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| <p>1. Hajti fil-ghabex...
qalbi bhall-bilbla tghanni
qabel ma torqod.</p> | <p>1. <i>My life's in the twilight...
my heart like the skylark goes on
singing before going to sleep.</i></p> |
| <p>2. Tal-poezija
mar-rih din qalbi toghla
bhal tajra mlewna.</p> | <p>2. <i>My heart flies up
like a colourful kite
with the wind of poesy.</i></p> |
| <p>3. Jiena bhall-ghodwa...
kull jum nohloq dinja
gdida ta' gmiel.</p> | <p>3. <i>I am like dawn...
every day I create a new
world of beauty.</i></p> |
| <p>4. Hadd hadd ma jisma'
qniepen il-kampanella
hliel il-poeta.</p> | <p>4. <i>Nobody hears
the bells of the blue-bell
except the poet.</i></p> |
| <p>5. Ja kanarin!
oh! kieku kont taf tizfen
il-ghanja tieghek!</p> | <p>5. <i>Oh canary!
if you could dance
your song!</i></p> |
| <p>6. Deherli li rajt
pensjier itir mix-xitla –
kien il-farfett!</p> | <p>6. <i>I though I saw
a pansy flying from its plant –
it was a butterfly!</i></p> |
| <p>7. Farfett sabih,
mahdum bis-simetrija,
int sunett t'Alla.</p> | <p>7. <i>A beautiful butterfly,
wrought with symmetry,
you are a sonnet of God!</i></p> |
| <p>8. Dalji fil-ghaxija...
ix-xemx dalja hamrana,
il-qamar bajda.</p> | <p>8. <i>Dahlia in the evening...
the sun a red dahlia,
the moon a white one.</i></p> |
| <p>9. F'qalb omni hemm izjed
fjuri milli fil-gonna
kollha tad-dinja.</p> | <p>9. <i>In my mother's heart
there are more flowers than in
all the gardens of the world.</i></p> |
| <p>10. Wizza fl-ghadira,</p> | <p>10. <i>A swan on the lake,</i></p> |

u wizża fis-smewwiet –
Alla fit-tnejn.

*and a swan in the skies –
God is in both.*

11. Hadtni hdejn siġra
tal-ward u qtajtli warda:
jien fhimt, int fhimt.

11. *You took me to a
rose-tree and plucked a rose for me;
I understood, you understood.*

12. Din qalbi l-lvant,
u inti x-xemx li tiela'
minnha fid-dija.

12. *My heart is the east,
and you are the sun rising
from it in glamour.*

13. Il-habel jiena
hdejn il-bir tal-imhabba,
u inti s-satal.

13. *I am the rope
beside love's well,
and you are the pail.*

14. Il-hajt bejniethom,
minn fuqu barri u baqra
flimkien jitbewsu.

14. *The wall divides them,
but across it a bull and a cow
lick each other.*

15. Grazzi Mulej!
grazzi tan-nghaġ u l-ħrief,
grazzi tas-sriep.

15. *Thank you, Lord,
Thank you for the sheep and the
lambs, thank you for the snakes.*

16. Kollox kif hu
inhobb; il-widnejn twal
tal-ħmar għax twal.

16. *I like everything
as it is; the long ears of the
donkey because they are long.*

17. Kemm huma ħomor
il-peprin f'nofs il-qamħ!
kemm huma ħomor!

17. *How red are the poppies
amongst the corn,
how red they are!*

18. It-tnejn mar-riħ
nitbandlu, ja peprina,
it-tnejn kuntenti.

18. *Both of us lulled
by the wind, poppy!
both happy.*

19. Dija tal-ghodwa;
bebbuxu fuq is-siġra

19. *The morning sunshine;
a snail on a tree*

- bil-kannuċċali. *with his binoculars.*
20. Is-silhouette;
blata sura ta' mara.
oħra ta' baqra. 20. *The silhouette;
a rock with a woman's figure,
another with a cow's.*
21. Familja kbira
ta' blat fl-irdum iharsu
għal fuq il-baħar. 21. *A big family
of rocks looking from the cliff
into the sea.*
22. Taret hamiema;
warajha tnejn, erbgħa, għaxra,
ghoxrin u mija! 22. *A pigeon flew up;
after it two, four, ten,
twenty, one hundred!*
23. Tallab qed jiekol,
l-għasafar hdejh ilaqqtu
il-frak tal-ħobż. 23. *The beggar is eating;
the birds beside him picking
the bread crumbs.*
24. Qalbi bħal xitla
mal-ħajt tal-ġnien tixxabbat
biex tara 'l wiċċek. 24. *My heart like a plant
climbs up the garden wall
to see your face.*
25. Qalbek għalija
hi l-isbaħ dar tad-dinja
biex nghanmar fiha. 25. *For me your heart
is the world's most beautiful
house to dwell in.*
26. Il-farfett jaf
kif isoff l-għasel helu
minn fomm ix-xewk. 26. *The butterfly knows
how to suck sweet honey
from the thistle's mouth.*
27. Sabiħ id-dawl!
'mma dawk li jridu jorqdu
iħobbu d-dlam. 27. *Light is beautiful!
but those who wish to sleep
like darkness*
28. L-ingwanta tilfet
sehbitha, u baqgħet dejjem
f'kexxun wehidha. 28. *The glove lost its
pair, and remained for ever
alone in the drawer.*

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| <p>29. Il-bdiewa siefru;
u tara biss fl-ghelieqi
irgiel tat-tiben.</p> | <p>29. <i>The farmers have emigrated;
in the fields one can see
only scarecrows.</i></p> |
| <p>30. Ġol-wied il-qasab
ilegleg u jixxengel,
sakran ta' dejjem!</p> | <p>30. <i>The reeds in the valley
imbibe and stagger,
eternal drunkards!</i></p> |
| <p>31. Qalb kollha heġġa!
qed thammar il-ponsettja
fil-bard tax-xitwa.</p> | <p>31. <i>A heart full of ardour!
the ponsettia reddens
in the winter cold.</i></p> |
| <p>32. B'linka tal-fidda
mal-ħajt il-bebbux kiteb
il-heroglifici.</p> | <p>32. <i>With a silver ink
the snails have written
heroglyphics on the rocks.</i></p> |
| <p>33. Bħall-mara xiħa
id-dielja mgħawġa sserrah
fuq il-bastun.</p> | <p>33. <i>Like an old woman
the bent vine supports
herself on a stick.</i></p> |
| <p>34. Heġu l-qattus!
izda eħla minnu t-tfajjel
iġħajjat "mjaw!"</p> | <p>34. <i>Sweet is the cat,
but sweeter still is the child
crying "miaou!"</i></p> |
| <p>35. Fjuri tal-lewża
ġewwa vażett – bħal silta
minn poezija.</p> | <p>35. <i>Almond flowers
in a vase – a quotation
from a poem.</i></p> |
| <p>36. L-erbgħa jixgħelu...
żewġ bżariet ħomor tonidi,
għajnejk tutin.</p> | <p>36. <i>The four are alight
two round red peppers,
your black eyes.</i></p> |
| <p>37. Bħal kampanella,
bla ħoss iddoqq din qalbi
fix-xemx ta' wiċċek.</p> | <p>37. <i>Like a bluebell,
my heart rings soundlessly
under the sun of your face.</i></p> |

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| <p>38. Qabel niltaqghu
qalbi tifraħ bħall-qniepen
lejlet il-festa.</p> | <p>38. <i>Before we meet
my heart is happy like the bells
on the eve of the village-feast.</i></p> |
| <p>39. L-ilma maħmuġ
ġewwa l-ġhadira – l-qamar
jiddi ġo fih.</p> | <p>39. <i>The foul water
of the swamp – the moon
shines in it.</i></p> |
| <p>40. Illum jum ħieni
ġħalkemm bla xemx; ix-xita
qed taqdi dmirha.</p> | <p>40. <i>Today is a happy day
although it is sunless: the rain
is doing its duty.</i></p> |
| <p>41. Ħienja r-rebbieġha
imliet l-ġħalqa battala
kollha peprin.</p> | <p>41. <i>The happy Spring
filled the uncultivated field
with poppies.</i></p> |
| <p>42. Fjuri u għasafar
is-shab tat-tfal inħobb –
bqajt dejjem tifel.</p> | <p>42. <i>Flowers and birds,
the companions of childhood, I love –
I have always remained a child.</i></p> |
| <p>43. J'Alla nġħid f' mewti:
"illum tempesta kbira
izd' għada bnazzi."</p> | <p>43. <i>May I say at my death:
"today is a big storm,
but tomorrow will be fair."</i></p> |
| <p>44. Mulej, int tara
is-siġra fiż-żerriegħa –
jien nemmen biss!</p> | <p>44. <i>Oh! Lord, you see
the tree in the seed –
I only believe it.</i></p> |
| <p>45. Ix-xemx kuljum
tfaqqas il-wizz fis-sema
minn ta' kull lewn.</p> | <p>45. <i>The sun every day
hatches swans
of every colour in the sky.</i></p> |
| <p>46. Il-fjura f' qalbi
daħlet – minn imnieħri
u minn ġħajnejja.</p> | <p>46. <i>The flower entered
into my heart – through my nose
and my eyes.</i></p> |

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| 47. Tal-wizża l-libsa
tqattgħet... 'mma min sewwiha
u ġabha ġdida? | 47. <i>The swan's frock
was torn... but who mended it
as if it were new?</i> |
| 48. Lin-nagħġa jisboq
il-ġilju – uliedu kollha
bojod bla tebġa. | 48. <i>The white lily surpasses
the sheep – all its children
are spotlessly white.</i> |
| 49. Tal-bilbla l-ġhanja
waqfet – qalbi mis-sema
niżlet ġo sidri. | 49. <i>The song of the skylark
ceased – my heart came down
from the sky to my chest.</i> |
| 50. Jiena mhux hlejqa
ta' Alla bħall-ġhasfur;
jien ibnu nixbħu. | 50. <i>I am not a creature
of God like the bird;
I am his son and his image.</i> |