OLD OCCITAN SERIES · VOLUME 22

The Troubadours of 1210

Peirol
Gaucelm Faidit
Raimon de Miraval
Aimeric de Peguilhan

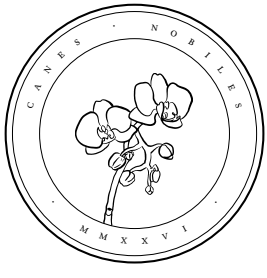
The Troubadours of 1210

Four Poets, with the Lives

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with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order

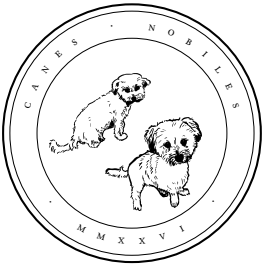


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The Old Occitan text follows C. A. F. Mahn's Die Werke der Troubadours, in provenzalischer Sprache II (Berlin: Dümmler, 1855)

Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench
Artwork by Esther Steves

The text and spelling are Mahn's: each poet's pieces in his order and with his numbers, his Roman set as Arabic, and the life first. Where Mahn only lists a piece printed elsewhere its number is passed over, so that Aimeric de Peguilhan's last piece is 52. Mahn's points of omission in the pieces he prints in excerpt appear as an ellipsis, and his brackets round a stanza of Aimeric's lament for the marquis of Este stand as he prints them. The editor's notes are not reproduced, and the English titles are this press's.

CONTENTS

PEIROL

The Life of Peirol 11
1 · Like the Swan 13
2 · Taught by Love 18
3 · Like Water into a Sponge 22
4 · Two Distant Hearts 27
5 · Love and Peirol 32
6 · Whenever Love Wishes 37
7 · From the River Jordan 43
8 · For the Marquise 46
9 · A Vers, Not a Song 50
10 · A Changed Thought 55
11 · A Joy That Lingers 62
12 · More Foolish Than Narcissus 68
13 · The Flower That Follows the Sun 72
14 · Far from Home 77
15 · From Joy to Grief 81
16 · Like the Gambler 85

PEIROL

(continued)

17 · Amends 89
18 · No Sweeter Death 93
19 · The Old Theme 98
20 · Some Small Good 102
21 · The Gossips 107
22 · The Words He Cannot Say 112
23 · Like the Sun on Crystal 116
24 · For the Upright 120
25 · Before or After 125
26 · Easy or Hard 130
27 · All Night or Once 134
28 · All the Year Is Spring 138
29 · Joy amid the Ice 144
30 · The Dreamer Who Wakes 147

GAUCELM FAIDIT

The Life of Gaucelm Faidit 153
1 · The Bird in the Hand 163
2 · The Nightingale 168
3 · In a Strange Land 175
4 · Not Even a Kiss 181
5 · On His Knees 187
6 · From Love Comes Largesse 192
7 · Lament for King Richard 198
8 · Leaving for the Crusade 203

GAUCELM FAIDIT

(continued)

9 · The Death of Countess Beatrice 210
10 · Two Jealous Husbands 215
11 · Openly and in Secret 221
12 · The Goods and Ills of Love 227
13 · The Ladies Defended 232
14 · Lovers of Two Colors 237
15 · The Wound of a Look 243
16 · Reason and Command 247
17 · Eager for His Harm 254
18 · Neither Song nor Cry 258

RAIMON DE MIRAVAL

The Life of Raimon de Miraval 267
1 · All My Thoughts Are of Love 285
2 · The Four Crafts 291
3 · The Worse, the Better 296
4 · The Wisdom of Folly 302
5 · With the Force of the Cold 307
6 · Between Two Wishes 312
7 · Blessed Be the Messenger 317
8 · Fair It Is to Sing 322
9 · Love Makes Me Sing 328
10 · If I Do Not Sing 332
11 · The Sweet Summer 337

RAIMON DE MIRAVAL

(continued)

12 · Lombards or Provençals 339
13 · A Letter's Greeting 342

AIMERIC DE PEGUILHAN

The Life of Aimeric de Peguilhan 345
1 · Lament for Countess Beatrice 348
2 · Following My Harm 352
3 · The Lover, the Lady, and Love 356
4 · Praise and Blame of Love 360
5 · Sweet in the Mouth, Bitter in the Heart 364
6 · No War with Love 368
7 · The Little Jongleurs 373
8 · Lament for Este and Verona 377
9 · Lament for Guillem Malaspina 381
10 · The Sepulcher 385
11 · The Physician from Salerno 390
12 · The Oath 394
13 · Vers or Song 397
14 · Lament for the Marquis of Este 403
15 · Lament for King Manfred 408
16 · The Eyes and the Heart 411
17 · The Gambler's Folly 412
18 · The Old Man of the Mountain 413
52 · Love's Foolish Judges 414

PEIROL

The Life and Songs

THE LIFE OF PEIROL

Peirol was a poor knight of Auvergne, from a castle at the foot of Rochefort, so courtly and comely that the Dauphin of Auvergne kept, clothed, and armed him. He loved the Dauphin's sister, Sail de Claustra, wife of Beraut de Mercoeur, and she returned his love with her brother's knowledge, until the Dauphin grew jealous and sent him away. Unable to keep up as a knight, Peirol became a jongleur, took a wife at Montpellier, and died there.

Peirols si fo us paubres cavalier d'Alvernhe, d'un castel
Peirol thus was a poor knight of-Auvergne of-a castle
que a nom Peirols, qu'es en la encontrada del Dalfi
that has name Peirol which-is in the region of-the Dauphin
d'Alvernhe al pe de Rocafort. E fo cortes hom et
of-Auvergne at-the foot of Rochefort And he-was courtly man and
avinen de la persona, tan qu'el Dalfi lo tenia ab
comely of the person so-much that-the Dauphin him held with
se, e'l vestia, e'l dava caval et armas, et so
himself and-him clothed and-to-him gave horse and arms and that
que mestiers l'avia. — Lo Dalfi si avia una seror que
which need to-him-had The Dauphin thus had a sister who
avia nom Sail de Claustra, bela e bona e molt prezada,
had name Sail of Claustra fair and good and much prized
avinens et ensenhada; e si era molher d'EN Beraut de
comely and well-taught and thus was wife of-Sir Beraut of
Mercuer, un gran bar d'Alvernhe. EN Peirols amava aquela
Mercoeur a great baron of-Auvergne Sir Peirol loved that
domna e'l Dalfins la pregava per lui, e s'alegrava molt
lady and-the Dauphin her prayed for him and himself-rejoiced much
de las cansos que Peirols fazia de la seror, e molt las
in the songs that Peirol made of the sister and much them

fazia plazer a la seror; e tant que la domna li volia
made to-please to the sister and so-much that the lady to-him wished
ben e ill fazia plazer d'amor a saubuda del Dalfi.
well and to-him did pleasure of-love with knowledge of-the Dauphin
E l'amor de la domna e de Peirols montet tan qu'el
And the-love of the lady and of Peirol mounted so-much that-the
Dalfi s'engelozi d'ella, car crezet qu'ella li fezes
Dauphin himself-grew-jealous of-her for he-believed that-she to-him did
plus que non covenia ad ella; e partic lo de si e'l
more than — befitted to her and parted him from himself and-him
lonhet, e no'l vesti ni l'armet. E quan Peirols vi que
distanced and not-him clothed nor him-armed And when Peirol saw that
non se poc mantener per cavalier, el se fe joglar et
not himself he-could to-maintain as knight he himself made jongleur and
anet per cortz; e recep dels barons e draps e deniers
went through courts and received from-the barons both cloths and pennies
e cavals. E pres moiller a Monpeslier e i definet.
and horses And took wife at Montpellier and there ended

1 · LIKE THE SWAN

Like the swan that sings when it must die, he sings, knowing he will die the more nobly. Love has held him in its snares, and he loves the best lady he knows, yet dares not tell her his desire, for she welcomes him and he fears she would guard herself. He will pray by seeming alone. A true heart draws love on and rank drags it down; he sends the song to tell her that his heart is hers.

Atressi col signes fai,
Likewise as-the swan does
quan dey murir, chan,
when it-ought to-die I-sing
quar sai que plus gen murrai,
for I-know that more nobly I-shall-die
et ab meynhs d'afan;
and with less of-toil
qu'amors m'a tengut en sos latz,
for-love me-has held in its snares
e maynhs trebalhs n'ai sufertatz;
and many toils thereof-I-have suffered
mas pel mal qu'aoras m'en ve
but by-the ill that-now to-me-thereof comes
conosc qu'ancmai non amiey re.
I-know that-ever not I-loved anything

Dieus! e qual cosselh penrai,
God and what counsel shall-I-take
s'aissi muer aman,
if-thus I-die loving

ni secors no m ve de lai
and succor not to-me comes from there
on mei sospir van?
where my sighs go
Pero non part mas voluntatz,
Yet not parts my will
sitot m'en sui desesperatz;
although myself-thereof I-am despairing
pessius e cossiros mi te
pensive and anxious me holds
la belha de cui mi sove.
the fair-one of whom to-me it-recalls

Ges melhor dona no sai,
At-all better lady not I-know
veus per que l'am tan;
behold for which her-I-love so-much
qu'ieu jamais non l'auzarai
that-I ever not to-her-shall-dare
dire mon talan;
to-say my desire
gen m'acuelh e m'a belh solatz,
nobly me-she-welcomes and to-me-has fair cheer
e del plus sui acosselhatz,
and on-the more I-am counseled
que s'ieu la preyava de re,
that if-I her prayed of anything
tem que pueis si guardes de me.
I-fear that then herself she-would-guard from me

Preguar, las! quan no s'eschai,
Praying alas when not itself-befits
torna a enuey gran:
turns to irksomeness great
ses parlar la preguarai;
without speaking her I-shall-pray
e cum? per semblan,
and how by seeming
et ilh entenra o s'il platz:
and she will-understand it if-to-her it-pleases
qu'en aissi dobla'l jois e'l gratz,
for-in thus doubles-the joy and-the gratitude
quan l'us cors ab l'autre s'ave,
when the-one heart with the-other itself-agrees
e dona ses querre fai be.
and lady without asking does good

Francheza ab fin cor veray
Nobility with true heart true
trai amor enan,
draws love forward
mas paratges la dechai,
but rank it brings-down
que'l ric son truan;
for-the rich are rogues
et a n'i d'aquels malvatz
and there-are thereof-there of-those wicked
per qu'el setgles es sordeiatz;
for which-the world is grown-vile

e domna, que bon pretz mante,
and lady who good worth maintains
non am per ricor, s'als no y ve.
not let-her-love for wealth if-else not there she-sees

Chansos, vas la belha vai,
Song toward the fair-one go
non ges qu'ieu re'l man,
not at-all that-I anything-to-her send
mas ben li potz mon esmai
but well to-her thou-canst my dismay
mostrar ses mon dan;
to-show without my harm
e diguas li m qu'a lieys s'es datz
and tell her for-me that-to her itself-is given
mos cors ligges et autreyatz;
my heart liege and granted
sieus sui e sieus serai jasse,
hers I-am and hers I-shall-be always
murir puesc per ma bona fe.
to-die I-can for my good faith

Domna del mon que plus mi platz,
Lady of-the world who most to-me pleases
jois sia ab vos on que siatz,
joy may-be with you where that you-be
qu'estiers no us aus preguar de re,
for-otherwise not you I-dare to-pray of anything
mas sivals pessar m'o puesc be.
but at-least to-think to-me-it I-can well

2 · TAUGHT BY LOVE

He sings because Love teaches him, and without it he would be no singer, nor known to good people. He would not be king or emperor if it meant parting from her. He begs some false token of favor to lead him along, since he dares not pray for much; she is too high to stoop to him, yet nothing can forbid him to be her true lover. The vers goes to the countess at Mercoeur.

Ben dei chantar pus amors m'o ensenha,
Well I-ought to-sing since love to-me-it teaches
e m dona gienh cum sapcha bos motz faire,
and me gives skill how I-may-know good words to-make
quar s'ilh no fos, ja non fora chantaire
for if-it not were ever not I-would-be singer
ni conogutz per tanta bona gen;
nor known by so-much good people
mas aras sai e conosc veramen
but now I-know and know truly
que totz los bes qu'anc mi fes mi vol vendre.
that all the goods that-ever to-me it-did to-me it-wishes to-sell

Que farai doncs! giquirai me d'atendre?
What shall-I-do then shall-I-leave myself from-waiting
Non ges, mais am tot en perdo maltraire;
Not at-all but I-love wholly in vain to-suffer
qu'ieu no vuelh reis esser ni emperaire,
for-I not wish king to-be nor emperor
sol que de lieys partis mon pessamen;
only that from her I-parted my thought
non soi pro ricx sol qu'ieu l'am finamen?
not I-am enough rich only that-I her-love truly
Grans honors m'es que s'amors me destrenha.
Great honor to-me-is that her-love me constrain

Bona domna, qualque fals'entressenha
Good lady some false-token
me fatz, si us platz, don m'alegr'e m'esclaire,
to-me make if to-you it-pleases whereby myself-I-gladden-and myself-brighten
pus conoissetz que no m'en puesc estraire;
since you-know that not myself-thence I-can to-withdraw
ab bel semblan baissatz lo mal qu'ieu sen,
with fair seeming lower the ill that-I feel
qu'aissi m podetz traynar longamen,
for-thus me you-can to-draw-along long
e de mon cor, qu'avetz tot, un pauc rendre.
and of my heart which-you-have wholly a little to-render

Bona domna, be o devetz entendre,
Good lady well it you-ought to-understand
qu'ieu vos am tan no us aus preyar de guaire,
that-I you love so-much not you I-dare to-pray of much
mas vos etz tan francha e de bon aire,
but you are so noble and of good breeding
per que n'auretz merce, mon escien;
for which thereof-you-will-have mercy to-my knowledge
lo mieu fin cor gardatz e'l bon talen,
the my true heart regard and-the good desire
ja de vostra riqueza no us sovenha.
ever of your wealth not to-you may-it-recall

Esfortz de me non aten que m revenha,
Effort of me not I-await that me restore
e pot esser, mas mi non es veiaire,
and it-can to-be but to-me not it-is seeming
qu'ilh es tan belha e de tan ric afaire,
for-she is so fair and of so rich affair
pros e corteza en faich et en parven,
worthy and courtly in deed and in seeming
per qu'ieu sai ben, si ma razon enten,
for which-I know well if my reason I-understand
qu'ilh non deu ges vas me tan bas dissendre.
that-she not ought at-all toward me so low to-descend

S'ieu no sui drutz res no m'en pot defendre
If-I not am lover nothing not me-thereof can to-forbid
qu'a tot lo menhs no sia fis amaire,
that-at all the least not I-be true lover
francs e sufrens, humils e merceyaire,
noble and enduring humble and mercy-begging
ses trop parlar, e de bon celamen;
without too-much speaking and of good concealing
per aital guiza e per aital coven
in such guise and on such covenant
m'autrey a lieys que retener no m denha.
myself-I-grant to her who to-retain not me deigns

Lo vers a fait Peirols, e no i enten
The vers has made Peirol and not there understands
mot mal adrech ni ren que y descovenha.
word ill adroit nor anything that there unbefits

Vai messagier, lai a Mercoill lo m ren
Go messenger there to Mercoeur it for-me render
a'l comtessa cui jois e pretz manteigna.
to-the countess whom joy and worth maintain

3 · LIKE WATER INTO A SPONGE

People blame him for singing so seldom, not knowing how long she who imprisons his heart has kept him in grief. Once sweet, she now treats him like anyone else, because she knows he loves her truly. Yet he cannot part, for her worth forbids it, and her love enters him as water enters a sponge. He welcomes Love's assaults morning and evening, fears no gossip while he can think of her, and says his song would not fail if she would help him.

Manta gens me mal razona
Many people me ill reproach
quar ieu non chant plus soven,
because I not sing more often
e qui d'aisso m'ocaizona
and who of-this me-blames
non sap ges quant longamen
not knows at-all how long
m'a tengut en greu pessamen
me-has held in grievous thought
cill que mos cors empreisona,
she who my heart imprisons
per qu'en pert tot jauzimen,
for which-thereof I-lose all enjoyment
tal desconort mi dona.
such discomfort to-me she-gives

Pero si m fo douss'e bona
Yet if to-me was sweet-and good
ma domn'al comensamen,
my lady-at-the beginning

ara no m'acuelh ni m sona
now not me-she-welcomes nor me calls
plus que fai a l'autra gen,
more than she-does to the-other people
quar conois qu'ieu l'am finamen;
because she-knows that-I her-love truly
e s'aital mi guazardona,
and if-thus me she-rewards
amors fara falhimen,
love will-make failing
s'aquest tort li perdona.
if-this wrong to-her it-pardons

De tota joia m deslonja
From all joy me distances
ma dona, e non l'es honors,
my lady and not to-her-is honor
qu'ab calque plazen messonja
for-with some pleasing lie
mi pogra far gen socors:
to-me she-could to-make noble succor
ar vei que non es mas folhors
now I-see that not it-is but folly
aquesta entendensa lonja,
this aspiration long
dont ai fag tantas clamors
whereof I-have made so-many complaints
qu'anta n'ai e vergonja.
that-shame thereof-I-have and disgrace

Partirai m'en donc ieu? Non ja;
Shall-part myself-thence then I Not ever
que sos pretz e sa valors
for her worth and her merit
m'o defen e m'o calonja;
to-me-it forbid and to-me-it claim
quant ieu cuit amar alhors
when I think to-love elsewhere
per tot lo cors m'intra s'amors,
through all the body to-me-enters her-love
si cum fai l'aigua en l'esponja.
so as does the-water into the-sponge
Tos temps mi plaira'l dolors,
All time to-me will-please-the grief
cum que m destrenh'e m ponja.
however that me she-constrain-and me spur

E vuelh be qu'amors m'asalha,
And I-wish well that-love me-assail
e m guerrei matin e ser;
and me war-on morning and evening
contra la sua batalha
against the its battle
no vuelh ja repaus aver:
not I-wish ever rest to-have
e s'ieu non ai tot mon voler,
and if-I not have all my will
tals es silh qu'aissi m trebalha,
such is she who-thus me torments

qu'en est mon non a plazer
that-in this world not there-is pleasure
qu'el mieu maltraire valha.
that-the my suffering be-worth

Lauzenga ni devinalha
Flattery nor divining
d'enuios no m cal temer:
of-irksome-ones not to-me needs to-fear
sol pessar de lieys no m falha,
only thinking of her not to-me may-fail
res no m'en pot dan tener;
nothing not to-me-thereof can harm to-hold
qu'el consirs don ieu m'alezer
for-the thought whereby I myself-ease
me pais maïs qu'autra vitalha;
me feeds more than-other victual
per ren que n'aia en poder
for anything that thereof-it-has in power
mos cors no s'anualha.
my heart not itself-grows-slack

Chansos, a totz potz dir en ver
Song to all thou-canst to-say in truth
que mon chan non agra falha,
that my song not would-have failing
si m volgues d'amor valer
if me wished of-love to-avail
la belha cui dieus valha.
the fair-one whom God help

4 · TWO DISTANT HEARTS

Love that grieved him now keeps him joyful, for he has won a richer joy than befitted him, and the lady he loved before has no more power over him. He would visit his lady often but for the gossips, yet true love binds two hearts from distant countries. Like gold in the fire he grows truer, and beyond the cross he would want no paradise without her. He sends the song to her and tells the Dauphin how he loves his company.

Quoras que m fezes doler
Whenever that me made to-grieve
amors, ni m dones esmai,
love or to-me gave dismay
era m ten jauzen e gai
now me holds joyful and gay
per qu'ieu chant a mon plazer,
for which-I sing at my pleasure
quar plus ric joy ai conquis
for more rich joy I-have conquered
qu'a mi no s tanhia;
than-to me not itself befitted
e quan ricors s'umilia,
and when wealth itself-humbles
humilitatz s'enriquis.
humility itself-enriches

Mi dons mercey e grazis
My lady I-thank and thank
la benanansa qu'ieu n'ai,
the well-being that-I thereof-have

e ja non oblidarai
and ever not I-shall-forget
los plazers que m fes ni m dis;
the pleasures that to-me she-did or to-me said
qu'en mi non a mais poder
for-in me not has more power
lieys qu'amar solia,
she whom-I-to-love was-wont
qu'en plus franca senhoria
for-in more noble lordship
vuelh ses engan remaner.
I-wish without deceit to-remain

Soven l'anera vezer
Often her-I-would-go to-see
la plus avinen qu'ieu sai,
the most comely that-I know
si'ls devinamens qu'om fai
if-the divinings that-one makes
no m'avengues a temer;
not to-me-befell to fear
pero mos cors es aclis
yet my heart is inclined
vas lieys on qu'ieu sia,
toward her wherever that-I be
que fin'amors jonh e lia
for true-love joins and binds
dos cors de lonhdan pais.
two hearts of distant country

Molt m'agrada e m'abelhis
Much me-pleases and me-delights
de dos amicx, quan s'eschai
of two friends when itself-befits
que s'amon de cor verai,
that themselves-love with heart true
e l'us l'autre non trais,
and the-one the-other not betrays
e sabon luec e lezer
and know place and leisure
gardar tota via,
to-guard all way
qu'en lur bona companhia
so-that-in their good company
non puesca enuios caber.
not can irksome-one to-fit

Derenan me vuelh tener
Henceforth myself I-wish to-hold
al reprovier qu'om retrai:
to-the proverb that-one recounts
no s mova qui ben estai.
not himself let-move who well stands
No farai ieu ja per ver,
Not shall-do I ever in truth
que'l flama qu'amors noyris
for-the flame that-love nourishes
m'art la nueg e'l dia,
me-burns the night and-the day

per qu'ieu devenh tota via
for which-I become all way
cum fai l'aurs el fuec plus fis.
as does the-gold in-the fire more true

S'era part la crotz del ris,
If-I-were beyond the cross of-the laughter
don nuls hom non tornet sai,
whence no man not returned here
no crezatz que m pogues lai
not believe that me could there
retener nulhs paradis;
to-retain any paradise
tant ai assis mon voler
so-much I-have set my will
en ma douss'amia,
on my sweet-beloved
que ses lieys ges non poiria
that without her at-all not could
negus autres joys plazer.
any other joy to-please

Chansos, hueimais potz tener
Song henceforth thou-canst to-hold
vas mi dons ta via,
toward my lady thy way
qu'ieu sai ben qu'ella volria
for-I know well that-she would-wish
te auzir e me vezer.
thee to-hear and me to-see

Dalfis, s'auzes mon voler
Dauphin if-I-dared my will
dir a ren que sia,
to-say to anything that be
tant am vostra companhia
so-much I-love your company
que vos en saubratz lo ver.
that you thereof would-know the truth

A tenso with Love, who accuses Peirol of drifting away and forgetting the good lady who welcomed him. Peirol answers that he loves her still, but many lovers must now leave their ladies weeping because of Saladin. Love says Turks and Arabs will not give up the Tower of David for him, and points to the kings' wars and the barons' excuses. Peirol prays God to bring the kings to agreement, and says that even if the kings do not go, the Dauphin is too worthy to stay at home.

Quant amors trobet partit
When love found parted
mon cor de son pessamen,
my heart from its thought
d'una tenson m'asalhit,
with-a tenso me-assailed
e podetz auzir comen:
and you-can to-hear how
„Amicx Peyrols, malamen
Friend Peirol badly
vos anatz de mi lunhan,
you go from me distancing
e pus en mi ni en chan
and since in me nor in song
non er vostr'entencios,
not will-be your-aim
diguatz pueis que valretz vos?"
say then what will-be-worth you

„Amors, tant vos ai servit,
Love so-much you I-have served
e pietatz no us en pren,
and pity not to-you thereof takes
cum vos sabetz quan petit
as you know how little
n'ai aiut de jauzimen;
thereof-I-have had of enjoyment
no us ochaizon de nien,
not you I-blame of nothing
sol que m fassatz derenan
only that to-me you-make henceforth
bona patz, qu'als no us deman,
good peace for-else not of-you I-ask
que nulhs autres guazardos
for any other reward
no m'en pot esser tan bos."
not to-me-thereof can to-be so good

„Peyrols, metetz en oblit
Peirol you-put in forgetting
la bona domna valen
the good lady worthy
qui tan gen vos aculhit
who so nobly you welcomed
e tant amorosamen,
and so lovingly
tot per mon comandamen;
all by my command

trop avetz leugier talan,
too-much you-have light desire
e non era ges semblan,
and not was at-all seeming
tant guays e tant amoros
so gay and so amorous
eratz en vostras chansos."
you-were in your songs

„Amors, mi dons, pos la vit,
Love my lady since her I-saw
ai amada lonjamen;
I-have loved long
enquer l'am, tant m'abelit
still her-I-love so-much she-delighted-me
e m plac al comensamen,
and to-me pleased at-the beginning
mas folia no i enten:
but folly not there I-intend
pero maint amic partan
yet many friend part
de lor amigas ploran,
from their women-friends weeping
que, s'En Saladis no fos,
who if-Sir Saladin not were
sai remanseran joyos."
here would-remain joyful

„Peyrols, Turc ni Arabit
Peirol Turk nor Arab
ja pel vostr'envazimen
ever for-the your-invasion
no laisseron tor Davit.
not will-leave tower of-David
Bon cosselh vos don e gen,
Good counsel to-you I-give and noble
amatz e cantatz soven;
love and sing often
iretz vos, e'l rey no van!
will-go you and-the kings not go
Veiatz las guerras que fan,
See the wars that they-make
et esguardatz dels baros
and regard of-the barons
cossi trobon ochaizos!"
how they-find pretexts

„Amors, anemais no falhit,
Love ever-before not I-failed
mas ar falh forsadamen,
but now I-fail forcedly
e prec dieu que m sia guit,
and I-pray God that to-me he-be guide
e que trameta breumen
and that he-send shortly
entr'els reys acordamen,
among-the kings agreement

qu'el socors vai trop tarzan,
for-the succor goes too-much delaying
et auria mestier gran
and there-would-be need great
qu'el marques valens e pros
that-the marquis valiant and worthy
n'agues mais de companhos."
thereof-had more of companions

„Peyrols, molt amic partran
Peirol many friend will-part
de lurs amiguas ploran,
from their women-friends weeping
que, si Saladis no fos,
who if Saladin not were
sai remanseran ab nos."
here would-remain with us

„Amors, si li rey no van,
Love if the kings not go
del Dalfin vos dic aitan,
of-the Dauphin to-you I-say so-much
que per guerra ni per vos
that for war nor for you
no remanra, tant es pros."
not he-will-remain so-much he-is worthy

He sings whenever love wishes, not for flower or leaf. The lady to whom he commends himself is proud toward him: last year he had love, this year a quarrel torments him sleeping and waking. His heart leaps and trembles, for he thinks she loves him after all. No one loves well who complains of love; merit, delight, and gaiety would sink without it. He asks his beloved for succor, would rather die than look elsewhere, and calls his little tune true.

Quora qu'amors vuelha,
Whenever that-love wishes
ieu chan,
I sing
qu'autra flors ni fuelha
for-other flower nor leaf
no y vau gardan;
not there I-go regarding
dregz es qu'ieu m'en duelha
right it-is that-I myself-thereof grieve
aman,
loving
pus vas me s'orguelha
since toward me herself-prides
silh cui me coman:
she to-whom myself I-commend
perdut ai,
lost I-have
e cobrarai;
and I-shall-recover

ges no m recre per tan,
at-all not myself I-withdraw for so-much
qu'aissi s va'l segles camjan.
for-thus itself goes-the world changing

Dieus m'aiut, e m valha!
God me-may-help and to-me may-avail
Qu'antan
For-last-year
aic d'amor ses falha,
I-had of-love without fail
mas non ai oguan,
but not I-have this-year
quar me mov baralha
for to-me moves quarrel
tan gran
so great
al cor, e m trebalha
at-the heart and me torments
durmen e velhan,
sleeping and waking
per qu'eu fai
for which-I do
qu'al mielhs qu'ieu sai
that-at-the best that-I know
la serv e la reblan:
her I-serve and her court
per so vei qu'ieu mi ay dan.
for that I-see that-I to-myself have harm

Mos cors salh e trembla
My heart leaps and trembles
soven,
often
m'amia lo m'embla
my-beloved it from-me-steals
si qu'ieu non o sen;
so that-I not it feel
qu'ilh m'aima, so m sembla,
for-she me-loves so to-me seems
quomen
how
lo sieus digz ressembla
the her saying resembles
lo mieu pessamen;
the my thought
don dirai,
whence I-shall-say
que mout mi plai
that much to-me pleases
suffrir aital turmen
to-suffer such torment
don ieu tan ric joi aten.
whence I so rich joy await

Nulhs hom be non ama
No man well not loves
ni gen,
nor nobly

que d'amor si clama
who of-love himself complains
sitot mal li'n pren.
although ill to-him-thereof takes
Cum plus m'enliama
As more me-entangles
greumen,
grievously
e m'art e m'aflama,
and me-burns and me-inflames
n'ai melhor talen;
thereof-I-have better desire
qu'aissi m trai
for-thus me draws
mos volers lai,
my will there
e'l fol chaptenemen
and-the foolish bearing
don m'es mantas vetz parven.
whereof to-me-it-is many times apparent

Mout bas fora meza
Much low would-be put
valors,
merit
deportz e guayeza,
delight and gaiety
si no fos amors,
if not were love

quar mante proeza
for it-maintains prowess
totz jors,
all days
e fai que corteza,
and makes as courtly-one
quar pren los melhors,
for it-takes the best
no s'eschai
not itself-befits
d'ome savai,
for-man base
que aia tan d'onors
that he-have so-much of-honors
que d'amor senta dolors.
that of-love he-feel griefs

Era us quier, amia,
Now of-you I-ask beloved
socors,
succor
qu'enansas morria
for-rather I-would-die
qu'eu queris alhors,
than-I sought elsewhere
assatz trobaria
enough I-would-find
d'aussors;
of-higher-ones

vos etz ses fadia
you are without fail
caps de las melhors.
head of the best
Mos cors jay
My heart lies
en gran esmay
in great dismay
entre sospirs e plors,
among sighs and weepings
mas tot m'es jois e doussors.
but all to-me-is joy and sweetness

Peyrols fai
Peirol makes
fin e verai
true and genuine
lo sonet per amors,
the little-tune for love
on sos cors estai totz jors.
where his heart stays all days

7 · FROM THE RIVER JORDAN

Having seen the Jordan and the tomb, he thanks God for showing him the holy place, and asks for a good wind home to Marseille. He commends Acre, Tyre, Tripoli, the Sergeants, the Hospital, the Temple, and King John to God. Since King Richard the land has had a poor successor, and he asks God to take care whom he makes emperors and kings, for once rich they hold him as nothing. The emperor swore many oaths and now turns away; Damietta waits for him, the Sultan has the honor, and our faith loses ground.

Pus flum Jordan ai vist e'l monimen,
Since river Jordan I-have seen and-the tomb
a vos, vers dieus, qu'es senher dels senhors
to you true God who-are lord of-the lords
ne ren merces, quar vos plac tan d'onors
thereof I-render thanks for to-you pleased so-much of-honors
qu'el sancte loc on nasques veramen
that-the holy place where you-were-born truly
m'avetz mostrat, don ai mon cor jauzen;
to-me-you-have shown whereby I-have my heart joyful
quar s'ieu era en Proensa, d'un an
for if-I were in Provence within-a year
no m clamarian Sarrazis Johan.
not me would-call Saracens John

Ara ns don dieus bona vi'e bon ven,
Now us may-give God good way-and good wind
e bona nau e bos governadors,
and good ship and good steersmen
qu'a Marcelha m'en vuelh tornar de cors;
for-to Marseille myself-thence I-wish to-return in haste
quar s'ieu era de lai mar veramen,
for if-I were from beyond sea truly
Acre e Sur e Tripel e'l Sirven
Acre and Tyre and Tripoli and-the Sergeants
e l'Espital e'l Templ'e'l rey Johan
and the-Hospital and-the Temple-and-the king John
coman a dieu e l'aigua de Rotlan.
I-commend to God and the-water of Roland

Qu'en la terra a croy emendamen
For-in the land has vile amendment
del rey Richart, de Fransa ab sas flors
of-the king Richard of France with its flowers
soli'aver bon rey e bos senhors,
was-wont-to-have good king and good lords
e'n Espanha un autre rey valen,
and-in Spain an other king worthy
e Monferrat bo marques eyssamen,
and Montferrat good marquis likewise
e l'emperi emperador prezan,
and the-empire emperor prized
aquestz que i son no sai quo s captenran.
these who there are not I-know how themselves they-will-bear

Belh senher dieus, si feyssetz a mon sen,
Fair lord God if you-did by my sense
ben guardaratz qui faitz emperadors,
well you-would-watch whom you-make emperors
ni qui faitz reys, ni datz castels ni tors;
nor whom you-make kings nor give castles nor towers
quar pus son rics, vos tenon a nien;
for as-soon-as they-are rich you they-hold as nothing
qu'ieu vi antan faire man sagramen
for-I saw last-year to-make many oath
l'emperador, don ar s'en vai camjan,
the-emperor whence now himself-thence goes changing
quo fes lo guasc que traisses de l'afan.
as did the Gascon who drew from the-toil

Emperador, Damiata us aten;
Emperor Damietta you awaits
e nueg e jorn plora la blanca tors
and night and day weeps the white tower
per vostr'aigla qu'en gitet us voutors;
for your-eagle which-thence threw a vulture
volpilla es aigla que voutor pren.
cowardly is eagle that vulture takes
Anta y avetz e'l Soudan onramen,
Shame there you-have and-the Sultan honor
e part l'anta avetz hi tug tal dan
and beside the-shame you-have there all such harm
que nostra ley s'en vai trop rezeguan.
that our law itself-thence goes too-much receding

8 · FOR THE MARQUISE

He had meant not to sing this year for grief, but his lady the marquise has commanded a song, so he will make it gay and fine. Grief has seized his heart; unless she who has won his love restores him, he will never woo another, for he has loved in one place only and always will. He trusts she does not want him to fail, sighs for her company, and says no one who sees her can keep from joy.

Be m cujava que no chantes ogan,
Well myself I-thought that not I-would-sing this-year
sitot m'es greu pel dan qu'ai pres e m peza,
although to-me-it-is grievous for-the harm that-I-have taken and to-me it-weighs
que mandamen n'ai avut e coman,
for command thereof-I-have had and order
don tot mi platz de mi dons la marqueza;
whereby wholly to-me it-pleases from my lady the marquise
e pus a lieys ai ma chanso promeza,
and since to her I-have my song promised
ben la dei far cuenhd'e guay'e prezan,
well it I-ought to-make comely-and gay-and prized
quar ben conosc que, si'l ven en talan,
for well I-know that if-to-her it-comes in desire
qu'e mans bos locs n'er chantad'et apreza.
that-in many good places thereof-it-will-be sung-and learned

Apreza n'er, mais ieu no sai cum chan,
Learned thereof-it-will-be but I not know how I-sing
qu'om pus hi ai tota ma ponha meza,
for-where more there I-have all my striving put

a penas puesc far ni dir belh semblan
with difficulty I-can to-make nor to-say fair seeming
tant s'es ira dins en mon cor empreza;
so-much itself-is grief within in my heart seized
que si a lieys que a m'amor conqueza
that if to her who has my-love conquered
non plai qu'en breu me restaure mon dan,
not it-pleases that-in brief to-me she-restore my harm
ja de mos jorns no m metrai en afan
ever in my days not myself I-shall-put in toil
que ja per mi si'autra domn'enqueza.
that ever by me be-other lady-wooed

Enqueza non, qu'en un loc solamen
Wooed not for-in one place only
amiey ancse, e ja a dieu non playa
I-loved always and ever to God not may-it-please
que ja vas me fas'aital falhimen
that ever toward me she-make-such failing
qu'autra m deman e que de lieys m'estraya;
that-other me ask and that from her me-I-withdraw
tos temps l'aurai fin'amor e veraya,
all time to-her-I-shall-have true-love and true
e son d'aitan el sieu bon chauzimen
and I-am of-so-much in-the her good clemency
que, si per lieys non cobre jauzimen,
that if through her not I-recover enjoyment
ie us pleu per me que jamais joy non aya.
I to-you pledge for me that ever joy not I-have

Joy aurai ieu, s'a lui plai en breumen
Joy shall-have I if-to her it-pleases in brief
qu'ieu cug e crey qu'ilh no vol qu'ieu dechaya,
for-I think and believe that-she not wishes that-I decline
que per aisso mia no m'espaven
for for this at-all not myself-I-frighten
qu'auzit ai dir que mal fai qui s'esmaya.
for-heard I-have to-say that ill does who himself-dismays
A! doussa res, cuenda, cortez'e guaya,
Ah sweet thing comely courtly-and gay
per vos sospir e plor e planc soven,
for you I-sigh and weep and lament often
quar no sentetz la gran dolor qu'ieu sen,
because not you-feel the great grief that-I feel
ni ges non ai amic que la us retraya ...
nor at-all not I-have friend who it to-you recounts ...

dampnatge m'es, quar no sui poderos
harm to-me-it-is because not I-am able
de lieys vezer que ten mon cor en guatge,
of her to-see who holds my heart in pledge
et estau sai don totas mas chansos
and I-stay here whence all my songs
tramet ades quar las vol per uzatge;
I-send ever for them she-wishes by custom

ab tot mi platz la belha d'aut paratge
with all to-me pleases the fair-one of-high rank
e plagra m pauc chans, si per lui no fos,
and would-please to-me little song if for her not it-were
mas qui lieys ve ni sas plazens faissos,
but who her sees and her pleasing features
no s pot tener de joy ni d'alegratge.
not himself can to-hold from joy nor from-gladness

9 · A VERS, NOT A SONG

He puts his effort into a vers, which he thinks worth more than a little song. Love kills him; he ponders his lady night and day, yet she will not retain him. He was foolish to covet her worth and wealth: once she welcomed him, now she barely deigns to see him. He would gladly have her empress, queen, or marquise, with all the world's wealth, for none of that would kill him; her beauty does. He laments that the Viennois takes their marquise, who maintains joy and gaiety, and sends the vers there.

M'entencio ai tot'en un vers meza,
My-aim I-have wholly-in a vers put
co valgues mais de chant qu'ieu anc fezes;
how it-might-be-worth more than song that-I ever made
e pogr'esser que fora mielhs apreza
and it-could-be that it-would-be better learned
chansoneta, s'ieu faire la volgues,
little-song if-I to-make it wished
car chantar torn en leujaria;
for singing turns into lightness
mas bos vers qui far lo sabia,
but good vers who to-make it knew
m'es a semblan que mais degues valer,
to-me-is to seeming that more it-ought to-be-worth
per qu'ieu hi vuelh demostrar mo saber.
for which-I there wish to-show my knowledge

Amors m'auci, tant s'es e me empreza;
Love me-kills so-much itself-is in me seized
greus m'es l'afans e'l trebalh, on m'a mes,
grievous to-me-is the-toil and-the travail where me-it-has put
qu'ieu n'ai perdut deportar e guayeza,
for-I thereof-I-have lost disporting and gaiety
e s'anc n'aic joy, ara no sai que s'es.
and if-ever thereof-I-had joy now not I-know what itself-is
Per mi dons cossir nueg e dia,
For my lady I-ponder night and day
mi dons qu'ai dig cum l'apelh mia.
my lady who-I-have said as her-I-call mine
Dir o puesc ieu, que'l dir n'ay en poder,
To-say it can I for-the saying thereof-I-have in power
mas ylh no m vol ni m denha retener.
but she not me wishes nor me deigns to-retain

Ja no creirai qu'ieu no l'agues conqueza,
Ever not I-shall-believe that-I not her-had conquered
s'ieu valgues tant qu'il amar mi degues,
if-I were-worth so-much that-she to-love me ought
doncs be sui fols quar l'am, pus a lieis peza;
then well am-I foolish for her-I-love since to her it-weighs
partirai m'en ieu? Non, que no puesc ges;
shall-part myself-thence I Not for not I-can at-all
mas per merce la preyaria
but for mercy her I-would-pray
que no'l pezes, si no'l plazia,
that not-to-her it-weigh if not-to-her it-pleased

que nulha res no m pot del cor mover
for any thing not me can from-the heart to-move
lo desirier ni'l talan ni'l voler.
the desire nor-the longing nor-the will

Mal esguardiey son pretz ni sa riqueza,
Ill I-regarded her worth and her wealth
don l'encobi; d'aquo fuy folha res,
whereby her-I-coveted in-that I-was foolish thing
et agui'n dreg, qu'una doussa franqueza
and I-had-thereof right for-a sweet nobility
mi mostrava ab que m lasset e m pres,
to-me she-showed with which me she-snared and me took
que m sonava e m'aculhia,
for me she-called and me-welcomed
quan hieu anava e venia,
when I went and came
mas ar m'a si tornat a non chaler,
but now me-she-has so turned to not caring
qu'a penas sol neys mi denha vezer.
that-with difficulty only even me she-deigns to-see

La grans beutatz de lieis e la drecheza
The great beauty of her and the uprightness
non es lunhs hom que trop lauzar pogues,
not is any man who too-much to-praise could
e qual pro y ai, s'il es guay'e corteza,
and what profit there I-have if-she is gay-and courtly

qu'ieu muer per lieis e no li'n pren merces;
for-I die for her and not to-her-thereof takes mercy
doncs be sui fols, qu'ieu trobaria
then well am-I foolish for-I would-find
autra domna que m'amaria,
other lady who me-would-love
mas ar sai eu qu'el reprovier ditz ver:
but now know I that-the proverb says truth
tos temps vol hom so c'om no pot aver.
all time wishes one that which-one not can to-have
Emperairitz volgra fos o marqueza
Empress I-would-wish were or marquise
o reyna selha que me ten pres,
or queen she who me holds captive
o tot l'aver del mon e la riqueza
or all the-wealth of-the world and the riches
volgra ieu, plus qu'ieu no sai dir, agues,
I-would-wish I more than-I — know to-say she-had
que per aitan no m'auciria;
for for so-much not me-she-would-kill
mas sa beutatz m'auci e m lia,
but her beauty me-kills and me binds
quar es tan grans e tan se fai plazer
for it-is so great and so-much herself makes pleasing
son belh semblan, quan se laissa vezer.
her fair seeming when herself she-lets to-see

D'amor mi clam e de nostra marqueza,
Of-love myself I-complain and of our marquise
mout m'es de greu quar la ns tolh Vianes,
much to-me-it-is of grievous for her from-us takes Viennois
per lieis es jois mantengutz e guayeza;
by her is joy maintained and gaiety
gensor domna no cre qu'anc dieus fezes,
fairer lady not I-believe that-ever God made
ni eu no cug tan belha'n sia
nor I not think so fair-thereof be
ni tan sapcha de cortezia,
nor so-much know of courtesy
qu'a penas pot sos pretz el mon caber,
for-with difficulty can her worth in-the world to-fit
qu'a totz jorns creis e no y s laissa chazer.
for-at all days it-grows and not there itself lets to-fall

Lo vers es fagz qui l'entendia
The vers is made who it-understood
En Peirols vol que auzitz sia
Sir Peirol wishes that heard it-be
en Vianes, don pretz no pot chazer,
in Viennois whence worth not can to-fall
que'l comtessa li fa ben mantener.
for-the countess it makes well to-maintain

10 · A CHANGED THOUGHT

He has changed his thought and his beloved, and loves a lady more truly than he used to, though she is not of the highest worth; as the proverb says, who does not find does not choose. Love once set him on a foolish height that brought only pain; now he keeps a measured way, since not to mend a known folly is double folly. Love seeks mercy, not pride. Slanderers have made his beloved weep, and a man beats her daily whose own wife, keeping company with a man near his house, deserves it more. The song goes to tell her he is hers wherever he is.

Camjat ai mon consirier,
Changed I-have my thought
cambi qu'ai fag d'amia
change that-I-have made of-beloved
don ai fin cor vertadier
whereof I-have true heart truthful
mais qu'aver no solia,
more than-to-have — I-was-wont
mais non es de prez sobrier;
but not is-she of worth supreme
ieu per qu'en mentiria?
I for what-thereof would-I-lie
Qu'eu aug dir al reprochier:
For-I hear to-say to-the proverb
qui no troba no tria
who not finds not chooses
e qui pren no s fadia.
and who takes not himself is-frustrated

Entendre m fazia Amors
To-aim me made Love
en folla ricaudia,
at foolish highness
en las riquezas auzors,
at the riches higher
don mal mon grat sufria
whereby ill my will I-suffered
penas e dans e dolors,
pains and harms and griefs
si que totz jorns moria.
so that all days I-died
Gardatz s'era ben follors,
See if-it-was well folly
quand ieu plus i perdia,
when I more there lost
et mieils m'i entendia.
and better myself-there I-aimed

Ara soi amesuratz
Now I-am measured
e sec ma dreita via;
and I-follow my straight way
cal que fos ma voluntatz
whatever that were my will
plus aut que non devia,
more high than — it-ought

ben dei esser castiatz
well I-ought to-be chastened
pel dan que m'en venia;
by-the harm that to-me-thereof came
car so es dobla foldatz
for that is double folly
d'ome qui no s castia
of-man who not himself corrects
pois conois sa folia.
since he-knows his folly

Perqu'ieu sai qu'estera be,
For-which-I know that-it-would-be well
e fora cortesia,
and would-be courtesy
que ja hom non ames re,
that ever one not loved anything
mas so que l'ameria.
but that which him-would-love
Preiars si tainh e cove
Praying itself befits and befits
qui mesura i metria,
who measure there would-put
mas sapchatz qui trop o te,
but know who too-much it holds
ben es semblan que sia
well it-is likely that it-be
orguoils e vilania.
pride and churlishness

Era conosc et enten
Now I-know and understand
qu'es bona companhia,
that-it-is good company
quan dui s'amon finamen
when two themselves-love truly
per leyal drudaria,
by loyal lovership
e quan cascus francamen
and when each frankly
vas son par s'umelia:
toward his equal himself-humbles
car Amors non vai queren
for Love not goes seeking
orguoill ni vilania,
pride nor churlishness
mas merce tota via.
but mercy all way

Lai on ai mon bon esper
There where I-have my good hope
m'atrai amors e m lia,
me-draws love and me binds
don non aus ni m puosc mover
whence not I-dare nor myself I-can to-move
mon desir noich ni dia:
my desire night nor day

ben pot ma dompna saber
well can my lady to-know
qu'ieu l'am ses bausia,
that-I her-love without deceit
que ren contra'l sen voler
for anything against-the sense to-wish
mos cors non pensaria
my heart not would-think
ni boca no'l diria.
nor mouth not-it would-say

Torbat m'an lausengier
Troubled me-have slanderers
mon joi, mi e m'amia
my joy me and my-beloved
cen vez l'an faicha plorer,
hundred times her-they-have made to-weep
qar tot jorn la batia
for all day her he-beat
tal ni es que sa moiller
such there is that his wife
plus deigna ne seria
more worthy thereof would-be
q'a faiz pres de son oster
who-has made near of his house
ab un hom compaignia.
with a man company
Non taing qeu plus en dia.
Not befits that-I more thereof say

Leu chansoneta plazen,
Light little-song pleasing
vai t'en ta dreta via
go thyself-thence thy straight way
a leis on joi e joven
to her where joy and youth
renovel e coindia
renew and grace
digas li qu'a leis mi ren
tell her that-to her myself I-render
en qualque part qu'ieu sia,
in whatever part that-I be
quar ieu non ai ges talen
for I not have at-all desire
mais d'autra segnoria,
more of-other lordship
ni s taing qu'eu plus en dia.
nor itself befits that-I more thereof say

Trop meilz me val son bon esper,
Too-much better to-me avails her good hope
ten chanson drita via
hold song straight way
a la bella on que sia,
to the fair-one where that she-be

et di li q'ie'l faza saber
and tell her that-I-to-her make to-know
q'autra non uoill qe sia
that-other not I-wish that be
de mon cors garentia,
of my heart warranty
q'eu vos ren boich'e cors,
for-I to-you render mouth-and heart
ma bella douz'amia,
my fair sweet-beloved
de toz bons aips complia.
of all good qualities accomplished

11 · A JOY THAT LINGERS

In a joy that lingers he makes a little tune: true love honors him so that he would be no richer as emperor, though not long ago he was dying of dismay. Love rewards nobly whoever abandons himself to it. His heart stays in the sweet dwelling where his lady is, bound with a soft chain; he will love her all his life and ask nothing but to serve. He knows how to hide his glances, and sends the song to say that he will see her soon.

Ab joi que m demora
With joy which me lingers
vuelh un sonet faire,
I-wish a little-tune to-make
quar be m vai a hora
for well to-me it-goes in time
de tot mon afaire;
of all my affair
fin'amors m'onora
true-love me-honors
si, qu'al mieu veiaire,
so that-to-the my seeming
ja tan rix no fora,
ever so rich not I-would-be
si fos emperaire;
if I-were emperor
qu'el coratge n'ai
for-the heart thereof-I-have
gauzion e guai;
joyful and gay

pero non a guaire
yet not has long
qu'era mortz d'esmai.
that-I-was dead of-dismay

Plus es amors bona
More is love good
qu'eu no sai retraire,
than-I — know to-recount
qui la mal razona
who it ill speaks-of
non es fin amaire;
not is true lover
tan gen guiardona,
so nobly it-rewards
si be s fai maltraire,
though well himself he-makes to-suffer
qui a leis s'abandona
who to her himself-abandons
n'ill es merceyaire;
and-to-him is mercy-giver
cum qu'ieu estey sai,
however that-I stay here
mos coratges lai
my heart there
es el dous repaire
is in-the sweet dwelling
on la belh'estai.
where the fair-one-stays

Sieus sui qu'ilh me mena
Hers I-am for-she me leads
e fai cortesia,
and does courtesy
qu'ab suau cadena
for-with soft chain
mi destrenh e m lia;
me constrains and me binds
mos mals no s refrena
my ill not itself restrains
quar gueritz seria,
for healed I-would-be
s'ab tan doussa pena
if-with so sweet pain
per mi dons muria:
for my lady I-died
ja no m'en partrai,
ever not myself-thence I-shall-part
a ma vida mai;
in my life ever
s'ieu totz temps vivia,
if-I all time lived
totz temps l'amarai.
all time her-I-shall-love

Francha res corteza,
Noble thing courtly
belha, douss'amia,
fair sweet-beloved

al cor vos m'a meza
at-the heart you to-me-has put
amors tota via;
love all way
grans joia m'es presa
great joy to-me-is taken
d'aital senhoria,
of-such lordship
qu'ieu sui, si no us peza,
for-I am if not to-you it-weighs
vostres on qu'ieu sia:
yours where that-I be
ja res no us querrai
ever anything not of-you I-shall-ask
ans vos servirai;
rather you I-shall-serve
e si no us plazia,
and if not to-you it-pleased
ja plus no us dirai.
ever more not to-you I-shall-say

S'ieu, per alegransa,
If-I for gladness
sai cantar ni rire
know to-sing or to-laugh
d'un joy que m'enansa
from-a joy which me-advances
dont ieu sui jauzire,
whereof I am enjoyer

domna, ja duptansa
lady ever doubt
non aiatz del dire,
not have of-the saying
qu'ieu fassa semblansa
that-I make semblance
que de vos cossire;
that of you I-ponder
ben e gen mi sai
well and nobly myself I-know
cubrir, quan s'eschai;
to-cover when itself-befits
s'ieu mos huelhs vos vire,
if-I my eyes to-you turn
tost los en retrai.
soon them thence I-draw-back

S'om ren mi demanda
If-one anything me asks
de mon dous dezire,
of my sweet desire
amors mi comanda
love me commands
vertat contradire.
truth to-gainsay
Ben es dregz qu'ieu blanda
Well it-is right that-I court
lieys per cui sospire;
her for whom I-sigh

e foudatz fas granda,
and folly I-make great
si fas que m'azire.
if I-make that me-she-hate
Guardatz cossi m vai,
See how to-me it-goes
e cossi m'estai:
and how to-me-it-stands
so que m sol aucire
that which me was-wont to-kill
m'adutz joy veray.
to-me-brings joy true

Chansoneta vai
Little-song go
dreg a mi dons lai,
straight to my lady there
e potz li m ben dire
and thou-canst to-her for-me well to-say
qu'en breu la veirai.
that-in brief her I-shall-see

12 · MORE FOOLISH THAN NARCISSUS

He once sang gladly while he had hope of love, but sees no profit now and expects no succor. Her first welcome and her false seemings undid him, for his heart cannot move from her. He plays the fool, and not wisely: Narcissus, who loved his own shadow and died of it, was no more foolish. He will love her in silence, like a penitent who asks for nothing, yet he longs to go and see her even if it kills him, and sends the vers so that she remembers him.

Mout m'entremis de chantar voluntiers,
Much myself-I-busied with singing willingly
e d'alegransa e de joi mantener,
and with-gladness and with joy to-maintain
aitant quant fui d'amor en bon esper;
as-much as I-was of-love in good hope
mas er no i vei mon pro ni l'i enten,
but now not there I-see my profit nor it-there I-aim
ni de midonz mais socors non aten,
nor from my-lady more succor not I-await
tals desconortz e tals esmais m'en ve,
such discomfort and such dismays to-me-thereof come
que per un pauc totz de joi no m recre.
that by a little wholly from joy — myself I-withdraw

Gran mal mi fetz l'acoindamens primiers,
Great ill to-me did the-acquaintance first
e il bel semblan que jes non eran ver,
and the fair seemings which at-all not were true
qu'anc puois non puoc mon coratge mover:
for-ever since not I-could my heart to-move
tuich miei desir son en lieis solamen,
all my desires are on her only
ni de ren als grans enueia no m pren,
nor of anything else great vexation not me takes
e pois no il platz qu'ieu n'aia autra merce,
and since not to-her it-pleases that-I thereof-have other mercy
a sofrir m'er lo trebaill en que m te.
to suffer to-me-will-be the toil in which me she-holds

Ja non partrai de lieis mos cossiriers;
Ever not I-shall-part from her my thoughts
per mal que m fassa ieu no ill posc mal voler,
for ill that to-me she-does I not to-her can ill to-wish
quar tan la fait senz e beltatz valer,
for so-much her makes sense and beauty to-be-worth
segon l'amor follei saviamen,
according-to the-love I-play-the-fool wisely
que mal o ai dig qu'ans follei follamen,
for ill it I-have said for-rather I-play-the-fool foolishly
car anc Narcissus qu'amet l'ombra de se,
for ever Narcissus who-loved the-shadow of himself
si be s mori, no fo plus fols de me.
though well himself he-died not was more foolish than me

C'atressi m muor entre'ls loncs desiriers,
For-likewise myself I-die among-the long desires
que m fan ades sospirar e doler
which me make ever to-sigh and to-grieve
per lieis que m'a tornat a non caler;
for her who me-has turned to not caring
qu'aras sai eu e conosc veramen
for-now know I and know truly
qu'il esquiva mon privat parlamen,
that-she shuns my private speaking
et am la tant que a la mia fe,
and I-love her so-much that by the my faith
quan vei mon dan, mi mezeis eu non cre.
when I-see my harm me myself I not believe

Ben sai quals er totz mos conseills derriers,
Well I-know what will-be all my counsel last
pois del partir non ai geng ni poder,
since of-the parting not I-have wit nor power
ses son pensar, farai lo meu plaser;
without her thinking I-shall-do the my pleasure
amerai la mi dons per tal coven
I-shall-love her my lady on such covenant
qu'el cor aurai l'amoros pensamen,
that-in-the heart I-shall-have the-loving thought
mais la bocha tenrai ades en fre
but the mouth I-shall-hold ever in bridle
que ja per re non li en dirai mas re.
for ever for anything not to-her thereof I-shall-say more anything

Estarai doncs cum lo penedenciers,
I-shall-stand then as the penitent
que ren non quier d'aisso que vol aver.
who anything not seeks of-that which he-wishes to-have
Ai, que m tarda car no la vauc vezer!
Ah what me delays for not her I-go to-see
Irai lai doncs morir mon escien?
Shall-I-go there then to-die to-my knowledge
Hoc, qu'aital mort amaria soven,
Yes for-such death I-would-love often
qu'estragnamen es grans plazers qui ve
for-strangely is-it great pleasure who sees
so qu'ama fort ja non aia altra re.
that which-he-loves strongly though-ever not he-have other thing

Lo vers tramet midonz per tal coven
The vers I-send my-lady on such covenant
qu'a tot lo meins, s'altre pro noca m te,
that-at all the least if-other profit not-ever to-me it-holds
quan l'auzira li membrara de me.
when it-she-will-hear to-her it-will-recall of me

13 · THE FLOWER THAT FOLLOWS THE SUN

He makes a little tune for cheer, having not sung this year for care, since love kills him for being truer than any other lover. Still, no torment could be fairer, for his lady is the fairest he knows, though the sin is hers. He dares tell her nothing, and when he asks what he should do she answers in jest. He swears to leave her and finds his heart where it was, the eyes of his heart turned toward her like the flower that follows the sun. If her friend fails, he warns, the shame and harm are hers.

D'un sonet vauc pensan
Of-a little-tune I-go thinking
per solatz e per rire,
for cheer and for laughter
qu'ieu non chantai ugan
for-I not sang this-year
estiers per mon cossire,
otherwise for my care
don mi conort chantan,
whence myself I-comfort singing
qu'amors m'auci d'esmai,
for-love me-kills with-dismay
quar m'a trobat verai
because me-it-has found true
plus de nul autr'aman.
more than any other-lover

Sivals be m vai d'aitan,
At-least well to-me it-goes of-so-much
qu'ela no m pot aucire
that-she not me can to-kill
a plus onrat afan
with more honored toil
ni a plus bel martire,
nor with more fair torment
qu'aital domna m coman,
for-to-such lady myself I-commend
qu'es la genser qu'ieu sai;
who-is the fairest that-I know
bos m'es lo mals qu'ieu trai,
good to-me-is the ill that-I bear
mas ill n'a peccat gran.
but she thereof-has sin great

Re per autrui no ill man
Anything by another not to-her I-send
d'aiso, qu'eu plus dezire,
of-that which-I most desire
ni ieu eus, tan la blan
nor I even so-much her court
re no l'en auze dire,
anything not to-her-thereof I-dare to-say

ans quan li sui denan
rather when to-her I-am before
maintas vetz quan s'eschai
many times when itself-befits
dic: dona, que farai?
I-say lady what shall-I-do
No m respon mas guaban.
Not me she-answers but jesting

Las! com muer deziran
Alas how I-die desiring
sos hom e sos servire,
her man and her servant
qu'ieu seria celan;
for-I would-be concealing
maintas vetz m'en azire
many times myself-thereof I-hate
e jur per mal talan,
and I-swear for ill desire
que tot m'en partirai,
that wholly myself-thence I-shall-part
pueis aqui eus truep lai
then there even I-find there
mon cor, on era antan.
my heart where it-was last-year

Li oill del cor m'estan
The eyes of-the heart to-me-stand
vas lei qu'aillors no vire,
toward her for-elsewhere not they-turn
si qu'ades on qu'ieu m'an
so that-ever wherever that-I myself-go
la vei e la remire
her I-see and her gaze-at
tot per aital semblan
all by such seeming
com la flors qu'om retrai
as the flower that-one recounts
que totas horas vai
which all hours goes
contra'l soleill viran.
toward-the sun turning

Domna, per cui ieu chan,
Lady for whom I sing
una res vos dirai,
one thing to-you I-shall-say
si'l vostr'amics deschai,
if-the your-friend declines
amt'y aures e dan.
shame-there you-will-have and harm

D'amor ai bon talan,
Of-love I-have good desire
e ferm desirier n'ai,
and firm longing thereof-I-have
e ja d'aqui en lai
and ever from-there on there
hom plus no m'en deman.
one more not of-me-thereof may-ask

Far away among foreign people, he thinks of love and of a vers that must be true, for the more his song is welcomed, the more he must guard against error. Each day a sweetness from his country comes into his heart, and he bows toward his lady, who gilded with fair seeming what has now turned to tin. She will not even seem to hear him. He asks for one day's joy, wishes she might feel his ill for one day, and cannot stay away any longer.

Si be m sui loing et entre gen estraigna,
Though well myself I-am far and among people foreign
eu mai pens er d'amor en que m conort,
I more think now of-love in which myself I-comfort
e pens d'un vers cossi l fassa e l'acort,
and think of-a vers how it I-may-make and it-accord
tal que sia bos e valens e fis,
such that it-be good and worthy and true
que on hom plus mos chantars me grazis,
for where one more my singing to-me welcomes
e mieils me dei gardar que no i mesprenda,
and better myself I-ought to-guard that not there I-err
ni diga ren don savis me reprenda.
nor say anything whereof wise-man me reprove

Non es nuills jorns qu'e mon cor non dissenda
Not is any day that-in my heart not descends
una dolsors, que ven de mon pays;
a sweetness which comes from my country
lai joing mas mans e lai estau aclis
there I-join my hands and there I-stand bowed
e lai, sapchatz, que volria esser fort
and there know that I-would-wish to-be greatly
pres de mi donz, sitot s'a vas mi tort:
near of my lady although herself-has toward me wrong
c'ab bel semblan et ab doussa compaigna
for-with fair seeming and with sweet company
me dauret gen so, que ara m'estaigna.
to-me she-gilded nobly that which now to-me-tins

Ar'ai assatz, que plor e que m complaigna,
Now-I-have enough that I-weep and that myself I-complain
c'a pauc lo cors no m part, quan mi recort
for-by little the heart — from-me parts when myself I-recall
e mi soven del ris e del deport
and to-me recalls of-the laugh and of-the delight
e dels plazers, qu'ela m fetz e que m dis.
and of-the pleasures that-she to-me did and that to-me she-said
A, cum fora garitz, s'adoncs moris!
Ah how I-would-be healed if-then I-died
Que quand li prec, que de mi merce ill prenda,
For when her I-pray that of me mercy she take
sol veiaire non fai, qu'ella m'entenda.
only seeming not she-makes that-she me-hears

Ben ai razon que sofra et atenda;
Well I-have reason that I-suffer and wait
cum atendrai, pois lieis non abellis?
how shall-I-wait since to-her not it-delights
E valgra m mais, so cre, que men partis.
And would-avail me more so I-believe that myself-thence I-parted
Partir non ges, trop n'ai pres lonc acort.
To-part not at-all too-much thereof-I-have taken long accord
Bona dompna, vostr'om sui tot a fort,
Good lady your-man I-am wholly at strength
e no us cuidetz l'amors en mi remaigna,
and not you think the-love in me remain
qu'a vos amar tem que temps mi soffraigna.
for-at you loving I-fear that time to-me fail

Lieis non faill res c'a pro dompna s'ataigna,
To-her not fails anything that-to worthy lady itself-pertains
c'om no la ve que de lieis laus non port;
for-one not her sees who of her praise not bears
bella e gai'es e pros, per que l'am fort;
fair and gay-she-is and worthy for which her-I-love strongly
e donc amors, cui totz temps sui aclis,
and then love to-whom all time I-am bowed
plairia il ja c'una vetz m'en jauzis,
would-please to-her ever that-one time myself-thereof I-enjoyed
aquesta il quier per don e per esmenda,
this of-her I-ask for gift and for amends
o ja d'autra mais guizerdon no m renda.
or ever from-other more reward not to-me she-may-render

D'altre trabaill prec deu que la m defenda,
From-other toil I-pray God that her for-me he-defend
mais un sol jorn volgra qu'ela sentis
but one single day I-would-wish that-she felt
lo mal qu'eu trai per lei sers e matis,
the ill that-I bear for her evenings and mornings
qu'en greu perill m'a laissat loing del port,
for-in grievous peril me-she-has left far from-the port
e non vuelh ges qu'autra m'en aia estort,
and not I-wish at-all that-other me-thereof have delivered
que s'a lei platz que ja vas mi s'afragna,
for if-to her it-pleases that ever toward me herself-she-soften
anc homs d'amar non fes gensor gazanha.
ever man of-loving not made fairer gain

Non laissarai, dompna, lo vers no us port,
Not I-shall-leave lady the vers not to-you I-bring
qu'en aissi m ten lo desirs en greu laigna,
for-in thus me holds the desire in grievous sorrow
non pot esser, que ja plus sai remaigna.
not can to-be that ever more here I-remain

15 · FROM JOY TO GRIEF

What begins in joy often ends in grief: he thought himself loved, and everything has changed. Love has little true support, for false lovers bring it down and the ladies share the fault, so that hardly a lover is not deceiving or deceived. His lady makes him die for such a failing; she has the sin and he the penance. Yet delay is folly, and he would rather she conquer him wrongly than weep for his right. The vers goes to her, and he stays in Auvergne near the Dauphin.

Ab gran joy mov mantas vetz e comensa
With great joy moves many times and begins
so don hom pueys a dolor e cossire.
that whereof one then has grief and care
Per mi us o dic que folha conoissensa
For me to-you it I-say for foolish knowledge
aic d'un semblan ab que m trainet gen
I-had of-a seeming with which me drew-along nobly
silh on anc plus m'entendiei finamen;
she on-whom ever more myself-I-aimed truly
qu'adoncs fuy rics qu'esser cugei amatz,
for-then I-was rich for-to-be I-thought loved
aras s'es fort totz mos afars camjatz.
now itself-is greatly all my affair changed

Amors a pauc de vera mantenensa,
Love has little of true maintenance
non o puesc mais celar ni escondire,
not it I-can more to-conceal nor to-deny
qu'els fals amans que s fan fin en parvensa
for-the false lovers who themselves make true in seeming
la dechazon per lor galiamen,
it bring-down by their deceit
e las domnas si s n'an colp'ayssamen;
and the ladies so themselves thereof-have fault-likewise
qu'a penas es negus drutz, so sapchatz,
for-with difficulty is any lover this know
que non enjan o no si'enjanatz.
who not deceives or not be-deceived

Ma domna m fai morir per tal falhensa
My lady me makes to-die for such failing
que l'estai mal, s'ieu lo y ausava dire;
that to-her-stands ill if-I it to-her dared to-say
ylh n'a l pechat et hieu la penedensa,
she thereof-has the sin and I the penance
e ges no'lh truep ochaizon de nien.
and at-all not-to-her I-find pretext of nothing
Peza m quar ai tan bon razonamen,
It-grieves to-me for I-have so good argument
trop es mos dregz conogutz e proatz,
too-much is my right known and proved
mais volgra fos messonja que vertatz.
more I-would-wish it-were lie than truth

A! tan greu m'er, s'aissi pert m'entendensa
Ah so grievous to-me-it-will-be if-thus I-lose my-aim
del bon esper, on suelh mon cor assire,
of-the good hope where I-am-wont my heart to-set
pero trop n'ai orgulhoza temensa,
yet too-much thereof-I-have proud fear
qu'ab mal talan l'encolp e la repren,
that-with ill desire her-I-blame and her reprove
e si m sai ieu d'amor lo melhor sen:
and so myself I-know I of-love the best sense
qu'om ja de re no s'en fezes iratz,
that-one ever of anything not himself-thereof made angry
mas qu'om saubes son mal suffrir em patz.
but that-one knew his ill to-suffer in peace

Folhatges es, qui son afar bistensa:
Folly it-is who his affair delays
no m tenrai mais d'aiso que pus dezire,
not myself I-shall-hold more from-that which most I-desire
mais vuelh qu'a tort ma douss'amigua m vensa,
more I-wish that-by wrong my sweet-beloved me conquer
que per mon dreg plor ni plangna soven;
than for my right I-weep or lament often
merce'lh querrai d'eis lo sieu falhimen
mercy-of-her I-shall-ask even-for the her failing
tot en aissi cum er sa voluntatz,
all in thus as will-be her will
qu'ab lieys no m pot nulhs plaitz esser malvatz.
for-with her not to-me can any plea to-be wicked

El vers vos man, dona, qu'a vos mi ren,
The vers to-you I-send lady for-to you myself I-render
que res aitan no m'agrada ni m platz,
for anything so-much not me-pleases nor to-me pleases
e valha mi ma fina voluntatz.
and may-avail to-me my true will

En Vianes anera plus soven,
In Viennois I-would-go more often
mas per mi dons remanh sai Alvernhatz
but for my lady I-remain here Auvergnat
pruep del Dalfin, quar sos afars mi platz.
near of-the Dauphin for his affair to-me pleases

16 · LIKE THE GAMBLER

Love gives him the occasion for a vers and holds his heart in pledge for a lady too high for him. He grants himself her liegeman as if he had done her homage, and dares speak only in covered words, though a single look would tell her his thought. She cares nothing for him, proud of her merit and lineage, yet mercy used to avail in love, and his good faith may still help. Like the gambler who loses in hope of gain, he stays in the venture.

D'un bon vers dey pessar, cossi l fezes,
Of-a good vers I-ought to-think how it I-may-make
qu'amors m'adutz l'ochaizon e'l talan
for-love to-me-brings the-occasion and-the desire
e m fai estar del tot al sieu coman,
and me makes to-stand of-the whole at-the its command
si que mon cor n'a retengut en gatge;
so that my heart thereof-it-has retained in pledge
trop demostra e me son poderatge,
too-much it-shows on me its power
qu'era m'auci lo trebals, on m'a mes
for-now me-kills the toil where me-it-has put
per tal domna qu'endrech de mi no s tanh.
for such lady who-toward of me not itself befits

Aquesta m platz mais que neguna res,
This-one to-me pleases more than any thing
a lieys m'autrei litges deserenan,
to her myself-I-grant liege henceforth
si tot no m vol, mi qu'en cal? qu'atrestan
if all not me she-wishes to-me what-thereof matters for-as-much
serai aclis vas lo sieu senhoratge,
I-shall-be bowed toward the her lordship
cum s'ieu l'agues fait certan homenatge,
as if-I to-her-had done certain homage
e fora be grans torz qui m'en tolgues
and it-would-be well great wrong who from-me-thereof took
lo pessamen, pus tot l'als m'en sofranh.
the thinking since all the-else from-me-thereof fails

Trop vuelh s'amor, mais querre no l'aus ges
Too-much I-wish her-love but to-seek not it-I-dare at-all
esters qu'ab ditz cubertz li vau parlan,
except that-with sayings covered to-her I-go speaking
mais si m volgues esgardar mon semblan
but if me she-wished to-regard my seeming
ja no'l calgra plus vertader message,
ever not-to-her would-be-needed more true message
qu'ab sol esguart pot hom ben per usage
for-with only glance can one well by custom
lo pensamen conoisser, tal vetz es,
the thought to-know such time it-is
e membre li qu'asaz quer qui s conplaing.
and may-it-recall to-her that-enough asks who himself complains

Preguera la, si valer mi pogues,
I-would-pray her if to-avail to-me it-could
mas lieys non cal de mi ni m'a per tan.
but to-her not matters of me nor me-she-has for so-much
Cujatz vos doncs, quan si vai perpessan
Think you then when herself she-goes pondering
de sa valor ni de son ric linhatge,
of her merit and of her rich lineage
que no'l sia ben fer e ben salvatge?
that not-to-her it-be well proud and well wild
Pero valer sol en amor merces,
Yet to-avail is-wont in love mercy
e veus l'esper on ma dolor refranh.
and behold the-hope where my grief abates

E donc valra mi ja ma bona fes
And then will-avail me ever my good faith
qu'ieu no m camge per re aissi cum fan
for-I not myself change for anything so as do
folh lauzengier, guabador e truan,
foolish slanderers boasters and rogues
fals fenhedor e de voler volatge;
false feigners and of will fickle
ans ai en lieys assis tot mon coratge
rather I-have on her set all my heart
horas e jorns e setmanas e mes,
hours and days and weeks and months
qu'en un voler sui ades e remanh.
for-in one will I-am ever and remain

Aquest conortz non es mas nescies,
This comfort not is but foolishness
qu'en ric'amor, pus trop va trabinan,
for-in rich-love when too-much it-goes dragging
non deu hom pueis aver fiansa gran.
not ought one then to-have trust great
Que farai donc? Partir m'ai d'est follatge?
What shall-I-do then To-part myself-shall-I from-this folly
Ieu non; per que? quar far vuelh mon dampnatge,
I not for why for to-do I-wish my harm
aissi cum selh qu'al joguar s'es empres,
so as he who-at-the gaming himself-is engaged
que pert e pert per respieg de guazanh.
who loses and loses for hope of gain

Dona, el vers entendetz mon coratge,
Lady in-the vers understand my heart
qu'el vostre cors avinent e cortes
for-the your person comely and courtly
sabra chauzir so qu'er dreg ni s'atanh.
will-know to-choose that which-will-be right and befits

Soven a hom de son sen gran dampnatge,
Often has one from his sense great harm
e per foudat ven mantas vetz grans bes,
and by folly comes many times great good
doncs en aital aventura remanh.
then in such venture I-remain

He will make amends for her wrongs to the lady who sent him away, offering his songs without hope of mercy, asking only to aim at her. No ill she does will draw him from her friendship, and neither grief nor another lady could move his heart. He ponders night and day how he might take or steal a kiss, and would give it back if she were angry. He asks the lady in whom sense and beauty reign for the lesser pleasures, and greets the Dauphin.

Dels sieus tortz farai esmenda
For-the her wrongs I-shall-make amends
lieys que m fetz partir de se,
to-her who me made to-part from herself
qu'enquer ai talan que'l renda,
for-still I-have desire that-to-her I-render
s'il platz, mas chansos e me
if-to-her it-pleases my songs and me
ses respieg d'autra merce,
without hope of-other mercy
sol suefra qu'en lieys entenda,
only she-suffer that-on her I-aim
e que'l belh nien n'atenda.
and that-the fair nothing thereof-I-await

Ges per negun mal qu'en prenda,
At-all for any ill that-thereof I-take
de s'amistat no m recre,
from her-friendship not myself I-withdraw
ans sueffri qu'ades entenda
rather I-suffer that-ever I-feel
la pen'e'l dan que m'en ve,
the pain-and-the harm that to-me-thereof comes
far mi degra qualque be;
to-do to-me she-ought some good
mas no s tanh qu'ieu la'n reprenda,
but not itself befits that-I her-thereof reprove
si tot s'es vers qu'ilh mesprenda.
if all itself-is true that-she errs

Ben conosc qu'ieu no poiria
Well I-know that-I not could
mon cor de s'amor lunhar,
my heart from her-love to-distance
per ira ni per feunia,
by grief nor by rancor
ni per autra domn'amar.
nor by other lady-loving
No m'o cal plus assaiar,
Not to-me-it needs more to-try
mas si cum lieys plaira, sia,
but so as to-her will-please let-it-be
qu'ieu l'amarai tota via.
for-I her-shall-love all way

Molt en cossir nueg e dia,
Much thereof I-ponder night and day
e no m'en sai cosselhar;
and not myself-thereof I-know to-counsel
pero si s'esdevenia
yet if itself-happened
gran talan ai qu'un baisar
great desire I-have that-a to-kiss
li pogues tolr'o emblar,
from-her I-could to-take-or to-steal
e si pueys s'en iraissia
and if then herself-thereof she-angered
voluntiers lo li rendria.
willingly it to-her I-would-render

El mon non es hom que tenha
In-the world not is man whom holds
tan apoderat amors,
so overpowered love
que ges no vol qu'ieu retenha
that at-all not it-wishes that-I retain
los plasers ni las honors
the pleasures nor the honors
qu'avia trobat alhors,
that-I-had found elsewhere
ans fai que plus mi destrenha
rather it-makes that more me it-constrain
per tal que no m vol ni m denha.
for such who not me wishes nor me deigns

Belha domna, en cui renha
Fair lady in whom reigns
sens e beutatz e valors,
sense and beauty and merit
suffriretz qu'aissi m'estenha
you-will-suffer that-thus me-quench
lo deziriers e'l dolors?
the desire and-the grief
Sivals dels plazers menors
At-least of-the pleasures lesser
me faitz que joys m'en venha,
to-me you-make that joy to-me-thereof come
sol qu'a vos non descovenha.
only that-to you not it-unbefit

Chansoneta, vai de cors
Little-song go in haste
a mi dons dir que t retenha,
to my lady to-say that thee she-retain
pus mi retener non denha.
since me to-retain not she-deigns

Dalfi, solatz et amors
Dauphin cheer and love
e cortes sens vos essenha
and courtly sense you teaches
cossi joys e pretz vos venha.
how joy and worth to-you come

18 · NO SWEETER DEATH

No man kills himself so nobly as the lover, and though love wars on him, he loves a lady so worthy that he expects to die of it. His heart beseeches her even when she does not hear. Yet she does not refuse his words and listens well, and he recalls the proverb that who does not gainsay grants. Her fair seeming bids him stay hopeful. He sends the song to greet and thank her, for what grieves him most is that she lives so far away.

Nuls hom non s'auci tan gen
Any man not himself-kills so nobly
ni tan dousamen,
nor so sweetly
non fai son dan ni folleia
not does his harm nor plays-the-fool
com sel qu'en amor s'enten,
as he who-in love himself-aims
pero ieu n'ai bon talen,
yet I thereof-have good desire
sitot amors mi guerreia
although love me wars
nim destreinh greumen,
and-me constrains grievously
quar per mal voler mal pren.
for by ill wishing ill one-takes

Qu'una domn'am finamen,
For-a lady-I-love truly
don mon escien
whence to-my knowledge
m'er a morir ab l'enueia;
to-me-it-will-be to die with the-vexation
tant es de ric pretz valen,
so-much she-is of rich worth worthy
e sitot noca m'enten,
and although never me-she-hears
on qu'ieu estey, la sopleya
wherever that-I stay her beseeches
ves lieis franchamen
toward her nobly
mos cors qui la ve soven.
my heart which her sees often

Estrainhs consiriers m'en ve,
Strange care to-me-thereof comes
e si gaire m te
and if long me it-holds
mortz sui, qu'ades mi sordeia;
dead I-am for-ever to-me it-worsens
tort n'ai ieu meteis de que,
wrong thereof-have I myself of what
quar non am si con cove
for not I-love so as it-befits
tal domna qu'amar mi deia,
such lady who-to-love me ought

quar cistz per ma fe
for this-one by my faith
non deu sol pensar de me.
not ought even to-think of me

Mas pero si s'esdeve
But yet if itself-happens
qu'ie'lh parle de re,
that-I-to-her speak of anything
ges mas paraulas no m neya
at-all my words not to-me she-denies
ans vey qu'escouta las be.
rather I-see that-she-listens-to them well
Del reprovier mi sove:
Of-the proverb to-me it-recalls
qui non contraditz autreia;
who not gainsays grants
donc aura'n merce;
then she-will-have-thereof mercy
tant o vuelh qu'ieu non o cre.
so-much it I-wish that-I not it believe

Pel bel semblan qu'ela m fai
By-the fair seeming that-she to-me makes
vol qu'ie m tenga gai,
she-wishes that-I myself hold gay
e qu'en bon respieg esteia,
and that-in good hope I-stay

pero de s'amor m'esmai,
yet of her-love myself-I-dismay
ai! bella domna, si us plai,
ah fair lady if to-you it-pleases
vostra grans franqueza veya
your great nobility may-see
lo grieu mal qu'ieu trai,
the grievous ill that-I bear
don ses vos ja non garrai.
whence without you ever not I-shall-heal

Chanson, saludar la m vay,
Song to-greet her for-me go
per ti'l mandarai,
by thee-to-her I-shall-send
que'l res es que plus mi greya,
that-the thing is that most me grieves
que tan lueinh de mi estai,
that so far from me she-stays
e pos en aissi s'eschai,
and since in thus itself-befits
sobre tot fort li merceia,
above all strongly to-her give-thanks
que sovenga a leis lai
that recall to her there
d'aisso don ieu consir sai.
of-that whereof I ponder here

Bella domna, de vos ai
Fair lady of you I-have
tal dezir e tal enveya,
such desire and such longing
que res de tot lo mon mai
that anything of all the world more
aitan al cor no mi stay.
so-much at-the heart not to-me stays

19 · THE OLD THEME

He must sing on his old theme, since his lady will not welcome him. Her fair eyes betrayed him like a false messenger and set her love in his heart; dressing and undressing, he ponders his harm. He cannot draw away for any ill she makes him suffer, for no lover is true while he can still withdraw. He rejoices to hear her joy and worth praised, and her love undoes every other care. He has suffered so long that he turns from hope, yet a joy won at last would be the better.

De selha razon qu'ieu suelh
Of that theme which-I am-wont
m'er a chantar per usatge,
to-me-it-will-be to sing by custom
pus no m denha ni m'acuelh
since not me deigns nor me-welcomes
ma don'el sieu senhoratge.
my lady-in-the her lordship
Be m trahiron siey belh huelh
Well me betrayed her fair eyes
cum a fals messatge,
as to false messenger
e m'an mes ins el coratge
and me-have put within in-the heart
s'amor don mi duelh.
her-love whence myself I-grieve

Si m fai tort ni m mostr'erguelh,
If me she-does wrong or to-me shows-pride
a mi es greu e salvatge,
to me it-is grievous and wild

pero si l'am e la vuelh
yet so her-I-love and her wish
qu'ieu no m puesc penr'autre guatge;
that-I not myself can to-take-other pledge
quan viest e quan me despuelh,
when I-dress and when myself I-undress
cossir mon dampnatge,
I-ponder my harm
e conosc que gran folhatge
and I-know that great folly
fas quar no m'en tuelh.
I-do for not myself-thence I-take-away

Tolre no m'en puesc per re
To-take-away not myself-thence I-can for anything
per mal qu'elha m fassa traire,
for ill that-she me make to-suffer
e platz mi, sabetz per que?
and pleases to-me know-you for what
Conoissera s'ieu l'am guaire;
She-would-know if-I her-love much
que drutz non er hom ja be,
for lover not will-be man ever well
vertadier amaire,
true lover
tan qu'om s'en puesca estraire
so-long that-one himself-thence can to-withdraw
per neguna re.
for any thing

Aissi m platz per bona fe,
So to-me pleases by good faith
quant aug de mi dons retraire
when I-hear of my lady to-recount
lo joy e'l pretz qu'ilh mante,
the joy and-the worth that-she maintains
ab lieys sui, so m'es veiaire;
with her I-am so to-me-is seeming
e si cossir m'esdeve
and if care to-me-befalls
de nulh autr'afaire,
of any other-affair
s'amor m'o ven tot desfaire;
her-love to-me-it comes all to-undo
veus lo pro que m te.
behold the profit that me holds

Tant n'ai estat engoissos
So-much thereof-I-have been anguished
e sofert pen'e martire
and suffered pain-and torment
e greus trabaills engoissos
and grievous toils anguished
que de l'esperanza m vire.
that from the-hope myself I-turn

Era sivals s'eu en fos
Now at-least if-I thereof were
al dereir jauzire,
at-the last enjoyer
conosc qu'ab pro lo desire:
I-know that-with profit the desire
fo tal jois plus bos.
was such joy more good

Whatever harm love brings, he will keep up joy and song while he lives, though she to whom his heart is drawn will not deign to love him and gives him no good token. He will pray her to remember him; if love does not move her, may mercy constrain her. Her courtesy, cheer, and beauty torment him night and day, and she will either kill him or take pity. He sends the song to her, asking that some mercy enter her heart, since a small good can lighten his great harm.

Per dan qui d'amor m'aveinha
For harm that of-love to-me-comes
non laisserai
not I-shall-leave
que joi e chan no manteinha,
that joy and song — I-maintain
tan quan viurai;
as-long as I-shall-live
e si'n sui en tal esmai
and if-thereof I-am in such dismay
no sai que m deveinha,
not I-know what to-me becomes
quar cil, on mos cors s'atrai,
for she on-whom my heart itself-draws
vei qu'amar no m deinha.
I-see that-to-love not me she-deigns

Neguna bona entreseinha
Any good token
de leis non ai,
from her not I-have

que ja conseilh ni pro m teinha
that ever counsel nor profit to-me may-bold
del mal qu'ieu tray;
of-the ill that-I bear
pero si la preiarai,
yet so her I-shall-pray
que de mi'l soveinha,
that of me-to-her it-recalls
e s'amors no la m'atrai,
and if-love not her for-me-draws
merces la m destreinha.
mercy her for-me may-constrain

Bona donna, si us plazia
Good lady if to-you pleased
fort m'amistatz,
greatly my-friendship
quals miravilha seria,
what wonder it-would-be
si m'amavatz!
if me-you-loved
Mas era quan non vos plaz,
But now when not to-you it-pleases
si jois m'en venia,
if joy to-me-thereof came
conois ben que maier gratz
I-know well that greater thanks
vos en tainheria.
to-you thereof would-befit

La nueg mi trebailh e'l dia
The night me torments and-the day
no m laissa en paz:
not me leaves in peace
tan m'angoiss'el cortezia
so-much me-anguishes-the courtesy
e'l gai solaz
and-the gay cheer
de leis e la gran beutatz.
of her and the great beauty
Ben cug que m'aucia,
Well I-think that me-she-will-kill
o l'en penra pietatz
or her-thereof will-take pity
que plus franca sia.
that more noble she-be

Tant ai en leis mon corage
So-much I-have in her my heart
qu'en als non pes,
that-in else not I-think
ez anc ses talan volage
and ever without desire fickle
n'amet mieilhs res.
not-loved better anyone
Per so m degr'avenir bes,
For that to-me ought-to-come good
e ai en dampnage.
and I-have in harm

Ben volgr'amors si gardes
Well would-wish-love herself guarded
de tan mal usage.
from so ill usage

Chanson, vai, ten dreg viage
Song go hold straight journey
lai ont il es,
there where she is
qu'el mon non ai mais message
for-in-the world not I-have more messenger
que m'amesses;
who me-would-love
e pos del tot mi sui mes
and since of-the whole myself I-am put
el sieu seinhorage,
in-the her lordship
prega li que non agues
pray her that not she-have
ves mi cor volage.
toward me heart fickle

Ay! donna, qualque merces
Ah lady some mercy
vos intr'el corage,
to-you may-enter-the heart
qu'aleviar pot petitz bes
for-to-lighten can small good
lo mieu gran dampnage.
the my great harm

Since diviners, talkers, and slanderers busy themselves with his joy, he needs wit to keep his care secret. He first loved his lady with long desire and effort, and his heart tells him to wait and suffer, trusting love to make amends. At times he hates himself and wishes to turn to another courtship, like a sick man hoping to heal elsewhere, but always comes back here to die. Love should grant itself to a noble heart; he will pray on, and the Dauphin advances in joy and worth.

Pos de mon joy vertadier
Since of my joy true
se fan aitan volentier
themselves make so willingly
devinador e parlier,
diviners and talkers
enoios e lauzengier,
irksome-ones and slanderers
segon la fazenda,
according-to the affair
coven qu'ieu m'entenda,
it-befits that-I myself-aim
que gieinh mi ha mestier,
for wit to-me has need
ab que mi defenda,
with which myself I-defend
que negus non aprenda
so-that any not learn
mon celat cossirier.
my secret care

En mi dons agui primier
On my lady I-had first
l'afan del long dezirier,
the-toil of-the long desire
e ab gran esfortz sobrier
and with great effort extreme
mi tenc que plus non i quier,
myself I-held that more not there I-seek
mas com que m'enprenda,
but however that me-it-seize
mos cors m'a ditz qu'atenda
my heart to-me-has said that-I-wait
e suefra e sufier,
and suffer and suffer
perqu'ieu crei qu'enmenda
for-which-I believe that-amends
m'en fass'amors e m renda
to-me-thereof make-love and to-me render
qualque plazer entier.
some pleasure entire

Tal ves es no m puesc suffrir
Such time is not myself I-can to-suffer
qu'a mi mezeis no m'azir,
that-to me myself not myself-I-hate
e vueilh m'en aitan partir
and I-wish myself-thence so-much to-part
qu'en autre domnei me vir;
that-in other courting myself I-turn

pero si s remuda
yet so himself moves
malautes qu'ades cuda
sick-man who-ever thinks
en autra part garir,
in other part to-heal
mas res no m'ajuda,
but anything not me-helps
anz es locha perduda,
rather is place lost
qu'ades torn sai morir.
for-ever I-turn here to-die

Aitan doussamen dezir,
So-much sweetly I-desire
si pogues esdevenir
if it-could to-happen
qu'amors m'en fezes jauzir
that-love me-thereof made to-enjoy
aissi con la m fes chauzir.
so as her to-me it-made to-choose
Trop l'ai atentuda,
Too-much her-I-have awaited
mas la flam'acenduda
but the flame-kindled
es grieu per amortir;
is grievous for to-quench

tota es venduda
all is sold
l'esperanza e perduda,
the-hope and lost
que m solia esbaudir.
which me was-wont to-gladden

Pero ades mi sove
Yet ever to-me it-recalls
qu'amors deu autreiar se
that-love ought to-grant itself
en franc cor ab bona fe
in noble heart with good faith
miells qu'a negun'autra re,
better than-to any-other thing
e sil on se lansa
and she on-whom itself launches
tota ma deziransa,
all my desire
pos mon cor sap e ve,
since my heart she-knows and sees
no m torn en viltansa;
not me may-she-turn into cheapness
pos tals qual rei de Fransa
since such as king of France
sui pars d'amar be.
I-am equal of-loving well

E pos autre pro no m te,
And since other profit not me holds
pregarai l'ancar de me,
I-shall-pray her-still for me
qu'auzit ai retrair'ancse,
for-heard I-have to-recount-always
que las si ve qui s recre,
that weary himself sees who himself withdraws
e sai ses duptansa
and I-know without doubt
totz temps per usansa,
all time by usage
quant hom troba merce,
when one finds mercy
dobla l'alegransa
doubles the-gladness
e'l joi e'l benanansa
and-the joy and-the well-being
a cel cui esdeve.
to him to-whom it-befalls

Dalfin, ses duptansa
Dauphin without doubt
jois e prez vos enansa
joy and worth you advances
miells qu'amors non fai me.
better than-love — does me

He puts all his wit into a joy that sustains him, and strives to make his song worthy, though he serves love in torment. Love has made him love the fairest, so that he can no more end it than climb to the sky. At night he plans how to beg her mercy, and when he can speak with her he does not know what to say. The proverb that the heart forgets what the eyes do not see is false. He hides his desire with cheer and will wait on her pleasure.

Tot mon engieinh e mon saber
All my wit and my knowledge
ay mes en un joi qui m soste;
I-have put in a joy which me sustains
quan mi remembra ni m sove,
when to-me it-recalls or to-me comes-to-mind
quan bona donna m fai chantar,
when good lady me makes to-sing
adoncs mi deuria esforsar,
then myself I-ought to-strive
con pogues far mon chant valer,
how I-could to-make my song to-be-worth
si ben trac grieu martire
though well I-bear grievous torment
d'amor, cui soi servire.
of-love whose I-am servant

Amors m'a si en son poder,
Love me-has so in its power
e m'a fach comensar tal re,
and me-has made to-begin such thing

qu'ieu non puesc a mal ni a be
that-I not can to ill nor to good
trair'a cap plus qu'al cel montar,
to-draw-to end more than-to-the sky to-climb
quar la gensor mi fai amar.
for the fairest me makes to-love
Garas si m deuria escazer,
Behold if to-me it-ought to-befall
qu'ieu l'am tant e dezire
for-I her-love so-much and desire
qu'ailhors mon cor non vire.
that-elsewhere my heart not I-turn

La nueg, quant ieu m'en vauc jazer,
The night when I myself-thence go to-lie
e'l jorn manta ves s'esdeve
and-the day many times it-happens
cossir con li clames merce,
I-ponder how to-her I-might-beg mercy
quan poiria ab leis parlar,
when I-could with her to-speak
adoncs o sai ieu be pensar,
then it know I well to-think
e'ls motz cossirar e vezer,
and-the words to-ponder and to-see
e ma razon assire,
and my argument to-set
e lai no sai que dire.
and there not I-know what to-say

Le reprochiers non dis ges ver,
The proverb not says at-all true
que cors oblida qu'ueilhs non ve,
that heart forgets what-eyes not see
ans ha ben failhit endreg me,
rather has well failed toward me
qu'ieu non la puesc ges oblidar,
for-I not her can at-all to-forget
la bella, qu'ieu non cug pregar,
the fair-one whom-I not I-think to-pray
tan tem failhir al sieu voler,
so-much I-fear to-fail at-the her will
per qu'ieu planc e sospire,
for which-I lament and sigh
qu'amors mi vol aucire.
for-love me wishes to-kill

Ieu l'am mais que non faz parer,
I her-love more than — I-make to-appear
e parli mais que no s cove,
and I-speak more than — itself befits
e vueilh que m'aucizas dese,
and I-wish that me-you-kill at-once
si jamais m'en auses parlar,
if ever myself-thereof I-dared to-speak
ni ja vueilh semblar devinar,
nor ever I-wish to-seem to-divine
tan sai mon cubert tener,
so-much I-know my covered to-hold

e celar mon dezire
and to-conceal my desire
ab solatz e ab rire.
with cheer and with laughter

Aylas! s'ieu cuiav'aver
Alas if-I thought-to-have
qualque pro en ma bona fe!
some profit in my good faith
On plus sui desesperatz, cre
Where more I-am despairing I-believe
que merces mi puesc'ajudar,
that mercy me can-to-help
aras no me sai conseilhar,
now not myself I-know to-counsel
mas atendrai lo sieu plazer.
but I-shall-await the her pleasure
Grieu er d'amor jauzire
Grievous will-be of-love enjoyer
qui non es francs sufrire.
who not is noble endurer

El vers n'aten a dire
The vers thereof-awaits to say
s'es qui be'l sapcha dire.
if-there-is who well-it knows to-say

23 · LIKE THE SUN ON CRYSTAL

He has always fed on cheer and song, and his lady's good covenants make his song gay. From the first sight his heart stayed with her, and her friendship gladdens him, though her distance grieves him. As the sun striking cold crystal kindles fire, a burning fire is born against him. Love's sufferings always hold some goods, and lovers reconciled after anger find new joy, but he wants no foolish anger. He will always be hers, and recalls how fair, sweet, and worthy she is.

Totz temps me pac de solatz e de chan,
All time myself I-fed on cheer and on song
que n'agues dos mestiers gais e cortes
for thereof-I-had two trades gay and courtly
ai tot mon geing e mon coratge mes,
I-have all my wit and my heart put
e pois c'amors ab douz plasers s'enansa,
and since love with sweet pleasures itself-advances
ben deu esser mos chanz gais e valenz,
well ought to-be my song gay and worthy
pois ma dompna m'a faig tans bos covenz,
since my lady to-me-has made so-many good covenants
per qu'a totz jornz viu bon'esperanza.
for which-at all days lives good-hope

Quant en premer la vi, me plac aitan,
When at first her I-saw to-me she-pleased so-much
que de mon cor retener non puec ges:
that of my heart to-retain not I-could at-all
totz fo ab leis et ancaras i es;
all it-was with her and still there it-is
mout i trobei amorosa acoindansa
much there I-found loving acquaintance
e cortes ditz e bels enseingnamenz,
and courtly sayings and fair breedings
e si ben sui per s'amistatz jausenz,
and though well I-am through her-friendship joyful
car m'es de loing n'ai dolor e pesansa.
because to-me-she-is from far thereof-I-have grief and sorrow

Qui vol aver amor ab meins d'afan,
Who wishes to-have love with less of-toil
aisi s gardes francamen e s tengues
thus himself should-guard frankly and himself should-hold
que tort ni mal ni enui non feses.
that wrong nor ill nor vexation not he-should-do
Si col soleils, qu'el frei cristal s'eslansa,
So as-the sun that-at-the cold crystal itself-darts
de tal guissa encontra m nais fuocs ardens.
in such wise against me is-born fire burning
Atresi es amors piegers turmens,
Likewise is love worse torment
puois que i ajut ira e malestansa.
since that there help grief and ill-being

Mal traic d'amor no seran ja tan gran
The sufferings of-love not will-be ever so great
qu'entr'aquels mals non estei qualsque bes,
that-among-those ills not stand some goods
qu'estiers non cre qu'om sofrir los pogues,
for-otherwise not I-believe that-one to-suffer them could
pois, quant s'ave om n'a gran benanansa,
since when it-befalls one thereof-has great well-being
ja non er tan segura ni plasens
ever not will-be so secure nor pleasing
que non aia d'angoissos pensamens,
that not it-have of-anguished thoughts
que destreinnon lo joi e l'alegransa.
which constrain the joy and the-gladness

Mas enpero, quant se son dui aman
But however when themselves are two lovers
fort adirat e que n'an grans mals pres,
greatly angered and that thereof-have great ills taken
quant franquesa los plaideia e merces,
when nobility them pleads-for and mercy
mout es pois bon'e dousa l'acoindansa,
much is then good-and sweet the-acquaintance
qu'adoncs lor creis novels esjausimens;
for-then to-them grows new rejoicing
mas ieu non voill que fol adiramens
but I not wish that foolish anger
mon cor segur torn en aital balansa.
my heart secure turn into such balance

Totz temps aurai vas midons bon talan,
All time I-shall-have toward my-lady good desire
e serai sieus francamen qui que pes;
and shall-be hers frankly who ever weighs
aiso non po tolre neguna res.
this not can to-take any thing
Soven recort sos faitz e sa semblansa,
Often I-recall her deeds and her seeming
cum ill es bella e pros et avinens,
how she is fair and worthy and comely
e cum es dous'e gaia e plasens,
and how she-is sweet-and gay and pleasing
e cum sos pretz creis e pueia e l'enansa.
and how her worth grows and climbs and her-advances

He makes a new little tune only because it pleases the upright, for neither humility nor worth avails him with his lady. He has suffered two years in despair, a true lover unloved, yet will love nowhere else, since she is mirror and flower of the best. Love holds him dear but gives him little help, except the honor of keeping him. He loves her more than he will say and will bear his ill; the song goes to tell her that she is killing him.

Un sonet novel fatz
A little-tune new I-make
per joy e per solatz,
for joy and for cheer
e non es ges mos gratz
and not is at-all my will
mas quar als adregz platz,
but because to-the upright it-pleases
que, si no fos blasmatz,
for if not I-were blamed
non chantera mais re,
not I-would-sing more anything
pus vey qu'umilitatz
since I-see that-humility
ni pretz ni amistatz
nor worth nor friendship
ab mi dons pro no m te.
with my lady profit not to-me holds

Grans mals n'ai sofertatz
Great ills thereof-I-have suffered
fis amans non amatz.
true lover not loved
A las horas ai patz,
At the times I-have peace
maynhtas vetz sui iratz,
many times I-am angered
ben son apoderatz,
well they-are overpowering
qu'estat n'ai, per ma fe,
for-been thereof-I-have by my faith
cum hom desesperatz,
as man despairing
ben a dos ans passatz,
well has two years passed
e ges no m'en recre.
and at-all not myself-thence I-withdraw

Ges segon los pluzors
At-all according-to the most
fenhens galiadors
feigning deceivers
non amarai alhors,
not I-shall-love elsewhere
sia sens o folhors:
be-it sense or folly

tant es grans sa valors
so-much is great her merit
e'l beutatz qu'a ab se,
and-the beauty that-she-has with herself
qu'ilh es miralhs e flors
for-she is mirror and flower
de totas las melhors
of all the best
al jutjamen de me.
at-the judgment of me

Mout mi ten car amors
Much me holds dear love
els guazardos aussors,
in-the rewards higher
mas pro m dona dolors,
but enough to-me gives griefs
pauc mi fai de socors
little to-me does of succor
e d'ajud'e de be
and of-help-and of good
meyns qu'a totz amadors,
less than-to all lovers
estiers quar m'es honors
except because to-me-it-is honor
qu'ades mi te ab se.
that-ever me it-holds with itself

Domna cueynhd'ab cors guay,
Lady comely-with person gay
on joys e pretz estay
where joy and worth stays
mais qu'ieu no dic ni sai,
more than-I — say nor know
vos am mais que us dirai,
you I-love more than to-you I-shall-say
mas autre pro non ai,
but other profit not I-have
a suffrir me cove,
to suffer to-me befits
doncs me conortarai
then myself I-shall-comfort
en aissi cum poirai
in thus as I-shall-be-able
ab lo mal que m'en ve.
with the ill that to-me-thereof comes

Chanson, quant seras lai,
Song when thou-shalt-be there
mon cossir li retrai,
my care to-her recount
e di li, per que m fai
and say to-her for what me she-makes
morir en tal esmay,
to-die in such dismay
pueys te comandarai,
then thee I-shall-command

si s'azauta de me,
if herself-pleases of me
tro ins el cor li vay,
until within in-the heart to-her go
qu'adoncs hi trobarai
for-then there I-shall-find
ben leu mais de merce.
well easily more of mercy

A tenso: Peirol asks the Dauphin whether a worthy lover loves his lady more after she has granted him her love or before. The Dauphin says love grows with enjoyment. Peirol answers that a lover burns only until he has his joy, and then desire stops; the Dauphin cites Tristan, who died loving Iseut, and Peirol replies that Brangaine's potion did that. The Dauphin accuses him of covering falsehood; Peirol advises a lover who loves less at least to seem to, and is told he judges loyal lovers by his own roguish heart.

Dalfin, sabriatz mi vos
Dauphin would-you-know to-me you
mostrar razon ab la men,
to-show reason with the mind
quand ha a pro dompna valen
when has a worthy lady worthy
drutz cortes e pros,
lover courtly and worthy
cora s'eschai
when itself-befits
que l'am mais ab cor verai,
that her-he-love more with heart true
quant lo ha fait o enan?
when it he-has done or before
Digatz m'en vostre semblan.
Tell me-thereof your seeming

Peirol, leus m'es lo respos,
Peirol light to-me-is the answer
quar ben sai certanamen,
for well I-know certainly
qu'amistatz per jauzimen
that-friendship by enjoyment
creis, et es razos,
grows and it-is reason
que maior jai
that greater joy
a drutz, pois si donz o fai;
has lover since his lady it does
e'l grans jois, qu'es ses engan,
and-the great joy which-is without deceit
fai ades l'amor plus gran.
makes ever the-love more great

Dalfin, ben sai e conos
Dauphin well I-know and know
qu'om, pois ama finamen,
that-one since he-loves truly
mor ades tro que'l joi pren,
dies ever until that-the joy he-takes
don plus es coitos,
whereof most he-is eager
e pois estai
and then stays
lo desirs, c'outra non vai,
the desire that-beyond not goes

non cre de negun aman
not I-believe of any lover
que puois am ab fin talan.
that then he-love with true desire

Peirol, aiso metetz jos
Peirol this put down
qu'aprop l'afaire plazen
for-after the-affair pleasing
trob om fin aman soven
finds one true lover often
mout plus voluntos,
much more willing
c'amors atrai
for-love draws
ab lo joi un gran esmai,
with the joy a great dismay
e menbre vos de Tristan,
and may-it-remind you of Tristan
c'ab Yseut moric aman.
who-with Iseut died loving

Dalfin, vers es que ill poizos,
Dauphin true it-is that the potion
que lor det beure Bragen,
which to-them gave to-drink Brangaine

l'amet per deschausimen
her-loved by unmannerliness
e'l fetz angoissos,
and-him made anguished
mas de mi sai
but of me I-know
qu'ocaisonatz en serai,
that-blamed thereof I-shall-be
e ben leu aurai mi dan,
and well easily I-shall-have my harm
quar manteing mi razon tan.
because I-maintain my reason so-much

Peirol, remaingna'l tenzos,
Peirol let-remain-the tenso
car vos o faitz ben parven
for you it make well apparent
qu'anatz falsetat cobren,
that-you-go falsehood covering
datz vos ochaios.
you-give yourself pretexts
Ja non creirai
Ever not I-shall-believe
que drutz cortes non am mai
that lover courtly not love more
si donz, pois no vai gardan
his lady since not goes guarding
vas leis de ren que ill deman.
toward her of anything that to-her he-asks

Dalfin, non sai,
Dauphin not I-know
mas bon conseill vos darai,
but good counsel to-you I-shall-give
que si tot non l'ama tan,
that if all not her-he-loves so-much
sivals fasa'n lo semblan.
at-least let-him-make-thereof the seeming

Peirol, ben sai,
Peirol well I-know
e tant conogut vos ai,
and so-much known you I-have
que'lz leials anatz jutgan
that-the loyal you-go judging
segon vostre cor truan.
according-to your heart roguish

26 · EASY OR HARD

A tenso: Peirol asks his lord which of two worthy ladies he would take, one his easily and in peace, the other hard, late, and after much watching. The lord says a lover too much at ease is no true lover, and prefers the one won with wit and art. Peirol answers with the rain, wind, and cold the waiting friend stands in, only to go home angry. The lord says the lover who outwits the jealous feels richer than a king or emperor. Peirol would rather have ease, and the lord ends that he prefers pain without good to good without pain.

Senher, qual penrias vos
Lord which would-take you
de doas donas valens,
of two ladies worthy
on renha jois e jovens,
where reigns joy and youth
e gais semblans amoros?
and gay seeming loving
L'un'auretz, si us platz,
The-one-you-will-have if to-you it-pleases
tot leu et em patz,
all easily and in peace
cueinda, de bon aire,
comely of good breeding
e l'autra greu e tart,
and the-other hard and late
et ab gran regart,
and with great watching
e er vos en maltraire.
and it-will-be to-you thereof suffering

Perol, si tot soi coitos
Peirol if all I-am eager
d'aize ni de jauzimens ...
of-ease and of enjoyments …
deu me faillir ma razos
ought to-me to-fail my reason
drutz trop aizinatz
lover too-much eased
s'es de mi amatz,
if-be-is by me loved
perqu'ieu fis amaire
for-which-I true lover
n'am mais a ma part
thereof-love more at my part
ab genh et ab art ...
with wit and with art …

Senher, trop seria bos
Lord too-much would-be good
lo vostre razonamens,
the your reasoning
mas quan chai la plueg'e'l vens,
but when falls the rain-and-the wind
e'l freitz destrenh los boisos,
and-the cold constrains the bushes

e l'amicx aten
and the-friend waits
a son parlamen
at his parley
so que fai afaire,
that which does the-affair
ben conosc e cre,
well I-know and believe
si desenans en ve,
if before thereof he-comes
qu'iratz s'en repaire.
that-angered himself-thence he-returns

Perol, si drutz enginhos,
Peirol if lover ingenious
ben esperans e sufrens
well hoping and enduring
fai tan c'a sa guiza vens
does so-much that-at his wise he-overcomes
lo fol agait dels gelos,
the foolish watch of-the jealous
adonx es aders,
then is-he attached
quant ha sos volers,
when he-has his wishes

que no ill es veiaire
that not to-him is seeming
c'aia tan d'onor
that-may-have so-much of-honor
e tan de ricor
and so-much of wealth
reis ni emperaire.
king nor emperor

Senher, per ma fe,
Lord by my faith
mas amera be
more I-would-love well
que tostems maltraire.
than always suffering

Perol, anc jase
Peirol ever always
mais n'am mal ses be
more thereof-I-love ill without good
que be ses maltraire.
than good without suffering

27 · ALL NIGHT OR ONCE

A tenso: Peirol asks Gaucelm which lover has more pleasure, one who lies a whole night with his lady without making love, or one who comes to a meeting with leisure only to do it once and leave. Gaucelm says lying all night holds a hundred pleasures and twice the joy. Peirol calls such a night a torment greater than any sinner's in hell. Gaucelm says the lover who fears it is not loyal; Peirol answers that without the deed the other pleasures are undone, while a brief stolen joy lasts long.

Gauselmz, digas m'al vostre sen,
Gaucelm tell me-at-the your sense
quals drutz ha mais de son plazer,
which lover has more of his pleasure
cel qu'ab sa bona donna jai
he who-with his good lady lies
tot'una nueg e no lo'l fai,
all-one night and not it-to-her does
o cel que ven a parlamen,
or he who comes to parley
e no i ha lezer gaire
and not there has leisure much
mas que d'una vez faire,
but than of-one time to-do
e aqui mezeis torna s'en.
and there same turns himself-thence

Peirols, al mieu conoissemen,
Peirol to-the my knowledge
cel, que i pot tota nueg jazer,
he who there can all night to-lie

deu aver dos aitans de jai
ought to-have two so-much of joy
que cel, qu'o fai e pueis s'en vai;
than he who-it does and then himself-thence goes
que'l jazer ha plazers tals cen
for-the lying has pleasures such hundred
que, qui be'ls jau, sap traire,
that who well-them enjoys knows to-draw
quecs val mais, s'es amaire,
each is-worth more if-he-is lover
que'l far qu'om en tal cocha pren.
than-the doing that-one in such haste takes

Gauselm, be ha gran espaven
Gaucelm well has great fright
aquel qu'es en autrui poder,
that-one who-is in other's power
que per tot'una nueg y jai
who for all-one night there lies
de lonc cella que plus li plai,
of along her who most to-him pleases
e non pot aver son talen,
and not can to-have his desire
ni sa voluntat faire;
nor his will to-do
non hac negus pecaire
not had any sinner
enz enfern anc maior turmen.
in hell ever greater torment

Peirols, non vos razonatz gen,
Peirol not yourself you-plead nobly
sal que d'amor non fas parer,
save that of-love not you-make to-appear
que sapchatz tan con ieu en sai,
that you-know so-much as I thereof know
dizes qu'om a si dons maltrai
you-say that-one with his lady suffers
abrassan e baissan soven:
embracing and kissing often
segon lo mieu veiaire
according-to the my seeming
non es leials amaire
not is loyal lover
cui tals amors fai espaven.
whom such love makes fright

Gauselm, aqui non ha conten,
Gaucelm there not there-is dispute
qu'adreg lo poscatz mantener,
that-rightly it you-can to-maintain
si'l faires no i es, quan s'eschai,
if-the doing not there is when itself-befits
totz los autres plazers desfai,
all the other pleasures it-undoes

e qui receup son joi breumen
and who received his joy briefly
enanz que'l jorns repaire,
before that-the day return
le brieus jois, don es laire,
the brief joy whereof he-is thief
li dura pueissas longamen.
to-him lasts afterward long

Great gladness guides him to show his joy, whoever may grieve. Love used to be wild and warlike toward him; now it flatters him above all lovers and, with little prayer, has given him noble succor, so that all the year is spring and he lives among flowers. He knows no fairer lady as far as Frisia, envies no lover, and has not been so gay in seven years. Whoever wants worth should serve and wait without despair. He sends word to the Auvergnats that his beloved holds him here.

La gran alegransa
The great gladness
e l'esjauzimen,
and the-rejoicing
que m gui'e m'enansa
which me guides-and me-advances
de faire parven,
of making show
quals qu'aia pesansa
whoever that-may-have sorrow
ni mal pensamen;
or ill thought
me vai ses doptansa
to-me goes without doubt
d'amor ben e gen;
of-love well and nobly
qu'eu n'ai tan
for-I thereof-have so-much
de bon talan,
of good desire

e n'estau soven
and thereof-I-stand often
que non au ni sen.
that not I-hear nor feel

D'estreingna maneira
Of-strange manner
sol esser amors,
was-wont to-be love
salvaia e guerreira
wild and warlike
e mala totz jors.
and ill all days
Er m'es lausengiera
Now to-me-it-is flatterer
sus totz amadors:
above all lovers
a pauc de preiera
with little of prayer
m'a fait gen socors;
me-it-has made noble succor
qu'eu n'ai tan
for-I thereof-have so-much
de mon talan,
of my desire
totz l'an m'es pascors,
all the-year to-me-is spring
e sui entre flors.
and I-am among flowers

Eu ai m'amor misa
I have my-love put
en tal, fe que us dei,
in such by-the-faith that to-you I-owe
non cuit tro en Frisa
not I-think up-to in Frisia
que gensers estei.
that fairer be
Tant es ben asisa
So-much is well set
l'amors, cui m'autrei,
the-love to-whom myself-I-grant
tot va a ma guisa,
all goes at my wise
quant aug ni quant vei;
whatever I-hear or whatever I-see
qu'eu n'ai tan
for-I thereof-have so-much
de mon talan
of my desire
que, fe que vos dei,
that by-the-faith that to-you I-owe
nuill drut non envei.
any lover not I-envy

Mos jois senz faitura,
My joy without counterfeit
entiers e verais,
entire and true

enansa e meillura
advances and improves
a totz jorns e nais;
at all days and is-born
tant es fin'e pura
so-much is-it fine-and pure
l'amors, on m'apais,
the-love where myself-I-feed
que ben m'a segura,
that well me-it-has assured
e m tol totz esmais;
and from-me takes all dismays
eu non ac tan
I not had so-much
de mon talan,
of my desire
ni non fui tant gais
nor not I-was so gay
set anz a e mais.
seven years has-it and more

En amor s'entenda
In love let-him-aim
qui pretz vol aver,
who worth wishes to-have
ja per mal que senta
ever for ill that he-feel
no s'en deu mover,
not himself-thence ought to-move

mas serva et atenda,
but let-him-serve and let-him-wait
sol no s desesper:
only not himself let-him-despair
n'aura bon'esmenda …
thereof-he-will-have good-amends …
qu'ieu n'ai tan
for-I thereof-have so-much
de mon talan
of my desire
e de mon plazer
and of my pleasure
que'l rei cuit valer.
that-the king I-think to-be-worth

Chansos, ten ta via
Song hold thy way
ves los Alvernatz,
toward the Auvergnats
de me non an mia,
of me not they-have at-all
so lor mi digatz;
this to-them for-me tell

que ill grans cortesia
that the great courtesy
e'l fina beutatz
and-the true beauty
e'l jois de m'amia
and-the joy of my-beloved
mas sai pres el latz;
me-have here caught in-the snare
qu'eu n'ai tan
for-I thereof-have so-much
de mon talan
of my desire
qu'en joi et en patz
that-in joy and in peace
am e sui amatz.
I-love and am loved

De mon chan
Of my song
voill ab tan
I-wish with so-much
que sia finatz,
that it-be finished
e chanto'l cui platz.
and let-him-sing-it whom it-pleases

29 · JOY AMID THE ICE

Kept long from joy and song, he finds gladness restored amid the snow and ice, and will show himself joyful when he is so and grieve when ill befalls him, for it is base to feign. To whom true joy is given, cheer should grow; a feigner without knowledge wants as much joy as the most courtly. He begs his true joy not to let him lose her through a felon slanderer, for he could love nothing as he loves her, and asks her not to believe those who destroy their own.

Car m'era de joi lunhatz,
Because I-was from joy distanced
ai estat lonja sazo
I-have been long season
de joi e de far chanso;
from joy and from making song
may entre la neu e'l glatz
but among the snow and-the ice
restaura l'alegransa joc,
restores the-gladness game
e s'ieu ai joi ni plazer,
and if-I have joy or pleasure
non crey que m denhes tener
not I-believe that me I-should-deign to-hold
que no m fassa semblan jauzen e gai,
that not me I-make seeming joyful and gay
car atressi m marrisc, can mal m'estai.
for likewise myself I-grieve when ill to-me-it-stands

Car a mi par malvestatz,
For to me it-seems baseness
ja sia c'om s'en razon,
though be-it that-one himself-thereof excuse
de calacom occaizon
by some occasion
d'esser jauzen o iratz.
of-being joyful or angered
S'usquecx no m par per son loc,
If-each not to-me seems by his place
e s'al loc no m fai parer,
and if-at-the place not me he-makes to-appear
si ja a son bo saber,
if ever to his good knowing
es contra sel cui a tort de l'esmai,
he-is against him to-whom by wrong of-the dismay
per non chalen lo tenc e per savai.
for not caring him I-hold and for base

A cui fis jois es donatz,
To whom true joy is given
francx e de bela fayso,
noble and of fair fashion
ab fin cor plazen e bo,
with true heart pleasing and good
tanh qu'en cresca solatz,
befits that-thereof grow cheer
e dire us per que us o moc,
and to-say to-you for what to-you it I-move

c'us fenhemens ses saber
for-a feigning without knowledge
vol aitan de joi aver,
wishes so-much of joy to-have
co'l pus cortes; esgardatz, si s'eschai,
as-the most courtly consider if itself-befits
que petitz val adziramens ab jai.
for little is-worth anger with joy

Fis jois valens e prezatz
True joy worthy and prized
s'ieu per lauzengier felon
if-I through slanderer félon
perc per bon'entension,
I-lose through good-intention
mot vos sera grans peccatz,
much to-you will-be great sin
c'anc res tan amar non poc
for-ever anything so-much to-love not I-could
can vos, on ai mon esper,
as you in-whom I-have my hope
doncx no us fass'erguelh voler
then not to-you make-pride to-will
ni lauzengiers cabals non crezatz may
nor slanderers chief not believe more
que destru'ls sieus e qui'ls ders merce fai.
who destroy-the his-own and who-them raises mercy does

He will not praise his own song; if it pleases, the thanks are Love's, which guides him though it gives him toil. His lady received his homage and honored him beyond his worth, but now he fears she will forget and scorn him. He will suffer rather than turn elsewhere. He was high and now goes lower, like a man who dreams of joy and wakes with nothing, and will trust no fair seeming. A lover must never show that his lady grieves him, and long hope avails nothing in love.

Eu non lauderai ja mon chan,
I not shall-praise ever my song
mas se us agrada ni bons es,
but if to-you it-pleases or good it-is
l'amors, qui m'a el seu coman,
the-love which me-has in-the its command
en sapchatz grat, qu'a mi non ges,
thereof know thanks for-to me not at-all
quar amors me guida e m'enansa,
for love me guides and me-advances
se ben da trabaill e pesansa,
though well it-gives toil and sorrow
e viu jauzen, quan mor aman.
and I-live joyful when I-die loving

Mi don per sa franchesa gran
My lady by her nobility great
plac e receup mon omenes,
was-pleased and received my homage
e m'onret e m dis e m fes tan,
and me-honored and to-me said and to-me did so-much
qu'eu no cuidei com me valgues,
that-I not thought as to-me it-availed
mais er ai paur e doptansa,
but now I-have fear and doubt
que per non cur o per viltansa
that by not caring or by cheapness
m'oblid e me torn en soan.
me-she-forget and me turn into scorn

Sofrir m'er la pen'e l'affan
To-suffer to-me-it-will-be the pain-and the-toil
tot temps, non pas dos jors ni tres,
all time not at-all two days nor three
anz que vaua aillors viran,
rather than I-go elsewhere turning
que mal me sembrera altre bes,
for ill to-me would-seem other good
que de vos, dompna, ai desiransa,
for of you lady I-have desire
que m donez joi et alegransa;
that to-me you-give joy and gladness
conseill el mon plus no deman.
counsel in-the world more not I-ask

Alt fui, e vei quar vai bassan,
High I-was and I-see for it-goes lowering
e pois dir qu'en aissi m'es pres
and I-can to-say that-in thus to-me-it-is taken
com selui, qui s vai joi sognan,
as to-him who himself goes joy dreaming
e, quan resida, non a res;
and when he-awakes not has anything
o no querrai eu mais fidansa
or not shall-seek I more trust
en neguna bella semblansa,
in any fair seeming
pois en aquesta trob enjan?
since in this I-find deceit

Trop dic, non pois mais, que mort m'an
Too-much I-say not I-can more for dead me-have
atendres e malas merces;
waiting and ill mercies
que farai doncs deserenan?
what shall-I-do then henceforth
Partirai m'en? Oc, s'ieu pogues.
Shall-I-part myself-thence Yes if-I could
Mas mentre m'estauc en balansa,
But while myself-I-stay in balance
si m desloigna desesperansa,
if me distances despair
amors pro n'agra ab aitan.
love profit thereof-would-have with so-much

Ja drutz no cognosca son dan,
Ever lover not may-know his harm
s'esser vol savis ni cortes,
if-to-be he-wishes wise or courtly
ni faza parer ni trian
nor may-he-make to-appear nor choosing
que ren contra si don li pes;
that anything against his lady to-him weighs
qu'aisel enquer sa malenansa
for-that-one seeks his misfortune
qui per orgoill cuida venjansa
who through pride thinks vengeance
penre aqui on om no l blan.
to-take there where one not him courts

Dompna, ren no val ni enansa
Lady anything not is-worth nor advances
en amor trop longa esperansa:
in love too-much long hope
qui ama far en deu semblan.
who loves to-do thereof ought seeming

GAUCELM FAIDIT

The Life and Songs

THE LIFE OF GAUCELM FAIDIT

Gaucelm Faidit, a burgher's son of Uzerche, sang badly but made good songs. He became a jongleur after losing everything at dice, and for over twenty years his songs were unwanted, until Bonifaci of Montferrat raised him. He loved Maria of Ventadorn seven years without reward. At her request Audiart of Malemort lured him away with the bird in the hand, then refused him, and Maria would not forgive him. Later Maria Garida of Aubusson took his suit for the worth he gave her, but she lay with Uc de la Signa in Gaucelm's house, and he made his last song in grief.

Gaucelms Faidit si fo d'un borc que a nom Uzercha,
Gaucelm Faidit thus was of-a town that has name Uzerche
qu'es en l'avescat de Lemozi. Fils fo d'un borzes: e
which-is in the-bishopric of Limousin Son he-was of-a burgher and
cantava piegz d'ome del mon, e fes mot bos sos e
he-sang worse than-man of-the world and made very good tunes and
bonas cansos. E fes se joglar per ochaison qu'el
good songs And he-made himself jongleur by occasion that-he
perdet tot son aver a joc de datz. Hom fo mot larcs
lost all his wealth at game of dice Man he-was very generous
e mot glotz de manjar e de beure, per que en devenc
and very greedy of eating and of drinking for which thereof he-became
gros otra mesura. Mot fon lonc temps desastrucs de dos
fat beyond measure Very was-he long time unlucky of gifts
e d'onor a penre, que plus de XX. ans anet per lo
and of-honor to take for more than twenty years he-went through the
mon qu'el ni sas cansos no foro grazitz ni volgutz. E
world that-he nor his songs not were welcomed nor wanted And
pres per molher una soudadeira que menet ab si lonc
he-took for wife a soldier-woman whom he-led with himself long

temps per cortz, que avia nom Guilhelma Monja. Fort
time through courts who had name Guilhelma Monja Very
fo bella et ensenhada: et esdevenc si grossa e grassa
was-she fair and well-taught and became so big and fat
com era el. Ella fo d'un ric borc que a nom Alest, de la
as was he She was of-a rich town that has name Alès of the
marca de Proensa, de la seingnoria d'EN Bernart d'Anduza.
march of Provence of the lordship of-Sir Bernart of-Anduze
E messier Bonifassi, marques de Monferrat, mes lo en
And messer Bonifaci marquis of Montferrat put him in
aver et en raubas et en arnes et en gran pres lui e sas
wealth and in robes and in harness and in great worth him and his
cansos. — Vos avetz auzit qui fon Gaucelms Faidit, ni com
songs You have heard who was Gaucelm Faidit and how
venc ni estet. Mas el ac tan de cor que se enamoret
he-came and stayed But he had so-much of heart that himself he-enamored
de ma dona Maria de Ventadorn, de la meillor domna e
of my lady Maria of Ventadorn of the best lady and
de la plus avinens que fos en aquela sazo, e d'ela fazia
of the most comely that was in that season and of-her he-made
sas cansos. E la pregava en cantan, et en cantan prezicava
his songs And her he-prayed in singing and in singing he-preached
e lauzava sa gran valor: et ela lo sufria per lo pretz que
and praised her great merit and she him suffered for the worth that
li donava. Et en aissi duret lur amor be sept ans, que
to-her he-gave And in thus lasted their love well seven years that
anc non ac plazer en dreg d'amor. E si venc un dia
ever not he-had pleasure in right of-love And thus came one day
EN Gaucelm denan sa dona, e dis li o ela'l faria
Sir Gaucelm before his lady and said to-her either she-to-him would-do

plazer en dreg d'amor, o ela lo perdria, e serquaria dona
pleasure in right of-love or she him would-lose and he-would-seek lady
don li venria gran be d'amor. E pres comjat d'ela
whence to-him would-come great good of-love And he-took leave of-her
iradamen. E ma dona NA Maria mandet per una dona
angrily And my lady Lady Maria sent for a lady
que avia nom ma dona Audiart de Malamort, que era bela
who had name my lady Audiart of Malemort who was fair
e gentil, e dis li tot lo fag d'EN Gaucelm e de si;
and noble and told her all the deed of-Sir Gaucelm and of herself
e que la degues cosselhar co respondera a'N Gaucelm,
and that her she-should to-counsel how she-should-answer to-Sir Gaucelm
ni col poiria retener ses far amor a lui. Et ela dis
and how-him she-could to-retain without making love to him And she said
que no la cosselharia del laisar ni del retener; mas ela'l
that not her she-would-counsel of-the leaving nor of-the retaining but she-him
faria partir de s'amor que no s'en rancuraria ni
would-make to-part from her-love so-that not himself-thereof he-would-complain nor
seria sos enemicx. E ma dona NA Maria fo molt alegra
would-be her enemy And my lady Lady Maria was much glad
cant auzi aisso, e preguet li mot que o complis. Ma
when she-heard this and prayed her much that it she-should-fulfill My
dona N'Audiartz s'en anet; e pres un messatge cortes,
lady Lady-Audiart herself-thence went and took a messenger courtly
e mandet dizen a'N Gaucelm que ames may un petit
and sent saying to-Sir Gaucelm that he-should-love more a little
auzel el punh que una grua volan el cel. Gaucelm,
bird in-the fist than a crane flying in-the sky Gaucelm
cant auzi aquel man, montet a caval et anet s'en
when he-heard that message mounted on horse and went himself-thence

a ma dona N'Audiart; et ela'l receup mot amorozamen.
to my lady Lady-Audiart and she-him received very lovingly
Et el li demandet per que ela li avia mandat del
And he of-her asked for what she to-him had sent of-the
pauc auzel e de la grua. Et ela'l dis que mot avia
little bird and of the crane And she-to-him said that much she-had
gran piatat de lui, car savia que el amava e non era
great pity of him for she-knew that he loved and not was
amat: „Mas car l'avetz montat son pretz, e sapiatz
loved But because her-you-have raised her worth and know
qu'ela es la grua; et ieu soi lo petit auzel que vos tenetz
that-she is the crane and I am the little bird that you hold
el punh, per far e per dir totz vostres comans. E
in-the fist for to-do and for to-say all your commands And
sabes be que ieu soi gentils et auta de riqueza, e jove
you-know well that I am noble and high of wealth and young
d'ans, e si dis hom que ieu soi fort bela. Et ancmais no
of-years and thus says one that I am very fair And ever-yet not
dei ni promis, ni enganiei ni fui enganada; et ai gran
I-gave nor promised nor deceived nor was deceived and I-have great
voluntat de valer e de esser amada, per tal que ieu
will of being-worth and of being loved for such that I
gazanh pretz e lauzor. E sai que vos etz cel per cui o
win worth and praise And I-know that you are he by whom it
puesc tot aver; et ieu sui cela que o puesc tot gazardonar.
I-can all to-have and I am she who it can all to-reward
E vuelh vos per amador; e fas vos don de mi e de
And I-wish you for lover and I-make you gift of me and of
m'amor, ab tals covens que vos prengas comjat de ma dona
my-love with such covenants that you take leave of my lady

Maria; e que fassatz una canso rancuran d'ela cortezamen,
Maria and that you-make a song complaining of-her courteously
e digas, que pus no vol segre autra via, que vos aves
and say that since not she-wishes to-follow other way for you have
trobada autra dona, franca e gentil, que vos amara." E
found other lady noble and gentle who you will-love And
can Gaucelms auzi los plazers plazens que'l dizia, e ves
when Gaucelm heard the pleasures pleasing that-to-him she-said and saw
los amoros semblans que'l mostrava e'ls precs que'l
the loving seemings that-to-him she-showed and-the prayers that-to-him
fazia, e car era tan bela, fo sobrepres d'amor que
she-made and because she-was so fair he-was overtaken by-love so-that
no saup on se fon. E can fo reconogut, et el
not he-knew where himself he-was And when he-was recovered and he
li redet grans gracias aitan com poc ni saup, com
to-her rendered great thanks as-much as he-could or knew how
fera tot so qu'ela li comandaria, e s partiria
he-would-do all that which-she to-him would-command and himself would-part
de s'amor de ma dona Maria e metria tot son cor en
from her-love of my lady Maria and would-put all his heart on
ela. Et aquesta promessios fes la us a l'autre. Gaucelms
her And this promise made the one to the-other Gaucelm
s'en anet ples de joia; e penset de far canso que
himself-thence went full of joy and thought of making song that
fos entenduda que partit se era de ma dona Maria,
were understood that parted himself was-he from my lady Maria
e que autra ne avia atrobada que l'avia retengut; e la
and that other thereof he-had found who him-had retained and the
canso dis: Tant ai sufert longamen greu afan. Aquesta
song says So-much I-have suffered long grievous toil This

canso saup NA Maria, et alegret s'en mot; e ma
song knew Lady Maria and rejoiced herself-thereof much and my
dona N'Audiart atressi, car conoc qu'el avia partit son cor
lady Lady-Audiart likewise for she-knew that-he had parted his heart
e son chant de ma dona Maria, car avia crezudas las
and his song from my lady Maria for he-had believed the
falsas promessas de lieis per aquesta canso. Et a cap d'una
false promises of her by this song And at end of-a
sazo Gaucelms Faidit anet vezer ma dona N'Audiart ab gran
season Gaucelm Faidit went to-see my lady Lady-Audiart with great
alegrier, com sel que esperava intrar en cambra mantenen:
gladness as he who hoped to-enter into chamber at-once
et ela'l receup fort. EN Gaucelms fo a sos pes e dis
and she-him received strongly Sir Gaucelm was at her feet and said
qu'el avia fag son comandamen, e com el avia mudat son
that-he had done her command and how he had changed his
cor en ela; e qu'ela li fazes los plazers qu'ela li
heart onto her and that-she to-him should-do the pleasures that-she to-him
avia promes, e que fos meritz de so que avia fag
had promised and that he-were rewarded for that which he-had done
per ela. Ma dona N'Audiart li dis: que vos es trop
for her My lady Lady-Audiart to-him said that you are too-much
valens e trop prezatz, e que non es dona el mon
worthy and too-much prized and that not is lady in-the world
que no s degues tener per pagada de sa amor; car vos
that not herself should to-hold for paid with his love for you
es paire de valor, et ayso que vos promezi non o fi
are father of merit and this which to-you I-promised not it I-did
per voluntat de vos amar per amor, mas per vos traire de
for will of you to-love for love but for you to-draw from

preso on vos eras, e de aquela fola esperansa que vos
prison where you were and from that foolish hope which you
a tengut pus de VII ans; e car sabia la voluntat de ma
has held more than seven years and for I-knew the will of my
dona NA Maria, car ieu sabia que res de vostres volers
lady Lady Maria for I knew that anything of your wishes
no vos atendera, car ieu serai vos amiga e bevolens e
not to-you she-would-fulfill for I will-be your friend and well-wisher and
tot can comandares ses mal estar. Gaucelms auzi ayso
all that you-will-command without ill being Gaucelm heard this
e fo tristz e marritz; e comensa clamar merce a la
and was sad and grieved and began to-cry mercy to the
dona, qu'ela no l'aucizes ni'l trais, ni l'enganes.
lady that-she not him-should-kill nor-him should-betray nor him-should-deceive
Ela'l dis qu'ela no lo aussiria ni enganaria, ans vos
She-to-him said that-she not him would-kill nor would-deceive rather you
ay trag d'enguan e de mort. Can vi que no valia
I-have drawn from-deceit and from death When he-saw that not availed
clamar merce, anet s'en com hom marritz, car vi
to-cry mercy he-went himself-thence as man grieved for he-saw
qu'en aissi era enganatz; car se era partitz de ma
that-in thus he-was deceived for himself he-was parted from my
dona Maria, e so que l'avia promes o avia fag
lady Maria and that which to-him-she-had promised it she-had done
per engan. E pesset que tornes merce clamar a ma
for deceit And he-thought that he-should-return mercy to-cry to my
dona Maria, e fes aquesta canso que dis: No m'alegra
lady Maria and made this song which says Not me-gladdens
chans ni critz D'auzelh mon felh cor engres. Mas per
song nor cry Of-bird my wretched heart fierce But for

chansos ni per res del mon non poc trobar perdo,
songs nor for anything of-the world not he-could to-find pardon
ni foro auzit sos precs. Can Gaucelms fo partitz de ma
nor were heard his prayers When Gaucelm was parted from my
dona Maria per ma dona Audiart, aysi com avetz auzit, el
lady Maria for my lady Audiart thus as you-have heard he
estet lonc tems marritz per lo engan que ac pres. Mas
stayed long time grieved for the deceit that he-had taken But
ma dona Maria Garida d'Albusso, molher d'EN Raynaut,
my lady Maria Garida of-Aubusson wife of-Sir Raynaut
vescoms d'Albusso, lo fey alegrar e chantar; que'l dis
viscount of-Aubusson him made to-rejoice and to-sing for-to-him she-said
tans de plazers e ill mostret tant d'amoros semblans,
so-many of pleasures and to-him showed so-many of-amorous seemings
per qu'el s'enamoret d'ela e la preguet d'amor. Et ela,
for which-he himself-enamored of-her and her prayed of-love And she
per so qu'el la mezes en pretz et en valor, si receup
for that that-he her should-put in worth and in merit so received
sos precs, e ill promes de far plazer d'amor. Longamen
his prayers and to-him promised to do pleasure of-love Long
durero los precs d'EN Gaucelm, mot la lauzet a son
lasted the prayers of-Sir Gaucelm much her he-praised to his
poder: et ela, com se fos cauza qu'ela no s'alegres
power and she as if it-were thing that-she not herself-should-rejoice
de las lauzors qu'el fazia d'ela, no l'avia nulh'amor ni
in the praises that-he made of-her not to-him-had any-love nor
nulh semblan no li fez: mas una vez, can prenia comjat
any seeming not to-him made but one time when he-took leave
d'ela, el li bayset lo col; et ela luy sofri amorozamen,
of-her he to-her kissed the neck and she him suffered lovingly

don el visquet ab gran alegrier per aquel plazer. Mas ela
whence he lived with great gladness for that pleasure But she
amava'N Uc de la Signa, qu'era filh d'EN Uc lo Brun,
loved-Sir Uc of the Signa who-was son of-Sir Uc the Brown
coms de la Marcha, et era mot amic de Gaucelm. La
count of the March and was much friend of Gaucelm The
dona si estava al castel del Busso, on ela no podia
lady so stayed at-the castle of-the Busso where she not could
vezer N Uc de la Signa ni far negun plazer, per que
to-see Sir Uc of the Signa nor to-do any pleasure for which
ela se fes malauta de mort, et vodet se ad anar a
she herself made sick of death and vowed herself to go to
Nostra Dona de Rocamador. E mandet dire a'N Ugo de
Our Lady of Rocamadour And she-sent to-say to-Sir Uc of
la Signa que vengues a Uzercha, en un borc on estava
the Signa that he-should-come to Uzerche in a town where stayed
EN Gaucelm Faidit, e que vengues a furt, e que
Sir Gaucelm Faidit and that he-should-come in stealth and that
descavalgues a l'alberc d'EN Gaucelm; et ela venria aqui
he-should-dismount at the-lodging of-Sir Gaucelm and she would-come there
e'l faria plazer d'amor: et assignet li lo jorn que
and-to-him would-do pleasure of-love and appointed to-him the day that
vengues. Can N Ugo o auzi fo molt alegres, e venc
he-should-come When Sir Uc it heard he-was much glad and came
s'en lai al dia mandat; e desmontet en l'alberc
himself-thence there on-the day appointed and dismounted in the-lodging
d'EN Gaucelm: e la melher d'EN Gaucelm can lo vi
of-Sir Gaucelm and the wife of-Sir Gaucelm when him saw
lo receup ab gran alegrier. E la dona venc e desmontet
him received with great gladness And the lady came and dismounted

en l'alberc, e trobet N Uc rescost en la cambra on ela
in the-lodging and found Sir Uc hidden in the chamber where she
devia jazer. Et ela can l'ac trobat fo molt alegra et
was-to lie And she when him-had found was much glad and
estec dos jorns aqui; e pueys s'en anet a Rocamador. Et
stayed two days there and then away went to Rocamadour And
el atendet la aqui tro que venc; e pueys estero aqui
he awaited her there until that she-came and then they-stayed there
autres dos jorns, can fo venguda; e cada nueg jazian
other two days when she-was come and each night they-lay
ensems ab gran joi. E non tardet gayre, can s'en foro
together with great joy And not it-delayed much when away they-were
tornat, qu'EN Gaucelm venc, e sa molher contet li tot
returned that-Sir Gaucelm came and his wife told to-him all
lo fag. Can Gaucelm o auzit per pauc no mori de dol, car
the deed When Gaucelm it heard for little — he-died of grief for
crezia que non ames autre may lui; e car l'avia
he-believed that not she-loved other more-than him and because him-she-had
colgat en son lieg, fo ne plus dolens. Don fe per
laid in his bed he-was thereof more grieving Whence he-made for
aquesta razo una mala canso que di: S'anc negus hom per
this reason an evil song which says If-ever any man for
aver fin coratge. Ayso es la derreira qu'el fe.
having true heart This is the last that-he made

He has suffered so long that he might have died, and his fair lady would not have grieved. Since she will not have him, he will take another road, for losing him and his songs means nothing to her. His heart, his eyes, his lady, and his good faith betrayed him like evil stewards. He marvels that so much worth in her has no mercy. He would rather stay with her, but since she will not, he goes to a lady who has sent word that a little bird in the fist is worth more than a crane in the sky. He tells his Saintongeais he has won sense through folly.

Tant ai sufert longamen gran afan,
So-much I-have suffered long great toil
que, s'estes mais que no m'aperceubes,
that if-it-had-lasted more than — I-noticed
murir pogra tost e leu, si m volgues,
to-die I-could quickly and easily if me she-wished
qu'a la belha non penra ja dolors
for-to the fair not will-take ever grief
en cui mala fos beutatz e valors,
in whom ill were beauty and merit
don regardan part forsatz mon coratge;
whence in-looking I-part forced my heart
e pus no m vol, segrai autre viatge,
and since not me she-wants I-shall-follow other journey
qu'a lieys non cal, ni no so ten a dan
for-to her not it-matters and not it she-holds to harm
de perdre me ni'ls belhs digz de mon chan.
to lose me nor-the fair words of my song

Pero tal ren ten hom vil qu'es prezan,
Yet such thing holds one cheap which-is prized
e tal ren pert que ditz que l'es ben pres,
and such thing loses who says that to-him-it-is well befallen
que pueis li fai frachura meyns de bes;
that then to-him makes lack less of goods
mas de mi dons es tan grans sa ricors
but of my lady is so great her wealth
que ren no s ten si m pert ni m vir alhors;
that anything not herself she-holds if me she-loses or me I-turn elsewhere
doncs, be fis ieu outracuiat folatge
then well did I overweening folly
quan percassiei ma mort e mon dampnatge,
when I-pursued my death and my damage
per mon fol cor que m fetz dir en chantan
through my foolish heart which me made to-say in singing
so don degra gen cobrir mon talan.
that whereof I-ought nobly to-cover my desire

E pus mon cor e mei huelh trahit m'an,
And since my heart and my eyes betrayed me-have
e ma mala domna e ma bona fes,
and my evil lady and my good faith
si que quascus m'agra mort si pogues,
so that each me-would-have killed if it-could
clamar m'en dei com de mals bailidors;
to-complain myself-thereof I-must as of evil stewards

e ja mos huelhs messongiers traidors
and ever my eyes lying traitors
non creirai mais, ni fiansa ses gatge;
not I-will-believe more nor pledge without surety
quar selh es folhs qui fai folh vassalatge,
for that-one is fool who does foolish vassalage
e folhs qui cre aver a son coman
and fool who believes to-have at his command
tot so que ve plazen ni benestan.
all that which he-sees pleasing or seemly

Meravilh me, pus ab mi dons es tan
I-marvel myself since with my lady is so-much
pretz e valors, plazers e digz cortes,
worth and merit pleasures and words courtly
com pot esser que no i sia merces;
how can to-be that not there be mercy
e m meravilh de lieys on es honors,
and myself I-marvel of her where is honor
sens e beutatz, que ja no i sia amors;
sense and beauty that ever not there be love
e m meravilh de domna d'aut paratge,
and myself I-marvel of lady of-high lineage
belh'e gentil, qu'es de mal senhoratge,
fair-and noble who-is of ill lordship
ni com pot far contra sa valor tan
and how she-can to-do against her merit so-much
que desmenta son franc humil semblan.
that she-belies her frank humble seeming

De tot aisso ai meravilha gran;
Of all this I-have marvel great
e pus no'l platz que si camge de res,
and since not-to-her it-pleases that herself she-change in anything
no m tenra mais enfrenat sos mals fres,
not me will-hold more bridled her evil bridle
qu'era m'en part, sitot m'es dezonors;
for-now myself-thence I-part although to-me-it-is dishonor
et agra m'obs que fos del maltrag sors:
and it-were to-me-need that I-were from-the ill-treatment risen
e pus alhors vau mudar mon estatge,
and since elsewhere I-go to-change my dwelling
bon encontre m don dieus e bon intratge,
good meeting me may-give God and good entry
e m lais trobar dona ses cor truan,
and me may-he-let to-find lady without heart base
qu'ab mal senhor ai estat aquest an.
for-with ill lord I-have been this year

Ab tot aital mal e brau e tiran
With all such ill and fierce and tyrant
volgr'ieu estar voluntiers, s'ill plagues,
would-wish-I to-stay willingly if-to-her it-pleased
mais qu'ab autra que mais de be m fezes;
rather than-with other who more of good me did
mas, pus no il platz, a tal vau per socors
but since not to-her it-pleases to such-one I-go for succor
de cui me ven al cor plazens dousors;
from whom to-me comes to-the heart pleasing sweetness

belh'es e pros, franch'e de bon usatge,
fair-she-is and worthy frank-and of good usage
et a m mandat per un cortes messatge
and has me sent by a courteous messenger
q'un pauc auzel en mon punh, que no s n'an,
that-a little bird in my fist that not itself away-goes
am mais qu'al cel una grua volan.
I-love more than-in-the sky a crane flying

Mon Santongier m'ane mon sobregatge,
My Saintongeais for-me-let-go my surety
quar ai conquist gran sen ab gran follatge,
for I-have won great sense with great folly
e sai chauzir d'amor lo pro e'l dan,
and I-know to-choose of-love the profit and-the harm
e jamais jorn no m'aucirai preyan.
and ever day not myself-I-will-kill praying

Hearing the wild nightingale rejoice in love makes him die of longing for the lady he cannot see, yet the birds' song comforts him into singing. Nothing gladdens his heart; foolish brooding made him leave his joy. At their parting she covered her face and said, sighing, "To God I commend you." He has never been false to her, will not give up her service, and begs her not to believe slanderers. The song goes to tell her he dies of desire; Lady Maria's worth makes all his songs pleasing.

Lo rossinholet salvatge
The little-nightingale wild
ai auzit que s'esbaudeya
I-have heard that itself-rejoices
per amor en son lenguatge,
for love in its language
e m fai si murir d'enveya,
and me makes so to-die of-longing
quar lieys cui dezir
for her whom I-desire
non vey ni remir,
not I-see nor behold
ni no m volc ongan auzir;
nor not me she-would this-year to-hear
pero pel dous chan
yet through-the sweet song
qu'ilh e sa par fan
which-he and his mate make
esfortz un pauc mon coratge,
I-strengthen a little my heart

e m vau conortan
and myself I-go comforting
mon cor en chantan,
my heart in singing
so qu'ieu no cugei far oguan.
that which-I not thought to-do this-year

Empero nulh alegratge
However any joy
no m don al cor ren qu'ieu veya,
not me gives to-the heart anything that-I I-see
per qu'ieu conosc mon follatge;
for which-I I-know my folly
et es dreitz qu'aissi m'esteya:
and it-is right that-thus to-me-it-befall
e deu m'avenir,
and it-must to-me-happen
quar per fol cossir
for through foolish brooding
laisiey mon joy a chauzir;
I-left my joy to choose
don sui en afan,
whereof I-am in toil
e n'ai ira e dan,
and thereof-I-have sorrow and harm
e conosc en mon coratge
and I-know in my heart
qu'ai perdut est an,
that-I-have lost this year

qu'anc no i aic joi gran
for-ever not there I-had joy great
ni re que m vengues a talan.
nor anything that me came to desire

E sitot planh mon dampnatge,
And although I-lament my damage
mon cor aclin e sopleya
my heart I-bow and humble
vas lieys que a'l senhoratge
toward her who has-the lordship
en mi, tant com esser deya;
in me as-much as to-be it-ought
car no m poc plus dir
for not me she-could more to-say
quan venc al partir,
when it-came to-the parting
mas sa cara'l vi cobrir,
but her face-her I-saw to-cover
e m dis sospiran:
and me she-said sighing
„A dieu vos coman!"
To God you I-commend
e quan pens en mon coratge
and when I-think in my heart
l'amor e'l semblan,
the-love and-the seeming

per pauc en ploran
for little in weeping
no m'auci, quar no ill sui denan.
— myself-I-kill for not to-her I-am before

Anc non falsiei mon viatge
Ever not I-falsified my journey
vas lieys cui mos cors s'autreya
toward her to-whom my heart itself-grants
pus l'agui fait homenatge,
since to-her-I-had done homage
e non ai cor que m recreya
and not I-have heart that me makes-recreant
ja del sieu servir;
ever from-the her serving
cui qu'enuey ni tir,
whomever that-it-vexes or grieve
sieus sui, e no m puesc giquir
hers I-am and not myself I-can to-leave
de lieys tan ni quan;
from her so-much or how-much
qu'autra non deman,
for-other not I-ask
ni non es en mon coratge
and not is in my heart
res qu'ieu vuelha tan,
thing that-I want so-much

per que la reblan
for which her I-entreat
mas mas juntas humilian.
my hands joined humbling

Mi dons m'a per heretatge
My lady me-has for heritage
acli, cum selh que merceya,
bowed as one who begs-mercy
que no m'aia cor salvatge,
that not to-me-she-has heart wild
ni fals lauzengiers non creya
nor false slanderers not she-believe
de mi, ni s'albir
of me nor herself-imagine
que vas autra m vir;
that toward other me I-turn
que per bona fe sospir,
for in good faith I-sigh
e l'am ses enguan
and her-I-love without deceit
e ses cor truan;
and without heart base
qu'ieu non ai ges tal coratge,
for-I not I-have at-all such heart

cum li fals drut an
as the false lovers have
que van gualian,
who go deceiving
per qu'amors torna en soan.
for which-love turns into scorn

Chansos, de te fatz messatge,
Song of thee I-make messenger
e vai ades e despleya
and go now and unfold
lai on jois a son estatge,
there where joy has its dwelling
a mi dons que tan me greya;
to my lady who so-much me grieves
e poiras li dir
and thou-shalt-be-able to-her to-say
qu'ieu muer de dezir;
that-I I-die of desire
e s'ilh te denh'aculhir,
and if-she thee deigns-to-receive
vai li remembran,
go to-her recalling
e non t'ans tarzan,
and not thee-go delaying

lo mieu deziros coratge
the my longing heart
e l'amor tan gran
and the-love so great
don muer deziran,
whereof I-die desiring
quar non la remir en baizan.
for not her I-behold in kissing

Na Maria, tan
Lady Maria so-much
avetz de pretz gran,
you-have of worth great
per que son tuich d'agradatge
for which are all of-pleasingness
mei dich e mei chan,
my words and my songs
per la lauzor gran
through the praise great
que ieu dic de vos en chantan.
which I say of you in singing

He laments a joy he lost by his own folly, in a strange land with no message from his lady. He gained much when she took his homage and will serve no other, though she kills him gently with a false token and will not believe that he is faithful. It would have been better never to have seen her than to suffer so. He asks Jesus to trouble the jealous, the base, and the slanderers, who are love's enemies, and sends the song to Sir Agout beyond Montpellier.

Ab cossirier plang,
With brooding I-lament
en chantan, mon dampnatge
in singing my damage
d'un joy que m sofrang
of-a joy which me fails
per mon mezeis follatge,
through my own folly
qu'en pays estrang
for-in land strange
sui, e no i vey messatge
I-am and not there I-see messenger
de lieys cui sopley,
from her whom I-entreat
don ges no m recrey;
whereof at-all not myself I-renounce
qu'ades on qu'estey
for-always where that-I-be
l'aclin ses cor volatge,
her-I-bow-to without heart fickle
sitot non la vey.
although not her I-see

Mout fi belh guazang,
Much I-made fair gain
quan pres mon homenatge,
when she-took my homage
per qu'ieu non remang
for which-I not remain
en autrui senhoratge,
in another's lordship
ni a mi no s tang
and to me not itself befits
qu'ieu segua autre viatge,
that-I follow other journey
ni que ja desrey
nor that ever I-stray
en autrui domney,
in another's courting
ans sos sers m'autrey
rather her serf myself-I-grant
humils ab fin coratge,
humble with true heart
qu'autra non envey.
for-other not I-desire

Mi dons sui aclis
My lady I-am bowed-to
vas on qu'ieu an ni venha,
toward where that-I go or come

et al dous pays
and to-the sweet land
on ilh estai e renha
where she stays and reigns
suavet m'aucis
gently me-she-kills
ab sa falsa entresenha;
with her false token
e no sai per que
and not I-know for what
m'a destreg ancse,
me-she-has constrained ever
qu'ieu l'asegur be
for-I her-assure well
que ja d'autra no m fenha;
that ever with-other not myself I-feign
mas ilh no m'en cre.
but she not me-thereof believes

Mielhs fora m sofris
Better it-were myself I-did-without
de lieys, cui jois mantenha,
of her whom joy maintains
qu'ieu ja non la vis,
that-I ever not her saw
qu'aitals maltraitz m'en venha.
than-such ill-treatment to-me-thereof come

Sola m'a conquis
Alone me-has conquered
la belha que no m denha,
the fair who not me deigns
pus per sa merce
since through her mercy
mi retenc ab se;
me she-retained with herself
ar no l'en sove,
now not to-her-thereof remembers
quar m'es ops que m revenha,
for to-me-it-is need that me she-revive
ni'l membra de me.
nor-to-her remembers of me

Amors, que farai
Love what shall-I-do
s'aissi m dezasegura
if-thus me makes-unsure
lo mals qu'ieu en trai,
the ill which-I thereof draw
e de mi non a cura?
and of me not she-has care
Quar gelos savai,
For jealous base-ones
et avols gens tafura,
and worthless folk rascally

e croy lauzengier
and vile slanderers
son d'amor guerrier;
are of-love enemies
per que Jhesu quier
for which Jesus I-ask
que los met'en rancura
that them he-put-in rancor
et en encombrier.
and in trouble

Joyos, ben s'eschai
Joyful well it-befits
qu'aya de joy fraitura
that-he-have of joy lack
qui ab joy estai
who with joy stays
et ab joy non s'atura;
and with joy not himself-stops
e mos cors es sai
and my heart is here
lueng de bon'aventura
far from good-fortune

en greu cossirier;
in grievous brooding
e mon Santongier
and my Saintongeais
vey d'amor primier,
I-see of-love first
e si sa joya'l dura
and if his joy-to-him lasts
be'l vai a sobrier.
well-to-him goes to excess

E tu, messatgier,
And thou messenger
porta'l chant leugier
carry-the song light
N Agout, on pretz s'atura,
Sir Agout where worth itself-abides
lai part Monpeslier.
there beyond Montpellier

If any man ever won honor from his lady for a true heart, loyal love, and patient suffering, he ought to have some reward too. He loves her beyond measure and dares not ask for a kiss or a night, yet knows how to want every gift a lover may have. Her merit makes everyone believe there is room for love in her, and that hope keeps him from despair, though her honor and lineage make him fear. He rebukes a lady who kept no honor beneath her girdle; Lady Maria does nothing that displeases.

Si anc nulhs hom per aver fin coratge,
If ever any man for having true heart
ni per amar leialmen ses falsura,
or for loving loyally without falseness
ni per sufrir franchamen son dampnatge,
or for suffering frankly his damage
ac de si dons nulh'onrada aventura,
had from his lady any-honored fortune
ben degr'ieu aver
well ought-I to-have
alcun covinen plazer,
some covenant pleasing
qu'el ben e'l mal, quals qu'ieu n'aya,
for-the good and-the ill whichever that-I thereof-have
sai sufrir, et ai saber
I-know to-suffer and I-have knowledge
de far tot quan mi dons playa,
to do all that my lady pleases
si qu'el cor non puesc mover.
so that-the heart not I-can to-move

De ben amar sai segr'el dreg viatge,
Of well loving I-know to-follow-the right journey
si que tant am mi dons outra mezura
so that so-much I-love my lady beyond measure
que far en pot tot quan l'es d'agradatge;
that to-do thereof she-can all that to-her-is of-pleasure
qu'ieu no'lh deman, tan tem dir forfaitura
for-I not-her ask so-much I-fear to-say transgression
baizar ni jazer:
kissing nor lying
pero si sai tan valer
yet so I-know so-much to-be-worth
ad ops d'amar, qui qu'en braya,
for need of-loving whoever that-thereof brays
qu'honrat jorn e plazen ser
that-honored day and pleasing evening
e tot don qu'a drut eschaya
and every gift that-to lover falls
sai dezirar e voler.
I-know to-desire and to-want

Sitot la m vuelh, ieu non ai autre gatge,
Although her for-me I-want I not have other pledge
ni autre don, ni paraula segura,
nor other gift nor word sure

mas ilh es tan franch'e de belh estatge
but she is so frank-and of fair state
que la valors e'l pretz qu'en lieys s'atura
that the merit and-the worth which-in her itself-abides
fai a totz parer
makes to all to-appear
qu'amors y puesca caber;
that-love there can to-find-room
quar lai on es valors gaya
for there where is merit gay
deuria merces valer;
ought mercy to-avail
veus tot lo joy que m n'apaya,
behold all the joy that me thereof-contents
e m tolh qu'ieu no m dezesper.
and me prevents that-I not myself despair

Mas, e que m val? qu'ieu non ai vassalatge
But and what to-me avails for-I not have vassalage
ni ardimen que l'aus dir ma rancura!
nor boldness that to-her-I-dare to-say my complaint
Quar tan dopti s'onor e son paratge,
For so-much I-fear her-honor and her lineage
son guay semblan e sa belha faitura,
her gay seeming and her fair form

qu'aisso m fai temer
that-this me makes to-fear
qu'a lieys non puesca caler
that-to her not can to-matter
de mal ni d'afan qu'ieu traya;
of ill nor of-toil that-I endure
mas, si m volgues retener,
but if me she-would to-retain
no volgr'esser reys d'Armaya,
not I-would-wish-to-be king of-Armenia
tan com ab lieys remaner.
so-much as with her to-remain

Ai auzit dir del savi ses folhatge,
I-have heard to-say of-the wise-man without folly
c'om honra mal aisel don non a cura
that-one honors ill that-one whereof not one-has care
que ditz que'l do dieus jove senhoratge;
who says that-him gives God young lordship
aquest honrat, sia tortz o drechura,
this honored be-it wrong or right
ai d'amor per ver,
I-have from-love for true
e s'ieu l'ai, no m deu doler;
and if-I it-have not to-me must to-grieve
quar de pros domna veraya
for from worthy lady true
val mais qu'om bel dan esper,
is-worth more that-one fair harm hope

que tal don d'avol savaya
than such gift from-worthless base-woman
qu'om no deu en grat tener.
which-one not ought in gratitude to-hold

Qu'ieu'n sai una qu'es de tan franc usatge
For-I-thereof know one who-is of such frank usage
qu'anc no gardet honor sotz sa sentura;
that-ever not she-kept honor under her girdle
e'l tortz es sieus, s'ieu en dic vilanatge,
and-the wrong is hers if-I thereof say villainy
quar, senes gienh et a descobertura,
for without guile and in openness
fai a totz vezer
she-makes to all to-see
cum ponha en se dechazer;
how she-strives in herself to-decline
e dona qu'ab tans s'asaya,
and lady who-with so-many herself-tries
no us cugetz qu'ieu m'alezer
not you think that-I myself-take-leisure
que ja de lieys ben retraya,
that ever of her good I-relate
ni vuelh que s puesc'eschazer.
nor I-wish that itself can-happen

Na Maria, domna guaya,
Lady Maria lady gay
vos non etz d'aital saber
you not are of-such knowledge
que re no faitz que desplaya,
for anything not you-do that displeases
ans faitz so que deu plazer.
rather you-do that which must please

Though he has delayed his song, his lady sends him to show the joy she gave him the day she retained him with a kiss, after he knelt before her weeping with his hands joined. A lover who leaves at the first refusal is a child, for love grows with honor and service. He would not part from her for the crown of France, and is often so lost in thought of her beauty that he hears no one. He prays her heart not to turn from his, and turns his bridle toward his lord Linhaura.

Sitot ai tarzat mon chan
Although I-have delayed my song
e n'ai fag trop lonc estatge,
and thereof-I-have made too long stay
ar ai ben cor e talan
now I-have well heart and desire
qu'ie'n torn la perd'e'l dampnatge,
that-I-thereof turn the loss-and-the damage
que'l belha m met el viatge,
for-the fair me puts on-the journey
e m ditz qu'ieu mostr'en chantan
and me tells that-I show-in singing
lo joy e la valor gran
the joy and the merit great
que m donet, e l'alegratge,
which me she-gave and the-gladness
lo jorn que m retenc baizan.
the day that me she-retained kissing

Adoncs l'estei tan denan,
Then to-her-I-stood so-long before
mas jontas, de bon coratge,
hands joined of good heart
de genolhos, en ploran,
on knees in weeping
tro m pres en son senhoratge;
until me she-took into her lordship
mas al prim li fo salvatge,
but at-the first to-her it-was wild
quar m'auzei enhardir tan;
for myself-I-dared to-embolden so-much
pueis vi mon humil semblan,
then she-saw my humble seeming
e receup mon homenatge,
and received my homage
quar mi conoc ses enjan.
for me she-knew without deceit

Amicx, quan se vol partir
Friend when himself wants to-part
de si dons, fai gran efansa,
from his lady does great childishness
sitot no vol aculhir
although not she-will to-welcome
sos precx a la comensansa;
his prayers at the beginning

qu'amors s'abriva e s'enansa
for-love itself-quickens and itself-advances
ab honrar et ab servir;
with honoring and with serving
e qui vol de lieys jauzir,
and who wants of her to-enjoy
sia de belha semblansa,
let-him-be of fair seeming
e sapch'amar e sofrir.
and let-him-know-to-love and to-suffer

Mi dons am tant e dezir
My lady I-love so-much and desire
que, qui m mezes en eguansa
that who me put in balance
vas lieys tot quant hom pot dir,
against her all that one can to-say
non penria eu acordansa
not would-take I accord
qu'ieu ja'n partis m'esperansa,
that-I ever-thence parted my-hope
ni s camjesson mei cossir;
nor themselves changed my thoughts
ni no vuelh esdevenir
and not I-wish to-become
senes lieys senher de Fransa;
without her lord of France
guardatz si vuelh qu'ilh m'azir!
consider if I-want that-she me-hate

Manthas sazos s'esdeve
Many times it-happens
que pens tan fort e cossire
that I-think so hard and brood
qu'ieu non aug qui parla ab me,
that-I not hear who speaks with me
ni fatz mas tremblar e frire;
nor I-do but to-tremble and to-shiver
e pens com no volc assire
and I-think how not would to-set
dieus en una sola re
God in one single thing
la beutat qu'ilh a en se,
the beauty that-she has in herself
e'l gen parlar e'l dous rire
and-the noble speaking and-the sweet laughing
ab que s'amor me rete.
with which her-love me retains

Tot ai per ma bona fe
All I-have through my good faith
conquis so don sui jauzire,
won that whereof I-am enjoyer
e prec mi dons per merce
and I-pray my lady for mercy
que son cors del mieu no vire,
that her heart from-the mine not turn

quar sos hom e sos servire
for her man and her servant
sui, et ai estat ancse;
I-am and I-have been ever
et ades pueia e ve
and always rises and comes
l'amors, e dobla'l dezire
the-love and doubles-the desire
on ilh plus mi fai de be.
where she more to-me does of good

Linhaura, lai vir mon fre
Linhaura there I-turn my bridle
vas mon senhor cui dezire
toward my lord whom I-desire
e vuelh s'onor e son be.
and I-want his-honor and his good

All who love merit should know that largesse, cheer, frankness, and humility come from love, so whoever wants worth should keep true love loyally. The best do so, but feigners have given worth a worthless color, and most ladies follow them, so that true suitors suffer and no one trusts another. He wishes the false set to one side and true lovers and ladies left to love. He would love gladly if he found a good place, lists what has no savor for him, and sends the song to his Treasure in Montferrat.

Tug cilh que amon valor
All those who love merit
devon saber que d'amor
ought to-know that from-love
mov larguez'e guais solatz,
moves largesse-and gay cheer
franchez'et humilitatz,
frankness-and humility
pretz d'amar, servirs d'onor,
worth of-loving services of-honor
gen teners, jois, cortezia;
noble bearing joy courtesy
doncs, pois so'n mov, ben deuria
then since this-thence moves well ought
chascus ponhar, qui bon pretz vol aver,
each to-strive who good worth wants to-have
de fin'amor leialmen mantener.
of true-love loyally to-maintain

Qu'aissi fan tut li melhor,
For-thus do all the best
cil qu'an bon pretz ab sabor;
those who-have good worth with savor
mas li fenhedor malvatz
but the feigners wicked
an ab falsas amistatz
have with false friendships
volt pretz en avol color;
turned worth into worthless color
e s'ieu ver dir en volia,
and if-I truth to-say thereof wished
aquela meteissa via
that same way
vezem al plus de las domnas tener,
we-see to-the most of the ladies to-hold
per que m sap mal quar en puesc dire ver.
for which to-me tastes ill for thereof I-can to-say truth

Las falsas e'l trichador
The false-women and-the cheats
fan tan que'l fin preyador
do so-much that-the true suitors
an pois dan en lur baratz;
have then harm in their dealings
qu'aital es preyars tornatz
for-such is wooing turned
tot per doptansa de lor,
all through fear of them

que l'us en l'autre no s fia;
that the-one in the-other not himself trusts
e qui per so s recrezia
and who for that himself gave-up
non auria vas amor fin voler,
not would-have toward love true will
qu'amors no vol qu'amics si dezesper.
for-love not wants that-lover himself despair

E sivals segon error
And at-least according-to error
las falsas e'l fenhedor,
the false-women and-the feigners
volgra fosson ad un latz,
I-would-wish they-were at one side
e quascus fos enganatz;
and each were deceived
e'l fin lial amador,
and-the true loyal lovers
e las domnas ses bauzia
and the ladies without deceit
mantenguesson drudaria;
maintained love-making
qu'enueitz es grans, en amor, a vezer
for-annoyance is great in love to see
que fals amans puesc'entr'els fins caber.
that false lover can-among-the true to-find-room

Mas una tals sazos cor
But a such season runs
que greu trob om bon senhor,
that hardly finds one good lord
ni domna don si'amatz
nor lady by-whom one-be-loved
totz sols, ses autres peccatz;
all alone without other sins
e s'ieu ab francha doussor
and if-I with frank sweetness
trobes leyal senhoria,
found loyal lordship
be m plagra, qu'aissi tanh sia,
well to-me would-please that-thus befitting be
quan fin aman s'acordon d'un voler,
when true lovers themselves-accord of-one will
tot quan l'us vol deu a l'autre plazer.
all that the-one wants must to the-other please

D'amor agr'ieu cor melhor
Of-love would-have-I heart better
que de re, mas la dolor
than of anything but the pain
sen don ieu sui galiatz;
I-feel whereby I am deceived
e ges per so no m desplatz
and at-all for that not to-me displeases
ni m fan li maltrag paor,
nor me make the ill-treatments fear

ans sapchatz qu'ieu amaria
rather know that-I would-love
mout voluntiers, si podia
much willingly if I-could
chauzir bon luec on pogues remaner,
to-choose good place where I-could to-remain
ni trobava qui m saubes retener.
or I-found who me knew-how to-retain

Cor ses don no m'a sabor,
Heart without gift not to-me-has savor
ni dona senes amor,
nor lady without love
ni cavaliers dezarmatz,
nor knight disarmed
ni joves manens senatz,
nor young rich sensible
ni drutz mas d'una color,
nor lover more-than of-one color
ni trop gabar ab folhia,
nor too-much boasting with folly
ni solatz ab vilania,
nor cheer with churlishness
ni no m sap bo prometre ses aver,
and not me tastes good promising without having
ni loncs preyars, quan pro no m pot tener.
nor long wooing when profit not me can to-hold

Ves Monferat ten ta via
Toward Montferrat hold thy way
a mon Thesaur on que sia,
to my Treasure where that he-be
e di'l, chanso, que sapcha miels valer
and tell-him song that he-knows better to-be-worth
de nulh autre que hom puesca vezer.
than any other that one can to-see

7 · LAMENT FOR KING RICHARD

It falls to him to sing the greatest grief he has known: Richard, king of the English, head and father of merit, is dead. No man so worthy has been seen in a thousand years; Alexander never gave or spent so much, nor were Charles and Arthur worth so much. Death has taken the best of the world at a blow. He asks what will become of arms, tourneys, courts, and the men Richard raised; the Saracens will grow proud and the sepulcher harder to win. He recalls the young king and Count Jaufre, and prays God to pardon Richard.

Fortz chauza es, que tot lo maior dan
Hard thing it-is that all the greatest harm
e'l maior dol, las! qu'ieu ancmais agues,
and-the greatest grief alas that-I ever-before had
e so don dei totz temps plaigner ploran,
and that whereof I-must all time to-lament weeping
m'aven a dir en chantan e retraire;
to-me-befalls to say in singing and to-recount
que selh qu'era de valor caps e paire
that he who-was of merit head and father
lo rics valens, Richartz, reys dels Engles,
the rich worthy Richard king of-the English
es mortz, ai dieus! quals perd'e quals dans es!
is dead ah God what loss-and what harm it-is
Quant estrang mot, e quant greu per auzir!
How strange word and how grievous for hearing
Ben a dur cor totz hom qui'l pot suffrir.
Well has hard heart every man who-it can to-suffer

Mortz es lo reys, e son passat mil an
Dead is the king and are passed thousand years
qu'anc tan pros hom no fo; ni no vi res,
for-ever so worthy man not was and not saw anyone
ni ja non fo mais hom del sieu semblan,
and ever not was more man of-the his likeness
tan larcs, tan pros, tan arditz, tals donaire;
so generous so worthy so bold such giver
qu'Alixandres, lo reys que venquet Daire,
that-Alexander the king who conquered Darius
no cre que tan dones ni tan messes;
not I-believe that so-much he-gave nor so-much spent
ni anc Charles ni Artus tan valgues;
nor ever Charles nor Arthur so-much was-worth
qu'a tot lo mon se fes, qui'n vol ver dir,
for-to all the world himself he-made who-thereof wants truth to-say
als us doptar et als autres grazir.
to-the ones to-fear and to-the others to-thank

Meravil me qu'el fals secgle truan
Marvel myself that-in-the false world base
auza estar savis hom ni cortes,
dares to-be wise man or courteous
pus ren no i val belh ditz ni fait prezan;
since anything not there avails fair words nor deeds prized
e doncs per que s'esfors'om pauc ni guayre?
and then for what himself-strives-one little or much
Qu'era nos a mostrat mortz que pot faire,
For-now us has shown death what it-can to-do

qu'a un sol colp a lo mielh del mon pres,
for-at one single blow it-has the best of-the world taken
tota l'onor, tot lo pretz, tot lo bes;
all the-honor all the worth all the good
e pus vezem que res no i pot guandir,
and since we-see that anything not there can to-escape
ben deuriam meins duptar al murir.
well we-ought less to-fear to-the dying

Ai! senher reys valens, e que faran
Ah lord king worthy and what will-do
hueimais armas ni gran tornei espes,
henceforth arms or great tourney thick
ni ricas cortz, ni belh donar ni gran,
or rich courts or fair giving or great
pus vos no i etz qu'en eras capdelaire?
since you not there are who-thereof were leader
Ni que faran li liurat a maltraire,
Or what will-do the delivered to suffering
silh que s'eran en vostre servir mes,
those who themselves-were into your service put
qu'atendion qu'el guazardon vengues?
who-awaited that-the reward came
Ni que faran sels que s degran aucir
Or what will-do those who themselves ought to-kill
qu'aviatz faitz en gran ricor venir?
whom-you-had made into great wealth to-come

Avol vida e piez de mort auran
Worthless life and worse than death they-will-have
e tos temps dol, qu'en aissi lor es pres;
and all time grief for-in thus to-them it-is befallen
e Sarrazi, Turc, Payan e Persan,
and Saracens Turks Pagans and Persians
que us duptavon mais que hom nat de maire,
who you feared more than man born of mother
creisseran tan d'orguelh tot lor afaire
will-increase so-much in-pride all their affair
que plus greu n'er lo sepulcres conques;
that more hardly thereof-will-be the sepulcher conquered
et dieus o vol, quar si'l non o volgues,
and God it wills for if-he not it willed
e vos, senher, visquessetz, ses mentir
and you lord lived without lying
de Suria los avengra a fugir.
from Syria them it-would-have-befallen to flee

Jamais non ai esperansa que i an
Ever not I-have hope that there goes
reys ni princeps qui cobrar lo pogues;
king nor prince who to-recover it could
pero tug silh qu'el vostre loc seran
yet all those who-in-the your place will-be
degran saber cum fos de pretz amaire,
ought to-know how you-were of worth lover
e qual foron vostre dui valen fraire,
and what-like were your two worthy brothers

lo joves reys e'l cortes coms Jaufres;
the young king and-the courteous count Jaufre
e qui en loc remanra de vos tres
and who in place will-remain of you three
ben deu aver fin cor e ferm cossir
well must to-have true heart and firm purpose
de totz bos aips enansar e grandir.
of all good qualities to-advance and to-enlarge

Bel senher dieus, vos qu'etz vers perdonaire,
Fair lord God you who-are true pardoner
vers dieus, vers hom, vera vida, merces,
true God true man true life mercy
perdona li, que ops e cocha l'es;
pardon him for need and urgency to-him-it-is
e non gardetz, senher, al sieu falhir,
and not regard lord to-the his failing
e membre vos com vos anet servir.
and may-remember you how you he-went to-serve

May Jesus Christ guide us, for he leaves the frank folk of the Limousin, its lords, neighbors, and ladies, and sighs for them night and day. Nothing will keep him from being equipped after the kalends of May, and if he dies on pilgrimage he thanks God. God tests the worthy and leaves the base, whose wealth takes paradise from them. Antichrist has come, and the king of Paris would rather win sterlings at Saint Denis than all that Safadin holds. Let us serve the Holy Spirit and win back what Saladin took. God save his lady and the Poitevin.

Era nos sia guitz
Now to-us may-be guide
lo vers dieus Ihesus Critz,
the true God Jesus Christ
quar de franqua gen guaya
for from frank folk gay
sui per lui partitz,
I-am for him parted
on ai estat noiritz
where I-have been nourished
et honratz e grazitz;
and honored and welcomed
per so'l prec no'l desplaya,
for that-him I-pray not-to-him displease
s'ieu m'en part marritz.
if-I myself-thence part grieved
Ai! gentils Lemozis,
Ah noble Limousin

el vostre dous pays
in-the your sweet land
lais, de belha paria,
I-leave of fair company
senhors e vezis
lords and neighbors
e domnas ab pretz fis,
and ladies with worth true
flors de gran cortezia;
flowers of great courtesy
don plang e languis,
whence I-lament and languish
e sospir nueg e dia.
and sigh night and day

E quals que sia'l critz
And whatever that be-the cry
del remaner auzitz,
of-the remaining heard
ja negus bes qu'ieu aya,
ever any good that-I have
ni rics luecs aizitz
nor rich place pleasant
no m tenra, ni conquitz,
not me will-hold nor won
s'avia'ls votz complitz,
if-I-had-the vows fulfilled

qu'apres calenda maya
that-after kalends May
no sia guarnitz
not I-be equipped
del torn, si dieus l'aizitz;
for-the return if God it-eases
e s'a lui plaz ma fis
and if-to him pleases my end
en leyal romania,
in loyal pilgrimage
lo tot li grazis;
it all to-him I-thank
pero mas juns, aclis,
yet hands joined bowed
soplei sa senhoria
I-entreat his lordship
qu'els portz e'ls camis
that-the ports and-the roads
nos endres vas Suria.
for-us be-direct toward Syria

Honratz es e grazitz
Honored is and welcomed
cui'n dieu non es falhitz;
who-in God not is failed
que dieus vol et assaya
for God wants and tests
los pros e'ls arditz,
the worthy and-the bold

et aquels a chauzitz;
and those he-has chosen
e laissa los aunitz
and leaves the shamed
e l'avol gen savaya
and the-vile folk base
per cui es traitz.
by whom he-is betrayed
Ai! caitiu mal assis,
Ah wretches ill set
cum vos etz tuit aucis!
how you are all killed
C'avers e manentia
For-wealth and riches
vos tol paradis,
you takes-away paradise
qu'avar etz e ressis
for-avaricious you-are and dried-up
tan q'us far no poria
so-much that-one to-do not could
qu'a dieu abellis,
what-to God is-pleasing
per que dieus vos desfia.
for which God you defies

Hueimais es Antecritz
Henceforth is Antichrist
al dan del mon issitz,
to-the harm of-the world come-forth

que tot lo bes s'esmaya,
for all the good itself-dismays
e'l mals es salhitz,
and-the evil is leapt-out
qu'els fals prins a sazitz
for-the false princes it-has seized
e pres, et endormitz
and taken and put-to-sleep
el peccat, qu'els esglaya
in-the sin that-them terrifies
e'ls ten morns e tritz;
and-them holds gloomy and sad
qu'el reys cui es Paris
for-the king whose is Paris
vol mais a sant Daunis,
wants rather at Saint Denis
o lai en Normandia,
or there in Normandy
conquerr'esterlis,
to-win-sterlings
que tot quan Safadis
than all that Safadin
a ni ten en baillia,
has or holds in power
don pot esser fis
whereof one-can to-be sure
qu'aissi cum deura sia.
that-thus as it-ought it-be

Ar laissem los giquitz
Now let-us-leave the abandoned
remazutz, escarnitz,
remained mocked
et ab obra veraya
and with work true
de bona razitz
of good root
sia per nos servitz
may-be by us served
lo vers sans Esperitz,
the true Holy Spirit
cui preguem que ns atraya,
whom let-us-pray that us he-draw
ab faitz afortitz,
with deeds strengthened
al dan dels Sarrazis,
to-the harm of-the Saracens
si qu'en sia conquis
so that-thereof be conquered
lo sans luecs, e la via
the holy place and the way
faita als peleris
made for-the pilgrims
que nos tolc Saladis;
which from-us took Saladin

don la verges Maria,
whereof the virgin Mary
cui dieus benezis,
whom God blessed
nos sia guerentia.
to-us may-be warrant

Ai! dos miracles fis!
Ah sweet miracle true
Vos e'l pros Peitavis
You and-the worthy Poitevin
sal dieus e benezia,
may-save God and bless
car lui sui aclis,
for to-him I-am bowed
et a nos peleris
and to us pilgrims
lais venir en Suria,
may-be-let to-come into Syria
qu'el coms Baudonis
that-the count Baldwin
e'l pros marques y sia.
and-the worthy marquis there be

No wealth, sense, or courtesy can defend us from death, for we begin to die on the day we are born, as the death of the worthy Countess Beatrice shows. Since God did not spare himself from death, he will spare no one. Rather than await death, we can render it in life by serving God where he died: whoever dies avenging him in Syria will come well armed to the Judgment, while the rich who stay home are God's enemies, and God knows how to bend his crossbow. He commends his Treasure in Lombardy and the crusaders to God.

Cascus hom deu conoisser et entendre
Each man must to-know and to-understand
que riguessa ni sens ni cortesia,
that wealth nor sense nor courtesy
que sia el mon, no ns pot de mort defendre;
which is in-the world not us can from death to-defend
c'al jorn c'om nai comensa a morir,
for-on-the day that-one is-born begins to die
e qui mais viu plus poigna de fenir;
and who more lives more strives to end
doncs ben es fols cel q'en sa vida s fia,
then well is fool he who-in his life himself trusts
si be s pensa de prion sa foillia;
if well himself he-thinks of deep his folly
car nos es tost lo gentils cors faillitz
for to-us is soon the noble body failed
d'una valen comtessa Biatritz.
of-a worthy countess Beatrice

Doncs negus hom non pot per dreich contendre
Then any man not can by right to-contend
oimais, en tant cum dieus ten en baillia,
henceforth in so-much as God holds in power
ja'n puosca mais sa par de valor rendre,
that-ever-thereof can again her equal of merit to-render
d'enseignamen ni d'aut cor, don dei dir:
of-breeding nor of-high heart whereof I-must to-say
e puois dieus se de mort non volc garir
and since God himself from death not would to-save
qui totz los bes del mon complitz avia,
who all the goods of-the world complete had
ja non fara als autres seignoria;
ever not will-do to-the others favor
que tuich morrem, e qui mais er grazitz,
for all we-shall-die and who more will-be welcomed
ni plus ama'l segle, mais n'er trahitz.
or more loves-the world more thereof-will-be betrayed

Cum ausam doncs aquesta mort atendre,
How dare-we then this death to-await
quand adobat trobam a chascun dia
when prepared we-find at each day
que nostra mort podem en vida rendre!
that our death we-can in life to-render
Car dieus nos ditz que l'anem lai servir
For God us tells that him-we-go there to-serve
on el fo mortz per nos dampnatz garir;
where he was dead for us damned to-save

e qui morir per lui vengar volria,
and who to-die for him to-avenge would-wish
cobran son dreich qu'a perdut en Suria,
recovering his right which-he-has lost in Syria
ab gran razon venria gent garnitz
with great reason would-come nobly equipped
al jutgamen, lai on er Ihesu Cristz.
to-the judgment there where will-be Jesus Christ

Qui per dieu vai l'aver e'l cor despendre,
Who for God goes the-wealth and-the heart to-spend
de paradis l'er uberta la via;
of paradise to-him-will-be opened the way
e qui no i vai deu baissar e dissendre
and who not there goes must to-lower and to-descend
de tot onor; car tem que dieus l'azir
from all honor for I-fear that God him-hates
qui reman sai ni pot anar garnitz;
who remains here and can to-go equipped
qu'ieu sai de tals c'avers e manentia
for-I know of such that-wealth and riches
e diables e pechatz e bauzia
and devil and sin and deceit
a'ls retengutz cum fals avars aunitz,
has-them retained as false misers shamed
guerriers de dieu e de totz bes partitz.
foes of God and from all goods parted

Ben se cuiden en las terras estendre
Well themselves they-think in the lands to-extend
e far conquistz, mas autramen cuich sia,
and to-make conquests but otherwise I-think it-be
car dieus, lo reis, sap s'arbalesta tendre,
for God the king knows his-crossbow to-bend
e trai cairels trenchans per ben ferir:
and shoots bolts cutting for well striking
e negus hom del colp no s pot gandir,
and any man from-the blow not himself can to-shield
quand el s'irais e vei c'om no s chastia;
when he himself-angers and sees that-one not himself chastens
mas qui'l dopta ni vas lui s'omelia
but who-him fears and toward him himself-humbles
aquel aura chapdel sains esperitz;
that-one will-have guidance holy spirit
e qui no'l fai er en enfern punitz.
and who not-it does will-be in hell punished

A totz degra de dolor lo cor s fendre
To all ought from grief the heart itself to-split
del deseret del fill sainta Maria,
for-the disinheritance of-the son holy Mary
mas col laire qui ve los autres pendre
but as-the thief who sees the others to-hang
s'esforsa plus del mal, ses repentir,
himself-strives more in-the ill without repenting
e'l mal segle, don dieus nos lais issir,
and-the ill world whence God us lets to-go-out

a salvamen si cum ops nos seria;
to salvation so as need to-us would-be
e mon Thesaur que lais en Lombardia
and my Treasure whom I-leave in Lombardy
don dieu salut, car de totz nos es guitz,
whom God saves for of all us is guide
e dels crozatz los cors e'ls esperitz.
and of-the crusaders the bodies and-the spirits

A tenso: Gaucelm asks Perdigon which of two jealous husbands is less to blame, one who guards a fair, worthy, courteous wife or one who guards an ugly, wretched one. Perdigon says the husband of a beauty the whole world envies is less at fault than one who guards ugliness. Gaucelm answers that a worthy lady's own sense guards her, while the sensible husband of an ugly shrew should keep her follies out of sight. They trade jibes about jealousy and wealth, and agree to put the case to the Dauphin.

Perdigons, vostre sen digatz:
Perdigon your sense tell
que us par de dos maritz gelos?
what to-you seems of two husbands jealous
L'us a moiller qu'es bella e pros,
The-one has wife who-is fair and worthy
franca, cortesa e chausida,
frank courteous and choice
e l'autres laida e marrida,
and the-other ugly and wretched
villana e d'avol respos;
churlish and of-worthless answer
chascuns es gardaire d'amdos:
each is guardian of-both
e pos tant fols mestiers lor platz,
and since so foolish trade to-them pleases
ni aital es lor voluntatz,
and such is their will
quals en deu esser meins blasmatz?
which thereof ought to-be less blamed

Gaucelm Faidit, ben voill sapchatz
Gaucelm Faidit well I-wish you-know
que de domna ab bellas faissos
that of lady with fair features
don tot lo mons es enveios,
whereof all the world is envious
qui l'a pres de si aizida,
who her-has near to himself settled
non fai ges tan gran faillida,
not makes at-all so great fault
si'l la garda e n'es cobeitos,
if-he her guards and thereof-is covetous
com l'autres desaventuros
as the-other unfortunate
qu'es tant de totz mals aips cargatz,
who-is so-much with all evil qualities laden
qu'en gardar no'l forsa beutatz
that-in guarding not-him forces beauty
ni res mas laidesa e cors fatz.
nor anything but ugliness and heart foolish

Perdigons, en fol razonatz:
Perdigon in foolish you-argue
e com ausetz anc dire vos
and how dared ever to-say you
q'om tenga so qu'es bel rescos,
that-one keep that which-is fair hidden
ni q'om gart domna eissernida,
or that-one guard lady discerning

bella, de valor complida?
fair of merit complete
Doncs no la garda sos sens bos?
Then not her guards her sense good
Mas la laida ab ditz enoios
But the ugly with words annoying
deu gardar lo maritz senatz,
must to-guard the husband sensible
per q'om no veia sas foudatz
so that-one not see her follies
ni com el es mal moilleratz.
nor how he is ill wived

Gaucelm, entr'els nescis agratz
Gaucelm among-the fools you-would-have
gent cubert blasme vergoignos;
nobly covered blame shameful
pero mal conseillatz l'espos,
yet ill you-advise the-spouse
quan disetz qu'aia tal vida
when you-say that-he-have such life
que gart sa mala escarida,
that he-guard his evil lot
ni fassa d'un malastre dos;
and make of-one misfortune two
miels a de gardar ochaizos
better has of guarding occasion
bella domna on es grans beutatz,
fair lady where is great beauty

don par q'om sia enamoratz,
whereof it-seems that-one be enamored
e deu n'esser meins encolpatz.
and ought thereof-to-be less blamed

Perdigons, on plus en parlatz
Perdigon where more thereof you-speak
plus desmentetz vostras chansos,
more you-belie your songs
que gelosia es fols ressos,
for jealousy is foolish rumor
don totz lo mons brai'e crida
whereof all the world brays-and cries
q'om gart domna issernida,
that-one guard lady discerning
et es laitz blasmes entre nos;
and is ugly blame among us
mas l'autre gardars es razos,
but the-other guarding is reason
ses gelosia e ses peccatz,
without jealousy and without sin
q'om resconda so qu'es malvatz,
that-one hide that which-is wicked
e mostre so dont es honratz.
and show that whereby he-is honored

Gaucelm, s'avol aver gardatz,
Gaucelm if-vile wealth you-guard
d'avol thezaur etz poderos;
of-worthless treasure you-are powerful
e no m par ges sens cabalos,
and not to-me seems at-all sense sovereign
qui pretz perd ni joi oblida
who worth loses or joy forgets
per malvaisa causa aunida;
for wicked thing shamed
mas qui per bel aver joios
but who for fair possession joyful
faill ni'l trembla sens a sazos,
fails or-him trembles sense at times
d'amor par qu'en sia forsatz;
by-love it-seems that-thereof be-be forced
e si d'aisso us meraveillatz,
and if at-this you marvel
be m meravil si vos amatz.
well myself I-marvel if you love

Totz temps duraria ill tensos,
All time would-last the tenso
Perdigons, per qu'ieu voill e m platz
Perdigon for which-I wish and to-me pleases
qu'el Dalfin sia'l plaitz pauzatz,
that-in-the Dauphin be-the plea placed
qu'el jutje e la cort en patz.
that-be judge and the court in peace

Gaucelm, tant es vera ill razos
Gaucelm so-much is true the reason
qu'ieu defen, et el tan senatz,
which-I defend and he so sensible
que, s'en lui es lo plaitz pauzatz,
that if-in him is the plea placed
voill que per lui sia jutjatz.
I-wish that by him it-be judged

A tenso: Gaucelm asks Uc de la Bachallaria for counsel, since his lady will love him only if she may keep her lover openly while Gaucelm has her in secret. Uc says to take what she grants, for patience conquers. Gaucelm would rather go without than suffer another lover, and would die of jealousy. Uc says a fair lady in secret is worth a thousand times more than nothing. Gaucelm will leave her if she chooses another; Uc calls that discourteous and says to pay her in kind. They put the case to Lady Maria of Ventadorn and the Dauphin.

N Uc de la Bachallaria,
Sir Uc of the Bachallaria
cosselhatz m'al vostre sen:
counsel me-by-the your sense
una domn'am finamen
a lady-I-love truly
que m ditz que no m'amaria;
who me tells that not me-she-would-love
qu'amic a don no s partria
for-lover she-has from-whom not herself she-would-part
sinon per aital coven
except on such covenant
que lui ames a presen,
that him she-loved in present
e que y agues senhoria,
and that there he-had lordship
en mi tot celadamen;
in me all secretly

e s'ieu aisso li sofria,
and if-I this to-her allowed
de s'amor jauzir poiria.
of her-love to-enjoy I-could

Gaucelm Faidit, ses fadia
Gaucelm Faidit without folly
vos don cosselh d'avinen
you I-give counsel of-seemly
que prendatz so que us cossen
that you-take that which to-you she-grants
e'l plus, si us o cossentia:
and-the more if you it she-granted
qu'ab sofrir vens hom tot dia,
for-with suffering conquers one all day
e'n son mant paubre manen;
and-thereby are many poor rich
e no s fadia qui pren;
and not himself fools who takes
qu'ieu la tenc tota per mia,
for-I her hold all for mine
quan d'amor me fai parven;
when of-love to-me she-makes show
e s'ieu ren als y vezia,
and if-I anything else there saw
fols sui, si no'l consentia.
fool I-am if not-it I-allowed

N Ugo, senes drudaria
Sir Uc without love-making
e ses penre jauzimen,
and without taking enjoyment
vuelh mais estar per un cen
I-wish rather to-be for one hundred
que sufrir aital folia
than to-suffer such folly
qu'autre drut tenga en bailia
that-other lover hold in power
mi dons qu'ieu am finamen.
my lady whom-I love truly
Del marit nonca m'es gen;
Of-the husband never to-me-it-is pleasant
gardatz, si d'autr'o sabia,
consider if of-another-it I-knew
si n'auria'l cor dolen!
so thereof-I-would-have-the heart grieving
Qu'ieu morria de gilosia;
For-I would-die of jealousy
e non crei pieier mortz sia.
and not I-believe worse death is

Gaucelm, qui de domn'avia
Gaucelm who of lady-had
bella, cuenda e plazen
fair graceful and pleasing
a celat tot son talen,
in secret all his desire

be vol murir qui'n muria;
well wants to-die who-thereof died
qu'ieu dic que mil tans valria
for-I say that thousand times it-would-be-worth
que si no i agues nien;
than if not there he-had anything
en aisso non a conten:
in this not is dispute
ni pero s'esser podia
and yet if-to-be it-could
qu'a celat la vis soven,
that-in secret her I-saw often
tans de plazers li faria
so-many of pleasures to-her I-would-do
qu'el sobreplus conqueria.
that-the surplus I-would-win

N Ugo, ges ieu non creiria
Sir Uc at-all I not would-believe
que il plazer fosson plazen,
that the pleasures were pleasing
ans auria espaven
rather I-would-have fear
sitot al drut la tolia,
although from-the lover her I-took
o s'en aissi remania,
or if-in thus it-remained
quals que fos ab cor sufren,
whichever that it-were with heart suffering

qu'atretal galiamen
that-such deception
fezes per sa leujairia;
she-did through her fickleness
per qu'ieu mezeis li m defen.
for which-I myself from-her me forbid
Sol m'aura; e s'autr'en tria,
Alone me-she-will-have and if-other-thereof she-chooses
lieis lais e sa senhoria.
her I-leave and her lordship

Gaucelm Faidit, pauc embria
Gaucelm Faidit little thrives
drutz qu'aissi leugieyramen
lover who-thus lightly
se part de si dons breumen,
himself parts from his lady quickly
e no m sembla cortezia.
and not to-me seems courtesy
Sabetz que us cosselharia?
Know-you what you I-would-counsel
Que l'amassetz eissamen
That her-you-loved likewise
com ilh vos jogan, rizen,
as she you playing laughing
e qu'aguessetz autr'amia
and that-you-had other-beloved
don cantassetz leialmen;
of-whom you-sang loyally

e lieis tencsetz tota via,
and her you-held all way
aissi com ilh vos tenria.
thus as she you would-hold

N Ugo, a pauc non cossen,
Sir Uc at little — I-consent
que dretz e razos seria;
that right and reason it-would-be
e fassa'n lo jutjamen
and let-her-make-thereof the judgment
a Ventadorn Na Maria
at Ventadorn Lady Maria
on es pretz e cortezia.
where is worth and courtesy

Gaucelm, lieis tenc per valen,
Gaucelm her I-hold for worthy
e vuelh que'l fassa, ab que y sia,
and I-wish that-it she-make with that there be
e que y apel eyssamen
and that there she-call likewise
lo Dalfin que sap la via
the Dauphin who knows the way
e l'obra de drudaria.
and the-work of love-making

A tenso: Albert asks Gaucelm whether love's goods or its ills are greater. Gaucelm says the good is twice the ill for a lover who knows how to serve, love, conceal, and suffer. Albert asks why, then, he and the other troubadours complain that they never enjoyed love. Gaucelm says true lovers complain to mislead, and a lover must take the ill as good. Albert answers that no merit comes without pain, and love killed Sir Andreu; Gaucelm, that joy makes every ill forgotten. They send the tenso to the countess of Angoulême.

Gaucelm Faiditz, ieu vos deman
Gaucelm Faidit I you ask
qual vos par que sion maior
which to-you seems that be greater
o li ben o li mal d'amor,
either the goods or the ills of-love
diguatz m'en tot vostre semblan;
tell me-thereof all your seeming
qu'el bes es tan dous e tan bos,
for-the good is so sweet and so good
e'l mals tan durs et angoissos,
and-the ill so hard and anguished
qu'en chascun podetz pro chauzir
that-in each you-can enough to-choose
razons, s'o voletz a dreit dir.
reasons if-it you-wish at right to-say

Albertz, li maltrag son tan gran,
Albert the ill-treatments are so great
e ill ben de tan fina sabor,
and the goods of so true savor
greu trobaretz mais amador
hardly you-will-find ever lover
non anes el chauzir doptan;
not went in-the choosing doubting
mas ieu dic qu'el bes amoros
but I say that-the good amorous
es maier qu'el mals per un dos
is greater than-the ill by one two
ad amic que sap gen servir,
to friend who knows nobly to-serve
amar e celar e sufrir.
to-love and to-conceal and to-suffer

Gaucelm Faiditz, no us en creiran
Gaucelm Faidit not you thereof will-believe
li conoissen entendedor,
the knowing lovers
que vos e l'autre trobador
for you and the-other troubadours
vei que us anatz d'amor claman;
I-see that yourselves you-go of-love complaining
e pois ieu aug dire a vos
and since I hear to-say from you
et als autres, en lurs chansos,
and from-the others in their songs

qu'anc d'amor no us poguetz jauzir,
that-ever of-love not yourselves you-could to-enjoy
on son aquist be que us aug dir?
where are these goods that you I-hear to-say

Albertz, mant fin leial aman
Albert many true loyal lovers
n'an fait per descuiar clamor,
thereof-have made for misleading complaint
qu'enaissi creisson lor dolor
for-thus they-increase their pain
e lor joi tenon en baissan;
and their joy hold in lowering
e pois es en amor razos
and since it-is in love reason
qu'el mals deu esser bes e pros,
that-the ill must to-be good and profit
e tot quant s'en pot avenir
and all that itself-thence can to-happen
deu drutz en be penr'e grazir.
must lover in good to-take-and to-welcome

Gaucelm, sill c'amon ab enguan
Gaucelm those who-love with deceit
non senton los maltraitz d'amor;
not feel the ill-treatments of-love

ni hom non pot fort gran valor
and one not can very great merit
aver ses pena e ses afan;
to-have without pain and without toil
ni nuls hom non pot esser pros
and any man not can to-be worthy
ses maltrag ni far messios;
without ill-treatment nor to-make expenses
et amors fes N Andreu morir,
and love made Sir Andreu to-die
qu'anc bes que fos no'l poc garir.
for-ever good that was not-him could to-heal

Albertz, tug li maltrag e ill dan
Albert all the ill-treatments and the harms
perdon lur forsa e lur vigor,
lose their force and their vigor
e tornon en doussa sabor
and turn into sweet savor
lai on nuils bes se trai enan;
there where any good itself draws forward
que ja amicx, pos er joyos,
for ever friend since he-will-be joyful
non er membratz qu'anc iratz fos;
not will-be remembered that-ever angered he-was
aissi fa'l bes lo mal fugir:
thus makes-the good the ill to-flee
doncs es el maier ses faillir.
then is it greater without failing

Gaucelm Faiditz, nostra tensos
Gaucelm Faidit our tenso
an'a la comtessa, qu'es pros,
let-go-to the countess who-is worthy
d'Engolesme, qu'en sabra dir
of-Angoulême who-thereof will-know to-say
lo ben e'l mal, e'l miels chausir.
the good and-the ill and-the better to-choose

Albertz, be m plai que la razos
Albert well to-me pleases that the argument
an'a lieis qu'es valens e pros,
go-to her who-is valiant and worthy
mas nostra terra fai delir,
but our land she-makes to-perish
car non vol de Fransa venir.
for not she-wants from France to-come

A tenso: Bernart cannot keep from disputing with Gaucelm, who disparages ladies, since one has made him courteous amends. Gaucelm warns that no good comes to whoever sets his heart on a lady, for ladies play the fowler and lead men into folly. Bernart answers that love betters the best and heals with a graceful medicine; Gaucelm tells him to bend his back often and watch himself at parting, for she knows rapine. Bernart calls him churlish, and Gaucelm says no man ever enjoyed a dog's love.

Gausselm, no m puesc estener
Gaucelm not myself I-can restrain
qu'ab vos iratz no m contenda,
that-with you angered not myself I-dispute
que talan ay que defenda
for desire I-have that I-defend
las domnas, a mon poder,
the ladies to my power
que vos aug descaptener;
whom you I-hear to-disparage
qu'una m rent cortez'esmenda
for-one to-me renders courteous-amends
que m'avia fag doler,
who me-had made to-grieve
per qu'ieu en lor captener
for which-I in their upholding
tanh que mos bels ditz despenda.
it-befits that my fair words I-spend

Bernart, ben sapchatz de ver
Bernart well know of truth
que non vezem que ben prenda
that not we-see that good befall
a nulh qu'en domna s'entenda:
to any-one who-in lady himself-sets
per qu'ie us o fas ans saber
for which-I you it make beforehand to-know
que fol vo' 'n fassatz tener,
that fool you thereof make held
ni qu'ela s'amor vos venda;
nor that-she her-love to-you sell
e no y metatz vostr'aver,
and not there put your-wealth
que ben poiratz dechazer,
for well you-could to-decline
s'aviatz mil marcx de renda.
if-you-had thousand marks of rent

Gausselm, no us detz plus paor
Gaucelm not yourself give more fear
de mi qu'ieu eys ni temensa;
of me than-I myself nor fear
qu'en tal domn'ay m'entendensa,
for-in such lady-I-have my-aim
cui ser e prec et azor,
whom I-serve and pray and adore
que sap valer part valor:
who knows to-be-worth beyond merit

mas vos y faitz gran falhensa,
but you there make great failing
quar descaptenes amor;
for you-disparage love
qu'amor melhura'l melhor
for-love betters-the best
e l'aut auss'e'l gensor gensa.
and the-high raises-and-the fairest makes-fair

Bernart, per so n'ay temor
Bernart for that thereof-I-have fear
quar conosc la mens valensa;
for I-know the lesser worth
qu'elas ab bela parvensa
for-they with fair show
fan lo for del brezador,
do the custom of-the fowler
e tornon hom en folor;
and turn man into folly
e quan l'an en lor tenensa,
and when him-they-have in their holding
segon que dizon l'auctor,
according as say the-authors
meton l'en tan gran error
they-put him-in so great error
don ja non aura guirensa.
whence ever not he-will-have recovery

Gausselm, e com auzatz dir
Gaucelm and how dare-you to-say
qu'enjans sia en amor fina,
that-deceit be in love true
vas cui tot lo mons aclina?
toward whom all the world bows
Qu'ela fai gent esbaudir
For-she makes nobly to-rejoice
l'irat, e'l paubr'enrequir
the-sad and-the poor-grow-rich
ab una cuenda metzina;
with a graceful medicine
que ja pueis, al mieu albir,
that ever then to-the my judgment
hom non pot dolor sentir,
one not can pain to-feel
mas ela'l sia vezina.
if-only she-to-him be neighbor

Bernart, garda us de trahir
Bernart guard yourself from betraying
d'esta vostr'amor frairina,
by-this your-love wretched
en cui malvestatz s'aizina:
in which wickedness itself-lodges
mas s'ill voletz ben servir
but if-her you-wish well to-serve
ni sos talans ademplir,
and her desires to-fulfill

corba ill be soven l'esquina;
bend to-her well often the-back
e gardatz vos al partir
and guard yourself at-the parting
que no us puesca escarnir,
that not you she-can to-mock
qu'ela sap trop de rapina.
for-she knows much of rapine

Gausselm, en vos no s tayna
Gaucelm in you not itself befits
vilas motz ni lagz a dir;
villainous words nor ugly to say
per qu'ieu vuelh aissi fenir
for which-I want thus to-end
ma razo qu'es bon'e fina.
my argument which-is good-and true

Bernart, anc d'amor canina
Bernart ever of-love canine
no vim nulh home jauzir;
not we-saw any man to-enjoy
e si no us voletz gequir,
and if not yourself you-wish to-leave
tira us lo cat per l'esquina.
drags yourself the cat by the-back

Song, sport, joy, courtship, breeding, largesse, and loyal love have been laid low by deceit, so that among a hundred ladies and suitors not one loves without feigning on two sides. A lady should love one heart only and not give succor in two places. Since love turned fickle, joy has fallen, and he himself once fled from love. If his lady would pardon him, he would be refined like gold in the furnace and loyal as the lion to Golfier de las Tors; until then he cannot make his pilgrimage. He praises Lady Maria's great merit.

Chant e deport, joy, domney e solatz,
Song and sport joy courting and cheer
ensenhamen, largueza e cortezia,
breeding largesse and courtesy
honor e pretz e leyal drudaria
honor and worth and loyal love-making
an si baissat engans e malvestatz
have so lowered deceit and wickedness
qu'a pauc d'ira no m suy desesperatz;
that-at little of-sorrow — myself I-am despaired
car, entre cent domnas e preyadors,
for among hundred ladies and suitors
non a una ni us que be s captenha
not is one nor one who well herself bears
de ben amar, qu'a doas partz no s fenha,
in well loving who-to two parts not himself feigns
ni sapcha dir qu'es devengud'amors;
nor knows to-say what-is become-love
gardatz cum es abayssada valors!
consider how is lowered merit

Quar drutz hi a e domnas, si'n parlatz,
For lovers there are and ladies if-thereof you-speak
que s fenheran e diran tota via
who themselves will-feign and will-say all way
que'l son leyal et amon ses bauzia:
that-they are loyal and love without deceit
e pueys quascus es cubertz e celatz,
and then each is covered and concealed
e tricharan say e lay, vas totz latz;
and will-cheat here and there toward all sides
e las domnas, on plus an preyadors,
and the ladies where more they-have suitors
on plus cuian qu'om a pretz lur o tenha.
where more they-think that-one to worth to-them it holds
Mas aitals joys, cum cove, lur en venha;
But such joy as befits to-them thereof may-come
qu'a cascuna es anta e deshonors,
for-to each is shame and dishonor
pus a un drutz, que pueys desrey'alhors.
since she-has a lover who then strays-elsewhere

Aissi cum es miels en domna beutatz,
Thus as is better in lady beauty
gens acuillirs et avinens coindia,
noble welcoming and comely grace
e gens parlars, pretz e doussa paria,
and noble speaking worth and sweet company
aissi deu miels gardar sas voluntatz;
thus she-must better to-guard her wishes

que ren no val cors de doas meitatz
for anything not is-worth heart of two halves
ni non es fis, pueys hi a vaira colors,
and not is true since there is varied color
quar una amors sola tanh la destrenha:
for one love alone befits her constrain
non dic ieu ges qu'a domna descovenha,
not say I at-all that-to lady it-is-unbecoming
s'om la preia, ni a entendedors,
if-one her prays or she-has suitors
mas non deu ges en dos luecs far secors.
but not she-must at-all in two places to-make succor

Tan quan renhet leyalmen amistatz,
So-long as reigned loyally friendship
fo lo segles bos e ses vilania;
was the world good and without churlishness
e pus amors tornet en leujaria,
and since love turned into fickleness
fo joys cazutz e jovens abayssatz;
was joy fallen and youth lowered
per qu'ieu meteys, si dir vuelh las vertatz,
for which-I myself if to-say I-wish the truths
ai tant apres dels fals drutz trichadors
I-have so-much learned of-the false lovers cheating
que non es dregz que jamais en revenha,
that not is right that ever thereof I-recover
quar ves amor dis anc falsa entresenha,
for toward love I-said ever false token

cum si m'agues mal faich, fugi de cors,
as if me-it-had ill done I-fled at run
quan m'ac levat et enansat e sors.
when me-it-had raised and advanced and risen

E s'il plagues qu'ab bels plazers honratz
And if-to-her it-pleased that-with fair pleasures honored
mi retengues en leyal senhoria,
me she-retained in loyal lordship
e s'afranques, pus en als s'umilia,
and herself-softened since in else herself-humbles
e m perdones, aisi for'afinatz
and me pardoned thus I-would-be-refined
ves lieys, cum l'aurs s'afina en la fornatz;
toward her as the-gold itself-refines in the furnace
e no m nogues paratges ni ricors,
and not me harmed lineage nor wealth
quar si elha m tra del mal, ni far o denha,
for if she me draws from-the ill or to-do it deigns
aissi'l serai fis, ses falsa entresenha,
thus-to-her I-will-be true without false token
cum fo'l leos a'N Golfier de las Tors,
as was-the lion to-Sir Golfier of the Towers
quan l'ac estort de sos guerriers peyors.
when him-he-had rescued from his enemies worse

Ha! s'aquest tortz, domna, m fos perdonatz,
Ah if-this wrong lady me were pardoned
passad'agra la mar part Lombardia;
crossed-I-would-have the sea beyond Lombardy
mas ges non puesc far leyal romavia,
but at-all not I-can to-make loyal pilgrimage
si en abans non era adrechuratz.
if in before not I-were set-right
Sol per aisso devetz voler la patz,
Only for this you-ought to-want the peace
e car merces es ab vos e ricors,
and for mercy is with you and wealth
an ma chansos, e res non la retenha,
may-go my song and anything not it may-detain
preyar vas vos francamen que us sovenha
to-pray toward you frankly that to-you remember
que a franc cor tanh franqueza e doussors,
for to frank heart befits frankness and sweetness
e Dieus perdona als bos perdonadors.
and God pardons to-the good pardoners

Na Maria, tant es la grans valors
Lady Maria so-much is the great merit
qu'en vos estai, bona domna, e renha,
which-in you stays good lady and reigns
que m meravill que nuills cors la sostenha,
that myself I-marvel that any body it sustains
e quascun jorn creissetz als trobadors
and each day you-increase for-the troubadours
avinens faitz, don crescan las lauzors.
comely deeds whereby grow the praises

He meant to keep from song through the winter, but his Most Comely makes his theme gayer every day, and she wants her fair name in it. She wounded him without a lance by a sweet look the day she gave him her joy, and knew how to heal him courteously. All his thoughts are fixed on love; without it no man can act worthily, and through it a man rides, arms, gives, and serves the more. He will never turn from her, and cries her mercy to keep him in her thoughts.

Tot me cugiei de chanson far soffrir
Wholly myself I-thought from song to-make to-abstain
er ab l'ivern tro ves calenda maya;
now with the-winter until toward kalends May
mas era vei que no m'en puesc giquir
but now I-see that not myself-thereof I-can to-leave
per ma razo que tot jorn es pus gaya,
for my theme which all day is more gay
e per joy qu'ai de mon Plus Avinen
and for joy which-I-have from my Most Comely
e de son pretz qu'ades puei'e s'enansa;
and from her worth which-always rises-and itself-advances
qu'ara sai ieu e conosc ses duptansa,
for-now know I and recognize without doubt
que deu esser plus gaia ma chansos
that must to-be more gay my song
quar vol ni'l platz que sos belhs noms hi fos.
for she-wants and-to-her it-pleases that her fair name there were

Ves ma domna soplei totas sazos
Toward my lady I-bow all seasons
que m nafret gen el cor, ses colp de lansa,
who me wounded nobly in-the heart without blow of lance
d'un dous esgart, ab sos huelhs amoros,
with-a sweet look with her eyes amorous
lo jorn que m det sa joia e sa coinhtansa;
the day that to-me she-gave her joy and her acquaintance
aquel esgartz m'intret tan dolsamen
that look me-entered so sweetly
al cor que tot lo m reven e m'apaya,
to-the heart that all it me revives and me-contents
et ab sos huelhs m'a fait cortesa playa;
and with her eyes me-has made courteous wound
ilh m'en saup pueis cortezamen guarir,
she me-thereof knew then courteously to-heal
per que lo y dei conoisser e grazir.
for which it to-her I-must acknowledge and to-thank

En amor son fermat tuit mei cossir,
In love are fixed all my thoughts
si qu'en ren al no ai poder qu'els retraia,
so that-in anything else not I-have power that-them I-withdraw
qu'ieu no sui faitz mas per far e per dir
for-I not am made but for doing and for saying
mi dons tot so que'l sia bon ni'l playa;
to-my lady all that which-to-her is good or-to-her pleases
qu'ades l'acli e grans merces li ren,
for-always to-her-I-bow and great thanks to-her I-render

ab bona fe et ab humil semblansa,
with good faith and with humble seeming
e grazic li lo joy e l'alegransa
and I-thank to-her the joy and the-gladness
que m det tam ferm que no romp ni descos;
which me she-gave so firm that not breaks nor unstitches
per qu'ieu estauc alegres e joyos.
for which-I stay glad and joyful

Nulhs hom no pot, ses amor, far que pros,
Any man not can without love to-do what worthy
si no i enten o no i a sa esperansa,
if not there he-aims or not there has his hope
qu'el joys d'amor es tan fis e tan bos,
for-the joy of-love is so true and so good
qu'encontra lieys non es mais benenansa;
that-against it not is more happiness
que per amor ten hom son cor plus gen,
for through love holds one his heart more nobly
si'n val hom mais e n'esfors'e n'assaya
so-thereby is-worth one more and thereof-strives-and thereof-tries
d'aver bon pretz e de valor veraya;
to-have good worth and of merit true
si'n vol hom mais cavalcar e garnir
so-thereby wants one more to-ride and to-arm
e far que pros e donar e servir.
and to-do what worthy and to-give and to-serve

Ja ma dona non cuig de lieys me vir
Ever my lady not I-think from her myself I-turn
ni altr'amors ja li m tolha ni m'aya,
nor other-love ever from-her me take nor me-have
c'on plus esgart autra domna ni mir
for-the more I-look-at other lady or gaze
non ai poder que ja de lieys m'estraya;
not I-have power that ever from her myself-I-withdraw
per merce'l clam e per essenhamen,
for mercy-to-her I-cry and for breeding
aia de mi cossir et remenbransa,
she-have of me thought and remembrance
e quar no m ve no s'o tenh'a pezansa;
and because not me she-sees not herself-it hold-to sorrow
qu'ieu n'estau tan pessius e cossiros
for-I thereof-stay so pensive and anxious
qu'ades hi tenh los huelhs del cor amdos.
for-always there I-hold the eyes of-the heart both

16 · REASON AND COMMAND

His lady's command gives him reason to make a gay song, for his advancement pleases her and he has put himself in her frank lordship. A man who takes a gift from his lord should not wrong him, and lovers who trust each other should not mistreat each other; yet the more they have, the more they woo elsewhere, and so love declines. A false lover deserves a false reward. He is loyal and would ask nothing more if she gave him joy to match his heart. Parting from her brings sorrow, which the thought of her turns to joy. He praises Fair Desire.

Razon e mandamen
Reason and command
ai de lieys, on m'aten
I-have from her where myself-I-wait
de far guaya chanso;
to make gay song
doncx, pus ilh m'en somo,
then since she me-thereof summons
ben cove derenan
well befits henceforth
qu'ieu m'alegr'en chantan
that-I myself-gladden-in singing
mielhs que far no solia;
better than to-do — I-was-wont
qu'eras conosc e sai
for-now I-recognize and know
que mos enans li plai;
that my advancement to-her pleases

qu'en franca senhoria
for-in frank lordship
ai mes mon cor e me;
I-have put my heart and me
pero tanh e cove,
yet it-befits and suits
pus que senher fai be
since that lord does good
a son bon servidor,
to his good servant
que s'en melhur'e cresca sa valor.
that itself-thereby better-and grow his merit

Qui don de senhor pren,
Who gift from lord takes
non es ges avinen
not is at-all seemly
qu'el fassa mespreizo
that-he do misdeed
vas lui, ses ochaizo;
toward him without cause
ni non es benestan,
and not is seemly
si pueys li quier son dan
if then to-him he-seeks his harm
ni so que non deuria:
nor that which not he-ought

e pus dona tan fai
and since lady so-much does
qu'a son amic s'atrai,
that-to her friend herself-draws
e l'us en l'autre fia,
and the-one in the-other trusts
non sai don pueys lur ve
not I-know whence then to-them comes
que l'us l'autre malme;
that the-one the-other mistreats
mas tan sai ieu e cre
but so-much know I and believe
que celh a mais d'amor
that he has more of-love
que mielhs ama, e rete mais d'onor.
who better loves and retains more of-honor

En aisso fan non sen
In this do no sense
li drut, mon escien;
the lovers my knowledge
e qui'n jutja razo
and who-thereof judges reason
es anta senes pro;
it-is shame without profit

qu'ades on mais auran
for-always where more they-will-have
d'amor, miels preyaran
of-love more they-will-pray
sai e lai quascun dia;
here and there each day
e, per aquest assai,
and through this trial
bayssa amor e deschai
lowers love and declines
e leials drudaria;
and loyal love-making
quar, per un que s capte
for for one who himself bears
vas amor e vas se
toward love and toward himself
leialmen, ni rete
loyally and retains
d'aquestz aips lo melhor,
of-these qualities the best
en veiretz mainz que l'an per sordeyor.
thereof you-will-see many who it-have for worse

Drutz qu'ama falsamen
Lover who-loves falsely
deu, per dreg jutjamen,
must by right judgment
aver fals guizardo;
to-have false reward

mas a vos m'enrazo,
but to you myself-I-plead
bona domna, d'aitan
good lady of-so-much
qu'en mi non a engan
that-in me not is deceit
contra vos ni bauzia;
against you nor falsehood
e si m donavatz jai
and if me you-gave joy
segon lo cor qu'ieu n'ai,
according-to the heart which-I thereof-have
ja res pus no us querria;
ever anything more not of-you I-would-ask
que d'aitan bona fe
for with-so-much good faith
cum anc hom amet re,
as ever man loved anything
vos am, e no m recre
you I-love and not myself I-renounce
per mal ni per dolor,
for ill nor for pain
tan vos ai cor de leial amador!
so-much to-you I-have heart of loyal lover

Domna, lo cor e'l sen
Lady the heart and-the sense
e'ls huels e'l pessamen
and-the eyes and-the thought
ai en vostra preizo,
I-have in your prison
e non truep guerizo
and not I-find healing
mas solamen d'aitan,
but only in-so-much
quan vos estau denan,
when to-you I-stand before
adoncs me par qu'ieu sia
then to-me it-seems that-I be
l'om el mon cui miels vai;
the-man in-the world whom better goes
e, quan me part de lai,
and when myself I-part from there
ven m'ira e feunia
comes to-me-sorrow and rancor
que m lassa'l cor e m te:
which me wearies-the heart and me holds
mas pueis, quan mi sove
but then when to-me it-comes-to-mind
de vos, cui jois mante,
of you whom joy maintains
oblit l'ira maior,
I-forget the-sorrow greater
e torn mon cor en joi et en doussor.
and turn my heart into joy and into sweetness

Belhs Desirs, mout mi plai
Fair Desire much to-me pleases
del vostre gent cors gai,
of-the your noble body gay
quar pueia quascun dia
for it-rises each day
en honor et en be,
in honor and in good
que quascus hom que us ve
for each man who you sees
vos enans'e us mante,
you advances-and you maintains
que de gaug e d'amor
for of joy and of-love
son vostre dig, e'l fach son de lauzor.
are your words and-the deeds are of praise

17 · EAGER FOR HIS HARM

Men are often more eager for their harm than their good, and he went hastily into the power that now makes him languish: when he thinks to win he loses, and when he thinks to go forward he turns back. Her eyes, her body, her speech, her welcome, and her cheer betrayed him, and mercy avails him nothing. What is won with torment is held dearer than what comes easily. He rejoiced too much at the start and now goes weeping, and can show no good cheer until his lady grants what he asks.

Montas sazos es hom plus volontos
Many times is man more eager
de so don mals e dans li deu venir
for that whence ill and harm to-him must to-come
que de son ben, e vuelh o per me dir,
than for his good and I-wish it for me to-say
car ieu meteys m'anei metre cochos
for I myself myself-went to-put hastening
en tal poder, don era m vau planhen,
into such power whereof now myself I-go lamenting
que m fai languir e sospirar soven,
which me makes to-languish and to-sigh often
e, quant ieu cug be n'aver, ieu n'ai dan,
and when I think good thereof-to-have I thereof-have harm
e torn atras quan cug anar enan.
and I-turn back when I-think to-go forward

Be m'an trahit siey belh huelh amoros
Well me-have betrayed her fair eyes amorous
e sos gens cors que s sap tan gen garnir,
and her noble body which itself knows so nobly to-adorn

sos doutz parlars ab son bel aculhir,
her sweet speaking with her fair welcoming
sos gais solatz, sos avinens respos;
her gay cheer her comely answers
mala vi anc sa gran beutat valen,
ill I-saw ever her great beauty worthy
don miels cugei aver mon cor jauzen;
whence better I-thought to-have my heart rejoicing
mas era vau planhen e sospiran,
but now I-go lamenting and sighing
e no m'i val merces, quan la deman.
and not to-me-there avails mercy when it I-ask

Anc no cugei qu'en nulha dona fos
Ever not I-thought that-in any lady were
tan grans beutatz qu'en fos merces a dir,
so great beauty that-thereof was mercy to say
c'on plus li clam merce, no m denh auzir,
for-the more to-her I-cry mercy not me she-deigns to-hear
ans n'a son cor ades plus ergulhos,
rather thereof-has her heart always more proud
per que mos malz me vai ades creissen,
for which my ill to-me goes always increasing
et es mi piegz, si m sal Dieus, per un cen,
and it-is to-me worse so me may-save God by one hundred
per lieys, car re n'y a de malestan
for her because something thereof-there is of unseemliness
que per lo mal qu'ieu n'ai, ni per l'afan.
than for the ill which-I thereof-have or for the-toil

Lo mals qu'ieu trac me fora belhs e bos,
The ill which-I draw to-me would-be fair and good
belha dona, sol qu'el pogues sofrir;
fair lady only that-it I-could to-suffer
car ses afan no s pot hom enriquir
for without toil not himself can man to-enrich
de nulh afar que sia cabalos;
of any affair that is excellent
e so que hom conquer ab gran turmen,
and that which one wins with great torment
ten hom plus car e plus celat e gen,
holds one more dear and more hidden and nobly
que so que a tot jorn a son talan,
than that which he-has all day at his desire
car leu despen qui de leu a gazan.
for lightly spends who from light has gain

De so don plus cugei esser joyos
Of that whereof more I-thought to-be joyful
suy plus iratz, e n'ai mais de cossir;
I-am more angered and thereof-I-have more of care
per qu'om no s deu per gaug trop esjauzir,
for which-one not himself must for joy too-much to-rejoice
ni per ira trop esser angoissos:
nor for sorrow too-much to-be anguished

mas ieu non puesc ges esser d'aital sen;
but I not can at-all to-be of-such sense
qu'ieu m'alegrei trop al comensamen,
for-I myself-gladdened too-much at-the beginning
dona, per vos, mas ara'n vau ploran
lady for you but now-thereof I-go weeping
cum hom marrit que re no sap on s'an.
as man grieved who anything not knows where himself-goes

S'a ma dona plaguesson mas chansos
If-to my lady pleased my songs
ni mos preiars, mout m'estera plus gen:
or my prayers much to-me-it-would-be more nobly
car ja enans non aurai bon talen
for ever before not I-will-have good desire
de nulha re, ni puesc far belh semblan,
of any thing nor I-can to-make fair seeming
tro que de lieys aya so que deman.
until that from her I-have that which I-ask

Neither song nor birdcry gladdens his heart, and he does not know why he sings, since he failed his lady so that it is not fitting even to seek her pardon. A false deceiver made him fail her, she who had raised him from nothing. He will go humbly and confess at her feet, asking her to pardon or kill him, though he doubts she will do what he wishes. He has not quite lost hope, if she shows her sense and courtesy. To the lord of Poitou: a no that is heard is worth a thousand yeses.

Non alegra cant ni critz
Not gladdens song nor cry
d'auzels mon fel cor engres;
of-birds my wretched heart fierce
ni no sai per que cantes
and not I-know for what I-sing
ni perdes
nor lose
mos ditz, quar be los perdria
my words for well them I-would-lose
s'ieu dizia
if-I said
que m valgues
that to-me availed
ab midons precs ni merces:
with my-lady prayers nor mercy
quar no s tanh ges
for not itself befits at-all
que per mi l sia queritz
that by me to-her be sought
perdo, tan li soi fallitz.
pardon so-much to-her I-am failed

Doncs per qu'er mos cant auzitz
Then for what-will-be my song heard
si no l platz que m perdones?
if not to-her it-pleases that me she-pardon
Per que? per so que l pregues
For which for this that her I-prayed
que s vengues
that herself she-avenged
de mi; quar m'avenc un dia
on me for to-me-it-befell one day
que bauzia
that deceit
ni no fes,
and not I-did
ni pregar d'autra m plagues
nor to-woo of-other to-me pleased
tan que m tolgues
so-much that from-me took
leis: don tanh que si'aunitz,
her whence befits that I-be-shamed
quar mal ai sos dos grazitz.
for ill I-have her gifts thanked

Qu'enaissi for'ieu gueritz,
For-thus would-be-I healed
s'ela tan s'umilies
if-she so-much herself-humbled
que vengamen n'entendes.
that vengeance thereof-she-intended

Pos apres
Since after
vis co mos dans me castia,
she-saw how my harm me chastens
si l plazia,
if to-her it-pleased
qu'aissi es.
that-thus it-is
E quar anc fi re que l pes
And because ever I-did anything that to-her grieves
m'es tan mal pres,
to-me-it-is so ill befallen
qu'en lieis ai mans bes complitz
that-in her I-have many goods complete
perdutz, e sai son traïtz.
lost and I-know I-am betrayed

Q'una fals'enganairitz,
For-a false-deceiver
on beutat mala nasques,
in-whom beauty ill was-born
me fes falhir tan, qu'ades
me made to-fail so-much that-now
me pendes
me hanged

cilh que de nient m'avia
she who from nothing me-had
mes en via
put on way
de totz bes.
of all goods
Pero s'om totz cels agues
Yet if-one all those had
mortz qu'an mespres,
killed who-have misdone
e noi fos capdels e guitz
and not-there were leader and guide
merces, mans n'agr'om delitz.
mercy many thereof-would-have-one destroyed

Doncs tot serai tant arditz,
Then wholly I-will-be so bold
q'umils, mas juntas, cofes,
that-humble hands joined confessed
l'irai pregar a sos pes
her-I-will-go to-pray at her feet
que m dones
that me she-give
don que m perdon'o m'aucia.
gift that me she-pardon-or me-kill
Be m plairia
Well to-me would-please
m'aucies:
me-she-killed

mas ieu non cre qu'ilh fezes
but I not believe that-she did
re qu'ieu volgues,
anything that-I wished
ans sai qu'es seu lo cauzitz.
rather I-know that-is hers the choice
Qu'ieu moir'o viva marritz.
That-I die-or live grieved

Pero no m soi tan partitz
Yet not myself I-am so parted
de joi, ni d'ira tan pres,
from joy nor of-sorrow so taken
qu'ieu no sofris e senhes,
that-I not suffered and signed
si m mostres
if me she-showed
so sen e sa cortezia.
her sense and her courtesy
Be m'auria
Well me-she-would-have
sobrepres,
overtaken
si'l sieu humil cors cortes,
if-the her humble body courteous
francs, gent apres,
frank nobly taught

de jois e d'amor noiritz,
on joy and on-love nourished
m'era de perdon aizitz.
to-me-were for pardon disposed

Al senhor cui Peiteus es
To-the lord whose Poitou is
man que noill pes
I-send that not-to-him it-grieves
d'un no qu'es per me auzitz,
of-a no which-is by me heard
que val mil ocs afortitz.
which is-worth thousand yeses strengthened

RAIMON DE MIRAVAL

The Life and Songs

Raimon de Miraval, a poor knight of the Carcassès with a quarter of a small castle, was held dear by the count of Toulouse, King Peire of Aragon, and the great barons. The She-Wolf of Pennautier deceived him with the count of Foix, and he deceived her in turn. Alazais of Boissezon gave herself to the king Miraval had brought to her. The French war took his castle, and the king died at Muret. Esmengarda of Castres had him send his wife away, then married Olivier de Saissac. Two years later Brunessen of Cabaret offered him her love.

Raimons de Miraval si fo us paubres cavalliers de Carcasses,
Raimon of Miraval so was a poor knight of Carcassès
que non avia mas la quarta part del castel de Miraval;
who not had but the fourth part of-the castle of Miraval
et en aquel castel non estavo XL home. Mas per lo seu
and in that castle not dwelt forty men But for the his
trobar e per son bel dire, e car el saup plus d'amor
composing and for his fair speaking and because he knew more of-love
et de domnei, e de totz los faitz avinens, e de totz
and of courtship and of all the deeds comely and of all
los ditz plazens que corron entr'amadors et amairitz, el
the words pleasing which run between-lovers and lady-lovers he
fo amat e tengut car per lo coms R. de Toloza, qu'el
was loved and held dear by the count R. of Toulouse whom-he
clamava son Audiart, et el lui. El coms li dava cavals
called his Audiart and he him The count to-him gave horses
et armas, e'ls draps que besoignaven, e so que'l
and arms and-the cloths which were-needful and that which-to-him
fazia mestier. Et era senher del alberc de lui, e senher
was need And he-was lord of-the lodging of him and lord

del rei Peire d'Arago, e del vescoms de Bezers, e d'EN
of-the king Peire of-Aragon and of-the viscount of Béziers and of-Sir
Bertran de Saissac, e de totz los grans baros de aquela
Bertran of Saissac and of all the great barons of that
encontrada. E non era neguna gran domna ni valens que
region And not was any great lady nor worthy who
no dezires e no se penes que el entendes en ella, o
not desired and not herself strove that he courted in her or
que li volgues be per domesteguessa, quar el las sabia
that to-her he-wished well for intimacy for he them knew
pus onrar e far grazir que nuls autr'om; per que
more to-honor and to-make to-praise than any other-man for which
neguna no crezia esser presiada, si Raimons de Miraval
any not believed to-be prized if Raimon of Miraval
no fos sos amics. E R. de Miraval s'entendet en mantas
not were her friend And R. of Miraval himself-courted in many
domnas, e'n fetz mantas bonas cansos; e no se
ladies and-thereof made many good songs and not himself
crezet mais qu'el de neguna en dreg d'amor agues ben, e
believed ever that-he from any in right of-love had good and
totas l'enganeren. Ben avetz auzit R. de Miraval qui fo ni
all him-deceived Well you-have heard R. of Miraval who was and
don, per qu'ieu vos vuelh dire mais de son fag. Don el
whence for which-I to-you wish to-tell more of his deed Whereof he
amava una dona de Carcasses que avia nom NA Loba de
loved a lady of Carcassès who had name Lady She-Wolf of
Puegnautier, filha d'EN R. de Puegnautier; et era molher
Pennautier daughter of-Sir R. of Pennautier and was wife
d'un cavayer ric e poderos de Cabaret, pariers del castel.
of-a knight rich and powerful of Cabaret co-lord of-the castle

La Loba si era sobravinens e voluntoza de pretz e
The She-Wolf so was over-comely and eager for worth and
d'onor; e tug li baro de la encontrada e li estranh que
for-honor and all the barons of the region and the strangers who
la vezian entendian en ela: lo coms de Fois, EN Olivier
her saw courted in her the count of Foix Sir Olivier
de Saissac, EN Peire Rotgier de Mirapeys, EN Aimeric de
of Saissac Sir Peire Rotgier of Mirepoix Sir Aimeric of
Monrial, EN Peire Vidal que fes mantas bonas cansos de
Montréal Sir Peire Vidal who made many good songs of
lieis. EN Raimons de Miraval si l'amava mais que totz, e
her Sir Raimon of Miraval so her-loved more than all and
la metia enans a son poder ab sas cansos e en comtans,
her put forward to his power with his songs and in tales
com sel que o sabia meils far de cavalier del mon, et
as he who it knew better to-do of knight of-the world and
ab plus plazens razos et ab plus bels digz. E la Loba
with more pleasing themes and with more fair words And the She-Wolf
per lo gran pres en que el l'avia meza, car conoissia qu'el
for the great worth in which he her-had put for she-knew that-he
la sabia enansar fort e dezenansar, ela li sofria sos
her knew to-advance much and to-bring-down she to-him allowed his
precs e'l prometia de far plazer en dreg d'amor, e
prayers and-to-him promised to do pleasure in right of-love and
l'avia retengut baizan. Mas ela o fazia tot per engan, et
him-had retained kissing But she it did all for deceit and
amava lo coms de Fois tan que ela ne avia fag son
loved the count of Foix so-much that she thereof had made her
drut. Et era l'amor paleza de lor per tota la encontrada
lover And was the-love open of them through all the region

de Carcasses, don ela fon descazucha de pres e de
of Carcassès whence she was fallen from worth and from
honor e d'amics: que lai tenian per morta tota domna
honor and from-friends for there they-held for dead every lady
que fassa son drut d'aut baro. EN Miraval auzi la novela
who makes her lover of-high baron Sir Miraval heard the news
del mal c'avia fag, e que Peire Vidal n'avia facha
of-the ill which-she-had done and that Peire Vidal thereof-had made
una mala chanso d'ela que di: Estat ai una gran sazo;
an evil song of-her which says Been I-have a great season
en lacal el dis en unas coblas: Mot ai mon cor felo
in which he said in some stanzas Much I-have my heart wrathful
Per lieis que mala fo. Miraval fo sobre totz pus dolens, et
For her who evil was Miraval was above all more grieving and
ac voluntat qu'en diches mal e en decazer ponhes;
had will that-thereof he-said ill and in bringing-down he-strove
e pueis pesset se que mai valia que ponhes en
and then he-bethought himself that more it-was-worth that he-strove in
ela enganar, aisi com ela avia lui enganat: e comensa la
her to-deceive thus as she had him deceived and begins her
a defendre, a cobrir et a razonar del fag del comte. La
to defend to cover and to plead of-the deed of-the count The
Loba auzi que Miraval la defendia del mal que avia
She-Wolf heard that Miraval her defended from-the ill which she-had
fag, sobre la gran tristeza qu'el avia. Si s'alegra molt per
done over the great sadness which-he had So herself-rejoiced much for
la defensio de Miraval, per so qu'ela avia maior paor d'el
the defense of Miraval for that that-she had greater fear of-him
que de totas las autras gens. E si'll fai venir a se,
than of all the other folk And so-him she-makes to-come to herself

e si'll regrasia molt en ploran del mantenemen e de la
and so-him thanked much in weeping for-the upholding and for the
defensio qu'el fazia d'ela; e si li dis: Miraval, s'ieu anc
defense which-he made of-her and so to-him said Miraval if-I ever
jorn agui pretz ni honor, ni amic ni amiga, ni fos auzida
day had worth or honor or friend or lady-friend or were heard
ni prezada luenh ni pres, ni aigui ensenhamen ni cortezia,
or prized far or near or had breeding or courtesy
per vos m'es tot avengut e de vos o tenh. E cum
through you to-me-it-is all come and from you it I-hold And as
so sia causa que ieu non ai fag tot so que vos aves
that be thing that I not have done all that which you have
volgut en dreg d'amor, no m'o a vedat amors d'autrui,
wished in right of-love not me-it has forbidden love of-another
mas una paraula que vos disses en una vostra canso, que
but a word which you said in a your song which
ditz: Amors me fai cantar et esbaudir ... Bona domna
says Love me makes to-sing and to-rejoice … Good lady
no s deu d'amor gequir; E pus tan fai qu'ad amor
not herself must from-love to-leave And since so-much she-does that-to love
s'abandona, No s'en coch trop ni massa non o
herself-abandons Not herself-thereof let-her-hasten too-much nor overly not it
tir, Que mens en val tot fag que dessazona. Et
let-her-draw For less thereof is-worth all deed that is-untimely And
ieu volia vos far tan de plazer ab onrada razo, per
I wished to-you to-do so-much of pleasure with honored reason for
que vos l'acsetz plus car, que m'en volia cocha; que non
which you it-had more dear that me-thereof wished to-hasten for not
a mais dos ans e cinq mes que vos retengui baizan,
is more-than two years and five months that you I-retained kissing

si com vos diches en vostra canso: Passatz so cinq mes
so as you said in your song Passed are five months
e dui ans Qu'ieu vos retengui a mos comans. Aras vei
and two years That-I you retained at my commands Now I-see
be que vos no m voles abandonar per lo blasme fals e
well that you not me wish to-abandon for the blame false and
mensongier que m'aun mes enemix et enemignas desobre
lying which me-have put enemies and she-enemies upon
me. Per so vos dic que pos vos me mantenes contra
me For that to-you I-say that since you me maintain against
tota gent, et ieu me tuelh de tota autra amor per
all folk and I myself withdraw from all other love for
vos, e don vos lo cor e'l cors per far tot cant que
you and I-give to-you the heart and-the body for to-do all that which
vulhatz; e met me del tot en vostre poder et en
you-wish and I-put myself of-the whole into your power and into
vostras mas, e prec vos que m defendatz a vostre poder.
your hands and I-pray you that me you-defend to your power
Miravals ab gran alegreza receup lo don de la Loba, et
Miraval with great gladness received the gift of the She-Wolf and
ac de lieis tot so que a lui plac longa sazo. Mas denan
had from her all that which to him pleased long season But before
s'era enamorat de la marqueza de Menerba, qu'era joves
he-had-been enamored of the marquise of Minerve who-was young
e gaia e gentils domna; e non avia mentit ni enganat,
and gay and noble lady and not had lied nor deceived
ni era estada enganada ni trahida. E per aquesta se
nor had been deceived nor betrayed And for this himself
parti Miravals de la Loba, per que fez aquesta canso
parted Miraval from the She-Wolf for which he-made this song

que dis: S'ieu en cantar soven No m'atur ni m'aten, Non
which says If-I in singing often Not myself-stop nor myself-wait Not
cujetz que sabers M'en falha ni razos. Vos avez entendut
think that knowledge Me-thereof fails nor theme You have heard
d'EN Raimon de Miraval co saup enganar la Loba e
of-Sir Raimon of Miraval how he-knew to-deceive the She-Wolf and
remaner ab lieis en patz. Mas ar vos dirai de N'Alazais
to-remain with her in peace But now to-you I-will-tell of Lady-Alazais
de Boissazon com l'enganet; et una autra apres qu'era sa
of Boissezon how her-he-deceived and a other after who-was her
vezina, NA Esmengarda de Castras, et il dizia hom la
neighbor Lady Esmengarda of Castres and her called one the
bela d'Albeges. Abdoas ero de l'avescat d'Albi: N'Alazais
fair-one of-Albigeois Both were of the-bishopric of-Albi Lady-Alazais
era d'un castel que a nom Lombes, molher d'EN Bernat
was of-a castle which has name Lombers wife of-Sir Bernat
de Boissazo; NA Esmengarda si era d'un borc que a nom
of Boissezon Lady Esmengarda so was of-a town which has name
Castras, molher d'un ric valvassor qu'era fort de temps.
Castres wife of-a rich vavasor who-was much of years
Miravals s'enamoret de N'Alazais qu'era joves e gentils
Miraval himself-enamored of Lady-Alazais who-was young and noble
e bela, e voluntoza de pretz e d'onor e de lauzor. E
and fair and eager for worth and for-honor and for praise And
car ela conoissia que Miravals li podia plus donar de
because she knew that Miraval to-her could more to-give of
pretz que nuls hom que fos, si fo molt alegra car vi
worth than any man that was so she-was much glad for she-saw
qu'el l'amava; e fetz li totz los semblans e los plazers
that-he her-loved and made to-him all the seemings and the pleasures

que dona pot far a home. Et el la enanset cantan e
which lady can to-do to man And he her advanced singing and
comtan a son poder, e de lieis fes motas bonas chansos.
telling to his power and of her made many good songs
E mes la en tan gran pretz, que totz los baros de aquela
And he-put her in so great worth that all the barons of that
terra entendero en ela, lo vescomte de Bezers, e'l coms
land courted in her the viscount of Béziers and-the count
de Toloza, e'l rei Peire d'Arago, als cals Miravals la
of Toulouse and-the king Peire of-Aragon to-the which Miraval her
avia tan lauzada, qu'el reis, ses vezer, s'en era fort
had so-much praised that-the king without seeing himself-thereof was much
enamoratz, e l'avia mandatz sos messatges e sas joias.
enamored and to-her-had sent his messengers and his jewels
Et el ac voluntat de lieis vezer; e Miravals ponhet mot
And he had will of her to-see and Miraval strove much
com el la vis, e fetz una cobla en sa chanso que dis: Ar
that he her saw and made a stanza in his song which says Now
ab la forsa del freis ... S'a Lombes corteja'l reis, Per tos
with the force of-the cold … If-at Lombers courts-the king For all
temps er jois ab lui; E sitot s'es sobradeis, Per un
time will-be joy with him And although himself-is excessive For one
ben en venran dui: Que la cortezi'e'l jais De la bella
good thereof will-come two For the courtesy-and-the joy Of the fair
N'Alazais, E'l fresca color e'l pel bion Fan tot lo segle
Lady-Alazais And-the fresh color and-the hair blond Make all the world
jauzion. Donc lo rei s'en venc en Albiges a Lombes
rejoicing Then the king himself-thence came into Albigeois to Lombers
per vezer N'Alazais; EN Miravals venc ab lo rei, pregan
for to-see Lady-Alazais Sir Miraval came with the king praying

lo rei qu'el li degues valer ab ma domna N'Alazais.
the king that-he to-him should to-help with my lady Lady-Alazais
Fort fo ereubutz et onratz lo reis, e vegut volentiers per
Much was received and honored the king and seen willingly by
ma domna N'Alazais. El rei, tantost can fon assegut apres
my lady Lady-Alazais The king at-once when he-was seated beside
d'ela, la preguet d'amor; et ela autreiet de far tot so que
her her prayed of-love and she granted to do all that which
volria; si que la nueg ac lo rei tot so que volc;
he-would-wish so that the night had the king all that which he-wished
e'l lendema fo saubut per tot lo castel e per tota
and-the next-day it-was known through all the castle and through all
la cort del rei. EN Miravals, que atendia esser rics de joi
the court of-the king Sir Miraval who expected to-be rich in joy
per prec del rei et auzi aquestas novelas, fo fort marrit;
through prayer of-the king and heard these news was much grieved
et anet s'en, e laisset lo rei e la dona. Longamen se
and went away and left the king and the lady Long himself
plais del mal que avia fag la dona, e de la felonia
he-complained of-the ill which had done the lady and of the felony
qu'el rei avia facha de lui; don el per aquesta razo fe
which-the king had done of him whereof he for this reason made
esta chanso: Entre dos volers soi pessiu. Can lo coms de
this song Between two wishes I-am pensive When the count of
Toloza fon deseretatz per la guerra e per los Frances, et
Toulouse was disinherited by the war and by the French and
ac perdut Argensa e Belcaire; e li Frances agro San
had lost Argence and Beaucaire and the French had Saint
Gili et Albiges e Carcasses; et Bederres fon destruitz,
Gilles and Albigeois and Carcassès and Béziers was destroyed

e'l vescomte de Bezers era mort, e tota la bona gent
and-the viscount of Béziers was dead and all the good folk
d'aquela encontrada foro morta e guandida al coms, ab
of-that region were dead and fled to-the count with
cui el se clamava'N Audiart, el vevia ab gran dolor,
whom he himself called-Sir Audiart he lived with great grief
per so que tota la bona gent, de cui era lo coms senher
for that that all the good folk of whom was the count lord
e maystre, e donas e cavaliers ero mortz e deseretatz.
and master and ladies and knights were dead and disinherited
Pueis avia sa molher perduda, aisi com auziretz, e sa
Then he-had his wife lost thus as you-will-hear and his
dona l'avia trait et avia son castel perdut. Avenc se
lady him-had betrayed and he-had his castle lost It-befell itself
qu'el reis d'Arago venc a Toloza per parlar ab lo comte,
that-the king of-Aragon came to Toulouse for to-speak with the count
e per vezer sa seror ma dona NA Elionor e ma dona
and for to-see his sister my lady Lady Eleanor and my lady
Sancha. E confortet mot sa seror e'l comte e sos filh
Sancha And he-comforted much his sister and-the count and his son
e la bona gen de Toloza. E promes al coms qu'el
and the good folk of Toulouse And he-promised to-the count that-he
li rendria e cobraria Belcaire e Carcassona, et a
to-him would-render and would-recover Beaucaire and Carcassonne and to
Miraval lo sieu castel; e que la bona gen cobraria lo joi
Miraval the his castle and that the good folk would-recover the joy
que avia perdut. EN Miravals, per joi qu'el ac de la
which they-had lost Sir Miraval for joy which-he had from the
promessio qu'el reis fes al comte et a lui de rendre so
promise which-the king made to-the count and to him to render that

qu'avion perdut, e per lo tems d'estat qu'era vengutz,
which-they-had lost and for the time of-summer which-was come
ja agues el preponut de no far cansos entro que
already had he resolved of not to-make songs until that
agues cobrat lo castel de Miraval que avia perdut, e car
he-had recovered the castle of Miraval which he-had lost and because
s'era enamorat de ma dona NA Elionor, molher del comte,
he-was enamored of my lady Lady Eleanor wife of-the count
qu'era la plus bela dona del mon e la melhor, a cui el
who-was the most fair lady of-the world and the best to whom he
non avia encaras fag semblan d'amor, fes esta canso que
not had yet made seeming of-love he-made this song which
di: Bel m'es qu'ieu chan e condei, Pos l'aur'es dossa
says Fair to-me-it-is that-I sing and make-merry Since the-breeze-is sweet
e'l temps jai. E cant ac facha la canso la trames
and-the weather gay And when he-had made the song it he-sent
en Arago, per qu'el rei venc ab mil cavayers a servizi
into Aragon for which-the king came with thousand knights to service
del comte, per la promessio qu'el avia facha. Don lo rei
of-the count for the promise which-he had made Whereof the king
fon mortz per los Frances denan Murel ab totz los mil
was killed by the French before Muret with all the thousand
cavayers que avia ab se, que negus non escapet ab vida.
knights whom he-had with him for any not escaped with life
Eu vos ai dich de sobre en l'autra raison d'EN Raimon
I to-you have told of above in the-other account of-Sir Raimon
de Miraval, et avetz auzit qui fo ni don, e com gran
of Miraval and you-have heard who he-was and whence and how great
ren entendet en totas las meillors dompnas e las plus
thing he-courted in all the best ladies and the most

valens d'aquelas encontradas, si com el dis: Ja ma dompna
worthy of-those regions so as he says Ever my lady
m'a lei, S'eu a sas merces m'estais, Que non ai cor
me-has loyal If-I at her mercy myself-stay For not I-have heart
que m'abais Ni vas bas amor desrei; C'ades ai lo meills
that me-lowers Nor toward base love strays For-always I-have the best
volgut Dedins e fors son repaire, etc. Que las mes en
wished Within and without her dwelling etc That them he-put in
gran pretz et en gran lauzor entre la bona gen. Ben ni
great worth and in great praise among the good folk Well thereof
ac de tal que feiron ben de lui, e d'autras qu'en
there-was of such who did well of him and of-others who-thereof
feiron mal, si com el dis: Que mantas vetz me tornet a
did ill so as he says For many times me she-turned to
folor E mantas vetz en gaug et en doussor. E ben fo
folly And many times into joy and into sweetness And well he-was
per tals galiatz que el las galiet pueis tot galiatz, si com
by such deceived that he them deceived then all deceived so as
el dis: Et en sufren mon dan Saup l'enganar toz enganatz,
he says And in suffering my harm I-knew her-to-deceive all deceived
E pois remaner ab leis en patz. Mas a lui desplasia
And then to-remain with her in peace But to him displeased
fort qui dizia qu'el non agues ben de las dompnas, e si
much who said that-he not had good from the ladies and so
desmentia aquels que disian qu'el non agues ben, si com el
he-belied those who said that-he not had good so as he
dis: Ar vau disen a lairo Q'anc d'amor no fi mon pro,
says Now I-go saying by stealth That-ever of-love not I-made my profit
M'en ten qautz, n'ai bes e jauzimens E sufert
Myself-thereof I-hold how-much thereof-I-have goods and enjoyments And suffered

dans e galiamens. Ancmais no volc enganar las finas
harms and deceptions Ever not he-wished to-deceive the fine-ones
ni las leials per mal qu'elas li fezeson sofrir, ans de
nor the loyal-ones for ill which-they to-him made to-suffer rather from
lor dan poc aver fait son pro, mas anc no volc ren
their harm he-could to-have made his profit but ever not he-wished anything
qu'a lor no fon bos. E si s'enamoret d'una joven domna
that-to them not was good And so himself-enamored of-a young lady
gentil d'Albiges que avia nom ma domna Aimengarda de
noble of-Albigeois who had name my lady Aimengarda of
Castras; bela era e cortesa et avinens et enseignada e
Castres fair she-was and courteous and comely and well-bred and
gen parlans. Dig vos ai de N'Alazais de Boissazo com
nobly speaking Told to-you I-have of Lady-Alazais of Boissezon how
engannet Miravals e si meteusa aissi; ara vos vuelh dir
deceived Miraval and her self thus now to-you I-wish to-tell
com NA Esmengarda de Castras saup que N'Alazais l'avia
how Lady Esmengarda of Castres knew that Lady-Alazais him-had
escarnit; mandet per EN Miravals; et el venc, et ela'l dis
mocked she-sent for Sir Miraval and he came and she-to-him said
que mot era dolenta de so que se dizia de NA Alazais,
that much she-was grieved at that which itself said of Lady Alazais
don ela avia cor e voluntat de far esmenda a lui de se
whence she had heart and will to make amends to him of her
mezeissa, del mal que li avia fag N'Alazais. Et el fon
self for-the ill which to-him had done Lady-Alazais And he was
leu per enganar, can vi los bels semblans e'ls bos ditz
light for deceiving when he-saw the fair seemings and-the good words
ab qu'ela li presentava l'esmenda del dan qu'el avia
with which-she to-him presented the-amends for-the harm which-he had

pres; e dis li que voluntiers voldria prendre de lieis
taken and said to-her that willingly he-would-wish to-take from her
la esmenda. Et ela pres lo per cavalier e per servidor; e
the amends And she took him for knight and for servant and
Miravals la comenset a lauzar et a grazir, et a enansar
Miraval her began to praise and to thank and to advance
son pretz e sa valor. E la dona avia sen e saber e
her worth and her merit And the lady had sense and knowledge and
cortezia, e saup gazanhar amics et amigas. EN Olivier
courtesy and knew to-gain men-friends and women-friends Sir Olivier
de Saissac, que era un gran bar de la terra, si entendia
of Saissac who was a great baron of the land so courted
en ela e la pregava de penre per molher. EN Miravals,
in her and her prayed to take for wife Sir Miraval
can vi que l'avia tan montada en pretz et en onor,
when he-saw that her-he-had so-much raised in worth and in honor
volc gazardo; e si la preget que li fezes plazer en
wished reward and so her prayed that to-him she-did pleasure in
dreg d'amor. Et ela li dis qu'ela no il faria plazer
right of-love And she to-him said that-she not to-him she-would-do pleasure
d'amor per nom de drudaria, qu'enans lo pendria per
of-love by name of love-making for-rather him she-would-take for
marit, per so que lur amor no s pogues partir ni s
husband for that that their love not itself could to-part nor itself
rompre; e qu'el degues partir sa molher de se, la qual
to-break and that-he should to-part his wife from himself the who
avia nom ma dona Gaudairenca. Don Miravals fon fort
had name my lady Gaudairenca Whereof Miraval was much
alegres e jauzens cant auzit que per marit lo volia; et
glad and rejoicing when he-heard that for husband him she-wished and

anet s'en al sieu castel, e dis a sa molher que no volia
went away to-the his castle and said to his wife that not he-wished
molher que saupes trobar, que assatz avia en un alberc
wife who knew to-compose for enough there-was in one lodging
d'un trobador; e que se aparelhes d'anar ves l'alberc
of-one troubadour and that herself she-prepare to-go toward the-lodging
de son paire, qu'el no la tenria plus per molher. Et ela
of her father for-he not her would-hold more for wife And she
entendia en un cavayer que avia nom Guillem Bremon, don
courted in a knight who had name Guillem Bremon whereof
ela fazia sas dansas. Cant ela auzi so que EN Miravals
she made her dances When she heard that which Sir Miraval
li dis fes se fort irada, e dis que mandaria per
to-her said she-made herself much angered and said that she-would-send for
sos parens. E mandet per EN G. Bremon que vengues,
her kin And she-sent for Sir G Bremon that he-came
que ela lo pendria per marit e s n'iria ab el.
that she him would-take for husband and herself thence-would-go with him
G. Bremon cant auzi las novelas fo molt alegres; e
G Bremon when he-heard the news was much glad and
pres cavaliers, e venc s'en al castel d'EN Miraval e
took knights and came away to-the castle of-Sir Miraval and
desmontet a la porta. E NA Gaudairenca o apres, e dis
dismounted at the gate And Lady Gaudairenca it learned and said
a'N Miraval que siei amic eron vengut per lieis, e qu'ela
to-Sir Miraval that her friends were come for her and that-she
s'en volia anar ab lor. Miravals fo molt alegres e la
herself-thence wished to-go with them Miraval was much glad and the
dona plus. La dona fo aparelhada d'anar; EN Miravals la
lady more The lady was prepared to-go Sir Miraval her

menet fora e troba EN G. Bremon e sa companha e
led outside and finds Sir G Bremon and his company and
receup los fort. Can la dona volc montar el caval, ela
received them much When the lady wished to-mount on-the horse she
dis a'N Miraval, que pus que la volia partir de liei, que
said to-Sir Miraval that since that her he-wished to-part from her that
la des a'N Guilhem Bremon per molher. Miravals dis que
her he-give to-Sir Guillem Bremon for wife Miraval said that
voluntiers, si ela o volia. En G. se trais enan e pres
willingly if she it wished Sir G himself drew forward and took
l'anel per espozar; EN Miraval la'l det per molher, e
the-ring for marrying Sir Miraval her-to-him gave for wife and
menet la'n. Can Miraval ac partida sa molher de se,
he-led her-away When Miraval had parted his wife from himself
anet s'en a ma dona NA Imengarda; e dis li qu'el avia
he-went away to my lady Lady Imengarda and said to-her that-he had
fag son comandamen de sa molher, e qu'ela denhes faire
done her command about his wife and that-she deign to-do
e dir e li atendes so que li avia promes. E la
and to-say and to-him keep that which to-him she-had promised And the
dona li dis que ben avia fag; e que s'en tornes
lady to-him said that well he-had done and that himself-thence he-return
a son castel e que fezes son aparelhamen de far grans
to his castle and that he-make his preparation to make great
nossas e de recebre lieis per molher, car ela manderia tost
nuptials and to receive her for wife for she would-send soon
per el. Miravals s'en anet e fes gran aparelhamen
for him Miraval himself-thence went and made great preparation
per far nossas. Ela mandet per N Olivier de Saissac, et
for to-make nuptials She sent for Sir Olivier of Saissac and

el venc tost: et ela'l dis co ela faria tot so qu'el
he came soon and she-to-him said how she would-do all that which-he
voldria, e'l penria per marit. Et el fo lo plus alegres
would-wish and-him would-take for husband And he was the most glad
hom del mon; et acorderon aisi lur fag que'l ser la'n
man of-the world and they-agreed thus their deed that-the evening her-thence
menet al sieu castel, e lendeman l'espozet, e fes
he-led to-the his castle and next-day her-he-married and made
grans nossas e gran cort. Las novelas vengro a'N Miraval
great nuptials and great court The news came to-Sir Miraval
que la dona avia pres N Olivier de Saychac per marit. Fort
that the lady had taken Sir Olivier of Saissac for husband Much
fo dolen e trist, car l'avia fag sa molher laissar, e
was-he grieved and sad for him-she-had made his wife to-leave and
que l'avia promes qu'el prendria per marit, e que
that to-him-she-had promised that-him she-would-take for husband and that
n'avia fag son aparelhamen de nossas; e dolens de
he-thereof-had made his preparation of nuptials and grieving for
N'Alazais del mal qu'ela avia fag ab lo rei d'Arago: e
Lady-Alazais at-the ill which-she had done with the king of-Aragon and
si perdet tot joi e tot alegrier e tot solatz, e cantar
so he-lost all joy and all gladness and all cheer and singing
e trobar. Et estet com hom esperdutz ben dos ans.
and composing And he-stayed as man lost well two years
Aquestas novellas foron auzidas per totas aquelas contradas
These news were heard through all those regions
loing e pres; et avenc a saber a un valen baron de
far and near and it-came to knowing to a worthy baron of
Cataloigna que avia nom N Uget de Mataplana qu'era mout
Catalonia who had name Sir Uget of Mataplana who-was much

amics de Miravals, e si en fetz aquest sirventes que ditz:
friend of Miraval and so thereof made this sirventes which says
D'un sirventes m'es pres talens. E mans cavaliers trobador
Of-a sirventes to-me-is taken desire And many knights troubadours
se trufavon de lui per los esquerns qu'en fazian.
themselves mocked of him for the jests which-thereof they-made
Mas una gentil dona que avia nom Brunessen, molher d'EN
But a noble lady who had name Brunessen wife of-Sir
P. Rotgier de Cabaret, que era enveioza de pretz e d'onor,
P Rotgier of Cabaret who was eager for worth and for-honor
si mandet saludan e pregan e confortan a'N Miraval que
so sent greeting and praying and comforting to-Sir Miraval that
s degues alegrar per l'amor de lieis: e que saubes per
himself he-should to-rejoice for the-love of her and that he-know for
veritat qu'ela l'anaria vezer si no volia venir vas lieis,
truth that-she him-would-go to-see if not he-wished to-come toward her
e li faria tan d'amor, qu'el conoisiria be que no'l
and to-him would-do so-much of-love that-he would-know well that not-him
volia enganar. E de aquesta razo fes esta chanso que
she-wished to-deceive And of this reason he-made this song which
di: Ben aia'l messatgier.
says Well have-the messenger

All his thoughts are of love, though slanderers say a knight should think of other things, for from love comes all that is worth more in folly and in sense. Love helps every good servant, and worth seldom lodges without a beloved. A lady cannot have worth and merit unless she loves, and should heed right chastening; as a faithful counselor he will gainsay ladies who act against youth. A false lady has troubled his love; he blesses More Than-Friend, praises Cloak, chides Little-Shepherd, and sends the song to his lady.

D'amor son totz mos cossiriers,
Of-love are all my thoughts
per qu'ieu no cossir mas d'amor,
for which-I not think but of-love
e diran li mal parlador
and will-say the ill speakers
que d'als deu pensar cavaliers;
that of-else must to-think knight
mas ieu dic que no fai mia
but I say that not he-does at-all
que d'amor mov, qui qu'o dia,
for from-love moves whoever that-it says
so que val mais a foudat et a sen,
that which is-worth more in folly and in sense
e tot quant hom fai per amor es gen.
and all that one does for love is noble

Amors a tans de bos mestiers
Love has so-many of good offices
qu'a totz fai benestans socor,
that-to all it-does fitting succor
qu'ieu no vey nulh bon servidor
for-I not see any good servant
que non cug esser parsoniers,
whom not I-think to-be sharer
qu'en luec bos pretz no s'abria
for-in place good worth not itself-shelters
leu, si non ve per amia;
easily if not it-comes through beloved
pueis dizon tug, quant hom fai falhimen,
then say all when one makes failing
be m par d'aquest qu'en donas non enten.
well to-me it-seems of-this-one who-in ladies not sets-his-mind

Dona no pot aver estiers,
Lady not can to-have otherwise
si non ama, pretz e valor,
if not she-loves worth and merit
qu'atressi com li amador
for-likewise as the lovers
an mais de totz bos aips sobriers,
have more of all good qualities surpassing
selha que trop no s'en tria
she who too-much not herself-thereof chooses
en val mais, qui la'n castia,
thereof is-worth more who her-thereof chastens

adoncs fai mal, si'n mielhs no s'en repen;
then she-does ill if-thereof better not herself-thereof repents
mas creire deu adreg castiamen.
but to-believe she-must right chastening

Qu'ieu sui mainhtas vetz lauzengiers,
For-I am many times slanderer
quar a dona ni a senhor
for to lady nor to lord
non deu consentir deshonor
not must to-consent dishonor
negus sos fizels cosselliers;
any his faithful counselor
non laissarai qu'ieu non dia,
not I-will-leave that-I not say
qu'ieu tos temps non contradia
that-I all time not gainsay
so que faran domnas contra joven,
that which will-do ladies against youth
ni m semblara de mal captenemen.
nor to-me it-will-seem of ill bearing

E ja d'aquestz drutz messongiers
And ever of-these lovers lying
que cuion aver gran lauzor,
who think to-have great praise
ni dona que s'aten a lor,
nor lady who herself-attends to them

uns per so no m sia guerriers;
one for that not to-me may-be enemy
qu'enemics ni enemia
for-enemy nor she-enemy
no m notz lo pretz d'una fia,
not me harms the worth of-a fig
sol que m'aia ma dona ferm talen,
only that to-me-has my lady firm desire
e meinhs d'erguelh e mais de chauzimen.
and less of-pride and more of clemency

De gaug li fora plazentiers,
With joy to-her I-would-be pleasing
mas trop mi ten en gran error,
but too-much me she-holds in great error
pero per semblan de melhor
yet for seeming of better
n'ai eu loguat cinc ans entiers;
thereof-have I hired five years whole
mas una dona mendia,
but a lady beggarly
falsa, que dieus la maldia,
false whom God her curses
mes entre nos aquest destorbamen,
put between us this disturbance
don mainhtas vetz n'ai pueys plorat greumen.
whence many times thereof-I-have since wept grievously

Mais D'Amic, dieus benezia
More Than-Friend God may-bless
qui vol que m siatz amia,
who wills that to-me you-be beloved
e s'ie us ai fag plazer ni onramen
and if-I to-you have done pleasure or honoring
enquer, si us platz, o farai per un cen.
still if to-you it-pleases it I-will-do by one hundred

Mantelh, qui aital n'abria,
Cloak who such thereof-shelters
ben er cregutz, quals qu'o dia,
well will-be grown whoever that-it says
qu'anc no'l conques per aur ni per argen,
for-ever not-it he-won with gold nor with silver
mas per valor, e per pretz, e per sen.
but with merit and with worth and with sense

Pastoret, no us lauzi mia,
Little-Shepherd not you I-praise at-all
si dieus vos don joy d'amia,
so God to-you may-give joy of-beloved
qu'a ma dona no mostretz cum l'es gen,
that-to my lady not you-show how to-her-it-is noble
si Miravalh sap tener franchamen.
if Miraval knows to-hold frankly

Chansoneta, ves mi dons vai corren,
Little-song toward my lady go running
qu'ilh mante pretz, e renha en joven.
for-she maintains worth and reigns in youth

2 · THE FOUR CRAFTS

Of the four crafts that give a knight worth, fair cheer and love are the best, and he strives with both and with songs. Ladies who cannot understand praise have changed his mind, so he turns to other themes: an ill-taught, miserly, ill-spoken churl is welcomed before men like him, and each lady wants two lovers. Fear kept him mute while he was their well-wisher. He describes his own lady, worthy and gay beyond any praising, and names Audiart, who is so good to him.

Dels quatre mestiers valens,
Of-the four crafts worthy
per que cavalliers an pretz,
through which knights have worth
es belh solatz avinens
is fair cheer comely
un dels melhors,
one of-the best
e selh cui mielhs acuelh amors;
and that which best welcomes love
per qu'ieu m'esfors ab els et ab chantars,
for which-I myself-strive with them and with songs
cum sobre totz fos grazitz mos affars;
how above all was welcomed my affair
qu'homs malazautz, sitot s'es pros,
for-man ill-mannered although he-is worthy
non es guair'ad ops d'amar bos.
not is much-for need of-loving good

Per domnas desconoissens
Through ladies unknowing
que per un'autra'n son detz,
who for one-other-thereof are ten
s'es alques camjatz mos sens,
itself-is somewhat changed my sense
quar las pluzors
for the most
no sabon entendre lauzors;
not know to-understand praises
per qu'ieu non vuelh mos belhs digz plazens cars
for which-I not wish my fair words pleasing dear
pauzar denan als lurs nescis cuidars,
to-set before to-the their foolish fancies
pus plazers non es cabalos,
since pleasing not is excellent
ans me vir vas autras razos.
rather myself I-turn toward other themes

Er dirai de mos talens
Now I-will-speak of my desires
qu'estat n'aurai mutz e quetz,
for-been thereof-I-will-have mute and quiet
mentre fui lur bevolens,
while I-was their well-wisher
m'o tolc temors;
to-me-it took fear
gardatz s'es ben domneys errors,
consider if-is well courtship error

q'uns malapres, vilas, cobes, avars,
that-a ill-taught churl covetous miserly
outracuiatz parliers de mals parlars,
overweening talker of evil talks
es aculhitz enans que nos;
is welcomed before than we
e quasquna vol n'aver dos.
and each wants thereof-to-have two

No vuelh esser conoissens
Not I-wish to-be knowing
dels enjans que tug sabetz,
of-the deceits which all you-know
don dizon donas que mens
whence say ladies that less
n'es ma valors,
thereof-is my merit
e dels autres domneyadors,
and of-the other courters
quar per negun qu'els conogues tan clars
for for any that-them knew so clear
no'ls agra mais aitan suffertz ni pars;
not-them would-have ever so-much suffered nor equals
mas ades hom n'es negligos
but always one thereof-is negligent
vas selh que conoys aziros
toward him whom he-knows hateful

si m'an menat malamens
so me-have led badly
donas, e faitz lurs devetz,
ladies and made their prohibitions
que falhitz m'es essiens
that failed to-me-is knowingly
chans et amors,
song and love
voluntatz, arditz e temors,
will boldness and fear
humilitatz e suffrirs e celars,
humility and suffering and concealing
parlar per ops, e quan m'es ops, calhars;
speaking for need and when to-me-is need silence
aitals sui francs et amoros
such I-am frank and amorous
quar volc ma dona qu'aitals fos.
for wished my lady that-such I-were

Ab aitals captenemens
With such bearings
cum auziretz, si us voletz,
as you-will-hear if you wish
la sai, e sos cors qu'es gens,
her I-know and her body which-is noble
e sa valors
and her merit
fina ab pauc de preyadors,
true with few of suitors

valen e pros, lial ses totz trichars,
valiant and worthy loyal without all cheating
guaya e prezan qu'a penas nulhs lauzars
gay and prized that-at pains any praising
pot sos ricx pretz ni sas faisos
can her rich worth nor her features
dir en comtans ni ab chansos.
to-tell in tales nor with songs

Lials, si m falh amors e domneyars,
Loyal if me fails love and courting
ieu ai chauzit de senhors part mos pars
I have chosen of lords beyond my peers
mon Audiart, que m'es tan bos
my Audiart who to-me-is so good
qu'en sui fis als antres baros.
that-thereof I-am sure to-the other barons

He hardly knows where he learns what he sings, but the worse he suffers and the more she hates him, the better his song. Only his good lady can heal him, and the most foolish man in the realm would leave her wise. No lady brings him good, yet for her love he is gayer and more courteous, and where every helper fails, mercy rests. Troubadours praise any lady for pleasure, and overpraise is mockery, but of his lady one can say only the truth. He serves her from whom he holds Miraval.

A penas sai don m'aprenh
At pains I-know whence myself-I-learn
so qu'en chantan m'auzetz dir;
that which-in singing me-you-hear to-say
com pieitz trac ni plus m'azir,
as worse I-endure and more me-she-hates
miels en mon chan esdevenh;
better in my song I-succeed
guardatz, quant er qui m n'ensenh,
consider how-much it-will-be who me thereof-teaches
si sabrai esdevenir,
so I-will-know to-succeed
sol ma bona domna m denh,
only-if my good lady me deign
e nulh'autra no m destrenh,
and any-other not me constrains
ni ses lieys no puesc guerir
and without her not I-can to-heal
de la dolor que sostenh.
from the pain which I-sustain

Lo plus nescis hom del renh
The most foolish man of-the realm
que la veya ni remir
who her sees or gazes-upon
deuria esser al partir
ought to-be at-the parting
savis e de belh captenh;
wise and of fair bearing
e doncs ieu que l'am ses genh
and then I who her-love without guile
be m'en deuria jauzir,
well myself-thereof ought to-enjoy
pos tan gran valor la senh;
since so great merit her girds
e ges de saber no m fenh,
and at-all of knowing not myself I-feign
ni nulh hom no pot falhir
and any man not can to-fail
que de lieys aia sovenh.
who of her has memory

Anc a nulh fin amador
Ever to any true lover
no cug mais esdevengues,
not I-think ever it-happened
que de domnas no m ven bes,
that from ladies not to-me comes good
ni no m'aus clamar de lor;
and not myself-I-dare to-complain of them

qu'una m tolh lo joy d'alhor
for-one from-me takes the joy from-elsewhere
e del sieu no m dona ges,
and of-the hers not to-me gives at-all
ni d'autra non ai sabor;
and of-other not I-have savor
pero per la su'amor
yet for the her-love
soi plus guays e plus cortes,
I-am more gay and more courteous
e'n port a totas honor.
and-thereof I-bear to all honor

Be sai que per sa ricor
Well I-know that for her wealth
me tol so qu'anc no m promes,
from-me she-takes that which-ever not to-me she-promised
qu'ieu non soi ges tant apres
for-I not am at-all so taught
que miey prec m'aian valor;
that my prayers for-me-have merit
en aisso paus ma dolor,
in this I-rest my pain
que lai se pausa merces
that there itself rests mercy
on falhon tuit validor;
where fail all helpers

mas ilh a tan de lauzor
but she has so-much of praise
qu'el bes i es grazis e pres,
that-the good there is welcomed and prized
e'l mal en loc de doussor.
and-the ill in place of sweetness

Dona, ben cortes jornal
Lady well courteous day's-work
fa'l jorn que vos va vezer,
makes-the day who you goes to-see
que ges pueis no s pot tener
for at-all then not himself can to-hold
que no us port amor coral;
that not to-you he-bears love heartfelt
e non tug per cominal,
and not all for common
qu'els fals no podon voler
for-the false not can to-want
so que volem nos leyal;
that which want we loyal
per so viura desleyal
for that will-live disloyal
selh qu'ab enjan no s'esper,
he who-with deceit not himself-hopes
s'aillor non pren son ostal.
if-elsewhere not he-takes his lodging

Tug li trobador engal,
All the troubadours equally
segon que an de saber,
according-to what they-have of knowledge
lauzon domnas per plazer,
praise ladies for pleasing
e non guardon cui ni qual;
and not consider whom nor which
mas qui trop mais que no val
but who much more than — she-is-worth
lauza si dons, fai parer
praises his lady makes to-appear
qu'esquerns es e non ren al;
that-mockery it-is and not anything else
mas ieu n'ai cauzida tal
but I thereof-have chosen such-one
qu'om non pot dire mas ver,
that-one not can to-say but truth
si doncs non dizia mal.
if then not one-said ill

Per qu'ieu non pes de ren al
For which-I not think of anything else
mas de servir a plazer
but of serving at pleasure
lieys de cui tenc Miraval.
her from whom I-hold Miraval

Deus benediga'l leyal:
God may-bless-the loyal
eu en cort volgra vezer
I in court would-wish to-see
cilh cui port amor coral.
her to-whom I-bear love heartfelt

Whoever will not hear songs should keep away, for he sings to gladden his heart and his companions, and above all to please his lady. No one is worth anything who is not eager and does not love, for from love come joy, courtesy, art, and skill. Only a child blames a lover for folly, since one who knows how to be moderate is no lover. He desires holding, kissing, and lying with his fair lady, blesses whoever was first jealous, and has learned from Audiart to be courteous to one lady only.

Selh que no vol auzir chansos
He who not wants to-hear songs
de nostra companhia s gar,
from our company himself let-him-guard
qu'ieu chan per mon cor alegrar
for-I sing for my heart to-gladden
e per solatz dels companhos,
and for cheer of-the companions
e plus per so qu'esdevengues
and more for that that-it-might-succeed
en chanso qu'a mi dons plagues;
in song which-to my lady pleased
qu'autra voluntatz no m destreng
for-other will not me constrains
de solatz ni de belh captenh.
of cheer nor of fair bearing

Pauc val qui non es enveyos,
Little is-worth who not is eager
e qui no dezira'l plus car;
and who not desires-the most dear

e qui no s'entremet d'amar,
and who not himself-busies with-loving
non pot esser valens ni pros;
not can to-be valiant nor worthy
que d'amar ven gaugz e ven bes,
for from-loving comes joy and comes good
e per amor es hom cortes;
and through love is man courteous
et amors dona l'art e'l genh
and love gives the-art and-the skill
per que bos pretz troba mantenh.
for which good worth finds support

Ben es savis a ley de tos,
Well is wise at law of boy
qui drut blasma de folheiar,
who lover blames for acting-foolishly
c'om, pos que s sap amezurar,
for-man since that himself knows to-moderate
non es pueys adregz amoros;
not is then upright amorous
mas selh que sap far nescies,
but he who knows to-do foolishness
aquel sap d'amor tot quan n'es;
that-one knows of-love all that thereof-is
qu'eu no sai trop ni no m'en fenh,
for-I not know much and not myself-thereof feign
ni ja no vuelh qu'om m'en essenh.
nor ever not I-wish that-one me-thereof teach

De la belha cuy suy cochos,
Of the fair-one for-whom I-am eager
dezir lo tener e'l baizar
I-desire the holding and-the kissing
e'l jazer e'l plus conquistar,
and-the lying and-the more conquering
et apres mangas e cordos,
and after sleeves and cords
e del plus que'l prengua merces;
and of-the more that-her take mercy
qu'ieu no serai jamais conques
for-I not will-be ever conquered
per joias ni per entresenh,
by jewels nor by token
si so que plus vuelh non atenh.
if that which most I-want not I-attain

Ben aya qui prim fon gilos,
Well may-have who first was jealous
que tan cortes mestier saup far;
who so courteous craft knew to-make
quar gilozia m fai gardar
for jealousy me makes to-guard
de folhs parliers e d'enoios.
from foolish talkers and from-tiresome-ones

De gilozia ay tant apres
Of jealousy I-have so-much learned
que mi eys en tenc en defes
that me self thereof I-hold in defense
ab mi dons, que autra non denh,
with my lady that other not I-deign
neys del cortejar m'en estenh;
even from-the courting myself-thereof I-abstain

e val mais belha tracios,
and is-worth more fair treason
don ja hom non trobe son par,
whereof ever one not found its equal
qu'autrui benenans'enveyar,
than-another's happiness-to-envy
quan Dieus ne vol ajustar dos;
when God thereof wants to-join two
de dona vuelh que l'ajut fes,
of lady I-want that her-help faith
e que ja no l'en sobre res,
and that ever not to-her-thereof remain anything
per que m'enquier on vau, d'on venh,
for which me-she-asks where I-go whence I-come
pus del tot a son plazer tenh.
since of-the all at her pleasure I-keep

N'Audiartz, de vos ai apres
Sir-Audiart from you I-have learned
que d'una sola sui cortes,
that of-one only I-am courteous
e d'una chan e d'una m fenh,
and of-one I-sing and of-one myself I-feign
e d'aquelha Miravalh tenh.
and from-her Miraval I-hold

Atrobaretz greu qu'us n'essenh
You-will-find hardly that-one thereof-teaches
d'amar, pus ieu de vos n'aprenh.
of-loving since I from you thereof-learn

5 · WITH THE FORCE OF THE COLD

In the bitter cold, cheer, courtship, and song are worth more than in spring, for they show a good heart. His lady's beauty and worth have drawn him from all others, and a sweet look brought him to her service. Love has many laws and brings wrongs and quarrels, and whoever is true to it sighs. She frightens and hunts him, yet he will not leave her, whether she raises or lowers him. If the king courts at Lombers, the courtesy and fair hair of Lady Azalais will bring the king joy; he praises Count Raimon, his Audiart.

Ar ab la forsa del freis,
Now with the force of-the cold
quan tot lo mons trembl'e brui,
when all the world trembles-and roars
val mais solatz e domneis,
is-worth more cheer and courtship
e cants e totz bel desdui,
and songs and every fair delight
qu'él temps quan folh'e flor nais:
than-in-the season when leaf-and flower is-born
a celui qu'es pros e gais,
to him who-is worthy and gay
contra l'us del temps e del mon,
against the-use of-the season and of-the world
be par que bon cor li aon.
well it-seems that good heart to-him abounds

La gran beutatz que pareis
The great beauty which appears
en la bella cui hom sui,
in the fair-one whose man I-am
el ric pretz qu'a tot jorn creis
and-the rich worth which-at all day grows
m'an tout domnejar d'autrui.
from-me-have taken courting of-another
Mas un dous esguart m'atrais
But a sweet look me-drew
vas liei servir, don jamais
toward her to-serve whence ever
no temsera fam, freg ni son,
not I-would-fear hunger cold nor sleep
s'agues cor del dig que m respon.
if-she-had heart of-the word that me she-answers

En amors a mantas leis,
In love are many laws
e de mantas partz adui
and from many parts it-brings
tortz e guerras e plaideis.
wrongs and wars and lawsuits
Leu reven e leu refui,
Lightly it-revives and lightly it-flees
leu s'apai'e leu s'irais:
lightly itself-appeases-and lightly itself-angers

e qui d'aisso l'es verais
and who in-this to-it-is true
soven sospira de prion,
often sighs from deep
e mantz enois blan e rescon.
and many vexations soothes and hides

Anc mais ni tan no m destreis:
Ever more nor so-much not me it-constrained
mas er ai trobat ab cui
but now I-have found with whom
mi mou paors et esfreis,
to-me moves fear and fright
e m cass'e m pren e m destrui.
and me hunts-and me takes and me destroys
Et ieu ges per tan no lais
And I at-all for so-much not leave
que l'ai don me mou l'esglais
that her-I-have from-whom to-me moves the-fright
no tenha mon cor deziron,
not hold my heart desirous
on plus lo dezir me cofon.
where more the desire me confounds

Pero, si tot m'es gabeis,
Yet if all to-me-it-is mockery
mos bos respietz m'i condui;
my good hope me-there leads

e si m dizia sordeis,
and if to-me she-said worse
no volh tornar lai don fui.
not I-wish to-return there whence I-fled
Pos vengutz es a l'assais
Since come it-is to the-trial
poder a que m derc o m bais;
power she-has that me she-raise or me lower
qu'ieu no fug si m ras o si m ton,
for-I not flee if me she-shaves or if me she-shears
ni ja no volh saber vas on.
and ever not I-wish to-know toward where

S'a Lombers corteja'l reis
If-at Lombers courts-the king
tostemps mais er joi ab lui;
always more will-be joy with him
e si tot s'es sobradeis,
and if all himself-is excessive
per un be li'n venran dui:
for one good to-him-thereof will-come two
que la cortezi'e'l jais
for the courtesy-and-the joy
de la bela n'Azalais,
of the fair lady-Azalais
el fresca color e'l pel blon
and-the fresh color and-the hair blond
fan tot lo segle jauzion.
make all the world rejoicing

Domna tan vos soi verais,
Lady so-much to-you I-am true
que de totz cortes assais
that of all courteous trials
volh que Miraval vos aon;
I-wish that Miraval to-you abound
mas nous volh dir quals es ni don.
but not-to-you I-wish to-tell who she-is nor whence

Per mon Audiartz son gais,
Through my Audiart I-am gay
que tota gens ab eslais
for all folk with eagerness
prezon mais lo Comte Ramon
prize more the Count Raimon
de null autre Comte del mon.
than any other Count of-the world

His heart tells him to sing no more, and love will not let him stop. He had good reason to quit, since a lady betrayed him, but love, youth, measure, and sense teach him to sing. He will be haughty toward ladies only in what lowers no lady's worth. People say he never profited from love; they lie, for he has had goods and joys as well as harms and deceptions. His lady is in season all year, as the rose and iris are only in summer, and for her he loves her whole region. Alazais of Boissezon makes her worth better than good.

Entre dos volers soi pensius,
Between two wishes I-am pensive
que'l cor me dis que no cant mais,
for-the heart me tells that not I-sing more
ni amor no vol que m'en lais
and love not wants that myself-thereof I-leave
tan quant él segle sia vius.
so-long as in-the world I-am alive
Del laissar ai gran razo
For-the leaving I-have great reason
que ja mais no fes canso;
that ever more not I-made song
mas eras cant quar amor e jovens
but now I-sing for love and youth
m'o ensenha, e mezura e sens.
me-it teach and measure and sense

E s'anc nul jorn fui esforsius
And if-ever any day I-was striving
d'esser adretz, cortes ni gais,
to-be upright courteous or gay
era m'es ops que m'i eslais
now to-me-it-is need that myself-there I-launch
ab faitz et ab ditz agradius:
with deeds and with words pleasing
qu'en tal domn'ai sospeisso
for-in such lady-I-have expectation
que'l seu rics, car gazardo
that-the her rich dear reward
no pot servir nuls hom desavinens,
not can to-serve any man unseemly
quar ilh no fai ni'lh plai res desplazens.
for she not does nor-to-her pleases anything displeasing

Vas bona domna son autius,
Toward good lady I-am haughty
mas no de re que sos pretz bais;
but not of anything that her worth lowers
equar una domna me trais
and-because a lady me betrayed
tornar m'en ai vilas mesclius?
to-turn myself-thence I-have churlish quarrelsome
Non ja; tenria li pro
Not ever would-hold to-her profit
si la tornav'en resso;
if her I-turned-into rumor

qu'a las avols no ten dan fallimens,
for-to the worthless-ones not holds harm failing
e prezo s mais per gabs e per contens.
and prize themselves more for boasts and for quarrels

Ab aitals honratz senhorius
With such honored lordly-ones
ai eu estat tostemps verais,
have I been always true
qu'afans ni pena ni esglais
that-toil nor pain nor fright
ni nul maltrag no m fos esquius.
nor any ill-treatment not to-me was hateful
Quar tug dizon a lairo
For all say by stealth
qu'anc d'amors no fi mon pro
that-ever of-love not I-made my profit
menton, qu'avut n'ai bes e gauzimens,
they-lie for-had thereof-I-have goods and enjoyments
e n'ai sufert dans e galiamens.
and thereof-I-have suffered harms and deceptions

De cui que s vol baisse sos brius
Of whomever that herself wishes let-lower her pride
plus l'onor midons mont'e nais;
more the-honor my-lady rises-and is-born

qu'aissi com la roza e'l glais
for-thus as the rose and-the iris
genson quan repaira l'estius,
grow-fair when returns the-summer
midons a tot l'an sazo,
my-lady has all the-year season
qu'ilh sab gensar sa faisso
for-she knows to-make-fair her feature
ab bels semblans et ab cuendes parvens,
with fair seemings and with graceful shows
don creis sos pretz e sos captenemens.
whence grows her worth and her bearing

Per lieis am fontainas e rius,
For her I-love fountains and streams
pratz e vergiers, e boscs e plais,
meadows and orchards and woods and hedges
las domnas, els pros els savais,
the ladies and-the worthy and-the base
els fols els savis els badius
and-the fools and-the wise and-the idle
de la franca regio
of the frank region
don ilh es e de viro:
whence she is and of round-about
quar tant es lai assis mos pessamens
for so-much is there set my thought
que mais no cug sia terra ni gens.
that else not I-think there-be land nor folk

N'Alazais de Boissazo
Lady-Alazais of Boissezon
fai son pretz meillor de bo;
makes her worth better than good
e perda dieus qui l'er desavinens,
and may-lose God who to-her-will-be unseemly
pos tan gen sec sos bels comensamens.
since so nobly she-follows her fair beginnings

Blessed be the messenger and the lady who sent him, if joy returns, though his cares make him doubt any lady could love him. He chose a lady for merit, not wealth or beauty; she turned him by turns to folly and to joy, and no rival could have taken his place. Now her foolish fancies and bad faith have turned his heart to error, and he asks God to lessen her small worth. Once a warhorse, then a palfrey, he finds the harness too heavy and will look elsewhere. A lady who turns her merit into blame should not have Miraval's tower.

Ben aia'l messatgiers
Well may-have-the messenger
e cilh que lo m trames,
and she who him to-me sent
a cui rent mil merces
to whom I-render thousand thanks
si ja m torn'alegriers.
if ever to-me returns-gladness
Pero de mos mals cossiriers
Yet by my evil cares
qu'ai avutz soi tan sobrepres,
which-I-have had I-am so overtaken
qu'a penas crei que domna per amor
that-at pains I-believe that lady for love
m'aia bon cor ni m volha far honor.
to-me-has good heart or me wishes to-do honor

Ab mans adregz mestiers
With many upright offices
avia joi conques
I-had joy won
tals, que cug que m valgues
such that I-think that to-me it-availed
si de lai fos entiers.
if from there it-were whole
Que massa rics ni pretz sobriers
For too-much rich nor worth excessive
no cugera que mi nogues,
not I-would-have-thought that me harmed
qu'ieu esgardei domna de tal valor
for-I looked-for lady of such merit
que de beutatz fos bass'e de ricor.
that in beauty were low-and in wealth

Tals que ja lauzengiers
Such that ever slanderers
no s'en entremezes,
not themselves-thereof meddled
quar mans enois n'ai pres
for many vexations thereof-I-have taken
mentr'era drutz leugiers;
while-I-was lover light
qu'adoncs cujava q'us empiers
for-then I-thought that-an emperor
no m tengues madomn'en defes,
not me held my-lady-in defense

per que m tornet mantas vetz a folor
for which me she-turned many times to folly
e mantas vetz en gaug et en doussor.
and many times into joy and into sweetness

Per so m'era derriers
For that myself-I-was behind
de totz los autres mes,
of all the others put
que mon loc no m tolgues
that my place not from-me took
Rotlan ni Oliviers,
Roland nor Oliver
ni ges Orestains ni Augiers
nor at-all Orestain nor Ogier
no cujera que s'i mezes:
not I-would-have-thought that himself-there put
mas me ten hom per tan bon cauzidor
but me holds one for so good chooser
que so qu'ieu volh ten quascus per melhor.
that that which-I want holds each for better

Be m cugei fos estiers
Well myself I-thought were otherwise
madomna que non es,
my-lady than — she-is

que tostemps li tengues
that always to-her held
l'esbaudimens premiers
the-rejoicing first
sos fols cujars e messongiers,
her foolish fancying and lying
e cossec la sa mala fes.
and overtook-her the her evil faith
De son pauc pretz li fassa dieus menor,
Of her little worth to-her may-make God less
que mon fin cor a tornat en error.
for my true heart she-has turned into error

Qu'ieu fui al prim destriers
For-I was at-the first warhorse
et apres palafres;
and after palfrey
era creis tan l'arnes
now grows so-much the-harness
que trop peza'l dobliers.
that too-much weighs-the doublet
E pois vei que m'er mal loguiers
And since I-see that to-me-will-be ill wage
e temi que l'afan cregues,
and I-feared that the-toil grew
don no m'aura jamais per servidor;
whence not me-she-will-have ever for servant
e lais me dieus mo meils trobar alhor.
and may-let me God my better to-find elsewhere

Domna que torn en blasme sa valor
Lady who turns into blame her merit
no deu aver de Miraval la tor.
not must to-have of Miraval the tower

Mon Audiart sal dieus e sa honor,
My Audiart may-save God and his honor
que totz lo mons val mais per sa valor.
for all the world is-worth more through his merit

In the sweet season, with birds singing in the orchards, a man who wants love's help should bear himself like a lover. He is no lover, only a courtier, yet fear makes him mute before his fair lady, and he hides his heart. She welcomes the worthy, who leave as her praisers, and no rose is fresher. He sends the song to the king, who will be emperor of worth once he recovers Montaigut and Carcassonne. The king has promised to give back Miraval, and then ladies and lovers will recover their lost joy.

Bel m'es qu'ieu cant e condei
Fair to-me-it-is that-I sing and make-merry
pos l'aur'es douss'e'l temps gais,
since the-breeze-is sweet-and-the weather gay
e pels vergiers e pels plais
and through-the orchards and through-the hedges
aug lo retint e'l gabei
I-hear the ringing and-the chatter
que fan l'auzelet menut
which make the-little-birds small
entre'l blanc e'l vert e'l vaire;
among-the white and-the green and-the motley
adonc se deuria traire
then himself ought to-draw
cel que vol qu'amor l'ajut
he who wants that-love him-help
vas captenensa de drut.
toward bearing of lover

Ieu no soi drutz mas domnei,
I not am lover but I-court
ni no m sent pena ni fais,
and not myself I-feel pain nor burden
ni m rancur leu ni m'irais,
nor myself I-complain lightly nor myself-anger
ni per orgolh no m recrei.
nor for pride not myself I-renounce
Pero temensa m fai mut,
Yet fear me makes mute
qu'a la bella de bon aire
for-to the fair-one of good breeding
non aus mostrar ni retraire
not I-dare to-show nor to-recount
mon cor, si'l tenc escondut
my heart so-it I-hold hidden
tro qu'aia'l sieu conogut.
until that-I-have-the hers known

Be vol qu'om gen la cortei
Well she-wants that-one nobly her court
e plai li solatz e jais,
and pleases to-her cheer and joy
e no l'agrad'om savais
and not her-pleases-man base
que s'en deguis ni s malmei.
who himself-thereof disguises or himself spoils
Mas li pros son be vengut,
But the worthy are well come

a cui fai tan bel vejaire
to whom she-makes so fair seeming
que quascus es sos lauzaire,
that each is her praiser
quan son d'enan lieis mogut,
when they-are from-before her moved
meils que s'eran siei vendut.
better than if-they-were hers sold

No crei qu'ab lieis apparei
Not I-believe that-with her compares
beutatz d'autra domna mais,
beauty of-other lady more
neis flor de rozier quan nais
even flower of rosebush when it-is-born
non es plus fresca de liei:
not is more fresh than her
cors be fag e gen cregut,
body well made and nobly grown
boqu'et olhs del mon esclaire,
mouth-and eyes of-the world brightener
que beutatz noi posc plus faire;
for beauty not-there could more to-do
si mes tota sa vertut
so it-put all its virtue
que res no l'es remazut.
that anything not to-it-is remained

Ses pregar e ses autrei
Without praying and without grant
son intratz en greu pantais
I-am entered into grievous anguish
com pogues semblar verais
how I-could to-seem true
s'ieu sa gran valor desplei;
if-I her great merit unfold
qu'enquer non a pretz avut
for-yet not has worth had
domna que nasques de maire,
lady who was-born of mother
qu'encontra'l sieu valgues gaire;
that-against-the hers was-worth much
e si n'ai mans car tengut
and so thereof-I-have many dear held
que'l sieu al melhor vencut.
that-the hers to-the best conquered

Ja madomna no s malei
Ever my-lady not herself may-vex
s'ieu a sa merce m'eslais,
if-I to her mercy myself-launch
que non ai cor que m'abais
for not I-have heart that me-lowers
ni ves amor me desrei;
nor toward love myself stray

qu'ades ai del meils volgut
for-always I-have of-the best wished
defors e dins mon repaire:
without and within my dwelling
e de lieis no soi gabaire,
and of her not I-am boaster
qu'en plus non ai entendut
for-in more not I-have aimed
mas gen m'acolh'e m salut.
but nobly me-she-welcomes-and me greets

Canso vai me dir'al rei,
Song go me to-say-to-the king
cui joi guid'e vest e pais,
whom joy guides-and clothes and feeds
qu'anc no l trobei en biais,
for-ever not him I-found in slant
qu'aital com lo volh lo vei.
for-such as him I-want him I-see
Ab que cobre Montagut
Provided that he-recover Montaigut
e Carcasson'e'l repaire,
and Carcassonne-and-the dwelling
pois er de pretz emperaire;
then he-will-be of worth emperor
e temeran son escut
and they-will-fear his shield
sai Frances e lai Masmut.
here French and there Masmudi

Domn'ades m'avetz valgut
Lady-always me-you-have helped
tan que per vos soi cantaire;
so-much that through you I-am singer
e no cugei canso faire
and not I-thought song to-make
tro'l fieu vos agues rendut
until-the fief to-you I-had rendered
de Miraval qu'ai perdut.
of Miraval which-I-have lost

Mas lo rei m'a covengut
But the king to-me-has covenanted
que lo me rendr'ans de gaire
that it to-me he-will-render-before of long
e mon Audiart Belcaire;
and my Audiart Beaucaire
pois auran domnas e drut
then will-have ladies and lovers
cobrat lo joi qu'an perdut.
recovered the joy which-they-have lost

Love makes him sing and rejoice, and turns his cheer into brooding, so if his song is not excellent he should not be blamed. Some ladies will not choose while they are courted, then take worse men when youth leaves them, like the Lombard with his figs. A good lady should not abandon love, nor hurry nor drag it, but should conceal the truth wisely. His lady needs no teaching from him, and for her sake he is glad to have wars and enemies. He commends Miraval to her and praises Cloak.

Amors me fai cantar et esbaudir,
Love me makes to-sing and to-rejoice
e m tol deport ab cossirier que m dona,
and from-me takes sport with care which me it-gives
e torna tot mon solatz en cossir;
and turns all my cheer into brooding
que si non es ma canso sobrebona
for if not is my song over-good
non dei esser aissi del tot blasmat:
not I-must to-be thus of-the all blamed
pero si cug cantar a voluntat
yet so I-think to-sing at will
d'entendedors e de drutz e d'amigas.
of-suitors and of lovers and of-beloveds

Mas no vol ges a domnas cossentir
But not it-wills at-all to ladies to-allow
so per qu'a dreg vei qu'om las ocaizona,
that for which-by right I-see that-one them accuses

que tals n'i a que no volon cauzir
for such thereof-there are who not want to-choose
el temps qu'om plus d'amar las arazona:
in-the time that-one most of-loving them addresses
pois quan joven lor estrai sa beutat
then when youth from-them withdraws its beauty
prendo'l sordeis qu'avian soanat,
they-take-the worse whom-they-had scorned
aissi com fes lo Lombartz de las figas.
thus as did the Lombard with the figs

Bona domna no s deu d'amor gequir;
Good lady not herself must from-love to-leave
e pos tan fai qu'ad amor s'abandona,
and since so-much she-does that-to love herself-abandons
no s'en coch trop ni massa non o tir,
not herself-thereof let-her-hasten too-much nor overly not it let-her-draw
quar mens en val tot frutz que dessazona:
for less thereof is-worth every fruit that is-untimely
mas sapcha gen celar tota vertat,
but let-her-know nobly to-conceal all truth
que cilh qu'en als li serian privat
for those who-in else to-her would-be intimate
ad ops d'amar li serian destrigas.
for need of-loving to-her would-be harms

Ges la bella qu'ieu plus am no s'albir
At-all the fair-one whom-I most love not herself-may-imagine
qu'en re l'ensenh ni l casti ni l despona,
that-in anything her-I-teach nor her chasten nor her expound
qu'ilh sab tan be laissar e far e dir
for-she knows so well to-leave and to-do and to-say
per que no m cal que ren als hi apona.
for which not to-me it-matters that anything else there I-add
E si li platz que m retenh'a celat,
And if to-her it-pleases that me she-retain-in secret
per tres razos don li drut son amat
for three reasons whereby the lovers are loved
li serai bos, messatgiers so li m digas.
to-her I-will-be good messenger that to-her for-me you-say

S'ieu ja res fauc don madomna s'azir
If-I ever anything do whereby my-lady herself-angers
no'lh perdon dieus si ella m'o perdona;
not-to-her may-pardon God if she me-it pardons
quar no la volh galiar ni trazir,
for not her I-wish to-deceive nor to-betray
ni razonar so qu'ella m mal razona.
nor to-argue that which-she me ill argues
Tot m'es honors quant a lieis si'onrat,
All to-me-is honor that to her is-honored
e grazisc tot quant a lieis ven a grat;
and I-welcome all that to her comes to liking
e volh n'aver guerras et enemigas.
and I-wish thereof-to-have wars and she-enemies

Bona domna, on qu'aia domnejat,
Good lady where that-I-have courted
volh que tengas Miraval domenjat;
I-wish that you-hold Miraval in-demesne
e mas cansos en cap d'autras amigas.
and my songs at head of-other beloveds

Si tot m'aves, Mais d'amic, cor irat,
If all me-you-have More than-friend heart angered
a vostr'ops ai Miraval si gardat,
to your-use I-have Miraval so guarded
que vos l'aves et ieu n'ai enemigas.
that you it-have and I thereof-have she-enemies

Mantel, de sen, de pretz e de beutat
Cloak of sense of worth and of beauty
e de joven vos vei tan gen honrat,
and of youth you I-see so nobly honored
que sai ne son mantas domnas enigas.
that here thereof are many ladies hostile

10 · IF I DO NOT SING

If he does not sing often, it is not for lack of knowledge or theme. Long he loved a lady with whom service, songs, and fear met only deceit, and he deceived her in turn and stayed at peace with her. A lover who takes his revenge in curses and quarrels makes a jester of himself. He is no slanderer, but more timid than a boy before power, and asks God for a prized lady next year. He praises the marquise of Minerve and tells More Than-Friend that she is the head of his song and the lord of Miraval.

S'ieu en cantar soven
If-I in singing often
no m'atur ni m'aten,
not myself-stop nor myself-wait
nous cujetz que sabers
not-you think that knowledge
m'en falha ni razos,
me-thereof fails nor theme
ni talans amoros,
nor desire amorous
que'l plus de mos volers
for-the most of my wishes
es en joi et en can;
is in joy and in song
e de razos ai tan,
and of themes I-have so-many
que cantar en poiri'assatz:
that to-sing thereof I-could-enough
mas tot quan sai no volh sapchatz.
but all that I-know not I-wish you-know

Qu'amat ai longamen
For-loved I-have long
tal domn'ad escien,
such lady-at knowing
qu'anc servirs ni plazers
that-ever serving nor pleasures
no m'i poc esser bos,
not to-me-there could to-be good
ni pregars ni cansos,
nor prayers nor songs
ni celars ni temers,
nor concealing nor fearing
qu'ieu noi trobes engan.
that-I not-there found deceit
Et ieu sofren mon dan
And I suffering my harm
saub l'enganar totz enganatz
knew her-to-deceive all deceived
e remaner ab lieis en patz.
and to-remain with her in peace

Qu'estiers no m fora gen,
For-otherwise not to-me it-would-be noble
pos del mieu fallimen
since of-the my failing
era vist lo parers,
was seen the appearance
qu'ieu encerques son pros,
that-I sought her profit

entro que d'ambedos
until that of-both
fos pres eguals lezers,
were taken equal leisure
que si fes son talan
for if she-did her desire
ieu m'anei percassan;
I myself-went pursuing
e fo plus adretz lo mercatz
and was more upright the bargain
que de liei si m partis iratz.
than from her if myself I-parted angered

Drut que de sidons pren
Lover who of his-lady takes
nul autre venjamen
any other vengeance
no sab que s'es jazers;
not knows what itself-is lying
que malditz e tensos
for curses and quarrels
fan d'ensenhat janglos.
make of-well-bred jester
E pois non es tot vers
And since not is all true
quan domna fai semblan,
when lady makes seeming

qu'ilh vol que la deman
that-she wants that her he-ask
tal que ja no l sera privatz;
such-one who ever not to-her will-be intimate
e si s'en tenra per pagatz.
and so himself-thereof will-hold for paid

Que quant ieu mi prezen
For when I myself present
en loc de cauzimen,
in place of clemency
non es mos capteners
not is my bearing
lauzengiers ni ginhos,
slanderous nor crafty
ans plus temens q'us tos
rather more fearful than-a boy
soi lai on es poders.
I-am there where is power
E dieus me don l'autr'an
And God me may-give the-other-year
trobar domna prezan,
to-find lady prized
que'l gazardos m'en si'onratz
that-the reward to-me-thereof be-honored
quan serai per lieis trebalhatz.
when I-shall-be for her toiled

Tot quant es de joven
All that is of youth
e de fin pretz valen
and of true worth worthy
ten la marqueza ders
holds the marquise raised
de Menerb'a sazos;
of Minerve-at times
e per pauc entre nos
and for little among us
no poja sa valors.
— rises her merit
Mas en parli dobtan
But thereof I-speak doubting
qu'enemigas ne blan;
for-she-enemies thereof I-flatter
e pois de lieis no m n'escai gratz,
and since from her not to-me thereof-falls thanks
lo tortz me sia perdonatz.
the wrong to-me may-be pardoned

Mais d'amic, on qu'ieu an
More than-friend where that-I go
vos es caps de mon can
you are head of my song
e de Miraval poestatz:
and of Miraval potentate
mas no volh que l'anel perdatz.
but not I-wish that the-ring you-lose

Summer, birdsong, green leaves, and meadows please him, and his lady pleases him a hundred times more. Doing her commands pleases him, and so does her refusal to thank him, and even dying of desire. One desire revives him: to have her, his desire doubled in kissing. He asks her not to let longing kill him, since in desiring one must enjoy love. He shuns every other love, for through her he has rejoiced already. The text breaks off two lines into the third stanza.

Be m'agrada'l dous temps d'estiu,
Well me-pleases-the sweet time of-summer
e dels auzels m'agrada'l chans,
and of-the birds me-pleases-the song
e'l vert fuelh m'agrad'e'l verjans,
and-the green leaf me-pleases-and-the shoots
e'ls pratz vertz me son agradiu;
and-the meadows green to-me are pleasing
e vos, domna, m'agradatz cent aitans,
and you lady me-please hundred times-as-much
et agrada m quan fauc vostres comans,
and pleases to-me when I-do your commands
e vos no platz que m denhetz res grazir,
and to-you not it-pleases that me you-deign anything to-thank
et agrada m, quar me muer de dezir.
and pleases to-me for myself I-die of desire

Per un dezir, domna, reviu
Through one desire lady I-revive
qui m'es d'autres dezirs plus grans,
which to-me-is than-other desires more great

qu'ieu dezir qu'el rics ben estans
for-I desire that-the rich well being
vostre cors deziran m'aiziu,
your body desiring me-lodge
e'lh mieus dezirs se dobles en baizan;
and-the my desire itself double in kissing
e pus tan be us dezir ses tot enguan
and since so well you I-desire without all deceit
ja no m laissetz al dezirier aucir,
ever not me let to-the desire to-kill
quar deziran deu hom d'amor jauzir.
for desiring must one of-love to-enjoy

Tot jauzir d'autr'amor esquiu
All enjoying of-other-love I-shun
quar per vos m'esjauzi enans …
for through you myself-I-rejoiced before …

A tenso on whether Lombards or Provençals have more worth. One speaker would rather be a Lombard, for in Lombardy he finds good, frank, and courteous knights who love spending. Raimon answers that the Provençals are richer and worthier in war, for they are taking the land from Simon and demanding of him their lord's death. The other replies that at Beaucaire Simon so frightened them, though they were twice as many, that they gave him back his garrison. Raimon ends that Provence has largesse, while in Lombardy one may starve without money.

Digatz cal an plus pretz cabal
Tell which have more worth sovereign
li Lombart o li Proensal.
the Lombards or the Provençals

Lombart voill esser a estors,
Lombard I-wish to-be in battle
quar de Proensa mi non cal;
for of Provence to-me not it-matters
per qu'ieu chausic sai, quar mais val,
for which-I chose here because more is-worth
Lombardia on trob cavaliers bos
Lombardy where I-find knights good
francs e cortes, e platz lor meissios.
frank and courteous and pleases to-them spending

Trop son plus ric guerreiador
Much are more rich warriors
li Proensal e plus valen
the Provençals and more worthy
per guerra e per mession,
in war and in spending
toilon la terra a'N Symon,
they-take the land from-Sir Simon
e ill demandon la mort a lor seingnor,
and from-him demand the death of their lord
et al comte cuit que renda s'onor ...
and to-the count I-think that he-render his-honor ...

Raimons, trop lor datz d'onramen
Raimon too-much to-them you-give of-honoring
qu'a Belcaire en lor honor
for-at Beaucaire in their domain
lor fetz Symons tan de paor,
to-them made Simon so-much of fear
e si eron dos tans de gen;
and so they-were two times of folk
en apres a gran mesprisson
in after with great misprision
renderon li sa garnison;
they-rendered to-him his garrison
per qu'en totz faitz son li Lombart meillor,
for which-in all deeds are the Lombards better
e plus honrat e meillz combatedor.
and more honored and better fighters

De lai es proesa e barnatz
Over there is prowess and baronage
mantengutz; larguesa e covitz
maintained largesse and feasts
lai donon cavals e destriers
there they-give horses and warhorses
e fan rics condutz e pleniers;
and make rich banquets and full
en Lombardia podetz be, si us platz,
in Lombardy you-can well if to-you it-pleases
morir de fam si deniers non portatz.
to-die of hunger if pennies not you-carry

The opening of a letter: he who is wholly at her command greets the fairest lady one could ask for and sends her as much love as he can, asking her to hear him from the first line to the end, so that she will understand that he has no wish to change. Mahn prints the opening only.

Dona, la genser c'om demanda,
Lady the fairest that-one asks-for
sel qu'es tot en vostra comanda
he who-is all in your command
vos saluda, apres vos manda
you greets after to-you sends
d'amor aitan can pot ni sap,
of-love as-much as he-can or knows
e si us play, dona, que ses gap
and if to-you it-pleases lady that without jest
o entendetz del premier cap
it you-hear from-the first head
tro en la fi,
until in the end
entendre poiretz be aisi
to-understand you-will-be-able well thus
qu'el non a talan que s cambi.
that-he not has desire that himself he-change

AIMERIC DE PEGUILHAN

The Life and Songs

THE LIFE OF AIMERIC DE PEGUILHAN

Aimeric de Peguilhan, a cloth merchant's son of Toulouse, learned songs and sirventes but sang badly. He loved a burgher's wife, his neighbor, and when her husband quarreled with him, Aimeric struck him with a sword and had to flee. Guillem de Berguedà welcomed him in Catalonia and presented him to King Alfonso of Castile. He later went to Lombardy, where he ended, it is said, in heresy. While the husband was on pilgrimage, Aimeric entered Toulouse posing as a sick cousin of the king, stayed ten days in the lady's house, and left for the marquis.

N Aimeric de Peguilha si fon de Tolosa, fils d'un borges
Sir Aimeric of Peguilhan so was of Toulouse son of-a burgher
qu'era mercadiers que tenia draps a vendre. Et apres cansos
who-was merchant who held cloths to sell And he-learned songs
e sirventes; mas molt mal cantava. Et enamoret se d'una
and sirventes but much badly he-sang And enamored himself of-a
borgeza sa vezina, et aquela amors li mostret trobar,
burgher-woman his neighbor and that love to-him showed composing
e si fes de leis mantas bonas cansos. Mas lo marit se
and so he-made of her many good songs But the husband himself
mesclet ab lui, e fes li desonor: En Aimericx s'en
quarreled with him and did to-him dishonor Sir Aimeric himself-thereof
venget, qu'el lo ferit d'una espaza per la testa, per que'l
avenged for-he him struck with-a sword through the head for which-him
covenc a issir de Tolosa, e faidir. Et anet s'en en
it-behooved to go-out of Toulouse and to-be-exiled And he-went away into
Cataluenha, e'N Guilems de Berguedan si l'aculhit; et el
Catalonia and-Sir Guillem of Berguedà so him-welcomed and he
enanset lui e son trobar en la premeira chanso qu'el avia
advanced him and his composing in the first song which-he had

faita, tan qu'el li donet son palafre et son vestir: e
made so-much that-he to-him gave his palfrey and his clothing and
presentet lo al rei'N Amfos de Castella, que'l crec d'aver
presented him to-the king-Sir Alfonso of Castile who-him increased in-wealth
e d'armas e d'onor. Et estet en aquelas encontradas lonc
and in-arms and in-honor And he-stayed in those regions long
temps; pueis s'en venc en Lombardia, on tug li bon home
time then he-came away into Lombardy where all the good men
li feiron gran honor: e lai definet en eretgia, segon c'om
to-him did great honor and there he-ended in heresy according that-one
ditz. — E fon aventura qu'el marit guerit de la nafra et
says And it-was chance that-the husband healed of the wound and
anet a San Jacme. En Aimeric saup o et ac voluntat d'intrar
went to Saint James Sir Aimeric knew it and had will of-entering
en Toloza. E venc s'en al rei e dis li que, si plazia,
into Toulouse And he-came away to-the king and said to-him that if it-pleased
volria anar vezer lo marques de Monferrat; e'l rei si'l
he-would-wish to-go to-see the marquis of Montferrat and-the king so-him
det bando d'anar, e mes lo en arnes de totas res. En Aimeric
gave leave to-go and put him in harness of all things Sir Aimeric
dis al rei que passar volia a Tolosa, mas regar avia de so
said to-the king that to-pass he-wished by Toulouse but regard he-had of that
qu'el sabia, qu'el rei sabia tot lo fag, e vi que la amor de
which-he knew that-the king knew all the deed and saw that the love of
sa dona lo tirava, e det li companha tro Monpeslier.
his lady him drew and gave to-him company as-far-as Montpellier
Et el det a entendre tot lo fag als companhos e qu'els li
And he gave to understand all the deed to-the companions and that-they him
ajudesso, qu'el volia vezer sa dona en forma de malaute: et els
should-help for-he wished to-see his lady in form of sick-man and they

responderon qu'els feran tot so que comandaria. Et quan
answered that-they would-do all that which he-would-command And when
foron a Toloza, los compans demanderon l'alberc del borzes,
they-were at Toulouse the companions asked-for the-house of-the burgher
e fon lor ensenhatz. E troberon la dona, e disseron
and it-was to-them shown And they-found the lady and said
li que un cozi del rei de Castella era malautes, que anava
to-her that a cousin of-the king of Castile was sick who went
en pelerinatge, e que'l plagues que lainz pogues venir.
on pilgrimage and that-to-her it-might-please that within he-could to-come
Ella respos que lainz seria servitz et onratz. — En Aimeric
She answered that within he-would-be served and honored Sir Aimeric
venc de nueg, e'ls compagnos colgueron lo en un bel
came by night and-the companions laid him in a fair
lieg. E lendema'N Eimeric mandet per la dona; e la dona
bed And next-day-Sir Aimeric sent for the lady and the lady
venc en la cambra e conoc N Aimeric, e det se grans
came into the chamber and knew Sir Aimeric and gave herself great
meravilhas, e demandet li com era pogut intrar en Tolosa.
marvels and asked him how he-was able to-enter into Toulouse
Et el li dis que per s'amor; e comtet li tot lo fag. E
And he to-her said that for her-love and told to-her all the deed And
la dona fes parvent que'l cubris dels draps, e baizet lo.
the lady made show that-him she-covered with-the cloths and kissed him
D'aqui enans, no sai co fo, mas tan que X jorns lai
From-there forward not I-know how it-was but so-much that ten days there
estec N Aimeric per occaizo d'esser malautes. E cant s'en
stayed Sir Aimeric by occasion of-being sick And when himself-thence
parti, d'aqui anet s'en al marques, on fon ben aculhit.
he-parted from-there he-went away to-the marquis where he-was well welcomed

All the joy left to him has gone, for the good Countess Beatrice, the fairest and the worthiest, is dead today, and he nearly dies to think of it. People came to her as to a worker of miracles, for she made the grieving gay, and every leave-taking left them sadder. He recalls her cheer, her welcome, her speech, her answers, and her smile. Who now will honor and serve, understand good composing, or make courtship flourish? Youth is buried with her, and he prays God to keep her with his mother.

De tot en tot es ar de mi partitz
From all to all is now from me parted
aquelh eys joys que m'era remazutz.
that same joy which to-me-was remained
Sabetz per que suy aissi esperdutz?
Know-you for what I-am thus lost
Per la bona comtessa Beatritz,
For the good countess Beatrice
per la gensor e per la plus valen
for the fairest and for the most worthy
qu'es mort'uei. Dieus! quan estranh partimen
who-is dead-today God what strange parting
tan fer, tan dur, don ai tal dol ab me
so fierce so hard whence I-have such grief with me
qu'ab pauc lo cor no m part quan m'en sove.
that-at little the heart — me splits when to-me-thereof it-recalls

On es aras sos belhs cors gen noiritz,
Where is now her fair body nobly nurtured
que fos pels bos amatz e car tengutz?
which was by-the good loved and dear held

E i venia hom cum si fezes vertutz,
And there came one as if she-did miracles
que ses son dan saup far guays los marritz,
for without her harm she-knew to-make gay the grieved
e quan quascun avia fag jauzen,
and when each she-had made rejoicing
tornava'ls pueys en maior marrimen
she-turned-them then into greater grief
al comiat, qu'om non avia be,
at-the leave-taking for-one not had good
des qu'en partis, que no i tornes dese.
from when-thence he-parted that not there he-returned at-once

Qu'el sieus solatz era guays e chauzitz,
For-the her cheer was gay and choice
e l'aculhir de ben siatz vengutz,
and the-welcoming of well be-you come
e sos parlars fis et aperceubutz,
and her speaking true and perceptive
e'l respondre plazens et abelhitz,
and-the answering pleasing and charming
e sos esguars dous un pauc en rizen,
and her looks sweet a little in laughing
e sos onrars plus onratz d'onramen;
and her honoring more honored than-honoring
de totz bos ayps avia mais ab se
of all good qualities she-had more with herself
qu'autra del mon e de beutat, so cre.
than-other of-the world and of beauty so I-believe

Per cui er hom mais honratz e servitz!
By whom will-be one more honored and served
Ni per cui er bos trobars entendutz!
Nor by whom will-be good composing understood
Ni per cui er hom tan gent ereubutz!
Nor by whom will-be one so nobly received
Ni per cui er belhs motz ris ni grazitz!
Nor by whom will-be fair word laughed nor welcomed
Ni per cui er belhs chans fagz d'avinen!
Nor by whom will-be fair song made of-seemly
Ni per cui er domneys en son enten!
Nor by whom will-be courtship in its aim
Diguatz per cui, ni cum si, ni per que
Tell by whom nor how so nor for what
ieu non o sai, ni mos cors non o ve.
I not it know and my heart not it sees

Domna, jovens es ab vos sebelhitz;
Lady youth is with you buried
e gaugz entiers sosterratz e perdutz;
and joy whole interred and lost
ja s tenia sol per vostras salutz
already himself held only for your greetings
tot hom ses plus per rics e per guaritz:
every man without more for rich and for healed

dol pot aver qui vi votre cors gen,
grief can to-have who saw your body noble
e qui no'l vi dol, mas non tan cozen;
and who not-it saw grief but not so burning
autra vista no i poc metre pueys re,
other sight not there could to-put then anything
tant ac lo cor, qui us vi, del vezer ple!
so-much had the heart who you saw of-the seeing full

Na Beatritz, dieus qu'es ple de merce
Lady Beatrice God who-is full of mercy
vos companha ab sa mair'et ab se.
you may-accompany with his mother-and with himself

Love has held him long in anguish, neither leaving nor retaining him, and loaded him with more toil than a hundred of the best could bear. Against his will it makes him love the fairest of ladies, when he would gain more elsewhere; yet like a true lover he flees his profit and follows his harm, and he has seen folly turn to sense. He begs her for mercy and clemency rather than reason, for her eyes and words stay in his heart. He praises the king of Aragon and thanks the count of Comminges.

En greu pantays m'a tengut longamen
In grievous anguish me-has held long
qu'anc no m laisset ni no m retenc amors,
for-ever not me left nor not me retained love
et a m saiat de totas sas dolors,
and has me tried with all its pains
si que de tot m'a fag obedien;
so that in all me-it-has made obedient
e, quar mi sap afortit e sufren,
and because me it-knows strong and enduring
a m si cargat de l'amoros afan
has me so loaded with the-amorous toil
qu'els melhors cen non sufririon tan.
that-the best hundred not would-suffer so-much

Qu'amar mi fai mal mon grat finamen
For-to-love me it-makes ill my liking truly
lieys qu'ilh m'a fag chauzir part las gensors,
her whom-it me-has made to-choose beyond the fairest
et agra m'ops que m fes chauzir alhors,
and it-would-have to-me-need that me it-made to-choose elsewhere

q'assatz val mais guazanhar en argen
for-enough is-worth more to-gain in silver
que perdr'en aur, segon mon escien;
than to-lose-in gold according-to my knowledge
mas ieu o fatz a ley de fin aman,
but I it do in manner of true lover
qu'ieu fug mon pro e vauc seguen mon dan.
for-I flee my profit and go following my harm

E s'ieu cum fols sec mon dan folamen,
And if-I as fool follow my harm foolishly
a tot lo mens m'er la foudatz honors,
at all the least to-me-will-be the folly honor
qu'ieu ai ja vist faire mantas folhors
for-I have already seen to-do many follies
que tornavon a saber et a sen,
which turned to knowledge and to sense
et ai vist far mans fagz saviamen
and I-have seen to-do many deeds wisely
que tornavon a folhia trop gran,
which turned to folly very great
per qu'ieu cug far sen, quan vauc folheian.
for which-I think to-do sense when I-go acting-foolishly

E vos, dona, qu'avetz valor valen,
And you lady who-have merit worthy
aissi cum etz miellers de las melhors,
thus as you-are better than the best

valha m merces et oblit vos ricors,
may-avail to-me mercy and may-forget you wealth
e no gardetz razo mas chauzimen,
and not regard reason but clemency
que so que l'us pueia l'autre dissen,
for that which the-one raises the-other lowers
so que razo creys merces vai merman;
that which reason increases mercy goes lessening
si us platz, aucir me podetz razonan.
if to-you it-pleases to-kill me you-can arguing

Pauc vos calra del mieu enansamen,
Little to-you will-matter of-the my advancement
s'aissi gardatz vostras valens valors,
if-thus you-guard your worthy merits
lo dous esgartz e la fresca colors,
the sweet look and the fresh color
qu'enquera m son al cor vostr'uelh rizen,
for-still to-me are at-the heart your-eyes laughing
li cortes dig amoros e plazen,
the courteous words amorous and pleasing
e quar ieu plus soven no us vau denan,
and because I more often not to-you go before
a pauc miey huelh estra mon grat no i van.
at little my eyes beyond my will — there go

Reys d'Arago, flors etz d'essenhamen,
King of-Aragon flower you-are of-breeding
fuelha de gaug, frugz de bos fagz donan,
leaf of joy fruit of good deeds giving
vos etz de pretz mayestres ses enjan.
you are of worth master without deceit

Coms Cumenges, grat e merces vos ren,
Count Comminges thanks and gratitude to-you I-render
quar ses donar m'avetz donat aitan
for without giving me-you-have given so-much
qu'endreg d'onor val un don autre gran.
that-in-regard of-honor is-worth one gift another great

A dialogue in alternating lines. A lover tells his lady that he dies for her, and she answers each plea with scorn, wishing him worse than anyone and leaving him no hope. Then he turns to Love and asks why it made him choose such a lady; Love answers that it showed him what is worth most, bids him suffer, and promises that he will enjoy her by enduring and serving.

Domna, per vos estauc en greu turmen.
Lady for you I-stay in grievous torment

— Senher, que fols faitz qu'ieu grat no us en sen.
Lord what foolish you-do for-I thanks not to-you thereof feel

— Domna, per dieu aiatz en chauzimen.
Lady for God have thereof clemency

— Senher, vostres precs y anatz perden.
Lord your prayers there you-go losing

— Bona dona, ja us am ieu finamen.
Good lady already you love I truly

— Senher, et ie us vuelh pietz qu'a l'autra gen.
Lord and I you wish worse than-to the-other folk

— Domna, per so n'ai ieu lo cor dolen.
Lady for that thereof-have I the heart grieving

— Senher, et ieu alegre e jauzen.
Lord and I glad and rejoicing

Domna, ja muer per vos ses nulh cofort.
Lady already I-die for you without any comfort

— Senher, ben trop n'auretz fag lonc acort.
Lord well too-much thereof-you-will-have made long accord

— Domna, ja es ma vida piegz de mort.
Lady already is my life worse than death
— Senher, so m platz sol que no us n'aya tort.
Lord that to-me pleases only that not to-you thereof-I-have wrong
— Domna, de vos non ai mas desconort.
Lady from you not I-have but discomfort
— Senher, e doncs cujatz qu'ie us am per fort?
Lord and then think-you that-I you love by force
— Domna, ab un semblan m'agratz estort.
Lady with one seeming me-you-would-have rescued
— Senher, respieit non aiatz ni conort.
Lord hope not have nor comfort

Domna, vauc doncs alhors clamar merce.
Lady I-go then elsewhere to-cry mercy
— Senher, anatz; e doncs, qui vos rete?
Lord go and then who you holds
— Domna, no puesc que vostr'amors me te.
Lady not I-can for your-love me holds
— Senes cosselh, senher, o fay de me.
Without counsel lord it does of me
— Domna, trop mal mi respondetz ancse.
Lady too ill me you-answer always
— Senher, quar piegz vos vuelh qu'a autra re.
Lord for worse you I-wish than-to other thing
— E doncs, dona, no m faretz ja nulh be!
And then lady not to-me you-will-do ever any good
— Senher, aissi er cum dizetz, so cre.
Lord thus it-will-be as you-say so I-believe

Amors, gitat m'avetz a no m'en cal.
Love cast me-you-have to not me-thereof cares
— Amics, per dieu vos en puesc far ren al.
Friend by God to-you thereof I-can to-do anything else
— Amors, e vos ja meretz de tot mal.
Love and you already merit of all ill
— Amics, per so us en trairei san e sal.
Friend for that you thereof I-will-draw sound and safe
— Amors, per que m fetz chauzir don'aital?
Love for what me you-made to-choose lady-such
— Amics, ieu vos mostrei so que mais val.
Friend I to-you showed that which more is-worth
— Amors, no puesc sofrir l'afan coral.
Love not I-can to-suffer the-toil heartfelt
— Amics, per so queira m'autre logual.
Friend for that I-would-seek me-other place

Amors, en tot quan faichs vos vei falhir.
Love in all that you-do you I-see to-fail
— Amicx, a gran tort me voletz laidir.
Friend at great wrong me you-wish to-insult
— Amors, e doncs per que ns voletz partir?
Love and then for what us you-wish to-part
— Amicx, quar greu m'es quan vos vey morir.
Friend for grievous to-me-it-is when you I-see to-die

— Amors, ja no cujetz qu'alhors me vir.
Love ever not think that-elsewhere myself I-turn
— Amicx, per so pessatz del ben suffrir.
Friend for that think of-the well suffering
— Amors, sembla us si ja'n poirai jauzir?
Love seems to-you if ever-thereof I-will-be-able to-enjoy
— Amicx, oc, vos sufren et ab servir.
Friend yes you suffering and with serving

A man who long praised love and then reviles it dishonors himself, for whoever belies his own good words should not be believed when he speaks ill. One who first said love raised him from low to high now speaks ill of it subtly, with gilded proverbs. No one can be good without the mastery of Love, which teaches him to sort the good from the ill. It sets boldness and fear together in the heart, boldness for largesse and fear of all baseness. Lady Joana of Este should judge whether love deserves praise or blame.

D'aisso don hom a lonjamen
Of-that whereof one has long
ben dig entr'els conoissedors,
well said among-the knowing
si'n dis pueis mal vilanamen,
if-thereof he-says then ill churlishly
es a tot lo mens dezonors,
it-is at all the least dishonor
qu'aycelh que se mezeys demen
for-he who himself self belies
del ben qu'a dig, no m'es parven,
of-the good which-he-has said not to-me-is apparent
des qu'es trobatz ben dizen fals,
since that-he-is found well saying false
qu'el dei'om creire dizen mals.
that-him must-one to-believe saying ills

S'elh disses al comensamen
If-he said at-the beginning
lo mal, ans qu'elh bes digz fos sors,
the ill before that-the good said were risen

dissera plus cubertamen
he-would-have-said more covertly
e semblera vers als plusors.
and it-would-have-seemed true to-the most
Mas pero ben aven soven
But yet well it-happens often
qu'aisso qu'om cre blasmar defen;
that-that which-one thinks to-blame he-defends
doncs non es d'ome qu'es aitals
then not is of-man who-is such
lo bes digz bo ni'l mals digz mals.
the good said good nor-the ill said ill

Us que dis ben premeiramen
One who said well first
que de bas aut poiet amors,
that from low high rose love
e'n dis apres mal sotilmen
and-thereof said after ill subtly
per far semblar sos mals peiors;
for to-make to-seem his ills worse
e per plus enganar la gen
and for more to-deceive the folk
ab proverbis dauratz de sen
with proverbs gilded with sense
et ab parauletas venals,
and with little-words venal
vol far creire del ben qu'es mals.
wants to-make to-believe of-the good that-it-is ill

Non es bes qui fai d'avinen,
Not is good who does of-seemly
segon lo mon, so qu'es valors;
according-to the world that which-is merit
e que s garda de falhimen
and who himself guards from failing
on plus pot; e creys sa lauzors,
where more he-can and grows his praise
si es; mas non pot far nien,
so it-is but not he-can to-do anything
si non a l'amajestramen
if not he-has the-mastering
d'Amor, qu'es majestre lials,
of-Love who-is master loyal
qu'ensenha triar bes dels mals.
who-teaches to-sort goods from-the ills

Qu'el cor nays on amors empren
For-in-the heart is-born where love kindles
ensems ardimens e paors;
together boldness and fear
qu'en saviez'a l'ardimen
that-in wisdom-has the-boldness
e volpilhag'en las follors;
and cowardice-in the follies
e pueys es arditz eissamen
and then he-is bold likewise
de larguez'e d'ensenhamen,
in largesse-and in-breeding

e volpilhs d'escarsez'e d'als
and cowardly in-stinginess-and in-else
que fos vilania ni mals.
that were churlishness or ill

Per so m par que, qui eitz mal, men
For that to-me it-seems that who says ill lies
del majestre que dona'l sen
of-the master who gives-the sense
cum sia hom valens e cabals,
how be man worthy and excellent
ni cum se pot gardar de mals.
and how himself can to-guard from ills

Quar val plus e conoys e sen
For is-worth more and knows and feels
Na Joana d'Est, et enten
Lady Joana of-Este and understands
mielh, segon lo dreg jutge, quals
better according-to the right let-her-judge which
deu hom dir d'amor bes o mals.
must one to-say of-love goods or ills

His songs come from true love more than from any other science, and he bought his knowledge dear: love sweetened his mouth and then embittered his heart. His lady could be accused of lacking mercy, for love and clemency conquer him and she lets him languish, which is worse than dying. He loves her in secret and dares not show it, nor speak before her beauty, but only sighs. He praises the king of Aragon, who makes one good deed follow another, so that good speakers do not know where to turn.

De fin'amor comenson mas cansos
From true-love begin my songs
plus que no fan de nulh'autra sciensa,
more than — they-do from any-other science
qu'ieu non saubra nien, s'amors non fos,
for-I not would-know anything if-love not were
et anc tan car non comprei conoissensa;
and ever so dear not I-bought knowledge
qu'ab belh semblan, aissi cum fai traire,
for-with fair seeming thus as does traitor
me vai doblan quascun jorn mon martire,
me goes doubling each day my martyrdom
qu'en la boca m fes al prim doussezir
for-in the mouth me it-made at-the first to-sweeten
so que m'a fag pueys al cor amarzir.
that which me-it-has made then at-the heart to-embitter

Si de merce acuzar fos razos,
If of mercy to-accuse were reason
digna fora de ma desbevolensa,
worthy she-would-be of my ill-will
qu'amors vens me e chauzimenz amdos,
for-love conquers me and clemency both
et us non a d'els poder que lieys vensa;
and one not has of-them power that her conquer
per so m cuia de tot en tot aucire,
for that me she-thinks from all in all to-kill
quar sap e ve que merces n'es a dire;
for she-knows and sees that mercy thereof-is to say
pero no m vol del tot viatz aucir,
yet not me she-wants of-the all quickly to-kill
abans me fai languen, piegz de morir.
rather me makes languishing worse than dying

Piegz a de mort selh que viu cossiros,
Worse has than death he who lives anxious
e non a joy, mas dolor e temensa,
and not has joy but pain and fear
pueys ve la ren qu'el pogra far joyos,
then sees the thing which-him could to-make joyful
on non troba socors ni mantenensa.
where not he-finds succor nor support
E doncs ieu, las! que sui d'est mal suffrire
And then I alas who am of-this ill sufferer
de mil dolors, fos d'un sol joy jauzire!
of thousand pains were of-one single joy enjoyer

E ja no fos mas per mi escarnir,
And ever not were but for me to-mock
si m degra far ab belh semblan languir!
so me she-ought to-make with fair seeming to-languish

Mas non a tort qu'ieu am lieys a rescos
But not she-has wrong for-I love her in hiding
ins e mon cor, e no'l n'aus far parvensa;
within in my heart and not-to-her thereof-I-dare to-make show
d'aitan fas eu a guiza d'orgulhos,
in-so-much do I in manner of-proud-one
quar sol de lieys aus aver sovinensa:
for only of her I-dare to-have remembrance
mas ieu non puesc ad amor contradire;
but I not can to love to-gainsay
so que'l platz am, e so que'l platz adire;
that which-to-it pleases I-love and that which-to-it pleases I-loathe
pero cum folhs mi vuelh enfolhetir,
yet as fool myself I-wish to-make-foolish
quar encaus so que no vuelh cosseguir.
for I-pursue that which not I-wish to-attain

Qu'el sieus cars pretz es lo mielher dels bos,
For-the her dear worth is the best of-the good
pueys la beutatz es egual la valensa:
then the beauty is equal the worth
cum plus remir ni vey d'autras faissos,
the more I-behold and see of-other features

ades m'es vis que sa beutatz agensa;
always to-me-is seen that her beauty grows-fair
per qu'ieu no l'aus preian mon cor devire,
for which-I not to-her-dare praying my heart to-reveal
mas que denan li fremisc e'lh sospire,
but that before her I-tremble and-to-her sigh
quar sa beutatz fai ma boca mudir;
for her beauty makes my mouth mute
mas sospiran la'n cug far avertir.
but sighing her-thereof I-think to-make aware

Dels huelhs no vey lieys cui de cor remire,
With-the eyes not I-see her whom with heart I-behold
per qu'ensemps plor mesclamen e sospire;
for which-together I-weep mixedly and sigh
e si s laisses a merce convertir,
and if herself she-let to mercy to-convert
dreitz for'hueymais que m fetz vas si venir.
right it-would-be-henceforth that me she-made toward herself to-come

Reys d'Aragon, tant aguizatz de dire
King of-Aragon so-much you-sharpen of saying
als ben dizens, qu'us non sap on se vire,
to-the well speakers that-one not knows where himself to-turn
qu'a l'un bon fag faitz l'autre cosseguir,
for-to the-one good deed you-make the-other follow
per qu'om tem dir lo ben pel miels gequir.
for which-one fears to-say the good for-the better to-leave

Whoever wars with love is not wise, for war brings harm and little good. True love's pleasures outweigh its vexations, its joy its grief, and its profit its harm. Love makes the vile worthy, the fool eloquent, the miser generous, and the knave loyal, and binds two hearts into one. From his lady and from Love he holds his sense, knowledge, words, and song. The song goes to the emperor whom Germans serve, and he will never leave his lady, the fairest that is.

Selh que s'irais ni guerrey'ab Amor,
He who himself-angers or wars-with Love
ges que savis no fai, al mieu semblan,
at-all as wise-man not does to-the my seeming
quar de guerra ven tart pro e tost dan,
for from war comes late profit and soon harm
e guerra fai mal tornar en peior;
and war makes ill to-turn into worse
en guerra trop, per qu'ieu non la volria,
in war I-find for which-I not it would-want
viutat de mal e de ben carestia;
cheapness of ill and of good dearth
e fin'amors, si tot mi fai languir,
and true-love if all me makes to-languish
a tant de joy que m pot leu esjauzir;
has so-much of joy that me it-can lightly to-rejoice

que'l plazer so plus que l'enuey d'amor,
for-the pleasures are more than the-vexations of-love
e'l be que'l mal, e'l sojorn que l'afan,
and-the good than-the ill and-the rest than the-toil

e'l gaug que'l dol, e'l leu fays que'l pezan,
and-the joy than-the grief and-the light burden than-the heavy
e'l pro que'l dan son plus, e'l ris que'l plor.
and-the profit than-the harm are more and-the laughter than-the weeping
Non dic aissi del tot que mal no i sia,
Not I-say thus of-the all that ill not there be
e'l mal qu'om n'a val mais que si'n gueria,
and-the ill which-one thereof-has is-worth more than if-thereof he-were-healed
quar selh qu'ama de cor non vol guerir
for he who-loves from heart not wants to-heal
del mal d'amor, tant es dous per sufrir!
from-the ill of-love so-much it-is sweet for suffering

Enquera truep mais de be en amor,
Yet I-find more of good in love
qu'el vil fai pros e'l nesci gen parlan,
for-the cheap it-makes worthy and-the fool nobly speaking
e l'escars larc e leyal lo truan,
and the-stingy generous and loyal the knave
e'l folh savi e'l pec conoissedor,
and-the fool wise and-the dolt knowing
e l'orgulhos domesg'e humilia,
and the-proud it-tames-and humbles
e de dos cors fai un, tan gen los lia;
and of two hearts makes one so nobly them it-binds
per qu'om non deu ad amor contradir
for which-one not must to love to-gainsay
pus tan gen sap comensar e fenir.
since so nobly it-knows to-begin and to-end

S'ieu l'ai servit, pro n'ai cambi d'amor
If-I it-have served enough thereof-I-have exchange of-love
ab que ja plus no m fassa mais aitan,
provided that ever more not to-me it-do but so-much
qu'en mainh locs m'a fag tan aut e tan gran,
for-in many places me-it-has made so high and so great
don ja ses lieys no pogr'aver honor,
whence ever without it not I-could-have honor
e moutas vetz mi gart de vilania,
and many times myself I-guard from churlishness
que ses amor gardar no m'en sabria;
which without love to-guard not myself-thereof I-would-know
e manhs bos motz mi fai pessar e dir,
and many good words me it-makes to-think and to-say
que ses amor no i sabria venir.
which without love not there I-would-know-how to-come

Bona domna, de vos tenc e d'Amor
Good lady from you I-hold and from-Love
sen e saber, cors e cor, motz e chan;
sense and knowledge body and heart words and song
e s'ieu res fatz que sia benestan
and if-I anything do that is seemly
devetz n'aver lo grat e la lauzor,
you-ought thereof-to-have the thanks and the praise
vos e Amors, que m datz la mayestria;
you and Love who to-me give the mastery
e si ja plus de ben no m'en venia,
and if ever more of good not to-me-thereof came

pro n'ai cambi, segon lo mieu albir;
enough thereof-I-have exchange according-to the my judgment
e si plus fos, be saubra'l plus grazir.
and if more were well I-would-know-the more to-welcome

Chansos, vai t'en de ma part e d'Amor
Song go thyself-away on my part and of-Love
al pro, al ric, al valen, al prezan
to-the worthy to-the rich to-the worthy to-the prized
a cui servon Tyes et Alaman,
to whom serve Teutons and Germans
e sopleyo cum bon emperador;
and entreat as good emperor
sobr'els majors a una majoria,
above-the greater he-has a greatness
honor e pretz, larguez'e cortezia;
honor and worth largesse-and courtesy
larcs es de cor, d'amar e de servir,
generous he-is of heart of-loving and of serving
valens de fag per ric pretz conquerir.
worthy of deed for rich worth to-win

Bona domna, la genser etz que sia,
Good lady the fairest you-are that is
vas vos azor e soplei nueg e dia;
toward you I-adore and entreat night and day
jamais de vos no me volrai partir,
ever from you not myself I-will-wish to-part
qu'en tot lo mon non pogra miels chauzir.
for-in all the world not I-could better to-choose

Fools and base little jongleurs multiply, running ahead and biting, two of them to one of us, and it is grievous that people welcome them. He does not mean Sordel, who does not go hustling like the knight-doctor, though when his lenders fail he cannot throw five or six at dice. The marquis of Saluzzo should not let his Perceval, a child's tutor, leave his court. The marquis of Encantarelh has the Nicolet and the jester he deserves. Now the troop will come toward Malaspina, and there will be brawls and threats in the tavern.

Li folh e'l put e'l filhol
The fools and-the vile and-the godsons
creisson trop, e no m'es belh;
grow too-much and not to-me-it-is fair
e'l croy joglaret novelh,
and-the vile little-jongleurs new
enueyos e mal parlan,
tiresome and ill speaking
corron un pauc trop enan,
run a little too forward
e son ja li mordedor
and are already the biters
per un de nos, duy de lor,
for one of us two of them
e non es qui los n'esquerna.
and not is who them thereof-mocks

Greu es quar hom lor acol,
Grievous it-is for one them welcomes
e non lor en fai revelh:
and not to-them thereof makes resistance
non o dic contra'N Sordelh,
not it I-say against-Sir Sordel
qu'el non es d'aital semblan,
for-he not is of-such seeming
ni no s va ges percassan
and not himself goes at-all pursuing
si col cavalier doctor;
so as-the knight doctor
mas, quan falho'l prestador,
but when fail-the lenders
non pot far .V. ni .VI. terna.
not he-can to-make five nor six three

Lo marques part Pinairol,
The marquis beyond Pinerolo
que ten Saluz'e Revelh,
who holds Saluzzo-and Revello
no vuelh ges que desclavelh
not I-wish at-all that he-unnail
de sa cort, ni an lunhan
from his court nor go far
Persaval, que sap d'enfan
Perceval who knows of-child
esser mayestre tutor;
to-be master tutor

ni un autre tuador,
nor an other killer
qu'ieu no vuelh dir, de Luzerna.
whom-I not wish to-say of Luserna

Aitals los a com los vol
Such them has as them he-wants
lo marques d'Encantarelh,
the marquis of-Encantarelh
Nicolet, e'l trufarelh
Nicolet and-the jester
que venon ab lui e van,
who come with him and go
e non del tot per lor dan,
and not of-the all for their harm
be s son trobat d'una color;
well themselves are found of-one color
a tals vassals tal senhor;
to such vassals such lord
dieus lor don vita eterna!
God to-them may-give life eternal

Ar veiretz venir l'estol
Now you-will-see to-come the-fleet
ves Malespina e'l tropelh,
toward Malaspina and-the troop
donan la carn e la pelh;
giving the flesh and the skin

et ades on piegz lor fan
and always where worse to-them they-do
e menhs de merce lor an;
and less of mercy for-them they-have
trop son li combatedor,
many are the fighters
e pauc li defendedor;
and few the defenders
mortz son, si Dieus no'ls governa.
dead they-are if God not-them governs

Estampidas e rumor
Brawls and noise
sai qu'en faran entre lor,
I-know that-thereof they-will-make among them
menassan en la taverna.
threatening in the tavern

He never thought he could forget the harm he took in friends and lords, but a greater grief drives out the lesser: the marquis of Este, the best count in the world, is dead. He was wise, measured, generous, and courteous, humble to the good and proud to the bad. He grieves too for the gay count of Verona, flower of beauty. The marquis made even small givers give more; what will jongleurs and troubadours do now? He prays God to set both in paradise.

Anc non cugey que m pogues oblidar
Ever not I-thought that me could to-forget
lo dan qu'ai pres d'amicx e de senhors,
the harm which-I-have taken of-friends and of lords
mas lo gran dan oblid'om pel maiors,
but the great harm forgets-one through-the greater
qu'aisso es dans que no s pot esmendar,
for-this is harm that not itself can to-amend
qu'el melhor coms del mon e'lh mielhs apres,
for-the best count of-the world and-the best taught
lays m'o, que tug sabetz be del marques
I-leave me-it for all you-know well of-the marquis
d'Est quals era, no'l vos qual lauzar ges,
of-Este what-like he-was not-him to-you it-needs to-praise at-all
mortz es, mas ieu no cre que negus temps
dead he-is but I not believe that any time
morisson tans de bons costums essemps.
died so-many of good customs together

Qu'elh fon savis, conoyssens e saup far
For-he was wise knowing and knew to-do
a mezura tan qu'era sa valors
in measure so-much that-was his merit
el plus aut grat poiatz e sos pretz sors,
in-the most high degree risen and his worth raised
e sostener que no s pogues baissar
and to-sustain that not itself could to-lower
lo saup ab sen, pueys fo larcs e cortes,
it he-knew with sense then he-was generous and courteous
humils als bos et als mals d'orguelh ples,
humble to-the good and to-the evil of-pride full
e vas domnas adretz en totas res,
and toward ladies upright in all things
e vertadiers a son poder tos temps,
and truthful to his power all time
qu'el cor e'l sen e'l faitz hi mes essemps.
for-the heart and-the sense and-the deeds there he-put together

Autra dol ai que m'es greus a durar
Other grief I-have which to-me-is grievous to endure
del guai comte Verones qu'era flors
for-the gay count of-Verona who-was flower
de gran beutat e de totz bes colors;
of great beauty and of all goods color
qui'ls sieus bos aips vos volia comtar
who-the his good qualities to-you wished to-tell
no'ls poiria totz retrayr'en un mes,
not-them could all relate-in one month

ni non es hom qui tener se pogues,
and not is man who to-hold himself could
si'ls auzia, que del cor no'l plaingues;
if-them he-heard that from-the heart not-him he-lamented
per so que mais no falhiran tos temps
for that that more not will-fail all time
aquist duy dol que son vengut essemps.
these two griefs which are come together

Senher marques, vos faziatz donar
Lord marquis you made to-give
a tals cui dar no fora ja sabors,
to such for-whom giving not were ever savor
pueys faziatz als menutz donadors
then you-made to-the small givers
creisser lurs dons, quant auzian parlar
to-increase their gifts when they-heard to-speak
del vostre fait cum era sobremes.
of-the your deed how it-was surpassing
Qui fara mais los belhs dos ni'ls grans bes,
Who will-make more the fair gifts or-the great goods
ni de qual cort venra tan rics arnes
or from what court will-come so rich harness
cum fazia de la vostra tos temps,
as it-did from the yours all time
quar negus tant cum vos non dava essemps!
for anyone so-much as you not gave together

Senher marques, que faran li joglar
Lord marquis what will-do the jongleurs
a cui fezes tans dons, tantas honors!
to whom you-did so-many gifts so-many honors
Mas un cosselh non sai als trobadors,
But one counsel not I-know for-the troubadours
laisso's morir et ano'us lai sercar;
may-they-let-themselves to-die and may-they-go-you there to-seek
quar sai no vei guaire qui de lor pes,
for here not I-see much who of them thinks
quar vos no y etz, ni'l valens coms no y es;
for you not there are and-the worthy count not there is
pauc nos laisset dieus vas que trop n'a pres,
little to-us left God toward what too-much thereof-he-has taken
si laisset, tant que durara totz temps,
so he-left so-much that will-last all time
plangz e sospirs e dolors tot essemps.
laments and sighs and pains all together

Aquelh vers dieus, que fo et er totz temps,
That true God who was and will-be all time
los meta amdos en paradis essemps.
them may-put both in paradise together

9 · LAMENT FOR GUILLEM MALASPINA

Merit is undone, for Guillem Malaspina, marquis, mirror and master of all goods, is dead. He was more generous than Alexander, braver than Gawain, more courteous than Yvain, more devoted to love than Tristan; now no one will be chastened, for the mirror is gone. The bright rays that lit Tuscany and Lombardy are darkened, for he guided worth as the star guided the three kings. Who will now welcome soldiers and jongleurs and give horses and harness? He cannot stay here alive without his lord, and prays the triune God to help his lord in need.

Era par ben que valors se desfai,
Now it-appears well that merit itself undoes
e podetz o conoisser e saber,
and you-can it to-recognize and to-know
quar selh que plus volia mantener
for he who most wished to-maintain
solatz, domney, largueza ab cor verai,
cheer courtship largesse with heart true
mezura e sen, conoissensa e paria,
measure and sense knowledge and company
humilitat, orguelh ses vilania,
humility pride without churlishness
e'ls bons mestiers totz ses menhs e ses mai,
and-the good offices all without less and without more
es mortz, Guillems Malespina marques
is dead Guillem Malaspina marquis
que fo miralhs e mayestre dels bes.
who was mirror and master of-the goods

De bons mestiers el mon par non li sai,
Of good offices in-the world equal not to-him I-know
qu'anc non fon tan larcs, segon mon parer,
for-ever not was so generous according-to my seeming
Alixandres de manjar ni d'aver,
Alexander in eating nor in-wealth
qu'elh non dis non qui'l quis, n'i trobet plai,
for-he not said no who-him asked nor-there found plea
ni ges d'armas Galvains plus non valia,
nor at-all in-arms Gawain more not was-worth
ni non saup tan Yvan de cortezia,
nor not knew so-much Yvain of courtesy
ni s mes Tristans d'amor en tan d'assai;
nor himself put Tristan for-love into so-much of-trial
hueymais non er chastiatz ni repres
henceforth not will-be chastened nor reproved
negus, si falh, pus lo miralhs no y es.
anyone if he-fails since the mirror not there is

On son eras siei dig plazent e guai,
Where are now his words pleasing and gay
e siei fag plus poderos de poder,
and his deeds more powerful in power
qu'els autres fagz fazian desvaler.
which-the other deeds made unworthy
Oi dieus! cum son escurzit li clar rai
O God how are darkened the bright rays
qu'alumavan Toscana e Lombardia,
which-lit Tuscany and Lombardy

per que quascus anava et venia,
by which each went and came
ab lo sieu nom, ses dopte e ses esmai,
with the his name without doubt and without dismay
qu'aissi saup pretz guizar, tan fon cortes,
for-thus he-knew worth to-guide so-much was-he courteous
cum l'estela guidet los reys totz tres.
as the-star guided the kings all three

Per cui venran soudadier de luenh sai,
By whom will-come soldiers from far here
ni'l ric joglar que'l venian vezer,
or-the rich jongleurs who-him came to-see
qu'elh sabia honrar e car tener
for-he knew to-honor and dear to-hold
plus que princeps de sai mar ni de lai,
more than prince from this-side sea or from beyond
e manhta gens ses art, ses joglaria,
and many folk without art without jongleuring
per lo sieu don on negus non falhia;
through the his gift where anyone not failed
que manh caval ferran e brun et bai
for many horse iron-gray and brown and bay
donava plus soven et autr'arnes
he-gave more often and other-harness
de nulh baron qu'ieu anc vis ni saubes.
than any baron that-I ever saw or knew

Belhs senher cars, valens, e que farai?
Fair lord dear worthy and what shall-I-do
Ni cum puesc sai vius ses vos remaner?
Or how can-I here alive without you to-remain
Que m sabiatz tan dir e far plazer
For me you-knew so-much to-say and to-do pleasure
qu'autre plazers contra'l vostre m desplai;
that-other pleasure against-the yours to-me displeases
que tals per vos m'onrava e m'aculhia
for such through you me-honored and me-welcomed
que m'er estrans, cum si vist no m'avia;
that to-me-will-be strange as if seen not me-he-had
ni ja nulh temps cambi non trobarai
nor ever any time exchange not I-will-find
ni esmenda del dan qu'ai per vos pres,
nor amends for-the harm which-I-have for you taken
ni eu non cre qu'om far la m'en pogues.
nor I not believe that-one to-make it me-thereof could

Lo senher qu'es una persona en tres
The lord who-is one person in three
vos valha aissi cum ops ni cocha us es.
to-you may-help thus as need or urgency to-you is

Now it will appear who wants the world's worth and God's, for true pilgrims can win both by recovering the sepulcher. Let them take the cross and follow the good Pope Innocent. Christ died on the cross between two thieves, and whoever prizes loyalty must count his disinheritance a dishonor. No one should fear death in God's service, for those who follow him will be saved. Guillem Malaspina has taken the cross among the first. The kings and the emperor are to blame for not making peace, and the marquis of Montferrat should follow his ancestors.

Ara parra qual seran enveios
Now it-will-appear which will-be eager
d'aver lo pretz del mon e'l pretz de dieu,
to-have the worth of-the world and-the worth of God
que be'ls poiran guazanhar ambedos
for well-them they-will-be-able to-gain both
selh que seran adreitamen romieu
those who will-be rightly pilgrims
al sepulcre cobrar; dieus, cal dolor,
to-the sepulcher to-recover God what grief
que Turc aian forsat nostre senhor!
that Turks have forced our lord
Pensem el cor la desonor mortal,
Let-us-think in-the heart the dishonor mortal
e de la crotz prendam lo sanh senhal,
and of the cross let-us-take the holy sign
e passem lai, qu'el ferms e'l conoissens
and let-us-cross there for-the firm and-the knowing
nos guizara lo bon papa Innocens.
us will-guide the good pope Innocent

Doncs, pus quascus n'es preguatz e somos,
Then since each thereof-is prayed and summoned
tragua s'enan e senh s'el nom de dieu
let-him-draw himself-forward and let-him-sign himself-in-the name of God
qu'en la crotz fo mes entre dos lairos
who-on the cross was put between two thieves
quan, ses colpa, l'auciron li Juzieu;
when without guilt him-killed the Jews
quar, si prezam leialtat ni valor,
for if we-prize loyalty or merit
son dezeret tenrem a dezonor;
his disinheritance we-will-hold for dishonor
mas nos amam e volem so qu'es mal,
but we love and want that which-is ill
e soanam so qu'es bon e que val;
and scorn that which-is good and which avails
qu'el viures sai es a totz defalhens,
for-the living here is to all failing
del murir lai serem totz temps jauzens.
of-the dying there we-will-be all time rejoicing

Non deuria esser hom temeros
Not ought to-be man fearful
de suffrir mort el servizi de dieu,
of suffering death in-the service of God
qu'el la suffri el servizi de nos,
for-he it suffered in-the service of us

don seran sals essems ab sant Andrieu
whence will-be saved together with Saint Andrew
selhs qu'el segran lai vas Monti Tabor;
those who-him will-follow there toward Mount Tabor
per que negus non deu aver paor,
for which anyone not ought to-have fear
el viatge, d'aquesta mort carnal;
on-the journey of-this death carnal
plus deu temer la mort esperital
more he-ought to-fear the death spiritual
on seran plors et estridors de dens,
where will-be weepings and gnashings of teeth
que sans Matieus o mostr'e n'es guirens.
for Saint Matthew it shows-and thereof-is warrant

Avengutz es lo temps e la sazos
Come is the time and the season
on deu esser proat qual temon dieu,
when must to-be proved who fear God
qu'el non somo mas los valens e'ls pros,
for-he not summons but the valiant and-the worthy
c'aquels seran totz temps francamen sieu
for-those will-be all time frankly his
qui seran lai fis e bos sofridor
who will-be there true and good endurers
ni afortit ni bon combatedor,
and strengthened and good fighters
e franc e larc e cortes e leyal,
and frank and generous and courteous and loyal

e remanran li menut e'l venal,
and will-remain the petty and-the venal
que dels bons vol dieus qu'ab bos fagz valens
for of-the good wills God that-with good deeds worthy
se salvan lai, et es belhs salvamens.
themselves they-save there and it-is fair salvation

E s'anc Guillem Malespina fon bos
And if-ever Guillem Malaspina was good
en est segle, ben o mostra en dieu,
in this world well it shows in God
qu'ab los premiers s'es crozatz voluntos
for-with the first himself-is crossed willing
per socorr'el sant sepulcr'e son fieu,
for to-succor-the holy sepulcher-and his fief
don an li rey colp'e l'emperador,
whereof have the kings blame-and the-emperor
quar no fan patz et acort entre lor
for not they-make peace and accord among them
per desliurar lo regisme reyal,
for freeing the kingdom royal
e'l lum e'l vas e la crotz atretal
and-the light and-the tomb and the cross likewise
qu'an retengut li Turc tan longuamens,
which-have held the Turks so long
que sol l'auzirs es us grans marrimens.
that only the-hearing is a great sorrow

Marques de Monferrat, vostr'ansessor
Marquis of Montferrat your-ancestors
agron lo pretz de Suri'e l'onor,
had the worth of Syria-and the-honor
e vos, senher, vulhatz l'aver aital;
and you lord may-you-wish it-to-have such
el nom de dieu vos metetz lo senhal,
in-the name of God you put the sign
e passatz lai, que pretz et honramens
and cross there for worth and honoring
vos er el mon, et en dieu salvamens.
to-you will-be in-the world and in God salvation

Tot so qu'om fai el segl'es dreitz niens,
All that which-one does in-the world-is right nothing
si a la fi non l'aonda sos sens.
if at the end not him-suffices his sense

When King Alfonso, his son, King Peire, Diego, the marquis of Este, and the worthy Saladin died, he thought worth and giving dead and nearly gave up song. But both are restored, for God has sent a good physician from Salerno who knows every ill and every good and cures each without a fee. Never was there a doctor so young, fair, generous, brave, and well spoken; he came to win the German empire. He is Frederick, son of the emperor Henry, and his name fits him.

En aquelh temps qu'el reys mori'N Anfos
In that time when-the king died-Sir Alfonso
e sos belhs fils qu'era plazens e pros,
and his fair son who-was pleasing and worthy
e'l reys Peire de cui fon Araguos,
and-the king Peire of whom was Aragon
e'N Dieguo qu'era savis e pros,
and-Sir Diego who-was wise and worthy
e'l marques d'Est, e'l valens Salados,
and-the marquis of-Este and-the worthy Saladin
adoncx cugei que fos mortz pretz e dos,
then I-thought that were dead worth and giving
si qu'ieu fui pres de laissar mas chansos,
so that-I was near of to-leave my songs
mas ar los vey restauratz ambedos.
but now them I-see restored both

Pretz es estortz qu'era guastz e malmes,
Worth is rescued which-was wasted and mishandled
e dons gueritz del mal qu'avia pres,
and giving healed of-the ill which-it-had taken

q'un bon metge nos a dieus sai trames
for-a good physician to-us has God here sent
deves Salern savi e ben apres,
from Salerno wise and well taught
que conoys totz los mals e totz los bes,
who knows all the ills and all the goods
e mezina quascun segon que s'es;
and doctors each according-to what itself-is
et anc loguier non demandet ni ques,
and ever fee not he-asked nor sought
ans los logua, tant es francs e cortes!
rather them he-pays so-much is-he frank and courteous

Anc hom no vi metge de son joven,
Ever man not saw physician of his youth
tan belh, tan bo, tan larc, tan conoissen,
so fair so good so generous so knowing
tan coratgos, tan ferm, tan conqueren,
so brave so firm so conquering
tan be parlan ni tan ben entenden,
so well speaking nor so well understanding
qu'el be sap tot, et tot lo mal enten;
for-the good he-knows all and all the ill understands
per que sap mielhs mezinar e plus gen,
for which he-knows better to-doctor and more nobly
e fai de dieu cap e comensamen,
and makes of God head and beginning
qu'el ensenha guardar de falhimen.
for-he teaches to-guard from failing

Aquest metges sap de metgia tan,
This physician knows of medicine so-much
et a l'engienh e'l sen e'l saber gran,
and has the-skill and-the sense and-the knowledge great
qu'el sap ensemps guazanhar mezinan
that-he knows together to-gain doctoring
dieu e'l secgle, guardatz valor d'enfan,
God and-the world behold merit of-child
qu'el sieu perden venc meten e donan
for-the his losing he-came spending and giving
sai conquerir l'emperi alaman;
here to-conquer the-empire German
hueymais cre ben, com que y anes duptan,
henceforth I-believe well though that there I-went doubting
los faitz qu'om ditz d'Alixandr'en contan.
the deeds which-one tells of-Alexander-in telling

Aquest metges savis, de qu'ieu vos dic,
This physician wise of whom-I to-you speak
fon filhs del bon emperador N Enric,
was son of-the good emperor Sir Henry
et a lo nom del metge Frederic,
and has the name of-the physician Frederick
e'l cor e'l sen e'l saber e'l fag ric,
and-the heart and-the sense and-the knowledge and-the deed rich
don seran ben mezinat siey amic,
whereby will-be well doctored his friends
e i trobaran cosselh e bon abric;
and there will-find counsel and good shelter

de lonc sermon devem far breu prezic,
of long sermon we-must to-make short preaching
que ben cobram lo gran segon l'espic.
for well we-recover the grain according-to the-ear

Be pot aver lo nom de Frederic,
Well he-can to-have the name of Frederick
que'l dig son bon e'l fag son aut e ric.
for-the words are good and-the deeds are high and rich
Al bon metge maiestre Frederic
To-the good physician master Frederick
di metgia, que de metgiar no s tric.
say medicine that from doctoring not himself he-delay

A tenso: Aimeric asks Elias for counsel, since his lady will lie with him one night if he swears not to go beyond kissing and holding; should he keep the oath or break it? Elias says a man who holds his lady and looks elsewhere is a fool, and he would break it. Aimeric calls this a knave's counsel, since breaking it loses both God and the lady, and he will keep to kissing. Elias says he would do it laughing, then weep until she pardons him and go on pilgrimage beyond Tyre.

N Elias, conseill vos deman
Sir Elias counsel of-you I-ask
de lieis c'am mais c'autrui ni me,
about her whom-I-love more than-another or me
que m ditz que m colgara ab se
who me tells that me she-will-lay with herself
una nuoich, ab que il jur e il man
one night provided that to-her I-swear and to-her I-promise
que non la fortz part son talan,
that not her I-force beyond her desire
mas qu'eu estei baisan tenen:
but that-I stay kissing holding
del far digatz m'al vostre sen,
of-the doing tell me-by-the your sense
s'es mieils c'aissi sofra et endur,
if-it-is better that-thus I-suffer and endure
o part son voler me perjur.
or beyond her will myself I-perjure

N Aimeric, ie us vauc conseillan
Sir Aimeric I you go counseling
que, s'ab si us colga, faitz l'o be;
that if-with herself you she-lays do to-her-it well
car qui sa dompna en son bratz te,
for who his lady in his arms holds
fols es s'aillor la vai cercan;
fool he-is if-elsewhere it he-goes seeking
car s'ieu era ab mi donz jazen
for if-I were with my lady lying
e n'avia fait sagramen,
and thereof-had made oath
faria l'o so us assegur,
I-would-do to-her-it that you I-assure
qui que m'en tengues per perjur.
whoever that me-thereof held for perjurer

N Elias a lei de truan
Sir Elias in manner of knave
me conseillatz er et ancse,
me you-counsel now and always
mal a qui del conseill vos cre,
ill has who of-the counsel you believes
e sai ben que il fals vos creiran,
and I-know well that the false you will-believe
cill que non amon tan ni quan;
those who not love so-much nor how-much

car dieu e sa dompna eissamen
for God and his lady likewise
pert qui aisso que il jura men;
loses who that which to-her he-swears belies
per q'al tenen baisan m'atur
for which-at-the holding kissing myself-I-stay
ab cor que del far non perjur.
with heart that of-the doing not I-perjure

N Aimeric, vilania gran
Sir Aimeric churlishness great
disetz e razonatz desse,
you-say and argue at-once
car s'ab lieis jatz qu'am mais que me,
for if-with her I-lie whom-I-love more than me
ja als non l'irai demandan,
ever else not to-her-I-will-go asking
mas bellamen rizen, jogan,
but fairly laughing playing
l'o farai, puois plorarai m'en
to-her-it I-will-do then I-will-weep myself-thereof
tro que m perdon lo faillimen;
until that me she-pardon the failing
puois irai, pelegrins, part Sur,
then I-will-go pilgrim beyond Tyre
quer'en dieu perdon del perjur.
to-seek-thereof God pardon for-the perjury

Asked at court why he makes no vers, he lets this song be called vers or song as they please, for the two differ only in name: he has heard masculine rhymes in songs and feminine ones in vers, short tunes in vers and long ones in songs. Courtship has left its place, and lovers deceive each other. Once a cord given for love brought cheer and rich feasts; now a month lasts twice as long as a year did then. Yet he loves a lady who is summit and root of worth, and asks only to love her. The song goes to Guillem Malaspina and Beatrice of Este.

Mantas vetz sui enqueritz
Many times I-am asked
en cort cossi vers no fatz,
in court how vers not I-make
per qu'ieu vuelh si'apelatz,
for which-I wish it-be-called
e sia lurs lo chauzitz,
and let-be theirs the choosing
chansos o vers aquest chans;
song or vers this song
e respon als demandans
and I-answer to-the askers
qu'om non troba ni sap devezio,
that-one not finds nor knows division
mas sol lo nom, entre vers e chanso.
but only the name between vers and song

Qu'ieu ai motz mascles auzitz
For-I have words masculine heard
en chansonetas assatz,
in little-songs enough
e motz femenis pauzatz
and words feminine set
en verses bos e grazitz;
in vers good and welcomed
e cortz sonetz e cochans
and short tunes and hurrying
ai ieu auzit en verses mans,
have I heard in vers many
e chansos ai auzidas ab lonc so,
and songs I-have heard with long tune
e'ls motz d'amdos d'un gran, e'l chan d'un to.
and-the words of-both of-one size and-the song of-one tone

E s'ieu en sui desmentitz
And if-I thereof am belied
qu'aisso no sia vertatz,
that-this not is truth
no er hom per me blasmatz,
not will-be man by me blamed
si per dreg m'o contraditz;
if by right me-it he-gainsays
ans n'er sos sabers plus grans
rather thereof-will-be his knowledge more great
entr'els bos, e'l mieus mermans,
among-the good and-the mine lessening

si d'aisso m pot venser segon razo;
if in-this me he-can to-conquer according-to reason
qu'ieu non ai ges tot lo sen Salamo.
for-I not have at-all all the sense of-Solomon

Quar es de son loc partitz
For is from its place parted
domneys, que ja fon prezatz,
courtship which once was prized
mi sui alques desviatz
myself I-am somewhat turned-aside
d'amor, tan n'estauc marritz!
from-love so-much thereof-I-stay grieved
Qu'entr'amairitz et amans
For-between-lady-lovers and lovers
s'es m'es us pales enjans,
itself-is to-me-it-is an open deceit
qu'enjanan cre l'us l'autre far son pro,
that-deceiving thinks the-one the-other to-make his profit
e no i guardon temps ni per que ni quo.
and not there they-regard time nor for what nor how

Qu'ieu vi, ans que fo faiditz,
For-I saw before that it-was exiled
si fos per amor donatz
if were for love given
us cordos, qu'adreg solatz
a cord that-right cheer
n'issia e ricx covitz;
thence-came and rich feasts
per que m par que dur dos tans
for which to-me it-seems that lasts two times
us mes no fazia us ans,
a month not did a year
quan renhava domneys ses tracio;
when reigned courtship without treason
greu es qui ve com es e sap com fo.
grievous it-is who sees how it-is and knows how it-was

E non es tan relenquitz,
And not I-am so abandoned
sitot mi sui dezamatz,
although myself I-am unloved
qu'ieu no sia enamoratz
that-I not be enamored
de tal qu'es sima e razitz
of such-one who-is summit and root
de pretz, tan qu'a me es dans;
of worth so-much that-to me it-is harm

pus la valors e'l semblans
since the merit and-the seeming
son assemblat en tan bella faisso
are gathered in so fair form
qu'om no i pot neys pessar meliurazo.
that-one not there can even to-think betterment

Ai! belh cors cars, gen noiritz,
Ah fair body dear nobly nurtured
adregz e gen faissonatz,
upright and nobly fashioned
so qu'ie us vuelh dir devinatz;
that which-I to-you wish to-say guess
qu'ieu no sui ges tant arditz;
for-I not am at-all so bold
que us prec que m'ametz, abans
that you I-pray that me-you-love before
vos clam merce merceyans.
to-you I-cry mercy begging-mercy
Sufretz qu'ie us am e no us quier autre do,
Allow that-I you love and not of-you I-seek other gift
e ges d'aquest no m devetz dir de no.
and at-all of-this not to-me you-ought to-say of no

Vas Malespina vai chans
Toward Malaspina go song
al pro Guillem qu'es prezans,
to-the worthy Guillem who-is prized
qu'elh aprenda de tu los motz e'l so,
that-he learn from thee the words and-the tune
qual que s vuelha per vers o per chanso.
whichever that himself he-wishes for vers or for song

Na Beatritz d'Est, l'enans
Lady Beatrice of-Este the-advancement
de vos mi platz, que s fai grans;
of you to-me pleases that itself makes great
en vos lauzar s'en son pres tug li bo,
in you praising themselves-thereof are taken all the good
per qu'ieu de vos dauri mon vers chanso.
for which-I with you gild my vers song

14 · LAMENT FOR THE MARQUIS OF ESTE

Where he once sang with joy he now sings in grief, for the marquis of Este, the best and worthiest, is dead, and with him the best count of his rank, which doubles the pain. The false world betrays those who serve it. Who will now honor others so, love his friends so, or care for intimates and strangers alike? He praises the count's speech, welcome, largesse, boldness, and beauty, and prays Christ the Savior to pardon both barons.

S'ieu anc chantiei alegres ni jauzens,
If-I ever sang glad or rejoicing
er chantarai marritz et ab tristor,
now I-will-sing grieved and with sadness
que totz mos gaugz torn en dol et en plor,
for all my joy turns into grief and into weeping
per qu'ieu sui tristz, e mos chans es dolens,
for which-I am sad and my song is grieving
quar lo melher marques e'l plus valens
for the best marquis and-the most worthy
e'l plus honratz e'l plus fis ses falsura
and-the most honored and-the most true without falseness
es mortz lo pros marques d'Est e'l prezans,
is dead the worthy marquis of-Este and-the prized
et en sa mort mor pretz e joys e chans.
and in his death dies worth and joy and song

Ges lo marques non es mortz solamens,
At-all the marquis not is dead alone
qu'el melhor coms, qu'anc fos de sa ricor,
for-the best count that-ever was of his wealth

es mortz ab lui, que ns dobla la dolor
is dead with him which us doubles the pain
e'l dan don ja non er restauramens.
and-the harm whereof ever not will-be restoration
Tan gran perda hi fai lo remanens;
So great loss there makes the remaining
segle caitiu e de falsa natura,
world wretched and of false nature
soven es traitz aquelh qu'ab vos s'atura;
often is betrayed he who-with you himself-stays
quar qui plus fai ni ditz vostres comans,
for who more does or says your commands
aisselh n'es plus enganatz mil aitans.
that-one thereof-is more deceived thousand times-as-much

Las! qui sabra mais tan entieiramens
Alas who will-know ever so wholly
far ad autrui honramens ni honor;
to-do to another honorings or honor
ni qui aura jamais tan fin'amor
or who will-have ever so true-love
ves sos amicx ni ves sos bevolens;
toward his friends or toward his well-wishers
ni on sera mais tan desenhamens
or where will-be ever so-much of-breeding
cum el marques fo, per que pretz pejura,
as in-the marquis was for which worth worsens

ni qui sabra jamais tan ben dar cura
or who will-know ever so well to-give care
de totas gens, qu'els privatz e'ls estranhs
of all folk for-the intimates and-the strangers
sabia tener amics et agradans?
he-knew to-keep friendly and pleased

Ges enqueras no puesc serrar mas dens
At-all yet not I-can to-close my teeth
qu'ieu del comte non digua sa lauzor,
that-I of-the count not say his praise
de totz bos aips foron sieu li melhor
of all good qualities were his the best
que gen parlars e dous aculhimens
for noble speaking and sweet welcoming
e largueza e fors'et ardimens
and largesse and strength-and boldness
e guay solatz e beutatz fin'e pura
and gay cheer and beauty fine-and pure
foron ab lui; ailas! tan gran fraitura
were with him alas so great lack
n'aurem hueimais dels dos amics amans …
thereof-we-will-have henceforth of-the two friends loving …

[trop es lo dols angoichos e cozens
too-much is the grief anguished and burning
que valors pren e'lh marques mo senhor,
which merit takes and-the marquis my lord

qu'elh era caps de pretz e de valor,
for-he was head of worth and of merit
e flors e frugz de totz bos complimens,
and flower and fruit of all good accomplishments
e mayestre d'onors e d'onramens.
and master of-honors and of-honorings
Las! qui pot dir la gran dezaventura,
Alas who can to-tell the great misfortune
ni'l dol ni'l dan ni la descofitura
or-the grief or-the harm or the defeat
qu'avem preza, don es la perd'e'l dans
which-we-have taken whereof is the loss-and-the harm
remas ab nos anguoissos e pezans.]
remained with us anguished and heavy

Senher verais, Ihesus omnipotens,
Lord true Jesus omnipotent
reys dreituriers, humils, ples de doussor
king righteous humble full of sweetness
Salvaire Crist, qui claman peccador,
Savior Christ whom call sinners
als dos baros, senher, siatz guirens,
to-the two barons lord be warrant
qu'en lor era merces e chauzimens
for-in them was mercy and clemency
e lialtatz, ab fiansa segura;
and loyalty with trust sure

per so devetz, senher dieus, per dreitura
for that you-ought lord God by right
a quasqun d'els esser vers perdonans,
to each of-them to-be true pardoning
que quasqus fo fis e ses totz enjans.
for each was true and without all deceits

Lo plang fenisc ab dol et ab rancura,
The lament I-end with grief and with complaint
quar de dol mov et ab dolor s'atura,
for from grief it-moves and with pain itself-stops
e per so deu ab dol fenir mos chans,
and for that must with grief to-end my song
qu'el mielhs del mon s'es perdutz en un lans.
for-the best of-the world itself-is lost in one throw

All honors and fitting deeds were wasted on the day death killed the worthy King Manfred, leader in merit and joy, and in his death all goods die. Honor goes off weeping, since no count, marquis, or king will call her home, and Dishonor has driven her from the land. He would send his sirventes beyond every mountain and sea to anyone with news of King Arthur's return. He curses covetousness, which has destroyed sport and joy.

Totas honors e tuig fag benestan
All honors and all deeds seemly
foron gastat e delit e mal mes
were wasted and destroyed and ill put
lo jorn que mortz aucis lo miel presan
the day that death killed the best prized
e'l plus plasen qu'ancmais nasques de maire,
and-the most pleasing that-ever was-born of mother
lo valen rei Manfrei que capdelaire
the worthy king Manfred who leader
fon de valor, de gaug, de totz los bes;
was of merit of joy of all the goods
non sai cossi mortz aucir lo pogues.
not I-know how death to-kill him could
Ai! mortz crudels, com lo volgist aucir,
Ah death cruel how him didst-thou-will to-kill
quar en sa mort ve hom totz bes morir?
for in his death sees one all goods to-die

Q'era s'en vai Honors sola ploran
For-now herself-away goes Honor alone weeping
que non es hom qu'ab se l'apel ni res,
for not is man who-with him her-calls or anything
coms ni marques, ni reis que s fass'enan,
count nor marquis nor king who himself puts-forward
ni la semo que venga a lor repaire.
nor her summons that she-come to their dwelling
Era fag desonors tot qu'anc volc faire,
Now does Dishonor all that-ever she-wished to-do
qu'a forostada honor de son paes,
for-she-has driven-out honor from her country
e i son cregut enjan tant e no fes
and there are grown deceit so-much and no faith
qu'an revirat vas totas part lor gir
that-they-have turned toward all parts their turn
qu'a pena sai on posc om pros gandir ...
that-at pain I-know where can man worthy to-escape ...

part totz los monz voill qu'an mon sirventes
beyond all the mountains I-wish that-go my sirventes
e part totas las mars, si ja pogues
and beyond all the seas if ever it-could
home trobar que il saubes novas dir
man to-find who to-it knew news to-tell
del rei Artus, et quan deu revenir.
of-the king Arthur and when he-must to-return

Ai! cobeitatz, vos e vostras arnes
Ah covetousness you and your harness
confonda deus e totz vostres conres,
may-confound God and all your retinue
qu'aves viven gastat e faig delir
for-you-have living wasted and made to-perish
deport e jai ab vostre fals desir.
sport and gaiety with your false desire

True love has no force or counsel of its own unless the eyes and the heart give it. It wants what pleases the eyes and suits the heart and cannot oppose them, so love should be blamed no more than the eyes and the heart. Mahn prints one stanza.

Ni fin'amors, so vos man,
Nor true-love this to-you I-send
non a ni non pot aver
not has nor not can to-have
ab se forsa ni poder,
with itself force nor power
ni nulh cosselh pauc ni gran,
nor any counsel little nor great
s'il huelh e'l cor no li dan;
if-the eyes and-the heart not to-it give
mas so qu'als huels platz et al cor agensa
but that which-to-the eyes pleases and to-the heart is-agreeable
vol fin'amors, que no i pot contrastar;
wants true-love for not there it-can to-oppose
per so non deu amor ochaizonar
for that not one-must love to-accuse
tan quan los huelhs e'l cor, a ma parvensa.
so-much as the eyes and-the heart to my seeming

Love takes him as the gambler is taken, who plays skillfully at small stakes, then grows heated as he loses and plays higher until he feels his folly. So he went little by little, thinking to love with mastery and leave when he wished, and now he cannot get out. Mahn prints one stanza.

Atressi m pren com fai al joguador
Likewise to-me it-happens as does to-the gambler
qu'al comensar jogua mayestrilmen
who-at-the beginning plays masterfully
a petitz juecs, pueis s'escalfa perden,
at little games then himself-heats losing
qu'el fai montar tan que sen la folhor.
for-he makes to-mount so-much that he-feels the folly
Aissi m mis ieu pauc e pauc en la via,
Thus myself put I little and little on the way
que cuiava amar ab mayestria
for I-thought to-love with mastery
si qu'en pogues partir quan me volgues
so that-thence I-could to-part when myself I-wished
on sui intratz tan qu'issir non puesc ges.
where I-am entered so-far that-to-go-out not I-can at-all

His lady holds him more surely than the Old Man of the Mountain holds the Assassins, who go even beyond France to kill his mortal enemies, so obedient are they. Mahn prints one stanza.

Car mielhs m'avetz, ses duptansa,
For better me-you-have without doubt
qu'el Vielhs Ansessi la gen
than-the Old-Man Assassin the folk
que van neys si era part Fransa,
who go even if it-were beyond France
tan li son obedien,
so-much to-him they-are obedient
aucire sos guerriers mortals.
to-kill his enemies mortal

Whoever blames what he should praise will praise what he should blame, and so love is condemned by foolish judges. Many accuse love and refine their slander, knights and troubadours whom love raised from low to high and who now speak every ill of it without mercy. He knows a lady without equal, as much fairer than the fairest as a flower among leaves. Mahn prints these stanzas as Raynouard gives them.

Totz hom que so blasma que deu lauzar
Every man who that blames which he-ought to-praise
lauz atressi aco que deu blasmar,
let-him-praise likewise that which he-ought to-blame
et eu dic o per so car es amors
and I say it for that because is love
forjujada per nescis jujadors …
condemned by foolish judges …

a mainz homes aug amor acusar,
to many men I-hear love to-accuse
et el maldiz d'amor asutilar;
and in-the slander of-love to-refine
que cavaliers ai vist e trobadors
for knights I-have seen and troubadours
que de bassez fez auz e d'auz ausors,
whom from low it-made high and from-high higher
tant es laissatz que non tenian fre
so-much it-is let-go that not they-held bridle
de dir d'amor tot mal senes merce …
from saying of-love all ill without mercy …

una dona sai que no troba par
a lady I-know who not finds equal
que de beutat puesc'ab lei pareiar;
who in beauty can-with her compare
e sa beutatz es entre las gensors
and her beauty is among the fairest
genser aisi com entre foillas flors.
fairer thus as among leaves flowers
