[Poems 1 and 2 are missing]

Poem 3: Meshallesh (acrostic spells out “Yannai” – יאני)

1 You know, O our Creator / our Evil Inclination
   That it is our afflictor / crouched always at our side
2 The adulterer is named as “lacking of heart” / the adulteress, “wily-hearted”
   But You, Creator of the heart / probe deeply the heart’s intentions
3 O Yah, extinguish the coals / which burn within us
   Renew the heart of flesh / and remove the heart of stone
4 Bind the Evil Inclination / and no longer shall You have to watch over
   The young women, should they play harlot / nor the brides, should they prove false

As it is written (1st vs of haftarah): “I will not punish your daughters when they commit harlotry, nor your daughters-in-law when they prove false; for they themselves consort with lewd women, and they sacrifice with harlots; and the people that is without understanding is distraught” (Hos. 4:14)

Poem 4

From the time when that woman sinned through her hand
   You lashed and bound the hands of woman
She is fire and her name is fire and she is likened to fire
   Woman-from-man: / She enflames the embers in the bosom of man
She sinned and brought into being the bitterness of death
   Her sin was bitter as death / brazen is she, like death
No one masters the day of his death
   But all her pathways lead down to death
In her eyes: death / at her feet: death
   At her feet will dance the angel of death
Until You swallow up Death and Uproot the Evil Inclination
   And remove the heart of stone from us

O Holy One...

Poem 5: Asiriyyah (acrostic from alef to yod)

A woman with her man / in deception, with deceit:
   Unto the priest shall he hasten her / and for (her) deception, let him accuse her
Into temptation and trespass—/ oh, how sinfulness beguiled her!
   A curse he proclaims upon her / and an oath he makes her swear.
Indeed, just as she behaved like a beast
   So, too, is her offering that of a beast
Just as she walked ‘in the way of the Egyptian’
   So, too, gird her hips with Egyptian rope
Just as in the presence of a stranger, concealed, did she stand
   So, too, before the Pure One, exposed, the priest stands her

1 Original text: Cambridge University Library, T-S Genizah Collection 10H 6,6; 13H 2,4. Available via https://maagarim.hebrew-academy.org.il/Pages/PMain.aspx
And just as she betrayed the nature of (her) Creator

He will make her drink curses from a created vessel

The mere mention of the Holy Name, written with holiness

Will be blotted out with holy water to put to proof the (un)holy woman

The curves of her thighs will abruptly rot

And the depths of her belly will there empty out

Her lovely face will yellow and her eyes bulge

Her fingernails fall off and her sinews give way

They will see her and say, “Take her out! That alien woman,

“Before she renders the Temple Court impure!”

Poem 6 (full alphabetical acrostic)

She defiled her own purity without him

But the One Pure-of-Eyes (knows), for there is nothing without Him

He sees through….

All who would lie down besides the adulteress

Lie themselves down in sorrow

Before the Judge, the matter will not …

From among a thousand, one can find a single man;

A single woman? Not among any of these

It was answered against her…

She strayed from him, his lawfully-wedded wife

She rejected him, his young maid

Concerning her, his jealousy consumed him

“Then he shall surely be jealous…”

His mason has torn down his fence

You will disfigure her beauty because of her breach

The Rock bound her to him when she entered his dwelling

Until he examines…

His bed is too short for stretching out

When a friend lies upon it with his wife

Her head shall be bared in disgrace

And from (her) body…

His recompense, if she did not steal seed

Nor any alien lie with her, plowing her with seed

She shall acquire and sow with seed

For a blessing…

Poem 71: First Rahit (full alphabetical acrostic)

And thus, “She acted unfaithfully against him…” (Num. 5:12)

She bound jewels upon her head

Thus in shame she unbound the hair of her head

She grew proud and fastened fancily the braids of her hair

Thus he judged she must hide her hair

She made herself pretty, for the sake of her sin

Thus she became stupid and ugly, because of her sin

She was insolent and brazen of face
Thus pale and green became her face
She soiled and defiled her flesh
Thus thin and sickly became her flesh
She concealed her perversity within her
Thus before the eyes of all it was revealed about her
She defied both curse and adjuration
Thus she succumbed to both curse and adjuration
She rebelled against that which was written for her
Thus her sins were revealed through a written text
She opened her thighs to the stranger
Thus her diminishment came with the wasting of her thighs
She called to the stranger and he embraced her belly
Thus decayed and bloated became her belly
She set her eye upon another
Thus she shall belong to neither her husband nor any other

Poem 7: Second Rahit (reverse alphabetical acrostic)

And thus, “If she has not defiled herself...” (Num. 5:28)
If she did not sin against her marital contract
   Let her be more blessed than the other women in her tent
If she did not revel like an alien woman
   Let her resemble a fruitful vine
If she did not show herself about outside the house
   Let her take root in the innermost house
If she did not play the harlot and ruin herself
   Let her bear sons instead of daughters
If she did not...
   Let her...and successfully sow seed
If she was not false against her marriage vows
   Let her...
If she did not rebel against he who rules over her
   Let her be comforted, foreigners not rule over her
If she did not grow stubborn like a heifer
   Let her...if she shall be barren
If she did not spread her knees for the wicked
   Let her be justified through a blessed pregnancy
If she did not summon the alien to her belly
   Let her be know the merciful reward of fruit in her belly
If she did not drink stolen waters in secret
   Let her be crowned with good favor in public and in secret

Poem 8 (transition to Qedushah)

For You, O God, dwell in secret / but everything before You is revealed and known / You give a man his tasks / and compensate him according to his deeds / the measure of affliction is diminished / and the measure of good amplified / in evil-doing You take no pleasure / but rather doing justly do You desire / and likewise...and giving thanks / bowing and bending knee and prostrating and praising / Your holy Name hallowing...

Poem 9 (the Qedushah: Isa. 6:3 and Ez. 3:12)

From...and among those who surround the Throne, wings joined one to another
     Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts! The whole earth is filled with His glory!

“Holy” from...
“Holy” from the sages of...
“Holy” from a place without any women or men

“Holy”: From of old, …
“Holy”: From of old, He decreed five afflictions for woman
“Holy”: From of old, He had compassion and took pity on the honor of woman

The one towards the other...

“From His place”: ….a place of …
“From His place”: From a place of modesty He took the rib to make Woman
“From His place”: in.....

Twice...

…persuading to stray; You taught us to suspect…They became drunk…In destruction, they were not wise…the head does…to see how the harlot dresses herself and hardens her face…They fell upon the harlot, “Much childishness causes it”…Impurity of the castrato…to our Lord singing…the Divine Presence…doing, the Moabite women…the straying ones will settle…a thousand they executed…for her beloved ones…who, most of them…her ways are the rejected way…