

Inanna's descent to the nether world

SOURCE: The Electronic Text Corpus of Sumerian Literature

University of Oxford, Faculty of Oriental Studies

URL: <https://etcsl.orinst.ox.ac.uk/section1/c141.htm#line1>

Transliteration

On the ETCSL website, the following conventions are used to mark non-ASCII characters in transliterations of Sumerian, in both composite texts and translations:

- **c** represents š /sh/ and **C** the corresponding capital letter
- **j** represents ĝ/ġ /ng/ and **J** the corresponding capital letter

¹an gal-ta ki gal-ce₃ jectug₂-ga-ni na-an-/gub\

²dijir an gal-ta ki gal-ce₃ jectug₂-ga-ni na-an-[gub]

^{3d}inana an gal-[ta ki gal-ce₃] jectug₂-ga-ni na-an-[gub]

⁴nin-ju₁₀ an mu-un-cub ki mu-un-cub kur-ra ba-e-a-ed₃

^{5d}inana an mu-un-cub ki mu-un-cub kur-ra ba-e-a-ed₃

Translation:

From the great heaven she set her mind on the great below.

From the great heaven the goddess set her mind on the great below.

From the great heaven Inanna set her mind on the great below.

My mistress abandoned heaven, abandoned earth, and descended to the underworld.

VERSION FOR PERFORMANCE

Below is a simplified version of the transliteration, which can be utilized during the performance.

All determinatives have been removed, and the following letters have been substituted:

c-> š - English "sh"

j -> ĝ/ġ - nasal "ng"

an gal-ta ki gal-she ngeshtug-ga-ni na-an-gub

dingir an gal-ta ki gal-she ngeshtug -ga-ni na-an-gub

inana an gal-ta ki gal-she ngeshtug ga-ni na-an-gub

nin-ngu an mu-un-shub ki mu-un-shub kur-ra ba-e-a-ed

inana an mu-un-shub ki mu-un-shub kur-ra ba-e-a-ed