

Stile Antico
'In a Strange Land'
Texts and Translations

Flow my tears, fall from your springs!
Exiled forever let me mourn;
Where night's black bird her sad infamy sings,
There let me live forlorn.

Down vain lights, shine you no more!
No nights are dark enough for those
That in despair their last fortunes deplore.
Light doth but shame disclose.

Never may my woes be relieved,
Since pity is dead;
And tears and sighs and groans my weary days
Of all joys have deprived.

From the highest spire of contentment
My fortune is thrown;
And fear and grief and pain for my deserts
Are my hopes, since hope is gone.

Hark! you shadows that in darkness dwell,
Learn to contemn light.
Happy they that in hell
Feel not the world's despite.

John Dowland

Super flumina Babylonis, illic sedimus et flevimus dum recordaremur tui, Sion. Illic interrogaverunt nos, qui captivunt abduxerunt nos, verba cantionum. Quomodo cantabimus canticum Domini in terra aliena? In salicibus in medio eius suspendimus organa nostra.

By the streams of Babylon, there we sat and wept when we remembered you, Sion. There our captors questioned us about the words of our songs. How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? On the willows in its midst we hung up our harps.

Psalm 137

Quomodo cantabimus canticum Domini in terra aliena? Si oblitus fuero tui, Jerusalem, oblivioni detur dextera mea. Adhaerat lingua mea faucibus meis, si non meminero tui. Si non proposuero Jerusalem in principio laetitiae meae. Memor esto, Domine, filiorum Edom, in die Jerusalem.

How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of

my mouth. Yea if I prefer not Jerusalem in my mirth. Remember the children of Edom, O Lord, in the day of Jerusalem.

Psalm 137

Sancta et immaculata virginitas, quibus te laudibus esseram nescio, quia quem caeli capere non poterant, tuo gremio contulisti. Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui.

Holy and spotless virginity, I know not what praises to bring to thee, for Him whom the Heavens could not contain thou didst bear in thy womb. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Responsory at mattins of Christmas

In ieiunio et fletu plorabant sacerdotes, parce Domine, parce populo tuo, et ne des haereditationem in perditionem. Inter vestibulum et altare plorabant sacerdotes dicentes: parce populo tuo.

With fasting and weeping let the priests pray, saying: spare, O Lord, spare Thy people, and give not Thine heritage to destruction. Let the priests weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say: spare Thy people.

Mattins respond, first Sunday of lent

Regina caeli laetare, alleluia. Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia. Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia. Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia. Because you were worthy to bear him, alleluia. He has risen as he foretold, alleluia. Pray to God for us, alleluia.

Marian antiphon at compline during Eastertide

Tristitia et anxietas occupaverunt interiora mea. Moestum factum est cor meum in dolore, et contenebrati sunt oculi mei. Vae mihi, quia peccavi.

Sed tu, domine, qui non derelinques sperantes in te, consolare et adjuva me propter nomen sanctum tuum, et miserere mei.

Sadness and anxiety have overtaken my inmost being. My heart is made sorrowful in mourning, my eyes are become dim. Woe is me, for I have sinned.

But thou, O Lord, who dost not forsake those whose hope is in thee, comfort and help me, for thy holy name's sake, and have mercy on me.

After Lamentations, Psalm 112 (113): 2

Haec dies quam fecit Dominus; exultemus et laetemur in eia. Alleluia.

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. Alleluia.

Psalm 117: 24

Gaude Maria Virgo, cuncta haereses sola interemisti, in universo mundo, Alleluia.

Virgo prudentissima, quo progredieris, quasi aurora valde rutilans? Filia Sion, tota formosa et suavis es: pulchra ut luna, electa ut sol, Alleluia.

*Rejoice, Virgin Mary, you alone have destroyed all heresies in the whole world, alleluia.
Most wise virgin, whither do you go, shining gloriously as the morning? Daughter of Sion,
you are all comely and sweet, fair as the moon, excellent as the sun, alleluia.*

*Tract for Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin;
Magnificat antiphon at Assumption*

In this trembling shadow cast

From those boughs which thy winds shake,
Far from human troubles placed,
Songs to the Lord would I make,
Darkness from my mind then take:
For thy rites none may begin
Till they feel thy light within.

Music all thy sweetness lend,
While of his high power I speak,
On whom all powers else depend,
But my breast is now too weak,
Trumpets shrill the air should break,
All in vain my sounds I raise,
Boundless power asks boundless praise.

A Pilgrimes Solace (1612), no. 12

Factum est silentium in caelo dum committeret bellum draco cum Michaelae Archangelo.
Audita est vox milia milium, dicentium: salus, honor et virtus omnipotenti Deo. Alleluia.

*There was silence in heaven as the dragon joined battle with the archangel Michael. A voice
was heard, thousand upon thousand-fold, saying: salvation, honour and virtue to almighty
God. Alleluia.*

Benedictus antiphon at Lauds on Michaelmas

LAMENTATIONS

Heth

Peccatum peccavit Jerusalem, propterea instabilis facta est. Omnes qui glorificabant eam spreverunt illam, quia viderunt ignomimiam eius; ipsa autem gemens et conversa est retrorsum.

Teth

Sordes eius in pedibus eius, nec recordata est finis sui. Deposita est vehementer, non habens consolatorem. Vide, Domine, afflictionem meam, quoniam erectus est inimicus.

Joth

Manum suam misit hostis ad omnia desiderabilia eius, quia vidit gentes ingressas sanctuarium suum de quibus preceperas ne intrarent in ecclesiam tuam.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, convertere ad Dominum Deum tuum.

Caph

Omnes populos ejus gemens, et quaerens panem; dederunt pretiosa quaeque pro cibo ad refocillandam animam. Vide, Domine, et considera quoniam facta sum vilis!

Lamech

O vos omnes qui transitis per viam, attendite, et videte si est dolor sicut dolor meus, quoniam vindemiavit me, ut locutus est Dominus, in die irae furoris sui.

Mem

De excelso misit ignem in ossibus meis, et erudivit me: expandit rete pedibus meis, convertit me retrorsum; posuit me desolationem, tota die moerore confectam.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem., convertere ad Dominum Deum tuum.

Heth

Jerusalem has committed a great sin, and therefore she has become untrustworthy. All who used to praise her have spurned her, because they have seen her shame; and she groans and has turned away her face.

Teth

Her own filth is upon her feet, and she has given no thought to her purpose. She has been brought very low, and has none to comfort her. 'Look, Lord, upon my suffering, and see how my enemy is exalted.'

Joth

The enemy has laid hands on all that was dear to her, for she has seen the foreigner enter her sanctuary, the men you decreed should never be admitted into your assembly.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return again to the Lord your God.

Caph

All her people sigh, they seek bread; they have given their pleasant things for meat to relieve the soul. See, O Lord, and consider, for I am become vile!

Lamech

O all ye that pass by in the way, hearken, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow. For he hath plucked me like a grape, as the Lord uttered in the day of his fierce anger.

Mem

From on high he hath sent fear into my bones, and hath chastised me: he hath spread a net for my feet, and turned me back; he hath made me desolate, and all the day I am consumed with sorrow.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return again to the Lord your God.

Lamentations 1: 8-13