

*Cantiga 68: The Wife and the Mistress*

*The Glorious Virgin performs fine miracles to restore peace*

Now I will tell you a fine miracle,  
which I found in writing,  
performed by the wise mother  
of the High King,

for the wife of a merchant,  
who had lost the pleasure and comfort  
that she used to have of him,  
because he loved another woman

And so she bore mortal hatred  
for her husband's other woman,  
and openly begged the Virgin Mary  
to give her all possible

sorrow and pain, because it was she  
who made her lose the great pleasure  
she once had of her husband,  
there in the town of Arras.

And when she had spoken this prayer  
she fell asleep and saw  
a vision of the Blessed Virgin  
with a great host

of angels, and the Virgin  
said to her "I have heard your prayer  
but it is not my way  
nor does it please me to be cruel

What is more, that woman goes to kneel at my altar  
and gives thanks to me  
a hundred times a day,  
bowing her head to the ground"

No sooner had the wife awoken  
than she went out to the street and met the other woman,  
who knelt before her and said  
"It was the wicked devil,

black as pitch,  
who led me to wrong you in this way,  
but I will do it no more,  
as it grieves you."

And so the Blessed Virgin  
truly reconciled these two,  
who previously, without exaggeration,  
were at each other's throats.