TO A HAGGIS

ОДА ШОТЛАНДСКОМУ ПУДИНГУ ХАГГИС

В тебе я славлю командира Всех пудингов горячих мира, - Могучий Хаггис, полный жира И требухи. Строчу, пока мне служит лира, Тебе стихи.

Дородный, плотный, крутобокий, Ты высишься, как холм далекий, А под тобой поднос широкий Чуть не трещит. Но как твои ласкают соки Наш аппетит!

С полей вернувшись, землеробы, Сойдясь вокруг твоей особы, Тебя проворно режут, чтобы Весь жар и пыл Твоей дымящейся утробы На миг не стыл.

Теперь доносится до слуха Стук ложек, звякающих глухо. Когда ж плотнее станет брюхо, Чем барабан, Старик, молясь, гудит, как муха, От пищи пьян.

Пусть тот, кто любит стол французский Рагу и всякие закуски (Хотя от этакой нагрузки И свиньям вред), С презреньем шурит глаз свой узкий На наш обед.

Но - бедный шут! - от пищи жалкой Его нога не толще палки, А вместо мускулов - мочалки, Кулак - орех. В бою, в горячей перепалке Он сзади всех.

А тот, кому ты служишь пищей, Согнет подкову в кулачище. Когда ж в такой руке засвищет Стальной клинок, - Врага уносят на кладбище Без рук, без ног.

Молю я Промысел небесный: И в будний день и в день воскресный Нам не давай похлебки пресной, Яви нам благость И ниспошли родной, чудесный, Горячий Хаггис!

Burns Original

Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face, Great chieftain o' the puddin-race! Aboon them a' ye tak your place, Painch, tripe, or thairm: Weel are ye wordy of a grace As lang's my arm.

The groaning trencher there ye fill, Your hudies like a distant hill, Your pin wad help to mend a mill In time o' need, While thro' your pores the dews distil Like amber bead.

His knife see rustic Labour dight, An' cut ye up wi' ready slight, Trenching your gushing entrails bright, Like onie ditch; And then, O what a glorious sight, Warm-reeking, rich!

Then horn for horn, they stretch an' strive:

Deil tak the hindmost, on they drive, Till a' their weel-swall'd kytes belyve Are bent like drums; Then auld Guidman, maist like to rive, 'Bethankit!' hums.

Is there that owre his French ragout, Or olio that wad staw a sow, Or fricassee wad mak her spew Wi perfect scunner, Looks down wi' sneering, scornfu' view On sic a dinner?

Poor devil! see him owre his trash, As fecl;ess as a wither'd rash, His spindle shank a guid whip-lash, His nieve a nit; Tho' bluidy flood or field to dash, O how unfit.

But mark the Rustic, haggis-fed, The trembling earth resounds his tread, Clap in his walie nieve a blade, He'll make it whistle; An' legs, an' arms, an' heads will sned Like taps o' thrissle.

Ye pow'rs, wha mak mankind your care, And dish them out their bill o' fare, Auld Scotland wants nae skinking ware, That jaups in luggies; But if ye wish her gratfu' prayer, Gie her a Haggis!

Standard English Translation

Fair full your honest, jolly face, Great chieftain of the sausage race! Above them all you take your place, Stomach, tripe, or intestines: Well are you worthy of a grace As long as my arm.

The groaning trencher there you fill, Your buttocks like a distant hill, Your pin would help to mend a mill In time of need, While through your pores the dews distill Like amber bead.

His knife see rustic Labour wipe, And cut you up with ready slight, Trenching your gushing entrails bright, Like any ditch; And then, O what a glorious sight, Warm steaming, rich!

Then spoon for spoon, the stretch and strive: Devil take the hindmost, on they drive, Till all their well swollen bellies by-and-by Are bent like drums; Then old Master of the house, most like to burst, 'The grace!' hums.

Is there that over his French ragout, Or olio that would sicken a sow, Or fricassee would make her throw-up With perfect disgust, Looks down with sneering, scornful view On such a dinner?

Poor devil! see him over his trash, As feeble as a withered rush, His thin legs a good whip-lash, His fist a nut; Through bloody flood or field to dash, O how unfit.

But mark the Rustic, haggis-fed, The trembling earth resounds his tread, Clap in his ample fist a blade, He will make it whistle; And legs, and arms, and heads will crop Like tops of thistle.

You powers, who make mankind your care, And dish them out their bill of fare, Old Scotland want no watery ware, That splashes in small wooden dishes; But is you wish her grateful prayer, Give her, a Haggis!