

Texts for *Of songs*

extracted from the Song of Songs, King James version

I. As the apple tree

As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. Stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples: for I am sick of love. His left hand is under my head, and his right hand doth embrace me. I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please. (Chapter II, verses 3-7)

II. also our bed is green

also our bed is green (Chapter I, verse 16)

III. his left hand should be under my head

His left hand should be under my head, and his right hand should embrace me. (Chapter VIII, verse 3)

By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not. I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets, and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not. The watchmen that go about the city found me: to whom I said, Saw ye him whom my soul loveth? I found him whom my soul loveth: I held him, and would not let him go, until I had brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me. I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please. Who is this that cometh out of the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all powders of the merchant? Behold his bed. (Chapter III verses 1-7)

IV. I have put off my coat

I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them? (Chapter V, verse 3)

V. my beloved put in his hand

My beloved put in his hand by the hole of the door, and my bowels were moved for him. I rose up to open to my beloved; and my hands dropped with myrrh, and my fingers with sweet smelling myrrh, upon the handles of the lock. I opened to my beloved; but my beloved had withdrawn himself; my soul failed when he spake; I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer. The watchmen that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me. I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, if ye find my beloved, that ye tell him, that I am sick of love. (Chapter V, verses 4-8)

VI. they all hold swords

The all hold swords, being expert in war: every man hath his sword upon his thigh because of fear in the night. (Chapter III, verse 8)

VII. Let us get up early

Let us get up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine flourish, whether the tender grape appear, and the pomegranates bud forth: there will I give thee my loves. The mandrakes give a smell, and at our gates are all manner of pleasant fruits, new and old, which I have laid up for thee, O my beloved. (Chapter VII, verses 12-13)

VIII. I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem

I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please. Who is this that cometh up from the wilderness, leaning upon her beloved? I raised thee up under the apple tree: there thy mother brought thee forth: there she brought thee forth that bare thee. Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, nor can the floods drown it: (Chapter VIII, verses 4-7)