

*Veni Vidi Vici Verdi*

*In my salad days I sunned and sang with Violetta  
In dreams I showered her with flowers.*

*As I fathered a family I knew too  
Rigoletto fears.  
In those darker dreams I saw and sang with him  
mourning when he found his dead daughter.*

*In Cairo, I awoke to trumpets  
marched with Radames  
then rested by the Nile  
Dined with Cleopatra  
And marched again.*

*In older age Iago treachery hurt  
My dreadful dream talk did not reach Otello  
And so I sing with Verdi  
the willow song, the willow song.*