



:: FERNALESE SONGS ::
Bruce Rimell

As part of the process of creating Fernalese, various cycles of mythology were created and these greatly informed some of the narrative texts in the *Encyclopedia of Fernal Affairs*. These myth cycles were presented as songs, since in the Fernal reality, sacred actions happen through music and song rather than speech. Three song cycles were created:

ሂዕንገዓንገን Tiarzecatar 'The Thirteen Songs'

The 'Thirteen Songs' narrate the primordial creation of the Fernal Cosmos through the actions of the Fernal Creatrix Afer, who first manifests herself, then invents sexual delight, before singing three Cosmic Powers into being from three eggs. These Powers in turn create the three gardens of the Fernal Cosmos – the Earthly Garden, the Heavenly Garden and the Underworld. The cycle then continues with the ordering of the Earthly Garden, and various adventures with the Shimmer People and Achir, the Spirit of Writing.

ጌዕርደኑግን Lucaioncatar 'The Song of Lucaion'

The 'Song of Lucaion' is an alternative take on the Fernal Cosmos, narrating the adventures of Lucaion, a Queer Fisher and his living ship Ferzoncuai, in voyaging around the cosmos to gather up the planets to place in the sky. At one point he descends into the Underworld and dies, before rising into the Heavenly Garden where Ferzoncuai sings the Song of Heaven. The Song ends with Lucaion meeting the goddess Ana, and they join together to sing the 'Thirteen Songs'.

ሄዕዕንገን Daiarzan 'Other Songs'

This cycle is a miscellaneous collection of other tales from the Fernal universe, including two songs on the lovers Miroesai and Menesai, a supplemental song from the Lucaion cycle, and several others.

This document presents excerpts from each cycle, so that some of the poetic forms, which will naturally differ from prosaic structures exemplified in the **Chapter Texts** document, can be seen. In the main, Fernalese songforms do not value rhyming, but clause symmetry, repetition and wordplay. The first three songs will be followed by interlinear analysis and literal translation, as well as other notes. Additional songs will only be followed by notes.

1	first person	IEX	exclamation particle
2	second person	EXS	existential particle
1T2	first person to second person	FUT	future-incomplete aspect
3A	third person animate	GEN	genitive-connective case / adverbial
3I	third person inanimate	HAB	habitual aspect
4A	fourth person animate (common person)	IMP	imperative
4I	fourth person inanimate (natural state of things)	LOC	locative suffix
		MYT	mythical aspect
		NEG	negative prefix
		NOM	nominaliser affix
ABI	abilitive prefix	ORD	ordinal number prefix
ABS	absolute case	PAS	passive aspect
ADD	connective prefix	PER	perfective-completive aspect
ATR	attributive affix	POS	epenthetic possessive infix
BEN	benefactive particle	PRO	progressive aspect
C	epenthetic consonant	REF	reflexive aspect
CAU	causative suffix	SAP	stand-alone pronoun prefix
CAU	comitative suffix	SBJ	conditional or subjunctive particle
DEM	demonstrative suffix	TOP	topic particle
DEP	dependent clause particle	V	epenthetic vowel
DNM	deity name prefix		
DUR	durative suffix		

NOTES

i) The opening clause *io to ona* is left untranslated. Literally it means 'Hey, Woman!' but in this sacred context, it might be better translated as 'Hail Womanhood!' The phrase *io to* is a common one to open sacred songs.

ii) There are various word symmetries throughout. See line 3 (**-ona**), line 5 (**-mai**) and line 6 (**-txac**).

iii) There are also clause symmetries throughout, most notably in lines 2 & 4 (**mancai...-tua**), lines 6 & 7 (both beginning **ferebion-**), lines 7-9 (lines ending **-mai** or **-oremai** with **io** or **to**), lines 10 & 11 (beginning and ending **miror te... ... mata**) and lines 12 & 13 (ending in **-ai io to**)

aodin	world-bearing, giving birth to the world, world-holding
bacona	magic woman, woman shaman
daetxai	bles, nurture, cherish
ebion	the Fernal Earthly Garden (derived from bion 'navel')
enoha	the Fernal Earthly Garden (related to nua 'garden')
ferdir(re)	verdant, fertile, fruitful
mancai	deep delight, great joy
mintxac	World Tree – literally source-climbing heart from min 'source', minti- 'climb' and txac 'heart')
toremai	call into being, invite, beckon into existence
txachelamiro	the Waters of the Middle Place, from which Mintxac grows, and an essential location in the Fernal mythology
xaosai	bles with words

lucaionco <i>luc-aion-co</i> light-eternal-ABS	zacatarai <i>za-catar-ai</i> IMP-sing-DEM	metehuiaco <i>mete(o)-huia-co</i> foresight-play-ABS	zacatarai <i>za-catar-ai</i> IMP-sing-DEM	illanufaico <i>il-la-nufai-co</i> house-place-spirit-ABS
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zacatarai <i>za-catar-ai</i> IMP-sing-DEM	daiardenco <i>daiar-den-co</i> diverse-think-ABS	zacatarai <i>za-catar-ai</i> IMP-sing-DEM	meirniameirco <i>meir-nia-meir-co</i> visible-NEG-visible-ABS	zacatarai <i>za-catar-ai</i> IMP-sing-DEM
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ia <i>ia</i> IMP	ayia <i>a-yia</i> DNM-queer	orituaihai <i>ori-tuai-h-ai</i> dance-emerge-C-DEM	yanuiatenco <i>yan-(h)uia-ten-co</i> dark-play-seem-ABS	orihai <i>ori-h-ai</i> dance-C-DEM
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txacuirtenco <i>txa(c)-cuir-ten-co</i> heart-strange-seem-ABS	orihai <i>ori-h-ai</i> dance-C-DEM	ferioxetenco <i>fer-io-xe-ten-co</i> fernal-three-ATR-seem-ABS	orihai <i>ori-h-ai</i> dance-C-DEM
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achirtenco <i>a-chir-ten-co</i> DNM-write-seem-ABS	orihai <i>ori-h-ai</i> dance-C-DEM	meirniameirco <i>meir-nia-meir-co</i> visible-NEG-visible-ABS	orihai <i>ori-h-ai</i> dance-C-DEM
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miror <i>mir-or</i> see-DUR	te <i>te</i> DEP	o <i>o</i> TOP	fa <i>fa</i> SAP-1	tuaihuia <i>tuai-huia</i> emerge-play	mata <i>ma(h)-t-a</i> exist-HAB-1	miror <i>mir-or</i> see-DUR	te <i>te</i> DEP
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niameirdaiar <i>nia-meir-daiar</i> NEG-visible-diverse	mata <i>ma(h)-t-a</i> exist-HAB-1	maetuaryanen <i>mae-tuar-yan-en</i> eye-depths-dark-LOC	io to	catarcatarai <i>catar-catar-ai</i> sing-sing-DEM	io to
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Literal Translation: *io to yia, I Ayia work here with deep delight. Eternal Light Queer (Lucaion), Foresight Trickster, I rise here with deep delight. From the third egg call Ayia into being, glowing dark Underworld heart, magic queer heart. Emerge and call the glowing dark Underworld into being, cause it to emerge on my legs, on my feet. Bless Iari and call it into being.*

Hey, Ayia, emerge and sing here. Sing inner-light eternity (sing Lucaion) here. Sing foresight trickery (sing Metehuia) here. Sing village spirit here. Sing diverse thoughts here. Sing visible (and) invisible here. Hey, Ayia, dance and emerge here. Dance like the dark playfulness (dance Yanuia) here. Dance like strange heart (dance Txacuir) here. Dance fernally and threefold (dance Ferioxe) here. Dance like (sacred) writing (dance Achir) here. Dance visible (and) invisible here.

While seeing that I am Emerge Trickster, while seeing that I am invisible diverse, in the dark (of the) depths of the eye, this singing singing

NOTES

i) The narrator of this song is deliberately ambiguous, at times it appears to be Afer ('unfold it on my legs, my feet', referring to the Underworld on her body, and the various commands given to him to sing and dance), and at times it appears to be Ayia herself (the final verse begins 'seeing that I am the Emerging Trickster', also the commands to dance and sing could be self-exhortation).

ii) In stanza 3, wordplays exist between the literal and mythological meanings of the words **lucaion** ('eternity of inner light' vs 'Lucaion the Queer Fishe'r) and **metehuia** ('foresight trickery' vs 'Metehuia the Queer Trickster of Fire') – it is significant that Ayia here sings both hir attributes and two queer heroes into existence.

iii) In stanza 3, **daiar** is also a word for 'lightning' as well as the more familiar 'diverse, varied'

iv) In stanza 4, we find the same wordplays between literal and mythological meanings for the queer tricksters and creators as follows: **yanuia**, **txacuir**, **ferioxe** and **achir**.

v) The song is replete with clause symmetries: stanza 1 (lines 2 & 4), all of stanzas 3 and 4, stanza 2 (various interplays between lines) and stanza 5 (lines 1 & 2).

:: SONG #4 – MIROMENECATAR – Song of Miroesai and Menesai ::

A fourth selection from the **Daiarzan**, narrating how Miroesai and Menesai sang Chianuia into being

io to sai, we two blessers,
dwell here in primordial delight,
beloved of Afer, secret of Afer,
we sing here in hidden delight

io to sai, o non zosai
cuancai hen nohainuon to
aferaorre, afercusire,
cusicai hen catarainuon to

᠘ᠢᠨᠠᠮᠢᠨᠡᠴᠠᠲᠠᠷ ᠤ᠋ᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ

bring forth Miroesai from water drops,
tears of sorrow, tears of joy,
emerge as a moonlit-shining girl,
pour out lifewaters and sing out,
bless the Ocean Garden with your being

e miromaico Mirosaico tore io
cantxincarro to caisincarro to
e zaexicardeaco tentuai io
nebiomirotxui to necatartuai to
mahtizcu nechianumsai io to

ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ

io to sai, I, Miroesai
beloved of Afer, secret of Afer,
forger of space with my lifewaters,
beloved of Lucaion, healer of Lucaion,
forger of love with my joy-sorrow-blessing

io to sai o fa miroesai,
aferaorre, afercusire,
biomirohtacu idatamnifin to
lucaionaorre, lucaionbanferre,
caicantxesaiacu aoramnifin to

ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ

I will shine brightly as the Moon,
I will shine brightly as a girl,
beloved of Afer, secret of Afer
I will sense the magic in my body

zaeten zezehxicarigua io
deaten zezehxicarigua to
aferaorre, afercusire,
teinohtan bacnuirigua io to

ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ

bring forth Menesai from blood drops,
blood of death, blood of life renewed,
emerge as the moon-shadow woman,
pour out bloodwaters and sing out,
bless the Ocean Garden with your being

e txiemaico Menesaico tore io
indotxie to ribiotxie to
e zaecutxaenaco tentuai io
netxiemirotxui to necatartuai to
mahtizcu nechianumsai io to

ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ

io to sai, I, Menesai
beloved of Afer, secret of Afer,
forger of time with my bloodwaters
beloved of Lucaion, transformer of Lucaion,
forger of rhythm with my death-life-blessing

io to sai o fa menesai,
aferaorre, afercusire,
txiemirohtacu ifeiamnifin to
lucaionaorre, lucaionbacnarre,
indobiosaicu zonamnifin to

ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ

I will dwell in strength behind the Moon,
I will dwell in strength as a woman,
beloved of Afer, secret of Afer
I will transform the magic in my body

zionahen lihonohigua io
onaten lihonohigua to
aferaorre, afercusire,
teinohtan bacbachigua io to

ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ
ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ ᠠᠶᠢᠷᠠᠵᠠᠨ

seeing that
I have a woman's body
sensing that
I have darklight
there will be menstrual water

*nemiror te to
onteinecutua io
nenuiaror te to
xicaryanecutua ia
ia te txio ari menemiro io to*

ቆላጥንጥን፣
ጸኢጥሮቆላጥንጥን፣
ቆላጥሮጥንጥን፣
ጥንጥንጥንጥንጥን፣
ጥንጥንጥንጥንጥን፣

and so I Afer
pristine woman, first woman,
sings the bloodwater flow,
woman of eight vaginas, of three eyes,
here I sing and sing

*ia te o fa afer to
ferona imetona io
txiemirrio catartua to
feironfeirona iomaetona io
catarcataraitua io to*

ጥንጥንጥንጥን፣
ጥንጥንጥንጥን፣
ጥንጥንጥንጥንጥን፣
ጥንጥንጥንጥንጥን፣
ጥንጥንጥንጥንጥን፣

here at the stillness pool,
waters of the middle place
serpent bloodwaters,
here I sing and sing

*tzehlacmirohai
txachelamirohai to
biaitxiemirohai
catarcataraitua io to*

ጥንጥንጥንጥን፣
ጥንጥንጥንጥን፣
ጥንጥንጥንጥን፣
ጥንጥንጥንጥንጥን፣

NOTES

i) This song is narrated in esoteric style and can be difficult to follow. Essentially it narrates Afer greeting the cosmos, before creating her vulva from a vaginal quantum burst. As bloodwaters and birthwaters flow, she becomes partially conscious, and then she creates the Fundament of Heaven and the Fundament of the Underworld, becoming fully conscious with the creation of her three eyes. Her entire body then emerges from a line of chakras, envisaged as portals or vaginas, after which she celebrates herself and her creation.

ii) Word and clause symmetry is visible throughout the song. Note in particular stanza 1 (**ime-**), stanza 2 (**xicar-** and **-lar**), stanza 3 (**-mai**, **-tuai**, **-ai**), stanza 5 (**nemonar-**), stanza 6 (**-mainor** and **-uoc**), stanza 7 (**mehtze-**, **-eir/-er**), stanza 8 (**firo-...-an-...-tuec**, **nese-...-oh**), stanza 9 (**miror te... -tua**, **I/zo/iomae...-mahtue**), stanza 10 (**-amninua**), stanza 11 (**ne-...-or te to**) and stanza 13 (**-mirohai**) as well as the sequences of particles **io-to-io-to-io to** throughout.

iii) Often, the word **xao** has been translated as 'word' rather than 'speak' – in the Fernalese, the latter translation is closer to the verbal function, but the former fits closely with Western religious discourse of the Word or the Logos. Thus we might re-translate several lines: **imexaonua** 'I am firstly speaking', **xicaryancahxao** '(I) speak (of) darklight-begins'. A similar situation obtains for other verbs translated as nouns: see for example **ari cuantuai** 'a certain (something) cosmically emerges', **aionxocoian zaexan** 'shines the moon (and is) reflected eternally'.

iv) The absolute suffix **-co** does not appear anywhere here, which renders many of the grammatical relationships ambiguous and occasionally confusing or meaningless in translation. This is appropriate for a primordial situation where distinctions between self and other, observer and observed, or subject and object have not yet been formed. Thus, for example in the sentence **firoxantuec txec**, **txec** should bear the absolute as the verb **firoxan** 'shimmer and shine' is transitive. Instead, without the absolute, **txec** becomes subtly transitive, and perhaps a better translation would be 'stars stars shimmer and shine (something)', and thus 'light' is subtly implied.

v) Similarly, in the phrase **mehtzehiuec orrianfeir**, the lack of absolute and the presence of the passive **(h)i(a)** on the verb **tzeh** 'peaceful, silent' renders the sentence confusing: the passive suggests the vulva is being silenced, while the lack of absolute suggests a transitive function for the vulva: the vulva is silencing something. Again, this ambiguity is deliberately suggestive of a primordial situation.

:: SONG #6 – TZIOCATAR – The Song of Heaven ::

An excerpt from **Lucaioncatar** 'The Song of Lucaion' in which Ferzoncuai sings the Song of Heaven

Atlai sang lightfold leaves to the Cosmos,
from the Underworld to the far-deep Heavens:
Sing the Song of Heaven,
make the stars move,
make the stars wander

*atlaico lucazancuancatarse,
iarimai seomantziora:
zaseyecatar ia
txecco zamarcalere ia
txecco zabailere ia*

ᠠᠲᠯᠠ ᠰᠠᠩ ᠯᠢᠭᠢᠳᠠ ᠯᠢᠪᠠ ᠲᠤ ᠴᠣᠰᠮᠣᠰ,
ᠲᠤ ᠠᠨ ᠤᠨᠠᠳᠤ ᠲᠤ ᠠᠨ ᠲᠤ ᠠᠨ ᠲᠤ ᠠᠨ
ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ
ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ
ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ

The Light-Bearer Beings sang lightfold leaves to the Cosmos,
all across Ebion to the far-deep Heavens:
Sing the Song of Heaven,
make the stars move,
make the stars wander

*xandirretzeco lucazancuancatarse,
ebiondiro seomantziora:
zaseyecatar ia
txecco zamarcalere ia
txecco zabailere ia*

ᠲᠡ ᠯᠢᠭᠢᠳᠠ ᠯᠢᠪᠠ ᠲᠤ ᠴᠣᠰᠮᠣᠰ,
ᠠᠨ
ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ
ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ
ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ

Lucaion sang lightfold leaves to the Cosmos,
from under the waves to the Heavens:
Sing the Song of Heaven,
make the stars move,
make the stars wander

*lucaionco lucazancuancatarse,
biansuo seomantziora:
zaseyecatar ia
txecco zamarcalere ia
txecco zabailere ia*

ᠯᠤᠴᠠᠢᠨ ᠰᠠᠩ ᠯᠢᠭᠢᠳᠠ ᠯᠢᠪᠠ ᠲᠤ ᠴᠣᠰᠮᠣᠰ,
ᠲᠤ ᠠᠨ ᠤᠨᠠᠳᠤ ᠲᠤ ᠠᠨ ᠤᠨᠠᠳᠤ ᠲᠤ ᠠᠨ ᠤᠨᠠᠳᠤ ᠲᠤ ᠠᠨ ᠤᠨᠠᠳᠤ
ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ
ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ
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The Beautiful Ship responded with joy,
sang lightfold leaves to the Cosmos:
I shall sing the Song of Heaven
to make the stars move,
to make the stars wander,
I shall name all of the stars
sailing along the Heaventrack

*omorarococo caichetzese,
lucazancuancatarse:
hor seyecataria
hor txemarcalore ia
hor txebailere ia
tintxectorehia
seyezenfelteror ia*

ᠲᠡ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ
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Ferzoncuai responded with joy,
sang lightfold leaves to the Cosmos:
I shall sing the Song of Heaven
to make the stars move,
to make the stars wander,
I shall name all of the stars
voyaging across the Heaventrack

*ferzoncuaioco caichetzese,
lucazancuancatarse:
hor seyecataria
hor txemarcalore ia
hor txebailere ia
tintxectorehia
seyezenfelteror ia*

ᠲᠡ ᠮᠠᠮᠤ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ ᠰᠢᠩ
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Ferzoncuai sang out with great delight,
sang lightfold leaves to the Cosmos:
Thus I have sung the Song of Heaven
thus I have made the stars move,
thus I have made the stars wander,
thus I have named all of the stars
voyaging across the Heaventrack

ferzoncuai *decaicatarse*
lucazancuancatarse:
ia te seyecatarsa to
ia te txemarcaresa to
ia te txebialleresa to
ia te tintxectoresora to
ia te seyezenterosora io

ፎጆንኩሳይ ገላገላ ገላገላ ገላገላ ገላገላ
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NOTES

- i) The 'Song of Heaven' is extremely repetitive and so word- and clause-symmetries exist throughout the song. Note particularly the initial words in each stanza. Stanzas 1-5 & 19 begin with a name or epithet followed by absolutive **-co**, while stanzas 6-18 being with a verb ending in **-oron**, 4th person animate durative. A variety of other symmetries exist which readers can explore for themselves.
- ii) Each constellation ('Dark Place', 'Beautiful Ship', 'Joyous Dancing Ground' etc) refers to a real constellation in the sky. See <http://www.biroz.net/fernal/lucaion4.htm> for details.
- iii) The word **dedetzio** 'big sky' (translated as 'the expanse of the sky') is also repeated throughout, twice in each stanza from stanzas 6-17. In the first instance, usually line 2, an attribute of **dedetzio** is described, while in the second instance, usually lines 3-4, the text is presented as an attribute but in reality narrates an activity in which the sky partakes along with others. In both cases, if the phrase was truly attributive, we might expect to see **dedetzio** marked with the absolutive case **-co** to demonstrate intransitivity, its absence demonstrates therefore that **dedetzio** is transitive and is partaking in actions.
- iv) Some complex verb phrases are thematically repeated throughout the song. These require a full sentence to translate, and the 'verbal flow' nature of these compounds renders a neat ambiguity in the original not present in the translation. Thus we have for example **lucazancuancatar** 'sing lightfold leaves to the cosmos' which might just as easily be rendered 'cosmically sing lightfold leaves' or 'sing cosmically like lightfold leaves'.
- v) Similarly there are compound words whose subtle images are lost in translation. For example, **txebiallere** 'make stars wander' contains the word **biaile** 'orbit, move cyclically', which itself is derived from the word **biai** 'serpent'. This serpentine movement of the stars is lost with the word 'wander'.
- vi) The word **tero** is also used throughout, in a variety of contexts, and it should be remembered that **tero** means 'state of consciousness, enter into a state of consciousness; study, learn how to do' as well as 'voyage, journey'. This lends a subtlety to the narrative. Something similar is seen in stanza 17 with the word **niatxan** 'dismembark'. While **txan** literally means 'to ride', it also refers to taking on an identity, having attributes or a nature and one's self-image. In this light, **niatxan** becomes more than a simple disembarkation, and becomes a loss of identity for the Light-Bearer Beings.

