

Rigaut de Berbezilh, “Atressi com lo leos” (PC 421.1).

Text from Várvaro, *Liriche*, song 1, 93–106, with some modifications. Translation SK

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| 1 | Atressi com lo leos
que es tan fers quant s'iraís
de son leonel, quan nais
mortz ses alen' e ses vida
et ab sa voz, quan l'escrida,
lo fai reviure et anar
atressi pod de mi far
ma bona domn'e Amors
e garir de mas dolors | Like the lion that
is so wild in its grief
for its cub,
stillborn and unbreathing,
and then brings it back to life and movement
with its voice when it cries out to it,
so Love and my lady
could do for me
and cure me of my sorrow. |
| 2 | Totas las gaias sazos
venon et abrils e mais:
12 ben degra venir oimais
la mia bon' escarida!
trop s'es Amors endormida,
15 que.m donet poder d'amar
ses ardimen de preiar.
A, quantas bonas honoras
18 m'a tout temensa e paors! | All the cheerful seasons
come, April and then May
-- you'd think a good outcome could come
now too, for me.
Love has fallen asleep when she shouldn't,
who granted me the capacity to love without
the courage to woo.
Ah, timidity and fear
have robbed me of such great wealth! |
| 3 | Rics fora lo guizardos,
e mot fis e mot verais,
21 per que m'abellis lo fais,
si sa merces no m'oblida.
Aissi con de nau perida,
24 don res non pot escapar
mas per forsa de nadar,
atressi for' eu resors,
27 dompna, ab un pauc de socors. | The reward would be splendid,
and very fine and true, enough
to make the burden [of waiting] agreeable,
as long as she does not forget to show me
favor. Like from a shipwreck
that there is no escape from
except by dint of swimming,
so I could be rescued,
lady, with a little help. |
| 4 | Marrit mi ten e ioios,
soven chan, soven m'iraís,
30 soven magris et engrais,
c'aissi s'es en mi partida
Amors ioios' e marida
33 c'ab rire et ab iogar,
ab consir et ab pensar,
mostra sas ricas valors
36 a mi entre.ls ris e.ls plors. | She keeps me wretched and joyful
—now singing, now distressed,
now losing weight, now gaining it—
for in this way Love is divided in me,
for wretched and joyful,
laughing and playing,
then yearning and melancholy,
she reveals her rich worth to me between
laughter and sobbing. |

5	Totas la bellas faisso del mon son en vos e mais,	All the fine ways of the world are united in you, lady, and more, for nothing good is lacking, you are perfect in worth of all kinds.
39	domna, qu'anc bes no.i sofrais, de totas valors complida. Si fossetz d'amar ardida	If you were bold in love there would be no room for improvement, apart from that you are peerless, the citadel of honor
42	ren no.i pogr'om meillurar; ab tot so est vos ses par, e murs e castels e tors	and the flower of beauty.
45	d'Onor e de Beutat flors.	
6	Domna, Dieus vos salv e.us gar c'om ren no.i pot meillurar	Lady, God save and watch over you, for there is no way to improve
48	en vostras finas lausors, mais per vos m'auci Amors.	your true excellence, but Love is killing me on your account.
7	M'arm' e mon cor (mas non par)	
51	vei en son cors estar, qe sai null'autra ricors no.m tengra, ni murs ni tors.	<i>I see my heart and my soul in her body —though it doesn't appear so, for I know no other wealth or citadel could hold me.</i>

Notes:

1. 42, Várvaro prints *progr'om*, I have followed Braccini's *pogr'om*

ll. 50-52 Várvaro prints *M'arm' e mon cor ies no.m par / ni ieu e mon cors estar* (It doesn't seem as though my soul or myself or my heart are still in my body), I have followed Braccini's text that relocates them in the body of the lady.