

TRANSLATION

Please Forgive

Mirza Gelovani

Translated from Georgian to English by Lela Ebraldze

Fate took me far away, tore us apart,
And further than the sky you seem from there,
Reminding me of the Queen of Diamonds card,
With a lovely swan-like neck and golden hair.

I promised you I surely would return,
Your hair would bring me back I said, but now
The days like traitors have against me turned
They try to make me break my ardent vow.

If I'm to leave this life before my time,
Because I fall when ruthless foes attack,
Not keeping my own word will be my crime,
Then please forgive my never coming back.

**ო, მაპატიეთ
მირზა გელოვანი**

ბედმა უცნობი გზით გამაქანა,
თქვენ დარჩით შორი... ცაზედაც შორი...
და, როგორც კარტში აგურის ქალებს
გქონდათ ქერა თმა და ყელი ბროლის.

მე გპირდებოდით, რომ დავბრუნდები,
რომ თქვენი თმები დამაბრუნებენ,
მაგრამ დღეები, როგორც ქურდები
ჩემს შეპირებას ანადგურებენ.

და სადმე ტყვია თუ გააციებს
გულს საშინელი განადგურებით,
თქვენ მაპატიეთ, ჰო, მაპატიეთ,
დანაშაული არდაბრუნების.

Author's Note



Lela Ebralidze completed a five-year program in English Philology at the Department of Western European Languages and Literature, Tbilisi State University, with an Honors Diploma. She simultaneously studied at the Faculty of Art and Humanities, Tbilisi State University, where she obtained a Certificate of Literary Translator. During her studies at Tbilisi State University Lela participated in a one-month student exchange program at Williams College in Massachusetts, U.S.A. She also has a Diploma as a Simultaneous Interpreter from the Higher Courses for Simultaneous Interpreters, Tbilisi Institute of

Foreign Languages. Her Ph. D. is from Tbilisi State University in English Philology, particularly poetic translation.

Lela is now an Assistant Professor at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Faculty of Translatology, doing research in translation theory, teaching students, and performing translations in different fields including literary texts, particularly poetry. She has published various poetic translations from English into Georgian and vice versa. Her publications include a collection of poetic translations titled “Lyrical Mosaic. British and American Poets” (Lotos, 2006); the Georgian translation of Oscar Wilde’s “The Ballad of Reading Gaol” (University Press, 2017); English translations of the poetry of many famous Georgian poets for the publication “Georgian Romances” (Warszawa, 2018); the text from Georgian into English for the bilingual publication “God, I Know the World You Made (in the footsteps of Vazha-Pshavela)” (Tbilisi, 2021) and many others. A collection of her translations of Edgar Allen Poe’s poems has recently been published by Talantarea Publishing, Batumi, 2023. It contains translations of 25 poems including the most famous ones such as The Raven, Ulalume, Annabel Lee, and Eldorado. Poe’s works are also a subject of her scientific research.