BRIGHTER THAN CRYSTAL
RIGDZIN JIGME LINGPA’S SUNG-GUR

NAMO GURU YAR LA TAY PAY KA DAK Ô SAL GYI KHA LA
Homage to the Guru. Gazing upward, to the space of luminosity pure from the start,

LHUN DRUB NYI DAY TSHOM BU MÊ SHEL LAY DANG PA
I see perfect presence, the massing of sun and moon, brighter than crystal,

TA GOM CHYÖ PAY GYEN DU MÊ ’T’HAB NI MI DUK
the indispensable adornment of view, meditation, and conduct:

O LÔ SEM PA GUNG NGÖN T’HÔN PO LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with the high blue sky!

MAR LA TAY PAY KHAM SUM KHIR WA YI DRONG NA
Gazing downward, to the cities of the round of rebirth’s three realms,

MA GEN DRO DRUK NA TSHOK DUK NGAL GYIY NAR DUK
I see my venerable mothers, beings of six kinds, racked with varied woes.

DI DRA T’HONG WAY NYING TSA WANG MÊ DU DAR NAY
Witnessing this, my heart can’t help but shudder:

O LÔ SEM PA DAM PAI LHA CHHÖ LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with the holy teachings!

DI RU TAY PAY DZA RI T’HÔN PO YI TSÉ MOR
Gazing around, on this peak of a high rocky mountain
KHA CHHAR NA BUN LUNG GI REK JYI YIY YOK PAY
smothered in the caresses of rain, fog, and wind,

YAM PAY CHYIL CHHUNG CHHAK MÉ ZHEN DRAL GYI KHANG DZEY
I see my little slate hut, a fine mansion I’m neither fond of nor cling to:

O LÒ SEM PA GANG LAY DZA T’HRÖ LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with retreat on a mountain pass!

DRA LA DANG ZHING NYEN LA RANG SHUK KYI CHHAK PAY
My mind harbors no liking for the busyness of monasteries

DÉ GÖN DU DZI ZHEN PA YI YUL NA MI DUK
where enemies are hated and friends prized as a matter of course.

LAB JYA JYIY PAY LU DRI MA DZAY DANG É GO
Don’t give me your advice, tales told to trick infants—do you get that?

O LÒ SEM PA NANG ZÖ GANG DÉ LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with whatever appears easily close at hand!

DIK ZAY SHA LA NYEY KYANG ZHEN SOK NI MI CHÖ
These vultures love meat, sinful food, but they don’t kill.

LUNG SHOK TSÉ DRO NGAR MAY TUL ZHUK DANG DROK NAY
Alight in fearless conduct on the steely tips of their wings of wind,

TA GOM NAM KHAI P’HU T’HAK TSEN T’HAB SU CHÖ PAY
they forcefully span the space of view and meditation:
O LÖ SEM PA T’HANG KAR GÖ PO LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with white vultures!

SAM MÉ DÙ DROR KYEY KYANG GÈ SEM DANG DEN PA
These birds were born as thoughtless beasts but have positive minds:

ZHEN LA NÖ PAY KHA ZAY DANG KHA RU MI DRO
No food that involves others’ harm passes their beaks.

TSA DANG NYU GÜ TSHO WAY KAY NYEN GYI DAB CHHAK
Such feathered creatures live on grass and reeds, and sing sweetly:

O LÖ SEM PA LIYA GONG MO LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with heavenly snowcock birds!

RI DAK PANG LA TSÉ WA NGÖN LAY RANG YIN PAR
Deer that frolic on the grasslands due to their past karma—

T’HREL MÉ LING PAY DRA LA JYOL CHHYIN PAY LÖ CHHOK
Flee, flee from your attackers, the shameless hunters.

GANG JYUNG ZAY KYI YANG TSÉ TSA CHHU RU DUK PAY
You eat what you find among the very best of foods, grass and water:

O LÖ SEM PA SHA WA MUK CHHUNG LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with small brown deer!

KHA SANG P’HUNG PO JYA LA TOR SHUL Dé T'HONG WAY
Yesterday, I saw those remains of a human corpse scattered for birds
ZHÖN PAY GYU LÜ LA KHAY NA BUN DU GO JYUNG
and realized that this youthful illusory body is as solid as my breath in the cold air.

LÜ SEM DRAL KYANG TSHOR WAY DUK NGAL LAY DROL WAY
Though my body and mind will part ways, I won’t feel any anguish:

O LÖ SEM PA Ö SAL CHHÖ KU LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with the luminous true body of wisdom!

DO NUB TSAM YANG MI CHHI DENG TSHAY NI MI DUK
I’ve got no confidence I won’t die, even tonight.

JYA JYÉ MANG PO NGEN SONG KHOR WA YI TING DO
Plans and projects make me a rock in the abyss of the round of rebirth’s wretched depths,

JYAR MÉ NGANG NAY SA LAM CHHIK CHHÖ DU GYUR PAY
while continual lack of activity is sufficient to traverse all paths and stages of awakening:

O LÖ SEM PA MA CHÖ LHUK PA LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with unfeigned relaxation!

DRANG MÉ SUM GYI GUK YUN CHOK PA NI MI DUK
I’ve got no time to wait for three immeasurable eons to elapse until enlightenment.

DOM PA SUM GYI NGO WO RANG RIK LA DZOK SONG
The three levels of vows’ essence is complete within intrinsic awareness,

DA TAY SHEY PA SANG GYAY NGÖN SUM DU DUK PAY
and present knowing awareness is enlightenment fully exposed:
O LÔ SEM PA Ô SAL DZOK CHHEN LA SHOR SONG
Oh, this boy’s fallen in love with luminous great perfection!

WEN PAY RI NGOK GANG LA DZÉ-U YI DZA T’Hrö
In this stone-house retreat on an isolated mountain side,

KU TSHAM DAM PO KHA CHHAR NA BUN GYI DAM TSHÉ
I sit within strict boundaries, hemmed in by rain and mist.

GA KYO DREY PAY NYAM NANG BEN BUN GYI NGANG NAY
In the midst of blurry experience, bittersweet,

GYU MAY NAL JYOR KHEN TSEI Ö ZER GYIY MAY SO
I, an adept of magical illusion, Khyentsé Özer, sing.

This blessed song by the omniscient master Jigme Lingpa has been taken from “The Cycle of Activity,” chapter three of his autobiography, A Harvest that Gathers Every Good Act.