

# Ja nuns hons pris ne dira sa raison

## to Marie de Champagne

King Richard I "the Lionheart" of England (1157-1199)  
 during his imprisonment at Dürnstein Castle, 1192  
 Trans. Carol Anne Perry Lagemann (SCA Kasha Alekseeva)



1. A pri - son - er can't say what's on his mind  
 2. My ba - rons and my vas - sals are - n't blind  
 3. For friends and fam - ily I feel on - ly cold,  
 4. No won - der that I weep here un - con - trolled,  
 5. My knights, the young and health - y, rich and free,  
 6. With friends I loved and still do love, I plead—



With - out con - vert - ing bit - ter tears to lines,  
 The Eng - lish, Nor - mans, Gas - cons know my mind:  
 Since they a - ban - doned me for want of gold,  
 For all I own my lord, my lead - er, stole.  
 In Tours and An - jou de know as sur - ed - ly  
 De Ca - hen and de Per - che - rain, take heed.



But if he tries, a song he'll sure - ly find.  
 I'd ne - ver leave com - the fort - less; of mine be hind.  
 My fate is called them, what my foe we each o - ther is sold—  
 If he re - called them, my my foe op - press es told,  
 So fly to them, them, my song, and make them see



My friends are ma - ny, but they're all un - kind,  
 I say this not to guilt them or whine.  
 But worse a - waits my friends, both new and old:  
 The vows we swore each o - ther from the soul,  
 They loved me but love no more, I see.  
 Envoi 1: That they've be - trayed a faith - ful friend in - deed,  
 My sis - ter, Count - ess, may you guard - ed be



And shame on them if I un - ran - somed pine:  
 They'll pay in Hell for I leav - ing me con - fined:  
 It's their fault if I per - ish in this hold,  
 I would - n't be here, suf - fer - ing and cold,  
 No more will va - lor their pro - tec - tor be,  
 And they are false if they make war on me  
 Envoi 2: By God whose help I beg on bend - ed knees,  
 Not sis - ter A - lix, mo - ther of Lou - is:



I am a pri - son - er.  
 I'm still a pri - son - er.  
 For I'm a pri - son - er.  
 E - ver a pri - son - er.  
 Since I'm a pri - son - er.  
 While I'm a pri - son - er.  
 For I'm your pri - son - ner.  
 I'm not ad - dress - ing her.