I-would-give for surety
«que la renda qu'ieu ai en Fransa
that the rent that-I have in France
«dones a gliesas es a ponz
I-would-give to churches and to bridges
«sim laissavas aver mi donz
if-me thou-didst-let have my lady
«ab son autrei et ab son grat,
with her grant and with her will
«qu'estiers non voil m'aias donat
for-otherwise not I-wish me-thou-have given
«leis ni tot[a] la re qu'aves,
her or all the thing that-thou-hast
«s'avias neis
if-thou-hadst even
* * *
(lacuna)
«O aitant quan ne poiras faire,
Or as-much as thereof thou-wilt-be-able to-do
«e qu'ieu fos de tot emperaire.»
and that-I were of all emperor

Mout estet ben cella semana;
Much stood well that week
tot lo cor li reven el sana
all the heart to-him returns and-it heals
cel motz qu'en pocs? e fort s'en lausa,
that word what-thereof can-I and greatly himself-thereof praises
e ges non l'engana nil bausa
and at-all not him-deceives or-him cheats
qu'e mantas guisas non l'espona.
that-in many ways not it-he-expounds
A! tanta bona glosal dona!
Ah so-much good gloss-to-it he-gives
«Si Dieus mi gart,» fai s'el, «de mal,
If God me guard says he from ill
«quan dis: Qu'en pusc? atertan val,
when she-said What-thereof can-I as-much avails
«con si disia: Eu en farai
as if she-said I thereof will-do
«tot so que ja far en poirai.
all that which ever to-do thereof I-shall-be-able
«Non fail volontatz ni sabers
Not fails will or knowledge
«ab sol quel ters fassa poders.»
with only that-the third make power
A l'uctava de Pantacosta
At the-octave of Pentecost
feiron la festa, mais pauc costa,
they-made the feast but little it-costs
de l'apostol san Barnabe,
of the-apostle saint Barnabas

quar plus no i gitar[i]al pe
for more not there would-throw-the foot
Flamencha fora de la tor
Flamenca out of the tower
per lui que per .i. confessor
for him than for a confessor
de cui hom festa non feses
of whom one feast not made
s'a dimenegue non avengues,
if-on Sunday not it-fell
car nom pogra ni [non] ausera
for not she-could and not would-dare
ni ja lezer om non l'en dera.
and ever leisure one not to-her-thereof would-give
A cel jorn, tot per ver'enseina,
At that day all for true-teaching
aissi con fin'Amors l'enseina,
thus as true-Love him-teaches
quan fo sasons c'o pogues dir,
when it-was season that-it he-could to-say
Guillems dis a si dons: «Garir.»
Guillem said to his lady To-heal
Flamenca pensa e consira
Flamenca thinks and ponders
et en son cor dis et arbira:
and in her heart says and judges
«Consi puesc far eu garimen
How can to-make I healing
«al[s] mals d'amors c'us autre sen?
to-the ills of-loves that-one other feels

«Non sai conssim n'antremeses,
Not I-know how-myself thereof-I-meddled
«et on plus i consir niei pes
and the more there I-ponder or-there I-think
«meins i trop de luec e d'aisina
less there I-find of place and of-means
«consi pogues faire mecina
how I-could to-make medicine
«als mals que cel suffre per me,
for-the ills that he suffers for me
«aissi con dis, e ben o cre.
thus as he-said and well it I-believe
«Cest ardimen ques el a fait,
This boldness that he has done
«quar anc s'entrames d'aital plait,
for ever himself-meddled with-such plea
«es argumens fis e verais
is argument true and genuine
«que per amor es en pantais;
that for love he-is in torment
«e sitot el non m'o disia
and though he not it-to-me said
«ben cre que cil amors es mia,
well I-believe that this love is mine
«quar si d'autr'a[mor] si dolgues
for if of-another-love himself he-grieved
«non cug ques a mi s'en plaisses.»
not I-think that to me himself-thereof he-complained

Tot so qu'el mostier si pesset
All that which-in-the minster herself she-thought
a sas donzelletas comtet,
to her little-damsels she-told
et ellas pensson eissamen
and they think likewise
e lauson fort cel ardimen;
and praise greatly that boldness
mais quant ven[c] a la corta fi
but when came to the short end
conseillon quel deman conssi?
they-counsel that-to-him she-ask how
Quar ja ren non sabrion menar
For ever anything not they-would-know to-bring
que poguesson engien trobar
that they-could guile find
consi pogues far garison
how he-could to-make healing
d'amor a cel que lan somon,
of-love to him who her-thereof summons
e dizon: «Mais aitan fag n'a,
and they-say But so-much done thereof-he-has
«alcun bon engien trobara
some good guile he-will-find
«per vos e per si veramen
for you and for himself truly
«de que seres amdui gausen.
of which you-will-be both rejoicing
— E Dieus o don per sa merce!»
And God it give by his mercy

Dis Flamenca, «qu'eu non sai re
Said Flamenca for-I not know anything
«cos pogues aiso avenir
how-itself could this to-come-about
«qu'eu saupes plus [de lui] gausir
that-I could more of him enjoy
«ni el de me que fai aora.
or he of me than he-does now
— Em petit d'ora Deus laora,
In little of-hour God works
so dis Alis, «e bos esforz
this said Alis and good effort
«malastre venz. Ses el estors
misfortune conquers If-himself he escaped
«que mon seiner non o conosca,
that my lord not it know
«tota l'autra gen fara losca;
all the-other folk he-will-make one-eyed
«losca! el hoc, neis, per Dieu! orba,
one-eyed he yes even by God blind
«car ab cara simpla l'issorba
for with face simple it-he-blinds
«et ab semblanz cubertz, bonils.
and with looks covered bland
«E pos en so es tan sotilz
And since in this he-is so subtle
«que, vezen totz, am vos paraula,
that seeing all with you he-speaks

«ques hom non entent sa paraula
that one not understands his word
«mais vos sola per cui i es,
but you alone for whom there it-is
«to[s]t aura bon engen apres
soon he-will-have good guile learned
«conssi ab vos posca trobar
how with you he-can to-find
«si vos o voles autrejar.»
if you it wish to-grant
Aicest consseil van recordan
This counsel they-go recalling
entro al jorn de san Joan,
until to-the day of saint John
car lo sapte sa festa fon.
for the Saturday his feast was
Ges non donet paz em perdon
At-all not he-gave peace in vain
Guillems a si dons aquel dia,
Guillem to his lady that day
car, aissi con empres avia,
for thus as undertaken she-had
li dis: «Consi» mot suavet,
to-him she-said How word softly
et ab pauc noil toquet lo det
and with little to-him she-touched the finger
del sieu quan so sauteri pres.
of-the his when his psalter she-took

Ben agra fait coma cortes
Well he-would-have done as courtly
sans Joans s'o agues suffert
saint John if-it he-had allowed
que tal signe e tan apert
that such sign and so open
Guillems agues cel jorn avut;
Guillem had that day had
ben amera mais sa vertut;
well he-would-love more his virtue
pero tan petit en falli
yet so little thereof it-failed
que ab lo mot lo mielz compli
that with the word the better she-accomplished
quar si l'ateis ben tro al cor.
for so him-it-reached well up to-the heart
Trop gausens s'en tornet el cor,
Very joyful himself-thence returned into-the choir
e volgra ben quel capellans
and he-would-wish well that-the chaplain
agues dig meijorn antremans
had said midday beforehand
que ja el non l'agues ausit.
that ever he not it-had heard
Quan agron lur mestier fenit
When they-had their office finished
a l'ostal s'en vai totz joios
to the-lodging himself-thence goes all joyful
e menet ne sos compainos,
and led thence his companions

so fon l'ostes e dan Justis.
this was the-host and sir Justin
Apres disnar non s'adurmis,
After dining not himself-fell-asleep
mais ben vai el lieg es sojorna
but well goes in-the bed and rests
et a cascun de sos motz torna;
and to each of his words returns
e cant s'est tornatz a conssi
and when himself-has turned to how
de joi canta e dis aissi:
of joy he-sings and says thus
«Ma dousa domna, ben viatz,
My sweet lady very quickly
«sol que vos creire m'en vullatz,
only that you to-believe me-thereof you-wish
«aurai eu bon engien trobat
shall-have I good guile found
«per que serem ben desliurat
for which we-shall-be well delivered
«vos de preison de mal senor
you from prison of evil lord
«et eu de las dolors d'amor,
and I from the pains of-love
«que per vos tot jorn mi destrein;
which for you all day me afflict
«mas, si merces mi fai captein
but if mercy to-me makes protection
«e vos a merce connoissetz,
and you to mercy know

«aissi con faitz e far devetz,
thus as you-do and to-do you-ought
«ja pois nous sove[n]ra dels mals,
ever then not-to-you will-recall of-the ills
«tant es nostre bens cominals.
so-much is our good common
«E per so l'apelle comun,
And for this it-I-call common
«quar de dos ne farem sol un
for of two thereof we-shall-make only one
«e poirem dir: Tot cest es nostre,
and we-shall-be-able to-say All this is ours
«quar totz es mieus e tot es vostre;
for all is mine and all is yours
«e cascun lo tenra per sieu:
and each it will-hold for his
«eu lo vostre e vos lo mieu,
I the yours and you the mine
«car aissi tain de compainia
for thus befits of companionship
«que so de l'un de l'autre sia.»
that that of the-one of the-other be

By a Ruse

VII

The Sunday after Saint John's day Guillem answers "By a ruse." Alis and Margarida urge Flamenca to reply "Take it," since a lady who will not when she may will not when she would. Alis sneezes, and Flamenca yields, though she fears the dishonor of consenting so lightly. On the feast of Peter and Paul she answers and lets him see her eyes and face. Guillem, claiming a cure, lets his hosts return home, and next answers "I have taken it." Flamenca vows herself to him alone; Alis bids her ask "Which?" and Margarida argues she will be healed twice.

Al dimergue, apres la festa
On-the Sunday after the feast
de san Joan, jes non s'aresta
of saint John at-all not himself-stops
Guillems de so mestier a segre;
Guillem from his office to follow
a si dons venc ab cor alegre
to his lady he-came with heart glad
quan li det pas, mas ges nos fein
when to-her he-gave peace but at-all not-himself he-holds-back
que nol diga suau: «Per gein.»
that not-to-her he-say softly By guile
E Flamenca tot so e mais
And Flamenca all this and more
a sas piuzelletas retrais,
to her little-maidens told

e prega las a bona fe
and begs them in good faith
l'acossellon, que aras ve
her-they-counsel for now comes
li sazos qu'il n'a gran beso[i]na.
the season that-she thereof-has great need
Alis respont: «Non m'er vergoina
Alis answers Not to-me-it-will-be shame
«qu'ieu nous en diga tot mon sen
that-I to-you thereof say all my mind
«aissi con dis prumieramen;
thus as I-said first
«e pos Dieus lous a enviat
and since God him-to-you has sent
«e[u] pes mi ben qu'el a penssat
I think me well that-he has thought
«de vos desliurar bona via;
of you delivering good way
«per so, sius plaz, li respondria:
for this if-to-you it-pleases to-him I-would-answer
«Pren li, car s'el eis non lui pren
Take it for if-he himself not it takes
«vos nol penres, mon eissien.»
you not-it will-take to-my knowing

Margarida ben o autreja,
Margarida well it grants
e dis: «Totz homs c'aissi domneja
and said Every man who-thus courts
«ben sembla que deja trobar
well it-seems that he-ought to-find
«tot so que tain ad ops d'amar,
all that which befits for need of-loving
«engieins e voutas e cubertas;
guiles and turns and covers
«e d'aissous fas, endreg mi, certas
and of-this-you I-make toward me certain
«que, si fossem el temps antic
that if we-were in-the time ancient
«et eu trobes aital amic,
and I found such friend
«ben cujera Jupiter fos
well I-would-think Jupiter he-were
«o alcus dels dieus amoros.
or one of-the gods amorous
«E seguramen respondes:
And safely answer
«Pren li, car ges loc non aves
Take it for at-all place not you-have
«de far lonc domnei si con fan
of making long courting so as do
«cellas domnas que legor an,
those ladies who leisure have

«quar [ab] lur fantaumetas paisson
for with their little-phantoms they-feed
«los fis amans tro qu'il si la[i]sson
the true lovers until that-they themselves leave-off
«de las pregar per plan enueg,
from them begging for plain annoyance
«tan son de lur novas esdug;
so-much are-they by their tidings led-astray
«e pois ellas penedon s'en
and then they repent themselves-thereof
«quan le pentirs non val nien,
when the repenting not is-worth nothing
«car qui non fes can far poiria
for who not did when to-do she-could
«ja non fara quan far volria.»
ever not will-do when to-do she-would-wish
Flamenca sospira e muda
Flamenca sighs and changes
color, et Alis estornuda
color and Alis sneezes
e dis tantost: «Ben vai l'affars;
and said at-once Well goes the-affair
«nuls affars non fora plus cars
any affair not would-be more dear
«aora d'aquest estornut.»
now than-this sneeze
Flamenca respon: «Dieus t'ajut!
Flamenca answers God thee-help
Alis, c'aitan gen mi conortas;
Alis for-so nobly me thou-comfortest

«daus totas partz solaz m'aportas.
from all parts cheer to-me-thou-bringest
«E pois vei que aitan vos plaz
And since I-see that so-much to-you it-pleases
«et a bona fem cosseillaz,
and in good faith-me you-counsel
«segrai vostre conseil ades;
I-will-follow your counsel at-once
«mais tot apertamen confes
but all openly I-confess
«en aquest mot qu'ieu voil s'amor;
in this word that-I wish his-love
«non sai si m'i ai deisonor
not I-know if to-me-there I-have dishonor
«car en aissi leujaramen
for in this-way lightly
«amor d'aital home consen.
love of-such man I-consent
— Domna, ja nous er deisonors,»
Lady ever not-to-you it-will-be dishonor
so dis Alis, «s'o vol Amors;
this said Alis if-it wishes Love
«mais si de cor ben non l'amas
but if from heart well not him-you-loved
«e nostre conseill seguias
and our counsel you-followed
«nous estaria ges trop ben.
not-to-you it-would-stand at-all too well

«Mais lai on Amors tiral fren
But there where Love pulls-the rein
«e bos conseilz e volontatz,
and good counsel and will
«revens tot sens una foudatz.
overcomes all sense a folly
«Pero sens es e non follors
Yet sense it-is and not folly
«zo que sens vol, et ai n'auctors
that which sense wishes and I-have thereof-authors
«totz los adreitz el[s] gais els pros,
all the upright and-the gay and-the worthy
«e celz cui non amon gilos;
and those whom not love the-jealous
«e non sai tan fort malanconi
and not I-know so strongly melancholy-one
«nom portes d'aiso testimoni,
not-to-me he-bear of-this testimony
«neis mosener, s'a plag tornava
even my-lord if-to plea it-turned
«ni las rasons hom li comtava.»
or the reasons one to-him told
Al jous apres fon passions
On-the Thursday after was passion
de dos apostols glorios
of two apostles glorious
que son major princep del cel
who are greater princes of-the heaven
aprop monsenor san Michel.
after my-lord saint Michael

A cel jorn per bon'aventura
At that day by good-fortune
Flamenca Guillem assegura
Flamenca Guillem assures
de s'amor quan li descobri
of her-love when to-him she-disclosed
en l'ora qu'el meseis causi;
at the-hour that-he himself chose
e fes li un cortes presen
and made to-him a courtly present
plen d'amor e de chausimen,
full of-love and of clemency
quar mostret li plus que non sol
for she-showed to-him more than — she-was-wont
los ueilz, la boca el morsol,
the eyes the mouth and-the face
e plus longamen l'esgardet
and more long him-she-gazed-at
dreitz oilz, entro que s'en ostet,
straight eyes until that herself-thence she-removed
que quan leis dreitz oilz non esgarda,
for when her straight eyes not he-looks
quar hom non pot, de tot[z] si garda
for one not can from all himself guard
e majormen de l'aversier
and most from the-adversary
que l'estet al destre ladrier.
who to-her-stood at-the right side

Mout es Guillems en gran delieg
Much is Guillem in great delight
quar de si dons a gran respieg,
for from his lady he-has great hope
e ben ten ara per certan
and well he-holds now for certain
qu'Amors lo vol far sobeira
that-Love him wishes to-make sovereign
de totz aimadors, e ben aia
of all lovers and well may-have
qui aitan gen son cor apaia!
who so nobly his heart contents
Cel jorn a sa osta mandet
That day to his hostess he-sent
vengues a lui; ben l'en creset
that-she-come to him well to-him-thereof she-believed
quar ab seinor et ab mainada
for with lord and with household
s'es ab lui ricamen disnada.
herself-has with him richly dined
Del retornar lur det comjat,
Of-the returning to-them he-gave leave
quar bes sen d'aitan meillurat
for well-himself he-feels by-so-much improved
que nol cal estar mai ugan
that not-to-him it-is-needful to-stay more this-year
aissi privat con fes avan,
thus private as he-did before

e non a mestier d'ongemen
and not he-has need of-ointment
ni nons vol bainar tan soven.
and not-himself wishes to-bathe so often
Lo prumier jorn que plus parlet
The first day that more he-spoke
ab sa dona, li respondet:
with his lady to-her he-answered
«Pres l'ai», et il si meravilla
Taken it-I-have and she herself marvels
e mout dousamen lo rodilla
and very sweetly him gazes-at
si qu'ap l'esgart si son baisat
so that-with the-look themselves are kissed
lur oil e lur cor embrassat.
their eyes and their hearts embraced
D'aicest bais tals dousor lur ven
From-this kiss such sweetness to-them comes
que caschus per garitz si ten.
that each for healed himself holds
Flamenca dis: «Pot esser vers
Flamenca said Can it-be true
«qu'el aia pensat en .iii. sers
that-he have thought in three evenings
«con eu li posca far guirensa?
how I to-him can to-make healing
«A! con fui de mala cresensa!
Ah how I-was of evil belief
«Pechat y fas, car sol y dopte.
Sin there I-do for only there I-doubt

«Anc non so penset en desopte:
Ever not this he-thought in suddenness
«a pessat venc com pogues far
at thought he-came how he-could to-do
«mom plazer, per quem dei garar
my pleasure for which-me I-ought to-guard
«qu'en ren noil fassa son enuig.
that-in anything not-to-him I-do his annoyance
«Mas .ii. jorn mi semblaran .viii.
But two days to-me will-seem eight
«entro qu'eu sapja de qual guisa
until that-I know in what manner
«el o engiena ni devisa.
he it contrives or devises
«E bel promet ci davan Dieu
And well-it I-promise here before God
«que, s'el pot enginar et eu,
that if-he can to-contrive and I
«cossi puscam esser essems,
how we-can be together
«soa vul esser per to[z] tems;
his I-wish to-be for all times
«quar sol mi vol faire socors
for alone me he-wishes to-make succor
«vul que sols aia mas amors;
I-wish that alone he-have my love
«car sol mi vol de mort garir
for alone me he-wishes from death to-heal
«voil eu a lui solet servir.
wish I to him alone to-serve

«Pauc deg amar los cavalliers
Little I-ought to-love the knights
«de mon païs: dos ans entiers
of my country two years entire
«hai estat en greu marrimen,
have-I been in grievous distress
«et anc negus non fes parven
and ever any not made sign
«queil peses, e cil d'esta terra
that-to-him it-weighed and those of-this land
«que veson con hom mi soterra
who see how one me buries
«tota viva, em fai languir
all alive and-me makes to-languish
«a gran dolor, a mi venir
to great pain to me to-come
«ni auson ni volon ni deinon.
nor dare nor wish nor deign
«Tort n'auran, si cortes s'en feinon,
Wrong thereof-they-will-have if courtly themselves-thereof they-feign
«c'aital dompna, paura estraina,
for-such lady poor strange
«laisson murir; mais, sim gasaina
they-let die but if-me gains
«aquest qu'en es aisi proatz,
this-one who-thereof is thus proved
«jamais non deu esser camjatz
ever not he-ought to-be changed
«per feinedor fals, d'avol cor,
for feigner false of-worthless heart

«qu'ab la boca dis ades mor,
who-with the mouth says always I-die
«et el cor pensa traïcion.
and in-the heart thinks treason
«Malaventura Deus li don
Misfortune God to-him give
«qui mais vos amara qu'eu sia!
who more you will-love than-I be
«Mais, si Nostre Sener volia
But if Our Lord wished
«que cest fos cavalliers letraz,
that this-one were knight lettered
«tot[z] los auria desliuratz
all them he-would-have delivered
«de[l] mal qu'ieu lur voil per bon dreg,
from-the ill that-I to-them wish by good right
«quar son vas mi tan mal adreg;
for they-are toward me so ill disposed
«mas cest dei amar per rason
but this-one I-ought to-love by reason
«car si met per mi a bandon
for himself he-puts for me at risk
«en tan certan peril de mort.
in so certain peril of death
«Mais, poisas tan l'a Dieus estort,
But since so-much him-has God preserved
«ancara l'estorcera mai
still him-he-will-preserve more
«quar de bon cor l'en pregarai;
for of good heart him-thereof I-will-pray

«e sai ben qu'el mi ausira
and I-know well that-he me will-hear
«car sap ben lo mestier que m'a.»
for he-knows well the need that-to-me he-has
Tot aisso el mostier si pensa.
All this in-the minster herself she-thinks
A l'ostal van aprop la messa,
To the-lodging they-go after the mass
mais aitant tost con fo issitz
but as-much soon as was gone-out
de la tor le gilos marritz,
from the tower the jealous-one distressed
ol maritz, sius voles, gilos
or-the husband if-you you-wish jealous
Flamenca dis: «Vostre sermos,
Flamenca said Your sermon
«donzellas, e vostre presics
damsels and your preachings
«m'a tan fait que ges trop enix
me-has so-much done that at-all too cruel
«non es mos cors de lui amar,
not is my heart of him loving
«qu'aitan belz e tan bos mi par;
for-so fair and so good to-me he-seems
«et am dig hui qu'engien a pres,
and to-me-he-has said today that-guile he-has taken
«mais ancara non sai quals es.»
but still not I-know which it-is

Alis respon, e no i bistensa:
Alis answers and not there delays

«Domna, mais en nostra plevensa
Lady since into our pledge

«vos metetz, a Dieu o grazem,
you put-yourself to God it we-thank

«quar, si ben vos ven, nos serem
for if well to-you it-comes we we-shall-be

«causa del ben, e s'autramen
cause of-the good and if-otherwise

«vos avenia, eissamen
to-you it-befell likewise

«total colpa nostra seria;
all-the fault ours would-be

«e cascuna de nos volria
and each of us would-wish

«avan esser justisiada
before to-be executed

«que vos fosses de ren blasmada.
than you were of anything blamed

«Mais Dieus, ques es vers perdonaire
But God who is true pardoner

«e conois ben tot vostre [a]faire,
and knows well all your affair

«cossi hom a tort vos malmena
how one at wrong you mistreats

«eus ten quais presa en cadena,
and-you holds as-if captive in chain

«vos er de tot mal garimenz
to-you will-be of every ill healing
«e de tot ben avansamenz;
and of every good advancement
«e sol que bona fes nous failla
and only that good faith not-you fail
«vaus cel que per vos si trebailla,
toward him who for you himself toils
«mais queil portes amor leial,
but that-to-him you-bear love loyal
«vera e fina e coral,
true and fine and hearty
«eus covenc, dona, per ma fe
and-to-you I-promise lady by my faith
«totz le monz er a vostre be.
all the world will-be at your good
«E mais vos dis qu'engen penra
And since to-you he-said that-guile he-will-take
«don si e vos estorsera,
whence himself and you he-will-deliver
«demandas li, sius plaz: E qual?
ask to-him if-to-you it-pleases And which
«Car no i a mais conseil aital,
For not there has more counsel such
«e sius par bona la maniera
and if-to-you it-seems good the manner
«de son engien, plus voluntiera
of his guile more willingly
«deves tot la re consentir».
you-ought all the thing to-consent

Margarida nos poc suffrir
Margarida not-herself could to-bear
que non parles, e dis: «Mil tans
that — she-spoke and said Thousand times
«deu esser majers le talans
ought to-be greater the desire
«de vos, domna, quel sieus non es,
of you lady than-the his — is
«cossi pocses far quel plagues.
how you-could do what-to-him pleased
«E, sius voletz, proarai o:
And if-you you-wish I-will-prove it
«el non a mais una preiso,
he not has but one prison
«et aquil es alques joiosa
and that-one is somewhat joyful
«e per vostr'amor saborosa,
and for your-love savory
«mais vos aves doas preisos:
but you have two prisons
«l'una es del marit gilos
the-one is of-the husband jealous
«que tot jorn tensa e menassa
who all day quarrels and threatens
«e ja ren nous dira queus plassa;
and ever anything not-to-you will-say that-to-you please
«l'autra es cors e volontatz
the-other is heart and will
«de faire so que vol beutatz,
of doing that which wishes beauty

«honors e jois, precs e jovens,
honor and joy prayers and youth
«domnei, solatz e causimens.
courting cheer and clemency
«E car acabar non podes.
And for achieve not you-can
«So queus plaz, per presaus tenes.
That which-to-you pleases for captive-you you-hold
«E per so li preisos es dobla
And for this the prison is double
«quar vetz e destreissa la dobla:
for prohibition and constraint it doubles
«le vetz vos tol fors'e poder
the prohibition from-you takes force-and power
«el destrecha fai vos doler.
and-the constraint makes you to-grieve
«A lui non sofrain ren mais vos,
To him not lacks anything but you
«totz l'autre mons es a sos pros,
all the-other world is at his profit
«e vos est a secle perduda
and you are to world lost
«et el a vos car nous ajuda.
and he to you for not-you he-helps
«E per so provi per rason.
And for this I-prove by reason

«Ques en la soa garison
That in the his healing
«prendes vos plus de garimen
you-take you more of healing
«ques el meteis, quar doblamen
than he himself for doubly
«seres guerid', et el gueritz
you-will-be healed and he healed
«del mal don es per vos feritz.»
from-the ill whence he-is by you struck

It Pleases Me

VIII

Flamenca makes Margarida, for her learning, head of her counsel. "And which?" "You will go." "Where?" "To the baths." On Saint James's day she asks "When?"; on the fifth day Guillem answers "A day soon and fair." Flamenca resolves to answer on Saint Peter's feast. Alis teaches that love without fear is worth nothing; Flamenca, pricked by Fear, Love, and Shame, reasons that her rent to Love is overdue. Resolved to answer "It pleases me," she faints, then tells Archimbaut of a gout at her heart that bathing once cured. He has Peire Gui ready the baths for Wednesday.

Flamenca dis: «Qui t'ensenet,
Flamenca said Who thee-taught
«Margarida, ni quit mostret,
Margarida or who-thee showed
«fe quem deus, tan de dialetica?
faith that-to-me thou-owest so-much of dialectic
«S'aguessas legit arismetiga,
If-thou-hadst read arithmetic

«astronomia e musica,
astronomy and music
«non agras meils dig la fesica
not thou-wouldst-have better said the medicine
«dels mals qu'eu ai loncs tems suffertz.
of-the ills that-I have long time suffered
«Ja mos cors mais non t'er cubertz,
Ever my heart more not to-thee-will-be covered
«quar tan ben con eu vei quel saps
for as well as I see that-it thou-knowest
«de mon conseill vo[i]l sias caps;
of my counsel I-wish thou-be head
«eu et Alis no i serem plus,
I and Alis not there will-be more
«quar nostre cors son assas us,
for our hearts are enough one
«mai sol aquil a cui s'atain,
but only that-one to whom it-befits
«en cui ma dolors si refrain
in whom my pain itself softens
«em fai esta semana longa;
and-me makes this week long
«veja[i]re m'es quel[s] jorns alonga.»
seeming to-me-is that-the day lengthens

A l'uiten jorn ill demandet:
At the-eighth day she asked
«E cal?» poissas apres estet
And which then after stood
autres .viii. jorns; apres respos
another eight days after answered
Guillems: «Iretz», mais non espos
Guillem You-will-go but not he-explained
on ni on no, car non podia;
where or where not for not he-could
per so demandet l'autre dia
for this asked the-other day
Flamenca, e nol fon ges pena,
Flamenca and not-to-her was at-all pain
dreg lo jorn de la Magdalena
straight the day of the Magdalen
quan fon sazos ni luecs: «Es on?»
when was season and place It-is where
E l'endema Guillems respon:
And the-next-day Guillem answers
«Als banz», ado[n]cas entendet
To-the baths then understood
Flamencal luec, e breu creset
Flamenca-the place and soon believed
que per rason esser pogues
that by reason be it-could
ques alcun engien fag agues
that some guile done he-had
per o[n] vengues a leis el[s] bains.
by where he-came to her in-the baths

Domideu prega e totz sanz
Lord-God she-prays and all saints
que de tal guisa [sia] fait
that in such manner it-be done
que noil sia en mal retrait.
that not-to-her it-be in ill reproached
Quan so ac dig a sas piucellas
When this she-had said to her maidens
cascuna dis: «Bonas novellas,
each said Good news
«domna, sabes, ades comtar;
lady you-know at-once to-tell
«mais corans anarem bainar?
but when-us will-we-go bathing
«Sapias que trop nos demora.
Know that too-much to-us it-delays
— Voles donquas quel deman cora?
Do-you-wish then that-to-him I-ask when
— Hoc, domna, ben, que fort nos triga
Yes lady well for greatly to-us it-delays
«pos luec no[n]s fug quel jorn vos diga.
since place not-to-us flees that-the day to-you he-say
— En so non cal gaire trigar,
In this not is-needful much to-delay
«quar dimars o posc demandar,
for Tuesday it I-can to-ask
«ques er festa bona e bella
which will-be feast good and fair
«de san Jacme de Compostella.»
of saint James of Compostela

A cel jorn «cora?» li demanda,
At that day when to-him she-asks
quan luecs e sasos o demanda.
when place and season it demands
Ar es Guillems en gran sojorn,
Now is Guillem in great ease
quan si donz li demanda jorn;
when his lady to-him asks day
e be saupra dese respondre,
and well he-would-know at-once to-answer
mais avan si laissera tondre
but before himself he-would-let shear
en croz o coire ab fer caut
in cross or burn with iron hot
que sol parles am mot en aut,
than-that only he-spoke with word on high
o un dels sieus motz demanes
or one of-the his words straightway
apres cel de si dons disses,
after that-one of his lady said
ans lo coven quart jorn attendre,
rather to-him befits fourth day to-wait
et al quinte a fag entendre
and at-the fifth he-has made to-understand
a si dons que «jorn breu e gent»,
to his lady that day short and noble
pueis s'ostet d'avan lui corrent.
then himself-removed from-before her running
«Ara posc ben, sim voil, causir».
Now I-can well if-me I-wish to-choose

So dis Flamenca, «s'eu languir
This said Flamenca if-I to-languish
«am mai tostems, o una ves,
I-love more always or one time
«metre mon cor, pos aissim les,
to-put my heart since thus-to-me it-is-leisure
«en aventura de guerir.
in adventure of healing
«Mais, s'una ves posc avenir
But if-one time I-can to-come
«lai on Amors ab Joi m'aten,
there where Love with Joy me-awaits
«nom calra temer pueis tormen,
not-to-me it-will-matter to-fear then torment
«nim calra doptar de ma vida
nor-to-me it-will-matter to-doubt of my life
«pos una ves serai garida.
since one time I-shall-be healed
«E no i a plus mai quem conselle
And not there has more but that-myself I-counsel
«e del respondre m'aparelle,
and of-the answering myself-I-prepare
«car no i a mas deman el mieg,
for not there has but tomorrow and-the midst
«quant al respondre, mis respieg;
as-to the answering put respite
«quar, si con retrais hoi le preire,
for so as told today the priest
«dimars er festa de san Peire,
Tuesday will-be feast of saint Peter

«cil qu'es en kalenda [d'] aost,
that which-is in calends of August
«e s'Amors vol aquest ajost
and if-Love wishes this union
«prec la, sil plaz, pensar mi lais
I-beg her if-to-her it-pleases to-think me let
«tal mot don sia mos cor gais.»
such word whence be my heart gay
Abtan s'en eisson del mostier;
Thereupon themselves-thence go-out from-the minster
Margarida, cant pot, l'enquier
Margarida as-much-as she-can her-asks
a sa domna del jorn com es;
to her lady of-the day how it-is
et il respon: «Ma dousa res,
and she answers My sweet thing
«del jorn es a nostre causit,
of-the day it-is to our choice
«quar [a] quec jorn es establit;
for to each day it-is established
«mais ara ven tota la forsa,
but now comes all the force
«car aissi con fum giens amorssa
for thus as smoke at-all extinguishes
«d'um petit lum sa resplandor,
of-a little light its splendor

«aissi m'estein ab s'amaror
thus to-me-quenches with its-bitterness
«us pensamens c'ap mi s'irais
a thought that-with me itself-angers
«lo joi d'amor qu'el cor mi nais.»
the joy of-love that-in-the heart to-me is-born
Alis respons: «Deu[s] sia garda,
Alis answers God be guard
«que tot quant es defent e garda,
who all as-much-as is defends and guards
«quel joi d'amor qu'el cor vos raia
that-the joy of-love that-in-the heart to-you shines
«e negun pensier dan nous aia!
and any thought harm not-to-you have
«Quar fin'amor non val nient
For true-love not is-worth nothing
«ses paor e ses pensamen.
without fear and without thought
«Ab pessamen amors s'esmera,
With thought love itself-refines
«e qui non temses non gardera.
and who not feared not would-guard
«Mais una paor y a mala
But a fear there has evil
«que joi d'amor destrui e tala,
which joy of-love destroys and cuts-down
«et autra paor y a bona
and another fear there has good
«per cui joy d'amor s'asazona:
by which joy of-love itself-ripens

«l'un'es de ser, autra de fueill.
the-one-is of evening the-other of leaf
«L'un'es de joi, autra de dueill.
The-one-is of joy the-other of grief
«E per so vei que ben amatz
And for this I-see that well you-love
«quar ben temes e ben pessatz.
for well you-fear and well you-think
— Bell'amiga, veramens ame,
Fair-friend truly I-love
«e ren non sai a cui mi clame
and anything not I-know to whom myself I-complain
«de la dolor ni de l'angoissa;
of the pain or of the-anguish
«quar aissim destrein e m'angoissa
for thus-me afflicts and me-anguishes
«Paors et Amors e Vergonha
Fear and Love and Shame
«vejaire m'es cascunam poina
seeming to-me-is each-me pricks
«ab aguillas o ab espinas
with needles or with thorns
«per lo pietz e per las esquinas.
through the breast and through the back
«Paors mi castia em menassa
Fear me chastises and-me threatens
«e dis mi que ja ren non fassa
and says to-me that ever anything not I-do
«que monsegner nos teng'a joc,
that my-lord not-it hold-for game

«car s'o fas, metra m'en un fuec;
for if-it I-do he-will-put me-in a fire
«vergonam dis quem gart de blasme
shame-to-me says that-me I-guard from blame
«don tota gens aprop mi blasme.
whence all folk after me blame
«Daus l'autra part lom dis Amors
From the-other part it-to-me says Love
«ques anc Vergoina ni Paors
that ever Shame or Fear
«nos feiron bon cor ni faran,
not made good heart nor will-make
«e non a cor de fin aman
and not has heart of true lover
«si[l] tol vergoina ni temensa
if-him takes-away shame or fear
«de far tot so qu'al cor agensa.
from doing all that which-to-the heart pleases
«E, si con Ovidis declina,
And so as Ovid recites
«Amors es domna e reïna
Love is lady and queen
«que vol de tota gen trahut,
who wishes from all folk tribute
«et eu non l'en ai ges rendut.
and I not to-her-thereof have at-all rendered

«E s'Amors pert en mi sos fieus
And if-Love loses in me her fief
«l'anta er soa el dans mieus
the-shame will-be hers and-the harm mine
«car lo fieus es [en]corregutz
for the fief is forfeited
«s'a tems non es le cens rendutz;
if-in time not is the rent rendered
«aissi vol esser senoressa.
thus she-wishes to-be suzerain
«E pos en mi s'es Amors messa
And since in me herself-has Love put
«non sai consi lam desalberc,
not I-know how her-from-me I-dislodge
«car per fieu mi demand'alberc
for by fief of-me she-asks-lodging
«et am trames cortes message
and to-me-she-has sent courtly message
«ab cui assagi mon corage
with whom she-tries my heart
«si ieu l'albergarai o non.
if I her-will-lodge or not
«E mas aitan gent m'en somon
And since so nobly me-thereof she-summons
«e sai que son dreg vol e quier,
and I-know that her right she-wishes and seeks
«si eu i met nul destorbier
if I there put any hindrance
«ai paor quem torn sus el cap,
I-have fear that-me it-turn up on-the head

«car si fail cel que rason sap
for if fails he who reason knows
«assas fai major failliment
enough he-does greater failing
«que cel que rason non entent.
than he who reason not understands
«Et eu conosc ben que vers es
And I know well that true it-is
«c'amors a en las domnas ces,
that-love has on the ladies rent
«en totas, que non ges en una;
on all and not at-all on one
«aisso deu saber ben cascuna
this ought to-know well each
«qu'al trezen an querrel comensa,
that-at-the thirteenth year to-seek-it she-begins
«e si neguna s'en bistensa
and if any herself-thereof delays
«que noil pague tro al setzen,
that not-to-her she-pay until the sixteenth
«lo fieu ne pert, si per merce
the fief thereof she-loses if by mercy
«Amors nom pert lo ces avan.
Love not loses the rent before
«E si passa .xxi. an
And if she-passes twenty-one years
«que non aia sivals pagat
that not she-have at-least paid
«lo ters ol quart o la meitat,
the third or-the fourth or the half

«jamais non aura fieu entier,
ever not she-will-have fief entire
«mas, a lei d'estrain soudadier,
but in manner of-strange mercenary
«estara pueis ab la mainada;
she-will-stay then with the household
«e deu si tener per pagada
and ought herself to-hold for paid
«qui mot li sona ni l'acuell.
who word to-her addresses or her-welcomes
«Per sos deu ben garar d'ergueill
For this-herself ought well to-guard from-pride
«tota domna mentre quel les,
every lady while that-to-her it-is-leisure
«car si mescaba una ves
for if she-comes-to-grief one time
«en autr'afar pot revenir,
in other-affair she-can to-recover
«mais ja tan nos sabra formir,
but ever so-much not-herself she-will-know-how to-furnish
«pos er mescabada per jorn,
since she-will-be fallen by day
«que beutatz ni jovens i torn.
that beauty or youth there return
«E per so dic c'ariva tot,
And for this I-say that-arrives all
«car mi soven, ab sol un mot:
for to-me it-recalls with only one word
«o autrejar o escondir.
either to-grant or to-refuse

«Adoncs la cochon li sospir,
Then her press the sighs
«soven sanglotis e badailla,
often she-sobs and yawns
«veja[i]re l'es quel cor li fa[i]lla,
seeming to-her-is that-the heart to-her fails
«als oils si pren, teunamen plora:
at-the eyes herself takes thinly she-weeps
»Lassa!» fai s'il, «e mala ora
Wretched says she and evil hour
»nasquei, e cric e fui tan grans
I-was-born and grew and was so great
»que mos viures mi fos affans;
that my living to-me were trouble
»e mi non a mas .i. conort,
and me not has but one comfort
»e qual? Deu! car venrai a mort
and what God for I-shall-come to death
»per Amor que m'a si naffrada
through Love who me-has so wounded
»que vaus leis non ai plus durada.»
that toward her not I-have more endured
«Per Deu! Amors, mal sabes traire
By God Love ill you-know-how to-shoot
«quar mi fagz aissi greu mal traire.
for to-me you-make thus grievous ill to-bear
«Anc mais vostr'arcs tam mal non trais,
Ever more your-bow so ill not shot
«neis eu per ren tan mal non trais.
even I for anything so ill not bore

«Non cujera tam mal traisses
Not I-would-have-thought so ill you-shot
«sol per amar neguna res!
only for loving any thing
«Mais, pos vei qu'a suffrir m'ave
But since I-see that-to suffer to-me-befalls
«vostre colp, qu'aitan suau ve
your blow that-so gently comes
«con pejers es plus douces par,
how worse it-is more sweet it-seems
«no i a mai ren mai d'albergar,
not there has more anything but lodging
«e descendez a votr'ostal;
and descend at your-lodging
«mais non aguest aitan lial,
but not you-had so loyal
«car mos cor, queus er ben corals,
for my heart which-to-you will-be well hearty
«vos sera cambra et ostal,
to-you will-be chamber and lodging
«que ja contrast no i trobares,
that ever opposition not there you-will-find
«quar eu farai tot quant volres;
for I shall-do all as-much-as you-will-wish
«et a cel que de vos demanda
and to him who from you asks
«so qu'eu tenc de vos en comanda
that which-I hold from you in commend
«respondrai plas mi, a desliure,
I-will-answer pleases me at freedom

«car ben vei qu'estiers nom puesc viure.»
for well I-see that-otherwise not I-can to-live
A cest mot ablesmada fon,
At this word fainted she-was
et estet tant en pasmason
and stood so-long in swoon
que N'Archimbautz fon retornatz.
that Sir-Archimbaut was returned
Alis la ten[c] entre sos bratz
Alis her held between her arms
et ac paor qu'al resperir
and had fear that-at-the reviving
alcuna causa degues dir
some thing she-ought say
per que N'Archimbautz perceupes
for which Sir-Archimbaut perceived
que per amor blesmada s'es;
that for love fainted herself-she-has
per so ploret e cridet li:
for this she-wept and cried to-her
«Domna, veus monsenhor aici!»
Lady behold-you my-lord here
Tan cridet: «Veus ci mosenor!»
So-much she-cried Behold-you here my-lord
Que la vos entendet el plor,
That the voice understood in-the tears

e tot avan que mot sones
and all before that word she-uttered
appesset si que respondes
she-bethought herself what she-would-answer
quant En Archimbautz li dira:
when Sir Archimbaut to-her will-say
«Domna, que faitz, ni consius va?»
Lady what do-you or how-with-you goes
Le gelos fort si de[s]conorta,
The jealous-one greatly himself distresses
de l'aiga freida tost aporta
of the-water cold soon he-brings
e gieta l'en per mei sa cara.
and throws her-thereof through midst her face
El'obrils oilz, sobre cel gara
She-opens-the eyes on him looks
e sospiret mot longamen.
and sighed very long
El li demanda quin mal sen.
He to-her asks what ill she-feels
«Sener, al cor ai una gota
Lord at-the heart I-have a gout
«que m'auci e m'afolla tota,
that me-kills and me-maims all
«e cug que d'aquest[a] morrai
and I-think that of-this I-shall-die
«si conseill de mege non ai.
if counsel of physician not I-have

— Dona, eu cug que prous faria
Lady I think that profit it-would-do
«si manjavas a cascun dia
if you-ate at each day
«sol un petit de noz muscada.
only a little of nut musky
— Bel sener cars, autra vegada
Fair lord dear another time
«d'aquesta gota mi senti,
of-this gout myself I-felt
«mas quan mi bainhei ne gari;
but when myself I-bathed thereof I-healed
«e per so bainnar mi volria,
and for this to-bathe myself I-would-wish
«seiner, dimercres, sius plazia,
lord Wednesday if-to-you it-pleased
«quel luna es a recontorn;
for-the moon is at return
«mas quan seran passat .iii. jorn
but when will-be passed three days
«e il sera del tot fermada,
and it will-be of-the whole fixed
«et ieu serai plus mellurada
and I shall-be more improved
«d'aquesta mala Deu mentida
of-this ill God cursed
«c'ap pauc nom toll ades la vida.
that-with little from-me takes-away at-once the life
— Domna, ieu vueill ben queus baines,
Lady I wish well that-you you-bathe

«e d'aisso nous estalbies
and of-this not-yourselves spare
«que non annes, seus plas, al[s] bainz;
that — you-go if-to-you it-pleases to-the baths
«e fassaz candellas a sanz,
and make candles to saints
«e non si perda neis li partz
and not itself lose even the part
«de san Peire, ques er dimartz,
of saint Peter which will-be Tuesday
«ans vueill ques aia un gran cire
rather I-wish that it-have a great candle
«tam bel que tota gens lo mire.
so fair that all folk it gaze-at
— A! segner, quan ben o dises!
Ah lord how well it you-say
«Mais de saïns, sius plas, eisses,
But from in-here if-to-you it-pleases you-go-out
«e laissas nos un pauc estar
and let us a little to-stay
«e pensas dels bains adobar.»
and think of-the baths preparing
El li respon: «Ben o farai.»
He to-her answers Well it I-will-do
Iratz s'en eis, el plan s'en vai.
Angered himself-thence goes-out into-the square himself-thence goes
Pero ben ser[r]a l'us e clau
Yet well he-locks the-door and closes
e met a la cencha la clau,
and puts at the belt the key

pois s'en va an Peiron Guison,
then himself-thence goes to Peire Guizo
sezen lo trob'a som peiron,
sitting him he-finds-at his block
dis li: «Fagz vostres bainz lavar,
said to-him Make your baths to-wash
«que nostra donas vol bainar;
for our lady wishes to-bathe
«dimercres sion assesmat,
Wednesday let-them-be prepared
«car per luna o a laissat.»
for by moon it she-has left
En Peire Gui respon desse:
Sir Peire Gui answers at-once
«Bel segner cars, fag sera ben.»
Fair lord dear done it-will-be well

The Tunnel

IX

Flamenca says "It pleases me" and covertly touches Guillem's hand. Peire Gui has the baths made ready in Guillem's hearing. On Wednesday, sleepless, Flamenca laments that she is dying, and Archimbaut leads her to the baths; he finds no hole and locks her in, and the maidens bar the door within. A stone lifts, and Guillem rises through it, finely dressed. He kneels to her, and she welcomes him with a kiss. By the passage he leads her to his chamber, where he tells her who he is; she gives herself wholly, and the lovers forget their pains.

Quan Flamenca fon revenguda
When Flamenca was recovered
de passion qu'el'a tenguda,
from suffering that-she-has had
e N'Archimbautz s'en fon issitz
and Sir-Archimbaut himself-thence was gone-out
dolens et iratz e marritz,
grieving and angry and distressed
et il plora, plain e sospira
and she weeps laments and sighs
et a si meseissa pren ira,
and with herself self takes anger
e clama si d'Amor soven.
and complains herself of-Love often
Pero tro al dimars s'aten
Yet until to-the Tuesday herself-waits
e dis: «Plas mi», aissi com poc,
and said Pleases me thus as she-could
e non saup dire plus gen d'oc,
and not she-knew-how to-say more gracefully of-yes

et un pauc ab lo man senestre
and a little with the hand left
toquet a Guillem lo sieu destre
she-touched to Guillem the his right
en dreg d'amor cubertamen,
in right of-love covertly
et aqui eis retorna s'en
and there same returns herself-thence
per sezer, car nos poc suffrir,
to sit for not-herself she-could to-hold-up
car mot dec aver gran consir,
for much she-must have great care
gran paor e gran marrimen
great fear and great distress
car s'amor en aissi consen,
for her-love thereof thus she-grants
e nulla ren non sap a cui.
and any thing not she-knows to whom
Ben o sabra si non s'en fui,
Well it she-will-know if not himself-thence he-flees
e ja gaire non tarzara;
and ever long not it-will-delay
al prumier deman o sabra.
at-the first morrow it she-will-know
Quant Guillems ac ausit plas mi,
When Guillem had heard pleases me
de fin joi totz le cors li ri
of fine joy all the heart to-him laughs
et ac lo ple de bon saber.
and he-had it full of good savor

E sos hostes, quant venc al ser,
And his host when it-came at-the evening
ausent el dis a .ii. servens:
hearing him said to two servants
«Barons, los bains faitz bels e genz,
Lads the baths make fair and nice
«lavas los totz ben d'or en or
wash them all well from-edge to edge
«e gitas tota l'aiga for
and throw all the-water out
«ques ara i es, pois venga fresca,
which now there is then let-come fresh
«e gardatz ben mesura cresca,
and watch well measure rise
«quar ma domna s'i bainara
for my lady herself-there will-bathe
«al primier jorn que i avenra.»
at-the first day that there it-will-come
Guillems non fes anc sol parer
Guillem not made ever even to-appear
que so ausis, e sap per ver
that this he-heard and knows for true
que cest bainars es per lui faitz
that this bathing is for him made
et Archimbautz y sera tragz,
and Archimbaut there will-be betrayed
e non trobara qui l'en plaina,
and not he-will-find who him-for-it pities

car ges non cug c'uimais remaina
for at-all not I-think that-henceforth it-remains
que noil fassa una passada
that to-him she-play a thrust
Flamenca, pos s'en es vanada.
Flamenca since herself-thereof has pledged
Al dimercres, quan jorns parec,
At-the Wednesday when day appeared
Flamencha plais, e far o dec,
Flamenca laments and to-do it she-ought
car la nueit non ac ren dormit.
for the night not had anything slept
Suau apella so marit
Softly calls her husband
e dis, plangen ab gran pantais:
and said lamenting with great panting
«Anc mais, lassa! tan mal non trais,
Ever more wretched so-much ill not I-bore
«sener, con eu ai fag anueg.
lord as I have done tonight
«Levas d'aici, e nous enueig
Rise from-here and not-you let-it-irk
«quar de mi seres tost desliures;
for of me you-will-be soon free
«e plus mi plas murirs que viures,
and more to-me pleases dying than living
«tan son destrecha e cochada!
so I-am distressed and pressed
«E s'un pauc, quant serai bainhada,
And if-a little when I-shall-be bathed

«d'aquesta dolor non revenc
from-this pain not I-recover
«per morta, sapias, mi tenc.
for dead know-you myself I-hold
— Domna, ja d'aisso non morres;
Lady ever of-this not you-will-die
«ab lo bainar estorseres.
with the bathing you-will-escape
«Nous esmagues e fagz conort
Not-yourself dismay and take comfort
«e non aias talent de mort.»
and not have desire of death
Las donzellas son ja levadas
The maidens are already risen
e vestidas et adobadas,
and dressed and adorned
e dison ben ques ora es
and say well that hour it-is
d'anar aqui on an empres.
of-going there where they-have undertaken
Prendon bassins et ongemens
They-take basins and ointments
e totz lur apparellamens.
and all their gear
En Archimbautz em pes si dressa;
Sir Archimbaut on foot himself raises
de la testa semblet cabeissa
of the head he-looked a-shag-hood
quar las canas foron fumadas,
for the gray-hairs were smoked

cortas e per luecs irissadas.
short and in places bristling
De la tor eis a calque pena,
From the tower goes-out with some pain
e sa mullier pel poin ne mena
and his wife by-the fist thence leads
a son amic; per mon vejaire,
to her friend by my opinion
sa gilosia noil val gaire.
his jealousy not-to-him avails much
Los angles dels bainz quer e cerca,
The corners of-the baths he-seeks and searches
mais pauc li val aquela cerca
but little to-him avails that search
quar tot egal y conoissia
for all even there he-recognized
alcun pertus com far solia.
any hole as to-do it-was-wont
Pueis s'en issi e l'uis serret,
Then himself-thence went-out and the-door locked
et ab si la clau ne portet.
and with himself the key thence carried
Las donzellas non s'oblideron,
The maidens not themselves-forgot
quar aitan tost dins lo fermeron
for as soon within it they-fastened
ab una barra gran e ferma
with a bar great and firm
que de paret em paret ferma.
which from wall to wall fastens

D'aisso qu'an fag an meravilla;
Of-this that-they-have done they-have marvel
cascuna sa par arodilla,
each her fellow eyes-sidelong
e dison: «Dona, que farem?
and say Lady what will-we-do
«Trop granz meravillas avem
Very great marvels we-have
«per on intrara ni consi
by where will-enter or how
«aicel qu'aicest luec vos chausi.»
that-one who-this place for-you chose
Flamenca dis: «Eu non o sai,
Flamenca said I not it know
«quar eu non vei ni sai ni lai
for I not see either here or there
«neguna re plus que far sueill;
any thing more than to-do I-am-wont
«mais nous penses ques iem despueill,
but not-yourselves think that I-myself undress
«quar hanc non sa vinc per bainar,
for ever not here I-came for bathing
«mais que pogues ab lui parlar.»
but that I-could with him to-speak
Mentre qu'esta[n] en cest agart
While that-they-stand in this watch
non sabon mot, quan una part
not they-know aught when on-one side
dels bainz auson un pauc de gap;
of-the baths they-hear a little of noise

et adoncas cascuna sap
and then each knows
qu'aisso es cel qu'ellas attendon;
that-this is he whom-they await
non an cor que ja li deffendon,
not they-have heart that ever to-him they-forbid
ans a l'una l'autra tocada,
rather has the-one the-other touched
e, quant ac la peira levada,
and when had the stone raised
Guillems broillet e crec viatz.
Guillem sprouted and grew quickly
E si negus mi demandatz
And if any me you-ask
cossi venc ni de cal faisso,
how he-came or of what fashion
non m'er affars, dirai vos o.
not to-me-will-be task I-will-tell you it
El man portet una candela;
In-the hand he-carried a candle
camis'e bragas ac de tela
shirt-and breeches he-had of linen
de Rens, ben faita e sotil
of Reims well made and fine
e per corduras e per fil;
both in seams and in thread
blisaut portet de cisclaton,
tunic he-wore of ciclatoun

ben fait e fronzit per razon
well made and pleated by reason
e tiran per lai on si ten;
and tight through there where itself stretches
et estet li mout avinen
and it-stood to-him very becoming
li corregeta don s'estrein:
the little-belt with-which himself-girds
tro al som del blisaut atein.
until to-the top of-the tunic reaches
Caussas hac de pali am flors
Hose he-had of brocade with flowers
obradas de mantas colors,
worked of many colors
tan ben e tan gen si causseron
so well and so neatly themselves they-fitted
que disseras c'ab el nasqueron.
that you-would-have-said that-with him they-were-born
Un capell lini ben cosut
A cap linen well sewn
ab seda, e moscat menut,
with silk and speckled fine
ac en son cap, non per celar
he-had on his head not for hiding
la corona, mais per garar
the tonsure but for guarding
sos pels de la cauz qu'es el trauc.
his hairs from the lime that-is in-the hole

Fin'amor l'a donat un pauc
True-love him-has given a little
de son tenc, mas non l'estet mal:
of her hue but not to-him-it-stood ill
tam bes [tain] ab lo natural
so well-itself befits with the natural
ques assas plus belz ne semblet.
that much more fair thereby he-seemed
Davan si donz s'aginollet
Before his lady himself-knelt
e dis li: «Domna, cel queus fes
and said to-her Lady he who-you made
«e volc que ja par non acces
and willed that ever peer not you-had
«de beutat ni de cortesia
of beauty or of courtesy
«salv vos e vostra compannia!»
save you and your company
E sopleguet li tro al[s] pes.
And he-bowed to-her down to-the feet
Flamencha li respont apres:
Flamenca to-him answers after
«Bel sener, cel qu'anc non menti
Fair lord he who-ever not lied
«e vol que vos sias aici
and wills that you be here
«vos salv eus gart eus lais complir
you save and-you guard and-you let fulfill
«d'aisso queus plai vostre desir.
of-this that-to-you pleases your desire

— Doussa domna, totz mos desirs,
Sweet lady all my desires
«mos pessamens e mos consirs
my thoughts and my cares
«es vos, a cui mi son donatz,
is you to whom myself I-am given
«e s'aquest don vos m'autrejatz
and if-this gift you me-grant
«tut miei desir seran complit.
all my desires will-be fulfilled
— Bel segner, mais Dieus m'a cobit
Fair lord since God me-has granted
«qu'ieu si'ab vos, ja non dires
that-I be-with you ever not you-will-say
«quan de mi vos departires
when from me yourself you-will-part
«que perdas ren per mon autrei,
that you-lose anything by my grant
«quar tam bell e tan gent vos vei
for so fair and so noble you I-see
«e tan cortes e tan adreg
and so courtly and so upright
«que per fin'amor e per dreg
that by true-love and by right
«aves mon cor lonc tems avut,
you-have my heart long time had
«e veus lo cors aici vengut
and behold-you the body here come
«per vostre plazer autrejar.»
for your pleasure to-grant

Adonc lo prent e val baisar
Then him she-takes and goes-him to-kiss
e douzamen vau[s] si l'acolla.
and sweetly toward herself him-embraces
Ara pot far, sis vol, corolla
Now can to-make if-he wishes carol
En Archimbautz desotz lo fraisse,
Sir Archimbaut beneath the ash-tree
qu'ieu non cug que per el si laisse
for-I not think that for him herself refrains
Flamencha ques amic non fassa.
Flamenca that-herself friend — make
Guillems la baisa e l'abrassa;
Guillem her kisses and her-embraces
et aquil que nostre amix son
and those who our friends are
pregue Dieu qu'aital gauh lur don
let-them-pray God that-such joy to-them he-give
con il l'ac, tro l'aion major.
as he it-had until it-they-have greater
Guillems es ben segurs d'amor
Guillem is well sure of-love
e dis: «Ma dona, sius plasia,
and said My lady if-to-you it-pleased
«per una novelleta via
by a little-new way
«que per mi e per vos es faita,
which by me and for you is made
«on nous cal temer nulla gaita,
where not-to-you needs to-fear any watchman

«pogram anar ben, sius volcses,
we-could to-go well if-you you-wished
«e ma cambra, don mantas ves
into my chamber whence many times
«ai vist la tor on vos estatz.
I-have seen the tower where you dwell
— Belz dous amix, aissi cous plaz.
Fair sweet friend thus as-to-you pleases
«Ieu irai lai on mi dires,
I will-go there where me you-will-say
«car ben sai qu'aicim tornares,
for well I-know that-here-me you-will-return
«si podes, salva e segura;
if you-can safe and sure
«e guidas per bon'aventura.»
and guide by good-fortune
Adoncs si met Guillems prumiers;
Then himself puts Guillem first
ges non fon escurs le semdiers
at-all not was dark the path
ans i ac candelas cremans.
rather there had candles burning
En la cambra foron abans
In the chamber they-were before
vengudas qu'ellas non pesseron.
come than-they — thought
Trop ben garnida l'atroberon
Very well furnished it-they-found
e de tapitz e de bancals,
both of carpets and of bench-cloths

e de bels cubertors rials,
and of fair coverlets royal
de verdiers e de garnimens,
of verdures and of furnishings
mais nous cal dir los paramens.
but not-to-you needs to-tell the adornments
En ung lieg basset son assis,
On a bed lowish they-are seated
e Margarida et Alis
and Margarida and Alis
segron el sol en un coissi.
sat on-the floor on a cushion
Guillems mout gent las aculli
Guillem very nobly them welcomed
e preguet las fort de som ben;
and begged them much of his good
Flamencha dis: «Non las coven,
Flamenca said Not them it-befits
«bels dous amics, pregar de vos;
fair sweet friend to-beg for you
«per lur consseill, per lur somos,
by their counsel by their summons
«per lur sen ni per lur saber
by their sense or by their knowledge
«nom perdres null vostre plaser.»
not you-will-lose any your pleasure

Guillems las donzellas merceja;
Guillem the maidens thanks
apres solassa e domneja
after diverts and courts
si donz, e comensa l'a dire:
his lady and begins to-her-to tell
«Dousa domna, lo greu martire
Sweet lady the grievous martyrdom
«qu'ieu ai sufert per vos lonc tems
that-I have suffered for you long time
«vos grasisc ar quar em ensems.
you I-thank-for now for we-are together
«Vos non sabes de mi quim sia,
You not know of me who-I be
«mais tan con Amors vos disia
but so-much as Love to-you said
«que vostr'oms era verament.
that your-man I-was truly
— Bel segner, ben sai et entent
Fair lord well I-know and understand
«que vos est rix homs d'aut parage,
that you are rich man of-high lineage
«e conosc o al vassallaje
and I-know it by-the prowess
«car esser voles mos amix,
for to-be you-wish my friend
«quar si non fosses pros e rix
for if not you-were worthy and rich
«ja de mi non agras pensat.»
ever of me not you-would-have thought

Adoncs a mot e mot comtat
Then has word by word recounted
Guillems qui es ni consi venc,
Guillem who he-is and how he-came
ni en qual guisa si captenc
and in what manner himself he-conducted
daus que fo vengutz a Borbo.
since that he-was come to Bourbon
Quant il saup de Guillem qui fo,
When she knew of Guillem who he-was
tan gran gaug en son cor l'en dona
so great joy in her heart to-her-thereof gives
que del tot a lui s'abandona;
that of-the whole to him herself-abandons
prent s'a son coll, estreg lo baisa,
takes herself-to his neck tight him kisses
de nulla ren mais non s'esmaia
of any thing more not herself-dismays
mas que lo puesca pron servir
but that him she-can enough to-serve
e de baisar e d'acuillir
both in kissing and in-welcoming
e de far tot so qu'Amors vol.
and in doing all that which-Love wishes
Oilz ni boca [ni] mans non col,
Eyes or mouth or hands not idle
ans l'us l'autre bais'es estrein;
rather the-one the-other kisses-and clasps
de ren l'us vaus l'autre nos fein,
in anything the-one toward the-other not-himself feigns

ans es totz cels d'entr'els eissitz,
rather is all concealment from-between-them gone-out
qu'estier non fora jois complitz.
for-otherwise not would-be joy complete
Cascus s'esforsa de grazir
Each himself-strives of rewarding
lo cochos mal el lonc desir
the pressing ill and-the long desire
que l'us a per l'autre suffert;
that the-one has for the-other suffered
neguns per Amor ren no i pert:
anyone by Love anything not there loses
gen los envida el[s] somon
nobly them invites and-them summons
de far tot so que lur sap bon,
of doing all that which to-them tastes good
e veramens l'us l'autre ama.
and truly the-one the-other loves
Amors los enpren elz [a]flama,
Love them kindles and-them inflames
e dona lur de plasers tanz
and gives to-them of pleasures so-many
c'oblidat an tot[z] lur affans
that-forgotten they-have all their pains
ques an suffert entro aici.
which they-have suffered until now

The Lovers

x

The narrator praises such true lovers, few now. Guillem asks only what his lady offers, and Love feeds them on kisses and embraces. He gives the maidens jewels, and they pledge him service. At parting the lovers weep and drink their mingled tears; Flamenca gives him no wealth, she says, but herself. Margarida rings the bell, and Archimbaut runs in breathless. The baths will heal her, Flamenca says, if she bathes as many days as she was ill, and he bids her bathe each morning. In bed she tells Alis that her lover's looks feed her better than manna.

Aquist eron amador fi:
These were lovers true
petit ne son ara d'aitals;
few thereof are now of-such
mais non m'en cal, car un sivals
but not to-me-thereof it-matters for one at-least
ne conosc eu c'aitals seria
thereof know I that-such would-be
si trobes bona compainia. 5960
if he-found good company
Anc Guillems trop non clergueget,
Ever Guillem too-much not played-the-cleric
quar ren non quis ni demandet
for anything not he-sought or asked
mais tant con si dons li presenta,
but so-much as his lady to-him offers
que de far plasers non fon lenta,
who in giving pleasures not was slow

ans li fes mais honors e bens
rather to-him she-did more honors and goods
non saup grasir eissa Merces
— could reward even Mercy
qu'es, som cug, de grasir maïstra.
who-is so-I think of rewarding mistress
Amors tans plazers lur ministra
Love so-many pleasures to-them ministers
que jassers no i es mentagutz,
that lying-down not there is mentioned
ans los ha ben cel jorn pagutz
rather them has well that day fed
[sol] de baisar e d'embrassar,
only with kissing and with-embracing
d'estreiner e de manejar,
with-clasping and with fondling
e d'autres jocs qu'Amors aisina
and with-other games that-Love furnishes
lai on conois amistat fina.
there where she-knows friendship true
Aitan gran delieg si doneron
So great delight themselves they-gave
quan los motz qu'an ditz recorderon,
when the words that-they-have said they-recalled
que non es homs pogues notar
that not is man could to-note
ni bocca dir ni cors pensar
nor mouth tell nor heart think
la benanansa c'usquex n'a,
the happiness that-each thereof-has

a negus homes meils non va;
to any men better not it-goes
e quan dic meilz non jes tan be,
and when I-say better not at-all so well
quan dic tan be non lo mile.
when I-say so well not the thousandth
Jes las donsellas non oblida
At-all the maidens not forgets
Guillems, car mot gent las envida
Guillem for very nobly them he-invites
que de lui amar las sovenga;
that of him to-love to-them it-come-to-mind
poissas lur donet per lausenga
then to-them he-gave for friendship
cordas e frontals e frezells,
cords and frontlets and hair-bands
noscas e fermals et anells
brooches and clasps and rings
e botonetz plens de musquet
and little-buttons full of musk
et autras joias qu'ieu no i met
and other jewels that-I not there put
qu'eron bellas e covinens.
which-were fair and fitting
Quascuna dis: «Totz mos talens
Each said All my desire
«es, bel[s] sener, de vos onrar
is fair lord of you honoring
«e de totz vostres plazers far.»
and of all your pleasures doing

Al departir nos poc tener
At-the parting not-himself could to-hold
Guillems de plorar, car vezer
Guillem from weeping for to-see
mais non la[s] cuja, don li es grieu;
again not them he-expects whence to-him it-is grievous
mais el las veira ben en brieu,
but he them will-see well in short
car Flamenca retornara
for Flamenca will-return
al[s] bains tot'ora quan volra,
to-the baths every-hour when she-will-wish
e soven si fara malauta
and often herself will-make sick
quar tals malautia l'asauta,
for such sickness her-pleases
quel cor li reven tot eil sana;
that-the heart to-her revives all and-her heals
al meins .iiii. ves la semana
at-the least four times the week
retornara, si pot, als bains,
she-will-return if she-can to-the baths
ans que a glieisa ni a sans.
rather than to church or to saints
Amdui si ploron coralmen,
Both themselves weep heartily
e l'aiga que del cor deissen
and the-water that from-the heart descends
mesclon ensems, e pueis la bevon.
they-mingle together and then it they-drink

Un petit fan plus que non devon,
A little they-do more than — they-ought
mais amoretas son corals
but little-loves are heartfelt
don [non] gostan vilan ni fals
whereof not taste churls or false
domnejador outracujat;
wooers presumptuous
e pesa mi car n'ai parlat,
and it-weighs-on to-me that of-it-I-have spoken
mais tan n'i a que non puesc mais
but so-much thereof-there has that not I-can more
sin parle, mas abtan m'en lais.
if-thereof I-speak but with-that myself-thence I-leave
Quant venc a penre lo comjat
When it-came to taking the leave
estrechamen si son baisat;
tightly themselves are kissed
soven si baison e s'abrasson;
often themselves they-kiss and themselves-embrace
nulla ren non sabon ques fasson.
any thing not they-know what do
Tant lur enuejal departirs
So-much to-them irks-the parting
que vengut es als greus sospirs
that come it-is to-the heavy sighs
et als badails et als sanglotz
and to-the yawns and to-the sobs
tan grans c'a penas n'issi motz.
so great that-with pains thence-came-out word

Pero Flamenca s'esforset
Yet Flamenca herself-strove
tant c'un petit a dreg parlet
so-much that-a little at right she-spoke
e dis: «Belz dous amics cortes,
and said Fair sweet friend courtly
«mon aver nous ai donat ges,
my wealth not-to-you I-have given at-all
«sabes per que? car totaus don
know-you for what for all-to-you I-give
«mi meseissa eus abandon.»
me self and-to-you I-surrender
Ges tot aisso ad un alen
At-all all this at one breath
nom poc dire, ans la coven
not she-could to-say rather her it-befits
pausar soven, tan fort la cocha
to-pause often so hard her presses
lo sanglotirs; tan fort y locha
the sobbing so hard there struggles
que sos amix ben entendet
that her friend well understood
de qual guisa l'o presentet,
in what manner it-to-him she-offered
e mercejet lan soplejan,
and thanked her-for-it bowing
baisan, ploran et abrassan,
kissing weeping and embracing
et a penas leva sa teula.
and with pains raises his flagstone

Del plorar li dolc fort li leula,
From-the weeping to-him ached hard to-him the-uvula
mais so mal non pres'una foilla,
but his ill not he-prized-a leaf
tal paor a que plus si doilla
such fear he-has lest more herself grieve
sa domna ques els bains rema,
his lady who in-the baths remains
e tan solamens lai esta
and so-long only there stays
quel fronz un pauc si remulliet.
that-the brow a little itself wetted
Dese Margarida sonet
At-once Margarida rang
l'esquilleta, el gilos venc
the-little-bell and-the jealous-one came
tan tost que a penas si tenc
so soon that with pains himself held
e miei la via de caser.
and midway the way from falling
L'us obri, e non ac poder
The-door he-opened and not had power
de parlar, tant a corregut!
of speaking so-much he-has run
Flamenca dis: «De gran vertut,
Flamenca said Of great virtue
«sapchas, sener, bon son li bain;
know-you lord good are the baths
«garida serai se m'i bain,
healed I-shall-be if myself-there I-bathe

«que jam sent un pauc mellurada;
for already-me I-feel a little improved
«mais ren non val una vegada,
but anything not avails one time
«so dison letras que lai son,
this say letters that there are
«mais adoncas tenon gran pron
but then they-hold great profit
«quant om s'i baina per egual
when one himself-there bathes by equal
«dels jorns ques a sentit lo mal.
of-the days that one-has felt the ill
— E donc, domna, bainas vos i,
And so lady bathe yourself there
«sius asauta, cascu mati,
if-to-you it-pleases each morning
«qu'eu o met ben en vostr'asaut.»
for-I it put well in your-pleasure
Adoncs a dig Alis enn aut:
Then has said Alis on high
«Segner, ben a obs del bainar,
Lord well she-has need of-the bathing
«car homs nous poiria comtar,
for man not-to-you could to-recount
«las espoinchas ni las dolors,
the stabbings or the pains
«las angoissas ni las suzors
the anguishes or the sweats
«ques a ma dona uei suffertas.
which has my lady today suffered

«Tal ora fon non siam certas
Such hour was not we-were sure
«de sa vida, mais ar vezem,
of her life but now we-see
«la merce Dieu! e conoissem
the mercy of-God and we-know
«qu'ab lo bainar estorsera,
that-with the bathing she-will-escape
«oimais ren [als] pron nol tenra.»
henceforth anything else profit not-her will-hold
Aisi parlet con eissirnida;
Thus she-spoke as clever
sa part y fes ben Margarida,
her part there did well Margarida
car en son lieg la fes colgar
for in her bed her she-made lie
cais per dormir e repausar,
as-if for sleeping and resting
e per miel[z] sufrir, un petit;
and for better suffering a little
mais il non a gaire dormit,
but she not has long slept
quar joia d'amor l'o defen.
for joy of-love her-it forbids
Alis li dis, jugan, risen:
Alis to-her said joking laughing
«Domna, que fagz, disnares vos?»
Lady what do-you will-dine you
Il li respont ab cor joios:
She to-her answers with heart joyful

«Non hai pron manjat e begut
Not I-have enough eaten and drunk
«cant mon amic ai hui tengut
when my friend I-have today held
«entre mos bras, bell'Aelis?
between my arms fair-Alis
«E cujas ti qu'en paradis
And thou-thinkest thyself that-in paradise
«aia hom talent de manjar?
have man desire of eating
«Pron mange quan puesc recordar
Enough I-eat when I-can to-recall
«los dous esgartz e plens d'amor
the sweet looks and full of-love
«de mon amic, c'una dousor
of my friend for-a sweetness
«tan saboros'al cor mi mena
so savory-to-the heart to-me leads
«quem replenis mielz e m'abena
that-me fills better and me-satisfies
«que non fes li mana de cel
than — did the manna of heaven
«el desert los fils d'Israel.
in-the desert the sons of-Israel
«Aissi sui plen'e jausionda
Thus I-am full-and rejoicing
«que ges mons cors ben non m'aonda
that at-all my heart well not me-suffices
«a tener lo gauh ques ieu ai,
to hold the joy that I have

«an[s] se breveza sai e lai.
rather itself is-too-short here and there
«De neguna ren non ai fam
Of any thing not I-have hunger
«mas de veser celui cui am.»
but of seeing him whom I-love

The Jealous Husband Deceived

XI

Archimbaut urges Flamenca to dine; she refuses and dozes, dreaming of Guillem, until Alis turns Archimbaut away at the door. Flamenca asks Alis what she thinks of her lover, and says they are equal in love, pricked by one dart. She will refuse him nothing, for a lady's no breeds anger and suspicion; as Ovid says, the lady who refuses now will lie cold and alone when old, and a lady should brave slanderers. She eats a little at evening only so that Archimbaut will let her bathe. Guillem keeps his bed and asks Justin to find another clerk.

Abtant venc de fors le gilos
Thereupon came from outside the jealous-one
e dis: «Domna, ben es sasons
and said Lady well it-is season
«queus disnes ueimais, s'a vos plas.
that-you you-dine now if-to you it-pleases
— Bels sener cars, non m'o digas,
Fair lord dear not it-to-me say
«ans vos prec ben que nom pregues
rather you I-beg well that not-me you-beg
«de manjar; vos, sius plas, manges.»
of eating you if-to-you it-pleases eat

A cest mot s'en e[s] fors issitz;
At this word himself-thence is out gone
l'ora maldis que fon maritz,
the-hour he-curses that he-was husband
quar pueis non l'est[et] ben un dia.
for since not to-him-stood well one day
Tot aissol fai sa gilosia,
All this-to-him does his jealousy
que si tan fort gilos non fos
for if so strongly jealous not he-were
non fora ges tan angoissos,
not he-would-be at-all so anguished
ni sa mollier non calgra fe[i]ner
nor his wife not would-need to-feign
d'esser malauta, car ateiner
of-being sick for to-reach
pogra ben a tot so que volgra,
she-could well to all that which she-would-wish
et aissi negus d'ans nos dolgra;
and thus any of-both not-himself would-grieve
mais so ques es a lui dolors
but that which is to him pain
a leis era jois e dousors.
to her was joy and sweetness
Mais hom dis: «Qui non sap non sap.»
But one says Who not knows not knows

Del gran joi que el cor noil cap
Of-the great joy that in-the heart not-to-her fits
es Flamenca tan jausionda
is Flamenca so rejoicing
que de son lieg non sap l'esponda,
that of her bed not she-knows the-edge
ans dorm ades et avallona.
rather she-sleeps at-once and sinks
Vejaire l'es que la somona
Seeming to-her-is that her summons
Guillems de baisar e d'estreiner;
Guillem to kissing and to-clasping
a mieja bocha dis: «Bel sengner,
with half mouth she-said Fair lord
«veus m'aici ben a vostra guisa
behold-you me-here well at your wish
«tota nudeta en camisa.»
all little-naked in shift
Aissi repausa e sojorna
Thus she-rests and lingers
entro que n'Archimbautz retorna,
until that Sir-Archimbaut returns
mais adonquas tost la reveilla
but then soon her wakes
Alis, et al dig en l'aureilla:
Alis and has-to-her said in the-ear
«Domna, nom parles ara plus
Lady not speak now more
«de vostre amic, mais levas sus,
of your friend but rise up

«que mon sener es a la porta
for my lord is at the door
«que per vos fort si desconorta.
who for you greatly himself distresses
— Amiga, vai, e digas li
Friend go and tell him
«non sa intre, que pause mi.»
not here let-him-enter for I-rest myself
Alis nos fai gaire pregar
Alis not-herself makes much beg
d'aisso queil manda si dons far;
of-this that-to-her bids her lady to-do
a l'ui[s] s'en vai ans ques intres
to the-door herself-thence goes before that entered
En Archimbautz, e dis ades:
Sir Archimbaut and said at-once
«Segner, segner, non sa intres,
Lord lord not here enter
«ma domna dorm, ben tornares
my lady sleeps well you-will-return
«vaus lo vespre quan s'er pausada,
toward the evening when herself-will-be rested
«ques ara es fort trebaillada
for now she-is greatly troubled
«e non a obs quel fassas nausa,
and not has need that-to-her you-make noise
«mais tenes ben la porta clausa.
but hold well the door closed

— Ben o dises,» so dis le dons
Well it you-say this said the lord
En Archimbautz; «ben aial sonz
Sir Archimbaut blessed be-the sleep
«si tan ni quant la revenia.
if so-much or how-much her revived
— Sener, mais tenes vostra via,
Lord but hold your way
«quar eu sai ben que proil tenra,
for I know well that profit-to-her it-will-hold
«ja tam petit non dormira,
ever so little not she-will-sleep
«et aprop ne manjara mieils.
and after thereof she-will-eat better
— Tu as ver dig», so dis le vieils
Thou hast true said this said the old-one
cui Alis fai papiejar
whom Alis makes babble
tan que da l'uis lo fes tornar,
so-much that from the-door him she-made turn
e pueis s'en torna en son luec.
and then herself-thence turns to her place
D'aisso qu'an dig ac trop gran juec
Of-this that-they-have said had very great sport
Flamenca, que nos poc tener
Flamenca who not-herself could to-hold
de rire, e fes la sezer
from laughing and made her sit
un petit plus pres davan se:
a little more near before herself

«Alis, digas mi, per ta fe,
Alis tell me by thy faith
«que t'es semblant del mieu amic?
what to-thee-is seeming of-the my friend
— Creires m'en, domna, sius o dic?
Will-you-believe me-thereof lady if-to-you it I-say
— Eu hoc, sim voil, tot em perdons.
I yes if-me I-wish all and-me pardon
— Domna, dic vos qu'es bels e bons
Lady I-say to-you that-he-is fair and good
«e tals con a vos si coven.
and such as to you itself befits
«Anc hom non vi tam bella ren,
Ever man not saw so fair thing
«tan cortesa ni tan adrecha.»
so courtly or so upright
Adoncas l'a un pauc destrecha
Then her-has a little squeezed
Flamencha vau[s] si bellamen:
Flamenca toward herself fairly
«Amiga, beus dic veramen
Friend well-to-you I-say truly
«que nullz homs non sap valer tan;
that any man not knows-how to-be-worth so-much
«mais .i. jorns mi tenra un an
but one day me will-hold a year
«entro qu'ieu sia justa lui,
until that-I be beside him

«mais gran bem fai quar [ai] a cui
but great good-to-me it-does for I-have to whom
«diga de lui tot mon voler.
I-say of him all my will
— Douza domna, digas mi ver
Sweet lady tell me true
* * *
(lacuna)
«Tan douzamen vos baiz'eus ten!
So sweetly you he-kisses-and-you holds
«E quan plazenmen vos acueill!
And how pleasingly you he-welcomes
«E con son amoros sieu ueill!
And how are loving his eyes
— Si m'en soven! per Dieu, oilo;
Indeed to-me-thereof it-comes-to-mind by God yes-indeed
«e dic ti ben, nom sap jes bon
and I-say to-thee well not-to-me tastes at-all good
«quar demandest tan gran follia
for thou-askedst so great folly
«ni doptiest si m'en sovenia.
or doubtedst if to-me-thereof it-came-to-mind
«E de quem sovenria donc?
And of what-to-me it-would-come-to-mind then
«Ja per lui nom cal trencar jonc
Ever for him not-to-me it-needs to-break rush
«a san Johan per esproar
at saint John for testing
«s'ambedui em en amor par.
if-both we-are in love equal

«Amdui sem ben en l'aussor poing
Both we-are well at the-highest point
«d'amor, e d'un dart egal poing.
of-love and with-one dart equal pricked
«Nos pot mais creisser ni mermar
Not-itself can more to-grow or lessen
«nostr'amor quant a ben amar,
our-love as to well loving
«mais per obra pot ben parer
but by deed can well to-appear
«anca[ras] mielz, per far saber
yet better for making known
«conssi uns cors amdos nos lia;
how one heart both us binds
«mos amix es et eu s'amia,
my friend he-is and I his-beloved
«que no i a si ni retenguda.
for not there has if or reservation
«Tener mi poira tota nuda
Hold me he-will-be-able all naked
«quan li plasera, o vestida,
when to-him it-will-please or clothed
«que ja non li farai ganzida;
for ever not to-him I-will-make refusal
«quar baratz es e tricharia
for cheating it-is and treachery
«quan corals amics si fadia
when heartfelt friend himself waits-in-vain
«en so que plus vol ni desira;
in that which most he-wishes and desires

«quar d'aqui nais corros et ira
for from-there is-born wrath and anger
«e mal cujars e sospeissos
and ill thinking and suspicion
«el vilans motz, fols, enujos,
and-the churlish word foolish irksome
«que «non» a nom; mais antre nos
which not has name but between us
«non aura luec, si Dieu plas, «nos,»
not will-have place if God pleases no
«car el non vol ni eu non voill,
for he not wishes and I not wish
«qu'avols motz es e plens d'orgueill.
for-a-base word it-is and full of-pride
«Mas tal[s] n'i a que fan languir
But such-ones thereof-there has that make languish
«lur amador ab lur «non» dir,
their lovers with their no saying
«qua[i]s que digon ques ellas son
as-if that they-say that they are
«castas e puras per dir non.
chaste and pure for saying no
«Mal aia domna qu'esconditz
Ill may-have lady who-denies
«de bocca so ques ab cor ditz!
with mouth that which with heart she-says
«Quel semblans es simples e purs
For-the look is simple and pure
«el respos sera braus e durs.
and-the answer will-be harsh and hard

«Mais sapchas ben, bellas donzellas,
But know well fair maidens
«que ja non vueil esser d'aquellas,
that ever not I-wish to-be of-those
«ans vos dic ben non m'es veja[i]re
rather to-you I-say well not to-me-is seeming
«qu'ieu puesca tan de plazer faire
that-I can so-much of pleasure to-do
«ni dir a mon bel cavallier
or say to my fair knight
«queil renda neis so meg loguier
that-to-him I-render even his half wage
«de l'afan ques a per mi trag
of the-toil which he-has for me borne
«quar hanc si mes de mi em plag
for ever himself he-put for me in suit
«ni penset consim desliures
and thought how-me he-freed
«d'enuei, et a joi mi liures.
from-grief and to joy me delivered
«Fadeta es et erguillosa
Foolish she-is and proud
«domna ques fai carestiosa
lady who-herself makes sparing
«de son amic mais cor y a
of her friend but heart there has
* * *
(lacuna)
«D'onor, de pres ni de plazer,
Of-honor of worth or of pleasure

«que pauc noil deja neis parer,
that little not-to-her ought even to-appear
«quar mot es paucs le bens quel fai
for very is little the good that-to-him she-does
«quant al mal que sos amix trai;
as-to the ill that her friend bears
«e prega Dieu qui ja la cre,
and prays God who ever her believes
«qu'a las oras non volgues ben
that-at the hours not she-wished well
«ques hom la forses de son pron,
that one her forced for her profit
«mais il non saup mudar rason
but she not knew-how to-change mind
«ni dire d'oc per nesciesc.
or to-say of-yes for foolishness
«Et hom por esser trop cortes,
And one for being too courtly
«a l'autre mot, ver ne digam,
at the-other word true thereof let-us-say
«pos sera vengutz a reclam,
since he-will-be come to recall
«s'atent que si donz lo somona;
himself-waits that his lady him summon
«mais, si luecs et aises o dona,
but if place and ease it gives
«prenga de lui seguramen
let-him-take from her safely
«so qu'il noil dona nil defen,
that which-she not-to-him gives or-him forbids

«et [en] apres plaidej'ab ella
and in after let-him-plead-with her
«o per domna o per donzella
either through lady or through maiden
«o per amic d'ams cuminal
or through friend to-both common
«qu'a negun d'ams non vuilla mal.
who-to any of-both not wishes ill
«Bem meravill on a son cor
Well-myself I-marvel where has her heart
«domna quan ve que per lei mor
lady when she-sees that for her dies
«sos amics, tan la tem e l'ama,
her friend so-much her he-fears and her-loves
«e per Dieu e per leis si clama;
and to God and to her himself complains
«et il ja parer non fara
and she ever appear not will-make
«qu'en ren so tenga, neis la ma
that-in anything it she-hold even the hand
«non la deigna vas lui estendre.
not it she-deigns toward him to-stretch
«Certas, hom la deuria pendre
Surely one her ought to-hang
«coma lairon per miei lo coll;
like thief by mid the neck
«trop a mal cor e dur e foll.
very she-has ill heart and hard and mad
«Maldiga Dieus aital follesa,
Curse God such folly

«plena d'ergueill e de malesa!
full of-pride and of malice
«Mala vi don[c]a[s] sa beutat
Ill saw then her beauty
«quan merce pert e pietat
when mercy she-loses and pity
«e conoissenza e mesura,
and understanding and measure
«car beutatz faill e merces dura.
for beauty fails and mercy lasts
«Aissi con Ovidis retrai,
Thus as Ovid recounts
«tems sera que cil c'aras fai
time will-be that she who-now makes
«parer de son amic nol quilla
appear of her friend not-to-her it-matters
«jaira sola e freja e veilla;
will-lie alone and cold and old
«e cil a cui hom sol portar
and she to whom one was-wont to-carry
«de nugz la[s] rosas al lumtar
by nights the roses to-the threshold
«per so qu'al matin las trobes,
for this that-at-the morning them she-found
«non trobara qui la toques
not will-find who her touched
«per nulla ren que puesca dire.
for any thing that she-can to-say

«Gare si ben de fol consire
Let-her-guard herself well from mad thought
«joves domna qu'es tant eniga
young lady who-is so cruel
«que son coral amic destriga,
that her heartfelt friend she-stints
«et el reman corals amix
and he remains heartfelt friend
* * *
(lacuna)
«Car domna es plus leu anada
For lady is more quickly gone
«que non es rosa ni rosada.
than — is rose or dew
«Peccat y fay e gran fallensa
Sin there does and great fault
«domna que son amic bistensa,
lady who her friend makes-languish
«e per temensa de mal dir
and for fear of ill speaking
«non tem vaus son amic faillir;
not fears toward her friend to-fail
«quar eu sai ben que plus faria
for I know well that more would-do
«bos amix per sa bon'amia
good friend for his good-beloved
«que tut l'autr'ome qu'el mon son,
than all the-other-men that-in-the world are
«e tut volguessan neis son pron.
and all wished even her profit

«Qui aucir ancui mi volia
Who to-kill today me wished
«el mieus amix dous si podia
the my friend sweet if he-could
«far aucire per mi guerir,
make kill for me to-save
«avans volria el morir
sooner would he die
«ques eu suffris anta ni dan.
than-that I suffered shame or harm
«Ben a doncas fol sen d'enfan
Well has then mad sense of-child
«tota dona que, per cridar
every lady who for crying
«de lauzengier, laissa d'amar
of slanderer ceases of-loving
«cel de cui sap que tan seus es,
him of whom she-knows that so-much hers he-is
«per liei faria tota res.
for her he-would-do every thing
«Contra lauzengier maldizen
Against slanderer evil-speaking
«domna deu penre ardimen;
lady ought to-take boldness
«lai[s]sel cridar, fassa son be,
let-her-let-him cry let-her-do her good
«qu'en aisil vencera desse.
for-in this-way-him she-will-conquer at-once

«E qui ben ama lealmen
And who well loves loyally
«ab se deu far cest jugamen
with himself ought to-make this judgment
«que tot lo mon a son dan sia,
that all the world at his harm be
«ab sol ques el puesca un dia
with only that he can one day
«entre sos bras, a som plaser,
between his arms at his pleasure
«so quel plaz sentir e tener.
that which-to-him pleases feel and hold
«Aicest jugamen n'ai eu fag,
This judgment thereof-have I made
«tan sai d'amor e de som plag.»
so-much I-know of-love and of its plea
Aissi ha tot lo jorn passat
Thus she-has all the day passed
que non ha begut ni manjat;
that not she-has drunk or eaten
pero lo ser tan lan preguet
yet the evening so-much her-thereof begged
ens Archimbaut c'un pauc manjet,
and-Sir Archimbaut that-a little she-ate

quar dis li que nos bainaria
for he-said to-her that not-herself she-would-bathe
ja l'endema si non cresia
ever the-next-day if not he-believed
que per s'amor un pauc manjes;
that for his-love a little she-ate
e manget per so ques baignes.
and she-ate for this that-herself she-bathed
Guillems fon ben en gran delieg;
Guillem was well in great delight
de tot jorn nos levet del lieg,
of all day not-himself he-rose from-the bed
ni volc ques en sa cambr'intres
nor wished that in his chamber-entered
neguns homs que mot li sones
any man who word to-him sounded
nil partis de son bon pensat;
or-him parted from his good thought
e per son hoste a mandat
and by his host has sent-word
a don Justi lo capellan
to sir Justin the chaplain
que nos sentia ges ben san,
that not-himself he-felt at-all well sound
ans era sos mals tan greujatz
rather was his ill so worsened
que non s'era lo jorn levatz,
that not himself-was the day risen
e ben ha ops ueimais encerc,
and well has need henceforth he-seek

6340 sis pleu per lui, un autre clerc;
if-himself he-trusts for him an other clerk
e ges aisso a mal nos tenga,
and at-all this at ill not-himself he-take
aissi com sol a totz jorns venga
thus as he-was-wont at all days he-come
manjar e beure a l'ostal.
to-eat and drink at the-lodging
Message lai trames lial,
Messenger there he-sent loyal
6345 car so qu'il manda formir sap
for that which-he bids to-perform he-knows
et es ne ben vengutz a cap.
and he-is thereof well come to end

Ot and Clari

XII

On Thursday Flamenca pleads her gout, and Archimbaut locks her in the baths without noticing the stone. Guillem comes in starred purple, and they go to his chamber. He asks leave to bring in his cousins Ot and Clari, there to be knighted, as company for her maidens; she consents. Ot takes Alis and Clari Margarida, and the couples pledge to love no one else. The lovers play their own game, and both win. At parting she promises to return tomorrow, her look drives out his grief, and the narrator explains why sweetness through the eyes surpasses the mouth's.

Lo jous matin non s'oblidet
The Thursday morning not herself-forgot
Flamenca, so marit sonet
Flamenca her husband called
e dis: «Segner, vos qu'en fares?
and said Lord you what-thereof will-do
«Anares vos, o remanres? 6350
Will-go you or will-stay
«Qu'ieu nom puesc ges dels bains suffrir;
For-I not can at-all from-the baths to-refrain
«ist gotam vol ades aucir,
this gout-me wishes always to-kill
«et aitan fort per tot mi doil
and so strongly through all I ache
«ques anc anuit sol non claus l'oil.»
that ever tonight even not I-closed the-eye
Le gilos dis: «Si Dieus m'ajut, 6355
The jealous-one said So God me-help
«domna, ben o ai conogut,
lady well it I-have known

«que mal aves anuig pausat;
that ill you-have tonight rested
«per so manjares, per mon grat,
for this you-will-eat by my will
«un petitet ans qu'anasses.
a very-little before that-you-went
— Belz sener cars, no m'en parles,
Fair lord dear not to-me-thereof speak
«mal mi faria, ben o sai;
ill me it-would-do well it I-know
«vaus lo mieijorn mi disnarai
toward the midday myself I-will-dine
«quan serai del bans repairada.
when I-shall-be from-the baths returned
— Anem donc, pos tan vos agrada.»
Let-us-go then since so-much to-you it-pleases
Una samarra fera e trida
A cloak rough and worn
vest Ens Archimbautz, e pois guida,
puts-on Sir Archimbaut and then leads
e vai s'en als bains totz descauz;
and goes himself-thence to-the baths all unshod
no i conoc ni peira ni cautz
not there he-knew either stone or lime
ni ren c'om mogut y agues.
or anything that-one moved there had
A grans penas mogut s'en es
With great pains moved himself-thence he-is
e serra l'uis aissi con sol.
and locks the-door thus as he-was-wont

Flamenca remas en lo sol
Flamenca remained on the floor
ab sas donzellas qu'en dese
with her maidens who-in that-instant
apres de lui serran l'uis ben;
after from him they-lock the-door well
e non an gaire demorat
and not have long waited
qu'intret Guillems tot a celat,
when-entered Guillem all in secret
et ac una polpra vestida
and had a purple-cloth on
ab esteletas d'aur florida;
with little-stars of-gold flowered
et estet li tan ben e gent
and it-stood to-him so well and nobly
que nuilla re no i si desmen;
that any thing not there itself belies
caussas ac d'un vermeil samit.
hose he-had of-a red samite
Ben intret a lei d'issarnit,
Well he-entered in manner of-sensible-man

mais desempre s'umiliet
but at-once himself-humbled
que[l] vi si dons, e l'enclinet
when-he saw his lady and him-she-bowed
ans que el leis, e vaus lui venc
before that he her and toward him she-came
e dis: «Amix, de cui eu tenc
and said Friend from whom I hold
«lo cor el cors e tot cant ai,
the heart and-the body and all that I-have
«ben sias vengutz ara sai.
well be come now here
— Dousa donna de cui hom son,
Sweet lady of whom man I-am
«Nostre Sener aital gaug don
Our Lord such joy give
«a vos et a vostre solas
to you and to your comfort
«que vos queres ni demandatz.»
as you seek or ask
E l'uns vaus l'autrel[s] bras esten
And the-one toward the-other-the arms stretches
e sos baisat estrechamen.
and themselves-are kissed tightly
Ges el[s] bains non esteron gaire,
At-all in-the baths not they-stayed long
ans aneron a lur repaire
rather they-went to their haunt
que lur plas mais et atalenta;
which to-them pleases more and delights

so fon li cambra bell'e genta
this was the chamber fair-and noble
on l'autre jorn si repauseron.
where the-other day themselves they-rested
Per lur sendier laïns intreron
By their path in-there they-entered
on non lur faill jois ni deportz,
where not to-them fails joy or sport
ans es cascus d'enuei estortz.
rather is each from-grief escaped
Guillems estet un pauc en dopte,
Guillem stood a little in doubt
e Flamenca conoc o sopte,
and Flamenca knew it suddenly
e dis: «Belz amix, que pensas?
and said Fair friend what think-you
— Ma dousa donna, s'a vos plas,
My sweet lady if-to you it-pleases
«cug vos pregar, que nous enug,
I-think you to-beg that not-you it-irk
«aisso qu'ieu m'ai pensat anug.
this that-I myself-have thought tonight
— Amix, digas tot quan volres,
Friend say all that you-will-wish
«car ja nulla ren non dires
for ever any thing not you-will-say
«a mi enug, queus voillas, sia
to me irksome that-you you-wish be-it
«o bes o mals, sens o follia,
either good or ill sense or folly

«ab sol ques a vos plazer deja,
with only that to you pleasure it-ought
«quar totz mos bes a vos s'autreja
for all my good to you itself-grants
«per vostre plazer consentir,
for your pleasure to-consent-to
«que de ren nous vueil contradir.
that in anything not-you I-wish to-gainsay
— Ma dousa res, dui miei cosin,
My sweet thing two my cousins
«l'us a non Ot, l'autre Clari,
the-one has name Ot the-other Clari
«estan ab mi per adobar;
stay with me for dubbing
«ric home son, [de] gran afar;
rich men they-are of great affair
«e volgra ben, s'a vos plagues,
and I-would-wish well if-to you it-pleased
«cascus de vostr'a[zaut] saupes;
each of your-pleasure knew
«car mos jois ne valria mais.
for my joy thereof would-be-worth more

«Car mant'angoiss'e man pantais
For many-an-anguish-and many-a distress
«mant'angoiss[a] e man peril
many-an-anguish and many-a peril
«ai [eu] suffert, que vos ni ill
have I suffered that you or they
«non saupes ren; e pos Dieus vol
not knew anything and since God wills
«que m'estiu mielz que far non sol
that to-me-it-goes better than to-do — it-was-wont
«e tot quant ai es gauhz e bens,
and all as-much-as I-have is joy and good
«volgra cascus sa part n'agues.
I-would-wish each his part thereof-had
«Li miei donzel son jovensell,
The my squires are young-men
«cortes, adreit e bon e bell,
courtly upright and good and fair
«et aital[s] son vostras donzellas;
and such are your maidens
«e s'ambedui eron ab ellas
and if-both were with them
«aurion ab cui si deportesson,
they-would-have with whom themselves they-sported
«e s'avion cor que s'entramesson
and if-they-had heart that themselves-they-busied
«amariu mai [e] vos e me.
they-would-love more both you and me
— Bels dous amix, ieu o voill ben,
Fair sweet friend I it wish well

«mais tan vos plaz faiz vostr'albir.»
but as-much-as to-you it-pleases do your-judgment
Abtan Guillems vai l'uis obrir
Thereupon Guillem goes the-door to-open
e fai los ambedos intrar.
and makes them both enter
Quant il viron el lieg estar
When they saw in-the bed to-be
la domna, fort si meravillon,
the lady much themselves they-marvel
e quan las punzellas rodillon
and when the maidens they-scrutinize
ben cujan esser encantat;
well they-think to-be enchanted
pero tost son aginoillat
yet soon they-are knelt
davan la domna bellamen;
before the lady fairly
cascus dis: «Vostre mandamen
each said Your command
«farai eu, domna, volontiers;
will-do I lady willingly
«aissi aves .ii. escudiers.»
thus you-have two squires
Flamenca fon mout plasentiera
Flamenca was very pleasing
et aculli los volontiera
and welcomed them willingly
e cortesamenz lo[s] saluda.
and courteously them greets

Cascun a pres ab la man nuda
Each she-has taken with the hand bare
e fes los de genoils levar,
and made them from knees rise
car mot a bon cor del[s] onrar
for much she-has good heart of-them honoring
et a present et a rescost.
both in open and in hiding
A sas punzellas a dig tost:
To her maidens she-has said soon
«Sai venes,» fai s'il, «ambedoas;
Here come says she both
«aquist son dui e vos est doas,
these are two and you are two
«e voil quel sieu aia cascuna;
and I-wish that-the her-own have each
«non s'en fassa pregar neguna,
not herself-thereof let-make beg any
«car eus prec eus dic eus coman
for and-you I-beg and-you I-tell and-you I-command
«que fassas tot so qu'il volran.
that you-do all that which-they will-wish
«Isses vos en elz bans defors
Go-out you thence in-the baths outside
«on nous fallira ja demors.
where not-to-you will-fail ever delight
— Penrem o, dona, per l'estrena,»
We-will-take it lady for the-gift

so dison, e poissas ne mena
this they-say and then thence leads
cascunal sieu: Ot ac Elis,
each-the her Ot had Alis
de Margarida fon Claris.
of Margarida was Clari
Van s'en els bains per deportar
They-go themselves-thence to-the baths for sporting
e podon las ben solassar.
and can them well to-solace
Cambras y a bonas e bellas
Chambers there has good and fair
don ja non cal eissir punzellas
whence ever not needs to-go-out maidens
oimais Alis ni Margarida,
henceforth Alis or Margarida
sis volon, car gen las e[n]vida
if-themselves they-wish for nobly them invites
jovens et Amors de son joc.
youth and Love to its game
E pos n'an aizina ni luec
And since thereof-they-have ease and place
feral, som cug, ben mal laissar;
they-would-do-it so-I think well ill to-leave
al meins lo pogr'om ben taular,
at-the least it could-one well play-at-tables
e per aventural jugueron.
and by chance-it they-played

Conssi que fos, tan gasaneron
How that it-was so-much they-won
ques amix han bos e cortes;
that friends they-have good and courtly
et an si plevidas lur fes
and have themselves pledged their faiths
que tostems sion amic intier,
that always they-be friends entire
e quant il seran cavallier
and when they will-be knights
autras domnas non amaran,
other ladies not they-will-love
e quant ellas donnas seran
and when they ladies will-be
non fassan autres cavalliers;
not they-make other knights
et aissi er lur gaugz entiers.
and thus will-be their joy entire

Daus l'autra part Guillems juguet
From the-other part Guillem played
al mielz que saup, e ben trobet,
at-the best that he-knew and well found
mon essient, qui juec li tenc
to-my knowledge who game to-him held
aissi con a lui si covenc.
thus as to him itself befitted
Jugar podon a lur talan;
To-play they-can at their desire
mas nom qual dir, a mon semblan,
but not-to-me needs to-say at my seeming

los gais envitz que chascus fai,
the gay wagers that each makes
mais aitan sivals ne dirai
but so-much at-least thereof I-will-say
que non es jocs tan saboros
that not is game so savory
que sapcha nulz cors amoros
that can any heart loving
penssar ni dir ni desirar
think or say or desire
ques ill nom puescan dir e far,
that they not can to-say and do
e ben del tot faire non volon.
and well of-the whole do not they-wish
Ben pensson conssi mais nos dolon
Well they-think how more not-themselves they-grieve
per negun plazer que oblidon;
for any pleasure that they-forget
soven envidon e revidon,
often they-wager and raise
lo jorn, la mostra e la presa.
the day the show and the taking
Et Amors fai coma cortesa
And Love acts as courtly-one
quar non consent que i aia triga,
for not she-consents that there be delay

quar tant era corals amiga
for so-much was heartfelt beloved
Flamenca que non sap jugar
Flamenca that not she-knows-how to-play
ab son amic mais a joc par,
with her friend but at game even
e per aisso tot o gasaina.
and for this all it she-wins
Pero, abanz quel juecs remaina,
Yet before that-the game stop
cascus o a tot gazainat,
each it has all won
et anc non n'escaperon dat,
and ever not thereof-escaped die
car negus non s'irais ni jura.
for any not himself-grows-angry or swears
Fin'Amors tan los assegura
True-Love so-much them assures
qu'ades lur dis que ben soven
that-at-once to-them says that well often
poiran jugar e longamen;
they-will-be-able to-play and long
e vol que Flamenca s'en torn,
and wills that Flamenca herself-thence turn
c'ap son amic plus non sojorn.
that-with her friend more not she-linger
Per so la fai quais sospiran
For this her makes as-if sighing
parlar ab lui abans ques n'an:
speak with him before that-herself-thence she-go

«Amix» fai s'il «dous e verais,
Friend says she sweet and true
«ora es qu'eu m'en torn ueimais.
hour it-is that-I myself-thence turn now
«Deman, si Dieu plas, tornarai;
Tomorrow if God pleases I-will-return
«aici a vos matin serai.»
here to you in-the-morning I-will-be
Guillems nom poc un mot respondre;
Guillem not could a word to-answer
veja[i]re l'es qu[e]il deja fondre
seeming to-him-is that-to-him must melt
le cors d'angoissa e partir
the heart with-anguish and part
quar si vol de lui departir;
for herself wishes from him to-part
mais ill lo conorta mot gent
but she him comforts very nobly
e dis: «Eus promet verament,
and said And-you I-promise truly
«amix, qu'eu deman torn a vos,
friend that-I tomorrow I-turn to you
«e tot jorn deportarem nos.»
and all day we-will-sport ourselves
Los ueilz li baisa e la cara
The eyes to-him she-kisses and the face
et aissi dousamen l'esgara,
and thus sweetly him-regards

dreitz oilz, que tota la dolor
straight eyes that all the pain
li trais del cor, e tal doussor
to-him she-drew from-the heart and such sweetness
li don'Amors ab cel esgart
to-him gives-Love with that look
que non sen mal vas nulla part.
that not he-feels ill toward any part
E dec o faire per rason,
And she-ought it to-do by reason
quar mot dec al cor saber bon
for much ought to-the heart to-taste good
aitals dousors que l'uilz aduz:
such sweetness that the-eye brings
car tant es granda sa vertutz
for so-much is great its virtue
qu'ensems fai viure dos corages,
that-together it-makes live two hearts
si que rics cors ni nuillz coratges
so that rich heart nor any courage
* * *
(lacuna)
Mas cascuns a l'autre soplia;
But each to the-other bows
car cilz dousors tan dousa es
for this sweetness so sweet is
c'uei non es motz que la pogues
that-today not is word that it could
far entendre perfiechament;
make understand perfectly

car a grans penas mais l'entent
for with great pains more it-understands
entendementz, que sol concebre
understanding that is-wont to-conceive
moutas res que non sap percebre
many things that not knows-how to-perceive
aureilla, ni lenga parlar;
ear nor tongue to-speak
e per so vueil dir e mostrar
and for this I-wish to-say and show
que cil douzors ques al cor tocha
that this sweetness which to-the heart touches
per oilz val mais que cil de bocha:
through eyes is-worth more than that of mouth
plus fina [es] e plus entiera;
more fine it-is and more entire
e prec qu'entendas la cariera.
and I-pray that-you-understand the road
Cascuns en si meseis consire
Each in himself self let-him-consider
de qual guisa o vueil eu dire,
in what manner it wish I to-say
quar, si con ieu dic, non es motz
for so as I say not is word
que feses entendre a totz,
that made understand to all
mais per ombra e per semblanza
but by shadow and by likeness
ne dirai qualque demostransa.
thereof I-will-say some demonstration

The Oath

XIII

Kisses, the narrator says, are the ensign of a joy Love brings in through the eyes. The maidens thank Guillem for a solace that has made them forget their prison. This lasts four months, until Saint Andrew's day, when Flamenca no longer heeds Archimbaut. When he asks why she is proud, she blames his jealousy for his lost worth and offers to swear to guard herself as he has guarded her. He frees her and proclaims a feast and an Easter tourney. She sends Guillem home until the tourney; the four young people weep and exchange tokens.

Quan dui aman fin e coral
When two lovers true and heartfelt
dreigz oilz s'esgaron per egal,
straight eyes themselves-regard by equal
endreg amor, mon eissient,
touching love to-my knowledge
tan granz jois al cor lur deissent
so great joy to-the heart to-them descends
que li douzor que d'aqui nais
that the sweetness that from-there is-born
lur reven tot lor cor e pais;
to-them revives all their heart and feeds
e l'ueil, per on treva e passa
and the-eyes by where it-finds-way and passes
cil douzors ques el cor s'amassa,
this sweetness which in-the heart itself-gathers
son tan lial que nulla ren
are so loyal that any thing
negus a sos ops non reten;
any for its needs not keeps

mais la boca nos pot tener,
but the mouth not-itself can to-hold
quan baisa, que del bon saber
when it-kisses that of-the good savor
a sos obs quesacom nom prenga
for its needs something not it-take
avan que ren al cor ne venga,
before that anything to-the heart thereof come
el baisar que sa boca pren
the kissing that its mouth takes
es fermansa que cascuns sen
is pledge that each feels
lo fin joi ques Amors lur dona.
the true joy that Love to-them gives
Nom qual que ja plus o espona,
Not-to-me it-is-needful that ever more it I-expound
quar totz hom ques am finament
for every man who loves truly
e nom pren autre jausiment
and not takes other enjoyment
mais los e[s]gartz simples e purs,
but the looks simple and pure
plus douzes e plus saboros
more sweet and more savory
qu'eu non sai dir ni hom entendre,
that-I not can say or man understand
si totz tems i devia entendre,
if all time there he-ought to-attend
er ab mi d'aicest jugamen,
will-be with me of-this judgment

s'en aissi con ieu o enten.
if-thereof thus as I it understand
Mai cil autre que baizar podon
But those others who kiss can
a lur guisas, e puissas rodon
at their wishes and then wander
ades entorn per las faissolas,
constantly around through the bodices
non s'asauton d'aitals esgolas;
not themselves-please-with such trifles
mais tals n'i a cui non conven
but such-ones thereof-there has to-whom not befits
le joi d'amors que d'ueilz lur ven
the joy of-love that from-eyes to-them comes
neguna sason oblidar,
any season to-forget
ni per tener ni per baisar,
either for holding or for kissing
quar ren non sabon neis ques es,
for anything not they-know even what it-is

mais tan con rasons e merces
but so-much as reason and mercy
e consiensa lur ensegna
and conscience to-them teaches
que baisars es vera antressegna
that kissing is true ensign
del joi que fin'Amors aporta
of-the joy that true-Love brings
per oilz, per cui ha faita porta
through eyes through which she-has made door
clara e pura e lusen,
clear and pure and shining
on si ve es mira soven,
where herself sees and-herself mirrors often
quan vai ni ve dins ni defora,
when she-goes or comes within or outside
e d'un cor en autre s'encora;
and from-one heart into another herself-enhearts
e fai cel[s] cors tan encorar
and makes those hearts so enheart
l'us en l'autre ques acorar
the-one in the-other that-himself to-lose-heart
pensa cascus quan l'autreil faill
thinks each when the-other-to-him fails
s'ades nol ve sus el miraill
if-at-once not-him he-sees upon in-the mirror
on lur desir los fai venir,
where their desire them makes come

baisar, abrassar e tenir
kissing embracing and holding
e tan sotilmens esgausir
and so subtly rejoicing
que tot penssat e tot consir
that all thought and all care
laisson aitan con aifadura.
they-leave as-much as (corrupt)
Et anc non hac bon'aventura
And ever not had good-fortune
d'amor qui dopta tan ni quan
of-love who doubts so-much or how-much
qu'aicist douzors aissi non an.
that-these sweetnesses thus not go
Aicist dousor a Guillem plac
This sweetness to Guillem pleased
aitan ques anc poder non ac
so-much that ever power not he-had
de contradir que non anes
of gainsaying that — he-went
dedins los bainz, e non sones
within the baths and — he-called
las donzellas els donzellos,
the maidens and-the young-squires
pois s'en retorna, mout cochos
then himself-thence returns very hastening
de tornar lai [d]on fon mogutz,
to return there from-where he-was moved

mais abanz que lai fos vengutz
but before that there he-was come
Flamenca fo em pes levada,
Flamenca was on foot risen
antre sos bras la n'a menada
between his arms her-thence he-has led
tot dreit elz bains mot suavet.
all straight into-the baths very gently
Abtant s'en eissol donzellet;
Thereupon themselves-thence go-out-the young-squires
pero, abanz que s'en partisson,
yet before that themselves-thence they-parted
lo ben e la honor grasisson
the good and the honor they-thank
a Flamenca que fag lur ha.
to Flamenca that done to-them she-has
Il lur dis: «Baron, consi va?
She to-them said Lads how goes-it
«Fort beus podes esser bainat.
Very well-you you-can to-be bathed
«A Dieu sias vos comandat.»
To God be you commended
Guillems pren comjat atressi;
Guillem takes leave likewise
e quan las donzelletas vi
and when the little-maidens he-saw
vau[s] si venir per comjat penre,
toward himself come for leave taking
lur oilz foron del plorar tenre;
their eyes were from weeping tender

fan li merces ben et em pas
they-make to-him thanks well and in peace
del ric deport e del solatz
of-the rich sport and of-the solace
ques an avut de sos donzels;
which they-have had from his young-squires
ques anc pueis que foron ab els
for ever since that they-were with them
non agron negun pensament,
not they-had any thought
ira ni dol ni mariment,
anger or grief or sadness
ni lur sovenc de la preiso
nor to-them remembered of the prison
on las tel gilos em perdon,
where them holds-the jealous-one in vain
quar vengutz lur n'es gaugz e bens.
for come to-them thereof-is joy and good
Aissi lur estet .iiii. mes,
Thus to-them it-stood four months
so fon aostz e totz setembres,
this was August and all September
totz ochovres e totz novembres
all October and all November
tro a la festa sant Andrieu;
until at the feast of-saint Andrew
mas adoncas, la merce Dieu!
but then by-the mercy of-God
Flamenca fon si ben estans,
Flamenca was so well being

gaia e conda e presans
gay and graceful and worthy
qu'En Archimbaut ren nom preset,
that-Sir Archimbaut anything not she-prized
et anc sol per lui nos levet
and ever even for him not-herself she-rose
cora ques annes o vengues;
whenever that he-went or came
non fes parer qu'en rel tengues.
not she-made appear that-in anything-him she-held
Et el, aissi cass oms con fon,
And he thus as-foolish man as he-was
conoc o ben, mais l'ocaiso
knew it well but the-cause
don so avenc non conoissia;
whence this came not he-knew
per so parlet ab lui un dia:
for this spoke with her one day
«Donna», fai s'el, «ben m'es veja[i]re
Lady says he well to-me-is seeming
«que nom temes nim presas gaire.
that not-me you-fear or-me you-prize much
«Tornadaus est encontra me
Turned-you you-are against me
«ergoillosa, no sai per que.»
proud not I-know for what
Flamenca dis, que no i tarzet:
Flamenca said who not there delayed

«Bel segner cars, qui ajostet
Fair lord dear who joined
«mi e vos gran peccat y fes;
me and you great sin there did
«quar unquas pois que mi agues
for ever since that me you-had
«vostre pres non fes mas caser;
your worth not did but fall
«e vos solias tan valer
and you were-wont so-much to-be-worth
«que totz le monz de vos parlava,
that all the world of you spoke
«e Dieus e segles vos amava;
and God and world you loved
«mais ar est tornatz tan gilos
but now you-are turned so jealous
«que mort aves e mi e vos.
that dead you-have both me and you
«Mas certas bon plag vos faria:
But surely good pact to-you I-would-make
«ma fe sobre sanz juraria,
my faith upon saints I-would-swear
«vezent mas donçellas, ades,
seeing my maidens at-once
«qu'en aissi tostems mi gardes
that-in this-way always myself I-guarded
«co vos m'aves saïns garada;
as you me-have in-here guarded

«e prendes, sius plas, la palmada
and take if-to-you it-pleases the handclasp

* * *
(lacuna)

«Mais dese a las domnas vegna,
But at-once to the ladies let-her-come

«an s'en ab ellas al mostier,
let-her-go herself-thence with them to-the minster

«e sone clas per cavallier
and let-ring knell for knight

«e per borzes lo sein major,
and for burgher the bell great

«esquilla per laorador;
little-bell for laborer

«e pos negus er classejatz
and when any will-be knelled

«non sia poissas tan ausatz
not let-him-be then so bold

«que d'un an si meta en plassa.
that for-a year himself put in square

«Eu vueill que li costumaus plassa,
I wish that the custom-to-you please

«e tut ensems la m'autrejes.»
and all together it-to-me grant

Tut ensems cridon una ves:
All together cry one time

«Sia! sia! ben la volem
Let-it-be let-it-be well it we-wish

«e tostems mais la ma[n]tenrem.
and always more it we-will-maintain

— Ancar», fai s'el, «vos dirai mais:
Yet says he to-you I-will-say more
«Lai en pascor, quel tems er gais
There at Easter when-the time will-be gay
«vueil que tengam aici tornei,
I-wish that we-hold here tourney
«et aurai y, si puesc, lo rei
and I-will-have there if I-can the king
«e totz los barons del regnat,
and all the barons of-the realm
«aissi co[n] mars e mars lo bat,
thus as sea and sea it beats
«et aissi con Rosers lo part
and thus as Rhône it divides
«e Garona de l'autra part.
and Garonne on the-other side
«E quar m'ai lavada ma testa
And since myself-I-have washed my head
«vueil que fassam ancuei gran festa,
I-wish that we-make today great feast
«e que mangem ancuei ensems,
and that we-eat today together
«car trop n'avem estat lonc tems,
for too-much thereof-we-have been long time
«e per las domnas mandarem;
and for the ladies we-will-send
«huei tot jorn nos deportarem.»
today all day ourselves we-will-sport

Mout a cel jorn gran festa facha;
Much has that day great feast made
Flamenca es de preison tracha,
Flamenca is from prison drawn
el cavallier tan s'alegreron
and-the knights so-much themselves-rejoiced
car a present ab lui parleron
for in open with her they-spoke
et a celat, aissi cos volgron.
and in secret thus as they-wished
Per lur vol negun tems nos tolgron
By their will any time not-themselves they-took-away
de son conseill, mais per onransa,
from her counsel but for honor
ne fai l'us a l'autre pitansa.
thereof does the-one to the-other pittance
Anc Flamenca de tot cel jorn
Ever Flamenca of all that day
penre non poc vouta ni torn
to-take not could turn or round
consi al bains anar pogues,
how to-the baths to-go she-could
quar non a[c] talen ques mogues
for not she-had desire that-herself she-moved
d'entrels cavalliers on sezia.
from-among-the knights where she-sat
E cascuns al mais que podia
And each at-the most that he-could
e[s]forset si, per mais plazer,
strove himself for more pleasure

consi la pogues sol vezer,
how her he-could at-least to-see
e cel tenc si per ereubut
and he held himself for enraptured
a cui il dis un bel salut.
to whom she said a fair greeting
Mais lo matin, al plus que poc,
But the morning at-the most that she-could
dreit ves los bains et elas moc.
straight toward the baths and she-herself moved
En Archimbautz no i anet gens,
Sir Archimbaut not there went at-all
quar mestier a que d'alre pens,
for need he-has that of-other he-think
e non vol esser plus claviers
and not wishes to-be more key-keeper
dels bains ni de la tor portiers;
of-the baths or of the tower porter
mais de donas entro a .vii.
but of ladies up to seven
van ab ella, mais non intret
go with her but not entered
dedins los bains ab leis neguna;
within the baths with her any
et il ha pregada cascuna
and she has begged each
que torn al son de l'esquilleta,
that she-turn at-the sound of the-little-bell
car issir ne vol aboreta;
for to-go-out thence she-wishes early

e per sa paraula gensar
and for her word to-grace
somon las un pauc de bainnar,
invites them a little to bathing
mais ellas d'aquo non an soin,
but they of-that not have care
ans estan volontieras luein,
rather they-stand willingly far
car li bain flairon de prumier;
for the baths smell at first
e qui no n'a trop gran mestier
and who not thereof-has very great need
ges trop volontier non s'i bainna.
at-all very willingly not herself-there bathes
Abtan si part cella compaina,
Thereupon itself parts that company
e las donsellas an serrat
and the maidens have locked
desempre l'uis, e per lur grat
at-once the-door and by their will
no i foran la[s] donas vengudas,
not there would-have-been the ladies come
car trop las avia[n] tengudas
for too-much them had held
em paraulas et em bis[ten]sa;
in words and in delay

e d'aisso era lur temensa
and of-this was their fear
Guillems vengues, e mal estera
Guillem came and ill it-would-have-been
* * *
(lacuna)
Ges non o fes; ben s'en garet; 6765
At-all not it he-did well himself-thereof he-guarded
mais apres mot non demoret,
but after much not he-delayed
ans es vengutz, e siei donzel
rather he-is come and his squires
vengron ensems el[s] bains ab el.
came together into-the baths with him
Saludon si gent e s'acullon,
They-greet themselves nobly and themselves-welcome
ben fan parer que mal nos vueillon: 6770
well they-make appear that ill not-themselves they-wish
de baysars y a ac plus de cent
of kisses there has had more than hundred
preses dese ad un tenent.
taken at-once at one stretch
En la cambra s'en son intrat;
Into the chamber themselves-thence they-are entered

desempre [li] a tot comtat
at-once to-him has all recounted
Flamenca con es avengut
Flamenca how it-is come-about
de n'Archimbaut ques a perdut
of Sir-Archimbaut that he-has lost
sos mals aips e sa vilania
his ill ways and his churlishness
et a cobrada cortesia;
and has recovered courtesy
«e per so, amics, non vueill plus
and for this friend not I-wish more
«que vos estes saïns reclus;
that you be in-here shut-up
«anas vos en, ques eu o vueil,
go you away for I it wish
«car ges aissi con far o sueil
for at-all thus as to-do it I-am-wont
«sai a vos venir nom poiria;
here to you to-come not I-could
«per so vueil tengas vostra via
for this I-wish you-hold your way
«et en vostra terra tornes,
and into your land return
«et al tornei sa tornares;
and to-the tourney here you-will-return
«et antretan mandares mi
and meanwhile you-will-send me
«per alcun adreg pellegri,
by some fitting pilgrim

«per message o per juglar,
by messenger or by jongleur
«tot vostr'esser e vostr'afar.»
all your-being and your-affair
Aras y a gran marrimen,
Now there has great sadness
ira e dol e pessamen.
anger and grief and thought
Las donzellas el donzello
The maidens and-the young-squires
s'en van als bains ad espero;
themselves-thence go to-the baths at spur
laïns ploron aissi tutz .iiii.
in-there weep thus all four
con s'om los degues [aras] batre.
as if-one them ought now to-beat
Comjat prenon en totas guisas;
Leave they-take in all ways
desotz lur pellissetas grisas
beneath their little-furs gray
lasson lur mans et entrebescan,
they-lace their hands and intertwine
e sai e lai taston e pescan,
and here and there they-feel and fish
baison, abrasson et acollon
they-kiss embrace and clasp
e garos ben que non s'afollon,
and they-guard-themselves well that not themselves-they-harm

quar dousamen e senes gap
for sweetly and without noise
fai cascus so que faire sap
does each that which to-do he-knows
e so que fin'Amors l'ensengna.
and that which true-Love him-teaches
Quascus a presa calqu'enseingna
Each has taken some-token
de l'autre, que deja portar
of the-other that he-ought to-bear
per s'amor e per recordar
for his-love and for recalling
los covinens ques an parlatz
the covenants that they-have spoken
et ab mil baisars affinatz
and with thousand kisses sealed
et escrig ab lur lagremetas
and written with their little-tears
sus els detz, per mieg las ongletas;
upon on-the fingers through midst the little-nails
e so ques escr[i]von defor
and that which they-write outside
escriu cascuns ins en son cor;
writes each within in his heart
car ins el cor sevals roman,
for within in-the heart at-least it-remains
cora que s'oste de la man;
whenever that itself-remove from the hand

[et] aitals era l'escriptura
and such was the-writing
don cascus som par assegura:
whereby each his fellow assures
«Bels amics, sovengaus de me.
Fair friend let-it-recall-to-you of me
— Si fara[i], domna, per ma fe.
So I-will-do lady by my faith
«No m'oblides, ma doussa res.
Not me-forget my sweet thing
— Amix, tengudaus n'es ma fes.»
Friend held-to-you thereof-is my faith

Guillem Departs

XIV

Guillem faints in Flamenca's arms at the news; reviving, he says she might as well split his heart. She vows herself to his service, and at parting gives him her heart in a kiss and takes his. She goes home sad, and Archimbaut thinks it is for love of him. Guillem rewards his host and the chaplain and wins the prize of chivalry in Flanders. Count Gui tells Archimbaut of his fame. At Louvain the two ride together, Guillem taking the prize and Archimbaut the next, and when Archimbaut proclaims his Easter tourney, Guillem promises to fight on his side.

Guillems fon sai tant esmagatz
Guillem was here so-much dismayed
qu'entrels braz casec ablesmatz
that-between-the arms he-fell fainted
de Flamenca, sa dous'amiga;
of Flamenca his sweet-beloved

et ill non sap alres quel diga,
and she not knows other-thing that-to-him she-say
quar laissar nol vol per amor
for leave not-him she-wishes for love
ni auza cridar de paor,
nor dares to-cry for fear
mais ben ac de plorar lezer.
but well she-had of weeping leisure
Tant si ploret, ses remaner,
So-much herself she-wept without ceasing
c'ap l'aigueta que del cor mou
that-with the-little-water that from-the heart moves
e per los oilz ades li plou
and through the eyes at-once on-him rains
lo fron li moilla el menton
the brow to-him she-wets and-the chin
e la cara tot environ,
and the face all around
e dis: «Amix, consi estatz
and said Friend how are-you
«que vos a mi ar nom parlatz?
that you to me now not-to-me speak
«Es cortezia ques estetz
Is-it courtesy that you-are
«que vos ab mi ar nom parles?»
that you with me now not-to-me speak
Guillems la vos el plor enten,
Guillem the voice and-the weeping hears
per pauc le cors d'ira nol fen;
by little the heart with-anger to-him splits

tan gran dol a e tal vergoina
so great grief he-has and such shame
a[l] revenir mot lonc tems poina,
at-the reviving very long time he-toils
et a grans penas li respon,
and with great pains to-her answers
car li suspir que de preon
for the sighs that from deep
del cor a la bocha veniun
from-the heart to the mouth came
la voz el parlar li tollion;
the voice and-the speaking from-him took
pero si dis: «Cant mi dises
yet so he-said When to-me you-say
«qu'ieu de vos mi parta voles,
that-I from you myself part you-wish
«no i a plus mais quem partisses
not there has more but that-me you-split
«lo cor per miei e m'aucisses.»
the heart through middle and me-you-killed
Flamenca dis: «Beus dous amix,
Flamenca said Well-to-you sweet friend
«ja es[t] vos tam pros e tan rix,
already are you so worthy and so rich
«tan cortes e tan conoissens,
so courtly and so knowing
«que ben vezes que totz mos sens
that well you-see that all my sense
«es en vos servir et onrar;
is in you serving and honoring

«e sius podias neis pensar
and if-you could even think
«qu'ieus pogues far majors honors,
that-I-you could to-do greater honors
«a mi seria grans douzors,
to me it-would-be great sweetness
«e volontiera o faria,
and willingly it I-would-do
«que ja per ren non remanria
for ever for anything not it-would-remain
«queus vueillas, fos sens o folleza.
what-you wish were-it sense or folly
— Douza domna, vostra proesa
Sweet lady your worth
«e vostre sens es tan complitz
and your sense is so accomplished
«qu'el mon non es homs tan co[m]plitz
that-in-the world not is man so fulfilled
«que vos conort noil donasses.»
that you comfort not-to-him gave
Adonc si baizon ben mil ves
Then themselves they-kiss well thousand times
e prendon comjat si con tain.
and take leave thus as befits

Neguna res non y sofrain
Any thing not there lacks
mas un pauc de bon'esperansa
but a little of good-hope
que lur fassa qualque fermansa
that to-them make some pledge
ques puescan vezer si con solon.
that-themselves they-can to-see thus as they-were-wont
Mentre qu'estan ensems non colon,
While that-they-are together not they-idle
ans fan ades tot[z] lur plazers;
rather they-do at-once all their pleasures
et es lur vengutz bos espers
and it-is to-them come good hope
de la pasca qu'er aboriva,
of the Easter which-will-be early
car a l'autr'an fo mout tardiva.
for at the-other-year it-was very late
El[s] bains s'en van, e Guillems tos
Into-the baths themselves-thence go and Guillem coughs
un pauc avan que laïns fos,
a little before that in-there he-was
per so quel donzel o ausisson
for this that-the squires it heard
e d'els acuillir si garnisson;
and of-them to-welcome themselves they-ready
ans prendon autre cumiat.
rather they-take other leave
Assas y ac plang e plorat,
Enough there had lament and weeping

e dig: «A Dieu sias vos mais.»
and said To God be you henceforth
Ben volgran c'aitan [fos] pres mais
Well they-would-wish that-so-much were near May
de kalendas con es girviers.
of Christmas as is January
Non sap cal s'en esca prumiers,
Not one-knows which himself-thence go-out first
tan lur enuja e lur pesa,
so-much to-them it-irks and to-them weighs
mais Flamenca, coma cortesa,
but Flamenca as courtly-one
ab son amic dos motz parlet,
with her friend two words spoke
e dis: «Amix», pueis lo baiset,
and said Friend then him she-kissed
«ab cest baisar mon cor vos liure,
with this kiss my heart to-you I-deliver
«e prenc lo vostre quem fai viure.»
and I-take the yours which-me makes live
Guillems respon: «Domna, e[u]l prenc
Guillem answers Lady I-it take
«per tal covinent el retenc
for such covenant and-it I-retain
«ques ieu en luec del mieu lo tenga,
that I in place of-the mine it hold
«e prec vos del mieu vos sovenga.»
and I-pray you of-the mine to-you it-remember

Abtan parton, elas remanon,
Thereupon they-part they remain
lurs crins adoban et aplanon,
their locks they-dress and smooth
et an lurs caras ben lavadas.
and have their faces well washed
Que non paresca sion ploradas.
That not it-appear they-be wept
E quan fon ben pres d'ora nona
And when it-was well near of-hour nones
Margarida l'esquilla sona,
Margarida the-bell rings
e las .vii. domnas qu[es] estavon
and the seven ladies who stood
sus el plan, que las agaravon,
upon on-the plain who them awaited
vengron dese, van s'en ab ella[s];
came at-once they-go themselves-thence with them
mais no i ac domna[s] ni donzella[s]
but not there had ladies or maidens
a cui Flamenca mot sones
to whom Flamenca word spoke
ni volgues ques ab lui parles.
or wished that with her she-spoke
Ellas cujeron set agues
They thought thirst she-had
e per so parlar non volgues.
and for this to-speak not she-wished

Trista estet e conssirosa
Sad she-stood and pensive
e de ren nons fes plus joiosa
and in anything not-herself she-made more joyful
que faire sol, ans ne plais fort;
than to-do she-was-wont rather thereof she-laments much
e quan cujava far conort
and when she-thought to-make comfort
aquel conortz li remembrava
that comfort to-her recalled
l'amor de cel qu'al cor l'estava.
the-love of him who-at-the heart to-her-stood
En Archimbautz cujava si
Sir Archimbaut thought himself
que per s'amor estes aissi,
that for his-love she-stood thus
e penssa ben certanamens
and thinks well certainly
ab lui si port mot lialmens.
with him herself she-bears very loyally
Son affar plega et estrein
His affair folds and draws-tight
Guillems, e tan garit si sen
Guillem and so healed himself feels
que pres a comjat bon e breu
that taken he-has leave good and brief
d'aicels que dec, e vai s'en leu,
of-those whom he-ought and goes himself-thence lightly

quar deniers ni draps ni vaisselz
for pennies and cloths and vessels
laissa tant de bons e de bels
he-leaves so-many of good and of fair
que tos tems mais s'en gauzira
that all time more himself-thereof will-rejoice
sos hostes ab lo capellan.
his host with the chaplain
Guillems es vengutz en sa terra,
Guillem is come into his land
et ausi qu'en Flandris ac guerra;
and heard that-in Flanders had war
lai en vai ab sos compainnos.
there thither he-goes with his companions
Trezens cavalliers ac de bons,
Thirteen knights he-had of good
e fes lai tot so que volia,
and did there all that which he-wished
quar lo pres de cavallaria
for the prize of chivalry
lai conquis abans que tornes;
there he-won before that he-returned
e non cug per als lai anes.
and not I-think for other-thing there he-went

Flamenca venc dese veser
Flamenca came at-once to-see
sos paires, quant saup ben per ver
her father when he-knew well for true
que N'Archimbautz era garitz
that Sir-Archimbaut was healed
e daveras desgilositz.
and truly unjealoused
De Guillem de Nivers comtet
Of Guillem of Nevers he-recounted
coment en Flandris si portet,
how in Flanders himself he-bore
e cant ric pres lai a[c] conquist,
and what rich prize there he-had won
e comen el avia vist
and how he had seen
qu'en la cort del comte Flamenc
that-in the court of-the count Flemish
pel meillor cavallier lo tenc
for-the best knight him one-held
ques uncas fos de nullas gens,
who ever was of any folk
tant es sos cors adautz e gens.
so-much is his body graceful and noble
Ades vol guerras e torneis,
Always he-wishes wars and tourneys
et es tan joves c'ades creis.
and he-is so young that-still he-grows

En Archimbautz respont adoncs:
Sir Archimbaut answers then

«Al tornei sai quel veirem doncs,
At-the tourney I-know that-him we-will-see then

«e prec, sener, que l'o digas
and I-pray lord that him-it you-tell

«s'abans ques ieu lo veziatz.
if-before that I him see

— Ben l'o dirai e be i sera, 6955
Well him-it I-will-tell and well there he-will-be

«quar endreg mi sai que venra,
for toward me I-know that he-will-come

«quar mout a gran pari'ab me,
for very has great fellowship-with me

«e d'aisso creira mi, so cre.
and in-this he-will-believe me so I-believe

«E, belz genre, fe que dei vos,
And fair son-in-law faith that I-owe you

«dic vos ben que, s'el es daus vos, 6960
I-tell you well that if-be is toward you

«daus l'autra part quis volla sia!
on the-other side who-himself wishes let-him-be

«Quar tant es grans sa compainnia
For so is great his company

«ben son mil cavallier jurat.»
well are thousand knights sworn

Tant al coms de Guillem parlat
So-much has-the count of Guillem spoken
que N'Archimbautz dis que l'ira
that Sir-Archimbaut said that him-he-will-go
veser tan tost com luec n'aura,
to-see as soon as place thereof-he-will-have
e fort vol aver sa paria,
and much he-wishes to-have his fellowship
e pregar l'a daus lui estia
and to-beg him-he-will toward him he-stay
a son tornei; e ja nol calgra,
at his tourney and ever not-to-him it-would-have-needed
qu'en totas guisas cug quel valgra
for-in all ways I-think that-him he-would-have-helped
s'Ens Archi[m]bautz non l'en pregues,
if-Sir Archimbaut not him-thereof begged
mais honors l'er sivals ades
but honor to-him-will-be at-least at-once
si tam pros hom li quer captein,
if so worthy man to-him seeks leadership
e per la bell'amor queil fein.
and for the fair-love that-to-him he-feigns
Totz torneis n'es mielz aisinatz
Every tourney thereof-is better furnished
quant hom es del marit privatz;
when one is with-the husband intimate
e nom pes negus m'en desmenta.
and not-to-me let-it-weigh any me-thereof gainsay

E qui [s'] alegri ni gau senta
And who himself rejoices or joy feels
mais Flamenca, quant au comtar
but Flamenca when she-hears recount
de son amic que non a par
of her friend who not has peer
de proesa ni de beutat!
in prowess or in beauty
Aissi a tot cel an passat
Thus she-has all that year passed
entro lai ves carerm'antran;
until there toward Lent-entering
mais adoncs le dux de Braiman
but then the duke of Brabant
a Lovan, en un sieu repaire,
at Louvain in a his residence
fes tornei, mais non duret gaire;
made tourney but not it-lasted long
pero be i ac de cavalliers
yet well there had of knights
entr'ambas partz .iiii. milliers.
between-both sides four thousands
En Archimbautz y fon, le bar,
Sir Archimbaut there was the baron
car aqui volc som pres cobrar;
for there he-wished his worth to-recover
e venc tan ricamen garnitz
and came so richly equipped
que pels meillors y fon grasitz,
that by-the best there he-was welcomed

car .iii. cens cavalliers valens
for three hundred knights valiant
ac ab si bels e covinens,
he-had with himself fair and fitting
ab cubertas et ab sonals;
with trappings and with bells
e triet los totz uns seinnals,
and chose them all one device
so fon aquel de N'Archimbau
this was that of Sir-Archimbaut
ab flors jaunas sus el camp blau.
with flowers yellow upon on-the field blue
Guillem de Nivers lai trobet,
Guillem of Nevers there he-found
ab lui dese s'apareillet.
with him at-once himself-allied
Gent lo saup Guillems acullir
Nobly him knew-how Guillem to-welcome
et en totas res obesir,
and in all things to-obey
e mout l'onret al plus que poc
and much him-honored at-the most that he-could
e dis li de tot quan volc d'oc.
and said to-him of all as-much-as he-wished yes
Ensems cavalgon ambedui;
Together ride both
totz le torneis fremis e brui
all the tourney quivers and roars
cant il intran el camp armat;
when they enter in-the field armed

e tencses cel per ben aurat
and held-himself he for well fortuned
que negun d'ams anes requerre:
whom neither of-both went to-seek
coirassa ni laimas de ferre,
cuirass or plates of iron
perpoinz, ausbercs ni garbaisos
doublets hauberks or gambesons
no y ajudava .ii. botos
not there helped two buttons
a cui Guillems som bras estent
to whom Guillem his arm stretches
a terra nol port mantenent;
to earth not-him he-bears at-once
e N'Archimbautz fer y tan gent
and Sir-Archimbaut strikes there so nobly
que cavalliers reten e pren.
that knights he-retains and takes
Cavals e cavalliers gazainnan;
Horses and knights they-win
mais nous pesses que lur remainnan,
but not-you think that to-them they-remain
ans o donon ses bistensar
rather it they-give without delaying
a celz c'o volon demandar.
to those who-it wish to-ask
Del tornei ac lo pres e laus,
Of-the tourney had the prize and praise
apres Guillem, En Archimbautz.
after Guillem Sir Archimbaut

Adoncs fes cridar son tornei
Then he-made cry his tourney
al paschor, ab lo dous avrei,
at-the Easter with the sweet April
e Guillem de Nivers somos
and Guillem of Nevers summoned
que a son tornej[amen] fos.
that at his tourney he-were
Guillems respon: «Ben y serai,
Guillem answers Well there I-will-be
«et ab vos, seiner, m'i metrai,
and with you lord myself-there I-will-put
«car bon cor ai de vos servir
for good heart I-have of you serving
«s'ieu ren podia far ni dir
if-I anything could to-do or say
«ques a vos fos ni bel ni bon,
that to you were either fair or good
«car sapias vostr'amix son.»
for know-you your-friend I-am

The Love Letter

xv

Archimbaut returns in Lent praising Guillem. When Alis asks whether such a knight can love, he produces greetings Guillem wrote at his request for the lady of Belmont; Flamenca asks him to read them. On them a kneeling lover's words pass as a flower from his mouth to his lady's ear, and Flamenca knows both faces. The women learn the greetings by heart; Flamenca kisses the images nightly and speaks to Love. Archimbaut sends the King of France a serpent knife handle with his invitation and summons knights everywhere. A thousand come only for Flamenca, and they form two sides.

Ab aitant le torneis partis,
With so-much the tourney parted
e N'Archimbautz e Jauselis,
and Sir-Archimbaut and Jauselin
sos coignatz, tengron daus Nemurs.
his brother-in-law held toward Nemours
Ges non lur fo le coms escurs,
At-all not to-them was the count unfriendly
que bella cort e gran lur fes
for fair court and great to-them he-made
quar fait n'avia mantas ves.
for made thereof-he-had many times
Avant que N'Archimbautz tornes
Before that Sir-Archimbaut returned
a Borbon, cug ben que passes
to Bourbon I-think well that passed
de carerma una seizena.
of Lent a sixteen-days

Quan fon ve[n]gutz gran joia mena;
When he-was come great joy he-shows
de Guillem de Nivers retrais
of Guillem of Nevers he-recounted
las grans proezas els assais,
the great prowesses and-the trials
los dons e las cavallarias,
the gifts and the chivalries
los solatz e las cortesias
the solaces and the courtesies
ques al tornei avia faitas.
which at-the tourney he-had done
Et quant en ac moutas retraitas,
And when of-them he-had many recounted
non dic ges totas, car retraire
not I-say at-all all for recount
non las pogra[l] meilliers contaire,
not them could-the best teller
Alis, la pros e l'issernida,
Alis the worthy and the-sensible
ausent si dons e Margarida,
hearing her lady and Margarida
de Guillem de Nivers enquis
of Guillem of Nevers inquired
atressi con s'il hanc nol vis:
just as if-she ever not-him saw
«Segner», fai s'il, «es amoros
Lord says she is-he loving
«cel cavalliers qu'es aitam pros?
this knight who-is so worthy

«Car hom dis qu'aital cavallier
For one says that-such knights
«non sabon esser plazentier,
not know-how to-be pleasing
«quar per lur forsa tan si preson
for by their force so-much themselves they-prize
«que donnei e solas mespreson.
that wooing and solace they-despise
— S'es amoros? o el, per Dieu!
If-he-is loving yes he by God
«Bell'amigueta, plus ques ieu;
Fair-little-friend more than I
«e bens deu per rica tener
and well-herself ought for rich to-hold
«tota domna qu'el dein voler.
every lady whom-he deigns to-wish
«E per so que miels m'en cresas
And for this that better me-thereof you-believe
«un breu qu'en esta borssam jas,
a letter that-in this purse-to-me lies
«de quel preguei qu'el m'escriusses
of which-him I-begged that-he me-wrote
«per tal que de s'amors saupes,
for such that of his-love I-knew
«vos mostrarai ara dese;
to-you I-will-show now at-once

«e si m[e] logasses fort be
and if me you-paid very well

* * *

(lacuna)

«E ja non dires, quant aures
And ever not you-will-say when you-will-have

«las salutz que i son apresas,
the greetings that there are learned

«ques hanc n'ausisses plus cortesas.»
that ever thereof-you-heard more courtly

Flamenca dis: «E dis! bel seiner;
Flamenca said Eh say fair lord

«sembla queus vuillas d'Alis feiner
it-seems that-you you-wish with-Alis to-feign

«quar l'aportas cartas e brieus;
for to-her-you-bring charters and letters

«mais est fe[i]ners non m'es ges grieus,
but this feigning not to-me-is at-all grievous

«ans vos dic que m'es bons e bels
rather to-you I-say that to-me-is good and fair

«quar hanc pessest que vers novelz,
for ever you-thought that verses new

«cobla ni rima ni chanson
stanza or rhyme or song

«nos aportasses tal sazon.
to-us you-brought such season

«E prec que vezen mi, sius plas,
And I-pray that seeing me if-to-you it-pleases

«estas salutz vos eis digas,
these greetings you yourself say

«car vos la[s] sabres mielz legir
for you them will-know better to-read
«e faire los motz avenir,
and make the words to-fit
«qu'autra ves las aves legidas;
for-another time them you-have read
«e s'ellas son aissi polidas
and if-they are so polished
«con vos dises, quant las sabrem
as you say when them we-shall-know
«voluntieras vos logarem.»
willingly you we-will-pay

En Archimbautz fo mout joios,
Sir Archimbaut was very joyful
e dis: «Dona, fe que dei vos,
and said Lady faith that I-owe you
«cel que las salutz mi donet
he who the greetings to-me gave
«mais de .iiii. ves mi preguet
more than four times me begged
«non venguesson entr'avols mans,
not they-came among-base hands
«ni ja non las ausis vilans,
and ever not them heard churl
«car de la bella de Belmont,
for of the fair-one of Belmont
«qu'es li plus bella res del mont,
who-is the most fair thing of-the world

«de vos en lai, car o auses
from you in there for it you-heard
* * *
(lacuna)
Doas ymages ben formadas
Two images well formed
i ac faitas tan sotilmen
there had made so subtly
vivas semblavan veramen.
alive they-seemed truly
Cil davan de ginoilz estet
The-one before on knees stood
e dreg vaus l'autra susplejet.
and straight toward the-other supplicated
Una flors l'issi per la boca
A flower from-him-came-out through the mouth
que totz lo[s] caps dels verses tocha;
which all the heads of-the verses touches
et a la fin autra n'avia
and at the end another thereof-it-had
quel[s] pren atressi totz els lia
which-them takes likewise all and-them binds
els men'enssem totz a l'aureilla
and-them leads-together all to the-ear
de l'autr'emage, on conssella
of the-other-image where counsels
en forma d'angel fin'Amors,
in form of-angel true-Love
qu'entenda so quel mostral flors.
that-she-understand that which-to-her shows-the flower

Ara nous cal dire, so sai,
Now not-to-you needs to-say that I-know
de N'Archimbaut que sia mai
of Sir-Archimbaut that he-be more
de sa moiller gilos ni garda!
of his wife jealous or guard
Flamenca las salutz esgarda
Flamenca the greetings regards
e conoc Guillem aitan ben
and knew Guillem so well
consil vis ades davan se,
as-if-him she-saw at-once before herself
e la faisso de si meseissa
and the likeness of herself self
aitan ben consi fos ill eissa.
so well as-if were she herself
Totas tres las salutz ne porton;
All three the greetings thence carry
pron an ara ab ques deporton.
enough they-have now with which-themselves they-sport
Ben las aprendon e decoron
Well them they-learn and by-heart-learn
e gardan ben non las aforon,
and guard well not them they-price
ni volon qu'autre las aprenda
nor wish that-another them learn
ni un mot per ellas n'entenda.
nor one word through them thereof-understand
Soven las plegon e desplegon,
Often them they-fold and unfold

e garon ben tan non las bregon
and guard well so-much not them they-rub
ques en letras ni em penchura
that in letters or in painting
nom paresca effassadura.
not appear erasure
Ab se las colguet quada sers
With herself them laid each evening
Flamenca, e mil baisar[s] vers
Flamenca and thousand kisses toward
a l'emage de Guillem det,
to the-image of Guillem gave
et autres mil quan las pleguet;
and other thousand when them she-folded
quar tota ora quan las plegava
for every hour when them she-folded
l'un'ymages l'autra baisava;
the-one-image the-other kissed
tant asautet la[s] saup plegar
so aptly them knew-how-she to-fold
ambas las fes ades baisar.
both them she-made at-once kiss
Sobr'en son pietz las mes soven
Upon-in her breast them she-put often
e dis: «Amix, vostre cor sen
and said Friend your heart I-feel
«en luec del mieu on es enclaus,
in place of-the mine where it-is enclosed

«e per so tam pres de lui paus
and for this so near to it I-place
«estas salutz que las sentis
these greetings that them it-feel
«e si con ieu s'en esgauzis.»
and so as I itself-thereof rejoice
Cascun mati, quan si levet,
Each morning when herself she-rose
l'emage de Guillem miret
the-image of Guillem she-gazed-at
et ab Amor parlet suau,
and with Love spoke softly
e dis: «Amors, sitot m'estau
and said Love although I-stand
«de mon amic ara trop luein,
from my friend now too far
«ges mon cor de lui non deslu[e]in,
at-all my heart from him not I-remove
«qu'el lo ten, si com dis, en gaje.
for-he it holds thus as he-says in pledge
«E nous penses ques ieil desgaje,
And not-you think that I-to-him it-redeem
«mais sil pogues mais engajar
but if-it I-could more to-engage
«per null plazer queil saupes far
by any pleasure that-to-him I-could do
«qu'ieu autra ves fag non agues,
that-I another time done not had
«ni el ensegnar lom pogues,
nor he to-teach it-me could

«ancara l'engajera plus.
yet it-I-would-engage more
«Mais anc non fo plazer negus
But ever not was pleasure any
«que domna puesca far ni dir
that lady can to-do or say
«a son amic per mielz desir
to her friend for better desire
«de qu'ieu hanc li disses de no.
of which-I ever to-him said of no
«E vos meseissa sabes o,
And you yourself know it
«et el meseisses si so sap;
and he himself so it he-knows
«e no i a plus mais que daus cap
and not there has more but that from head
«comens'ab lui, cora quel veja.
I-begin-with him whenever that-him I-see
«E car li mostretz la correja
And since to-him you-showed the strap
«aissi asautet a plegar
thus aptly to fold
«qu'el fes a mon sengnor cujar
that he made my lord think
«que cela de Belmon ames,
that that-one of Belmont he-loved
«don nol venc em pens qu'en pesses,
whence not-to-him came in thought that-thereof he-thought
«a vos, douz'Amors, o grasis.»
to you sweet-Love it I-thank

Ab Marga[ri]da et ab Elis
With Margarida and with Alis
ac solas de lur amadors.
she-had solace of their lovers
Mout lur tarzava le pascors,
Much to-them delayed the spring
soven ne gronisson en tosson,
often thereof they-grumble and cough
e s'aquestas salutz non fosson,
and if-these greetings not were
longa lur fora mout carerma.
long to-them would-be very Lent
Cascun jorn dison que non merma.
Each day they-say that not it-lessens
Ges non avion barata presa
At-all not they-had bargain taken
de que li paga fos empresa
of which the payment were undertaken
lo Sapte sans, per sagramen.
the Saturday holy by oath
En Archimbautz ac pensamen
Sir Archimbaut had thought
de far son tornei apres Pasca.
of making his tourney after Easter

D'un serpen, c'om appella drasca
Of-a serpent that-one calls drasca
o cerastes, l'ac enviat
or cerastes to-him-had sent
le pros marques de Montferrat
the worthy marquis of Montferrat
un margue ad obs de coutell;
a handle for use of knife
estug ac d'argent ab niell.
sheath it-had of-silver with niello
En Archimbautz, aisi con es,
Sir Archimbaut thus as it-is
al rei de Fransa l'a trames
to-the king of France it-has sent
en una carta sagellat,
in a charter sealed
et al mot caramen pregat
and him-has much dearly begged
ques al tornei ve[n]ga sil plas,
that to-the tourney be-come if-to-him-it pleases
car sens lui non auria assas.
for without him not it-would-have enough
Messages mand'a totas partz
Messengers he-sends-to all parts
que ja, non sia tan coartz,
that ever not be so coward
negus cavalliers non remainna.
any knight not remain
De Bordel tro en Alamangna,
From Bordeaux as-far-as into Germany

e de Flandris tro a Narbona
and from Flanders as-far-as to Narbonne
non hac baron ni gran persona
not had baron or great person
qu'En Archimbautz non somoses
that-Sir Archimbaut not summoned
ques al tornejamen vengues.
that to-the tourneying be-came
Apres Pasca, al .xv. jorn,
After Easter at-the fifteenth day
pobles alberga tot entorn
people lodges all around
de traps, de lotjas e de tendas.
in tents in huts and in pavilions
Li mercadier ab lur grans vendas
The merchants with their great wares
foron vengut de longas terras;
were come from far lands
los pueitz perprendon e las serras.
the hills they-seize and the ridges
Daus totas partz cavallier venon,
From all parts knights come
et es granz la brega que menon,
and it-is great the brawl that they-make
e[l] tuis e buis, e l'uc el crit.
and-the din and bustle and the-whoop and-the cry
En doas partz si son partit,
Into two parts themselves are divided
e dirai vos la partison:
and I-will-tell you the division

tut li Flamenc el Borgonon
all the Flemings and-the Burgundians
e l'Alvernas el Campagnes
and the-Auvergnat and-the Champenois
e ben mill cavallier Frances
and well thousand knights French
si son mes davas N'Archimbau.
themselves are put toward Sir-Archimbaut
De sa foron cil de Pe[i]tau
On this-side were those of Poitou
e Sangomer et Engolmes,
and Saintonge and Angoumois
breton e Norman e Tornes
Bretons and Normans and Tourainers
e Beiruier e Lemosin,
and Berrichons and Limousins
peirago[r]sin e Cahercin,
Périgord-men and Quercynois
rosengas e Bedos e Got.
Rodez-men and Béarnese and Goths
Nolz puesc dir[e] totz mot e mot,
Not-them can-I tell all word by word
mais beus dic que tal mil n'i vengron
but well-to-you I-say that such thousand thereof-there came
que ja sol lo pe non la tengron
that ever even the foot not there they-held
si per Flamenca non lur fos;
if for Flamenca not to-them it-were

mais cascuns era envejos
but each was eager
de lei vezer, qu'en sol la vista
of her seeing for-in only the sight
cuj'aver gran honor conquista;
he-thinks-to-have great honor won
et el si l'avia per ver,
and he so it-had for true
quar meillor ren non poc vezer,
for better thing not he-could to-see
plus douza ni plus faissonada,
more sweet or more shapely
plus plasent ni plus adautada,
more pleasing or more graceful
ni que mieilz saupes retener
or who better could retain
ab son adaut et ab plazer
with her grace and with pleasure
totz celz que l'auson ni la veson;
all those who her-hear or her see
ades plas mais on plus la veson
always she-pleases more the more her they-see
ni acostumon sa paria,
and grow-used-to her company
et es le mielliers aips que sia.
and it-is the best quality that be
Mais, aissi con dis non sai quals,
But thus as says not I-know which-one
a motas fail fregz cors e fals,
to many fails cold heart and false

tant an de bon asaut petit.
so-much they-have of good grace little
Ab cellas albergoil marit,
With those lodge-the husbands
e dison pueis que bonas son,
and they-say then that good they-are
mais hom cortes n'a de pauc pron.
but man courtly thereof-has of little profit
Mais anc [hom] pauc ni pron non ac
But ever man little or much not had
de Flamenca, car aitant plac
of Flamenca for so-much she-pleased
que totz hom per pagatz s'en ten,
that every man for paid himself-thereof holds
e ja noil fassa nulla ren,
and ever not-to-him she-do any thing
e ja homs pron de lui non agra
and ever man profit of her not would-have
en negun tems, aitant li plagra.
in any time so-much to-him it-would-please

The Eve of the Tourney

XVI

Guillem pitches his tent beside the scaffold raised above the lists. Archimbaut knights Ot and Clari with forty others and brings Guillem to Flamenca in the palace. She kisses her lover before the court, and the king leaves, teasing that Guillem will make her forget him. Her maidens give Ot and Clari pennons, a pretext for talk. The lovers exchange hearts; she teases him about the lady of Belmont, bids him return tonight with Ot and Clari, and promises the hurried kiss tenfold. Guillem takes leave of every lady and goes with Archimbaut to the duke of Burgundy.

En un portal, davan los pratz
At a gateway before the meadows
on s'era le torneis rengatz,
where itself-was the tourney ranged
fes hom [un] gran escadafals.
made one a great scaffold
Que vi ben los plans e las vals;
Which saw well the plains and the vales
las donas aqui estarau
the ladies there will-stand
el baron qu'armas non tenrau.
and-the barons who-arms not will-hold
Un jorn avan c'om tornejes,
A day before that-one tourneyed
per tal c'om armas y portes,
for such that-one arms there bore
venc le rics Guillems de Nivers,
came the rich Guillem of Nevers

e vi per dreg e per travers
and saw by straight and by across
cum s'alberga valz e montanha.
how itself-lodges vale and mountain
Mot ac ab si bella companha
Much he-had with himself fair company
quar be i a[c] cavallier[s] tal mil
for well there had knights such thousand
ques anc negus arma ni fil
that ever any arm or thread
nom portet mas tot fresc e nou,
not bore but all fresh and new
e movon tut lai on el mou.
and move all there where he moves
Cent trombas ausiras sonar
Hundred trumpets thou-wilt-hear sound
e plus de mil grailes cornar
and more than thousand clarions blow
lai on Guillems es albergatz.
there where Guillem is lodged
En un camp que fon loncs e latz,
In a field that was long and wide
jostal portal, tendet son trap,
beside-the gateway he-pitched his tent
car ben conois e ve e sap
for well he-knows and sees and knows
que si dons laissus estaria
that his lady up-there would-stand
per los cadafals qu'el vezia.
by the scaffolds that-he saw

En Archimbautz a pron que fassa,
Sir Archimbaut has enough that he-do
car l'un baisa e l'autr'embrassa,
for the-one he-kisses and the-other-embraces
l'un saluda e l'autre acueil.
the-one he-greets and the-other welcomes
A l'autre dis: «Sener, heu voil
To the-other he-said Lord I wish
«que dins la vilaus [al]bergues,
that within the town-you you-lodge
«quar mielz, so cre, lai estares.»
for better so I-believe there you-will-be
Al trap de Guillem es vengutz
To-the tent of Guillem he-is come
quan Guillems y fo mentagutz;
when Guillem there was mentioned
fort s'onreron et accuilliron
greatly themselves-they-honored and welcomed
ambedui, desempre ques viron.
both at-once that-themselves they-saw
Ot e Claris foron aqui;
Ot and Clari were there
En Archimbautz sempre quel[s] vi
Sir Archimbaut as-soon-as that-them he-saw
dis lur: «Baron, voles ades
said to-them Barons do-you-wish now
«cavallier esser o apres?
knights to-be or after
— Sener, ades,» cascus respos;
Lord now each answered

«s'a vos plas, non reman e nos.»
if-to you it-pleases not it-remains in us
En Archimbautz aqui meseis
Sir Archimbaut there itself
ad amdos las espazas ceis,
to both the swords girds
e per lur amor a quaranta;
and for their love to forty
et ill dui feiron en .l.,
and they two made thereof fifty
e velz vos cavalliers novelz.
and behold you knights new
Cavalz lur donet bos e belz,
Horses to-them he-gave good and fair
armas e draps e palafres
arms and cloths and palfreys
ab las sellas et ab lo[s] fres
with the saddles and with the bridles
tot avan que d'aqui moguesson;
all before that from-there they-moved
pueissas lur dis que nos tenguesson
then to-them he-said that not-themselves they-held
ges de lui de tan per pagat
at-all from him of so-much for paid
entro que mais lur aia dat.
until that more to-them he-have given
A Guillem dis: «Segner, presen
To Guillem he-said Lord present
«dei far per vos, per covinen,
I-ought to-make of you by covenant

«a vostra domna, s'a vos plas;
to your lady if-to you it-pleases
«per sous prec ques a lui vengas.»
for this-you I-beg that to her you-come
E palais on Flamencha fon
In palace where Flamenca was
estet le reis e siei baron;
stood the king and his barons
e quan Guillems laïns intret,
and when Guillem in-there entered
le reis sus em pes si levet
the king up on foot himself raised
e tut li baron que lai foron;
and all the barons that there were
mout gent l'acullon e l'onoron.
very nobly him-welcome and him-honor
E Guillems tost vaus lo rei cor;
And Guillem soon toward the king runs
dis li mout gent com a seinor:
said to-him very nobly as to lord
«Seigner, merces, tornas sezer;
Lord thanks return to-sit
«ma domna sui vengutz vezer.
my lady I-am come to-see
— Segner,» fai s'il, «vostra merce;
Lord says she your mercy
«sezes doncas [de]josta me.
sit then beside me
— Fag o, Guillems,» so dis le rei;
Do it Guillem this said the king

«mais ill o vol eu [o] autrei;
but she it wishes I it grant
«quar ben es tals ques a nos dos
for well she-is such that to us two
«aura solas; vist l'anc mais vos?
will-have solace seen her-ever before you
— Segner, be n'ai ausit parlar,
Lord well thereof-I-have heard speak
«et es i ben, ab mais, som par,
and is there well with more so-to-me seems
«totz le bens que n'ai auzit dire.»
all the good that thereof-I-have heard say
Le reis a dig: «Senors, nous tire,
The king has said Lords not-to-you let-it-irk
«nos sai avem ganren estat,
we here have much been
«e cil que son aras intrat
and those who are now entered
«volran per lur ves domnejar,
will-wish in their turn to-woo
«e laissem los, sius plas, estar.
and let-us-leave them if-to-you it-pleases to-be
— Hoc, segner, ben,» so dison tut.
Yes lord well this say all
Comjat prendon e fan gran brut.
Leave they-take and make great noise
Mais quan le reis suau estet
But when the king quietly stood
Flamenca son amic baiset,
Flamenca her friend kissed

e dis suau antre sas dens:
and said softly between her teeth
«Sempre pesca qui una pren,
Always fishes who one takes
«e talz baisar en cor[t] donatz
and such kiss in court given
«val mout d'autres baisars privatz.»
is-worth much of-other kisses private
Le reis a pres de lei comjat
The king has taken from her leave
e dis li: «Domna, per mon grat
and said to-her Lady by my will
«ja Guillems vengutz non sa fora,
ever Guillem come not here would-be
«quar ieu sai ben qu'en petit d'ora,
for I know well that-in little of-hour
«quant vos aures parlat ab lui
when you will-have spoken with him
«aures oblidat qu'ieu sai fui,
you-will-have forgotten that-I here was
«tant vos aura cortes solas.
so-much for-you he-will-have courtly solace
«E nomperquan a Dieu sias,
And nonetheless to God be
«car ben vueil ques ab lui parles;
for well I-wish that with him you-speak
«e ben sai que salv o aures,
and well I-know that safe it you-will-have

«car als pros et als conoissens,
for to-the worthy and to-the knowing
«si fai le vostre parlamens.»
so does the your speech
Le reis s'en va, Guillems rema;
The king himself-thence goes Guillem remains
Flamenca tenc per mieg la ma
Flamenca he-held by mid the hand
e mostral ga[n]ren de sa forsa,
and shows-to-her much of his strength
car amors e desirs l'anforsa.
for love and desire him-strengthens
Ot e Claris cais vergoinos
Ot and Clari as-if abashed
dizon: «Domna, que farem nos?
say Lady what will-we-do we
— Aures estrena bon'e bella.»
You-will-have gift good-and fair
Alis e Margarid'apella:
Alis and Margarida-she-calls
«Anatz», fai si, «tost a ma caissa,
Go says she soon to my chest
«et aportas mi cela faissa
and bring me that bundle
«on son li confanon vermeil;
where are the pennons red
«cist vueil que n'aian un pareil,
these I-wish that thereof-they-have a pair
«e prec vos de vostra mals prendon.»
and I-beg you from your hand-them they-take

Pos qu'il o dis ben o entendon,
Since that-she it said well it they-understand
quar aissi lur det ucaison
for thus to-them she-gave occasion
per que pogron ben a rason
through which they-could well with reason
a lur guisa parlar ab ellas,
at their wish speak with them
car jes cavallier ab donzellas
for at-all knights with maidens
en cor[t] non parlon ni solasson
in court not speak or solace
si troban domnas que lur plasson,
if they-find ladies who to-them please
e laïnz ac ne plus de cent
and in-there had thereof more than hundred
que cascuna em pres entent
that each in worth intent
et en domnei et en amor.
both in wooing and in love
Guillems demandet ap paor:
Guillem asked with fear
«Ma douza res, mos cors que fai?
My sweet thing my heart what does-it
— Amix, en luec del mieu estai,
Friend in place of-the mine it-stays

«e, sol quel mieu ren non movas
and provided that-the mine at-all not you-move
«del luec del vostre, non cresas
from-the place of-the yours not believe
«qu'ieu negun tems lo vostre mova.
that-I any time the yours move
«E cist razons es assas nova
And this speech is quite new
«e par d'amor o de lauzenga
and seems of-love or of flattery
«qu'en luec del mieu vostre cor tenga,
that-in place of-the mine your heart I-hold
«e vos lo mieu, per tal maneira
and you the mine in such manner
«ques eu en vos lo mieu sofiera,
that I in you the mine suffer
«e vos lo vostre eissamen
and you the yours likewise
«sufras en mi per fin talen;
suffer in me by true desire
«e de talen faim tal liam
and of desire we-make such bond
«don nostres cors amdos liam.
whereby our hearts both we-bind
«E non cal temer que ja rompa,
And not needs to-fear that ever it-break
«sol qu'autre talenz nol corrompa.»
provided that-another desire not-it corrupt

Guillem respont: «Domna, si rom[p]
Guillem answers Lady if breaks
«de vos mos talens nis corromp
from you my desire or-itself corrupts
«en alcun temps per negun autre,
in any time through any other
«ja nom sia g[u]irens ni autre,
ever not-to-me let-be warrant or other
«quant obs mi sera, sanz Miquels;
when need to-me will-be saint Michael
«e sia Cayms, vos Abels,
and may-I-be Cain you Abel
«s'ieu vueil que sia desliatz
if-I wish that it-be unbound
«per tal quem fos totz le monz datz.
for such that-to-me were all the world given
— Bels dous amix, donc respondes:
Fair sweet friend then answer
«Lai ves Belmon cora annes
There toward Belmont when you-went
«vezer cella qu'es aitan bona
to-see that-one who-is so good
«que tot lo pres del mon li don?»
that all the prize of-the world to-her one-gives
Guillems somris e pois respont:
Guillem smiled and then answers

«Ma douza res, cil de Belmont
My sweet thing that-one of Belmont
«tam bona e tam bella es
so good and so fair is
«que de nulla re meins nom pes.
that of any thing less not-to-me it-weighs
— Belz dous amix, ben o sabia,
Fair sweet friend well it I-knew
«mais per vos proar o disia.
but for you testing it I-said
— Dousa domna, e que farem
Sweet lady and what will-we-do
«si nostr'amor plus non paissem
if our-love more not we-feed
«mais de paraulas solamen
but of words only
«e d'un baisar, c'aitan corren
and of-a kiss that-so running
«passet c'a penas lo senti;
passed that-with pains it I-felt
«sapias que desirs m'auci.
know-you that desire me-kills
— Amix, sius plaz, nous esmagues,
Friend if-to-you it-pleases not-yourself dismay
«ancanug a mi tornares;
tonight to me you-will-return
«e non menes tans compangnos,
and not bring so-many companions
«Ot e Claris vengan ab vos,
Ot and Clari let-come with you

«e poirem mielz que non fam ara,
and we-will-be-able better than — we-do now
«quant tota la gens nos esgara,
when all the folk us regards
«faire e dir nostre plazer;
to-do and to-say our pleasure
«que N'Archimbautz ira vezer
for Sir-Archimbaut will-go to-see
«lo rei els barons als hostals;
the king and-the barons at-the lodgings
«e promet vos al meins, sivals,
and I-promise you at-the least at-least
«que[l] baisar, de queus rancuras
that-the kiss of which-you complain
«quar s'en passet aitan vivas,
for itself-thence passed so quickly
«vos dobli des ves tot da pas;
to-you I-double ten times all at step
«e si luecs es non doptes pas
and if place there-is not doubt at-all
«ques ieu volontiera non fassa
that I willingly not do
«en dreg d'amor tot so queus plassa.»
in right of-love all that which-to-you please
De moutas res bon solas tenon;
Of many things good solace they-hold
lur ueilz e lur bocas revenon
their eyes and their mouths revive
d'aitan com podon, e lur nas.
as-much as they-can and their noses

Car plus non feiron non remas
For more not they-did not it-remained
per lur vol, mais per non poder,
through their will but through not being-able
car luec non agron ni lezer;
for place not they-had or leisure
pero lur affar an empres,
yet their affair they-have undertaken
e cant Guillems ac comjat pres
and when Guillem had leave taken
de las domnas per una et una,
of the ladies by one and one
ques hanc non n'i laisset neguna,
that ever not thereof-there he-left any
mais, aissi con taing, lo demanda,
but thus as befits it he-asks
e totas a Dieu las comanda;
and all to God them he-commends
e tenos de lui per pagadas
and they-hold-themselves of him for paid
aitan ben consi mil vegadas
so well as-if thousand times
agues per se cascuna vista
had by herself each seen
e donejada es enquista.
and wooed and sought

Ot et Claris feiron merces
Ot and Clari gave thanks
delz gonfanos e delz orfres
for-the pennons and for-the gold-orphreys
que las donzellas lur an datz.
that the maidens to-them have given
Flamenca dis: «Vostr'es le gratz
Flamenca said Yours-is the thanks
«quar d'elas penre los deignes.
for from-them to-take them you-deigned
«Ancanueh, sius plas, sa venes.»
Tonight if-to-you it-pleases here come
En Archimbautz ac esdreissat
Sir Archimbaut had escorted
lo rei, e vel vos retornat.
the king and behold-him you returned
Ab Guillem a son trap s'en vai,
With Guillem to his tent himself-thence goes
et en apres et el si trai
and in after and he himself draws
[lai] on es le dux de Bergoina.
there where is the duke of Burgundy
Al plus que pot s'esforsa e poina
At-the most that he-can himself-strives and toils
delz barons servir et onrar,
of-the barons serving and honoring
et hanc homs mielz non o saup far.
and ever man better not it knew to-do

The Night in the Palace

XVII

After supper Guillem rides to the palace, a hauberk under his surcoat and a knife at his belt. The count of Auxerre yields him his seat by Flamenca, who kisses him; in such matters, says the narrator after Ovid, a lady can do more than a knight. Archimbaut enters softly: her cousins are knighted tomorrow, and Guillem, Ot, and Clari may help her choose their jewels. He leaves them in the chamber, and the three couples take their pleasure. Flamenca remains rejoicing; no lady, says the narrator, ever dared kiss and bed her lover in full court unseen.

Apres sopar, quan fon nueitz clausa,
After supper when it-was night closed
Guillems non estet ges em pausa,
Guillem not stood at-all in rest
ans penset d'anar vaus si donz,
rather he-thought of-going toward his lady
quar non volc pas que nuehz ni sonz
for not he-wished at-all that night or sleep
aitan gran benanansal tolla;
so great happiness-to-him take-away
e quant us autre si despuella,
and when an other himself undresses
el a vestit un albergot
he has put-on a hauberk
desotz lo vermeill sobrecot;
beneath the red surcoat
un coutel mes a la centura
a knife he-put at the belt
ab prim taill et ap poncha dura;
with fine edge and with point hard

non volc compagnons plus de .xxx.;
not he-wished companions more than thirty
sai e lai feiron gran tormenta
here and there they-made great tumult
homen e caval e carretas; 7475
men and horse and carts
dansas e viuladura[s] bretas
dances and violings Breton
pogras auzir sai e lai tantas
thou-couldst hear here and there so-many
qu'esser cujaras inz e Nantas
that-to-be thou-wouldst-think within in Nantes
[on] hom las troba e las diz.
where one them finds and them tells
Ab lo senescal de Sanliz 7480
With the seneschal of Senlis
a l'issir del trap s'encontret;
at the-going-out of-the tent himself-met
gen l'acuilli el saludet,
nobly him-he-welcomed and-him greeted
e li dis: «Sener, on annas?
and to-him said Lord where go-you
— Sener, tro al palais, sius plas.
Lord as-far-as to-the palace if-to-you it-pleases
— Irai ab vos? — Sener, vos no, 7485
I-will-go with you Lord you no

«car vos aves a faire pro
for you have to do enough
«ab mon senhor lo rei, so cre,
with my lord the king so I-believe
«et eu ai pro solaz ab me.»
and I have enough solace with me
Nous penses pas ses lum anes
Not-yourselves think at-all without light went
Guillems de Nivers, ni de pes,
Guillem of Nevers or on foot
ans foron tut em palafres,
rather they-were all on palfreys
e .xx. brandos grans et espes,
and twenty torches great and thick
aitals com poc us hom portar,
such as could a man to-carry
fes davan si ades cremar;
he-made before himself at-once burn
de .xx. liuras era cascuns
of twenty pounds was each
et avia y .x. flars o plus,
and it-had there ten flares or more
qu'aitals los fai hom en son aiz.
for-such them makes one in his ease
Quan foron vengut el palais
When they-were come in-the palace
ausirol brut que la meneron
heard-the noise that there they-made
juglar e cil que laïnz eron,
jongleurs and those who in-there were

mais quant ill calon tut si callon,
but when they fall-silent all themselves are-silent
que ren non danson ni non ballon,
that at-all not they-dance or not they-carol
ans dison: «Ben sia vengutz
rather they-say Well may-be come
«le pros el rix el mentagutz,
the worthy and-the rich and-the renowned
«e cel per cui le monz s'alegra!
and he through whom the world itself-gladdens
«Quar tos tems es sa car'alegra,
For all times is his face-gay
«sa mas larga et aondosa
his hand generous and abundant
«et a ben donar volontosa.
and to well giving willing
«Ben aial dona que l'acuell
Well may-have-the lady who him-welcomes
«tan que josta leis si despuell!»
so-much that beside her himself he-undress
Le coms d'Aussurra s'era mes
The count of-Auxerre himself-had put
ab Flamenca per cosines,
with Flamenca by cousinship
mais cant el vi Guillem venir,
but when he saw Guillem come
«domna», fai s'el, «ben deu giquir
lady says he well I-ought to-leave
«a tan pros cavallier mon luec.»
to so worthy knight my place

Em pes levet, e, quais per juec
On foot he-rose and as-if in game
el dis: «Sener, en dreg d'amor
he said Lord in right of-love
«vos farai ara gran honor,
to-you I-will-do now great honor
«quar ma cosinaus laissarai
for my cousin-to-you I-will-leave
«e josta leis vos asseirai,
and beside her you I-will-seat
«e pregar l'ai, sil plas, de vos.
and to-beg her-I-will if-to-her-it pleases of you
— Sener, merces,» Guillems respos,
Lord thanks Guillem answered
que vau[s] si dons ades s'en venc;
who toward his lady at-once himself-thence came
mais ill per pagada s'en tenc
but she for paid herself-thereof held
quan l'ac pres per la man dese,
when him-she-had taken by the hand at-once
ans lo tiret mout gent vas se
rather him she-drew very nobly toward herself
e tant adaut lo fes baissar
and so aptly him made stoop
que a sa guisal poc baisar.
that at her wish-him she-could to-kiss
E ja nons meravil negus
And ever not-himself let-marvel any
s'en tal bruda, com leva l'us,
if-in such uproar as rises the-one

l'autres gira e l'autres baissa,
the-other turns and the-other stoops
e l'us son luec a l'autre laissa,
and the-one his place to the-other leaves
tota domna qu'es eissernida,
every lady who-is sensible
pos Amors e cors l'en envida,
since Love and heart her-thereto invite
baisa son amic una ves,
kisses her friend one time
quar ben o pot far e bel les,
for well it she-can to-do and fair it-is-to-her
e domnas an gran majoria
and ladies have great superiority
en tals affars, car mais poiria
in such affairs for more could
una domna faire plazers,
a lady do pleasures
cant Amors l'o dis e volers,
when Love her-it says and will
en pauc d'ora, que non faria
in little of-hour than — would-do
us cavalliers en tot un dia.
a knight in all a day
E dirai vos don so ave:
And I-will-tell you whence this comes

tota bona dona sab be
every good lady knows well
que ja sos amics nos moura
that ever her friend not-himself will-move
ni sa boca non fugira
nor her mouth not will-flee
cora ques ill baisar lo vueilla,
whenever that she to-kiss him wish
mais homs ha paor qu'il si dueilla
but man has fear that-she herself grieve
de josta lui, e que fugissa,
from beside him and that she-flee
s'el la vol baisar, os gandissa
if-he her wishes to-kiss or-herself turn-aside
sa boca o [so] teng'a mal.
her mouth or this she-hold-for ill
E per so plus en tal art val
And for this more in such art is-worth
una domna que mil baron;
a lady than thousand barons
so dis Ovidis qu'en saup pron.
thus says Ovid who-thereof knew enough
Ben fol palais enluminatz,
Well was-the palace illumined
quar de las donas venc clardatz
for from the ladies came brightness
que monstreron tota lur cara;
who showed all their face

mais la plus bella e la plus clara
but the most fair and the most bright
fon de Flamenca que sezia
was of Flamenca who sat
josta Guillem, e non sabia
beside Guillem and not she-knew
de qual guisa d'aquis mogues
in what manner from-there-herself she-moved
et en sa cambra l'en meses
and into her chamber him-thence she-put
ab sol Oto et ab Clari.
with only Ot and with Clari
E mentre qu'estavon aissi,
And while that-they-stood thus
non saupron motz qu'En Archimbautz
not they-knew word that-Sir Archimbaut
intret, e non fon grans l'esclaus,
entered and not was great the-clatter
ans s'en intret aissi suau
rather himself-thence entered thus softly
ques intrar hom nol ve ni l'au;
that entering one not-him sees or him-hears
e fes o tot per cortesia,
and did it all for courtesy
qu'e nulla guisa non volia
for-in any manner not he-wished
que tota li cortz si leves
that all the court itself rise
cora que vengues o annes.
whenever that he-came or went

Anc negus hom adonc nos moc
Ever any man then not-himself moved
per lui, ni faire non o poc,
for him or to-do not it could
mais ben viron quan fon intratz.
but well they-saw when he-was entered
Dreg vas Guillem s'en es anatz,
Straight toward Guillem himself-thence is gone
e quan Guillems cujet levar
and when Guillem thought to-rise
sus em pes, el li vai pausar
up on foot he to-him goes to-place
sus el ginoil la destra man;
upon on-the knee the right hand
mais tan suavet e tan plan
but so gently and so smoothly
la i pauset, ques hanc non senti
it there he-placed that ever not he-felt
l'ausbergot que desot tenti.
the-hauberk that beneath rang
Sobrelz [brasses] l'autre pauset
Upon-the arms the-other he-placed
de Flamenca, e pueis estet
of Flamenca and then stood
aclis vas leis, si con hom fai,
leaning toward her thus as one does
e dis: «Domna, novas vos sai:
and said Lady news to-you I-know
«Le coms de Bar, vostre cosiz,
The count of Bar your cousin

«e sos fraires don Raolis
and his brother sir Raoul
«seran cavallier al mati,
will-be knights at-the morning
«et autres .x. vostre cosi;
and other ten your cousins
«ques al mati sai quels veires
that at-the morning here that-them you-will-see
* * *
(lacuna)
— Segner», fai s'il, «pron lur puesc dar
Lord says she enough to-them I-can to-give
«de joias, mais non sai triar
of jewels but not I-know-how to-choose
«las quals a qual d'elz si conveina.
which ones to which of-them itself befits
— Dona, per Dieu! si far o deina,
Lady by God if to-do it deigns
«mos sener Guillems qu'es aici
my lord Guillem who-is here
«et Ot e Claris atressi
and Ot and Clari likewise
«vos em poiran ben conseillar,
you in-it will-be-able well to-counsel
«car il sabon tut lur affar.
for they know all their affair
— Bel segner, doncas pregas los
Fair lord then beg them
«qu'en las cambras vengan ab nos.»
that-into the chambers they-come with us

Guillems li dis: «Domna, non qual
Guillem to-her said Lady not needs
«c'om mi pregue d'aisso ni d'al,
that-one me beg of-this or of-else
«quar per vos e per mon seinor
for for you and for my lord
«faria ben affar major
I-would-do well affair greater
«que cest non es, sol conogues
than this — is provided-that I-knew
«ques a lui et a vos plagues.»
that to him and to you it-pleased
En la cambra s'en son intrat;
Into the chamber themselves-thence they-are entered
en un bel tapit lonc e lat
on a fair carpet long and wide
Flamenca fes avan pausar
Flamenca made before to-place
de joias, qu'en puesca donar
of jewels that-thereof she-can to-give
a mil cavalliers, aitan larc
to thousand knights so generously
que unquec valguesson .i. marc,
that each-one were-worth one mark
et aquel fos de bon aur fi.
and that-one were of good gold fine
E quant En Archimbautz las vi
And when Sir Archimbaut them saw
el dis: «Domna, massa n'aves!
he said Lady too-much thereof-you-have

«Engas las aissi cous voles,
Share-out them thus as-you wish
«qu'ieu m'en vauc a l'ostal del rei.
for-I myself-thence go to the-lodging of-the king
«Vos est tres et aquist son trei
You are three and these are three
«et entre vos acordas vos
and among you agree you
«consi partas vostres cordos.»
how you-divide your cords
A Guillem dis: «Nous o tengatz,
To Guillem he-said Not-you it hold
«seiner, a mal, car ben viatz
lord at ill for well quickly
«aici a vos retornarai.»
here to you I-will-return
Ab aquest mot et el s'en vai.
With this word and he himself-thence goes
Cant de la cambra fon issitz
When from the chamber he-was gone-out
Guillems non estet ges marritz
Guillem not was at-all troubled
quals de las joias degues penre,
which of the jewels he-ought to-take
josta se ac bel cors e tenre:
beside himself he-had fair body and tender
blanc e delgat et escafit,
white and slender and trim

don nol cal temer que ja crit
whence not-to-him needs to-fear that ever it-cry
ni contradiga son talan
or gainsay his desire
ni vueilla que ja rel deman,
or wish that ever anything-him it-ask
mais que so prenda el meseis.
but that it take he himself
Tot bellamen vau[s] si l'estreis
All fairly toward himself her-he-clasps
et anc d'aqui nos moc nis tolc
and ever from-there not-himself moved or-himself removed
tro qu'en ac fag tot zo que volc.
until that-thereof he-had done all that which he-wished
Amors e desirs feiron garda,
Love and desire kept guard
e Margarida, que l'uis garda
and Margarida who the-door guards
ab Clari son coral amic
with Clari her heartfelt friend
qu'en la garda nom pren destric,
for-in the guard not takes hindrance
ans an tut tres assas baisat,
rather have all three enough kissed
tengut estreg e manejat;
held tight and fondled
et al re sis feiron ben leu,
and the-other thing so-themselves they-did very likely
de qu'ieu a dir cocha non leu;
of which-I to say haste not I-raise

mais tant y feiron a leur guisa
but so-much there they-did at their wish
que anc ni blisaut ni camisa
that ever either tunic or shift
non tolc res de lur benanansa.
not took-away anything of their happiness
Ara vejas can fort enansa
Now see how strongly advances
Amors lai on vol enansar!
Love there where she-wishes to-advance
Mais zo laissem aras estar;
But this let-us-leave now to-stand
de la cambra gausent issiron,
from the chamber rejoicing they-went-out
cil del palais em pes salliron
those of-the palace on foot leapt
e penssa quex consi l'acueilla.
and thinks each how him-he-welcome
Ja mais nos rancure nis doilla
Ever more not-himself let-him-complain or-himself let-grieve
per amor negus cavalliers,
for love any knight
ni laisse per folz lauzengiers
or leave for mad slanderers
que non sia cortes e pros,
that not he-be courtly and worthy
et, quant luecs er, ben amoros!
and when place will-be well loving

Guillems s'en eis, e tut ab el,
Guillem himself-thence goes-out and all with him
mais hanc no i ac cella ni cel
but ever not there had she or he
ques el avan non saludes
that he before not greeted
que l'uis de la sala passes.
than the-door of the hall he-passed
Flamenca remas jausionda;
Flamenca remained rejoicing
vejaire l'es que ben aonda
seeming to-her-is that well suffices
a son amic zo qu'ar a fag.
to her friend that which-now she-has done
Anc mais dona tan ric assag
Ever more lady so rich trial
non auset empenre, som cug,
not dared undertake so-I think
qu'en plena cort, on ren non fug
that-in full court where anything not flees
ad oill, a man ni ad aureilla,
from eye from hand or from ear
ab son amic baisan cosseilla
with her friend kissing takes-counsel
e, vezenz totz, lo co[l]g'ab se,
and seeing all him lays-with herself
que negus homs non conois re.
that any man not knows anything

The Sleeve

XVIII

Archimbaut, says the narrator, is a baboon, trusting the oath and missing its sophism. At dawn trumpets open the tourney, watched by the king and Flamenca from the scaffold. She vows her sleeve to the first knight to unhorse another. Guillem unhorses the count of La Marche and, taking no ransom, sends him to her as his prisoner; she frees him and sends Guillem the sleeve, which he fixes inside his shield. The narrator condemns the lady who always says no, citing Horace on the pot that keeps its first savor; Guillem's lady will grant all at the first word.

Al matin foron adobat
At-the morning were dubbed
cil ric home ques an donat
those rich men who have given
a Guillem aitan gran del[i]eg,
to Guillem so great delight
quar N'Archimbautz lo mes el lieg
for Sir-Archimbaut him put in-the bed
on ab sa domna poc jazer
where with his lady he-could to-lie
aissi cos fes a som plazer;
thus as he-did at his pleasure
mais le caitius non s'en garava
but the wretch not himself-thereof guarded
car el sacramen si fizava,
for in-the oath himself he-trusted
el sophisme non entendia
and-the sophism not he-understood
que Flamenca mes y avia.
which Flamenca put there had

Baboïns es e folz e nescis,
Baboon he-is and mad and foolish
s'era plus savis que Boecis,
if-he-were more wise than Boethius
maritz que son despendre cuja
husband who his to-spend thinks
que mullier ad amic estuja.
what wife on friend stores-away
Lo ben mati, quan le soleills
The very morning when the sun
quais vergoinos parec vermeilz,
as-if ashamed appeared red
apres lo sein de las matinas
after the bell of the matins
ausiras trombas e bozinas,
thou-wilt-hear trumpets and horns
grailles e corns, cembolz, tabors
clarions and cornets cymbals drums
e flaütz, non ges de pastors
and flutes not at-all of shepherds
mai [de] cels que la mouta sonon
but of those that the charge sound
delz torneis e volontat donon
of-the tourneys and will give
a cavalliers et a cavals
to knights and to horses
d'anar de galobs e de sals.
of-going at gallops and at leaps
El trebolocis non fon paux,
The din not was small

car l'us fon clars, l'autres fon raux
for the-one was clear the-other was hoarse
dels sonals quel caval porteron,
of-the bells that-the horses bore
c'ades corregron e passeron
that-at-once ran and passed
l'us de galop, l'autre [de] cors.
the-one at gallop the-other at run
Mala s'i vi l'erba el flors!
Ill itself-there saw the-grass and-the flowers
Quar tot es trissat e baït;
For all is trampled and crushed
e veus lo tornei establit.
and behold-you the tourney established
En los cadafals s'en montet
Onto the scaffolds himself-thence mounted
le reis el baron plus de .vii.
the king and-the barons more than seven
e Flamenca e sas donzellas
and Flamenca and her maidens
e mout d'autras donas ab ellas;
and many of-other ladies with them
el baron que desus esteron
and-the barons who above stood
ades dels cavalliers monstreron
at-once of-the knights showed
los seignals e las destriansas
the devices and the distinctions
d'escutz e d'elmes e de lansas.
of-shields and of-helms and of lances

Flamenca s'es dese vanada
Flamenca herself-is at-once vowed
que sa marga sera donada
that her sleeve will-be given
a cel que prumiers jostara
to him who first will-joust
e cavallier derocara.
and knight will-unhorse
Ges non ac ben lo mot complit
At-all not she-had well the word completed
que tut ensems levon un crit
when all together raise a cry
e dison ques ades la parca
and say that at-once it she-part
del braz, quel comte de la Marca
from-the arm for-the count of La Marche
a Guillems de Nevers ferit
has Guillem of Nevers struck
e derochat e desconfit,
and unhorsed and discomfited
levat del camp e retengut
removed from-the field and retained
son cavall neis e son escut.
his horse even and his shield
Quan Guillems ac lo comte pres
When Guillem had the count taken
daus totas part[z] vengron borzes
from all parts came burghers
quel volon de sa man levar,
who-him wish from his hand to-lift

quar mout i cujon manlevar,
for much there they-think to-borrow
mas el lur dis: «Non vueil quem don
but he to-them said Not I-wish that-me give
«le coms neguna resemson,
the count any ransom
«mas aitant mi fara, sil plai,
but so-much for-me he-will-do if-to-him it-pleases
«quar a cel portal on estai
for at that gateway where stands
«mi donz, de part mi s'en ira
my lady from part-of me himself-thence he-will-go
«et a leis per pres si rendra.»
and to her as prisoner himself will-yield
Las armas el caval li ren,
The arms and-the horse to-him he-renders
el coms es montatz mantenen,
and-the count is mounted at-once
la preissa part e romp e trenca
the throng parts and breaks and cuts
e vai s'en tot dreh vas Flamenca;
and goes himself-thence all straight toward Flamenca
davan leis venc da ginollos
before her came on knees
e man[s] jonchas coma prisos,
and hands joined as prisoner
e dis li: «Domna, sai m'envia
and said to-her Lady here me-sends
«cel qu'es flo[r]s de cavallaria,
he who-is flower of chivalry

«e vol per pres a vos mi renda;
and wishes as prisoner to you myself I-yield
«mais ieu ai gran ces e gran renda,
but I have great dues and great rent
«e si voles de mon aver
and if you-wish of my wealth
«d'aquel poires assaz aver;
of-that you-will-be-able enough to-have
«e sim solves de ma preison
and if-me you-release from my prison
«aures ne, si puesc, guisardon.»
you-will-have thereof if I-can reward
Flamenca dis: «Sener, bem plaz
Flamenca said Lord well-to-me pleases
«que de preison quitis siaz,
that from prison free you-be
«e cel queus pres n'aia bon grat
and he who-you took thereof-may-he-have good thanks
«quar vol[c] qu'ieus aia desliurat;
for he-wished that-I-you have freed
«mais aitan, sius plas, mi fares
but so-much if-to-you it-pleases for-me you-will-do
«que cesta margal portares,
that this sleeve-to-him you-will-carry
«per seingnal de bon'aventura,
for sign of good-fortune
«a cel cui fis jois assegura;
to him whom true joy assures

«car huei mati, atressi tost
for today morning just-as soon
«con fui aici sobr'esta post
as I-was here upon-this board
«e puec vezer tot lo tornei,
and could see all the tourney
«auzen de mon seinor lo rei,
hearing of my lord the king
«eu dis que la marga daria
I said that the sleeve I-would-give
«a cel que prumiers jostaria
to him who first would-joust
«per tal ques autre desroques;
for such that another be-unhorsed
«e pos Dieus volc qu'ieu m'en vanes
and since God willed that-I myself-thereof vowed
«et ara vol tam prohoms l'aia,
and now wishes so worthy-man it-have
«non es mais res que tan mi plaia.
not is more anything that so-much to-me please
— Domna, sius plas, vostre message
Lady if-to-you it-pleases your message
«formirai eu de bon corage;
will-perform I with good heart

«e tan vos puesc endreg me dir
and so-much to-you I-can toward me to-say
«que nom lais Deus d'aici partir
that not-me let God from-here to-part
«ni venir lai on estar sueill
nor to-come there where to-be I-am-wont
«s'ieu mais casugz esser non vueill
if-I rather fallen to-be not wish
«que s'ieu agues derocat lui,
than if-I had unhorsed him
«per so quar tramesses vos fui!»
for this for sent to-you I-was
La marga pren, vai s'en ab ella,
The sleeve he-takes goes himself-thence with it
e non es domna ni donzella
and not is lady or maiden
tant adaut la saupes plegar.
so aptly it could fold
Ben cuja Guillem alegrar;
Well he-thinks Guillem to-gladden
a lui s'en venc, saluda lo:
to him himself-thence came greets him
«Sener», fai s'el, «un cortes do
Lord says he a courtly gift
«de part mi donz aicius aport,
from part-of my lady here-to-you I-bring
«ques uei m'a de preison estort.
who today me-has from prison freed

«Aicesta margaus a tramessa
This sleeve-to-you she-has sent
«cella que ren mais ben non pessa,
she who anything but good not thinks
«e manda vos ques huei mati,
and bids you that today morning
«dese quel torneis si basti,
as-soon-as that-the tourney itself was-built
«ausent del rei ill si vanet,
hearing of-the king she herself vowed
«ques hanc d'ome non s'en garet,
that ever of-man not herself-thereof guarded
«que la dones en dreg d'amor
that it she-gave in right of-love
«a tot lo prumier jostador
to the-very the first jouster
«ques autr'auria derochat.
who another-would-have unhorsed
«E quar Deus l'a tal plazer dat
And since God to-her-has such pleasure given
«que vol sias huei le prumiers
that he-wills you-be today the first
«per cui es casutz cavalliers,
by whom is fallen knight
«ha en son cor gran alegransa
she-has in her heart great gladness
«don cesta marga es fermansa.»
whereof this sleeve is pledge

Guillems pren la marga corren,
Guillem takes the sleeve running
desplega la cortesamen,
unfolds it courteously
dedins l'escut la fes pausar
inside the-shield it he-made place
et ab blatons d'argen sesmar
and with studs of-silver fix
ques hanc non parec per defor,
that ever not it-appeared through outside
mais sol un petit sobre l'or;
but only a little upon the-gold
per tal o fes que la pogues
for such it he-did that it he-could
vezer qual ora ques volgues.
see what hour that wished
Bels segner Dieus, ira tan ben
Fair lord God will-go so well
jamais ad home? Non o cre.
ever to man Not it I-believe
Et a cui deu tan ben anar
And to whom ought so well to-go
con a cel que nom poc trobar
as to him who not could to-find
anc ab si don bisten ni failla?
ever with his lady delay or failing
E res non es ques aitan vailla,
And anything not is that so-much be-worth

quar tota benanansa passa
for all happiness surpasses
amors de domna que nos lassa
love of lady who not-herself tires
de far plaser e non bauseja
of doing pleasure and not deceives
som bon amic, cora quel veja.
her good friend whenever that-him she-sees
Mais, si com bona domna es
But thus as good lady is
de tot lo mon la meillers [r]es,
of all the world the best thing
li plus douza el plus grasida,
the most sweet and-the most welcomed
aissi la mal'el descausida
thus the evil-one-and-the ill-bred
es la piejers el plus amara,
is the worst and-the most bitter
plus enujosa e plus avara;
more irksome and more miserly
e cil que n'an tastat o sabon,
and those who thereof-have tasted it know
quant pauc enanson et acabon!
how little they-advance and achieve
De mala domna sai eu tan
Of evil lady know I so-much
que ren non pensa mai engan,
that anything not thinks but guile

e tot jorn troba ucaison
and all day finds occasion
consi puesca dire de non.
how she-can to-say of no
Aicist es mala e noada,
This-one is evil and knotted
e per ren non er aplanada
and for anything not will-be smoothed
entro ques hom non aia cura
until that one not have care
del[s] noz ni de l'aplanadura;
of-the knots or of the-smoothing
quar si non dis hoc de prumier
for if not she-says yes at first
quant hom li demanda nil quier,
when one her asks or-her seeks
ja pois sos hocs luec non aura
ever after her yes place not will-have
quant hom ren noil demandara;
when one anything not-her will-ask
e cil qui es joves noieira,
and she who is young no-sayer
ja veilla non sia oquiera,
ever old not let-her-be yes-sayer
quar de nulla ren non valc mieilz
for in any thing not she-was-worth better
de son jovens ni [de] sos vieilz.
of her youth or of her age
Mais d'aitan sui eu ben devis,
But of-so-much am I well assured

si beutatz fos com aurs o vis
if beauty were as gold or wine
que cascun an si meillures,
which each year itself improves
ja, per afan c'om ne dures,
ever for toil that-one thereof endured
ab domna merce non trobera,
with lady mercy not one-would-find
qu'en totas guisas li plus fera
for-in all ways the most wild
vol c'om la serva e la blanda;
wishes that-one her serve and her flatter
e qui neguna reil demanda
and who any thing-her asks
fai s'ergueillosa et esquiva,
makes-herself proud and shy
consi nos pensa, li caitiva,
how not-herself thinks the wretch
quan petit li dura sos brieus!
how little to-her lasts her space
Ja fail plus tost que non fai rieus
Already it-fails more soon than — does brook
de pluja qu'es plus rabiners
of rain which-is more torrential
de cel ques es acostumiers
than that which is accustomed
de corre que de fon a cap.
of running which from spring to head

Araus cujares que per gap
Now-you will-think that for jest
o diga, e dic o daveras,
it I-say and I-say it truly
que ren non valon tals esperas
that anything not are-worth such waitings
de domna que fan trop languir,
of lady that make too-much languish
e nom pessa mais de «non» dir
and not thinks but of no saying
e de mantener cel usage
and of maintaining that usage
ques a pres en son fol corage,
which she-has taken in her mad heart
car tal malesa com hom vesa
for such malice as one uses
a granz penas pueis la desvesa;
with great pains then it unlearns
e, si con Oracis retrais,
and thus as Horace recounts
que nom parlet jes per esquais,
who not spoke at-all at random
ges ola leu perdre non deu
at-all pot easily to-lose not ought
la sabor don primas s'enbeu;
the savor whence first itself-imbues
et en vaissell, qui nol te net,
and in vessel who not-it keeps clean
aigrezira, qui ren no i met.
will-sour whoever anything not there puts

Ja Guillems non qual esmagar
Ever Guillem not needs to-dismay
per ren queil deja si dons far
for anything that-to-him ought his lady to-do
car il li vol dir e far tot
for she to-him wishes to-say and do all
aisso quel plaz al primier mot.
that which-to-him pleases at-the first word

The Jousts

XIX

Alfonso of Toulouse and the count of Louvain unhorse each other. Guillem takes sixteen knights, Gaufre of Blaye among them, and sends them to yield to Flamenca, who frees them. Aimeric of Narbonne and the count of Saint-Pol fall together; small Guillem of Montpellier overthrows huge Garin; two more pairs joust before the king calls a halt. The barons give Guillem the day's flower, and at vespers he visits Flamenca. Next day little Cardaillac takes the viscount of Melun, and Flanders and Jaufre of Lusignan are still fighting when the manuscript ends.

Ab lo comte de Lovanic 7875
With the count of Louvain
c'om appellava Gontaric
whom-one called Gontaric
anet jostar le coms Amfos,
went to-joust the count Alfonso
le miellers coms ques uncas fos;
the best count who ever was
de cel de Tolosa o dic.
of him of Toulouse it I-say

Amdui foron cavallier [ric].
Both were knights rich
Tals colps si donon pelz escutz
Such blows themselves they-give through-the shields
que totz los an fragz e romputz;
that all them they-have broken and shattered
trencon senglas, trencon peitral,
they-cut girths they-cut breast-straps
a terra van amdui egal;
to earth go both equal
al rellevar cavallier brocon,
at-the remounting knights spur
turton e feron e derocon,
they-thrust and strike and unhorse
franhon astas, franhon arson,
they-break shafts they-break saddle-bows
cason massas, cason baston;
fall maces fall staves
las espazas ab los elms coton,
the swords against the helms knock
cellas oscan e cil encloton;
those notch and those dent
hom non vi mais tal avalot.
man not saw ever such havoc
Quascus y fer al mais que pot,
Each there strikes at-the most that he-can
cascus vol mostrar com es pros;
each wishes to-show how he-is worthy
mais, abanz que partit[z] si fos,
but before that parted itself it-were

Guillems de Nivers demostret
Guillem of Nevers showed
de cal guisa l'obras menet,
in what manner the-work he-led
quar .xvi. cavalz de Castella,
for sixteen horses of Castile
que non fo meinz ni fres ni sella,
that not was lacking either bit or saddle
i gazanet ab lur segnors
there he-won with their lords
ques eran vengut per socors
who were come for help
del comte valent de Tholsa,
of-the count valiant of Toulouse
mais il son pres et el s'en va.
but they are taken and he himself-thence goes
Gaufre de Blaia era l'uns
Gaufre of Blaye was the-one
ques anc non cavalguet jejus,
who ever not rode fasting
l'autre fon Arnautz de Bovila
the-other was Arnaut of Boville
ques anc non volc manjar d'anguila,
who ever not wished to-eat of-eel
l'autre fon Uc de Rosina,
the-other was Uc of Rosina
l'autre foron tut castella,
the-others were all Castilians
ric home e de gran poder.
rich men and of great power

Guillems lur dis: «Voles saber,
Guillem to-them said Do-you-wish to-know
«segnors, consi escapares?
lords how you-will-escape
— Segner, hoc ben. — Don vos n'ires
Lord yes well Then you thence-will-go
«dreit a mi donz, a cel portal
straight to my lady at that gateway
«on vezes la seina reial;
where you-see the banner royal
«a leis vos rendres de par[t] me
to her yourselves you-will-yield from part-of me
«et il solvera vos, so cre.
and she will-release you so I-believe
— Sener, merces, ben o farem,
Lord thanks well it we-will-do
«de part vos a lei nos rendrem.»
from part-of you to her ourselves we-will-yield
Los cavals lur rent e l'arnes
The horses to-them he-renders and the-harness
que non fon meinz neguna res.
that not was less any thing
Abtant s'en van dreg a la porta
Thereupon themselves-thence go straight to the gate
on Flamenca ri e deporta
where Flamenca laughs and sports
ab lo rei et ab sos barons,
with the king and with his barons
e dizon quel torneis es bons.
and say that-the tourney is good

Quan davan leis foron vengut
When before her they-were come
da part Guillem li son rendut
from part-of Guillem to-her they-are yielded
e dizon: «Douza domna bona
and say Sweet lady good
«que de beutat portas corona,
who of beauty thou-wearest crown
«a cui pres e valors s'aclina
to whom worth and valor themselves-bow
«car est de totz bos aips reïna,
for thou-art of all good qualities queen
«Guillems de Nivers le cortes,
Guillem of Nevers the courtly
«que totz essems nos a huei pres,
who all together us has today taken
«nos tramet a vos per presen
us sends to you as present
«per far tot vostre mandamen.»
to do all your command
Flamenca ris e dis al rei:
Flamenca laughed and said to-the king
«Seiner, ben ai salva, so crei
Lord well I-have saved so I-believe
«la marga qu'ieu del braz parti
the sleeve that-I from-the arm parted
«per tan baron con vei aici.»
for so-many barons as I-see here
Apres dis: «Senhor cavallier,
After she-said Lords knights

«vostra preisons non m'a mestier,
your prison not to-me-has need
«ans vueil que sias tut deslivre;
rather I-wish that you-be all free
«et a celui queus pres vos livre,
and to him who-you took you I-deliver
«et a lui ne rendes merces,
and to him thereof render thanks
«car el vos solv et el vos pres.»
for he you releases and he you took
Abtant prenon de leis comjat
Thereupon they-take from her leave
e van s'en a Guillem el prat.
and go themselves-thence to Guillem in-the meadow
Rendunt li de part lui salutz
They-render to-him from part-of her greetings
per cui jois e pres l'es cregutz.
by whom joy and worth to-him-are grown
En Archimbautz vai per cambon
Sir Archimbaut goes through field
e quan poc jostar saup li bon.
and when he-could to-joust tasted to-him good
Trobatz s'es ab lo don d'Andusa
Found himself-is with the lord of-Anduze
que sa josta pas non refuza,
who his joust at-all not refuses

ans si feron per tal vertut
rather themselves they-strike with such force
que tre[n]cat foron lur escut
that broken were their shields
e lur ausberc fort desmaillat;
and their hauberks much unmailed
mais per tan non son derocat.
but for so-much not they-are unhorsed
Le coms de San Paul vai per renc,
The count of Saint Paul goes along rank
e non sap mot tro vaus lui venc,
and not he-knows word until toward him came
aitan quan sos cavalz randona,
as-much as his horse gallops
En Aimerics duc de Narbona;
Sir Aimeric duke of Narbonne
tal colp si van dese ferir
such blow themselves they-go at-once to-strike
que negus d'ams nom poc sufrir
that any of-both not could to-hold-out
entro a terra non vengues.
until to earth — he-came
A cascun sos cavals mortz es
To each his horse dead is
car pieg e pieg tan dreg turteron
for breast and breast so straight they-thrust
c'ambedui los cors si creberon.
that-both the hearts themselves burst

Daus ambas partz cavallier poino
From both sides knights strive

* * *
(lacuna)

Consi puescan tal causa faire
How they-can such thing to-do

c'om lur deja tostems retraire
that-one to-them ought always to-recount

en gran laus et en gran proesa.
in great praise and in great prowess

Cascuna part los sieus esdreisa;
Each side the its-own raises

cil cobron cavals e destriers.
those recover horses and chargers

Anc hom non vi tans cavalliers
Ever man not saw so-many knights

aissi ferir menudamen,
thus strike thickly

que us colps autre non aten.
that one blow another not awaits

Quan foron ben revolopit
When they-were well whirled-about

et assaz massat e ferit
and enough clubbed and struck

ill si son partit per jostar,
they themselves are parted for jousting

car mielz podon jostan monstrar
for better they-can jousting to-show
consi cavalgon ben e dreg
how they-ride well and straight
e con son lur caval adreg.
and how are their horses trained
Ab En Garin de Reortier
With Sir Garin of Reortier
jostet Guillems de Monpeslier,
jousted Guillem of Montpellier
mais non saup tan le bergoinos
but not knew so-much the Burgundian
que non vougues totz los arsos,
that not he-emptied all the saddle-bows
et a terra non l'estendes;
and to earth not him-he-stretched
anc non trobet qui l'en leves,
ever not he-found who him-thence raised
mais cascuna part l'escarni,
but each side him-mocked
quar majers fon de Costanti,
for bigger he-was than Constantine
e cel que[l] feri era paucs;
and he who-him struck was small
mais ges non fon adonc tan raucs
but at-all not was then so hoarse
que non disses en auta voz:
that not he-said in high voice
«Segner, voles ren mais de soz?»
Lord wish-you anything more from below

Ab lo vescomte de Torena
With the viscount of Turenne
jostet Gautiers le coms de Brena,
jousted Gautier the count of Brienne
e feiron mout cortesa josta.
and made very courtly joust
L'us a l'autre l'escut ajosta
The-one to the-other the-shield joins
al bras, el bras join al costat;
to-the arm and-the arm joined to-the side
el fer son tost d'outra passat
and-the iron are soon through passed
per mieg l'escut e per lo bratz;
through mid the-shield and through the arm
mais ja non lur o conogratz
but ever not to-them it you-would-have-known
car tant eran pros e valent
for so-much were worthy and valiant
ques hanc negus non fes parvent
that ever any not made show
c'om l'agues ferit ni tochat,
that-one him-had struck or touched
e sis foron tan fort nafrat
and yet they-were so strongly wounded
que pueissas armas non porteron
that then arms not they-bore
d'u mes, ni plus non tornejeron.
for-a month or more not they-tourneyed

Ab lo pros comte de Rodes
With the worthy count of Rodez
jostet le coms delz Campagnes.
jousted the count of-the Champenois
Cascus era cavallier[s] bos,
Each was knight good
e deros colps meravillos;
and gave-each-other blows marvelous
regnas, senglas, peitrals e sellas,
reins girths breast-straps and saddles
el sobrefais ab grans fivellas,
and-the surcingle with great buckles
e l'estreup, [qu'] eron bon e nou,
and the-stirrup which were good and new
frais tot, e negus d'ams nos mou
broke all and any of-both not-himself moves
d'aqui on s'es, mais en estan
from-there where himself-is but in standing
vai en terra, e tenc davan
goes to earth and held before
lo pieg son escut e sa lansa;
the breast his shield and his lance
e fes tot atertal semblansa
and made all such semblance
con si volgues a pe jostar.
as if he-wished on foot to-joust
Desempre fes le reis cridar:
At-once made the king cry
«Baron, baron, non sia plus!
Barons barons not let-it-be more

«Oimais non i joste negus,
Henceforth not there let-joust any
«quar ben avem tal josta vista,
for well we-have such joust seen
«que si l'agues hom a poin quista
that if it-had one at point sought
«non la pogra mielz dir ni far.»
not it could better to-say or do
Adoncs viras cavals menar
Then thou-wouldst-see horses lead
e cavalliers pres ad ostals.
and knights taken to lodgings
Mais a celz n'estet ben, sivals,
But to those thereof-stood well at-least
ques ac pres Guillems de Nivers,
whom had taken Guillem of Nevers
car hanc non son en ceps n'en fers
for ever not are-they in stocks or-in irons
ni lur cal fermansa donar,
nor to-them needs pledge to-give
ans foron sout per saludar
rather they-were released for greeting
cella cui pres e valors guida.
her whom worth and valor guides
Mant'enseinna e manta crida
Many-a-war-cry and many-a shout
sonon joglar e cornador.
sound jongleurs and horn-blowers
Li baron dison antre lor,
The barons say among them

apres disnar, davan lo rei,
after dining before the king
ques anc mais non viron tornei
that ever more not they-saw tourney
on estavan bon feridor,
where stood good strikers
«mais sobre totz porta la flor
but above all bears the flower
«cil c'ui matin o comenset
he who-this morning it began
«a cui mi dons sa marga det.»
to whom my lady her sleeve gave
Entorn vespras, quel soleilz baissa,
Around vespers when-the sun lowers
cel cui amors pausar non laissa
he whom love to-rest not lets
al palais vai si dons vezer,
to-the palace goes his lady to-see
qu'estiers non poc fin joi aver.
for-otherwise not he-could true joy to-have
Gen fon per si donz acuillitz,
Nobly he-was by his lady welcomed
e per lui fon a leis grasitz
and by him was to her thanked
le dons de la marga polprina.
the gift of the sleeve purple
L'us de l'autre mout prop s'aizina
The-one from the-other very near himself-places
per far saboroses plazers,
for making savory pleasures

si con es baisars e teners
so as are kissing and holding
de mas e d'alre sobre drap;
of hands and of-other-things upon cloth
mais so es pro, car cascus sap
but this is enough for each knows
que l'uns a l'autre ben faria,
that the-one to the-other well would-do
si luecs era, tot quan volria.
if place were all that he-would-wish
Al tornei vengron l'endema;
To-the tourney they-came the-next-day
le reis tenc Flamenca pel ma
the king held Flamenca by-the hand
e monton s'en en la bertresca.
and mount themselves-thence onto the stand
Cil del tornei movon lur tresca
Those of-the tourney move their dance
per mieg lo prat gran et espessa,
through mid the meadow great and thick
picompan ni balz d'abadessa
picompan or dance of-abbess
non val unas per soven volver.
not is-worth a-grain for often turning
Mout ne viras penre e solver,
Many thereof thou-wouldst-see take and release
plus menut c'om nom pot neis dir
more thickly than-one — can even to-tell
caser e levar e ferir.
fall and rise and strike

Lo vescomte de Melaü
The viscount of Melun
que sec en un gran destrier bru
who sat on a great charger brown
pres le sener de Card[a]illac;
took the lord of Cardaillac
et anc negun baron non ac
and ever any baron not had
que fort non s'en meravilles,
that greatly not himself-thereof marveled
car le vescoms fon ben .ii. pes
for the viscount was well two feet
majer que l'autre e plus fortz;
bigger than the-other and more strong
mais aitals es agurs e sortz
but such is augury and lot
de prodome et aventura
of worthy-man and fortune
ques aitan con l'estrais natura
that so-much as him-withdraws nature
e de forsa e de grandesa
both of strength and of greatness
li rent en sens e em proesa,
to-him it-renders in sense and in prowess
e ja defors non er mendics
and ever outside not will-be beggar
qui de bos aips es dedins rix,
who in good qualities is within rich

el repropiers dis: «Sit masautas
and-the proverb says If-thou me-pleasest
«non es tot em pelz ni en gautas;»
not is-it all in skins nor in cheeks
quar tals es grans que non es pros,
for such is great that not is worthy
e tals es paucs qu'es vigoros.
and such is small who-is vigorous
Le coms de Flandris vai poinent
The count of Flanders goes spurring
per miei lo camp isnellament;
through mid the field swiftly
troban Jaufre de Laisina
finding Jaufre of Lusignan
que vaus lui venc corrent lo pla.
who toward him came running the plain
Tals colps si donon per las targas
Such blows themselves they-give through the targes
pessas ne fan longas e largas,
pieces thereof they-make long and wide
trencon perpoinz, ausbercs desmaillon,
they-cut doublets hauberks they-unmail
prop de lur carns lur draps si tallon
near of their flesh their cloths themselves they-cut
e per pauc a terra non venon
and by little to earth — they-come

* * *

(lacuna)