

1. O Fortuna, velut Luna statu variabilis,
O Fortune, like the moon, you are changeable,

sts sts
semper crescis aut decrescis; vita detestabilis
ever waxing and waning; hateful life

ts
nunc obdurat et tunc curat ludo mentis aciem,
first oppresses, and then soothes as fancy takes it;

g ts
egestatem, potestatem dissolvit ut glaciem.
poverty, and power it melts them like ice.

Sor immanis et inanis, rota tu volubilis,
Fate – monstrous and empty, you whirling wheel,

status malus, vana salus semper dissolubilis,
you are malevolent, well-being is in vain and always fades to nothing,

x kv kv
obumbrata et velata michi quoque niteris;
shadowed and veiled, you plague me too;

sts
nunc per ludum dorsum nudum fero tui sceleris.
now through the game I bring my bare back to your villainy.

x
Sors salutis et virtutis michi nunc contraria,
Fate is against me in health and virtue,

est affectus et defectus semper in angaria
driven on and weighted down, always enslaved.

g
Hac in hora sine mora corde pulsum tangite;
So at this hour without delay pluck the vibrating strings;

kv
quod per sortem sternit fortem,
since Fate strikes down the strong man,

g
mecum omnes plangite!
everyone weep with me!

ts

2. Fortune plango vulnera stillantibus ocellis,
I bemoan the wounds of Fortune with weeping eyes,

kv x
quod sua michi munera subtrahit rebellis.
for the gifts she made me she mercilessly takes away.

kv g
Verum est, quod legitur fronte capillata,
It is written in truth, that she has a fine head of hair,

kv kv
sed plerumque sequitur Occasio calvata.
but, when it comes to seizing an opportunity, she is bald.

In Fortune solio sederam elatus,
On Fortune's throne I used to sit raised up,

prosperitatis vario flore coronatus;
crowned with the many-coloured flowers of prosperity;

kv kv
Quicquid enim florui felix et beatus,
though I may have flourished happy and blessed,

nunc a summo corruui gloria privatus.
now I fall from the peak, deprived of glory.

sts

Fortune rota volvitur: descendo minoratus;
The wheel of Fortune turns; I go down, demeaned;

alter in altum tollitur; nimis exaltatus
another is raised up; far too high up

ts

rex sedet in vertice caveat ruinam!
sits the king at the summit – let him fear ruin!

g kŪ g
nam sub axe legimus Hecubam reginam.
for under the axis is written Queen Hecuba.

kts

ts

5. Ecce gratum et optatum Ver reducit gaudia
Behold, the pleasant and longed-for spring brings back flowers,

purpuratum floret pratum, Sol serenat omnia.
violet flowers fill the meadows, the sun brightens everything.

j j ts

ts y(ü) ts

Iam-iam cedant tristia! Estas redit, nunc recedit Hyemis sevitia. Ah
sadness is now at an end! Summer returns, now withdraw all the rigours of Winter.
Ah!

j kv sts sts ts

Iam liquescit et decrescit grando nix et cetera,
Now melts and disappears ice, snow, and the rest.

g j g

bruma fugit, et iam sugit Ver Estatis ubera;
winter flees, and now spring sucks at summer's breast:

kv sts

illi mens et misera, qui nec vivit, nec lascivit sub Estatis dextera. Ah
A wretched soul is he that does not live or lust under summer's rule. Ah!

ts

Gloriantur et letantur in melle dulcedinis,
They glory and rejoice in honeyed sweetness

qui conantur, ut utantur premio Cupidinis;
who strive to make use of Cupid's prize;

j tsy(ü)

simus iussu Cypridis gloriantes et letantes pares esse Paradis. Ah
At Venus's command let us glory and rejoice in being Paris's equals. Ah!

w s iə ə s s ɛs ɛ i: w

9. Swaz hie gat umbe, daz sint allez megede, die wellent an man
Those who go round and round are all maidens, they want to do without a man

ɛ di:sɛn sŭmɛə

alle disen sumer gan! Ah! Sla!
all summer long. Ah! Sla!

kŭmə kŭm gəsələ mi:n i:x ɛnbi:tə hæətə di:n

Chume, chum, geselle min, ih enbite harte din,

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

sŭsɛə sɛ faəwə kŭm ūn ma:xə mi:x z

Suzer rosenvarwer munt, chum uñ mache mich gesunt,

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

w ə djŭ wɛəlt ə i: f ə ūnsə e: i: s w i:x mi:x

10. Were diu werlt alle min von deme mere unze an den Rin, des wolt ih mih darben,

If all the world were mine from the sea to the Rhine, I would do without it

s ky(ü) ɛ f ə i: ɛ aə ɛ

daz diu chünegin von Engellant lege an minen armen. Hei!

if the Queen of England would lie in my arms. Hey!

j g j

22. Tempus est iocundum, o virgines modo con gaudete vos iuvenes.

This is the joyful time, O maidens; rejoice with them, young men!

g

oh, totus floreo! Iam amore virginali totus ardeo,

oh, I am bursting out all over! I am burning all over with first love!

kv

novus amor est, quo pereo!

New love is what I am dying of!

ts

Mea me confortat, promissio, mea me deportat negatio.

I am heartened by my promise; I am downcast by my refusal.

ts

sts

Tempore brumali vir patiens. Animo vernali lasciviens.

In the winter, man is patient; the breath of spring makes him lust.

g

ts

Mea mecum ludit virginitas Mea me detrudit simplicitas.

My virginity makes me frisky; my simplicity holds me back.

ts

j

Veni, domicella, cum gaudio, Veni, pulchra, iam pereo.

Come, my mistress, with pleasure; come, my pretty, I am dying!