Collected Poems

Attila József

October 15, 2025

Chapter 1

1925

You are so silly.	I
You run like the morning wind,	2
sometime you'll be knocked down by a car.	3
By the way, I scrubbed clean my little table,	4
and now the tender light of my bread shines purer.	5
Well, come back; if you want	6
I'll buy a blanket for my iron bed.	7
A plain, grey blanket.	8
It will suit my Poverty, who loves you,	9
and the Lord loves you also very much,	IO
and He also loves me.	II
The Lord never comes in a blaze of glory,	12
He doesn't want to ruin my eyes,	13
which long to see you,	14
and will look at you very beautifully.	15
When you come back, I will kiss you carefully,	16
I won't rip off your coat.	17
I will tell you all the many jokes,	18
because I devised many since then,	19
and how merry you'll be and blush,	2.0
how you'll look down to the ground,	2.1
and we will crack up,	2.2
and we will be heard by our neighbours	23
and even by the taciturn, austere day labourers	2.4
who, amidst their tired, shattered dreams,	25
will then begin to smile too.	26

Autumn

French

Ne sois pas si bête.	I
Tu cours comme le vent matinal,	2
un jour tu seras renversée par une auto.	3
D'ailleurs, j'ai récuré ma petite table,	4
et maintenant la lumière suave de mon pain est plus pure.	5
Hé bien, reviens; si tu veux	6
j'achèterai une couverture pour mon lit de fer.	7
Une couverture ordinaire, grise.	8
Elle conviendra à ma Pauvreté, qui t'aime,	9
et le Seigneur t'aime aussi beaucoup	IO
et Il m'aime aussi.	II
Le Seigneur ne vient jamais dans toute sa splendeur,	12
Il ne veut pas abîmer mes yeux,	13
qui ont hâte de te voir	14
et qui te regarderont avec beauté.	15
Quand tu reviendras, je t'embrasserai doucement,	16
je n'arracherai pas ton manteau.	17
Je te raconterai toutes les nouvelles blagues,	18
parce que j'en ai inventé beaucoup depuis,	19
et que tu seras gaie et rougieras,	20
et tu baisseras les yeux vers le sol,	21
et nous éclaterons de rire,	2.2
et nos voisins nous entendrons	23
et jusqu'aux journaliers taciturnes et austères	2.4
qui, parmi leurs rêves fatigués et brisés,	25
esquisseront un sourire aussi.	26

Automne

Spanish

No seas tonta.	I
Corres como el viento de la madrugada,	2
algún día te atropellará un coche.	3
De hecho, fregué mi mesita,	4
y ahora la luz suave de mi pan brilla más pura.	5
Pues regresa; si quieres	6
compraré una manta para mi cama de hierro.	7
Una manta ordinaria, gris.	8
Le caerá bien a mi Pobreza, que te quiere,	9
y el Señor también te ama,	IO
y me ama también.	II
El Señor nunca viene con gran esplendor,	12
no quiere arruinar mis ojos,	13
que anhelan verte,	14
y que te mirarán con belleza.	15
Cuando regreses, te besaré con cuidado,	16
no te arrancaré el abrigo.	17
Te contaré todos los nuevos chistes,	18
porque hallé muchos desde entonces,	19
y qué alegre te pondrás y te sonrojarás,	2.0
y cómo mirarás al suelo,	2.1
y nos reiremos a carcajadas,	2.2
y nos oirán nuestros vecinos	23
y hasta los taciturnos y austeros jornaleros	2.4
que, entre sus sueños cansados y quebrados,	25
empezarán a sonreirse también.	26

Otoño

```
Olyan<sup>1</sup> bolond<sup>2</sup> vagy<sup>3</sup>
                                                                                                                                            Ι
szaladsz4
                                                                                                                                            2
akár<sup>5</sup> a reggeli<sup>6</sup> szél.<sup>7</sup>
                                                                                                                                            3
Még<sup>8</sup> elüt<sup>9</sup> valamelyik<sup>10</sup> autó.<sup>11</sup>
                                                                                                                                             4
Pedig<sup>12</sup> lesikáltam<sup>13</sup> kis<sup>14</sup> asztalomat<sup>15</sup>
                                                                                                                                            5
és most<sup>16</sup>
                                                                                                                                            6
tisztábban<sup>17</sup> világít<sup>18</sup> kenyerem<sup>19</sup> enyhe<sup>20</sup> fénye.<sup>21</sup>
                                                                                                                                            7
No<sup>22</sup> gyere<sup>23</sup> vissza,<sup>24</sup> ha<sup>25</sup> akarod<sup>26</sup>
                                                                                                                                            8
veszek<sup>27</sup> takarót<sup>28</sup> vaságyamra.<sup>29</sup>
                                                                                                                                            9
Egyszerű,30 szürke31 takarót.
                                                                                                                                            Ю
```

```
^{\text{I}} arch. pron. oly 'such/so' + deadj. adv.-forming -an \rightarrow 'such a/an'
    <sup>2</sup> adj. 'silly/foolish'
    <sup>3</sup> vb. van 'to be' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
    4 vb. szalad 'to run' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -sz
    5 lit. 'just like'
    <sup>6</sup> reggel 'morning' + adj.-forming -i
    7 'wind'
    8 adv. 'moreover/later/sometime'
    <sup>9</sup> vb. pref. el-'away' + vb. üt 'to hit' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   10 pron. pref. vala 'some-' + inter. myelik 'which/what' → 'one/any of
    п 'car'
   12 conj. expressing contrast 'whereas/but/although' or addition 'and (by contrast)'
    <sup>13</sup> vb. pref. le- completion/downward + vb. sikál 'to scrub/scour (out)' + 1st pers. sg. ind. past.def.
   14 adj. 'small'
   15 asztal 'table' + 1st pers. sg. single poss. -(0)m + acc. -(a)t
   <sup>17</sup> adj. tiszta 'clean/clear' + comp. -bb + deadj. adv.-forming -am \rightarrow 'more clearly/cleanly'
   18 világ 'light (arch.)/world' + caus. vb.-forming -ít 'to make smth ...-like' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres.
indef. 'to make shine'
   19 kenyér 'bread' + 1st pers. sg. single poss. -em
   <sup>20</sup> enyh 'light/mild/tender/faint' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e 'of'
   <sup>21</sup> fény 'light' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e
   22 interj. 'well/now'
   <sup>23</sup> vb. jön 'to come' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   24 adv. 'back[wards]'
   25 conf. 'if' + cond. or 'when/once'
   <sup>26</sup> vb. akar 'to want' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -od
   <sup>27</sup> vb. vesz 'to take/grab/buy/get/consider/put on' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ek
   <sup>28</sup> vb. takar 'to cover (protect)' + pres. part. -\phi \rightarrow 'cover/blanket' + acc. -t
   <sup>29</sup> vas 'iron' + ágy 'bed' + 1st pers. sg. single poss. -am + subl. -ra 'onto/on'
```

³⁰ egy 'one' + -szerű '-like' → 'plain/simple/unadorned/humble (< 1945)'

31 adj. 'grey'

```
Illik<sup>32</sup> az
                                                                                                           II
szegénységemhez,33 aki34 szeret35 téged36
                                                                                                           12
és az Úr<sup>37</sup> is szereti<sup>38</sup> nagyon<sup>39</sup>
                                                                                                           13
és engem<sup>40</sup> is szeret<sup>41</sup> az Úr
                                                                                                           14
nem jön<sup>42</sup> soha<sup>43</sup> nagy<sup>44</sup> fényességgel<sup>45</sup>
                                                                                                           15
Nem akarja,46 hogy elromoljanak47
                                                                                                           16
szemeim,48 akik49
                                                                                                           17
nagyon50 kívánnak51 látni52 téged.53
                                                                                                           18
És nagyon<sup>54</sup> szépen<sup>55</sup> néznek<sup>56</sup> majd<sup>57</sup> terád<sup>58</sup>
                                                                                                           19
ha59 visszajössz<sup>60</sup>
                                                                                                           20
vigyázva<sup>61</sup> foglak<sup>62</sup> megcsókolni,<sup>63</sup>
                                                                                                           21
```

```
<sup>32</sup> vb. 'to suit/match/fit' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   33 szegény 'poor' + noun-forming -ség (state of being) + 1st pers. sg. single poss. -em + allat. -hez 'to'
   34 conj. 'who'
   35 vb. 'to love'+ 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   <sup>36</sup> pron. te 'you' sg. + acc.
   <sup>37</sup> 'Lord' (the Christian god)
   ^{38} vb. szeret 'to love' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -i
   <sup>39</sup> adj. nagy 'great' + adv.-forming -on \rightarrow 'very (to a high degree)'
   <sup>40</sup> pron. én 'I' + acc. \rightarrow 'me'
   <sup>41</sup> vb. 'to love'+ 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   42 vb. 'to come' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   43 adv. 'never'
   44 adj. 'great'
   45 fény 'light' + adj.-forming -es 'with/having' \rightarrow 'bright' + noun-forming -ség (state of being) \rightarrow
'brightness' + instr. -vel 'with' (-gel after consonant g) \rightarrow 'with brightness'
   46 vb. 'to want' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ja
   <sup>47</sup> perfect. vb. pref. el- + vb. romlik 'to break down/deteriorate' + 3rd pers. pl. subj. indef. -janak
   <sup>48</sup> szem 'eye' + 1st pers. sg. mult. poss. -eim
   <sup>49</sup> pron. 'who' + pl. -k
   <sup>50</sup> adj. nagy 'great' + adv.-forming -on \rightarrow 'very (to a high degree)'
    <sup>51</sup> vb. kíván 'to wish' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. -nak
   ^{52} vb. l\acute{a}t 'to see' + inf. -ni
   53 pron. te 'you' sg. + acc.
   <sup>54</sup> adj. nagy 'great' + adv.-forming -on \rightarrow 'very (to a high degree)'
   55 adj. szép 'beautiful'
   <sup>56</sup> vb. néznek 'to look at smth' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. -nek
   57 adv. 'sometime/later'
   58 pron. sg. te 'you' (here emph.) + pron. rá + 2nd pers. sg. 'on/of you'
   59 conf. 'if' + cond. or 'when/once'
   60 vb. pref. vissza- 'back-' + vb. jön 'to come' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -sz
   <sup>61</sup> vb. vigyáz 'to protect/pay attention' + adv. part. -va result of action or simultaneous actions
```

62 vb. aux. fog 'to will' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. 2nd obj. -lak 'you'

63 perfect. vb. pref. meg- + vb. csókol 'to kiss' + inf. -ni

22

23

24

25

26

nem tépem⁶⁴ le⁶⁵ rólad⁶⁶ a kabátot⁶⁷

mert⁷² sokat⁷³ kieszeltem⁷⁴ azóta,⁷⁵

lenézel⁸¹ a földre⁸² és kacagunk⁸³

hogy te⁷⁶ is⁷⁷ örülj,⁷⁸

majd⁷⁹ elpirulsz,⁸⁰

és elmondom⁶⁸ mind⁶⁹ a sok⁷⁰ tréfát,⁷¹

hangosan, ⁸⁴ hogy behallatszik ⁸⁵ szomszédunkba ⁸⁶	
a szótlan, ⁸⁷ komoly ⁸⁸ napszámosokhoz ⁸⁹ is behallik ⁹⁰	
és fáradt, 91 összetört 92	
álmukban ⁹³ majd ⁹⁴ elmosolyodnak ⁹⁵ ők ⁹⁶ is. ⁹⁷	
annukban maju cimosoryounak ok is.	
Ősze	
⁶⁴ vb. <i>tép</i> 'to tear/rend' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. defem	
65 comp. 'down'	
66 pron. <i>róla</i> 'about/off her' + 2nd pers. sg.	
⁶⁷ kabát 'coat' + acc(0)t	
⁶⁸ vb. <i>elmond</i> 'to tell' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. def. <i>-om</i>	
⁶⁹ pron. sg. 'all/each of'	
⁷⁰ adj. 'many'	
71 $tréfá$ 'joke' + acc(a)t	
⁷² conj. 'because'	
⁷³ sok 'many' + accat	
⁷⁴ vb. <i>kieszel</i> 'to devise' + 1st pers. sg. past. <i>-tem</i>	
75 art. az 'that' + δta 'since' \rightarrow 'since then'	
⁷⁶ pron. sg. 'you'	
⁷⁷ doublet of <i>és</i> 'and', adv. 'also'	
⁷⁸ vb. <i>örül</i> 'to rejoice' + 2nd pers. sg. subj. indef <i>j</i>	
⁷⁹ adv. 'sometime/later'	
80 perfect. vb. pref. el- + vb. pirul 'to blush' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indefsz	
81 vb. 'to look down'+ 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indefel	
82 föld 'earth/ground' + sublre 'onto'	
⁸³ vb. <i>kacag</i> 'to laugh (a lot)' + 1st pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. <i>-unk</i>	
⁸⁴ adv. 'loudly'	
85 vb. pref. be-'inwardly' + vb. hall 'to hear' + causat + vbforming -szik \rightarrow 'to cause to sound in	ı'
86 szomszéd 'neighbour' + 1st pers. pl. single possunk + illative -ba 'into'	
87 szó 'word/voice' + privative adjforming -tlan '-less'	
88 adj. 'severe/austere'	
⁸⁹ napszámos 'day labourer' + pl(o)k + allat. '-hoz 'towards'	
⁹⁰ syn. behallatszik	
⁹¹ vb. <i>fárad</i> 'to tire' + past. part. <i>-t</i>	
⁹² össze 'together' + vb. tör 'to break' + past. partt	
93 álom 'dream' + 3rd pers. pl. single possuk + innesban 'in'	
94 adv. 'sometime/later'	
⁹⁵ vb. inf. <i>elmosolyodni</i> 'to start to smile' + 3rd pers. ind. pres. indef.	
96 pron. 'they'	
⁹⁷ doublet of <i>és</i> 'and', adv. 'also'	

Chapter 2

Freight trains switching;	I
the dreamy clanking	2
claps the silent landscape	3
in light handcuffs.	4
	5
The moon soars effortlessly,	6
like a prisoner set free.	7
	8
The crushed stones lie	9
in their own shadow,	10
they sparkle for themselves,	I
they are in their place	I
like never before.	I
	I
What shard of the vast nighttime	I
is this heavy night,	10
that it falls down on us	I
like a chunk of iron on the dust?	15
	I
Desire born of the sun!	2
When shadows fall on the bed,	2
could you too stay awake	2
the whole night?	2

```
Tehervonatok<sup>1</sup> tolatnak,<sup>2</sup>
                                                                                                            T
a méla<sup>3</sup> csörömpölés<sup>4</sup>
                                                                                                            2
könnyű<sup>5</sup> bilincseket<sup>6</sup> rak<sup>7</sup>
                                                                                                            3
a néma<sup>8</sup> tájra.<sup>9</sup>
                                                                                                            4
                                                                                                            5
Oly10 könnyen11 száll12 a hold,13
                                                                                                            6
mint14 a fölszabadult.15
                                                                                                            8
A megtört<sup>16</sup> kövek<sup>17</sup>
                                                                                                            9
önnön<sup>18</sup> árnyukon<sup>19</sup> fekszenek,<sup>20</sup>
                                                                                                            IO
csillognak21
                                                                                                            \mathbf{II}
maguknak,22
                                                                                                            12
úgy<sup>23</sup> a helyükön<sup>24</sup> vannak,<sup>25</sup>
                                                                                                            13
mint<sup>26</sup> még<sup>27</sup> soha.<sup>28</sup>
                                                                                                            14
                                                                                                            15
```

¹ teher 'freight' + vb. von 'to pull/draw' + noun-forming -at \rightarrow 'freight train' + pl. -(o)k

² vb. *tol* 'to reverse/back up' + caus. -at 'to make smth/smb do smth' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef.

³ 'dreamy/pensive'

⁴ vb. *csörömpöl* 'to clank' + vb. noun-forming *-és* → 'clanking'

⁵ könnyű 'simple/easy/light'

⁶ bilincs 'handcuff/shackle' + pl. acc. -eket

⁷ vb. 'to put/set' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

^{8 &#}x27;silent/mute'

⁹ táj 'landscape/region' + subl. -ra 'on/onto'

¹⁰ arch. pron. oly 'so'

 $^{^{\}text{II}}$ könnyű 'easy/light' + super. -en 'on' → 'effortlessly/easily'

¹² vb. száll 'to fly' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

^{13 &#}x27;moon'

^{14 &#}x27;like'

¹⁵ vb. pref. $f\ddot{o}l$ - completion (see also fel-) + szabad 'free' + vb.-forming -ul \rightarrow 'to set free/escape' + past part. -t

¹⁶ perfect. vb. pref. *meg-* + vb. *tör* 'to break/crush' + past. part. *-t*

 $k \tilde{g}$ 'stone' + pl. -(e)k

 $^{^{18}}$ arch. emph. poss. adj. by duplication of pers. pron. $\ddot{o}n$ (3rd pers. sg.) ightarrow 'one's own'

¹⁹ árny 'shadow/ghost' + 3rd pers. pl. single-poss. -uk + super. -(o)n 'on'

²⁰ vb. inf. *fekszik* 'to lie (horizontally)' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. *-enek*

²¹ vb. *csillog* 'to glitter' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef.

 $^{^{22}}$ mag(a) 'oneself' + 3rd pers. pl. -uk + dat. -nak

²³ adv. 'so (in this/that manner)'; úgy ... mint ... 'like'

²⁴ hely 'place/space' + 3rd pers. pl. single-poss. -ük 'their' + super. -ön 'on'

²⁵ vb. van 'to be'+ 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef.

²⁶ conj. 'like'

²⁷ adv. 'yet/still/moreover'

²⁸ adv. 'never'

Milyen ²⁹ óriás ³⁰ éjszaka ³¹	16
szilánkja³² ez a súlyos³³ éj,³⁴	17
mely ³⁵ úgy ³⁶ hull ³⁷ le ³⁸ ránk, ³⁹	18
mint ⁴⁰ a porra ⁴¹ a vasszilánk? ⁴²	19
	20
Napszülte ⁴³ vágy! ⁴⁴	21
Ha ⁴⁵ majd ⁴⁶ árnyat ⁴⁷ fogad ⁴⁸ az ágy, ⁴⁹	2.2
abban ⁵⁰ az egész ⁵¹ éjben ⁵²	23
is ⁵³ ébren ⁵⁴	24
maradnál? ⁵⁵	25

```
<sup>29</sup> pron. 'what'
<sup>30</sup> noun/adj. 'giant/huge/vast'
^{31} éj 'night' + szaka 'period of' 
ightarrow 'at night/nighttime/night'
<sup>32</sup> szilánk 'chip/shard/splinter' + 3rd pers. sg. single-poss. -ja
33 súly 'weight' + adj.-forming -os \rightarrow adj. 'severe/austere'
34 'night'
35 literary, 'which/that'
<sup>36</sup> adv. 'so (in this/that manner)'; úgy ... mint ...
<sup>37</sup> vb. 'to fall', alt. hullik + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
38 adv. 'down'
<sup>39</sup> pron. r\acute{a} 'upon/on/unto him/her/it' + 1st pers. pl. poss. single-poss. -nk 'our' \rightarrow 'us/on us'
40 'like'
41 por 'dust' + subl. -ra 'onto'
42 vas 'iron' + szilánk 'shard'
<sup>43</sup> nap 'sun/day' + vb. szül 'to give birth/bear' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past def. -te
44 'desire/longing'
45 conf. 'if' + cond. or 'when/once'
46 adv. 'sometime/later'
<sup>47</sup> árny 'shadow/ghost' + acc. -t
<sup>48</sup> vb. 'to receive' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
<sup>49</sup> 'bed'
50 az 'that' + innes. -ban 'in'
51 adj./adv. 'whole/wholly'
52 éj 'night' + innes. -ben 'in'
53 doublet of és 'and', adv. 'also'
```

55 vb. marad 'to stay/remain (also state of being)' + 2nd pers. sg. cond. pres. indef.

54 adv. 'awake'

3. fejezet

1934

French

3.1 Consciousness (Eszmélet)

I

Dawn unbinds sky from earth

and upon its clear, soft word

beetles and children

4
(
(
7
;
1
3
3
4
(
(
•

Ι

3

Spanish

El amanecer desata el cielo de la tierra	I
y, al son de su voz clara y suave,	2
escarabajos y niños entran	3
y giran en la luz del día;	4
el aire no es húmedo,	5
¡la brillante levedad flota!	6
Con la noche se asentaron en los árboles	7
como pequeñas mariposas, las ojas.	8

Original Hungarian

```
Földtől<sup>1</sup> eloldja<sup>2</sup> az eget<sup>3</sup>
                                                                                                                            Ι
a hajnal<sup>4</sup> s<sup>5</sup> tiszta<sup>6</sup>, lágy<sup>7</sup> szavára<sup>8</sup>
                                                                                                                             2
a bogarak,9 a gyerekek
                                                                                                                             3
kipörögnek<sup>10</sup> a napvilágra<sup>11</sup>;
                                                                                                                             4
a levegőben<sup>12</sup> semmi pára<sup>13</sup>,
                                                                                                                             5
a csilló<sup>14</sup> könnyűség<sup>15</sup> lebeg!<sup>16</sup>
                                                                                                                             6
Az éjjel<sup>17</sup> rászálltak<sup>18</sup> a fákra,<sup>19</sup>
                                                                                                                             7
mint<sup>20</sup> kis<sup>21</sup> lepkék,<sup>22</sup> a levelek.<sup>23</sup>
                                                                                                                             8
```

```
<sup>1</sup> föld 'earth' + abl. -től 'without/from'
```

² vb. pref. *el-* 'away' + vb. *old* 'to unbind' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. *-ja*

 $^{^{3}}$ ég 'sky' + acc. -et \rightarrow eget

^{4 &#}x27;dawn'

⁵ poetic abbrv. es 'and' (does not count as a syllable)

⁶ adj. 'bright'

⁷ adj. 'soft'

 $^{^8}$ szó 'voice', 'word' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -a o szava + subl. -ra 'by' o szavára

 $^{^9}$ bogár 'beetle' + pl. -(a)k → bogarak

¹⁰ vb. *kipörög* 'to spin' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. *-nek*

пар 'sun/day' + világ 'world' + subl. -ra 'onto'

¹² levegő 'air' + innes. -ben 'in'

^{13 &#}x27;moisture/mist'

¹⁴ vb. *csillog* 'to glitter' + adj.-forming - $o \rightarrow csillo$; usually *csillogó*

¹⁵ könnyű 'simple/easy/light' + noun-forming -ség (state of being)

¹⁶ vb. *lebeg* 'to float (in the air)', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹⁷ poetic *éj* 'night' + instr. *-vel* 'with' \rightarrow *éjjel*

¹⁸ pointed action *rá-* 'on' + vb. *száll* 'to fly/land/to come down' + 3rd pers. sg. past indef. *-tak*

¹⁹ fa 'tree' + pl. -k + subl. -ra 'onto' $\rightarrow f\acute{a}kra$

²⁰ conj. 'like'

^{21 &#}x27;small'

²² lepke 'butterfly' + pl. $-k \rightarrow lepk\acute{e}k$

 $^{^{23}}$ level 'leaf' + pl. -(e)k

3.1. CONSCIOUSNESS (ESZMÉLET)

15

Chiastic structure:

1-4: e-e(8)/á-ra(9)/e-e(8)/á-ra(9)

5-8: á-ra(9)/e-e(8)/á-ra(9)/e-e(8)

II

I saw paintings daubed with blue,	I
red, yellow in my dreams	2
and felt that everything was just so —	3
not one speck of dust flying madly about.	4
Now my dream comes down as a blur into my members,	5
and the iron world is the order.	6
During the day a moon rises inwardly and,	7
when the night is out, a sun shines herewithin.	8

Cursory remark

Verses 1-4 are about the night, verses 5-7 transition to the day, and verse 8 brings us back to the night — this cyclic structure supporting the mismatched, recurring alternance of days and nights.

French

J'ai vu des tableaux barbouillés de bleu,	Ι
rouge et jaune dans mes rêves	2
et je sentis que tout était en ordre —	3
pas un seul grain de poussière qui vole folement.	4
Maintenant mon rêve descend, estompé, dans mes membres,	5
et le monde de fer est l'ordre.	6
Avec le jour, une lune point en moi et,	7
à la nuit tombée, un soleil brille ci-dedans.	8

Vi cuadros embadurnados con azul,	ī
•	-
rojo y amarillo en mis sueños	2
y sentí que todo estaba en orden —	3
ni una sola mota de polvo que vuela locamente.	4
Ahora mi sueño se pone, esfumado, en mis miembros,	5
y el mundo de hierro es el orden.	6
Con el día, una luna sale en mí y,	7
al llegar la noche, un sol brilla aquí dentro.	8

Kék, piros, sárga, összekent ²⁴	I
képeket ²⁵ láttam ²⁶ álmaimban ²⁷	2
és úgy éreztem, ²⁸ ez a rend ²⁹ —	3
egy szalló³º porszem³¹ el³² nem hibbant.³³	4
Most homályként³⁴ száll³⁵ tagjaimban³ ⁶	5
álmom s a vas ³⁷ világ a rend.	6
Nappal ³⁸ hold ³⁹ kél ⁴⁰ bennem ⁴¹ s ha ⁴² kinn ⁴³ van	7
az éj ⁴⁴ — egy nap süt ⁴⁵ idebent. ⁴⁶	8

Chiastic structure:

```
1-4: e-ent(8)/ai-an(9)/a-rend(8)/i-an(9)5-8: i-an(9)/a-rend(8)/ai-an(9)/e-ent(8)
```

45 vb. 'to roast/shine', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

46 adv. ide 'here' + bent 'within'

```
\overline{^{24} \ \text{ossze}} 'together' + ken 'smear' \rightarrow \text{\tilde{osszeken}} + 3rd pers. sg. past indef. -t
    ^{25} kép 'picture' + pl. -(e)k + acc. -(e)t
   ^{26} vb. l\acute{a}t 'to see' + short base -t + 1st pers. sg. past def. -tam
   <sup>27</sup> álom 'dream' + 1st pers. sg. poss. -a + poss. pl. -i + 1st pers. sg. pers. -m + innes. -ban 'in' \rightarrow
álmaimban
    <sup>28</sup> vb. érez 'to feel', 1st pers. sg. past def.
   29 'order'
   <sup>30</sup> vb. száll 'to fly' + pres. part. -ó
    31 por 'dust' + szem 'eye/speck'
    <sup>32</sup> el nem + past. part.; the verbal prefix el- emphasises the completion of the action
    <sup>33</sup> vb. hibban 'to become imbalanced', arch. + past part. -t
    34 homály 'blur' + essive formal -ként 'as'
    35 vb. 'to land/to come down', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres.
    ^{36} tag 'member' + 1st pers. sg. poss. -(j)a + poss. pl. -i + 1st pers. sg. pers. -m + innes. -ban 'in' \rightarrow
tagjaimban
    <sup>37</sup> 'iron'
    ^{38} nap 'day' + instr. -val 'with' \rightarrow nappal
   <sup>39</sup> 'moon'
   40 vb. 'to rise', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def., arch. alt. kel
    <sup>41</sup> pron. benne 'inside smth/smb' + 1st pers. sg. pers. -m
   42 when'
   43 'outside'
   44 'night'
```

III

I am thin, at times I only eat bread;	I
amidst those idle and blithering souls,	2
I seek in vain more certainty, like the die.	3
No chuck roast reaches my mouth	4
while I cuddle a small child to my heart —	5
however clever, the cat cannot catch at once	6
the mouse outdoors and the one indoors.	7

Cursory remark

J cannot pursue his art and, at the same time, keep a job that would put real food on his table. Cuddling a small child to his heart is his metaphor for the creation of poetry. J is the cat in verses 6-7.

French

Je suis maigre, parfois je ne mange que du pain;	I
entouré par ces âmes oisives et bavardes,	2
je cherche en vain plus de certitude, comme le dé.	3
Aucun rôti de palette ne trouve ma bouche	4
quand j'étreins un enfant sur mon cœur —	5
aussi fûté soit-il, le chat ne peut attrapper d'un coup	6
la souris dehors et celle dedans.	7

Estoy flaco, a veces sólo como pan;	I
rodeado por esas almas ociosas y facundas,	2
busco en vano más certidumbre, como el dado.	3
Ninguna paleta asada halla mi boca	4
cuando ciño a un niño sobre mi corazón —	5
por muy astuto que sea, el gato no puede pillar a la vez	6
el ratón de fuera y el de dentro.	7

Sóvany ⁴⁷ vagyok, csak kenyeret ⁴⁸	I
eszem ⁴⁹ néha, ⁵⁰ e ⁵¹ léha, ⁵² locska ⁵³	2
lelkek ⁵⁴ közt ⁵⁵ ingyen ⁵⁶ keresek ⁵⁷	3
bizonyosabbat,58 mint59 a kocska.60	4
Nem dörgölődzik ⁶¹ sült ⁶² lopcska ⁶³	5
számhoz ⁶⁴ s szivemhez ⁶⁵ kisgyerek ⁶⁶ —	6
ügyeskedhet, ⁶⁷ nem fog ⁶⁸ a macska ⁶⁹	7
egyszerre ⁷⁰ kint ⁷¹ s bent ⁷² egeret. ⁷³	8

Chiastic structure:

```
1-4: e-ret(8)/o-cska(9)/e-ek(8)/o-cska(9)
5-8: o-cska(8)/e-ek(8)/a-cska(8)/e-ret(8) — same length
```

```
<sup>47</sup> 'slim/thin', fig. 'poor'
<sup>48</sup> kenyér 'bread' + acc. -(e)t \rightarrow kenyeret
<sup>49</sup> vb. esz 'to eat', rare without verbal pref., inf. enni + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -em \rightarrow eszem
50 adv. 'sometimes'
 51 poetic abbrv. eme/ez 'this'
52 'improvident/idler'
53 adj. 'blethering'
54 lélek 'soul' + pl. -(e)k \rightarrow lelkek
55 post. 'between/amid' from között: köz 'interval' + locat. -(ö)tt
56 fig. arch. 'in vain'; usually 'free of charge'
<sup>57</sup> vb. keres 'to seek' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
58 adj. bizonyos 'certain' + comp. -abb 'more' + acc. -t
59 'like'
60 'a die'
<sup>61</sup> vb. 'to press against', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
62 vb. sül 'to roast' + past part. -t
63 'chuck' (shoulder meat cut, probably pork)
<sup>64</sup> száj 'mouth' + 1st pers. sg. single poss. -m \rightarrow szám + allat. -hoz 'towards' \rightarrow számhoz
65 szivem 'heart' + allat. -hez 'towards'
66 kis 'small' + gyerek 'child'
<sup>67</sup> vb. ügyesked 'to be clever' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. potential -het
<sup>68</sup> vb. 'to hold', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
<sup>70</sup> adv. egyszer 'at once' + abl. -re 'onto'
71 adv. 'outside'
72 adv. 'inside'
<sup>73</sup> egér 'mouse' + acc. -(e)t \rightarrow egeret
```

IV

Just like a pile of logs,	I
the world lies in a jumble;	2
each thing presses, weighs on,	3
holds fast to the next,	4
and so everything is determined.	5
Only what is not has a shrub,	6
only that will be that flower;	7
what is falls to pieces.	8

Cursory remark

'To be or not to be' is usually construed as the dichotomy between life and death. J tells us that not-to-be is potential beauty, whereas to-be is actual death.

French

Tout comme un tas de bûches,	Ι
le monde gît en vrac ;	2
chaque chose presse, pèse,	3
s'arrime à l'autre,	4
et ainsi tout est déterminé.	5
Seul ce qui n'est pas a un arbrisseau,	6
seul cela sera cette fleur;	7
ce qui est tombera en pièces.	8

Así como un montón de leña,	I
el mundo yace a granel;	2
cada cosa aprieta, pesa,	3
se arrima a la próxima,	4
y así todo está determinado.	5
Sólo lo que no es tiene una mata,	6
sólo eso será esta flor;	7
lo que es caera a pedazos.	8

Akár ⁷⁴ egy halom ⁷⁵ hasított ⁷⁶ fa, ⁷⁷	I
hever ⁷⁸ egymáson ⁷⁹ a világ, ⁸⁰	2
szorítja, 81 nyomja, 82 összefogja 83	3
egyik ⁸⁴ dolog ⁸⁵ a másikát ⁸⁶	4
s így ⁸⁷ mindenik ⁸⁸ determinált. ⁸⁹	5
Csak ⁹⁰ ami ⁹¹ nincs, annak ⁹² van bokra, ⁹³	6
csak ⁹⁴ ami lesz, ⁹⁵ az a virág,	7
ami van, széthull ⁹⁶ darabokra. ⁹⁷	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: o-a(9)/i-á(8)/o-a(9)/i-á(8) 5-8: i-á(8)/o-a(9)/i-á(8)/o-a(9)

```
<sup>74</sup> conj. lit. 'just like'
75 'pile/heap'
<sup>76</sup> vb. hasít 'to cleave/split' + past. part. -ott
<sup>78</sup> vb. 'to lie', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
<sup>79</sup> pron. egymás 'each other/one another' + super. -(o)n 'on'
80 'world'
<sup>81</sup> vb. szorít 'to press/constrict', inf. szorítani + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
^{82} vb. nyom 'to weigh' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
<sup>83</sup> össze 'together' + vb. fog 'to hold' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
84 egy 'one' + 3rd pers. pl. mult. poss. -ik 'of'
85 'thing'
<sup>86</sup> adj. m\acute{a}s 'other' + noun-forming -ik \rightarrow 'another' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -a + acc. -t \rightarrow -\acute{a}t
87 'just so'
88 adv. minden 'everyone/everything'
<sup>89</sup> Latin determinare + vb.-forming -ál 'to determine' + past part. -t
90 adv. 'only'
91 rel. pron. 'which/that'
^{92} art. az 'that' + attr. poss. -nak \rightarrow annak
93 bokor 'shrub/bush' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -a
94 adv. 'only'
95 vb. 'to be[come]', 3rd pers. sg. ind. fut. indef.
96 vb. 'to fall apart', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
97 adv. darab 'piece/chunk' + pl. -ok + subl. -ra 'into'
```

\mathbf{V}

At the freight train station,	I
I lay down behind the tree's butt,	2
like a chunk of silence;	3
a grey weed reached my mouth,	4
raw, strange-sweet.	5
Playing dead, I watched the guard, sensing what,	6
and his shadow on the quiet wagons	7
stubbornly leaping at the bright, dewy coal.	8

Cursory remark

This is likely a memory from J's childhood, when his family was so poor that he would occasionally steal lumps of coal from the wagons at the freight train station nearby his home.

French

A la gare de fret,	I
je m'étalai derrière le pied de l'arbre,	2
comme une masse de silence;	3
une herbe grise atteignit ma bouche,	4
crue, étrange-sucrée.	5
Faisant le mort, je regardais le garde, ressentant quoi,	6
et son ombre qui, sur les wagons silencieux,	7
s'entêtait à bondir sur les charbons reluisants, couverts de rosée.	8

A la estación de tren de carga,	I
me tumbé detrás del pie del árbol,	2
como una masa de silencio;	3
una hierba gris alcanzó mi boca,	4
cruda, extraña-dulce.	5
Haciendome el muerto, miraba al guardia, que sentía qué,	6
y, sobre los quietos vagones, a su sombra	7
que se empeñaba en saltar sobre los relucientes, rociados carbones.	8

```
A teherpályaudvaron<sup>98</sup>
                                                                                                                   Ι
úgy99 lapultam100 a fa101 tövéhez,102
                                                                                                                   2
mint<sup>103</sup> egy darab<sup>104</sup> csönd<sup>105</sup>; szürke<sup>106</sup> gyom<sup>107</sup>
                                                                                                                   3
ért<sup>108</sup> számhoz, <sup>109</sup> nyers, <sup>110</sup> különös <sup>111</sup>-édes. <sup>112</sup>
                                                                                                                   4
Holtan<sup>II3</sup> lestem<sup>II4</sup> az őrt, <sup>II5</sup> mit<sup>II6</sup> érez, <sup>II7</sup>
                                                                                                                   5
s a hallgatag<sup>118</sup> vagónokon<sup>119</sup>
                                                                                                                   6
árnyát, 120 mely 121 ráugrott 122 a fényes, 123
                                                                                                                   7
harmatos<sup>124</sup> szénre<sup>125</sup> konokon. 126
                                                                                                                   8
```

Chiastic structure:

```
I-4: a-o(8)/é-e(9)/e-o(8)/é-e(9)
5-8: é-e(9)/o-o(8)/é-e(9)/o-o(8)
```

```
^{98} teher 'freight' + pálya 'track' + udvar 'courtyard' + super. -(o)n 'on'
   99 adv. 'so (in this/that manner)'; úgy ... mint ... 'like'
  100 vb. lapul 'to lie low' + 1st pers. sg. past indef. -tam
  <sup>102</sup> t\ddot{o} 'base of the stem of a plant' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e 'of' \rightarrow t\ddot{o}ve + allat. -hez 'towards' \rightarrow
tövéhez
  103 'like'
  104 'piece'
  ios 'silence', alt. csend
  106 adj. 'grey'
  107 'weed'
  <sup>108</sup> vb. ért 'to reach', arch. 'to touch', fig. 'to understand', 3rd pers. sg. past indef.
  ^{109} száj 'mouth' + 1st pers. sg. single poss. -m 	o szám + allat. 'towards' -hoz 	o számhoz
   по adj. 'raw'
   III 'strange'
   112 'sweet'
   113 holt 'dead' + adv.-forming -an
   <sup>114</sup> vb. les 'to spy' + 1st pers. sg. past indef. -tem
   ^{115} "or" 'guard' + acc. -t
   116 inter. 'what'
   <sup>117</sup> vb. 'to feel/smell/taste', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   118 vb. hallgat 'to remain silent/to listen' + adj.-forming -ag
   "9 vagón 'wagon' + pl. -ok + super. -(o)n 'on'
  ^{120} árny 'shadow/ghost' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -a + acc. -t 	o -\acute{a}t
   121 literary, 'which/that'
   pointed action ra- 'at' + vb. ugrik 'to leap/jump' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past. indef. -(o)tt \rightarrow ugrott
   <sup>123</sup> f\acute{e}ny 'light/glitter' + adj.-forming -es 
ightarrow 'bright'
  124 adj. 'dewy'
   125 szén 'coal' + subl. -re 'onto'
   <sup>126</sup> adj. konok 'stubborn' + super. -(o)n 'on (that manner)'
```

VI

Behold the anguish inside,	I
yet the explanation lies outside.	2
Your wound is the world — on fire, burning up —	3
and you feel your soul, the fever.	4
You are captive as long as your heart rebels —	5
so you will be free if it indulges	ϵ
not building for yourself a house	7
where a landlord settles in.	8

Cursory remark

We are not captives of the world, but of our own heart, which invited the world (the landlord) in for us to contend with. The inner struggle is felt as anguish and yields a feverish soul.

French

Voici le tourment intérieur,	I
pourtant l'explication se trouve à l'extérieur.	2
Ta blessure est le monde — en feu, s'échauffant —	3
et tu sens ton âme, la fièvre.	4
Tu es captif tant que ton cœur se révolte —	5
ainsi tu seras libre s'il se complait	6
à ne pas bâtir pour toi une maison	7
où un propriétaire vient demeurer.	8

I
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

Im ¹²⁷ itt a szenvedés ¹²⁸ belül, ¹²⁹	I
ám ¹³⁰ ott kívül ¹³¹ a magyarázat. ¹³²	2
Sebed ¹³³ a világ — ég, ¹³⁴ hevül ¹³⁵	3
s te ¹³⁶ lelkedet ¹³⁷ érzed, ¹³⁸ a lázat. ¹³⁹	4
Rab ¹⁴⁰ vagy, amíg ¹⁴¹ a szíved ¹⁴² lázad ¹⁴³ —	5
úgy ¹⁴⁴ szabadulsz, ¹⁴⁵ ha ¹⁴⁶ kényedül ¹⁴⁷	6
nem raksz ¹⁴⁸ magadnak ¹⁴⁹ olyan ¹⁵⁰ házat, ¹⁵¹	7
melybe ¹⁵² háziúr ¹⁵³ települ. ¹⁵⁴	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: e-ül(8)/á-at(9)/e-ül(8)/á-at(9) 5-8: á-ad(9)/e-ül(8)/á-at(9)/e-ül(8)

```
127 literary, abbrv. íme 'here is/behold'
```

¹²⁸ vb. szenved 'to suffer' + noun-forming -és

^{129 &#}x27;inside'

¹³⁰ poetic, interj. contrad. 'but'

¹³¹ adv. 'outdoor/outside'

¹³² vb. magyaráz 'to explain' + noun-forming -at

¹³³ seb 'wound' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -ed

¹³⁴ vb. 'to be on fire', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹³⁵ vb. 'to grow hot', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹³⁶ inform. sg. 'you'

¹³⁷ *lélek* 'soul' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -ed \rightarrow *lelked* + acc. -(e)t

¹³⁸ vb. érez 'to feel', 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def.

¹³⁹ láz 'fever' + acc. -(a)t

^{140 &#}x27;captive'

¹⁴¹ adv. 'as long as'; 'until' if followed by negated verb

¹⁴² szíved 'heart' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -ed

¹⁴³ vb. *to rebel*, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹⁴⁴ úgy ... ha ... 'then ... if ...'

 $^{^{145}}$ szabad 'free' + vb.-forming -ul + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -sz

¹⁴⁶ 'if'

¹⁴⁷ literary, vb. 'to indulge', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹⁴⁸ vb. rak 'to set up/to build', 2rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -52

¹⁴⁹ maga 'oneself' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -d + dat. -nak

¹⁵⁰ pron. 'such/that kind of thing'

 $h\acute{a}z$ 'house' + acc. -(a)t

¹⁵² literary, arch. *mely* which' + illative -be 'into (the inside of)'

¹⁵³ ház 'house' + adj.-forming 'of the' -i + úr 'master'

¹⁵⁴ vb. 'to settle (somewhere)', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

VII

I looked up from beneath the evening	I
to the cogwheels of the heavens —	2
from the glittering threads of chance	3
the loom of the past wove the law;	4
and I looked up again onto the sky	5
from beneath the steam of my dreams,	e
and I saw the fabric of the law	7
always tearing up somewhere.	8

Cursory remark

Whereas verses 1-2 echo the ancient mechanical understanding of the firmament as concentric spheres, and verses 2-4 hearken back at the mythological Fates (Parcæ), verses 5-8 evoke the image of an aerostat, whose aeronaut is J, where J's dreams are the steam that tries to lift him up, and the law is the envelope, whose tears are J's constant misfortune. (The metaphor is a little off, as balloons use hot air, not steam.)

French

Par dessous le soir,	I
j'ai levé les yeux aux rouages des cieux —	2
des fils scintillants de la chance	3
le métier du passé avait tissé la loi;	4
par dessous la vapeur de mes rêves,	5
j'ai regardé à nouveau dans les cieux	6
et j'ai vu le tissu de la loi	7
toujours se déchirer quelque part.	8

Por debajo del atardecer,	I
levanté los ojos a las ruedas dentadas de los cielos —	2
de los hilos brillantes de la suerte	3
el telar del pasado había tejado la ley;	4
por debajo del vapor de mis sueños,	5
miré de nuevo en los cielos	6
y vi el tejido de la ley	7
siempre destramarse en alguna parte.	8

Én fölnéztem ¹⁵⁵ az est ¹⁵⁶ alól ¹⁵⁷	I
az eget ¹⁵⁸ fogaskerekére ¹⁵⁹ —	2
csilló ¹⁶⁰ véletlen ¹⁶¹ szálaiból ¹⁶²	3
törvényt ¹⁶³ szőtt ¹⁶⁴ a mult ¹⁶⁵ szövőszéke ¹⁶⁶	4
és megint ¹⁶⁷ fölnéztem az égre ¹⁶⁸	5
álmaim ¹⁶⁹ gőzei ¹⁷⁰ alól	6
s láttam,171 a törvény szövedéke172	7
mindig ¹⁷³ fölfeslik ¹⁷⁴ valahol. ¹⁷⁵	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: a-ól(8)/é-e(9)/a-ól(9)/é-e(9) 5-8: é-e(9)/a-ól(8)/é-e(9)/a-ol(8)

```
155 vb. pref. föl- 'upwards' + vb. néz 'to look' + 1st pers. sg. past. def. -tem
156 arch. '(in the) evening'
157 al 'lower part' + abl. -l 'from'
^{158} ég 'sky' + acc. -(e)t
159 fogas 'tooth' + kerék 'wheel': 'cogwheel' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e + subl. -re 'towards'
vb. csillog 'to glitter' + adj.-forming -o 	o csillo; usually csillog\acute{o}
161 'chance'
162 szál 'thread' + 3rd pers. sg. poss. -a + poss. pl. -i + elative -ból 'from/out of'
<sup>163</sup> törveny 'law/principle' + acc. -t
<sup>164</sup> vb. sző 'to weave', past part.
165 múlt? rare, past part. 'past', inf. múlik
<sup>166</sup> szövő 'weaver' + szék 'chair': 'loom' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e
167 meg 'again' (short action) + adv.-forming -int
<sup>168</sup> ég 'sky' + subl. sg. -re 'onto'
^{169} álom 'dream' + 1st pers. sg. poss. -a + poss. pl. -i + 1st pers. sg. pers. -m
^{170} gőz 'steam, vapour' + 3rd pers. sg. poss. -e + pl. poss. -i
<sup>171</sup> vb. lát 'to see' + short base -t, 1st pers. sg. past def. -tam
<sup>172</sup> szövedék 'fabric/cloth/web' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e
<sup>173</sup> mind 'always' (repetition) + term. 'until' -ig
<sup>174</sup> vb. pref. föl- 'upwards'+ arch., poetic, vb. feslik 'to come unstitched', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
175 'somewhere'
```

VIII

The silence listened intently — One struck.	I
You could visit your childhood;	2
between the damp cement walls	3
you could imagine a bit of freedom —	4
I thought. And as soon as I stood up,	5
the stars, the Great Bear	6
were glittering above,	7
like the grilles up in the silent cell.	8

Cursory remark

This is likely a memory of J's imprisonment in 1931.

French

I
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

El silencio escuchaba atentamente — La una sonó.	I
Podrías visitar tu infancia;	2
entre las paredes de cemento húmedo	3
podrías imaginar un poco de libertad —	4
pensé. Y al ponerme en pie,	5
las estrellas, la Osa Mayor	6
destellaban por encima,	7
como las rejas arriba en mi celda.	8

Fülelt ¹⁷⁶ a csend ¹⁷⁷ — egyet ¹⁷⁸ ütött ¹⁷⁹	I
Fölkereshetnéd ¹⁸⁰ ifjúságod; ¹⁸¹	2
nyirkos ¹⁸² cementfalak ¹⁸³ között ¹⁸⁴	3
képzelhetsz ¹⁸⁵ egy kis sabadságot ¹⁸⁶ —	4
gondoltam. ¹⁸⁷ S hát ¹⁸⁸ amint ¹⁸⁹ fölállok ¹⁹⁰	5
a csillagok, 191 a Göncölök 192	6
úgy ¹⁹³ fénylenek ¹⁹⁴ fönt, ¹⁹⁵ mint a rácsok ¹⁹⁶	7
a hallgatag ¹⁹⁷ cella ¹⁹⁸ fölött. ¹⁹⁹	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: ü-ött(8)/á-o(9)/ö-ö(8)/á-o(9) 5-8: á-o(9)/ö-ö(8)/á-o(9)/ö-ött(8)

```
<sup>176</sup> fül 'ear' + vb.-forming -el: 'to listen (intently)' + 3rd pers. ind. past indef. -t
  'silence'. alt. csönd
   ^{178} egy + acc. -t
  ^{179} vb. \ddot{u}t 'to strike' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past indef. -(\ddot{o})tt
  180 föl- 'upwards' + keres 'to seek': 'to visit' + pot. 'may/might' -het + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. cond.
-ned, alt. felkeres
   <sup>181</sup> adj. ifjú 'young' + noun-forming -ság (state of being): 'youth' + 2nd pers. informal sg. poss. single
poss. -od: 'your childhood' (informal)
   182 adj. 'humid/damp'
   183 cement 'cement' + fal 'wall' + pl. -ak
  <sup>184</sup> post. 'between/amid', köz 'interval' + locat. -(ö)tt
   ^{185} \hat{k}\acute{e}p 'image' + vb.-forming -(z)el: 'to imagine' + pot. -het + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. -sz
  <sup>186</sup> szabad 'free' + -ság (state of being): 'freedom' + acc. -(a)t
  <sup>187</sup> vb. gondol 'to think/plan/guess/worry' + 1st pers. sg. ind. past -tam
  188 'back body', 'well...', 'then/and/but' (questioning back), 'surely'
  <sup>189</sup> az + mint 'like': 'as soon as', literary 'as'
  190 föl- 'upwards' + vb. áll 'to stand' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ok, alt. felállok
   191 csillag 'star' + pl. -ak
   <sup>192</sup> G\ddot{o}nc\ddot{o}l + pl. - \ddot{o}k: 'the Great Bear' (constellation)
   193 adv. 'so (in this/that manner)'; úgy ... mint ... 'like'
  <sup>194</sup> fény 'light' + freq. vb.-forming -lik: 'to glitter' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. -ek
   195 adv. 'above/up/awake/upstairs', alt. fent
  196 rács 'grid/grille' + pl. -ok
  197 vb. hallgat 'to remain silent/to listen' + adj.-forming -ag
   199 föl- 'up/upwards' + locat. -(ö)tt: 'above', alt. elett
```

IX

I heard iron weeping,	I
I heard rain laughing.	2
I saw that the past was cracked	3
and that only memories may be forgotten,	4
and how I cannot but love,	5
bending under my burdens —	6
why should I also forge a weapon	7
out of you, golden self-awareness!	8

Cursory remark

Verses 1-2 refer to the sounds of iron being forged and quenched in water. The blacksmith is fixing a crack, which reminds J of a painful past event, possibly a break-up. Verses 3-6 form a chiasm: verse 5 echoes verse 4: to avoid his love fading away, he will keep loving; verse 6 answers verse 3: instead of hammering the crack to make it disappear, J bends under it. Then there is no need to forge a sword blade to become strong. J's self-consciousness is golden like the glow of the kiln's interior.

French

J'ai entendu le fer sangloter,	I
j'ai entendu la pluie rire.	2
Je vis que le passé était craquelé	3
et que seuls les souvenirs peuvent s'oublier,	4
et comment je ne peux qu'aimer,	5
pliant sous mes fardeaux —	6
pourquoi devrais-je aussi forger une arme	7
de toi, for intérieur doré!	8

Oí el hierro sollozar,	I
oí la lluvia reírse.	2
Vi que el pasado estaba agrietado	3
y que solos los recuerdos pueden olvidarse,	4
y cómo sólo puedo amar,	5
doblándome debajo de mis cargas —	6
¿por qué debería también fraguar un arma	7
de ti, fuero interior dorado!	8

Hallottam ²⁰⁰ sírni ²⁰¹ a vasat, ²⁰²	I
hallottam az esőt ²⁰³ nevetni. ²⁰⁴	2
Láttam, ²⁰⁵ hogy ²⁰⁶ a mult ²⁰⁷ meghasadt ²⁰⁸	3
s csak ²⁰⁹ képzetet ²¹⁰ lehet ²¹¹ feledni; ²¹²	4
s hogy ²¹³ nem tudok ²¹⁴ mást, ²¹⁵ mint ²¹⁶ szeretni, ²¹⁷	5
görnyedve ²¹⁸ terheim ²¹⁹ alatt ²²⁰ —	6
minek ²²¹ is ²²² kell ²²³ fegyvert ²²⁴ veretni ²²⁵	7
belőled, ²²⁶ arany ²²⁷ öntudat! ²²⁸	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: a-at(8)/et-ni(9)/a-a[dt](8)/e[d]-ni(9) 5-8: e[t]-ni(9)/a-a[tt](8)/et-ni(9)/u-at(8)

```
<sup>200</sup> vb. hall 'to hear' + 1st pers. sg. ind. past def. -ottam
<sup>201</sup> vb. sír 'to cry/weep' + inf. -ni
^{202} vas 'iron' + acc. -(a)t
^{203} vb. es, inf. esik + pres. part. -"o" + acc. -t
<sup>204</sup> vb. nevet 'to laugh', inf. nevetni
<sup>205</sup> vb. lát 'to see' + short base -t, 1st pers. sg. past def. -tam
<sup>206</sup> adv. 'how'
<sup>207</sup> múlt? rare, past part. 'past', inf. múlik
^{208} perfect. vb. pref. meg- + vb. hasad 'to crack/split apart' + past part. -t
<sup>210</sup> képzet 'idea/image/notion' + асс. -t
<sup>2II</sup> pot. vb. van/lesz: 'may be/may become', 3rd pers. sg. ind.
<sup>212</sup> lit. vb. feled 'to forget', alt. felejt
213 adv. 'how'
<sup>214</sup> vb. tud 'to know'/aux. 'can + inf.' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ok
^{215} adj. m\acute{a}s 'other/different' + acc. -t
<sup>216</sup> comp. different degrees 'than'
inf. vb. szeret 'to love'
<sup>218</sup> vb. görnyed 'to bend (under a burden)' + adv.-forming -ve
^{219} teher 'freight/burden' + 1st pers. sg. poss. mult. poss. -eim \rightarrow terheim
<sup>220</sup> post. al- 'lower part'+ locat. -(a)tt
mi + dat. -nek: 'for what'
<sup>222</sup> doublet of és 'and', adv. 'also'
<sup>223</sup> aux. vb. 'must/need to/have to + inf.'
<sup>224</sup> fegyever 'weapon' + acc. -t
<sup>225</sup> inf. vb. 'to hammer', alt. veretés
<sup>226</sup> pron. belőle 'out of him/her/it' + 2nd pers. sg. -d
<sup>227</sup> 'gold/golden'
<sup>228</sup> 'self-awareness'
```

\mathbf{X}

He is a grown man he who has	I
neither mother nor father in his heart,	2
he who knows that he receives life	3
as a supplement to death, and will return it	4
anytime, like a found object	5
— therefore he treasures it,	ϵ
he who is neither a god nor a priest,	7
neither to himself nor to others	8

Cursory remark

An integral man (the Hungarian language is actually gender neutral) knows that his parents cannot protect him anymore from the truth of mortality. This truth is not treasured by gods, as they are immortal, nor Christian priests, who preach eternal life.

French

I
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

Es un hambre mayor el que no tione	
Es un hombre mayor el que no tiene	1
madre o padre en su corazón,	2
el que sabe que acoge la vida	3
como un suplemento a la muerte, y la devolverá	4
en cualquier momento, como un objeto encontrado	5
— por lo cual la guardará	6
el que no es ni un diós ni un sacerdote,	7
ni para él mismo ni para los demás.	8

Az meglett ²²⁹ ember ²³⁰ , akinek ²³¹	I
szívében ²³² nincs se anyja, ²³³ apja, ²³⁴	2
ki ²³⁵ tudja, ²³⁶ hogy ²³⁷ az életet ²³⁸	3
halálra ²³⁹ ráadásul ²⁴⁰ kapja ²⁴¹	4
s mint ²⁴² talált ²⁴³ tárgyat ²⁴⁴ visszaadja ²⁴⁵	5
bármikor ²⁴⁶ — ezért ²⁴⁷ őrzi ²⁴⁸ meg, ²⁴⁹	6
ki ²⁵⁰ nem istene ²⁵¹ és nem papja ²⁵²	7
se ²⁵³ magának, ²⁵⁴ sem senkinek. ²⁵⁵	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: ki-nek(8)/ap-ja(9)/e-e(8)/a[p]-ja(9) 5-8: a[d]-ja(9)/i-e(8)/ap-ja(9)/ki-nek(8)

```
<sup>229</sup> obs. 'adult'
230 'person'
<sup>23I</sup> pron. aki 'who' + attr. poss. -nek
<sup>232</sup> szív 'heart' + poss. 'his' -e + innes. 'in' -ben
<sup>233</sup> anya 'mother' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -(j)a
<sup>234</sup> apa 'father' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -(j)a
<sup>235</sup> pron. rel. arch. 'he who', alt. aki
<sup>236</sup> vb. tud 'to know' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
<sup>237</sup> conj. 'so that'
^{238} élet 'life' + acc. -(e)t
<sup>239</sup> vb. hal 'to die' + arch. noun-forming -\acute{a}l \rightarrow 'death' + subl. 'on/for' -ra \rightarrow 'to death'
<sup>240</sup> ráadás 'addition/extra' + essive 'as/with the intention of -ul
<sup>241</sup> vb. kap 'to receive' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
<sup>242</sup> 'like'
<sup>243</sup> vb. talált 'to find' + past part.
<sup>244</sup> tárgy 'object/thing/subject' + acc. -(a)t
<sup>245</sup> vb. visszaad 'to give back' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
^{246} b\acute{a}r 'any' + adv. mikor 'when' 
ightarrow 'any time'
<sup>247</sup> conj. 'therefore'
<sup>248</sup> vb. \textit{"oriz} 'to guard' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -i
<sup>249</sup> arch. emph.
<sup>250</sup> 'he who'
<sup>251</sup> isten 'god' + 3rd pers. sg. sing. poss. -e
<sup>252</sup> pap 'priest' + 3rd pers. sg. sing. poss. -(j)a
<sup>253</sup> alt. sem, sem ..., sem ... 'neither ... nor ...'
<sup>254</sup> pron. refl. 3rd pers. 'himself'
<sup>255</sup> pron. senki 'no one/nobody'
```

XI

I saw happiness; it was soft, bright	I
and one and half a quintal.	2
On the coarse grass of the farmyard	3
its curly smile swayed.	4
It plopped into the squishy, tepid puddle,	5
squinted, further grunted at me once —	6
To this day I see how hesitantly	7
the sunlight toyed with its bristles.	8

Cursory remark

While this seems a rather descriptive poem, the first and last two verses are subjective. Also the last verse echoes the first, in the fashion of a chiasm: verse I is about seeing happiness, and the last features light and playfulness: the Hungarian uses *fény* for 'light', but it could figuratively also mean 'joy', hence my translation: 'the sunlight toyed'.

French

J'ai vu le bonheur; il était doux, brillant	I
et un quintal et demi.	2
Sur la mauvaise herbe de la cour de ferme	3
son sourire courbé se balançait.	4
Il s'affala dans la marre tendre et tiède,	5
plissa les yeux, puis me grogna une fois —	6
Jusqu'à ce jour, je vois avec quelle hésitation	7
la lumière du jour s'amusait avec ses soies.	8

Vi la felicidad; era suave, brillante	I
y un quintal y medio.	2
En la maleza del patio de la granja	3
su sonriza curva se balanceaba.	4
Se abatió en el charco blando y tibio,	5
entrecerró los ojos, pues me gruñó una vez —	6
hasta hoy veo con que vacilación	7
la luz del día jugueteaba con sus cerdas.	8

Láttam ²⁵⁶ a boldogságot ²⁵⁷ én, ²⁵⁸	Ι
lágy ²⁵⁹ volt, ²⁶⁰ szőke ²⁶¹ és másfél ²⁶² mázsa. ²⁶³	2
Az udvar ²⁶⁴ szigorú ²⁶⁵ gyöpén ²⁶⁶	3
imbolygott ²⁶⁷ göndör ²⁶⁸ mosolygása. ²⁶⁹	4
Ledőlt ²⁷⁰ a puha, ²⁷¹ langy ²⁷² tócsába, ²⁷³	5
hunyorgott, ²⁷⁴ röffent ²⁷⁵ még ²⁷⁶ felém ²⁷⁷ —	6
ma ²⁷⁸ is ²⁷⁹ látom, ²⁸⁰ mily ²⁸¹ tétovázva ²⁸²	7
babrált ²⁸³ pihéi ²⁸⁴ közt ²⁸⁵ a fény. ²⁸⁶	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: 0-é(8)/á-a(9)/ö-é(8)/á-a(9) 5-8: á-a(9)/e-é(8)/á-a(9)/a-é(8)

```
^{256} vb. \emph{lát} 'to see' + short base -t, 1st pers. sg. past def. -tam
<sup>257</sup> adj. boldog 'happy' + noun-forming -ság (state of being) + acc. -(o)t
<sup>258</sup> pron. 'I'
<sup>259</sup> adj. 'soft'
<sup>260</sup> vb. van 'to be'+ 3rd pers. sg. ind. past indef.
<sup>261</sup> adj. sző 'blonde' + dim. -ke
^{262} más 'other/different' + f\acute{e}l 'half' 
ightarrow 'one and a half'
263 'quintal'
264 'yard'
<sup>265</sup> adj. 'severe/strict'
266 gyep 'lawn/grass' + super. -(e)n 'on'
<sup>267</sup> vb. imbolyog 'to sway'+ 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e
268 adj. 'curly'
<sup>269</sup> mosolygás 'smile' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -a
<sup>270</sup> vb. ledoől 'to fall down' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past indef. -t
271 'soft/squishy'
<sup>272</sup> arch. poetic langyos 'tepid'
<sup>273</sup> tócsa 'puddle' + illative -ba 'into'
<sup>274</sup> vb hunyorg 'to squint' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past. indef. -rgott
<sup>275</sup> röffen 'to grunt once (of a pig)'
<sup>276</sup> adv. 'still/moreover'
<sup>277</sup> post. felé 'to/towards' + 1st pers. sg. poss -m \rightarrow pron. 'towards me'
<sup>278</sup> adv. 'today'
<sup>279</sup> doublet of és 'and', adv. 'also'
<sup>280</sup> vb. lát 'to see'+ 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. def.
<sup>281</sup> poetic 'how ...(!)'
vb. tétova 'to hesitate' (inf. tétovazik) \rightarrow adv. part. 'doing smth hesitantly'
283 vb. babrál 'to fiddle'
<sup>284</sup> pihe 'down, fluff' + adj.-forming -i
<sup>285</sup> post. 'between/amid' from között: köz 'interval' + locat. -(ö)tt
286 'light/glitter', fig. 'happiness/joy'
```

XII

	I live by a railroad. Many a train comes and goes, and I watch from afar how the bright windows fly by in the wavering, fluffy darkness.	1 2 3
	So the lit-up days rush into the eternal night, and I stand in the light from the compartments,	6
	I rest on my elbow and remain silent.	8
French		
	Je vis près du chemin de fer.	I
	Nombreux sont les trains	2
	qui viennent et vont, et j'observe de loin comment les fenêtres illuminées défilent	3
		2
	dans l'obscurité vacillante et peluchée.	5
	Ainsi les jours luisants se pressent dans la nuit éternelle, et je me tiens dans la lumière des compartiments,	_
	je m'accoude et garde le silence.	8
Spanish		
	Vivo cerca del ferrocarril.	I
	Son muchos los trenes	2
	que vienen y van, y miro desde lejos	3
	cómo las brillantes ventanas vuelan de paso	2
	en la oscuridad vacilante y vellosa.	5
	Así los días lucientes se apuran en la noche eterna,	(
	y me quedo en la luz de los compartimentos,	7
	me acodo y guardo silencio.	{

Vasútnál ²⁸⁷ lakom. ²⁸⁸ Erre ²⁸⁹ sok ²⁹⁰	I
vonat ²⁹¹ jön ²⁹² -megy ²⁹³ és el ²⁹⁴ -elnézem, ²⁹⁵	2
hogy' ²⁹⁶ szállnak ²⁹⁷ fényes ²⁹⁸ ablakok ²⁹⁹	3
a lengedező ³⁰⁰ szösz ³⁰¹ -sötétben. ³⁰²	4
Így ³⁰³ iramlanak ³⁰⁴ örök ³⁰⁵ éjben ³⁰⁶	5
kivilágított ³⁰⁷ nappalok ³⁰⁸	6
s én ³⁰⁹ állok ³¹⁰ minden ³¹¹ fülke ³¹² -fényben, ³¹³	7
én könyöklök³¹⁴ és hallgatok.³¹⁵	8

Chiastic structure:

```
I-4: o(8)/é-e(9)/a-o(8)/é-e(9)
5-8: é-e(9)/a-o(8)/é-e(9)/o(8)
```

```
<sup>287</sup> vas 'iron' + ut 'way/road' + adess. -nál 'at/by'
  ^{288} vb. lak 'to dwell', inf. lakik, 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. -(o)m
  289 pron. ez 'this/it' + subl. sg. -re 'onto/to'
  290 'much/many'
   <sup>29I</sup> vb. von 'to pull/draw' + noun-forming -at \rightarrow 'train'
  <sup>292</sup> vb. 'to come' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
  <sup>293</sup> vb. 'to go/travel/pass by (of time)' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
  <sup>294</sup> adv./conj. 'afar/far away'
  <sup>295</sup> vb. pref. el- 'continuity over a long time' + vb. nez 'to look at'
  <sup>296</sup> short. bogyan? 'how'
  <sup>297</sup> vb. száll 'to fly/land/come down' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef.
  <sup>298</sup> fény 'light/glitter' + adj.-forming -es → 'bright'
  <sup>299</sup> ablak 'window' + pl. -(o)k
  <sup>300</sup> vb. leng 'to swing/sway/wave' + freq. vb.-forming -edezik (unrounded front-vowel) + pres. part. -ő
\rightarrow 'swinging/waving'
   301 'harl/fluff'
  302 adj./subst. sötét 'dark[ness]' + iness. sg. -ben 'in'
  303 'just so'
  <sup>304</sup> ir 'movement' + rare instr. vb.-forming -amlik (inf.) \rightarrow 'to rush/hurry' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres.
indef. -(a)nak
   305 'perpetual/eternal'
  306 poetic éj 'night' + innes. 'in' -ben
  <sup>307</sup> vb. pref. ki 'outwardly' + vil\acute{a}g 'light (arch.)/world' \rightarrow arch. 'illumination' + caus. vb.-forming -it
'to make smth ...-like' \rightarrow 'to illuminate' + past part. -ott
   <sup>308</sup> nap 'day' + instr. -val 'with' \rightarrow nappal + pl. -(o)k
  309 pron. 'I'
   <sup>310</sup> vb. áll 'to stand' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ok
   311 det. 'every'
   ^{312} fül 'semi-circular obj./shape' + dim. -ke \rightarrow 'compartment'
   <sup>313</sup> fény 'light/glitter' + innes. -ben 'in'
   ^{314} könyök 'elbow' + vb.-forming -öl \rightarrow 'to rest on one's elbow' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pers. -ök
   <sup>315</sup> vb. hallgat 'to remain silent/to listen' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ok
```

Chapter 4

1936

IV

You will grow old and come to regret	I
how you hurt me — which you are proud of today.	2
The conscience will come knocking	3
and won't leave you alone in any memory.	4
	5
You will have an old dog that will settle next to you.	6
You will rest during the day, dozing off on a chair	7
because you are afraid alone at night.	8
Shadows will fall on the trembling old lady.	9
	IO
The old dog will whine sometimes,	II
but the room falls silent again, all is in order,	12
and yet someone from the past	13
is missing in the lonely silence.	14
,	15
You will toddle and when your bad leg has tottered enough,	16
you will sit down. Your youthful picture stands	17
above in a golden frame. You will mutter to it:	18
I didn't embrace him, obviously I didn't love him.'	19
·	20
What could I have done?' — you ask,	21
but your toothless mouth can no longer answer;	22
facing the sun outside, you close your eyes,	23
you can barely wait for the moon to rise.	24
•	2.5

CHAPTER 4. 1936

Because when you fall asleep, the bed will leap	26
like a foal trying to throw off its harness.	27
And fear, not desire, will occupy your head:	28
should you love him, should you not love him?	29
	30
You decide for yourself. I regret	31
that I cannot answer if you ask: is he alive?	32
Because the sorrow inside is tired,	33
it falls asleep like a child, and me also with it.	24

Majd¹ megöregszel² és bánni³ fogod,⁴	I
hogy ⁵ bántasz ⁶ — azt, ⁷ amire ⁸ büszke ⁹ vagy ¹⁰ ma. ¹¹	2
A lelkiismeret ¹² majd bekopog ¹³	3
s ¹⁴ nem lesz ¹⁵ emlék, ¹⁶ melyben ¹⁷ magadra ¹⁸ hagyna. ¹⁹	4
	5
Lesz ²⁰ vén ²¹ ebed ²² s az melléd ²³ települ. ²⁴	6
Nappal ²⁵ pihensz ²⁶ majd, ²⁷ széken ²⁸ szunyókálva, ²⁹	7
mert³º éjjel³¹ félni³² fogsz³³ majd³⁴ egyedül.³⁵	8

```
<sup>1</sup> adv. 'sometime/later'
    <sup>2</sup> perfect. vb. pref. meg- + vb. inf. öregszik 'to grow/become old' + 2nd pers. sg. inform. pres. indef.
    <sup>3</sup> vb. megbán 'to regret': perfect. vb. pref. meg- + vb. bán 'to mind (negatively)/be bothered'
    <sup>4</sup> aux. vb. fog 'to will' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. (e.g. Meg fog bánni.)
    5 adv. 'how'
    <sup>6</sup> vb. bán 'to be bothered' + caus. -t: 'to hurt' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
    ^{7} az 'that' + acc. -t
    8 ami 'that/which' + subl. -re 'onto'
    9 'proud'
   vb. van 'to be' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
    п 'today'
   <sup>12</sup> arch. dial. lelki 'his/her soul' (alt. lelke) + arch. dial. ismereti 'his/her/its knowledge' (alt. ismerete)
\rightarrow '(moral) conscience'
    13 vb. pref. be- 'inwardly' + vb. kopog 'to knock'
   14 poetic abbrv. es 'and' (does not count as a syllable)
   15 vb. van 'to be', 3rd pers. sg. ind. fut. indef.
   16 'memory'
   17 lit. mely 'which/that' + innes. -ben 'in'
   18 maga 'oneself/itself' + subl. -ra 'into'
   <sup>19</sup> vb. hagy 'to allow/leave' + 3rd pers. sg. cond. pres. indef. -na
   <sup>20</sup> vb. 'to be', 3rd pers. sg. ind. fut. indef.
   <sup>21</sup> adj. 'old'
   <sup>22</sup> noun. eb 'dog' + 2nd pers. sg. single-poss. poss. \rightarrow 'your dog'
   <sup>23</sup> post. mellé 'next to' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -d \rightarrow pron. 'next yo you'
   <sup>24</sup> vb. 'to settle somewhere' + 3rd pers. sg. pres. ind. indef.
   <sup>25</sup> nap 'day' + instr. -val 'with' \rightarrow nappal
   <sup>26</sup> vb. 'to rest' + 2nd pers. sg. inform. ind. pres. indef.
   <sup>27</sup> adv. 'sometime/later'
   <sup>28</sup> szék 'chair' + super. -en 'on'
   <sup>29</sup> (vb. pref. el- 'away' +) vb. szunyókál 'to take a nap/to doze off' + adv.-part. -va
   30 conj. 'because'
```

³¹ poetic *éj* 'night' + instr. *-vel* 'with' \rightarrow *éjjel*

³³ aux. vb. 'to will' + 2nd pers. sg. inform. ind. pres. def.

35 egy 'one' + noun-forming -ed + adv.-forming - $\ddot{u}l \rightarrow$ 'alone'

32 inf. vb. fél 'to fear/be afraid of'

34 adv. 'sometime/later'

```
Árnyak<sup>36</sup> ütnek<sup>37</sup> a rezgő<sup>38</sup> anyókára.<sup>39</sup>
                                                                                                                                           9
                                                                                                                                           Ю
Az öreg<sup>40</sup> kutya<sup>41</sup> néha<sup>42</sup> majd<sup>43</sup> nyafog,<sup>44</sup>
                                                                                                                                           \mathbf{II}
de<sup>45</sup> a szobában<sup>46</sup> csend<sup>47</sup> lesz,<sup>48</sup> csupa<sup>49</sup> rend<sup>50</sup> lesz;
                                                                                                                                           12
hanem<sup>51</sup> valaki<sup>52</sup> hiányozni<sup>53</sup> fog<sup>54</sup>
                                                                                                                                           13
a multból55 ahhoz56 a magányos57 csendhez.58
                                                                                                                                           14
                                                                                                                                           15
Majd tipegsz<sup>59</sup> s<sup>60</sup> ha<sup>61</sup> eleget<sup>62</sup> totyogott<sup>63</sup>
                                                                                                                                           16
rossz<sup>64</sup> lábod,<sup>65</sup> leülsz.<sup>66</sup> Fönn<sup>67</sup> aranykeretben<sup>68</sup>
                                                                                                                                           17
```

```
<sup>36</sup> árny 'shadow/ghost' + non. pl. -ak
   <sup>37</sup> vb. üt 'to hit' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. -nek
   <sup>38</sup> poetic, arch. vb. rezg 'to tremble/quiver' (alt. rezeg) + pres. part. -ő
   <sup>39</sup> anyó 'elderly woman' + dim. -ka (term of endearment; rare. term of address to the wife by her
husband in old age) + subl. -ra 'onto'
   40 'old'
   41 'dog'
   42 adv. 'sometimes'
   43 adv. 'sometime/later'
   44 vb. 'to whine' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   45 conj. 'but'
   46 szoba 'room' + innes. -ban 'in'
   47 'silence/hush'
   <sup>48</sup> vb. van 'to be', 3rd pers. sg. ind. fut. indef.
   49 'all/mere/pure'
   50 'order'
   <sup>51</sup> conf. 'if' + cond. or 'when/once' + nem 'no': conj. 'but (following a negative sentence, making it
   52 pron. pref. vala 'some-' + pron. rel. arch. ki 'who (the person(s) that)' \rightarrow 'somebody/someone'
   53 hiány 'lack/absence/break' + vb.-forming -zik → '(smb) to be missing/missed', inf. hiányozni
   54 aux. vb. fog 'to will'
   55 múlt? rare, past part. 'past' + elative -ból 'from/out of'
   56 conf. 'if' + cond. or 'when/once' + allat. -hoz 'towards'
   <sup>57</sup> adv./adj. magán 'separate[ly]' + adj.-forming -os → 'lonely (psych.)'
   58 'silence' + allat. -hez 'to'
   59 vb. tipeg 'to toddle' + 2nd pers. sg. inform. ind. pres
   60 poetic abbrv. es 'and' (does not count as a syllable)
   61 conf. 'if' + cond. or 'when/once'
   ^{62} elég 'enough' + acc. -et 
ightarrow adv.
```

65 láb 'leg (human/animal)/foot/pillar/support/stand' + 2nd pers. inform. poss. single-poss. -od

⁶³ vb. *totyog* 'to toddle' (syn. *tipeg*) + 2nd pers. form. ind. pres. indef.

⁶⁶ vb. pref. *le*-completion/downward + $\ddot{u}l$ 'to sit' \rightarrow 'to sit down'

⁶⁷ adv. 'above', alt. 'fent/fenn'

68 arany 'gold' + keret 'frame' + innes. -ben 'in'

```
áll<sup>69</sup> ifju<sup>70</sup> képed.<sup>71</sup> Hozzá<sup>72</sup> motyogod:<sup>73</sup>
                                                                                                                  18
"Nem öleltem<sup>74</sup> meg,<sup>75</sup> hiszen<sup>76</sup> nem szerettem."<sup>77</sup>
                                                                                                                  19
                                                                                                                  20
"Mit78 is79 tehettem80 volna?"81 — kérdezed,82
                                                                                                                  21
de<sup>83</sup> fogatlan<sup>84</sup> szád<sup>85</sup> már<sup>86</sup> nem válaszolhat;<sup>87</sup>
                                                                                                                  22
s<sup>88</sup> ki<sup>89</sup> a nap<sup>90</sup> előtt<sup>91</sup> lehunyod<sup>92</sup> szemed,<sup>93</sup>
                                                                                                                  23
alig94 várod,95 hogy96 feljöjjön,97 a holdat.98
                                                                                                                  24
                                                                                                                  25
Mert99 ha100 elalszol101, ugrál102 majd103 az ágy,104
                                                                                                                  26
```

```
69 vb. 'to stand'
<sup>70</sup> ifjú? adj./noun 'young'
 <sup>71</sup> kép 'picture' + 2nd pers. sg. single-poss. poss. -ed
72 pron. 'to it/him/her'
 73 vb. motyog 'to mumble/mutter' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -od
<sup>74</sup> vb. ölel 'to embrace' + 1st pers. ind. past
 75 perfect. vb. pref. meg- (with ölel)
<sup>76</sup> conj. 'as/because (smth obvious)'
77 vb. szeret 'to love' + 1st pers. sg. ind. past
78 inter. 'what'
79 doublet of és 'and', adv. 'also'
<sup>80</sup> vb. tesz 'to do' + poten. -het + 1st pers. sg. ind. past
 <sup>81</sup> vb. van 'to be' + 3rd pers. sg. cond. pres. 'would be'
 82 vb. kérdez 'to ask' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres.
 83 adv. 'how!'/conj. 'but/surely'
 84 fog 'tooth' + priv. adj.-forming -less
 <sup>85</sup> száj 'mouth' + 2nd pers. sg. single-poss. poss.
86 adv. 'already/yet/any more'
 <sup>87</sup> válasz 'reply/answer' + vb.-forming -ol + poten. -hat + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
 88 poetic abbrv. es 'and' (does not count as a syllable)
89 adv. 'out[wardly]'
90 nap 'sun/day'
 <sup>91</sup> elő 'the front part of smth' + locat. -tt 'in front of/ahead of/before/prior to'
 92 vb. pref. le-completion/downward + vb. huny 'to close (one's eyes)' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def.
 93 szem 'eye' + 2nd pers. sg. single-poss. poss. -ed (but plural implied here!)
 94 adv. 'barely'
 95 vb. vár 'to wait' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def.
96 conj. 'that'
<sup>97</sup> vb. pref. fel-'upwards' (see also föl-) + vb. jön 'to come' + 3rd pers. sg. subj. pres. indef.
^{98} 'moon' + acc. -(a)t
99 conj. 'because'
100 conf. 'if' + cond. or 'when/once'
vb. pref. el-'away' + vb. alszik 'to sleep' \rightarrow 'to fall asleep' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
vb. ugrik 'to jump' + freq. -\acute{a}l \rightarrow 'to bounce/leap (repeatedly)'
103 adv. 'sometime/later'
104 'bed'
```

44 *CHAPTER 4. 1936*

mint ¹⁰⁵ a csikó, 106 hogy a hámot ¹⁰⁷ levesse. 108	27
S ¹⁰⁹ a félelem ¹¹⁰ tünődik, ¹¹¹ nem a vágy, ¹¹²	28
a fejedben: ¹¹³ Szeress-e, ¹¹⁴ ne ¹¹⁵ szeress-e.	29
	30
Magadban ¹¹⁶ döntöd ¹¹⁷ el. ¹¹⁸ Én ¹¹⁹ fájlalom, ¹²⁰	31
hogy nem felelhetek, ¹²¹ ha ¹²² kérded: ¹²³ él-e. ¹²⁴	32
Mert ¹²⁵ elfárad ¹²⁶ bennem ¹²⁷ a fájdalom, ¹²⁸	33
elalszik, ¹²⁹ mint ¹³⁰ a gyermek ¹³¹ s én is véle. ¹³²	34

1936. nov.

130 conj. 'like'

131 arch. 'child', alt. gyerek

132 poetic, arch. form of vele 'with it/him/her'

```
105 conj. 'like'
  106 'foal'
  107 hám 'harness' + acc. -(0)t
  <sup>108</sup> vb. levet 'to buck/throw off' + 3rd pers. sg. subj. pres. def.
  109 poetic abbrv. es 'and'
   ^{\text{IIO}} vb. fél 'to be afraid' + noun-forming -elem 
ightarrow fear'
   <sup>III</sup> tűnődik? vb. 'to ponder/wonder'
   112 'desire/longing'
   <sup>113</sup> fej 'head' + 2nd pers. sg. single-poss. poss. -ed + innes. -ben 'in'
   ^{\text{II4}} vb. szeret 'to love' + 2nd pers. sg. subj. + polar inter. -e
   115 nem becomes ne in imperative/subjunctive
   ^{\text{II}6} maga 'oneself' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -d + inness. -ban 'in'
   <sup>117</sup> perfect. vb. pref. el- + vb. dönt 'to decide' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def.
   118 perfect. vb. pref. el-
   <sup>119</sup> pron. 'I'
  vb. f\!\!\!/\!\!\!aj 'to hurt' + vb.-forming -lal \to literary, arch. 'to regret' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. def.
   f\acute{e}l 'human being' + vb.-forming -el 	o vb. f\acute{e}lel 'to answer/reply' + poten. 1st pers. sg. ind. pres.
indef.
  122 conf. 'if' + cond. or 'when/once'
   123 arch. vb. kérd 'to ask/question' + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def.
  <sup>124</sup> vb. él 'to live' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   125 conj. 'because'
  <sup>126</sup> perfect. vb. pref. el- + vb. fárad 'to tire/to be tired' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
  pron. benne 'inside smth/smb' + 1st pers. sg. pers. -m
```

perfect. vb. pref. *el-* + vb. *alszik* 'to sleep' \rightarrow 'to fall asleep' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

vb. $f\!\!\!/\!\!\!/$ vb. $f\!\!\!/\!\!\!/$ 'to ache' + noun-forming $-dalom \to$ 'pain/grief/sorrow'