1. FORTUNE

O Fortune, like the moon
You are changeable, ever waxing
and waning.
Hateful life, first oppresses,
and then soothes as fancy takes it;
poverty, and power it melts them like ice.
Fate - monstrous and empty,
you whirling wheel, you are malevolent,
well-being is in vain and always fades to nothing,
shadowed and veiled you plague me too;
now through the game I bring my bare back
To your villainy.

2. FORTUNE PLANGO VULNERA

Fortune plango vulnera
stillantibus ocellis, quod sua michi munera subtrahit rebellis.
Verum est, quod legitur
fronte capillata,
sest plerumque sequitur
Occasio calvata.
In Fortune solio
sederam elatus,
prosperitatis vario flore coronatus;
quidquid enim florui
felix et beatus,
nunc a summo corrui
gloria privatus.
Fortune rota volvitur:
descendo minoratus;
alter in altum tollitur; nimis exaltatus
rex sedet in vertice
caveat ruinam!
nam sub axe legimus
Hecubam reginam.

3. VERIS LETA FACIES

Veris leta facies
mundo propinatur, hiemalis acies
victa iam fugatur,
in vestitu vario
Flora principatur,
remor nemulcisone
que cantu celebratur.

I. PRIMO VERE

3. THE MERRY FACE OF SPRING

The merry face of spring turns to the world,
sharp winter now flies, vanquished;
bedecked in various colors Flora reigns,
the harmony of the woods praises her in song. Ah!

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I. FORTUNE EMPRESS OF THE WORLD

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the harmony of the woods praises her in song. Ah!
Lying in Flora's lap
Phoebus once more
smiles, now covered
in many-colored flowers,
Zephyr breathes nectar-scented breezes.
Let us rush to compete
for love's prize. Ah!

In harp-like tones sings
the sweet nightingale,
with many flowers
the joyous meadows are laughing,
a flock of birds rises up
through the pleasant forests,
the chorus of maidens
already promises a thousand joys. Ah.

The sun warms everything,
pure and gentle,
cease again it reveals to the world
April's face,
the soul of man
is urged toward love
and joys are governed
by the boy-god.

All this rebirth
in spring's festivity
and spring's power
bids us to rejoice;
it shows us paths we know well,
and in your springtime
it is true and right
to keep what is yours.

Love me faithfully!
See how I am faithful:
With all my heart
and with all my soul,
I am with you.
Even when I am far away.
Whoever loves this much
turns on the wheel.

Behold the pleasant
and longed-for
spring brings back joyfulness,
 violet flowers
fill the meadows,
the sun brightens everything,
sadness is now at an end!
Summer returns,
now withdraw
the rigors of winter. Ah!

Now melts
and disappears
ice, snow, and the rest,
winter flees,
and now
spring sucks at summer's breast:
A wretched soul is he
who does not live
or lust
under summer's rule. Ah!

They glory
and rejoice
in honeyed sweetness
who strive
to make use of
Cupid's prize;
At Venus' command
let us glory
and rejoice
in being Paris' equals. Ah!

ON THE GREEN
6. DANCE

The noble woods are burgeoning
with flowers and leaves,
Where is the lover
I knew? Ah!
hinc equitavit,
eia, quis me amabit?

Floret silva undique,
nah mime gesellen ist mir wê.
Grüonet der walt allenthalben,
wâ ist min geselle alse lange?
der ist geriten hinnen,
owi, wer soll mich minnen?

8. CHRÄMER, GIP DIE VARWE MIR

Chramer, gip die varwe mir,
die min wengel roete,
damit ich die jungen man
an ir dank der minnenliebe noete.

Seht mich an,
jungen man!
lât mich iu gevallen!
Minnet, tugentliche man,
minneceliche frouwen!
minne tuot iu hoch gemuot
unde laten in hohen eren schouwen.

Seht mich an…

Wol dir werlt, das du bist
also freudenriche!
ich will dir sin undertan
durch din liebe immer sicherliche.

Seht mich an…

9. REIE

Swaz hie gat umbe,
da sint aliez megede,
die wellent an man
alle disen sumer gan.

Chume, chum, geselle min,
ih enbite harte din.
Suzer rosenvarwer munt,
chum unde mache mich gesunt.

He has ridden off!
Oh! Who will love me? Ah!

The woods are burgeoning all over,
I am pining for my lover,
The woods are turning green all over,
why is my lover away so long? Ah!
He has ridden off.
Oh woe, who will love me? Ah!

8. SHOPKEEPER, GIVE ME COLOR

Shopkeeper, give me color
to make my cheeks red,
so that I can make the young men
love me, against their will

Look at me,
young men!
Let me please you!

Good men, love
women worthy of love!
Love ennobles your spirit
and gives you honor.

Look at me, etc.

Hail, world,
so rich in joys!
I will be obedient to you
because of the pleasures you afford.

Look at me, etc.

9. ROUND DANCE

Those who go round and round
are all maidens,
young men want to do without a man
all summer long. Ah! Sla!

Come, come, my love,
I long for you.

Sweet rose-red lips,
come and make me better.

Swaz hie gat umbe,

10. WERE DIU WERLT ALLE MIN

Were diu werlt alle min
von dem mere unze an den Rin,
des wolt ih mih darben,
daz diu chünegin von Engellant
lege an minen armen. Hei!

II. IN TABERNA
11. ESTUANS INTERIUS

Estuans interius
ira vehementi
in amaritudine
loquor mee menti:
factus de materia,
cinis elementi
similis sum folio, de quo ludunt venti.

Cum sit enim proprium
viro sapienti
supra petram ponere
sedem fundamenti,

I am carried along
like a ship without a steersman,
and in the paths of the air
like a light, hovering bird;
chains cannot hold me,
keys cannot imprison me,
I look for people like me
and join the wretches.

The heaviness of my heart
seems a burden to me;
it is pleasant to joke
and sweeter than honeycomb;
whatever Venus commands
is a sweet duty,
she never dwells in a lazy heart. I travel the broad path as is the way of youth, I give myself to vice, unmindful of virtue, I am eager for the pleasures of the flesh more than for salvation, my soul is dead, so I shall look after the flesh.

12. OLIM LACUS COLUERAM

Cignus ustus cantat:

Once I lived on lakes, once I looked beautiful when I was a swan.

Misery me! Now black and roasting fiercely!

The servant is turning me on the spit; I am burning fiercely on the pyre; the steward now serves me up.

12. ONCE I LIVED ON LAKES

The roasted swan sings:

Once I lived on lakes, once I looked beautiful when I was a swan.

Misery me! Now black and roasting fiercely!

The servant is turning me on the spit; I am burning fiercely on the pyre; the steward now serves me up.

14. IN TABERNA QUANDO SUMUS

In taberna quando sumus, non curamus quid sit humus, sed ad ludum properamus, cui semper insudamus. Quid agatur in taberna, ubi nummus est pincerna, hoc est opus ut queratur, sic quid loquar, audiatur.

Some gamble, some drink, some behave loosely. But of those who gamble, some are stripped bare, some win their clothes here, some are dressed in sacks. Here no-one fears death, but they throw the dice in the name of Bacchus.

13. EGO SUM ABBAS

I am the abbot of Cockaigne and my assembly is one of drinkers, and I wish to be in the order of Decius,¹ and whoever searches me out at the tavern in the morning, after Vespers he will leave naked, and thus stripped of his clothes he will call out:

Wafna, wafna! quid fecisti sors turpissima? Nostre vite gaudia abstulisti omnia! Haha! Woe! Woe! what have you done, vilest Fate? The joys of my life you have taken all away! Haha!

14. WHEN WE ARE IN THE TAVERN

When we are in the tavern, we do not think how we will go to dust, but we hurry to gamble, which always makes us sweat, What happens in the tavern, where money is host, you may well ask, and hear what I say.

First of all it is to the wine-merchant that the libertines drink, one for the prisoners, three for the living, four for all Christians, five for the faithful dead, six for the loose sisters, seven for the footpads in the wood.

Eight for the errant brethren, nine for the dispersed monks, ten for the seamen, eleven for the squabblers, twelve for the penitent, thirteen for the wayfarers. To the Pope as to the king

¹ Decius: the invented Saint of dice-throwers
bibunt omnes sine lege.

Bibit hera, bibit herus, bibit miles, bibit clerus, bibit ille, bibit illa, bibit servus cum ancilla, bibit velox, bibit piger, bibit albus, bibit niger, bibit constans, bibit vagus, bibit rudis, bibit magus.

Bibit pauper et egrotus, bibit exul et ignotus, bibit puer, bibit canus, bibit presul et decanus, bibit soror, bibit frater, bibit iste, bibit ille, bibit centum, bibit mille.

Parum sexcente nummate durant cum immoderate bibunt omnes sine meta, quamvis bibant men te leta, sic nos rodunt omnes gentes et sic erimus egentes. Qui nos rodunt confundantur et cum iustis non scribantur.

Io, io, io! …

III. COUR D’AMOURS
15. AMOR VOLAT UNDIQUE

Amor volat undique, captus est libido. luvenes, iuvenecule coniunguntur merito. Siqua sine socio, caret omni gaudio, tenet noctis infima sub intimo cordis in custodia:

Io, io, io! …

III. THE COURT OF LOVE
15. CUPID FLIES EVERYWHERE

Cupid flies everywhere seized by desire. Young men and women are rightly coupled. The girl without a lover misses out on all pleasures, she keeps the dark night hidden in the depth of her heart;

Io, io, io! …

16. DIES, NOX ET OMNIA

Dies, nox et omnia michi sunt contraria, virginum colloquia me fay planzer, oy suvenz suspire, plu me fay temer.

O sodales, ludite, vos qui scitis dicite, michi mesto parcite, grand ey dolur, attamen consulte per voster honur.

Tua pulchra facies, me fay planzer milies, pectus habens glacies, a remender statim vivus fierem per un baser.

17. STETIT PUELLA

Stetit pullla rufa tunica; si quis eam tetigit, tunica crepuit. Eia.

Stetit pullla, tamquam rosula; facie splenduit, os eius floruit. Eia.

18. CIRCA MEA PECTORA

Circa mea pectora multa sunt suspiria de tua pulchritudine, que me ledunt misere. Ah!

18. IN MY HEART

In my heart there are many sighs for your beauty, which wound me sorely. Ah!
Manda liet,
manda liet,
min geselle
chumet niet.

Tui lucent oculi
sicut solis radii,
sicut splendor fulguris
lucem donat tenebris. Ah!

Mandaliet, etc.

Vellet deus, vellent dii,
quod mente proposui:
ut eius virginea
reserassem vincula. Ah!

Mandaliet, etc.

19. SIE PWER CUM PUELLULA
Sie puer cum puellula
moraretur in cellula,
felix coniunctio.
Amore sucrescente,
pariter e medio
propulso procul tedio,
fit ludus ineffabilis
membris, lacertis, labiis.

20. VENI, VENI, VENIAS
Veni, veni, venias,
ne me mori facias,
hyrca, hyrce, nazaza,
trillirivos!
Pulchra tibi facies,
oculorum acies,
capillorum series,
o quam clara species!
Rosa rubicundior,
lilio candidior,
omnibus formosior,
semper in te glorior!

Mandaliet,
mandaliet,
my lover
does not come.

Your eyes shine
like the rays of the sun,
like the flashing of lightening
which brightens the darkness. Ah!

Mandaliet, etc.

May God grant, may the gods grant
what I have in my mind
that I may loose
the chains of her virginity, Ah!

Mandaliet, etc.

19. IF A BOY WITH A GIRL
If a boy with a girl
 tarries in a little room,
happy is their coupling.
Love rises up,
and between them
prudery is driven away,
an ineffable game begins
in their limbs, arms and lips.

20. COME, COME, O COME
Come, come, O come,
do not let me die,
hyrca, hyrce, nazaza,
trillirivos!
Beautiful is your face,
the gleam of your eye,
your braided hair,
what a glorious creature!
Redder than the rose,
whiter than the lily,
lovelier than all others,
I shall always glory in you!

Mea me confortat
promissio,
mea me deportant
negatio.
Oh! oh! oh!

Mea mecum ludit
virginitas,
mea me detrudit
simplicitas.
Oh! oh! oh!

Venit domicella,
cum gaudio,
veni, veni, pulchra,
iam pereo.
Oh! oh! oh!

21. IN TRUTINA
In trutina mentis dubia
fluctuunt contraria
lascivus amor et pudicitia.
Sed eligo quod video,
collum iugo prebeo;
ad iugum tamen suave transeo.

21. IN THE BALANCE
In the wavering balance of my feelings
set against each other
lascivious love and modesty.
But I choose what I see,
and submit my neck to the yoke;
I yield to the sweet yoke.

22. TEMPUS EST IOCUNDUM
Tempus est iocundum,
o virgines,
modo congaudete
vos iuvenes.
Oh, oh, oh!
totus floreo,
iam amore virginali totus ardeo!
novus, novus novus amor est, quo pereo!

22. THIS IS THE JOYFUL TIME
This is the joyful time,
O maidens,
rejoice with them,
young men!
Oh, oh, oh!
I am bursting out all over!
I am burning all over with first love!
New, new love is what I am dying of!

I am heartened
by my promise,
I am downcast
by my refusal.
Oh! oh! oh!

In the winter
man is patient,
the breath of spring
makes him lust.
Oh! oh! oh!

My virginity
makes me frisky,
my simplicity
holds me back.
Oh! oh! oh!

Come, my mistress,
with joy,
come, come, my pretty,
I am dying!
Oh! oh! oh!
23. DULCISSIME

Dulcissime, Ah!
totam tibi subdo me!

23. SWEETEST ONE

Sweetest one! Ah!
I give myself to you totally!

BLANZIFLOR ET HELENA
24. AVE FORMOSISSIMA

Ave formosissima,
gemma pretiosa,
ave decus virginum,
virgo gloriosa,
ave mundi luminar
ave mundi rosa,
Blanziflor et Helena,
Venus generosa!

24. HAIL, MOST BEAUTIFUL ONE

Hail, most beautiful one,
precious jewel,
Hail, Pride among virgins,
glorious virgin,
Hail, light of the world,
Hail, rose of the world,
Blanchefleur and Helen,
noble Venus!

FORTUNA IMPERATRIX MUNDI
25. O FORTUNA

No. 1 repeated

25. O FORTUNE

No. 1 repeated

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2 Heroine of a popular medieval saga