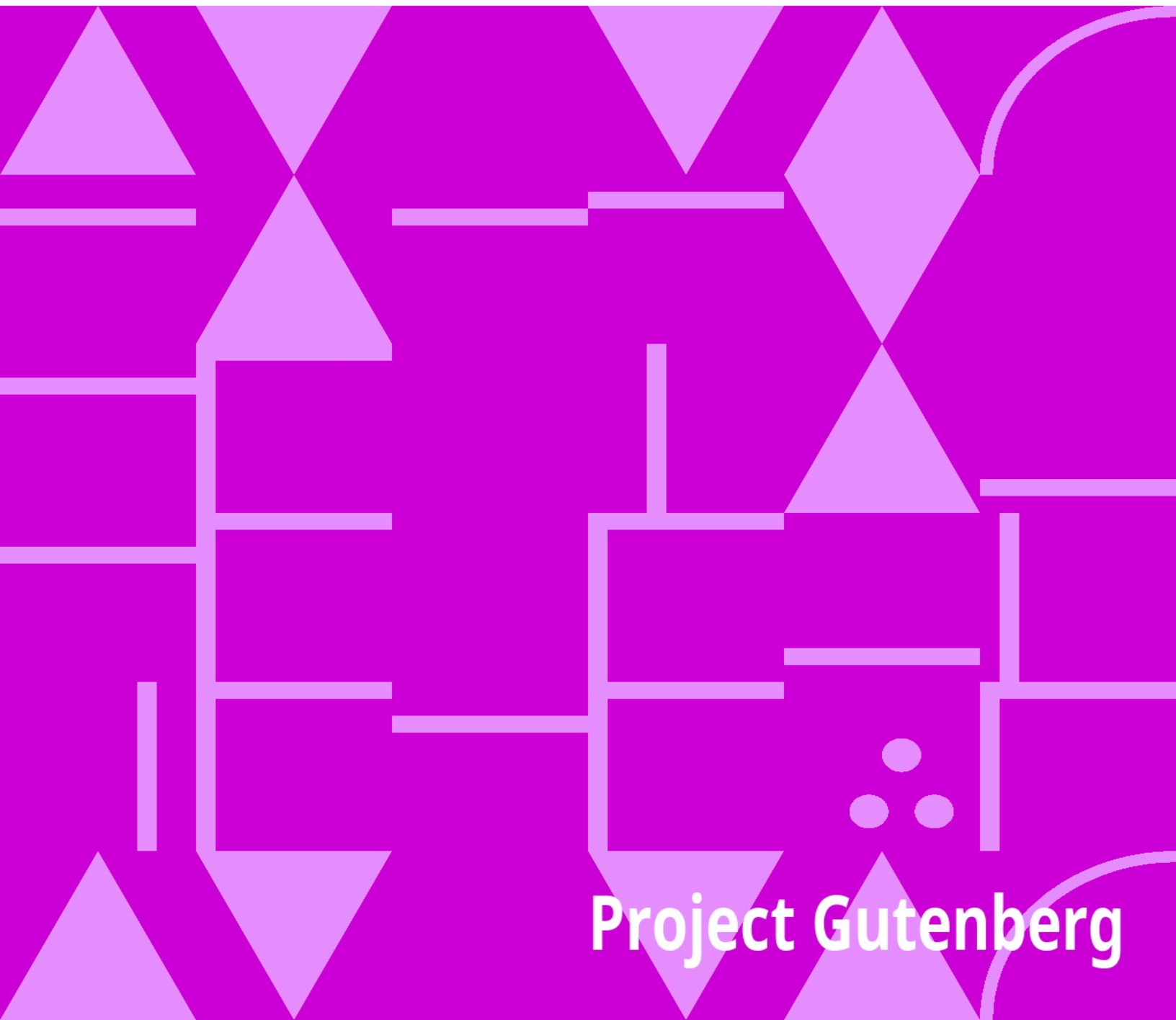


As Saudades do Bardo Orthodoxo

Henrique Ernesto de Almeida Coutinho

A decorative background pattern consisting of various geometric shapes in shades of purple and magenta, including triangles, diamonds, and squares, some of which are outlined in white. The pattern is dense and covers the entire lower half of the page.

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*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK AS
SAUDADES DO BARDO ORTHODOXO ***

AS SAUDADES
DO
BARDO ORTHODOXO,
POEMA.

*Fù corto il tuo partir, lungo é'l mio affanno;
Nè gioia spero mai, ch'il riconsole.
Tu ridi, io piango sempre; e sol compenso
Gli aspri martir, se di te parlo e penso.*

L. GUIDICIONI.

PORTO:

NA IMPRENSA DE ALVARES RIBEIRO,
aos Lavadouros N.º 16.

1837.

*On some fond breast the parting soul relies,
Some pious drops the closing eye requires;
Even from the tomb the voice of nature cries,
Even in our ashes live their wonted fires.*

De ternos corações busca saudades
'Spirito que se ausenta, e extinctos olhos
Querem piedoso pranto; a Natureza
Lá do fundo das campas inda clama,
Inda mesmo entre cinzas
Sua chamma usual vive inexhausta.

GRAY, *cemiterio da aldeia.*

Ao meu amigo,

JOAQUIM TORQUATO ALVARES RIBEIRO.

*Perdeste pais e irmãos, quaes vio apenas
A suspirada em vão Saturnia idade;
E, sob o imperio de Cruel saudade,
Soffreo teu coração amargas penas.*

Carpir alheios lutos

*Quem os proprios carpio ah! não recusa;
Nem com olhos de pranto sempre enxutos
Simpathisar consegue a minha Musa.
Mas hoje, amigo, mais propicia sorte,
Por ver-te resarcido
Do muito que has perdido,*

*Deo-te, digna de ti, rara consorte,
Dos thesouros do Ceo mimo escolhido.
Oh! nunca, nunca vos separe a Morte!*

Henrique Ernesto d'Almeida Coutinho.

As saudades
DO
BARDO ORTHODOXO,
POEMA.

Oh que extase ineffavel!.. Nossas almas,
Ao risonho alvejar da madrugada,
Voando sobre as azas transparentes
D'aura fragrante que soprava do Éden,
Anciosas enlaçarão-se, em transporte
De prazer todo angelico! Dest' arte
Extremosos se abração dous amigos,
Que adolescentes vinculára o instincto
D'aurea Virtude em flor, e divididos
Pelo undoso Elemento ha largos annos,
Se, condoida em fim d'ausencia tanta,
A Sorte os restitue um do outro aos braços.

Oh quaes arcanos de ternura eximia,
Toda celestial, vedada ao Mundo,
Su' alma revelou á do consorte,
Á da consorte extatica, engolfada
Em luminosa alluvião de ditas,
Onde de puro amor quasi que expira,
E então resurge entre delicias novas,
Que a flux e a qual mais viva lhe resfolgão
Lá das mansões do sempiterno dia!
Ficai-vos para sempre, ôcos fantasmas,
Glorias mesquinhas que engodais a Terra;
Vós sois menos que nada. Franco e livre
Das terrenas prisões, agora exulto:
Marilia é toda minha, Ercenio é della;
Nossa união revive á luz do Empyreo,
E revive sem fim, sem fim resplende,
Ante a immortalidade anniquilou-se
Tudo que era mortal.--E a um sonho eu devo
Tão fagueira illusão!--Perfido sonho!
Por que assim me exalçaste á summa Esfera,
Para a final me despenhares neste
Ferreio leito de dor, que em pranto alago?
Oxalá nunca mais eu despertasse!--
Vem cá, fiel transumpto, que saudosa
Esta mão debuxou, d'ausencia instada;
Mostra-me essas feições, onde a Virtude
Quasi que sinto respirar tão meiga;
Vem consolar-me:--ás lagrimas d'Ercenia
Tu pareces sensivel; mas aquella
Alma querida, éco immortal dest' alma,
Reluz no Ceo; oh como alli anciosa
Voôu a minha, e se abraçarão ambas!
Momentos divinaes! fosteis acaso
Sonho fugaz, ou eternal presagio?

Envôlta em orvalhoso véo sombrio,
Vem surgindo a manhã. Fica-te, ó leito,

Conscio de veladores pensamento,
De bens sonhados, permanentes dores.
É hoje o anniversario luctuoso,
É esta a hora em que Marilia, a espôsa,
Me disse o ultimo *adeos*, e foi no gremio
Viver do Eterno, e possuir o Empyreo.
Tu, que o harmonico ser deves ao tronco
De longo cypreste, e es socia em magoas,
Acorda hoje tambem, acorda, ó lira,
E ao sagrado recinto me acompanha.
Eis-nos aqui já nelle.--Ves, ves esta
Relvinha tenra, que o sepulcro veste!
Meu pranto a fez crescer, meu pranto a orvalha,
Como te orvalha as cordas, quando nellas
Suspira melancolica saudade.

Mas qual jocundo anhelito fragrante
Me brinca na madeixa encanecida?--
São auras?--ou bafeja carinhosa
Su' alma os dias meus quasi acabados,
Para affastar-lhes o final momento?
Perdôa, amada esposa! Os meus int'resses
Melhor os sabe a Morte; ella conhece
Que nunca mais desfructarei repouso,
Senão a par de ti, senão comtigo.
Do mundano bulicio ora liberto,
Encósto a frente ao pedestal lascado
Desta Cruz de granito, que protege
Co' a veneranda sombra em tôrno as cinzas,
Té que a resurreição lhes amanheça.
Vós que jazeis nos lobregos abismos
Da moral corrupção que empesta o Glôbo,
Almas cobardes, onde não vislumbra
Nenhuma idéa nobre, e que a Virtude,
Affastada de vós por mui sublime,
Sem poder arrostá-la, um nome a crêdes
D'imagem desprovido, um sonho futil;

Sabeis vós discernir qual prazer seja
O de apertar ao peito ingenua virgem,
Que, os braços maternas deixando a custo,
Córa entre os braços do feliz consorte?--
O consorte feliz!.. fui eu, por certo.
Depois de lustros quasi seis, volvidos
Em placida união, concorde affecto,
Qual vacuo immenso não deixou nest' alma
O golpe inesperado, a perda ingente!

Em quanto o vulgo seduzido applaude
Prodigios d'ambição, d'heroismo infrene,
Que se nutre de sangue, e anheia estragos,
Eu de louvores perennal tributo
Pagarei á dulcissima consorte,
Mimo celeste, Anjo de paz, que tantas
Lagrimas vio correr, no espaço breve
Da sua habitação cá neste exilio;
E d'enxugá-las, se podesse, todas,
Não cedêra a ninguém o emprêgo excelso.
Envergonhai-vos, sordidos avaros!
Sem ter, sem invejar vossos thesouros,
Marilia mais que vós valeo ao pobre,
Escutou benções, mereceo saudades,
Lucrou gloria immortal; e a gloria vossa,
Bem como esse ouro que adorais, é terra.
Mães indigentes! miseros filhinhos!
Que da penuria, em máos conselhos fertil,
Provais, logo ao nascer, o amargo absintho,
Dizei os dons que de Marilia houvestes,
Dizei quão meiga vos prestou auxilio,
Fallai; que ella o não veda: inteiro um Mundo
De vos, do afflicto Ercenio hoje a separa;
E ao meu amor, ao meu amor sómente,
É concedido percorrer, nos vãos,
Distancia que entre nós se alonga immensa.
Que digo!--Neste valle inda respira

Fiel traslado teu, que, em verdes annos,
Te segue, ó doce amiga, o trilho nobre,
E do materno exemplo nao discrepa.
Eia, rouba sequer ligeiro instante
Ao summo enlêvo, aos canticos celestes,
Deixa o lume pousar da vista affavel
Sobre a terrena estancia, e te compraza
Na filha tua, na florente Osminda,
Se só aos Anjos, qual tu és, qual foste,
Te é dado agora amar, tens nella um Anjo.

Ditosos dias da existencia minha,
Que é feito já de vós! fosteis apenas
Mesquinha exalação que os ventos varrem.
Já nestes olhos meus cançados, tristes,
Sinto engrossar a nuvem que os abrange.
Tudo perdi no Mundo; só me resta
A Providencia e Osminda. Antes de muito
Ha de sómente a desvelada filha
Ao sepulcro da mãe guiar meus passos.
Assim outr'ora, em nebuloso clima,
Do cantor de Fingal a nora amavel,
A candida Malvina, a flor de Morveu,
Ao jazigo dos seus encaminhava
O sogro, idoso e cego. Trevas, lutos,
Ante mim se revezão, se accumulão.
Eis o Genio do mal campea ousado,
E apregoando bens, traidor sorrindo,
Empesta os corações, domina a Glôbo:
Feroz se atea das paixões o embate,
Chovem sobre a Virtude os improperios,
E dos mortaes a deploranda insania
Só ao Crime feliz prepara os louros.
Ai! neste mar inquieto e procelloso,
Que será pois d'Osminda?--Ó Ser dos seres,
Estende o braço teu; que, á sombra d'elle,
Perfeito amparo, bonançosos dias,

Terá por minha morte, a filha amada,
E será des de então só filha tua.--
Ah! tu tambem, ó suspirada espôsa,
Lá das mansões ethereas nos contemplas,
E te revês na filha, em cujo peito
Repousa da innocencia a paz ditosa;
Tu apresentas ante o Throno eterno
Os votos incessantes que a bem della,
Sobre as azas de férvido transporte,
Enderéço ao Poder que escuda o debil.
Espêssa nuvem, dardejando raios,
Desça, e d'Osminda aproximar não deixe
Os da vil seducção vipereos olhos,
Ou desde já, e d'um só golpe, e a um tempo,
Vida perecedoura em nós pereça,
E vivamos contigo immortal vida.

Mas qual lembrança murmurar profunda
Sinto nos seios d'alma?--Eis d'entre angustias
Surde mimosa imagem d'aureos dias,
Dias (ai derradeiros!) que passamos
No campo, e no paterno herdado alvergue,
Ora escutando as namoradas aves
Saudar com meigo canto a Primavera,
Ora embebidos no matiz fragrante
Das apinhadas renascentes flores,
Ou vendo os fructos avultar formosos,
O pômo enrubecer, dourar-se a messe,
E sorrir bemfazeja a Natureza:
Em quanto a Guerra atroz, bramindo ao longe,
Accumulando ruinas sobre ruinas,
Fervendo mais e mais, rival do Inferno,
Talava a ferro e fogo as margens ambas
Do flavo Douro, que, ao fragor tremendo,
Escondia nas humidas cavernas
A desolada espavorida fronte.
Ai! quanta ves, ao rebombar longinquo

Dos bellicos trovões, piedoso pranto
Vi de teus olhos deslizar-se em fio!
Então no intimo d'alma deploravas
A prematura morte desastrosa
De tantos filhos, esperança extrema
Roubada para sempre aos pais longevos;
O miserando fim de tanto espôso,
A quem a espôsa fida, e o penhor caro
Que lhe sorri pendente aos castos peitos,
Nao mais tem de abraçar, no ermo da vida;
Aqui e alli em borbotões fumando,
Por homens desparzido, o sangue d'homens,
Quando em fraterno laço indissoluvel,
Uns aos outros prestando amor e auxilio,
Lhes é suprema Lei viver unidos.

Oh insania fatal! Oh ignominia!
Recommendado á Fama, erguido aos astros,
Genio conquistador, ebrio de sangue,
Levando morte e horror de polo a polo,
Consegue mausoléos, consegue altares;
E tu, Anjo celeste, que na Terra
Deixaste após de ti suave arôma,
Que inda os vestigios da Virtude exhalão;
Tu, mimo excelso, singular contexto
De sisudez, candura, amor, piedade,
Viveste alheia ao Mundo, e assim morreste:
Nem mesmo do teu fim noticia exacta
O circulo excedeo dos lares nossos;
E reinava o silencio envôlto em trevas,
Quando encerrada no ataúde escuro
Fragil porção de ti, mas que eu venero,
Foi trazida sem sequito, sem pompas,
A descançar neste calado asilo,
Onde a do somno extremo sacra terra,
Sabida só de mim, te guarda as cinzas,
Desprovidas de lousa e d'epitafio.

Epitáfio!--e se nelle memoradas
Fossem virtudes que alojaste n'alma,
Ah! poderia por ventura o Mundo,
Qual o conheço, leviano e cego,
Votar-lhes homenagem digna dellas,
Ou arder no desejo d'imitá-las?
Todo escarcéos, horrisono rugindo,
Feroz prostrando as litoraes balisas,
Sorvendo galeões, cidades, povos,
O Oceano infunde respeitoso espanto;
Mas o limpido arroio serpejante,
Que vai por entre os prados entretendo
A socegada veia, e repartindo
Frescura ao sólo, nutrição ás plantas,
Vive sem nome, e na lembrança é morto.

Sim: de teus dias o fulgor modesto,
Qual breve estrella nos ethéreos campos,
Quasi sempre luzio furtivo e turvo
No valle dos mortaes, e ora, sem nuvens,
Claro brilha no Empyreo, que zeloso
Se mostrou d'assumir esta obra sua,
E no berço a plantar, donde emanára.
Entretanto propicia a Natureza,
Por entre o véo que os olhos meus envolve,
S'esmera em me off'recer imagens tuas,
E lida, mas em vão, por consolar-me.
Se da flor que viceja me aproximo,
Diz logo a flor: "contempla, afflicto espôzo,
"Contempla em mim as pudibundas graças;
"O sorrir virginal, os verdes annos,
"Que Marilia enfeitavão, quando outr'ora
"Tu, pela vez primeira, a viste absorto,
"E, sem ella o saber, por ella ardeste.
Se lanço a mão ao sazonado pômo,
De que o pêzo gentil debruça os ramos,
Se aqui observo a flavescente arista

Espraiar-se opulenta, se negreja
Em festões o racimo além suspenso,
Sahe delles esta voz, e a mesma em todos:
"Marilia, por quem foste já ditoso,
"De nossa profusão compôs mil vezes
"Os nobres dons com que nascer fizera
"O sorriso nos labios do indigente.
"Contempla em nós o primoroso emblêma
"Dessa riqueza d'alma e de virtudes
"Que luzio para o Ceo, que o Ceo recolhe.
Té na estação brumal, quando acurvada
Aos rijos Aquilões, e sob os gêlos
A Natureza esmorecida geme,
Recordo então com que feliz destreza
As longas noites encurtar soubemos,
Em conversa amigavel, ou notando
Entrechos, expressões, desastres, ditas,
De mil ternas historias que eu te lia,
E onde, depois d'acerrimos combates,
A Virtude os laureis cingia ovante.
Doces memorias! lisongeiros quadros!
Em vós minh'alma s'embebece toda;
Mas o caro protótypo... a consorte...
Onde está, onde está?--de balde a busco.
Ah! que vive nos Ceos.--D'agora em diante
Hão d'ir todos alli meus pensamentos
Purificar-se do terreno lôdo.
Redobra, Anjo de paz, as preces tuas,
E os Anjos, socios teus, orem contigo
Ante o summo Juiz; alcançai delle
Que as imperfeições minhas aniquile
No mar immenso das bondades suas:
Eia, instai; que o momento se aproxima;
Nas perfumadas auras que respiro,
No palpar do coração ancioso,
Murmura fausto annuncio:--resolvida
Foi no arcano eternal, e lá no Empyreo

Firmada em estellantes caracteres
A suspirada reunião ditosa.
O momento feliz! vem consolar-me.
Quando estivermos ante o Solio eterno,
Rogativa incessante e afervorada
Ha de ocupar-nos em favor de quanto
Nos foi caro na Terra; e o Ser supremo
Escutará propicio as preces d'ambos.

Mas qual congresso, de fulgor cingido,
Sobre aureas nuvens magestoso assôma,
Ares d'immortal gloria respirando?--
Alma toda celeste! eu reconheço
Em teu lucido aspecto inda o sorriso
Com que outr'ora os meus dias alegravas.
Oh quão ditosas lhe pousais em tórno
Almas de nossos pais, almas de tantos,
Que a Virtude illustrou, parentes nossos!
Sim: vós quereis da reunião perenne
O instante vigiar, quereis comnosco
Ter quinhão neste júbilo ineffavel,
E dar applauso eterno a eternas nupcias;
Congratulai-vos; que se apressa o instante!--
E quando esfaima, para unir-se á tua,
Os vãos sublimar além do Glôbo,
E arraiada de luz, transpondo os astros,
No gremio se acolhêr da Omnipotencia,
Então, ó terra, ó podridão, ó vermes,
Tomai, que é vosso, este involtorio fragil.

FIM.

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