

21. Ir-Raqda

Tela' l-bebbuxu
jorqod tax-xitwa r-raqda
fil-qalb tal-gilju;
Mulej! tellagħni bħalu
norqod fil-ġmiel ta' qalbek!

21. The Sleep

*The tiny snail went up
to sleep the winter sleep
in the heart of the lily;
Oh! Lord! raise me up like it
to sleep in the beauty of your heart.*

22. Il-Maqbar

F'qalbi int midfuna,
f'maqbar it-tifikiriet;
kull tant bil-lejl
jien niġi nżur lil qabrek,
u noqgħod nibki wahdi.

22. The Cemetery

*You are buried in my heart,
in the cemetery of memories;
every now and then during the
night I come to visit your grave,
and I cry alone.*

23. In-Nagħnigha

Bil-lejl fil-ġnien
jien dħalt, u m'gharaft xejn;
iżda n-nagħnigha
b'riħa qawwija qaltli:
“Hawn jien, xi trid inħawwar?”

23. The Mint

*I entered the garden
during the night and could not see
anything; but the mint
with a strong perfume told me:
“Here I am, what do you wish me to savour?”*

24. Bħal Tfajjel

Mohħi bħal tfajjel
li jilgħab fuq ix-xtajta:
jiġbor iċ-ċagħaq
li joghġbu u li jidhirlu
mill-ġmiel kbir tan-natura.

24. Like a Little Boy

*My mind is like a little boy,
who plays on the beach;
it picks the pebbles
according to its whim and pleasure
from the great beauty of nature.*

25. Muziċista

Meta madwari
jiskot kull ħoss, u jsaltan
is-skiet perfett,
qalbi tibda ddoqq l-arpa,
mużiċista tas-skiet!

25. The Musician

*When every sound ceases
around me and a perfect
silence reigns,
my heart starts playing the harp,
musician of silence!*

26. Il-Kannizzata

26. The Trellis

Qisha poeta
il-kannizzata tlaqqa'
flimkien u xxebblek
lid-dielja kollha ghenieqed
ma' fjur l-istellamaris.

*As if it were a poet
the trellis matches
together and entwines
the vine full of bunches
with the flowers of the stellamaris.*

27. Fid-Dell

Kont qed fid-dell,
izda tad-dielja l-fergha,
tperper maż-żiffa
u tghum tas-sajf fid-dija,
qalbitli x-xemx f'ghajnejja.

27. In the Shade

*I was sitting in the shade,
but the branch of the vine,
fluttering in the breeze
and bathing in the summer light,
reflected the sun into my eyes.*

28. Ghajnejk Mohriet

Ghajnejk mohriet
li 'l qalbi ħarat, idek
żrat iż-żerriegħa
go qalbi, u fir-rebbiegha
warrdet imħabba kbira.

28. Your Eye a Plough

*Your eye a plough
that ploughed my heart, your hand
sowed the seed
in my heart, and in spring
a great love flowered.*

29. Il-Bir tal-Mera

Għomorha u żmienha
quddiem il-mera kbira
tħares, titpaxxa,
sakemm il-gmiel ta' wiçċha
għereq fil-bir tal-mera.

29. The Mirror's Well

*She passed her life
in front of the big mirror,
looking, enjoying herself,
until the beauty of her face
sank in the mirror's well.*

30. Kif Alla jara d-Dinja

Globu kbir ikħal
mimli bl-arja u bil-baħar;
fih tiela' u niezla
in-nies tonfoħ l-ossigħnu
bħall-ħut tal-ilma ħelu.

30. As God sees the World

*A huge blue globe,
full of air and sea;
in it human beings
go up and down blowing oxygen
like fresh water fish.*

31. Ix-Xuxa tal-Ghodwa

Il-ghodwa feġġet
fil-lvant qed taqsam xagħarha,

31. The Dawn's Tresses

*Dawn appeared
in the east making her hair,*

ix-xuxa tagħha
iddendlet mis-smewwiet,
u nfirxet fuq il-baħar.

*her tresses
hung from the sky
and spread on the sea.*

32. Il-Għaraq Mielah

Fis-sitt ijiem
sakemm hlaqt l-univers,
Mulej il-għaraq
minnek raxxax u niżel
mellah is-sebagħt ibhra.

32. The Salty Sweat

*During the six days
when you created the universe,
Oh Lord, sweat
poured down from you and came down
to salt the seven seas.*

33. Il-Ghani

Fil-ghodu l-ghani
hareg gol-belt u nefah
in-nifs tar-regħba;
kull nifs li nefah fl-arja
inbidel u sar lira.

33. The Rich Man

*In the morning the rich man
went round into the city blowing
the breath of greed;
every breath he blew into the air
turned itself into a sovereign.*

34. Kapulavur

Kapulavur
ta' Alla l-qalb mimlija
b'imħabba safja!
x'inhija hdejha l-warda
mimlija lwien u fwieħa?

34. A Masterpiece

*A masterpiece of God
is the heart full
of pure love;
beside her what is a flower
with its hues and fragrance?*

35. Hodon Qlub

Mulej nistħajlek
tinzel fil-ġnien tad-dinja,
u taqta' hieni
hodon ta' qlub mimlija
bl-imħabba u toġħxa bihom.

35. A Bunch of Hearts

*Oh Lord, I fancy
you come down into the gardens of the
world, and joyfully pick
a bunch of hearts full
of love, and feel enchanted.*

36. Knisja tal-Bdiewa

Mhux kattidral
gotku mis-sbieħ lil qalbi
irridha tkun,
'mma knisja zghira u fqira

36. A Farmers' Church

*Not a beautiful
gothic cathedral I want
my heart to be,
but a small and poor church*

tal-bdiewa qalb l-ghelieqi.

of farmers amongst the fields.

37. F'Ottubru

Fil-waqt li tirgħa
il-ħaxix ġdid, il-moghza
tħares 'il fuq,
hienja bil-poezija
ħadra tax-xita l-ġdida.

37. In October

*Whilst grazing
the new grass, the goat
looks upward,
enchanted by the green
poetry of the new rain.*

38. Il-ħabi tad-Dnub

Ix-xita waqqgħet
silta mill-ħajt; 'mma dnubha
hi ħbiet malajr:
għattiet il-borg ġebel
bl-aħdar tal-ħaxix ġdid.

38. The Hiding of Sin

*Rain pulled down
a slice from the wall; but it hid
its sin quickly:
it covered the mound of stones
with the greenery of the new grass.*

39. Innoċenza

Ix-xitla dahlet
fin-niċċa tal-Madonna;
naħseb fil-ġenna
ix-xitla tidħol xorta
u bl-istess innoċenza.

39. Innocence

*The thistle entered
the niche of our Lady;
I think it will
equally enter heaven
and with the same innocence!*

40. Il-Kamalijont

F'inżul ix-xemx,
ja sema, tbiddel lewnek
ma' kull mument;
ix-xemx għamlitek tagħha
fidil kamalijont!

40. The Chameleon

*At sunset
sky, you change your hues
every moment;
the sun has turned you into
his faithful chameleon.*