

## Appendix A

### \*LE LAY DE LA FONTEINNE ORIGINAL VERSE

#### Stanza 1:

Je ne cesse de prier  
A ma dame chiere  
Que mes maus veille aligier.  
Mais si se tient chiere  
Et tant la truis dure et fiere,  
Sans amolliier,  
Qu'adoucir de ma priere  
Nè puis son dangier.

S'en veil une autre acointier  
Qui joie pleniere  
M'otriera de ligier  
Et a bonne chiere,  
Sans fin, sans amour legiere,  
Sans amenuisier;  
Nè joye qu'a li s'affiere  
Ne puet homs trier.

I never stop beseeching  
My dear lady  
To lighten my burden of woe,  
But she so much keeps her distance  
And I find her so harsh and proud  
And unbending  
That with my beseeching I cannot soften  
Her resistance.

And so I shall approach another lady,  
Who will grant me utter joy  
Easily  
And with a smile  
Forever; this is no fickle love  
And it will never grow less;  
Indeed, the only true joy one can choose  
Is the joy that lies in her.

#### Stanza 2:

Et ou porroit on querir  
La joie qui amenrir  
Ne puet ne finer  
Et qui ne fait que doubler  
En joieus plaisir?  
Tout li mondes, sans mentir,  
N'en porroit finer,  
Sans la dame qui n'a per  
Amer and chierir.

Mais ame ne puet perir  
Ma dampnation venir  
Qui son temps user  
En li servir et loer  
Vuet sans repentir;  
Car qui siens, sans retollir,  
Vuet tous demourer,  
En gloire l'estuet regner  
Qui ne puet faillir.

And where may one seek  
This joy which never lessens  
And never ends  
But instead increases  
In joy and pleasure?  
No one, make no mistake,  
Can achieve all this  
Without loving and cherishing  
That peerless lady.

But no soul may perish  
Or be damned  
If it spends its life  
Serving and praising her  
With constancy,  
For whoever remains  
Entirely hers  
Will come to everlasting glory  
Without fail.