



"The trust that I have in you" | "La fiance que j'ay en vous"

Text Information

Author | Anonymous

Language | French

Period | 15th Century

Genre | Love song

Source | Chansonier Nivelles de la Chaussée (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Département de Musique, Res. Vmc MS 57), ff.25v-26r

Collection | Love Songs of the Medieval World: Lyrics from Europe and Asia; Gender, Sex and Sensuality: Writings on Women, Men and Desire

URL | https://sourcebook.stanford.edu/text/trust_I_have_you/

Transcription, translation, and introduction by Mae Velloso-Lyons.

Introduction to the Text

This anonymous love song comes from a fifteenth-century song book ('chansonier') of polyphonic music (music where several voices sing different musical lines at the same time). It is somewhat unusual in that the lyrics are written from the perspective of a woman reflecting on the bond she shares with her distant lover.

Introduction to the Source

This song has been transcribed from the Chansonier Nivelles de la Chaussée (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Département de Musique, Res. Vmc MS 57), ff.25v-26r. The manuscript can be viewed here: [<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b55007270r/f50.item>]. Another version with minor variants and a different final line is contained in London British Library Lansdowne 380.



"The trust that I have in you" | "La fiance que j'ay en vous"

La fiance [que j'ay en vous]
Mon amy sans ung autre eslire
Me fait oublier le martire
Que Jay et tout mon grant courroux
Car une foiz nous verrons nous
Mais quest ce qui le me fait dire
La fiance [que j'ay en vous]
Pardieu voire et maugre tous
Ceulx qui ont voulu contredire
Autre que dieu ne nous puet nuyre
Car a ce Jay tout mon recours
La fiance [que j'ay en vous]

The trust that I have in you,
my love, without wanting to choose anyone else,
makes me forget the torture
that I suffer and all my great anguish.
5 For one day we will see each other
But what is it that tells me that?
The trust [that I have in you].
By God! Truly, despite all
those who wanted to say otherwise,
10 no one but God can do us harm
because all my strength comes from this:
The trust [that I have in you].