

21. Il-bajjad

Il-bajjad spira;
Mulej qabbdu j**bajjad**lek
il-ġenna tiegħek
bil-bjuda ta' dik qalbu;
aġt**ih** barmil u pinzell

22. Imsallab

Ninsab imsallab
f'salib bejn żewġ halliela,
it-tnejn bla ħniena:
tal-imġhoddi t-tifk**ira**,
u l-biza' tal-ġejjieni.

23. Il-folla tal-Ħadd

Tal-Ħadd ja folla
timxi ɡo Strada Rjali,
tghammes, tinnamra,
inħobbok kif inħobbha
l-art sbejha ta' pajj**izi**.

24. Lilek

Fis-skiet ħabbejtek
sa fejn l-imhabba tista'
fil-qalb tal-bniedem;
jekk jif**th**u 'l qalbi jsibu
ismek minqux ɡo fiha.

25. Il-qalb it-twajba

Il-qalb it-twajba
fjuri tagħmel bħal xitla,
fjuri ta' mhabba;
u kull min jersaq lejha
taqtagħlu u tagħt**ih** fjura.

26. Xalata

21. The whitewasher

*The whitewasher died;
Lord, engage him to whitewash
your abode
with the whiteness of his heart,
supply him with a pail and a brush.*

22. Fixed to the cross

*I am fixed to
a cross between two robbers,
both of them ruthless:
the memory of the past
and the fear of the future.*

23. The Sunday crowd

*Sunday crowd
walking up and down Kingsway
winking and flirting:
I love you just as I love
my beautiful land.*

24. To you

*I loved you in secrecy
as far as love can love
in man's heart.
If they open my heart they will find
your name engraved on it.*

25. The good heart

*The good heart
grows flowers like a plant,
flowers of love;
to whomever goes near it
it picks a flower and gives it to him.*

26. An outing

Jien hriġt xalata,
ir-riħ hareġ xalata;
ir-riħ lil xaghri
ħa gost iħabbel, u jiena
ħadt gost iħabbilhuli.

*I went for an outing;
the wind too went for an outing;
the wind enjoyed itself
ruffling my hair; and I was
delighted whilst he ruffled it.*

27. Il-bugonvilla

Drieghek tawwali
meddejt b'mazz fjuri f'idejk,
ja bugonvilla;
nixtieq kont taf titkellem
ħalli nehodlok b'idek.

27. The Bugonvilla

*You stretched your long arm
with a bunch of flowers in
your hand, o bugonvilla,
I wish you could speak
so that I could shake hands with you.*

28. Ġewwa tebuti

Ġewwa tebuti
poġġi ta' ħajti l-kalċi
jiddi fuq sidri,
minnu bl-istess qlubija
jien xrobt l-imrar u l-ħlewwa.

28. In my coffin

*When I am in my coffin
put the chalice of life
shining on my breast;
from it with equal courage
I drank the bitter and the sweet.*

29. Il-ghanja tiegħi

Farfett imlewwen
f'bieb tal-azzar iħabbat
il-ghanja tiegħi,
biex ta' l-azzar imsakkar
ta' qalb il-bnedmin kiefra.

29. My song

*My song has been
a multicoloured butterfly
knocking on a steel door,
the locked steel door
of the heart of cruel men.*

30. Grazzi Mulej

Ja Mulej, grazzi
li tajtni qalb biex biha
inhobbok jiena;
grazzi li tajtni l-lehen
sabiex jien bih infahħrek.

30. Thank you, o Lord

*Thank you, o Lord
for giving me a heart
to love with;
thank you for giving me a voice
to praise you with.*

31. Il-vjola

31. The violet

Ja vjola helwa,
inhobbu mhux biss lilek,
izda anki 'l ismek;
ghalik semmejna wliedna
u wiehed mill-kuluri.

*O sweet violet,
we love not only you,
but also your name;
after you we call our children
and one of the colours.*

32. Taqbiliet kiefra

Nahseb, Natura
li bhali int thobb tikteb
taqbiliet kiefra:
fin-nar iz-zargun titfa',
tarah jaqbad u jixher.

32. Cruel rhymes

*I guess, o Nature,
that like me you cherish writing
cruel rhymes:
you put the twigs in the fire,
and look at them whilst
burning and groaning.*

33. Casanova

Dan qatel nisa
kemm ried; mhux bis-sikkina
izda b'gibdietu;
qalbu maqbar fejn difen
mara gewwa kull qabar.

33. Casanova

*This man killed as many
women as he liked, not with a knife
but with attractiveness:
his heart is a graveyard where
he buried a woman in every grave.*

34. Il-gholjiet t'Ghawdex

Bi skiet dejjiemi
gholjiet helwin ta' Ghawdex
lili kellemtu:
fuq gmiel, xoghol u tjubija
taht sema dawl jew beraq.

34. The hills of Gozo

*With your eternal silence,
sweet hills of Gozo
you spoke to me
of beauty, labour and goodness
under a sky full of light or lightnings.*

35. Ejja ja Muza

Ejja, ja Muza,
lil din qalbi ghajjiena
bennen bil-hlewwa,
bhall-wizza bajda hienja
fil-mewg tal-ghanja tieghek!

35. Come, o Muse

*Come o Muse,
and this my tired heart
rock gently,
as a white and happy swan
in the waves of your song.*

36. Lit-tfal

36. To children

Tfal li tilagħbu
mal-friefet ġol-ġhelieqi,
toqtlux il-friefet;
kerha bla tfal id-dinja,
u kerha mingħajr friefet!

*O children who play
with butterflies in the fields,
don't kill the butterflies!
The world is ugly without children,
likewise it is ugly without butterflies.*

37. Il-firma

Il-holqien tiegħek
kapulavur, Mulejja;
sew bħall-pittur
ismek hażżejt, mhux taħtu,
izda fil-qalb tal-bniedem.

37. The signature

*A masterpiece,
O Lord, is your universe;
like a painter you
signed your name, not in it,
but in the heart of man.*

38. It-tbissima

Bħalek, Mulejja,
jien ma nistax inhammar
il-wiċċ tas-sema;
'mma nista' bi tbissima
il-wiċċ tal-fqir inferrah.

38. The smile

*I cannot, O Lord,
like you redden
the face of the sky;
but at least with a smile
I can enlighten the face of a man.*

39. Il-bewsa

Ja wied tal-ilma
mill-bogħod int ġejt nadif
biex nixrob minnek;
malli lejnk resaq fommi
int bistni bewsa helwa.

39. The kiss

*O brook from afar
you came clean and pure
so that I may drink of you;
when my mouth came close to you
you gave me a sweet kiss.*

40. Il-wardiet ħomor

Il-wardiet ħomor
tal-peprin f'nofs iż-żara
inħasdu miegħu,
u saru wardiet ħomor
f'wiċċ dawki illi l-ħobż jieklu.

40. The red flowers

*The red poppies
in the midst of the corn were
mown together with it,
and became two red roses
on the face of those who ate
the bread.*