

Aimeric de Peguilhan, "En greu pantais." (PC 10.27)

Text from Shepard and Chambers, *The Poems*, Song 27, 150–52 (*tornadas* omitted). Translation by SK.

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|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | En greu pantais m'a tengut longamen
qu'anc no.m laisset ni no.m retenc Amors,
et a.m sajat de totas sas dolors,
si que del tot m'a fag obedien; | 5 | e car mi sap esforciu e sofren,
a.m si cargat de l'amoros afan
que.l melhor cen no.n sufririon tan. | | Love has kept me in grave torment for a long time,
never either releasing or retaining me,
and has tested me with all her sorrows
reducing me to complete obedience;
and because she knows me to be committed and patient
she has so burdened me with love's misery
that the 100 best [lovers] would not endure so much [as I]. | |
| 2 | Qu'amar me fai mal mon grat finamen
lieys qu'ilh ma fag cauzir part las gensors; | 10 | et agra.m ops que'm fes chاوزir alhors,
qu'assatz val mai guazanhar en argen
que perdr' en aur, segon mon essien;
mas ieu o fatz a ley de fin aman,
qu'ieu fug mon pro e vauc seguen mon dan. | | For she me makes me despite myself love truly
the one whom she made me pick from among the noblest;
it would have served me better had she made me pick
elsewhere, for it's better to win in silver
than lose in gold, to my mind.
But I am acting like a true lover,
fleeing what's good for me and pursuing my downfall. | |
| 3 | 15 | E s'ieu cum fols sec mon dan folamen,
a tot lo mengz m'er la foudatz honors,
qu'ieu ai ja vist faire mangtas folhors
que tornavon a saber et a sen,
et ai vist far mangz fagz saviamen | 20 | que tornavon a folhia trop gran,
per qu'ieu cug far sen quan vauc folhejan. | | And if, like a fool, I foolishly pursue my downfall,
at least my folly will do me honor,
for a have seen many follies committed
that turned out to be wisdom and sense,
and I've seen many things done wisely
that resulted in huge folly,
which is why I believe I am acting wisely when I act foolishly. |

4 E vus, dona, qu'avetz valer valen,
aissi cum etz mieller de las melhors,
valha.m merces et oblit vos ricors,
25 e no.i gardetz razo, mas chاوزimen;
que so que l'us pueja, l'autre dissen:
so que merces creis, razos vai merman,
si.us platz, aucir me podetz razonan.

5 Pauc vos calra del mieu enansamen,
30 s'aissi gardatz vostras valens valors,
lo dous esgart e las frescas colors,
qu'enquera.m so el cor vostre uelh rizen,
li cortes dig amoros e plazen.
e quar ieu plus soven no.us vau denan,
35 a pauc miey huelh estra mon grat no.i van.

As for you, lady, whose worth is worthy,
just as you are the best of the best,
let favor prevail and overlook your rank,
and don't heed reason but discerning choice,
for whatever one raises up, the other brings low:
whatever favor increases, reason diminishes.
If you want, by reasoning you can kill me!

Raising me up will be of little concern to you
if you just heed the worthiness of your own worth,
your sweet look and fresh complexion,
for your smiling eyes are still in my heart,
and your lovely, loving words.
And as I don't go more constantly in your presence
my eyes almost go there on their own, despite myself!