

Polemical Poetry

For if they do return to thee¹ (Baker's *Life*, Ampleforth)

[403]

For if they do return to thee,
thy heart thou wilt not close,
As witness can my wretched soul,
which was so like to lose

All grace and goodness (if thou hadst
not me with help prevented)
By sins that would with bloody tears
be while I live lamented.

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¹ This poem is a fragment of "Amor Ordinem Nescit," lines 253-260.