



Words about violence in Lithuanian poetry

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Maironis



Biography

- Maironis, pseudonym of Jonas Mačiulis (born Nov. 2, 1862, Pasandravys, Lithuania, Russian Empire—died June 28, 1932, Kaunas), poet considered to be the bard of the Lithuanian national renaissance.



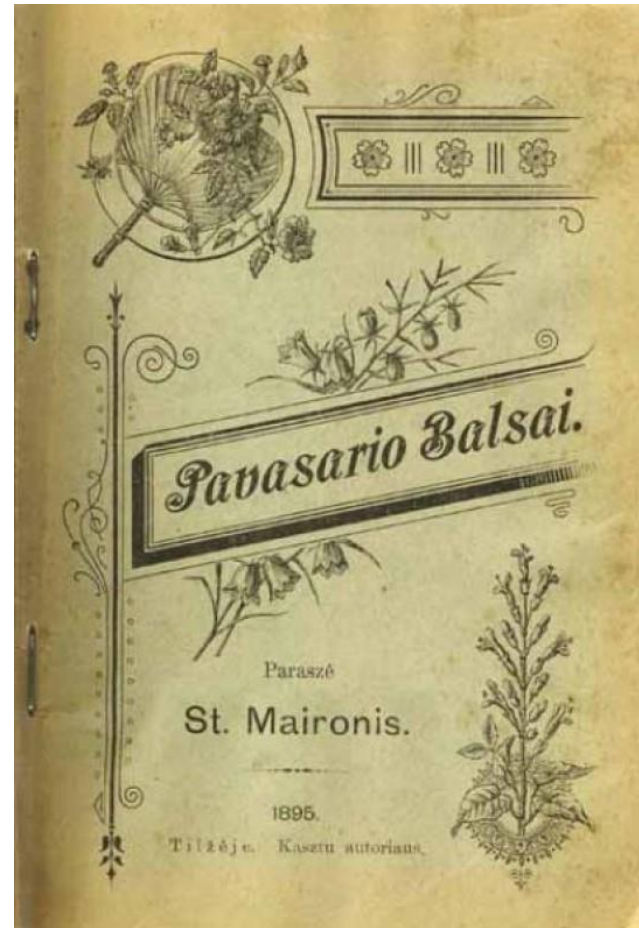
- **Maironis, a Roman Catholic priest, studied at the theological seminary in Kaunas and at the theological academy in St. Petersburg in 1888–92 and returned there as an inspector and professor of moral theology (1894–1909) after two more years at Kaunas. He then served as rector of the seminary in Kaunas until 1922, when he was elected professor of moral theology at the Lithuanian University.**



- In his poetry Maironis expressed the hopes and aspirations of the Lithuanian people at the time of their struggle for independence. He wrote of his love for his country: its past, countryside, language, and legends.



All of Maironis' lyric poetry was published in the collection "Voices of spring" (Pavasario balsai). The first of three epic poems "Young Lithuania" (Jaunoji Lietuva), has passages of great lyric beauty. Maironis also wrote three historical dramas on the life of Vytautas the Great (1350–1430), grand duke of Lithuania



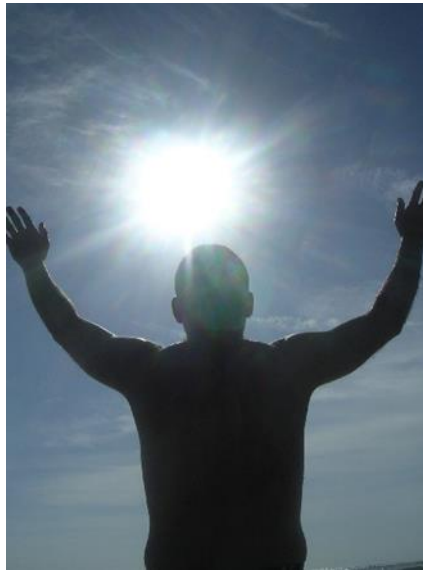
**Protect me, Lord,
(Apsaugok, Viešpatie!)
(a part of the poem)**

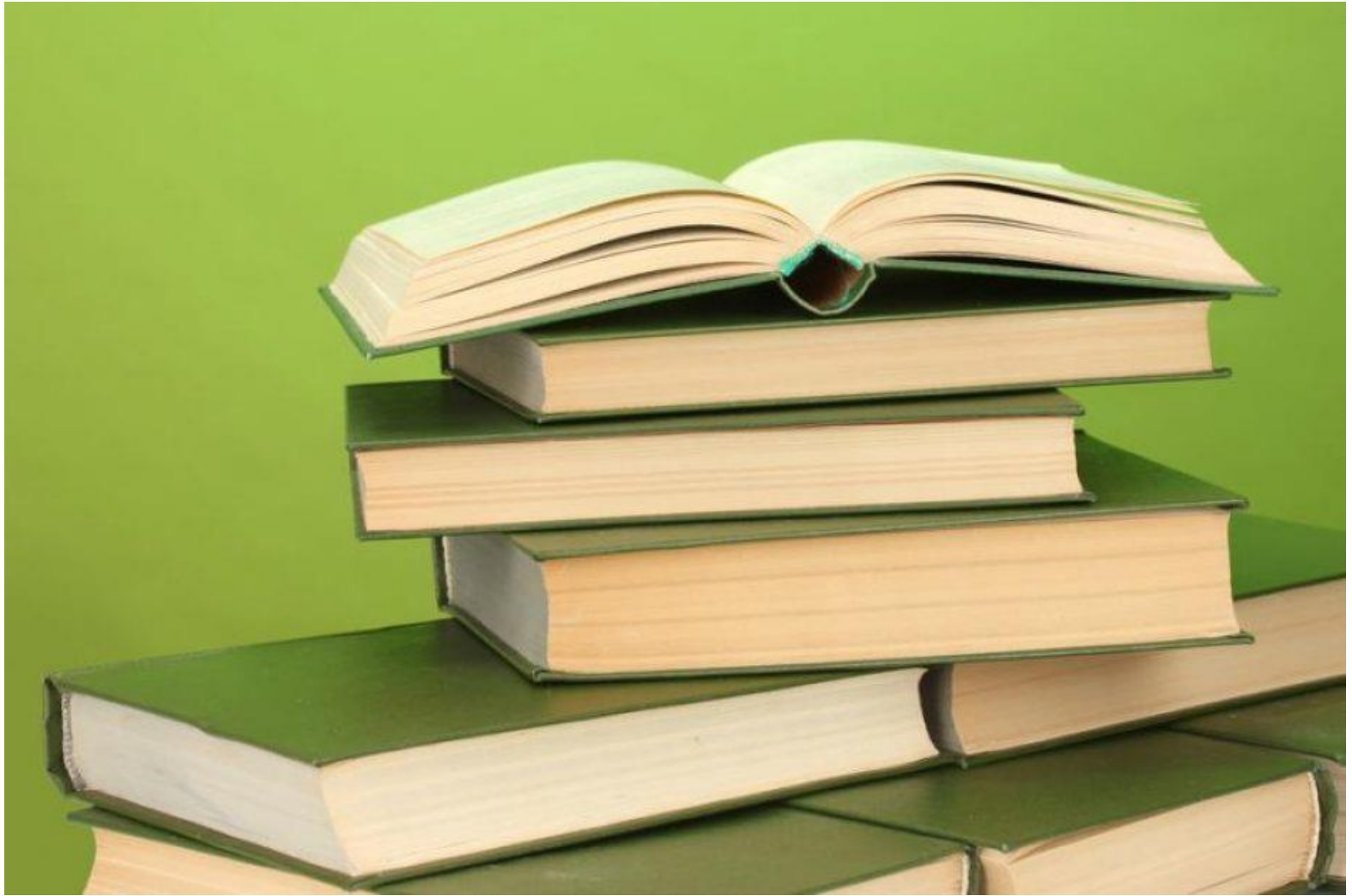
**Protect me, Lord, from the enemy,
Who is digging a pit in the darkness
And from another one, who on the road
Spatters mud on a helpless man!
And I am afraid of those friends,
Who are too boastful sometimes
And see only others' sins
But cannot see their own.**

**Protect me, Lord, from the villain,
Who attacks and takes everything from people,
And from the politician
Who only ruins everything around him!
I'm afraid of landlords
Who pretend they help people
And from youth
Who is interested only in drinking alcohol...**



**... I still have a lot of prayers
But I don't think it is useful to pray.
It is so painful for me
That I became speechless..**







Erasmus+

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