

# On a Verse from the Dead Sea Scrolls

by Jeffrey Burghauer (February 2018)



*Title Unknown*, John Bellamy

*“Seek Wisdom, and find her,”* they begin—  
Harmlessly banal, although the brat  
In me feels compelled to notice that  
It’s redundant. The grim bulletin  
Of their belief sees as aggressor  
Any sly reflex that may applaud  
The flesh to animate. Thus, it’s odd  
That they end: *“Grasp her, and possess her.”*

The synthesis they seem spinning to:

Since making love to your wife's a sin,  
You should rape Wisdom. God, could it be  
More appalling? But at least they knew  
That Wisdom can be found nowhere in  
A life's commonplace trajectory.

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