

Ode to Miriam, Dirge for CELOP

High upon the BU hill
Backed by Dumb and Dummer
Toil the dwarves of CELOPville
Autumn, Spring and Summer

When no one wants to help you
And doors just seem to slam
When you're ready to dump the whole damn crew
Go see Miriam

And in that magic village there
Along the Charles' bank
Has appeared a language fair
Of international rank

When BU thinks you're missing
Due to an I.D. scam
Don't just stand there pissing
Go see Miriam

But now and then, in any town
Upon the village green
A crisis or an accident
Will make the people scream

When your Terrier Card stops working
And Personnel says "Scram"
And your car's been towed by Parking
Go see Miriam

"Oh my, oh no, the end is nigh
There's nothing left to do
We're lost, we're doomed, we're fried" they cry
Defeated through and through

But now the sorry day has come
Our cries aren't worth a damn
No more can we draw succor from
"Go see Miriam"

But's not the case in CELOPville
For when disaster nears
A wail arises sharp and shrill
To quell the rising fears

Woe is CELOP! Woe is us!
The next time things go "Blam!"
It'll do no good to cry or cuss
"Go see Miriam"

Like a mantra to the angry skies
When CELOP's in a jam -
Stop the wailing and the cries
Go see Miriam

And though we know she's moving on
To hours much better spent
Can't you picture Miriam on
A beach in Cannes, Tashkent

When the power's out in the copy room
And the email's choked with spam
And the lobby's locked in an air of doom
Go see Miriam

For somewhere the sun is shining
But not in CELOPville
For we are all still pining for
Miriam's charm, and heart, and skill

When your paycheck gets rerouted
To Kabul, Afghanistan
And the solution's convoluted
Go see Miriam

*In sincere appreciation for making
CELOP a great place to work, as
well as making the place work great,
for all these memorable years.*