

Облако в штанах
Владимир Маяковский
(Отрывок из части 1)

A Cloud in Pants
Vladimir Mayakovsky
(Excerpt from Part 1)

Вошла ты,
резкая, как «нате!»,
муча перчатки замш,
сказала:
«Знаете —
я выхожу замуж».

Что ж, выходите.
Ничего.
Покреплюсь.
Видите — спокоен как!
Как пульс
покойника.

Помните?
Вы говорили:
«Джек Лондон,
деньги,
любовь,
страсть», —
а я одно видел:
вы — Джиоконда,
которую надо украсть!

И украли

You stormed in,
Throwing yourself at me.
Fiddling with your gloves,
You blurted out,
“Hey, guess what?
I’m getting married.”

Really? Go for it.
Doesn’t matter to me.
I’ll be fine.
Look – see how serene I am.
Like the pulse
Of any dead man.

Just think in the past,
You were talking about
Our struggles with ideas,¹
with money,
Our love,
Our passion,
But for me there was only you:
You were my Mona Lisa
Inevitably to be taken from me².

And you have been.

¹ It has been suggested that mentioning “Jack London” here (in the Russian text) might be alluding to Jack London’s novel *Martin Eden*, which was one of Mayakovsky’s favorite novels; and that Mayakovsky considered Martin Eden his own reflection. (conjunctions.com).

² A reference to the painting *Mona Lisa* (also known as *La Gioconda*) by Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519), which was stolen from the Musée de Louvres in Paris on August 21, 1911 by the Louvre employee Vincenzo Peruggia. (conjunctions.com)