

# Sir Gawain and The Green Knight

edited by

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S

iþen þe sege ⁊ þe assaut watȝ sefed at troye  
 þe borȝ brittened ⁊ brent to brondeȝ ⁊ askeȝ  
 þe tulk þat þe trāmes of tresoū þ' wroȝt  
 watȝ tried for his tricherie þe trewest on erthe  
 hit watȝ Ennias þe athel ⁊ his high' kynde  
 þat siben depreced puinces ⁊ patroūes biconme  
 welneȝe of al þe wele ī þe west iles  
 fro riche romulus to rome ricchis hȳ swyþe

wȝ gret bobbauce þat burȝe he biges vpon fyrst  
 ⁊ neuenes hit his aune nome as hit now hat  
 ticius to tuskan ⁊ teldes bigynes  
 lang aberde ī lübardie lyftes vp homes wyth wȳne  
 ⁊ fer ou' þe french flod felix brut<sup>9</sup>  
 on mony bonkkes ful brode bretayn he setteȝ  
 where werre ⁊ wrake ⁊ wonder  
 bi syþeȝ hatȝ wont þ' īne  
 ⁊ oft boþe blysse ⁊ blüder  
 ful skete hatȝ skyfted sȳne  
 Ande quen þis bretayn watȝ bigged bi þis burn rych  
 bolde bredden þerīne baret þat lofden  
 in mony turned tyme tene þat wroȝten  
 mo ferlyes on þis folde han fallen here oft  
 þen in any oþ' þat jwot syn þat ilk tyme  
 bot of alle þat here bult of bretaygne kȳges  
 ay watȝ arthur þe hendeſt as jhaf herde telle

for þi an aūt in erde jattle to schawe  
þat aselly in siȝt sūme men hit holden  
ꝝ an outrage awenture of arthureȝ wond̄eȝ  
if ȝe wyl lysten þis laye bot on littel quile  
ȝſchal telle hit as tit as jī toū herde  
as hit is stād ꝝ stoken  
in stori stif ꝝ stronge  
w̄t lel lett̄es loken  
ī londe sohatȝ ben longe  
þis kȳg lay at camylot vpon kryst masse  
w̄t mony luflych lorde ledeȝ of þe best  
rekenly of þe roūde table alle þo rich breþ  
w̄t rych reuel oryȝt ꝝ rechles m̄þes  
þ̄ tōnayed tulkes bytymeȝ fulmony  
justed ful jolile þise gentle kniȝtes  
syþen kayred to þe court caroles to make  
for þer þe fest watȝ ilyche ful fiftendayes  
with alle þe mete ꝝ þe mirþe þat mē couþe a vyle  
such glaumande gle glorioȝ to here  
dere dyn vpon day daūfȝyng on nyȝtes  
al watȝ hap vpon heȝe ī halleȝ ꝝ chambreȝ  
with lordeȝ ꝝ ladies as leuest hī þoȝt  
with all þe wele of þe worlde þay woned þ̄ samen  
þe most kyd knyȝteȝ vnder kryſt̄ seluen  
ꝝ þe louelokkest ladies þat eū lif haden  
ꝝ he þe comlokest kȳg þat þe court haldes on fille  
for al watȝ þis fayre folk ī her first age  
þe hapneste vnder heuen  
kȳg hyȝest mō ofwylle  
hit werere now gret nye to neuē  
sohardy a here ō hille  
wyle nw ȝer watȝ so ȝep þat h̄t watȝ nwe cūmen  
þat day doubble on þe dece watȝ þe douth serued  
fro þe kȳg watȝ cūmen w̄t knyȝt̄ ī to þe halle  
þe chaūtre of þe chapel cheued to anende  
loude crye watȝ þer kest of clerkeȝ ꝝ oper

Nowel nayted o newe neuened ful ofte  
 ⁊ syþen riche forth rūnen to reche honde selle  
 ȝeȝed ȝeres ȝiftes on hiȝ ȝelde hem bi hond  
 de bated busyly aboute þo giftes  
 ladies laȝed ful loude þoȝ þay lost haden  
 ⁊ he þat wan watȝ not wrothe þt may ȝe wel trawe  
 alle þis mirþe þay maden to þe mete tyme  
 when þay had waschen worþyly þay wenten to sete  
 þe best burne ay abof as hit best semed  
 whene guenore ful gay grayþed i þe myddes  
 dressed on þe dere des dubbed al aboute  
 smal sendal bisides aselure hir oū  
 of tryed tolouse of tars tapites i nogh'                    in daye  
 þat were embrawded ⁊ beten wyth þe best gēmes  
 þat myȝt be preued of prys wyth penyes tobye  
 þe comlokest to discrye  
 þer glent wȝt yȝen gray  
 a semloker þat eū he fyȝe  
 soth moȝt nomon say  
 Bot arthure wolde not ete til al were serued  
 he watȝ so ioly of his joyfn̄es ⁊ fū quat child gered  
 his lif liked hȳ lyȝt he louied þelasse  
 aup' tolenge lye or to longe fitte  
 so bisied him his ȝonge blod ⁊ his brayn wylde  
 ⁊ also anoþ maner meued hī eke  
 þat he þurȝ nobelay had nomen he wolde neū ete  
 vpon such adere day er hȳ deuised were  
 of fū auenturȝ þyg an vncouþe tale  
 of fū mayn m̄uayle þat he myȝt trawe  
 of of alderes of armes of oþ auenturȝ  
 oþ fū legg hȳ bisoȝt of fū fiker knyȝt  
 to joyne wyth hȳ i iustȝg in joparde tolay  
 lede lif for lyf leue vchonoþ  
 as fortune wolde fulfū hō þefayrer tohaue  
 þis watȝ kȳges coȝtenaȝce where he i cōt were  
 at vch farand fest amōg his fre meny

þer fore of face so fere  
 he stiȝtleȝ stif i stalle  
 ful ȝep i þat nw ȝere  
 much mirthe he mas w<sup>t</sup> alle  
 Thus þ<sup>r</sup> stondes i stale þe stif kȳg his seluen  
 talkkande bifore þe hyȝe table of trifles ful hende  
 there gode gawan watȝ g<sup>r</sup>yþed gwenore bisyde  
 ȝ ag<sup>r</sup>uayn aladuremayn on þat oþ<sup>r</sup> syde sittes  
 boþe þe kȳges sisf sūes ȝ ful siker kniȝtes  
 Bischop bawdewyn abof bigineȝ þe table  
 ȝ ywan vrym son ettewit hȳseluen  
 þise were diȝt on þe des ȝ derworþly serued  
 ȝ siþen mony siker segge at þe sidbordeȝ  
 þe þe first cors come with crakkyg of trȳpes  
 wyth mony baner ful bryȝt þat þer bihenged  
 nwe nakrym noyse w<sup>t</sup> þe noble pipes  
 wylde werbles ȝ wyȝt wakned lote  
 þat mony hert ful hiȝe hef at her towches  
 dayntes dryuen þer wyth of fuldere metes  
 foysoū of þe fresche ȝ onso fele disches  
 þat pine to fynde þe place þe peple bi forne  
 for to sette þefyluen' þat fere fewes halden  
 jche lede as he loued hȳ felue  
 þer laght w<sup>t</sup> outen loþe  
 ay two had disches twelue  
 Good ber ȝ bryȝt wyn boþe  
 Now wyl i of hor seruise say yow no more  
 for vch wyȝe may wel wit nowont þat þ<sup>r</sup> were  
 an oþ<sup>r</sup> noyse ful newe neȝed bilue  
 þat þe lude myȝt haf leue liflode to cach  
 for vneþe watȝ þe noyce not awhyle sefed  
 ȝ þe fyrst cōce i þe cōt kyndely serued  
 þer hales i at þe halle dor an aghlich mayſt  
 On þe most on þe molde on mesure hygh'  
 fro þe swyre toþe swange so sware ȝ so þik  
 ȝ his lyndes ȝ his lymes folonge ȝ sogrete

in halle

on clothe

half etayn ī erde j hope þat he were  
 bot mon most jalgate mȳn hȳ to bene  
 ⁊ þat þe myriest ī his muckel þat myȝt ride  
 for of bak ⁊ of breſt al were his bodiſturne  
 bot his wombe ⁊ his waſt were worthily ſmale      ful clene  
 ⁊ alle his fetures folȝande ī forme þat he hade  
 for wonder of his hwe mē hade  
 ſet ī his ſemblaūt ſene  
 he ferde as freke were fade  
 ⁊ oū al enker grene  
 Ande al grayþed ī grene þis gome ⁊ his wedes  
 a strayt cote ful ſtreȝt þat ſtek on his ſides  
 amere mantle abof mensked w<sup>t</sup> īne  
 w<sup>t</sup> pelure pured apert þe pane ful clene  
 w<sup>t</sup> blyþe blaūn' ful bryȝt ⁊ his hod boþe  
 þat watȝ laȝt fro his lokkeȝ ⁊ layde on his ſchulderes  
 heme wel haled hofe of þat fame grene  
 þat ſpenet on his ſparlyr ⁊ clene ſpures vnder  
 of bryȝt golde vpon ſilk bordes barred ful ryche  
 ⁊ ſcholes vnder ſchankes þere þeſchalk rides  
 ⁊ alle his vesture uerayly watȝ clene v'dure  
 boþe þe barres of his belt ⁊ oþ blyþe ſtones  
 þ<sup>t</sup> were richely rayled ī his aray clene  
 aboutte hȳ ſelf ⁊ his fadel vpon ſilk werkeȝ  
 þat were to tor forto telle of tryfles þe halue  
 þat were enbrauded abof wyth bryddes ⁊ flyȝes  
 with gay gaudi of grene þe golde ay ī myddes  
 þe pendaūtes of his paytture þe proude cropyre  
 his molaynes ⁊ alle þe metail anamayld was þēne  
 þe ſteropes þat he ſtod on stayned of þe fame  
 ⁊ his arſoūȝ al after ⁊ his aþel ſturtes  
 þat euer glem'ed ⁊ glent al of grene ſtones      ſertayn  
 þe fole þat he ferkkes on fyn of þat ilke  
 a grene hors gret ⁊ þikke  
 aſtede ful ſtif to ſtrayne  
 ī brawden brydel quik

to þe gome he watȝ ful gayn  
 Wel gay watȝ þis gome gered ī grene  
 ȝ þe here of his hed of his hors swete  
 fayre fannand fax vmbe foldes his schulderes  
 amuch berd as as abusk ouȝ his brest henges  
 þat wyth his hiȝlich here þat of his hed reches  
 watȝ euesed al vmbetorne abof his elbowes  
 þat half his armes þer vnder were halched ī þe wyse  
 of a kȳgeȝ capados þat closes his swyre  
 þe mane of þat mayn hors much tohit lyke  
 wel cresped ȝ cēmed wyth knottes ful mony  
 folden ī wyth fildore aboute þe fayre grene  
 ay aherle of þe here an oþ of golde  
 þe tayl ȝ his toppȝg twȝnen of asute  
 ȝ boȝden boȝe wyth abande of abryȝt grene  
 dubbed wyth ful dere stoneȝ as þe dok lasted  
 syȝen þrawen wyth a þwong a þwarle knot alofte  
 þer mony belleȝ ful bryȝt of brende golde rungen  
 such afole vpon folde ne freke þat hȳ rydes  
 watȝ neuȝ sene ī þat sale wyth syȝt er þat tyme      wȝt yȝe  
 he loked as layt folȝt  
 sofayd al þat hȳ syȝe  
 hit semed as no mon myȝt  
 vnd his dyntteȝ dryȝe  
 Wheþ had he no helme ne hawbrgh nauþ  
 ne no pysan ne no plate þat pented to armes  
 ne no schafte ne no schelde toschwue ne to smyte  
 bot ī his on honde he hade aholyn bobbe  
 þat is grattest ī grene when greueȝ arbare  
 ȝ anax ī his oþ ahoge ȝ vn mete  
 aspetos sparþe to expoū ī spelle quo so myȝt  
 þe hede of an elnȝerde þe large lenkþe hade  
 þe grayn al of grene stele ȝ of golde hewen  
 þe bit burnyst bryȝt wȝt abrod egge  
 as wel schapen to schere as scharp rasores  
 þe stele of a stif staf þe sturne hit bi grypte

bat watʒ woūden wyth yrn to þe wandeʒ ende  
ꝝ al bigrauen w<sup>t</sup> grene ī g<sup>r</sup>cōs werkes  
alace lapped abouþ þat louked at þe hede  
ꝝ so aff þe halme halched ful ofte  
wyth tryed tasseleʒ þerto tacched ī nogh' e  
on botoūʒ of þe bryʒt grene brayden ful ryche  
þis haþel heldeʒ hȳ ī ꝝ þe halle entres  
driuande to þe heȝe dece dut he no woþe  
haylsed he neu' one bot heȝe he ou' loked  
þe fyrst word þat he warp wher is he sayd  
þe gouñð of þis gȳg gladly j wolde rayfot  
ſe þat segg ī fyȝt ꝝ w<sup>t</sup> hȳ ſelf ſpeke  
to knyȝteȝ he keſt his yȝe  
ꝝ reled hȳ vp ꝝ doū  
he ſtemmed ꝝ con ſtudie  
quo walt þer moſt renoū  
Ther watʒ lokȳg onlenþe þe lude to be holde  
for vch mō had meruayle quat hit mene myȝt  
þat ahaþel ꝝ a horſe myȝt ſuch ahwe lach  
as growe grene as þe gres ꝝ grener hit ſemed  
þen grene aumayl on golde lowande bryȝt  
al ſtudied þat þ̄ ſtod ꝝ ſtalked hȳ nerre  
wyth al þe wonder of þe worlde what heworſch ſchu  
for fele ſellyeȝ had þayſen bot ſuch neu' are  
for þi for fantoū ꝝ fayryȝe þe folk þere hit demed  
þerfore to anſware watʒ arȝe mony aþelfreke  
ꝝ al ſtouned at his ſteuen ꝝ ſtonſtil ſeten  
in a swogh' ſylence þurȝ þefale riche  
as al were ſlypped vpon ſlepe ſo ſlaked hor loteȝ  
j deme hit not alfor doute  
bot ſū for cortayſye  
bot let hȳ þat al ſchulde loute  
caſt vnto þat wyȝe  
þen arþð bifore þe hiȝ dece þat auenture byholdeȝ  
ꝝ rekenly hȳ reu'enced for rad was he neu'  
ꝝ sayde wyȝe welcū iwys to þis place



⁊ ischal bide þe fyrſt bur as bare as iſitte  
 if any freke be ſo felle to fonde þat jtelle  
 lepe lyȝtly me to ⁊ lach þis weppen  
 j quit clayme hit for eu' kepe hit as his auen  
 ⁊ iſchal ſtonde hȳ a ſtrok ſtif on þis flet      barlay  
 elleȝ þu wyldiȝt me þe dom to dele hȳ an ob'  
 ⁊ ȝet gif hȳ reſpite  
 a twelmonyth ⁊ aday  
 now hyȝe ⁊ let ſe tite  
 dar any her īne oȝt ſay  
 If he hem ſtowned vpon fyrſt ſtiller were þāne  
 alle þe hered men ī halle þe hyȝ ⁊ þe loȝe  
 þe renk on his roūce hȳ ruched ī his fadel  
 ⁊ runiſchly his rede yȝen he reled aboute  
 bende his brefed broȝeȝ blycande grene  
 Wayued his berde forto wayte quo ſo wolde ryſe  
 when non wolde kepe hȳ w<sup>t</sup> carp he coȝed ful hyȝe  
 ande rimed hȳ ful richly ⁊ ryȝt hȳ to speke  
 what is þis arthures hoȝ q þe habel þēne  
 þat al þe roȝ rēnes of þurȝ ryalmes ſo mony  
 Where is now yð ſōquydrye ⁊ yð cōqueſtes  
 yð gry ellayk ⁊ yð greme ⁊ yð grete wordes  
 now is þe reuel ⁊ þe renoū of þe roūde table  
 ou' walt wyth a worde of on wyȝes ſpeche  
 for aldares fordrede w<sup>t</sup> oute dynt ſchewed  
 wyth þis he laȝes foloude þat þe lorde greued  
 þe blod ſchot for ſcham īto his ſchyre face      ⁊ lere  
 hewex as wroth as wynde  
 ſo did alle þat þer were  
 þe kȳg as kene bi kynde  
 þē ſtod þat ſtif mon nere  
 Ande ſayde habel by heuen þȳ aſkȳg is nys  
 ⁊ as þu foly hatȝ frayſt fynde þe behoues  
 jknow no come þat is gaſt of þy grete wordes  
 giſ me now þy geſerne vpongodeȝ halue  
 ⁊ iſchal bayben þy bone þat þu boden habbes

lyȝtly lepeȝ he hȳ to ȝ laȝt at his honde  
 þen feerfly þat oþ freke vpon fote lyȝtis  
 now hatȝ arthure his axe ȝ þe halme grypeȝ  
 ȝ sturnely stureȝ hit aboute þat stryke wyth hit þoȝt  
 þe stif mon hȳ bifore stod vpon hyȝt  
 herre þen ani in þe hoȝ by þe hede ȝ more  
 wyth sturne schere þer he stod he stroked his berde  
 ȝ wyth acoȝtenaȝce dryȝe he droȝdoȝ his cote  
 no more mate ne dismayd for hȳs maȝ dinteȝ      of wyne  
 þen any burne vpon bench hade broȝt hȳ to drynk  
 Gawan þat fate bi þe quene  
 to þe kȳg he can enclyne  
 j be seche now wȝ faȝeȝ sene  
 þis melly mot be myne  
 wolde ȝe worþilich lorde q; Gawan to þe kȳg  
 bid me boȝe fro þis benche ȝ stonde by yow þere  
 þat j wyth oute vylanye myȝt voyde þis table  
 ȝ þat my legge lady lyked not ille  
 j wolde com to yð coȝseyl bifore yð cort ryche  
 for me þink hit not semly as hit is soþ knawen  
 þþ such an askȳg is heuened sohyȝe i yð sale  
 þaȝ ȝe ȝð self be talentyf totake hit to yð seluen  
 whil mony so bolde yow aboute vpon bench sytten  
 þat vnder heuen j hope non haȝerer of wylle  
 ne bettȝ bodyes on bent þerbaret is rered  
 jam þe wakkest jwot ȝ of wyt feblest  
 ȝ left lur of my lyf quo laytes þe soþe  
 bot for as much as ȝe ar myn em jam only to prayse  
 no boȝte bot yð blod i in my bode knowe  
 ȝ syþen þis note is so nys þt noȝt hit yow falles  
 ȝ jhaue frayned hit at yow fyrst foldeȝ hit tome  
 ȝ if j carp not comlyly let alle þis cort rych      bout blame  
 ryche togeder con roȝ  
 ȝ syþen þay redder alle same  
 to ryd þe kȳg wyth croȝ  
 ȝ gif gawan þe game

þen comaūded þe kȳg þe knyȝt forto ryse  
 ⁊ he ful radly vp ros ⁊ ruchched hȳ fayre  
 kneled douū before þe kȳg ⁊ cacheȝ þat weppen  
 ⁊ he lulflyly hit hȳ laft ⁊ lyfte vp his honde  
 ⁊ gef hȳ goddeȝ blesȝyȝ ⁊ gladly hȳ biddes  
 þat his hert ⁊ his honde schulde hardi be boþe  
 kepe þe cosyn q þe kȳg þat þu on kyrf sette  
 ⁊ if þu redeȝ hȳ ryȝt redly jtrowe  
 þat þu ſchal byden þe bur þat he ſchal bede aft  
 gawan gotȝ to þe gome wȝt giferne ī honde  
 ⁊ he baldly hȳ bydeȝ he bayſt neuȝ þe helder  
 þen carppeȝ to ſ gawan þe knyȝt ī þe grene  
 refourme we oure for wardes er we fyrre pasſe  
 fyrſt jeþe þe habel how þat þu hattes  
 þat þu me telle truly as jtryſt may  
 in god fayth q þe goode knyȝt Gawan jhatte  
 þat bede þe þis buffet quat fo bi falleȝ aft  
 ⁊ at þis tyme twelmonyth take at þe anoþ  
 wyth what weppen fo þu wylt ⁊ wyth no wyȝ elleȝ on lyue  
 þat oþ onſwareȝ agayn  
 fir gawan ſomot jþryue  
 as jam ferly fayn  
 þis dint þat þu ſchal dryue  
 Bigog q þe grene knyȝt ſ gawan melykes  
 þat jſchal fange at þy fust þat jhaf frayſt here  
 ⁊ þu hatȝ redily rehersed bireſoū ful trwe  
 clanly al þe couenaūt þat jþe kȳge asked  
 saf þat þu ſchal ſiker me ſegge bi þi trawþe  
 þat þu ſchal ſeche me þi ſelf where fo þu hopes  
 jmay be funde vpon folde ⁊ fyſch þe ſuch wages  
 as þu deles me to day before þis douþe ryche  
 where ſchulde jwale þe q gauan where is þy place  
 jwot neuȝ where þu wonyes bihȳ þat me wroȝt  
 ne j know not þeknyȝt þy cort ne þiname  
 bot teche me truly þerto ⁊ telle me howe þu hattes  
 ⁊ jſchal ware alle my wyt to wȳne me þeder

⁊ þat iſwere þe forſoþe ⁊ by my ſeker trawef  
 þat is in nofh in nwe ȝer hit nedes no more  
 q þe gome i þe grene to gawan þe hende  
 ȝif j þe telle trwly quen jþe tape haue  
 ⁊ þe me ſmofely hatȝ ſmyten ſmartly j þe teche  
 of my hoȝ ⁊ my home ⁊ myn owen nome  
 þen may þe frayſt my fare ⁊ forwardeȝ holde  
 ⁊ if j ſpende no ſpeche þēne ſpedeȝ þe þe bett̄  
 for þe may leng i þy londe ⁊ layt noſyrre      bot flokes  
 ta now þy grȳme tole toþe  
 ⁊ let ſe how þe cnokeȝ  
 gladly ſ for ſoþe  
 q gawan his ax he ſtrokſ  
 The grene knyȝt vpongrouðe grayþely hȳ drefſes  
 alittel lut wȝ þehede þelere hediscoȝueȝ  
 his longe louelych lokkeȝ helayd oū his croū  
 let þe naked nec to þe note ſchewe  
 Gauan gripped tohis ax ⁊ gederes hit on hyȝt  
 þe kay fot onþe folde he be fore ſette  
 let him doū lyȝtly lyȝt on þe naked  
 þat þe ſcharp of þe ſchalk ſchyndered þe bones  
 ⁊ ſchrāk þurȝ þe ſchyire grece ⁊ ſchade hit i twȳne  
 þat þe bit of þe broūſtel bot on þe groūde  
 þe fayre hede fro þe halce hit to þe erþe  
 þat fele hit foyned wyth her fete þere hit forth roled  
 þe blod brayd fro þe body þt blykked on þe grene  
 ⁊ nawþer falſed ne fel þe freke neū þehelder  
 bot ſtyþly he start forth vpon ſtyf ſchonkes  
 ⁊ runyſchly he raȝt out þere as renkkeȝ ſtoden  
 laȝt to his lulfly hed ⁊ lyfhit vp ſone  
 ⁊ fyþen boȝeȝ tohis blonk þe brydel he cachcheȝ  
 ſteppeȝ i to ſtel bawe ⁊ ſtrydeȝ alofte  
 ⁊ his hede by þe here i his honde haldeȝ  
 ⁊ as sadly þeſegge hȳ i his ſadel ſette      i ſtedde  
 as non vnhap had hȳ ayled þaȝ hedleȝ ho we  
 he brayde his bluk aboute



⁊ hit watz don abof þe dece ondofer tohenge  
 þer alle men for m̄uayl myȝt on hit loke  
 ⁊ bitrwe tytel þ' of to telle þe wonder  
 þēne þay boȝed to aborde þiseburnes togeder  
 þe kȳg ⁊ þe gode knyȝt ⁊ kene mē hē serued  
 of alle dayntyȝ double as derrest myȝt falle  
 wyth alle maner of mete ⁊ mynstralcie boþe  
 wyth wele walt þay þat day tilworþed anende  
 now þenk wel ſ gawan  
 for woþe þat þ' ne wonde  
 þis auenture forto frayn  
 þat þ' hatȝ tan on honde

in londe

**T**his hansell⁹ hatȝ arthur of auenturus onfyrſt  
 in ȝonge ȝer for he ȝerned ȝelpȝg tohere  
 thaȝ hym wordeȝ were wane when þay to ſete wenten  
 now ar þay ſtoken of ſturne werk ſtafful her hond  
 gawan watȝ glad tobe gȳne þoſe gomneȝ ī halle  
 bot þaȝ þe ende be heuy haf ȝe no wonder  
 for þaȝ men bē mery inmȳde quen þay han mayn drynk  
 azere ȝernes fulȝerne ⁊ ȝeldeȝ neuȝ lyke  
 þe forme to þe fynifment foldeȝ fulſelden  
 for þi þis ȝol ouȝ ȝede ⁊ þe ȝere aft  
 ⁊ vche ſefoȝ ſerlepes ſued after oþ'  
 af ter cryſten maſſe com þe crabbed lentoȝ  
 þat frayneſteȝ fleſch wyth þe fyſche ⁊ fode more ſymples  
 bot þēne þe weder of þe worlde wyth wynter hit þrepeȝ  
 colde clengeȝ adoȝ cloudeȝ vp lyften  
 ſchyre ſchedeȝ þe rayn ī ſchowreȝ ful warme  
 falleȝ vpon fayre flat flowreȝ þere ſchewen  
 boþe grouðeȝ ⁊ þe greueȝ grene ar her wedeȝ  
 bryddeȝ buſken to bylde ⁊ bremlych ſygen  
 for ſolace of þe ſofte ſom' þat ſues þer aft  
 ⁊ bloſſueȝ bolne to blowe  
 bi raweȝ rych ⁊ ronk  
 þē noteȝ noble ī noȝe

bi bonk

ar herde in wod so wlone  
 after þe seſoū of som' wyth þe soft wyndeʒ  
 quen ȝefer9 syfleʒ hȳ ſelf onſedeʒ ȝ erbeʒ  
 wela wȳne is þe wort þat waxes þeroute  
 when þe donkande dewe dropeʒ of þe leueʒ  
 to bide ablyſſful bluſch of þe bryʒt ſūne  
 bot þē hyʒes heruest ȝ hardenes hȳ ſone  
 warneʒ hȳ for þe wynter towax fulrype  
 he dryues wyth droʒt þe dust forto ryſe  
 fro þe face of þe folde toflyʒe fulhyʒe  
 wroþe wynde of þe welkyn wrasteleʒ w<sup>t</sup> þefūne  
 þe leueʒ lancen fro þe lynde ȝ lyʒten on þe groūde  
 ȝ al grayes þe gres þat grene watʒ ere  
 þēne al rypeʒ ȝ roteʒ þat ros vponfyrf  
 ȝ þ9 ȝirneʒ þe ȝere ī ȝifterdayeʒ mony                    no ſage  
 ȝ wynter wyndeʒ aȝayn as þe worlde aſkeʒ  
 til meȝel mas mone  
 watʒ cūen wyth wynter wage  
 þen þenkkeʒ gawan ful ſone  
 of his anio9 uyage  
 ȝet quyl alhalday w<sup>t</sup> arb' he lenges  
 ȝ he made afare onþ<sup>t</sup> fest for þe frekeʒ fake  
 w<sup>t</sup> much reuel ȝ ryche of þe roūde table  
 knyʒteʒ ful cortays ȝ comlych ladies  
 al for luf of þat lede ī longȳge þay were  
 bot neu' þelege ne þe laſ þay neuened bot m'þe  
 mony ioyleʒ for þat ientyle iapeʒ þer maden  
 for aftter mete w<sup>t</sup> mōnȳg he meleʒ tohis eme  
 ȝ spekeʒ of his paſſage ȝ pertly he sayde  
 Now lege lorde of mylyf leue j yow aſk  
 ȝe knowe þe coſt of þis cace kepe j no more  
 to telle yow teneʒ þer of neu' bot ſ'fel  
 bot jam boū to þe bur barely to morne  
 toſech þe gome of þe grene as god wylme wyſſe  
 þēne þe beſt of þe burʒ bozed to geder  
 aywan ȝ errik ȝ oþ' ful mony

l doddinaual de sauage þe duk of clarence  
 launcelot ⁊ ly onel ⁊ lucan þe gode  
 l boos ⁊ l byduer bigmē boþe  
 ⁊ mony oþr menþful w<sup>t</sup> mador delaþort  
 alle þis compayny of court com þe kȳg nerre  
 forto coûseyl þe knyȝt with care at her hert  
 þere watȝ much derue doel driuen ī þe sale  
 þat so worþe as wawan schulde wende on þat ernde  
 to dryȝe a delful dynt ⁊ dele no more                      wyth bronde  
 þe knyȝt mad ay god chere  
 ⁊ sayde quat schuld j wonde  
 of destines derf ⁊ dere  
 what may mon do bot fonde  
 he dowelleȝ þer alþat day ⁊ dresseȝ on þe morn  
 askeȝ erly hys armeȝ ⁊ alle were þay broȝt  
 fyrst atule tapit tyȝt ou' þe flet  
 ⁊ miche watȝ þe gyld gere þat glent þer alofte  
 þe stif mon steppeȝ þeron ⁊ þe stel hondeleȝ  
 dubbed ī adublet of adere tars  
 ⁊ syþen a crafty capados closed aloft  
 þat wyth a bryȝt blaūner was boðen w<sup>t</sup> īne  
 þene set þay þe fabatoȝ vpon þe segge foteȝ  
 his legeȝ lapped ī stel w<sup>t</sup> luþlych greueȝ  
 w<sup>t</sup> polayneȝ piched þer to policed fulclene  
 aboute his kneȝ knaged wyth knoteȝ of golde  
 queme quyslewes þe þat coynþlych closed  
 his thik þrawen þyȝeȝ w<sup>t</sup> þwonges to tachched  
 ⁊ syþen þe brawden bryne of bryȝt stel rȳgeȝ  
 v mbe weued þat wyȝ vpon wlonek stuffe  
 ⁊ wel bornyst brace vpon his boþe armes  
 w<sup>t</sup> gode cowters ⁊ gay ⁊ gloueȝ of plate              þat tyde  
 ⁊ alle þe godlych gere þat hȳ gayn schulde  
 wyth ryche cote armure  
 his gold sporeȝ spend w<sup>t</sup> prude  
 gurde wyth abront ful sure  
 w<sup>t</sup> silk sayn vmbe his syde

when he watȝ

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When he watȝ hasped ī armes his harnays watȝ ryche  
þe leſt lachet oū loupe lemed of golde  
ſo harnayſt as he watȝ he herkneȝ his masse  
offred ȝ honōed at þe heȝe auter  
ſyþen he comeȝ to þe kȳg ȝ to his cort fereȝ  
lacheȝ luſly his leue at lordeȝ ȝ ladyeȝ  
ȝ þay hȳ kyſt ȝ conueyed bikende hȳ to kryſt  
biþat watȝ Gryngolet grayth ȝ gurde wȝt afadel  
þat glemed ful gayly wȝt mony golde frenges  
ay quere naylet fulnwe for þat note ryched  
þe brydel barred aboute wȝt bryȝt golde boūden  
þe apparayl of þe paytrre ȝ of þe proude ſkyrteȝ  
þe cropyore ȝ þe couertor acorded wyth þe arſoūeȝ  
ȝ al watȝ rayled on red ryche golde nayleȝ  
þat alglytered ȝ glent as glem of þe ſūne  
þēne hentes he þe helme ȝ haſtily hit kyſſes  
þat watȝ ſtapled ſtifly ȝ ſtoſſed wyth īne  
hit watȝ hyȝe on his hede hasped bihynde  
wyth alyȝtly vryſoū oū þe auenȝtayle  
enbrawden ȝ boūden wyth þe beſt gēmeȝ  
on brode ſylkyn borde ȝ bryddeȝ on ſemeȝ  
as papiayeȝ paſynted pernȳg bitwene  
tortors ȝ trulofeȝ entayled fo þyk                      ī toūe  
as mony burde þer aboute had bē ſeuē wynt  
þe cercle watȝ more oprys  
þat vmbc clypped hys croū  
of diamaūteȝ adeuys  
þat boþe were bryȝt ȝ broū

**T**hen þay ſchewed hȳ þe ſchelde þat was offſchyr gouleȝ  
wyth þe pentangel depaynt of pure golde hweȝ  
he braydeȝ hit byþe bauderyk aboute þe hals keſt<sup>r</sup>  
þat biſemed þe ſegge ſemlyly fayre  
ȝ quy þe pentangel apendeȝ to þat prynce noble  
jam ī tent yow to telle þof tary hyt me ſchulde  
hit is aſȳgne þat ſalamon ſet ſū quyle  
ī bytoknȳg of trawþe bitytle þat hit habbeȝ

for hit is afigure þat haldeȝ fyue poynteȝ  
 ȝ vche lyne vmbe lappeȝ ȝ loukeȝ i oþer  
 ȝ ayquere hit is emdeleȝ ȝ Englych hit callen  
 ouȝ al as j here þe endeles knot  
 for þy hit acordeȝ toþis knyȝt ȝ tohis cler armeȝ  
 for ay faythful i fyue ȝ sere fyue syþeȝ  
 Gawan watȝ forgode knawen ȝ as golde pured  
 voyded of vche vylany wyth vertueȝ ēnōned      i mote  
 for þy þe pen tangel nwe  
 he ber i schelde ȝ cote  
 as tulk of tale most trwe  
 ȝ gentleſt knyȝt oflote  
 fyrfst he watȝ funden fautleȝ i his fyue wytteȝ  
 ȝ efte fayled neuȝ þe freke i his fyue fyngres  
 ȝ alle his afyaȝce vpon folde watȝ i þe fyue woȝdeȝ  
 þat cryſt kaȝt onþe croys as þe crede telleȝ  
 ȝ quere ſo euȝ þys mon i melly watȝ stad  
 his þro þoȝt watȝ i þat þurȝ alle oþ þygeȝ  
 þat alle his forſnes he feng at þe fyue joyeȝ  
 þat þe hende heuen quene had of hir chylde  
 at þis cauſe þe knyȝt comlyche hade  
 i þe inore half of his schelde hir ymage depaynted  
 þat quen he blusched þerto his belde neuȝ payred  
 þe fyft fyue þat jfinde þat þe frek vſed  
 watȝ fraȝchyſe ȝ felazſchyp forbe al þyȝ  
 his clannes ȝ his cortayſye crooked were neuȝ  
 ȝ pite þat passeȝ alle poynteȝ þyſe pure fyue  
 were harder happed on þat haþel þe on anyoþ  
 now alle þeſe fyue syþeȝ forſoþe were fetled on þis knyȝt  
 ȝ vchone halched in oþ þat non ende hade  
 ȝ fyched vpon fyue poynteȝ þat fayld neuȝ  
 ne ſamned neuȝ i nosyde ne ſundred nouþer  
 wȝt ouþen ende at any noke jquere fynde  
 where euȝ þe gomen bygan or glod to an ende  
 þefore on his ſchene ſchelde ſchapen watȝ þe knot  
 þ9 alle wyth red golde vpon rede gowleȝ

þat is þe pure pentaunzel wyth þe peple called      w<sup>t</sup> lore  
 now grayþed is gawan gay  
 ⁊ laȝt his lauce ryȝt þore  
 ⁊ gef hem alle goud day  
 he wende for eu' more  
 he sperred þe sted w<sup>t</sup> þe spureȝ ⁊ sprong on his way  
 so stif þat þe stonfyr stroke out þer aff  
 al þat seȝ þat semly syked i hert  
 ⁊ sayde soþly al same segges til oþ  
 carande for þat comly bi kryft hit is scaþe  
 þat þ<sup>u</sup> leude schal be lost þat art of lyf noble  
 tofynde hys fere vpon folde i fayth is not eþe  
 warloker to haf wroȝt had more wyt bene  
 ⁊ haf dyȝt ȝonder dere aduk to haue worþed  
 alowande leder of ledeȝ i londe hȳ wel semeȝ  
 ⁊ sohad betf haf ben þē britned to noȝt  
 hadet wyth analuisch mon forangardeȝ pryde  
 who knew eu' any kȳg such coūsel to take  
 as knyȝteȝ i caueloȝ on cryst masse gomneȝ  
 wel much watȝ þe warme water þ<sup>t</sup> walfed ofyȝen  
 when þat semly syre soȝt fro bo woneȝ      bad daye  
 he made non abode  
 bot wyȝtly went hys way  
 mony wylsū way he rode  
 þe bok as jherde say  
 Now rideȝ þis renk þurȝ þe ryalme of logres  
 ſ gauan on godeȝ halue þaȝ hȳ no gomen þoȝt  
 oft leudleȝ alone he lengeȝ on nyȝteȝ  
 þer hefonde noȝt hȳ byfore þe fare þat helyked  
 hade henofere bot his fole bifrytheȝ ⁊ doȝeȝ  
 ne no gome bot god bigate wyth to karp  
 til þat he neȝed ful nogh' i to þe norþe waleȝ  
 alle þe iles of anglesey onlyft half he haldeȝ  
 ⁊ fareȝ ou' þe fordeȝ by þe forlondes  
 ou' at þe holy hede tilhe hade eft bonk  
 i þe wyldrenesse of wyrale wonde þerbot lyte

þat auf<sup>s</sup> god of<sup>s</sup> gome wyth goud hert louied  
 ⁊ ay he frayned as he ferde at freke<sup>z</sup> þat he met  
 if þay hade herde any karp of akny<sup>z</sup>t grene  
 ī any groude þeraboute of þe grene clapel  
 ⁊ al nykked hȳ wyth nay þat neu<sup>r</sup> ī her lyue  
 þay se<sup>z</sup>e neu<sup>r</sup> nos egge þat wat<sup>r</sup> offusche hwe<sup>z</sup>  
 þe kny<sup>z</sup>t tok gates straunge  
 ī mony a bonk vn bene  
 his cher fuloſt con chaūge  
 þat chapeler he my<sup>z</sup>t fene  
 Mony klyf he ou<sup>r</sup> clambe ī contraye<sup>z</sup> Straūge  
 fer floten frohis frende<sup>z</sup> fremedly he ryde<sup>z</sup>  
 at vche warþe oþer wat<sup>r</sup> þer þe wy<sup>z</sup>e passed  
 he fonde afoo hȳ byfore bot ferly hit were  
 ⁊ þat soſoule ⁊ ſo felle þat fe<sup>r</sup> hȳ by hode  
 ſo mony muayl bi moūt þ<sup>r</sup> þe mon fynde<sup>z</sup>  
 hit were to tore forto telle of þe tenþe dole  
 ſumwhyle wyth worme<sup>z</sup> he werre<sup>z</sup> ⁊ w<sup>t</sup> wolues als  
 ſūwhyle wyth wodwos þat woned ī þe knarre<sup>z</sup>  
 boþe wyth bulle<sup>z</sup> ⁊ bere<sup>z</sup> ⁊ bore<sup>z</sup> of<sup>s</sup> quyle  
 ⁊ etayne<sup>z</sup> þat hȳ anelede of þe he<sup>z</sup>e felle  
 nade he ben duȝty ⁊ dry<sup>z</sup>e ⁊ dryȝtyn hadſerued  
 douteles he hade ben ded ⁊ dreped ful ofte  
 for werre wrathed hȳ not ſo much þat wȳt<sup>r</sup> nas wors  
 when þe colde cler wat<sup>r</sup> fro þe cloude<sup>z</sup> ſchadden  
 ⁊ fres er hit falle my<sup>z</sup>t toþe fale erþe  
 ner ſlayn wyth þe ſlete he ſleped ī his yrnes  
 mo ny<sup>z</sup>te<sup>z</sup> þē ī nogh' ī naked rokke<sup>z</sup>  
 þ<sup>r</sup> as clafande fro þe crest þe colde borne rēne<sup>z</sup>  
 ⁊ henged he<sup>z</sup>e ou<sup>r</sup> his hede ī hard iiffe ikkles  
 þus ī peryl ⁊ payne ⁊ plytes ful harde  
 bi contray cayre<sup>z</sup> þis kny<sup>z</sup>t tyl kryſt masse euen  
 þe kny<sup>z</sup>t wel þat tyde  
 to mary made his mone  
 þat ho hȳ red to ryde

of grene  
al one

ꝝ wyfse hȳ to sū wonē

Biamoūte on þe morne meryly he rydes  
 into aforest fuldep þat ferly watȝ wylde  
 hiȝe hilleȝ on vche ahalue ꝝ holt wodeȝ vnder  
 of hore okeȝ ful hoge a hundredth to geder  
 þe hasel ꝝ þe haȝ borne were harled al samen  
 wȝt roȝe raged mosse rayled aywhere  
 wȝt mony bryddeȝ vnblýþe vpon bare twyges  
 þat pitofly þer piped for pyne of þe colde  
 þe gome vpon gryngoleȝ glydeȝ hem vnder  
 þurȝ mony misy ꝝ myre mō al hȳ one  
 carande for his costes leſt he ne keuȝ schulde  
 to ſe þe feruy of þat fyre þat on þat ſelf nyȝt  
 of a burde watȝ borne oure baret to quelle  
 ꝝ þerfore sykȝg he ſayde j be ſeche þe lorde  
 ꝝ mary þat is myldest moder ſodere  
 of sū herber þerheȝly imyȝt here masſe  
 ande þy matyneȝ to morne mekely j aſk  
 ꝝ þer to preſtly j pray my paſt ꝝ aue                          ꝝ crede  
 he rode ī his prayere  
 ꝝ cryed for his myſdede  
 he ſayned hȳ ī ſyþes fere  
 ꝝ ſayde cros kryſt me ſpede

**N**ade he ſayned hȳ ſelf ſegge bot þrye  
 er he watȝ war ī þewod ofawon ī amote  
 abof alaude on alawe loken vnder boȝeȝ  
 of mony borelych bole aboute bi þe diches  
 acaſtel þe comlokeſt þat euȝ knyȝt aȝte  
 pyched on a prayere apark al aboute  
 wȝt apyked palays pyned ful þik  
 þat vmbte teȝe mony tre mo þē two myle  
 þat holde on þat on fyde þe habel auyſed  
 as hit ſchemered ꝝ ſchon þurȝ þefchyre okeȝ  
 þēne hatȝ he hendly of his helme ꝝ heȝly he þonkeȝ  
 iefus ꝝ ſay gilyan þat gentyle arboþe

þat cortayfly had hȳkydde ȝ his cry herkened  
 now bone hostel coþe þe burne j beſeche yow ȝette  
 þ ēne gedereȝ he to gryngoleþ w<sup>t</sup> þe gilt heleȝ  
 ȝ he ful chaūcely hatȝ chosen to þe chef gate  
 þat broȝt bremly þe burne to þe bryge ende  
 þe bryge watȝ breme vp brayde  
 þe ȝateȝ wer stoken faſte  
 þe walleȝ were wel arayed  
 hit dut no wyndeȝ blaſte  
 þe burne bode on bonk þat on blonk houed  
 of þe depe double dich þat drof to þe place  
 þe walle wod i þe waſ wonderly depe  
 ande eft aful huge heȝt hit haled vponloſte  
 of harde hewen ſton vp to þe tableȝ  
 enbaned vnder þe abataylmēt i þe best lawe  
 ȝ syben garyteȝ ful gaye gered bi twene  
 wyth mony lulſych loupe þat louked ful clene  
 abett̄ barbican þat burne bluſched vpon neū  
 ȝ īermore he behelde þat halle ful hyȝe  
 towres telled bytwene trochet ful þik  
 fayre fylyoleȝ þat fyȝed ȝ ferlyly long  
 with coruon coproūes craftyly fleȝe  
 chalk whyt chymnees þer ches he i noȝe  
 vpon baſtel roueȝ þat blenked ful quyte  
 so mony pynakle payntet watȝ poudred ay quere  
 amōg þe caſtel carneleȝ clambred so þik  
 þat pared out of papure purely hit ſemed  
 þe fre freke on þe foile hit fayr i nghe þoȝt  
 if he myȝt keū to com þe cloyſt wyth īne  
 to herber i þat hostel whyl halyday leſted  
 he calde ȝ lone þer com  
 a porter pure pleſaūt  
 on þe wal his ernd he nome  
 ȝ haylſed þe knyȝt erraūt  
 gode l q̄ gawan woldeȝ þ<sup>u</sup> go mȳ ernde  
 to þe heȝt lorde of þis hoȝ herber to craue

i haſte

auinant

3e pet q̄ þe port ȝ purely i trowoe  
 þat ȝe be wyȝe welcū towon quyle yow lykeȝ  
 þē ȝede wyȝe ȝerne aȝayn swyþe  
 ȝ folke frely hȳ wyth to fonge þe knyȝt  
 þay let doū þe grete draȝt ȝ derely out ȝeden  
 ȝ kneled doū on her knes vpon þe colde erþe  
 to welcū þis ilk wyȝ as worþy hom þoȝt  
 þay ȝolden hȳ þe brode ȝate ȝarked vp wyde  
 ȝ he hem rayfed rekenly ȝ rod ou' þe brygge  
 sere seggeȝ hȳ sefed byfadel quel he lyȝt  
 ȝ syþen stabeled his stede stif mē ī noȝe  
 knyȝteȝ ȝ swyereȝ comen doū þēne  
 for to brȳg þis buurne wyth blys ī to halle  
 quen he hef vp his helme þer hized ī nog'  
 for to hent hit at his honde þe hende to seruen  
 his bronde ȝ his blaſoū boþe þay token  
 þē haylſed he ful hendly þo haþeleȝ vchone  
 ȝ mony proud mon þer pſed þat prȳce to honō  
 alle hasped ī his heȝ wede to halle þay hȳ wōnen  
 þer fayre fyre vpon flet fersly brēned  
 þēne þe lorde of þe lede louteȝ fro his chambre  
 forto mete wyth menske þe mon on þe flor  
 he sayde ȝe ar welcū to welde as yow lykeȝ      ȝ welde  
 þat here is al is yowre awen to haue atyowre wylle  
 graūt mercy q̄ gawayn  
 þer kryſt hit yow forȝelde  
 as frekeȝ þat femed fayn  
 ayþ' oþ' ī armeȝ cō felde  
 Gawayn glyȝt on þe gome þat godly hȳ gret  
 ȝ þuȝt hit abolde burne þat þe burȝ aȝte  
 ahoge habel for þe noneȝ ȝ of hygh' eldee  
 brode bryȝt watȝ his berde ȝ al beu' hwed  
 sturne stif on þe stryþþe on stalworth schonkeȝ  
 felle face as þe fyre ȝ fre of hys speche  
 ȝ wel hȳ femed for soþe as þe segge þuȝt  
 to lede alortschyp ī lee of leudeȝ ful gode

Pe lorde h̄y charred to achambre ⁊ clefly cūaude<sup>3</sup>  
 to delyu<sup>1</sup> hym aleude hym lozly toserue  
 ⁊ þere were boū at his bode burne<sup>3</sup> ī noȝe  
 þat broȝt h̄y toabryȝt boure þ̄ beddȳg watȝ noble  
 of cortynes of clene sylk wyth cler golde hēme<sup>3</sup>  
 ⁊ couȝtore<sup>3</sup> ful curious w<sup>t</sup> comlych pane<sup>3</sup>  
 of bryȝt blaunm<sup>1</sup> aboue enbrawded bisyde<sup>3</sup>  
 rudele<sup>3</sup> rēnande on rope<sup>3</sup> red golde rȳge<sup>3</sup>  
 tapite<sup>3</sup> tyȝt toþe woȝe of tuly ⁊ tars  
 ⁊ vnder fete on þe flet of folȝande sute  
 þer he watȝ dispoyled wyth speche<sup>3</sup> of myþe  
 þe burn of his bruny ⁊ of his bryȝt wede<sup>3</sup>  
 ryche robes ful rad renkke<sup>3</sup> hym broȝten  
 forto charge ⁊ to chaunge ⁊ chose of þe best  
 sone as he on hent ⁊ happed þ̄ īne  
 þat sete on hyn semly wyth saylande skyrte<sup>3</sup>  
 þe ver by his uisage verayly hit semed  
 welne<sup>3</sup> to vche haþel alle on hwes  
 lowande ⁊ lulþy alle his lȳme<sup>3</sup> vnder  
 þat a comloker knyȝt neu<sup>1</sup> kryſt made  
 wheþen ī worlde he were  
 hit semed as he myȝt  
 be prynce w<sup>t</sup> outen pere  
 ī felde þ̄ felle men fyȝt  
 a cheyer by fore þe chemne þ̄ charcole brēned  
 watȝ grayþed for ſ gawan grayþely w<sup>t</sup> cloþe<sup>3</sup>  
 whyffynes vpon queldepoynt<sup>t</sup> þa koȝt wer boþe  
 ⁊ þēne amere mantyle watȝ on þat mon caſt  
 of abroū bleeaūt enbrauded ful ryche  
 ⁊ fayre furred wyth īne w<sup>t</sup> felle<sup>3</sup> of þe best  
 alle of ermyn ī erde his hode of þe fame  
 ⁊ he sete ī þat settel semlych ryche  
 ⁊ achaufed h̄y cefly ⁊ þēne his cher mended  
 sone watȝ telled vp atabil on treste<sup>3</sup> ful fayre  
 clad wyth aclene cloþe þat cler quyt ſchewed  
 fanap ⁊ falure ⁊ fylu<sup>1</sup> ī ſpone<sup>3</sup>

hem þoȝt

þe wyȝe wesche at his wylle ȝ went tohis mete  
 seggeȝ hym serued semly ī noȝe  
 wyth sere fewes ȝ sete sesouðe of þe best  
 double felde as hit falleȝ ȝ felekyn fischeȝ  
 sūme baken ī bred sūme brad on þe gledeȝ  
 sūme loben sūme ī lewe sauȝed wȝ spycer  
 ȝ aysawes so fleȝe þat þe segge lyked  
 þe freke calde hit afeſt ful frely ȝ ofte                          as hende  
 ful hendely quenalle þe haþeles re hayted hȳ at oneȝ  
 þis penaȝe now ȝe take  
 ȝ eft hit ſchal amende  
 þat mon much mȝþe con make  
 for wȳ ī his hed þat wende  
 þene watȝ spyed ȝ spured vpon ſpare wyſe  
 bi preue poynteȝ of þat pryncie put to hȳ ſeluen  
 þat he be knew cortayſly of þe court þat he were  
 þat abel arthure þe hende haldeȝ hȳ one  
 þat is þe ryche ryal kȳg of þe roȝde table  
 ȝ hit watȝ wawen hȳſelf þat ī þat won ſytteȝ  
 comen to þat kryſtmasſe as caſe hȳ þen lymped  
 when þe lorde hade lerned þat he þe leude hade  
 loude laȝed he þat ſolef hit hȳ þoȝt  
 ȝ alle þe men ī þat mote maden much joye  
 to apere ī his prefense preſtly þat tyme  
 þat alle prys ȝ prowes ȝ pured þewes  
 apendes to hys persoȝ ȝ prayſed is euȝ  
 by fore alle men vpon molde his mensk is þe moſt  
 vch segge ful ſoftly ſayde to his fere  
 now ſchal we ſemlych ſe fleȝteȝ of þeweȝ  
 ȝ þe teccheles termes of talkyng noble  
 wiſh ſpede is ī ſpeche vnſpurd may we lerne  
 fȳ we haf fonged þat fyne fader of nurture  
 god hatȝ geuen vȝ his gȝce godly for ſoþe  
 þat ſuch ageſt as gawan graȝteȝ vȝ tohaue  
 when burneȝ blyþe of his burþe ſchalfitte                          ȝ fȳge  
 ī menȝg of manȝeȝ mere

þis burne now schal v9 bryng  
 i hope þat may h̄y here  
 schal lerne of luf talkȳg  
 Bi þat þe diner wat̄ done ̄ þe dere vp  
 hit wat̄ neȝ at þe niyȝt neȝed þe tyme  
 chaplayneȝ to þe chapeles chosen þe gate  
 rūgen ful rychely ryȝt as þay schulden  
 to þe herfū euensong of þe hyȝe tyde  
 þe lorde loutes þerto ̄ þe lady als  
 ī to a cumly closet coynly ho entreȝ  
 gawan glydeȝ ful gay ̄ gos þeder sone  
 þe lorde laches h̄y byþe lappe ̄ ledeȝ h̄y tosytt  
 ̄ couþly h̄y knoweȝ ̄ calleȝ h̄y his nome  
 ̄ sayde he wat̄ þewelcomest wyȝe of þe worlde  
 ̄ he h̄y þonkked þroly ̄ ayþ halched oþer  
 ̄ seten soberly samen þe seruise quyle  
 þēne lyft þe lady to loke on þe knyȝt  
 þēne com ho of hir closet wȝ mony cler burdeȝ  
 ho wat̄ þe fayrest ī felle of flesche ̄ of lyre  
 ̄ of compas ̄ colð ̄ costes of alle oþ  
 ̄ wener þen wenore as þe wyȝe þoȝt  
 ho ches þurȝ þe chaȝsel to cheryche þat hende  
 an oþer lady hir lad biþe lyft honde  
 þat wat̄ alder þen ho an aȝcian hit semed  
 ̄ heȝly honowred wȝ haþeleȝ aboute  
 bot vn lyke onto loke þoladyes were  
 for if þe ȝonge wat̄ ȝep ȝolȝe wat̄ þt oþ  
 riche red on þat on rayled ay quere  
 rugh ronkled chekeȝ þat oþ on rolled  
 kerchofes of þat on wyth mony cler perleȝ  
 hir breſt ̄ hir bryȝt þrote bare displayed  
 schon schyrer þē snawe þat schedeȝ on hilleȝ  
 þat oþ wyth agorger wat̄ gered oū þe swyre  
 chymbled oū hir blake chyn wȝ mylk quyte vayles  
 hir froȝt folden ī sylk enfoubled ay quere  
 toret ̄ treleted wȝ tryfleȝ aboute

þat noȝt watȝ bare of þat burde bot þe blake broȝes  
 þe tweyne yȝen ȝ þe nase þe naked lyppeȝ  
 ȝ þose were soure tose ȝ sellyly blered  
 amensk lady on molde mō may hir calle                   for gode  
 hir body watȝ schort ȝ þik  
 hir buttokeȝ bay ȝ brode  
 more lykker wys on to lyk  
 watȝ þat scho hade on lode  
 When gawayn glyȝt on þt gay þt gȝcioȝly loked  
 wyth leue laȝt of þe lorde he went hemazaynes  
 þe alder he haylſes heldande fullowe  
 þe loueloker he lappeȝ a lyttel ī armeȝ  
 he kyſſes hir comlyly ȝ knyȝtly he meleȝ  
 þay kallen hȳ of a quoȝtaūce ȝ he hit quyk askeȝ  
 to be her seruaūt sothly if hemſelf lyked  
 þay tan hȳ bytwene hem wyth talkȳg hȳ leden  
 to cham bre to chemne ȝ chefly þay asken  
 spyceȝ þat vn ſparely mē ſpeded hom tobryȝ  
 ȝ þe wȳne lych wyne þt wȝ vche tyme  
 þe lorde luſlych aloft lepeȝ ful ofte  
 mȳned mȳthe tobe made vpon monysyþeȝ  
 hent heȝly of his hode ȝ on aſpere henged  
 ȝ wayned hom to wȳne þe worchip þerof  
 þat moſt myrþe myȝt meue þt cryſtenmas whyle  
 ȝ jſchal fonde bi my fayth to fylf wyth þe best  
 er me wont þe wedeȝ wȝ help of my frendeȝ  
 þ9 wyth laȝande loteȝ þe lorde hit tayt makeȝ þt nyȝt  
 for to glade ſ gawayn wȝ gomneȝ ī halle  
 til þat hit watȝ tyme  
 þe kȳg comaūdet lyȝt  
 ſ gawen his leue con nyme  
 ȝ to his bed hȳ diȝt  
 on þe morne as vch mon myneȝ þat tyme  
 þat dryȝtyn for oure destyne to deȝe watȝ borne  
 wele waxeȝ ī vche awon ī worlde for his sake  
 ſodid hit þere on þat day þurȝ dayntes mony

boþe at mes ȝ at mele messes ful quaynt  
 derf men vpon dece drest of þe best  
 þe olde aūcian wyf heȝest ho syttes  
 þe lorde lufly herby lent as j trowe  
 Gawan ȝ þe gay burde togeder þay seten  
 euen ī myddeȝ as þe messe metely come  
 ȝ syþen þurȝalþe sale as hem best semed  
 bi vche grome at his degré gȝ yþely watȝ serued  
 þ' watȝ mete þer watȝ myrþe þ' watȝ much ioye  
 þat forto telle þerof hit me tene were  
 ȝ to poynte hit ȝet jpyned me pauȝture  
 bot ȝet j wot þat Wawen ȝ þe wale burde  
 such comfort of her compaynye caȝten to geder  
 þurȝ her dere daly aūce of her derne wordeȝ  
 wyth clene cortays carp closed fro fylþe      ī vayres  
 ȝ hor play watȝ paffande vche prynce gomen  
 trūpeȝ ȝ nakerys  
 much pypȝg þ' repayres  
 vche mō tented hys  
 ȝ þay two tēted þayres  
 Much dut watȝ þer dryuen þat day ȝ þat oþ  
 ȝ þe þryd as þro þronge ī þeraff  
 þe ioye of sayn joneȝ day watȝ gentyle tohere  
 ȝ watȝ þe last of þe layk leudeȝ þer þoȝten  
 þer wer gestes to go vpon þe gray morne  
 for þy wonderly þay woke ȝ þewyn dronken  
 daȝsed fuldreȝly wyth dere caroleȝ  
 at þe last when hit watȝ late þay lachen her leue  
 vchon to wende on his way þat watȝ wyȝe stronge  
 gawan gef hȳ godday þegod mō hȳ lachcheȝ  
 ledes hȳ to his awen chambre þechȳne byfyde  
 ȝ þere he draȝeȝ hȳ on dryȝe ȝ derely hȳ þonkkeȝ  
 of þe wȳne worschip ȝ he hȳ wayued hade  
 as to honð his hoȝ on þat hyȝe tyde  
 ȝ enbelyse his burȝ wȝt his bele chere  
 jwylsse ſ quyl jleue me worþeȝ þe better

þat Gawayn hatȝ ben my gest at goddeȝ awen fest  
 Gȝnt merci ſ q̄ gawayn ī god fayth hit is yowreȝ  
 al þe honð is yð awen þe heȝe kȳg yow ȝelde  
 ȝ jam wyȝe at yð wylle to worch yðe heſt                      Bi riȝt  
 as j am halden þ̄ to ī hyȝe ȝ i loȝe  
 þelorde fast can hȳ Payne  
 to holde lenger þe knyȝt  
 to hȳ anſwareȝ gawayn  
 Bi non way þat he myȝt  
 Then frayneþ freke fulfayre at him ſeluē  
 quat derue dede had hȳ dryuen at þat dere tyme  
 so kenly fro þe kȳgeȝ kourt to kayre alhis one  
 er þe halidayeȝ holly were halet out of toū  
 for ſoþe ſ q̄ þe ſegge ȝe ſayn bot þe trawþe  
 a heȝe ernde ȝ a haſty me hade fro þo woneȝ  
 for jam ſūned my ſelfe to ſech to aplacē  
 j wot ī worlde wheder warde towende hit tofynde  
 j nolde bot if jhit negh myȝt on nwȝeres morne  
 for alle þe londe ī wyth logres ſo me oure lorde help  
 for þy ſ þis enqueſt j require yow here  
 þat ȝe me telle wȝ trawþe if euȝ ȝe tale herde  
 of þe grene chapel quere hit on groûde ſtondeȝ  
 ȝ of þe knyȝt þat hit kepes of colð of grene  
 þ̄ watȝ ſtabled bi ſtatut aſteuen vȝ by twene  
 to mete þat mon at þȝ mere ȝif j myȝt laſt  
 ȝ of þat ilk nwȝere bot neked now wonteȝ  
 ȝ jwolde loke on þat lede jf god melet wolde  
 gladloker bigoddeȝ ſū þe any god welde  
 forþi jwyſſe bi ȝowre wylle wende me bi houes  
 naſ j now tobusy bot bare þre dayeȝ  
 ȝ me als fayn to falfe feye as fayly of myȝ ernde  
 þeñe laȝande q̄ þe lorde now leng þe by houes  
 forjſchal teche yow to þat terme biþe tymeȝ ende  
 þe grene chapayle vpon groûde greue yow no more  
 bot ȝe ſchal be ī yowre bed burne at þȝ eſe  
 quyle forth dayeȝ ȝ ferk on þefyrſt of þe ȝere

⁊ cum to þat merk at mydmorn to make quat yow likeȝ  
 dowelleȝ whyle new ȝeres daye    in spēne  
 ⁊ rys ⁊ raykeȝ þēne  
 mō ſchal yow fette ī waye  
 hit is not two myle hēne  
 þēne watȝ gawan ful glad ⁊ gomenly he lazed  
 now j þonk yow þryuandely þurȝalle oþþyge  
 nowacheued is my chaūce jſchal at yð wylle  
 dowelle ⁊ elleȝ do quat ȝe demen  
 þēne ſefed hȳ þe fyre ⁊ jſet hȳ byfyde  
 let þe ladieȝ be fette to lyke hē þebett  
 þer watȝ ſeme ſolace byhemſ elf ſtille  
 þe lorde let forluf loteȝ ſo myry  
 as wyȝ þat wolde of his wyte newyſt quat hemyȝ  
 þēne he carpēd to þe knyȝt criande loude  
 ȝe han demed to do þe dede þat jbidde  
 wyl ȝe halde þis hes here at þys oneȝ  
 ȝe ſ for ſoþe ſayd þe ſegge trwe  
 whyl j byde ī yowre borȝe be bayn to ȝowe heſt  
 for ȝe haf traуaled q þe tulκ towen fro ferre  
 ⁊ fyben waked me wyth ȝe arn not wel waryſt  
 nauþ of ſoftnaūce ne of ſlepē ſoþly jknowe  
 ȝe ſchal lenge ī yð lofte ⁊ lyȝe ī yð eſe  
 to morn quyle þe mesſe quyle ⁊ to mete wende  
 when ȝe wyl wyth my wyf þat wyth yow ſchal fitte  
 ⁊ comfort yow wȝt compayny til jto cort torne                          ȝe lende  
 ⁊ i ſchal erly ryeſe  
 on hūtyg wyl j wende  
 gauayn gȝnt eȝ alle þyſe  
 hȳ heldande as þe hende  
 ȝet firre q þe freke aforwarde we make  
 quat ſoeuer j wȳne ī þe wod hit worþeȝ to yðeȝ  
 ⁊ quat chek ſo ȝeacheue chaūge me þer forne  
 ſwete ſwap we ſo ſware wȝt trawþe  
 queþ leude ſo lymp lere oþþ bett  
 bigod q Gawayn þe gode jgȝnt þȝ tylle

⁊ þat yow lyft forto layke lef hit me þynk<sup>p</sup>  
 who brȳgeȝ vȝ þis beuȝage þis bargayn is maked  
 so sayde þe lorde of þat lede þay laȝed vchone  
 þay dronken ⁊ daylyeden ⁊ dalten vntyȝtel  
 þise lorðeȝ ⁊ ladyeȝ quyle þat hem lyked  
 ⁊ syþen wȝ frenkysch fare ⁊ fele fayre loteȝ  
 þay stoden ⁊ stemed ⁊ stylly speken  
 kyſten ful comlyly ⁊ kaȝten her leue  
 wȝ monyleude ful lyȝt ⁊ lemande torchef ful softe  
 vche burne tohis bed watȝ broȝt at þe laste  
 to bed ȝet er þay ȝede  
 recorded couenaȝteȝ ofte  
 þe olde lorde of þat leude  
 cowþe wel halde layk a lofte

**F**ul erly bifore þeday þe folk vpryſen  
 gestes þat go wolde hor gromeȝ þay calden  
 ⁊ þay busken vp bilyue blonkkeȝ toſadel  
 tyffen he takles trussen her males  
 richen hem þe rycheſt to ryde alle arayde  
 lepen vp lyȝtly lachen her brydeles  
 vche wyȝe on his way þer hȳ wel lyked  
 þe leue lorde of þe londe watȝ not þelast  
 a rayed for þe rydyng wȝ renkkeȝ ful mony  
 ete a sop haſtly when he hade herde masse  
 wȝ bugle tobent felde he buskeȝ by lyue  
 by þat any day lyȝt lemed vpon erþe  
 he wȝ his hapeles on hyȝe horſſes weren  
 þene þise cacheres þat couþe cowpled hor hoūdeȝ  
 vnclosed þekenel dore ⁊ calde hem þ' oute  
 blwe bygly ī bugleȝ þre bare mote  
 braches bayed þ' fore ⁊ breme noyſe maked  
 ⁊ þay chaſtyſed ⁊ charred on chafȝg þat went  
 a hundredth of hunȝes as þhaf herde telle of þe best  
 to tryſtors vewters ȝod  
 couples huntes of keſt

þ<sup>r</sup>ros for blaſteȝ gode  
 gret rurd ī þat forest  
 At þe fyrſt quethe of þe queſt quaked þe wylde  
 der drof ī þe dale doted for drede  
 hized toþe hyȝe bot hefly þaywere  
 restayed w<sup>t</sup> þe ſtablye þat ſtoutly aſcryed  
 þay let þehertteȝ haf þe gate w<sup>t</sup> þe hyȝe hedes  
 þe breme bukkeȝ also w<sup>t</sup> hor brode paumeȝ  
 for þe fre lorde hade de fende ī fermyſoū tyme  
 þ<sup>t</sup> þ<sup>r</sup>ſchulde no mon meue to þe male dere  
 þe hindeȝ were halden ī w<sup>t</sup> hay ⁊ war  
 þe does dryuen w<sup>t</sup> gret dyn to þe depe fladeȝ  
 þer myȝt mon fe as þay flypte ſlentȝ of arwes  
 at vche wende vnder wande wapped aſlone  
 þat bigly bote on þe broū w<sup>t</sup> fulbrode hedeȝ  
 what þay brayen ⁊ bleden bi bonkkeȝ þay deȝen  
 ⁊ ay rachches ī a res radly hem folȝes  
 hūtereȝ wyth hyȝe horne haſted hemaff  
 wyth ſuch acrakkande kry as klyffes haden bruſten  
 what wylde ſo at waped wyȝes þat ſchotten  
 watȝ al to raced ⁊ rent at þe refayt  
 biþay were tened at þe hyȝe ⁊ tayſed toþe wattreȝ  
 þe ledeȝ were ſolerned at þe loȝe tryſteres  
 ⁊ þe gre hoūdeȝ ſogrete þat geten hembylyue  
 ⁊ hem toſylched as fast as frekeȝ myȝt loke  
 þe lorde for blys abloy  
 ful oft con laūce ⁊ lyȝt  
 ⁊ drof þat day wyth joy  
 thus to þe derk nyȝt  
 þ<sup>g</sup> laykeȝ þis lorde by lynde wodeȝ eueȝ  
 ⁊ G: þe god mon ī gay bed lygeȝ  
 lurkkeȝ quyl þe daylyȝt lemed on þe wowes  
 vnder couerto ful clere cortyned aboute  
 ⁊ as ī ſlomȝyг heſlode ſleȝly he herde  
 a littel dyn at his dor ⁊ derfly vpon  
 ⁊ he heueȝ vp his hed out of þe clopes

þ<sup>r</sup>yȝt

A corner of þe cortyn he caȝt vp alyttel  
 ȝ wayteȝ warly þider warde quat hit be myȝt  
 hit watȝ þe ladi loflyest to be holde  
 þat droȝ þe dor aff̄ hir ful dernly ȝ styllē  
 ȝ boȝed to warde þebed ȝ þe burne schamed  
 ȝ layde hȳ doū lyfȝly ȝ let as he flepte  
 ȝ ho stepped stilly ȝ steltohis bedde  
 keſt vp þe cortyn ȝ creped wȝt īne  
 ȝ sethir ful softly onþe bed syde  
 ȝ lenged þere selly longe toloke quē he wakened  
 þe lede lay lurked aful longe quyle  
 compast ī his concience to quat þat cace myȝt  
 meue oþ̄ amoūt tom̄uayle hȳ þoȝt  
 bot ȝet he sayde ī hȳ self more semly hit were  
 to aspye wyth my spelle space quat ho wolde  
 þen he wakenede ȝ wroth ȝ to hir warde torned  
 ȝ vn louked his yȝe lyddeȝ ȝ let as hȳ wondered  
 ȝ sayned hȳ as bihis saȝe þe sauȝ to worthe  
 wyth chȳne ȝ cheke ful swete  
 boþe quit ȝ red ī blande  
 ful lufly con ho lete  
 wyth lyppeȝ smal laȝande  
 God moroū ſ gawayn sayde þat fayr lady  
 ȝe ar a flep vn flyȝe þat mō may flyde hider  
 now ar ȝe tan aſtyt bot t̄e vȝ may ſchape  
 jſchal bynde yow ī yð̄ bedde þt̄ be ȝe trayſt  
 allazande þelady lanced þobourdeȝ  
 goud moroū gȝe q̄ gawayn þeblyþe  
 me ſchal worþe at yð̄ wille ȝ þat me lykeȝ  
 for jȝelde me ȝederly ȝ ȝeȝe aff̄ gȝce  
 ȝ þat is þe best be my dome for me by houeȝ nede  
 ȝ þus he bouredd aȝayn wȝt mony ablyþe laȝt̄  
 bot wolde ȝe lady louely þe leue me gȝnte  
 ȝ de prece yð̄ prysouȝ ȝ pray hȳ to ryſe  
 j̄ wolde boȝe of þis bed ȝ busk me bett̄  
 j̄ ſchulde keuȝ þe more comfort to karp yow wyth

wȝt hande

Nay for soþe beau ſ sayd þat swete  
 ȝe ſchalnot rise of yð bedde j rych yow bett  
 j ſchal happe yow here þat oþ half als  
 ȝ syþen karp wyth my knyȝt þat j kaȝt haue  
 for j wene wel jwysſe ſ wowen ȝe are  
 þat alle þe worlde worchipeȝ quere fo ȝe ride  
 yð honð yð hendelayk is hendely prayſed  
 wȝt lordez wyth ladyes wȝt alle þat lyf bere  
 ȝ now ȝe ar here iwyſſe ȝ we bot oure one  
 my lorde ȝ his ledez ar on lenþe faren  
 oþ burneȝ i her bedde ȝ my burdeȝ als  
 þe dor drawen ȝ dit wȝt a derf haspe  
 ȝ syþen jhaue i þis hoȝ hȳ þat al lykeȝ      wȝt tale  
 jſchal ware my whyle wel quyl hit laſteȝ  
 ȝe ar welcū to my cors  
 yowre awen won towale  
 me be houeȝ of fyne force  
 yð feruaunt be ȝ ſchale  
 In god fayth q gawayn gaȳ hit me þynkkeȝ  
 þaȝ jbe not now he þat ȝe of speken  
 to reche toſuch reuerence as ȝe reherce here  
 jam wyȝe vn worþy j wot wel my feluen  
 bigod i were glad ȝ yow god þoȝt  
 at ſaȝe oþ at ſeruyce þat jſette myȝt  
 to þe plesauce of yoȝ prys hit were apure ioye  
 in god fayth ſ gawayn q þe gay lady  
 þe prys ȝ þe prowes þat pleſeȝ al oþ  
 if jhit lakked oþ ſet atlyȝt hit were littel daynte  
 bot hit arladyes i noȝe þat leuȝ wer nowþe  
 haf þe hende i hor holde as jþe habbe here  
 todaly wȝt derely yð daynte wordeȝ  
 keuȝ hem comfort ȝ colen her careȝ      þurȝe grace  
 þe much of þegary ſouȝ oþ golde þat þt þay hauen  
 bot j louue þat ilk lorde þt þe lyfte haldeȝ  
 jhaf hit holly i my honde þat al defyres  
 ſcho made hȳ ſo gret chere

þat watȝ sofayr of face  
 þe knyȝt wȝ speches skere  
 aþwared to vche a cace  
 Madame qȝ þe myry mon mary yow ȝelde  
 for ihaf foðen ī godfayth yowre fraȝchis nobele  
 ȝ oþ ful much of oþ folk fongen hordedeȝ  
 bot þe daynte þȝ pay delen for my disert nyſen  
 hit is þe worchyp of yð self þat noȝt bot wel cōneȝ  
 bimary qȝ þe menskful me þynk hit anoþ  
 for were jworth al þewone of wȳmen alyue  
 ȝ alþe wele of þe worlde were ī myhonde  
 ȝ jſchulde chepen ȝ chose tocheue me alorde  
 for þe costes þat jhaf knownen vponþe knyȝt here  
 of bewte ȝ de bonerte ȝ blyþe semblaȝt  
 ȝ þat jhaf er herkkened ȝ halde hit here trwee  
 þȝ schulde nofreke vpon folde bifore yow bechoſen  
 jwylle worþy qȝ þe wyȝe ȝe haf waled wel bett  
 bot jam proude of þe prys þat ȝe put onme  
 ȝ soberly yð seruaȝt my souȝayn jholde yow  
 ȝ yowre knyȝt jbe com ȝ kryȝt yow for ȝelde  
 þȝ pay meled of much quat til myd morn paste  
 ȝ ay þe lady let lyk ahȝ loued mych  
 þe freke ferde wȝ defence ȝ feted fulfayre  
 þaȝ jwere burde bryȝtest þe burde ī mynde hade  
 þe lasse luf ī his lode for lur þat heſoȝt                  boute hone  
 þe dunte þat schulde hȝ deue  
 ȝ nedeȝ hit most bedone  
 þe lady þen spek of leue  
 he gȝnted hir fulsone  
 þene hogef hȝ godday ȝ wyth aglent laȝed  
 ȝ as hoſtod ho ſtonyed hȝ wyth ful ſtor wordeȝ  
 now he þat ſpedeȝ vche ſpech þis diſport ȝelde yow  
 bot þat ȝe be gawan hit gotȝ ī mȝde  
 quer fore qȝ þe freke ȝ freshly he aſkeȝ  
 ferde leſt he hade fayled ī fȳme of his caſtes  
 bot þe burde hȝ bleſſed ȝ biþis ſkyl ſayde

so god as gawayn gaynly is halden  
 ⁊ cortaysye is closed soclene ī hȳ seluen  
 couth not lyȝtly haf lenged so long wyth alady  
 bot he had craued acosse bihis cōtayfye  
 bisū towch of sūme tryfle at sū taleȝ ende  
 þē q̄owen jwysse worþe as yow lykeȝ  
 jſchal kysse at yō comauðement as a knyȝt falleȝ  
 ⁊ fireleſt hedispleſe yow fo plede hit no more  
 ho comes nerre w<sup>t</sup>þat ⁊ cacheȝ hȳ ī armeȝ  
 louteȝ luflych adouū ⁊ þe leude kysseȝ  
 þay comly bykēnen tokryſt ayþ oþ  
 ho dos hir forth at þe dore w<sup>t</sup> outer dyn more  
 ⁊ he ryches hȳ to ryſe ⁊ rapes hȳ ſone  
 clepes to his chamberlayn chofes his wede  
 boȝeȝ forth quen he watȝ boū blyþelyto maffe  
 ⁊ þēne he meued to his mete þ<sup>t</sup> mēſkly hȳ keped  
 ⁊ made myry al day tilþe mone ryſed  
 w<sup>t</sup> neū freke fayrer fonge  
 bitwene twoſo dȳgne dame  
 þe alder ⁊ þe ȝonge  
 much ſolace fetþay fame  
 And ay þe lordeof þelonde is lent onhis gamneȝ  
 to hūt ī holteȝ ⁊ heþe athyndeȝ barayne  
 ſuch aſowme he þ<sup>r</sup> flowe biþat þe ſūne heldet  
 of dos ⁊ of oþ<sup>r</sup> dere to deme were wonder  
 þēne ferſly þay flokked ī folkat þe laſte  
 ⁊ quykly of þe quelled dere aquerre þay maked  
 þe best boȝed þerto w<sup>t</sup> burneȝ ī nogh'  
 gedered þe grattest of gres þat þer were  
 ⁊ didden hem derely vndo as þe dede aſkeȝ  
 ferched hem at þe afay ſūme þat þ<sup>r</sup> were  
 two fȳgeres þay fonde of þefowleſt of alle  
 syþe þay flyt þe flot ſeſed þe erber  
 ſchaued wyth aſcharp knyf ⁊ þe ſchyre knitten  
 syþen rytte þay þe foure lȳmes ⁊ rent of þe hyde  
 þē brek þay þe bale þe baleȝ out token

w<sup>t</sup> game

lyftily forlancȳg ⁊ lere of þe knot  
 þay gryped to þe gargulū ⁊ gȳþely departed  
 þewesaūt fro þe wynt hole ⁊ walt out þe gutteȝ  
 þē ſcher þay out þeschuldereȝ wȝ her ſsharp knyueȝ  
 haled hem byalyttel hole tohaue hole sydes  
 ſibȝen britned þay þebreſt ⁊ brayden hit ī twȳne  
 ⁊ eft at þe gargulū bigyneȝ on þēne  
 ryueȝ hit vp radly ryȝt to þe byȝt  
 voydeȝ out þe a vanders ⁊ vāyly þ' aff  
 alle þe rymeȝ byþe rybbeȝ radly þay lance  
 so ryde þay of byrefouȝ biþe rygge boneȝ  
 euenden to þe haunche þat henged alle ſamen  
 ⁊ heuen hit vp al hole ⁊ hwen hit of þere      bi kynde  
 and þat þay neme for þe nouȝles bi nome as j trowe  
 bi þe byȝt alof þe þyȝes  
 þe lappeȝ þay lance bihynde  
 tohewe hit ī two þay hyȝes  
 biþe bak bon to vnbynde  
 Boþe þe hede ⁊ þe hals þay hwen of þēne  
 ⁊ ſyþen ſunder þay þe ſydeȝ ſwyft froþe chyne  
 ⁊ þe corbeles fee þay keſt ī agreue  
 þēn þurled þay ayþer þik ſide þurȝ bi þe rybbe  
 ⁊ henged þēne aþ bihoȝeȝ of þe fourcheȝ  
 vche freke forhis fee as falleȝ forto haue  
 vponafelle ofþe fayre best fede þay þayr hoȝdes  
 wyth þelyuȝ ⁊ þe lyȝteȝ þe leþer of þe pauncheȝ  
 ⁊ bred baþed ī blod blende þer amōȝeȝ  
 baldely þay blw prys bayed þayr rachcheȝ  
 ſyþen fonge þayher flesche folden tohome  
 strakande ful stoutly mony ſtif moteȝ  
 bibat þedaylyȝt watȝ done þe douthe watȝ al wonen  
 ī to þe comly caſtel þer þe knyȝt bideȝ      fulſtille  
 wyth blys ⁊ bryȝt fyr bette  
 þe lorðe is comen þ' tylle  
 when gawayn wthy mette  
 þer watȝ bot wele at wylle

Thēne comaūded þe lorde ī þt sale tofamen alle þe meny  
 boþe þe ladyes onlogh' tolyȝt w̄t her burdes  
 bi fore alle þe folk on þe flette frekeȝ hebeddeȝ  
 v̄ayly his venyſoū tofesch h̄y byforne  
 ⁊ al godly ī gomen gaway he called  
 techeȝ h̄y toþe tayles of ful tayt bestes  
 scheweȝ h̄y þe schyree grece schorne vpon rybbes  
 how payeȝ yow þis play haf j prys wōnen  
 haue j þryuandely þonk þurȝ my craft serued  
 ȝe j wysse q̄ þat oþ wyȝe here is wayth fayrest  
 þat jſeȝ þis seuen ȝere ī ſeoū of wynȝ  
 ⁊ al j gif yow gawayn q̄ þe gome þēne  
 for by a corde of couenaūt ȝe craue hit as yð awen  
 þis is soth q̄ þe segge jſay yow þat ilke  
 ⁊ jhaf worthyly þis wonȝ wyth īne  
 jwylle w̄t as god wylle hit worþeȝ to ȝðeȝ  
 he hasppeȝ his fayre hals his armeȝ wyth īne  
 ⁊ kyſſes h̄y as comlyly as ho couþe awyſe  
 tas yow þere my cheuicaūce jcheued no more  
 j wowche hit saf fynly þaȝ feler hit were  
 hit is god q̄ þegodmon ḡnt m̄cy þfore  
 hit may be ſuch hit is þe bett̄ ⁊ ȝe me breue wolde  
 where ȝe wan þis ilk wele biwytte of hor feluen  
 þat watȝ not forward q̄ he frayſt me no more  
 for ȝe haf tan þat yow tydeȝ trawe ȝe non oþ  
 þay lazed ⁊ made hemblyþe  
 wyth loteȝ þat were tolowe  
 to ſoper þay ȝede affwyþe  
 wyth dayntes nwe ī nowe  
 And syþen by þe chymne ī chamber þay ſeten  
 wyȝeȝ þe walle wyn weȝed tohem oft  
 ⁊ efte ī her bordȝ þay bayþen ī þe morn  
 tofylle þefame forwardeȝ þat þay by fore maden  
 þat chaūce ſobytydeȝ horcheuysaūce to chaūge  
 what nweȝ fo þay nome at naȝt quen þay metten  
 þay acorded of þe couenaunteȝ byfore þe cōt alle

ȝe mowe

þe beuerage watȝ broȝt forth ī bourde atþat tyme  
 þēne þay louelych leȝten leue at þe last  
 vche burne to his bedde busked bylyue  
 bi þat þe coke hade croweȝ ȝ cakled bot þryse  
 þe lorde watȝ lopen of his bedde þe leudeȝ vchone  
 so þat þe mete ȝ þe masse watȝ metely delyued to chace  
 þe douthe dressed toþe wod erany day sprenged  
 heȝ wȝt hūte ȝ horneȝ  
 þurȝ playneȝ þay passe ī space  
 vn coupled amōg þo þorneȝ  
 racheȝ þat ran on race

**S** one þay calle of a quest ī aker syde  
 þe hūt re hayted þe hoūdeȝ þat hit fyrst mȳged  
 wylde wordeȝ hȳ warp wyth awraſt noyce  
 þehowndeȝ þat hit herde haſtid þider swyþe  
 ȝ fallen as fast toþe fuyt fourty at ones  
 þēne ſuch aglaūande glam of gedered rachcheȝ  
 ros þat þe rochereȝ rūgen aboute  
 hūtereȝ hemhardened wȝt horne ȝ wyth muthe  
 þē al ī aſemblē ſweyed to geder  
 bitwene aflosche ī þat fryth ȝ afoo cragge  
 inaknot biaclyffe at þe kerre syde  
 þ' as þe rogh rocher vn rydely watȝ fallen  
 þay ferden toþe fyndȝ ȝ frekeȝ hemaff  
 þay vmbe keſten þe knarre ȝ þe knot boþe  
 wyȝeȝ whyl þay wyſten wel wyt ī ne hē hit were  
 þebest þat þer breued watȝ wyth þe blod hoūdeȝ  
 þēne þay beten on þe buſkeȝ ȝ bede hȳ vp ryſe  
 ȝ he vnſoūdly out ſoȝt ſeggeȝ ouȝ þwert  
 on þe ſellokeſt ſwyn ſwenged out þere  
 long fythen fro þe ſoūder þat ſizet for olde  
 for he watȝ ȝ bor alþer-gratteſt  
 quen he gronyed þēne greued mony  
 þe fyrſt þraſt he þryȝt toþe erþe  
 rth good ſped boute ſpyt more  
 wed hygh' ful hyȝe ȝ hay hay cryed

haden horneȝ to mouþe heterly rechated  
 mony watȝ þe myry mouthe ofmen ȝ ofhoūdeȝ      To quelle  
 þat buskkeȝ aff þis bor wȝt boſt ȝ wyth noyſe  
 ful oft he bydeȝ þe baye  
 ȝ maymeȝ þe mute ī melle  
 he hurteȝ of þe hoūdeȝ ȝ þay  
 ful ȝomerly ȝaule ȝ zelle  
 ſchalkeȝ to ſchote at hȳ ſchowen to þēne  
 haled to hym of her areweȝ hitten hym oft  
 bot þe poȳteȝ payred at þe pyth þȝt pyȝt ī his ſcheldeȝ  
 ȝ þe barbeȝ of his browe bite non wolde  
 þaȝ þefchauen ſchaft ſchyndered ī peceȝ  
 þe hede hypped aȝayn were so euȝ hit hitte  
 Bot quen þe dynteȝ hȳ dered of herdryȝe ſtrokeȝ  
 þen brayn wod for bate on burneȝ he rafeȝ  
 hurteȝ hem ful heterly þer he forth hyȝeȝ  
 ȝ mony arȝed þerat ȝ on lyte droȝen  
 bot þe lorde on alyȝt horce laūces hym aff  
 as burne bolde vpon bent his bugle hebloweȝ  
 he rechated ȝ þurȝ roneȝ ful þyk  
 ſuande þis wylde ſwyn til þe ſūne ſchaſted  
 þis day wyth þis ilk dede þaydryuen on þis wyſe  
 whyle oure luſtlych lede lys ī his bedde      of hewe  
 Gawayn gȝ yþely at home ī gereȝ ful ryche  
 þe lady noȝt forȝate  
 com to hȳ to ſalue  
 ful erly ho watȝ hȳ ate  
 his mode forto remwe  
 ho cōmes to þe cortyn ȝ at þe knyȝt totes  
 ȝ Wawen herwelcūed worþy onfyrlst  
 ȝ ho hȳ ȝeldeȝ aȝayn fulȝerne of hir wordeȝ  
 ſetteȝ hirſoftly by his fyde ȝ ſwyþely holazeȝ  
 ȝ wyth aluſtlych loke holayde hȳ þyſe wordeȝ  
 ſ ȝif ȝe be wawen wonder me þynkkeȝ  
 wyȝe þat is ſowel wrast alway togod  
 ȝ conneȝ not of compayne þe coſteȝ vnder take  
     ȝ if mon kēnes

⁊ if mon kēnes yow homto knowe ȝe keft hom of yōd mȳde  
 þ̄ hatȝ for ȝeten ȝederly þat ȝisȝday j taȝtte  
 bi alder truest token of talk þat jcowþe  
 what is þat q̄ þe wygh' j wylle jwot neu'  
 if hit be sothe þat ȝe breue þeblame is mȳ awen  
 ȝet j kende yow of kyffȝg q̄ þe clere þēne  
 quere so coūtenaūce is couþe quickly to clayme  
 þat bicūes vche aknyȝt þat cortayfy vſes  
 do way q̄ þat derf mon my dere þat speche  
 for þat durſt jnot do leſt jdeuayed were  
 if jwere werned jwere wrang jwylle ȝif i pfered  
 mafay q̄ þe mere wyf ȝe may not be werned  
 ȝe ar ſtif ī noȝh' to conſtrayne wyth strenkþe ȝif yow lykeȝ  
 ȝif any were so vilanoȝ þat yow de vaye wolde  
 ȝe be god q̄ Gawayn goodis yōd speche  
 bot þrete is vn þryuande ī þede þ̄jlende  
 ⁊ vche gift þat is geuen not w<sup>t</sup> goud wylle  
 jam at yōd comaundemēt to kyſſe quen yowllykeȝ in ſpace  
 ȝe may lach quen yow lyſt ⁊ leue quenyow þynkkeȝ  
 þe lady louteȝ adoū  
 ⁊ comlyly kyſſes his face  
 much ſpeche þay þ̄ expoū  
 of druryes greme ⁊ g<sup>r</sup>ce  
 j woled wyt at yow wyȝe þat worþy þer ſayde  
 ⁊ yow wrathed not þer wyth what were þe ſkylle  
 þat ſo ȝong ⁊ ſo ȝepe as ȝe at þis tyme  
 ſo cortayſe ſo knyȝtly as ȝe ar knownen ouſe  
 ⁊ of alle cheualry to chose þe chef þȝg a loſed  
 is þe lellayk of luf þe lettture of armes  
 for to telle of þis teuelȝg of þis trwe knyȝteȝ  
 hit is þe tytelet token ⁊ tyxt of her werkkeȝ  
 how her lele luf horlyueȝ han aūtered  
 endured for her drury dulful ſtoūdeȝ  
 ⁊ aff wenged w<sup>t</sup> her walð ⁊ voyded her care  
 ⁊ broȝt blyſſe ī to boure w<sup>t</sup> boūtees hor awen  
 ⁊ ȝe ar knyȝt com lokeſt kyd of yōd elde

yō worde ⁊ yō worship walke3 ayquere  
 ⁊ j haf seten by yō self here sere twyes  
 ȝet herde j neu' of yō hed helde no worde3  
 þat eu' longed to luf lasse ne more  
 ⁊ ȝe þat ar so cortays ⁊ coȳt of yō hetes  
 ogh' to aȝonke þyk ȝern toschewe  
 ⁊ teche sū tokene3 of trweluf craftes  
 why ar ȝe lewed þat alle þe los welde3      ffor schame  
 oþ' elles ȝe demen me todille yō dalyaūce toherken  
 i com hider sengel ⁊ fitte  
 tolerne at yow sū game  
 dos teche3 me of yō wytte  
 whil mylorde is fro hame  
 In goud fayþe q gawayn god yow for ȝelde  
 gret is þe gode gle ⁊ gomen to me huge  
 þat so worþy as ȝe wolde wȳne hidere  
 ⁊ pyne yow w<sup>t</sup> sopou' amon as play wyth yō knyȝt  
 with any skyne3 coȳtenaūce hit keu'ȝe3 me efe  
 bot to take þe toruayle to myself to trwluf typoū  
 ⁊ towche þe teme3 of tyxt ⁊ tale3 ofarme3  
 to yow þat jwot wel welde3 more slyȝt  
 of þat art bi þe half or a hūdreh of seche  
 as jam oþ' eu' schal ī erde þer j leue  
 hit were afole fele folde myfre bymy trawþe  
 j wolde yowre wylnȳg worche at my myȝt  
 as j am hyȝly bihalden ⁊ eu' more wylle  
 be feruaūt to yō seluen sofaue me dryȝtyn  
 þ9 hȳ frayned þat fre ⁊ fondet hȳ ofte  
 forto haf wōnen hȳ to woȝe what so scho þoȝt elle3  
 bot he de fended hȳ sofayr þat no faut semed      bot blysse  
 Ne non euel on nawþ halue nawþ þay wysten  
 þay lazed ⁊ layked longe  
 at þe last scho con hȳ kysse  
 hir leue fayre con scho fonge  
 ⁊ went hir waye jwyssse  
 Then rupes hȳ þe renk ⁊ ryfes toþe masse

⁊ siben hor din' watʒ dyʒt ⁊ derely serued  
 þe lede w<sup>t</sup> þe ladyeʒ layked alle day  
 bot þe lorde ou' þe londeʒ laūced ful ofte  
 fweʒ his vncely swyn þat swŷgeʒ biþe bonkkeʒ  
 ⁊ bote þebest of his bracheʒ þe bakkeʒ ī ſūder  
 þer he bode ī his bay tel bawe men hit breken  
 ⁊ madee hym maw gref his hed forto mwe vtſ  
 so felle floneʒ þer flete when þe folk gedered  
 bot ȝet þe styffest to start bistroūdeʒ he made  
 tilat þelast he watʒ so mat he myʒt no more rēne  
 bot ī þe haſt þat he myʒt he toahole wŷneʒ  
 of arasse biarokk þ' renneʒ þe boerne  
 he gete þe bonk at his bak bigŷeʒ to scrape  
 þe froþe femed at his mouth vnfayre biþe wykeʒ  
 whetteʒ his whyte tuscheʒ w<sup>t</sup> hŷ þē irked  
 alle þe burneʒ sobolde þat hŷ by stoden      for woþe  
 to nye hŷ on ferum bot neʒe hŷ non durſt  
 he hade hurt so mony byforne  
 þat al þuʒt þēne ful lobe  
 be more wyth his tusches torne  
 þat breme watʒ braȳ wod bothe  
 Til þe knyʒt com hŷ self kachande his blonk  
 syʒ hŷ byde at þe bay his burneʒ byfyde  
 he lyʒt<sup>r</sup> luſflych adoū leueʒ his corsō  
 braydeʒ out a bryʒt bront ⁊ bigly forth ſtrydeʒ  
 foūdeʒ fast þurʒ þe forth þer þe felle bydeʒ  
 þewylde watʒ war of þe wyʒe w<sup>t</sup> weppen ī honde  
 hef hyʒly þe here ſohetſly he fnaſt  
 þat fele ferde forþe frekeʒ leſt felle hŷ þe worre  
 þe swyn ſetteʒ hŷ out on þe ſegge euen  
 þat þe burne ⁊ þebor were boþe vpon hepeʒ  
 in þe wyʒcrest of þe waſ þe worre hade þat oþ  
 for þe mon merkkeʒ hŷ wel as þay mette fyrf  
 fet ſadly þe ſcharp ī þe ſlot euen  
 hit hŷ vp toþe hult þat þe hert ſchyndered  
 ⁊ he ȝarrande hŷ ȝelde ⁊ ȝedoū þe waſ

a hūdreh hōudeʒ hȳ hent  
 þat bremely conhȳ bite  
 burneʒ hī broȝt to bent  
 ⁊ doggeʒ to dethe endite

ful tyt

There watʒ blawȳg of prys ī mony breme horne  
 heʒe halowig on hiʒe w<sup>t</sup> haþeleʒ þat myʒt  
 brachetes bayed þat best as bidden þe mayſteʒ  
 of þat chargeaūt chace þat were chef hūtes  
 þēne awyʒe þat watʒ wys vpon wod crafteʒ  
 to vnlace þis bor lufly bigȳneʒ  
 fyrist he hewes of his hed ⁊ onhiʒe setteʒ  
 ⁊ syþen rendeʒ him al rogh' bi þe rygge after  
 braydeʒ out þe boweles brēneʒ hō on glede  
 with bred blent þer w<sup>t</sup> his braches rewardeʒ  
 syþen he britneʒ out þebrawen ī bryʒt brode cheldeʒ  
 ⁊ hatʒ out þe hastletteʒ as hiʒtly bisemeʒ  
 ⁊ ȝet hem halcheʒ al hole þe halueʒ to geder  
 ⁊ syþen onastif stange stoutly hem henges  
 now with þis ilk swyn þay swengen to home  
 þe bores hed watʒ borne bifore þe burns seluen  
 þat hī for ferde ī þeforþe þurʒ forse of his honde  
 til he seʒ ſ Gawayne  
 ī halle hȳ poȝt ful longe  
 he calde ⁊ he com gayn  
 his feeʒ þ' forto fonge  
 þe lorde ful lowde w<sup>t</sup> lote ⁊ lazed myry  
 whē he seʒ ſ G: w<sup>t</sup> solace he spekeʒ  
 þe goude ladyeʒ were geten ⁊ gedered þe meyny  
 he ſcheweʒ hem þe ſcheldeʒ ⁊ ſchapes hem þe tale  
 of þe largesse ⁊ þe lenþe þe hyȝneʒ alſe  
 of þe were of þe wylde swyn ī wod þer he fled  
 þat oþ knyȝt fulcomly comended his dedeʒ  
 ⁊ prayſed hit as gret prys þathe proued hade  
 for ſuche abrawne of abest þe bolde burne ſayde  
 ne ſuch ſydes of aſwyn ſegh he neu' are  
 þēne hondeled þay þe hoge hed þe hende mō hit prayſed

ſo stronge



þe lorde hȳ letted of þat tolenge hȳ resteyed  
 ⁊ sayde as j am trwe segge j siker my trawþe  
 þe ſchal cheue toþe grene chapel þycharres to make  
 leude on nwȝereȝ lyȝt longe bifore pryme  
 for þy þow lye ī þyloft ⁊ lach þyn eſe  
 ⁊ i ſchal hūt in þis holt ⁊ halde þe towcheȝ  
 chaȝe wyth þe cheuifaȝce biþat jcharre hidre  
 for jhaf frayſted þe twys ⁊ faythful jfynde þe  
 now þrid tyme þrowe best þenkon þe morne  
 make we mery quyl we may ⁊ mȳne vpon joye  
 for þe lur may mon lach when ſomonlykeȝ  
 þis watȝ grayþely graȝted ⁊ gawayn is lenged      Wȝ liȝt  
 bliþe broȝt watȝ hym drynk ⁊ þay to bedde ȝeden  
 ſ G: lis ⁊ ſlepes  
 fulſtille ⁊ ſofte alniȝt  
 þe lorde þat his crafteȝ kepes  
 fulerly he watȝ diȝt  
 Aff̄ messe a morsel he ⁊ his men token  
 miry watȝ þe mornȝg his moȝture he aſkes  
 alle þe haþeles þat on horse ſchulde helden hȳ aff̄  
 were boȝ busked on hor blonkkeȝ bi forere þe halle ȝateȝ  
 ferly fayre watȝ þe folde for þe forſt clenged  
 ī rede rudedede vpon rak rises þe ſūne  
 ⁊ ful clere coſteȝ þe clowdes of þe welkyn  
 hūteres vnhardeled bi aholt syde  
 rocheres roȝgen birys for rurde of herhernes  
 ſūme fel ī þe fute þer þe fox bade  
 trayleȝ ofte a trayfes bi traȝt of her wyles  
 akenet kyres þerof þehūt on hȳ calles  
 his felazes fallen hȳ to þt fnasted ful þike  
 rūnen forth ī arabel ī his ryȝt fare  
 ⁊ he fyskeȝ hem by fore þay foȝden hȳ ſone  
 ⁊ quen þay ſegh' hȳ wȝ ſyȝt þayſued hȳ faſt  
 wreȝande h̄ fu w t ly with a wroth noyſe  
 ⁊ he trantes ⁊ tornayeeȝ þurȝ mony tene greue  
 hauiloȝeȝ ⁊ herkeneȝ biheggeȝ ful ofte

at þe last bialittel dich he lepeȝ ouȝ aspēne  
 steleȝ out fulstilly biastrothe rande  
 went haf wylt of þe wode w<sup>t</sup> wyleȝ fro þe hoūdes  
 þēne watȝ he went er he wyſt to to a wale tryſt al graye  
 þer þre þro at aþrich þrat hȳ at ones  
 he blenched aȝayn bilyue  
 ȝ stifly start onſtray  
 with alle þe wo onlyue  
 to þe wod he went away  
 Thēne watȝ hit lif vpon lift to lyþen þe hoūdeȝ  
 when alle þe mute hade hȳ met menged to geder  
 ſuche aſorȝe at þat ſyȝt þay ſette on his hede  
 as alle þe clamberande clyffes hade clafed onhepes  
 here he watȝ halawed when hapeleȝ hȳ metten  
 loude he watȝ ȝayned w<sup>t</sup> ȝarande ſpeche  
 þer he watȝ þreted ȝ ofte þef called  
 ȝ ay þe titleres at his tayl þat tary he ne myȝt  
 ofte he watȝ rūnen at whenhe out rayked  
 ȝ ofte reled i ȝayn fo reniarde watȝ wyle  
 ȝ ȝe he lad hem bi lag mon þe lorde ȝ his meyny  
 on þis manȝ biþe mountes quyle myd ouȝ vnder  
 whyle þe hende knyȝt at home halfūly ſlepes  
 with i ne þe comly cortȳ es on þe colde morne  
 bot þe lady for luf let not toſlepe  
 ne þe purpose to payre þat pyȝt i hir hert  
 bot ros hir vp radly rayked hir þeder  
 inaȝmery mantyle mete to þe erþe  
 þat watȝ furred ful fyne w<sup>t</sup> felleȝ wel pured  
 no hwef goud on hir hede bot þe hazer ſtones  
 traſed aboute hir tressō be twenty i cluſ̄es  
 hir þryuen face ȝ hir þrote þrownen al naked  
 hir brest bare biſore ȝ bihind eke  
 ho comeȝ w<sup>t</sup> īne þe chambre dore ȝ closes hit hir aff  
 wayueȝ vp awyndow ȝ onþewyȝe calleȝ w<sup>t</sup> chere  
 ȝ radly þ9 re hayted hȳ w<sup>t</sup> hir riche wordes bi  
 a mon how may þ<sup>e</sup> ſlepe

þis mornīg is so clere  
 he watȝ ī droupīg depē  
 bot þēne he con hir here  
 In dreȝ droupīg of dreme draueled þat noble  
 as mon þat watȝ in mornīg of monyþro þoȝtes  
 how þat destine schulde þat day his wyrde  
 at þe grene chapel when he þe gome metes  
 ȝ bi houes his buffet abide with oute debate more  
 bot quen þat comly com he keuēd his wyttes  
 swenges out of þe sweuenes ȝ swareȝ wȝt hast  
 þe lady luflych com laȝande swete  
 felle ouȝ his fayre face ȝ fetly hȳ kyssed  
 he welcūȝ hir worþily with awale chere  
 he seȝ hir so glorioȝ ȝ gayly atyred  
 so fautles of hir fetures ȝ of so fyne hewes  
 wiȝt wallande joye warmed his hert  
 wȝt smøþe smylȳg ȝ smolt þay smeten ī to mȝþe      ȝ wynne  
 þat al watȝ blis ȝ bonchef þat breke hem bi twene  
 þay lanced wordes gode  
 much wele þē watȝ þ' īne  
 gret pile bi twene hem stod  
 nif mare of hir knyȝt mȳne  
 ffor þat prynce of pris depreſed hȳ so þikke  
 nurned hȳ so neȝe þe þred þat nede hȳ bihoued  
 oþlach þer hir luf oþlodly re fuse  
 he cared for his cortaysye left crabayn hewere  
 ȝ more for his meschef ȝif he schulde make sȳne  
 ȝ be traytor to þat tolke þat þȝ telde aȝt  
 god schylde q; þe schalk þat schalnot befalle  
 wȝt luf laȝȳg alyt he layd hȳ by syde  
 alle þe specheȝ of specialte þat sprange ofher mouthe  
 q; þat burde to þe burne blame ȝe differue  
 ȝif ȝe luf not þat lyf þat ȝe lye nexte  
 bifore alle þe wyȝes ī þe worlde woȝded ī hert  
 bot if ȝe haf alēman a leuȝ þat yow lykeȝ bett  
 ȝ folden fayth to þat fre festned so harde

þat yow lausen ne lyft ȝ þat jleue nouþe  
 and þat ȝe telle me þat now trwly j pray yow  
 for alle þe lufeȝ vpon lyue layne not þe soþe  
 þe knyȝt sayde be sayn jon  
 ȝ smþely con he smyle  
 in fayth j welde riȝt non  
 ne non wil welde þe quile  
 þat is aworde q þat wyȝt þat worst is ofalle  
 bot jam swared for soþe þat sore me þinkkeȝ  
 kyfse me now comly ȝ jſchal cach heþen  
 j may bot mõne vpon molde as may þat much louyes  
 sykande ho sweȝe doū ȝ semly hȳ kyfssed  
 ȝ siþen hoseȝes hȳ fro ȝ says as ho stondes  
 now dere at þis de partȝ do me þis eſe  
 gif me sumquat of þy gifte þigloue of hit were  
 þat j may mȳne on þe mon my mõnȝ tolaffen  
 now jwyfse q þat wyȝe jwolde jhade here  
 þe leuest þig for þy luf þat jin londe welde  
 for ȝe haf deserued forsoþe sellyly ofte  
 more rewarde bireſoū þē jreche myȝt  
 bot to dele yow fordurye þt dawed bot neked  
 hit is not yō honō to haf at þis tyme  
 agloue for agaryſoū of gawayneȝ gifteȝ  
 ȝ jam here an erande ī erdeȝ vncouþe  
 ȝ haue no mē wyth no maleȝ wȝ menskful þigeȝ  
 þat mislykeȝ me lade for luf at þis \*tyne      ne pine  
 iche tolke mon do as he is tan tas to non ille  
 nay hende of hyȝe honōs  
 q þat luſſū vnder lyne  
 þaȝ j hade noȝt of yōeȝ  
 ȝet ſchulde ȝe haue of myne  
 ho raȝt hȳ a riche rynk of red golde werkeȝ  
 wyth aftarande ſton ſtondande alofte  
 þat bere bluſſchande bemeȝ as þe bryȝt ſūne  
 wyt ȝe wel hit watȝ worth wele ful hoge  
 bot þe renk hit renayed ȝ redyly he sayde

fforgile

j wil no gifteȝ for gode my gay at þis tyme  
 j haf none yow to norne ne noȝt wyl itake  
 ho bede hit hȳ ful byfily ȝ he hir bode wernes  
 ȝ swere swyftel by his sothe þat he hit sese nolde  
 ȝ ho sore þat he forsoke ȝ sayde þ' after  
 if ȝe renay my rynk to ryche forhit semeȝ  
 ȝe wolde not so hyȝly halden be tome  
 j schal gif yow mygirdel þat gaynes yow lasse  
 holazt alace lyȝtly þat leke vmbre hir sydeȝ  
 knit vpon hir kyrtel vnder þe clere mantyle  
 Gered hit watȝ wȝt grene sylke ȝ wȝt golde schaped  
 noȝt bot aroude brayden beten wȝt fyngreȝ  
 ȝ þat hobede to þe burne ȝ blyþely bisoȝt  
 þaȝ hit vn worþi were þat he hit take wolde  
 ȝ he nay þat he nolde negh' ī no wyse  
 nauþer golde ne garyſou ergod hȳ gȝce fende  
 toacheue to þe chauce þat he hade chosen þere  
 ȝ þerfore i pray yow displesse yow noȝt to graute  
 ȝ letteȝ be yð bisinesse for j bayþe hit yow neuȝ  
 j am derely toyow biholde  
 bi cause of yð semblaȝt  
 ȝ eu' ī hot ȝ colde  
 to be yð trwe seruaȝt  
 Now forsake ȝe þis filke sayde þeburde þene  
 for hit is symple ī hit self ȝ so hit wel semeȝ  
 lo so hit is littel ȝ lasse hit is worþy  
 bot who so knew þe costes þat knit ar þer īne  
 he wolde hit prayse at more prys parauenture  
 for quat gome so is gorde wȝt þis grene lace  
 while he hit hade hemely halched aboute  
 þer is no habel vnder heuen to hewe hȳ þat myȝt  
 forhe myȝt not beslayn forflyȝt vpon erþe  
 þe kest þe knyȝt ȝ hit come to his hert  
 hit were a juel for þe joparde þat hȳ iugged were  
 when he acheued to þe chapel his chek forto fech  
 myȝt he haf flypped to be vn flayn þe fleȝt were noble

þēne he þulged with hir þrepe ⁊ þoled hir tospeke  
 ⁊ ho bere onhȳ þe belt ⁊ bede hit hȳ swyþe  
 ⁊ he ḡnted ⁊ hȳ gafe with agoud wylle  
 ⁊ bifoȝt hym for hir fale disceū hit neū for noȝte  
 bot to lelly layne frohirlorde þe leude hȳ acordeȝ  
 þat neū wyȝe schulde hit wyt jwyſſe bot þay twayne  
 he þonkked hir oft ful swyþe  
 ful þro w̄t hert ⁊ þoȝt  
 bi þat on þryne syþe  
 ho hatȝ kyſt þe knyȝt so toȝt  
 Thēne lachcheȝ ho hir leue ⁊ leueȝ hȳ þere  
 for more myrþe ofþat mon moȝt ho not gete  
 when he watȝ gon ſ G gereȝ hȳ fone  
 rises ⁊ riches hȳ ī araye noble  
 lays vp þeluflace þe lady hȳ raȝt  
 hid hit ful holdely þ̄ he hit eft fonde  
 syþe cheuely to þe chapel chos(es) he þewaye  
 preuely aproched to aprest ⁊ prayed hȳ þere  
 þat he wolde lyfte his lyf ⁊ lern hȳ bett̄  
 how his sawle schulde be saued when he schuld seye heþe  
 þere he schrof hȳ schyrly ⁊ schewed his myſdedeȝ  
 of þe more ⁊ þe mȳne ⁊ m̄ci bescheȝ  
 ⁊ of absolucioū he on þesegge calles  
 ⁊ he aſoyled hȳ surely ⁊ sette hȳ so clene  
 as domeȝ day schulde haf ben diȝt on þe morn  
 ⁊ syþen he mace hȳ as mery amōg þefreladyes  
 w̄t comlych caroles ⁊ alle kȳnes ioye                          w̄t blys  
 as neū he did bot þat daye toþe derk nyȝt  
 vche mon hade daynte þare  
 of hȳ ⁊ sayde jwyſſe  
 þ9 myry he watȝ neū are  
 syn he com hider er þis

**N**ow hȳ lenge ī þat lee þ̄ luf hȳ bi tyde  
 ȝet is þe lorde on þe laȝde ledande his gomnes  
 he hatȝ forfareñ þis fox þ̄ he folȝed longe  
 as he spreñt oūaspēne toſpye þe schrewe

þeras he herd þe howndes þat hasted hȳ swyþe  
 Renaud com richchande þurzaroȝe greue  
 ȝ alle þe rabel i ares ryȝt at his heleȝ  
 þe wyȝe watȝ war ofþe wylde ȝ warly abides  
 ȝ braydeȝ out þe bryȝt bronde ȝ at þe best casteȝ  
 ȝ he schūt for þe scharp ȝ schulde haf arered  
 arach rapes hȳ to ryȝt erhemeyȝt  
 ȝ ryȝt bifore þe hors fete þay fel onhȳ alle  
 ȝ woried me þis wylly wyth awroth noyse  
 þe lorde lyȝteȝ bilyue ȝ cacheȝ by sone  
 rased hȳ ful radly out of þe rach mouȝes  
 haldeȝ heȝe ouȝ his hede haloweȝ faste  
 ȝ þ bayen hȳ mony bray hoȝdeȝ  
 hȳtes hyȝedhem þeder wȝt horneȝ ful mony  
 ay re chatande aryȝt til þay þe renk seȝen  
 biȝat watȝ comen his compeyny noble  
 alle þat euȝ ber bugle blowed at ones  
 ȝ alle þise oþ halowed þat hade no horns  
 hit watȝ þe myriest mute þat euȝ mē herde  
 þe rich rurd þat þ watȝ rayfed for re naude faule  
 hor hoȝdeȝ þay þ rewarde  
 her her hedeȝ þay fawne ȝ frote  
 ȝ syþen þay tan reynarde ȝ turnen of his cote  
 ȝ þene þay helden to home for hit watȝ nieȝ nyȝt  
 strakande ful stoutly i hor store horneȝ  
 þe lorde is lyȝt at þe lafte at hys lef home  
 fyndeȝ fire vpon flet þe freke þ by side  
 Sir Gawayn þe gode þat glad watȝ wȝt alle  
 amog þe ladies for luf he ladde much ioye  
 he were ableaȝt ofblwe þat bradde toþe erþe  
 his surcot semed hȳ wel þat softe watȝ forred  
 ȝ his hode of þat ilke henged on his schulder  
 blande al of blaȝner were boþe al aboute  
 he meteȝ me þis god mon i myddeȝ þe flore  
 ȝ al with gomen he hȳ gret ȝ goudly he sayde  
 i schal fyll vpon fyrst oure forwardeȝ nouþe

wȝt lote

þat we spedly hanspoken þer spared watȝ nodrynk  
 þen acoles he knyȝt ȝ kysses hȳ þryses  
 as sauery ȝ sadly as hehem sette coupe  
 bikryst q þat oþ knyȝt ȝe cach much sele  
 i cheuisauce of þis chaffer ȝif ȝe hade goud chepeȝ  
 ȝe of þe chepe no charg q chefly þat oþ  
 as is pertly payed þe chepeȝ þat j azte  
 mary q þat oþ mon myn is bihynde  
 for j haf hūted al þis day ȝ noȝt haf j geten  
 bot þis foule fox felle þe fende haf þe godeȝ  
 ȝ þat is fulpore forto pay forsuche prys þīges  
 as ȝe haf þryȝt me here þro fuche þre cosses  
 jnoȝ q l gawayn  
 j þonk yow biþe rode  
 ȝ how þe fox watȝ slayn  
 he tolde hȳ as þay stode  
 With m̄þe ȝ mynstralſye with meteȝ at hor wylle  
 Pay maden as mery as any mē moȝten  
 wȝ laȝyȝ of ladies wȝ loteȝ of bordes  
 Gawayn ȝ þe gode mō so glad were þay boþe  
 bot if þe douthe had doted oþ dronken ben oþ  
 boþe þe mon ȝ þe meyny maden mony iapeȝ  
 til þe sesoū watȝ seȝen þat þay seuȝ moste  
 burneȝ to hor bedde behoued at þe laste  
 þēne loȝly his leue at þe lorde fyrst  
 fechcheȝ þis fre mon ȝ fayre he hȳ þonkkeȝ  
 of such afellyly foiorne as j haf hade here  
 yð honð at þis hyȝe fest þe hyȝe kȳg yow ȝelde  
 j ȝef yow me foron of yðeȝ if yowre self lykeȝ  
 for j mot nedes as ȝe wot meue to morne  
 ȝ ȝe me take sū tolke to teche as ȝe hyȝt  
 þe gate to þe grene chapel as god wyl me suffer  
 to dele on nwȝereȝ day þe dome of my wyrdes  
 jn god fayþe q þe god mon wyth agoud wylle  
 alþat euȝ j yow hyȝt halde schal j rede  
 þer afȝnges he aferuaȝt to sett hȳ i þe waye

so gode

⁊ coūdue hȳ by þe downeȝ þat he no drechh had bi greue  
 forto frk þurȝ þe fryth ⁊ fare at þe gaynest  
 þe lorde Gawayn con þonk  
 such worship he wolde hȳ weue  
 þē at þo ladyeȝ wlunk  
 þe knyȝt hatȝ tan his leue  
 With care ⁊ wyth kyffȝg he carppeȝ hem tille  
 ⁊ fele þryuande þonkkeȝ he þrat hom to haue  
 ⁊ þay ȝelden hȳ aȝay ȝeþly þat ilk  
 þay bikende hȳ tokryst wȝ ful colde sykȝgeȝ  
 syþen fro þe meyny he menskly departes  
 vche mon þat he mette he made hem a þonke  
 for his seruyse ⁊ his solace ⁊ his sere pyne  
 þat þay wyth busynes had ben aboute hȳ toserue  
 ⁊ vche segge as sore toſeu' wȝ hy þere  
 as þay hade wonde worþyly wȝ þat wlunk eu'  
 þē with ledes ⁊ lyȝt he watȝ ladde to his chambre  
 ⁊ blyþely broȝt to his bedde tobe at his rest  
 ȝif he ne slepe soðyly say ne dar j in þoȝt  
 for he hade muche on þe morn to myne ȝif he wolde  
 let hȳ lyȝe þere stille  
 he hatȝ nere þat he soȝt  
 ⁊ ȝe wyl a whyle be stylle  
 ȝſchal telle yow how þay wroȝt

**N**ow neȝeȝ þe nwȝere ⁊ þe nyȝt passeȝ  
 þe day dryueȝ to þe derk as dryȝtyn biddeȝ  
 bot wylde wedereȝ ofþe worlde wakned þeroute  
 clowdes keften kenly þe colde to þe erþe  
 wyth nyȝe in nogh' of þe norþe þe naked to tene  
 þe snawe snitered ful snart þat snayed þe wylde  
 þe werbelande wynde wapped fro þe hyȝe  
 ⁊ drof vche dale ful of dryftes ful grete  
 þe leude lystened ful wel þat leȝ i his bedde  
 þaȝ he lowkeȝ his liddeȝ fullyttel he slepes  
 bi vch kok þat crue he knwe wel þe

de liu<sup>l</sup>ly he dressed vp erþe day sprenged  
 for þere watȝ lyȝt of alaupe þat lemed i his chambre  
 he called tohis chamberlayn þat cofly hȳ swared  
 and bede hȳ brȳg hȳ his bruny ȝ his blonk fadel  
 þat oþ ferkeȝ hȳ vp ȝ fecheȝ hȳ his wedeȝ  
 ȝ grayþeȝ me l gawayn vpon agrett wyse  
 fyrst he clad hȳ i his cloþeȝ þe colde forto were  
 ȝ syþen his oþ harnays þat holdely watȝ keped  
 boþe his paucē ȝ his plateȝ piked ful clene                      to þonk  
 þe rȳgeȝ rokked of þe rouſt of his riche bruny  
 ȝ al watȝ fresch as vpon fyrst ȝ he watȝ fayn þēne  
 he hade vpon vche pece  
 wyppeſ ful wel ȝ wlonk  
 þe gayest i to grece  
 þe burne bed~ brȳg his blonk  
 Whyle þe wlonkeſt wedes he warp on hȳ seluen  
 his cote wyth þe conysaunce of þe clere werkeȝ  
 ennurned vpon veluet v̄tuuȝ ſtoneȝ  
 aboute beten ȝ boðen enbrauded ſemeȝ  
 ȝ fayre furred w<sup>t</sup> īne wyth fayre pelures  
 ȝet laſt he not þe lace þe ladieȝ gifte  
 þat for gat not gawayn for gode of hȳ seluen  
 bi he hade belted þe bronde vpon his balȝe haūcheȝ  
 þēn dressed he his drurye double hȳ aboute  
 swyþe ſweþled vmbe his swange ſwetely þat knyȝt  
 þe gordel of þe grene filke þat gay wel bi ſemed  
 vpon þat ryol red cloþe þat ryche watȝ to ſchewe  
 bot wered not þis ilk wyȝe for wele þis gordel  
 forpryde of þe pendaunteȝ þaȝ polyſt þay were  
 ȝ þaȝ þe glyfande golde glent vpon endeȝ  
 bot forto fauē hȳ ſelf when ſufferhȳ by houed              oþ knyffe  
 to byde bale w<sup>t</sup> ouȝe dabate of bronde hȳ to were  
 bi þat þe bolde mon boū  
 wȳneȝ þeroute bilyue  
 alle þe meyny of renoū  
 he þonkkeȝ ofte ful ryue

Thēne watȝ gryngoleȝ grayþe þat gret watȝ ȝ huge  
ȝ hade ben soiȝned sauȝly ȝ i afiker wyse  
hȳ lyf prik for poȝt þat proude hors þēne  
þe wyȝe wȳneȝ hȳ to ȝ wyteȝ on his lyre  
ȝ sayde soberly hȳ self ȝ by his soth swereȝ  
here is ameyny i þis mote þat on menske þenkkeȝ  
þe mon hem maynteines ioy mot þay haue  
þe leue lady on lyue luf hir bityde  
ȝif þay for charyte cherysen agest  
ȝ halden honð in her honde þe habel hē ȝelde  
þat haldeȝ þe heuen vpon hyȝe ȝ also yow alle  
ȝ ȝif j myȝt lyf vpon londe lede any quyle  
j schuld rech yow fū rewarde redyly if j myȝt  
þē steppeȝ he i to stirop ȝ strydeȝ alofte  
his schalk schewed hȳ his schelde on schulder he hit laȝt  
gordeȝ to gryngoleȝ wȝt his gilt heleȝ to prauce  
ȝ he starteȝ onþe ston stod he nolenger  
his habel onhors watȝ þēne  
þat bere his spere ȝ lauce  
þis kastel to kryst jkēne  
he gef hit ay god chauce  
The brygge watȝ brayde doȝ ȝ þe brode ȝateȝ  
vn barred ȝ born open vpon boþe halue  
þe burne blessed hȳ bilyue ȝ þe bredeȝ passed  
prayses þe porter bifore þe prynce kneled  
gef hym god ȝ goud day þat gawayn he saue  
ȝ went onhis way wȝt his wyȝe one  
þat schulde teche hȳ to tōne toþat tene place  
þer þe ruful race heschulde re fayue  
þay boȝen bibonkeȝ þ' boȝeȝ ar bare  
þay clomben bi clyffeȝ þer clengeȝ þe colde  
þe heuen watȝ vp halt bot vgly þer vnder  
mift mugged on þe mor malt on þe moȝteȝ  
vch hille hade ahatte amyȝt hakel huge  
brokeȝ byled ȝ breke bibonkeȝ aboute  
schyre schafande on schoreȝ þ' þay doȝ schowued

welawylle wat<sub>3</sub> þe way þer þay biwod schulden      þat tyde  
 til hit wat<sub>3</sub> sone sesoū þat þe sūne ryfes  
 þay were on ahille ful hy<sub>3</sub>e  
 þe quyte snaw lay bifyde  
 þe burne þat rod h̄y by  
 bede his mayster abide  
 ffor þhaf wōnen yow hidre wy<sub>3</sub>e at þis tyme  
 ⁊ now nar ȝe not fer fro þat note place  
 þat ȝe han spied ⁊ spuryed so specially aft  
 bot j ſchal say yow for ſoþe syþen j yow knowe  
 ⁊ ȝe ar alede vpon lyue þat j wel louy  
 wolde ȝe worch bi my wytte ȝe worþed þe bett  
 þe place þat ȝe prece to fulperelo<sup>9</sup> is halden  
 þer wone<sub>3</sub> awy<sub>3</sub>e ī þat waste þeworſt vpon erþe  
 for he is ſtiffe ⁊ ſturne ⁊ toſtrike louies  
 ⁊ more he is þē any mon vpon myddelerde  
 ⁊ his body bigger þē þe best fowre  
 þat ar ī arþure<sub>3</sub> ho<sup>9</sup> heſtor oþ' oþ'  
 he cheue<sub>3</sub> þat chaūce at þe chapel grene  
 þer paſſes non biþat place ſo proude ī his armes  
 þat he ne dȳne<sub>3</sub> h̄y to deþe w<sup>t</sup> dynt of his honde  
 for he is amon methles ⁊ mercy non vſes  
 for be hit chorle oþ' chaplayn þat bi þe chapel rydes  
 monk oþ' masse preſt oþ' any mon elles  
 h̄y þynk as queme h̄y to quelle as quyk go h̄y ſeluen  
 for þy j ſay þe as ſoþe as ȝe ī ſadel ſitte  
 com ȝe þere ȝebe kylled may þe knyȝt rede      to ſpende  
 trawe ȝe me þat trwely þa<sub>3</sub> ȝe had twenty lyues  
 he hat<sub>3</sub> wonyd here ful ȝore  
 onbent much baret bende  
 aȝayn his dynte<sub>3</sub> fore  
 ȝe may not yow defende  
 for þy goude ſ gawayn let þe gome one  
 ⁊ got<sub>3</sub> a way ſū oþ' gate vpon godde<sub>3</sub> halue  
 cayre<sub>3</sub> bisū oþ' kyþ þer kryſt mot yow ſpede  
 ⁊ ſchal hy<sub>3</sub> me hom aȝayn ⁊ hete yow fyrre

þat jſchal swere bigod ⁊ alle his gode halȝeȝ  
 as help me god ⁊ þe halydam ⁊ oþeȝ i nogh'  
 þat jſchal lelly yow layne ⁊ lance neu' tale  
 þat eu' ȝe fondt to fle forfreke þat j wyſt  
 gȝnt m'ci q; Gawayn ⁊ gruchȝg he sayde  
 wel worth þe wyȝe þat woldeȝ my gode  
 ⁊ þat lelly me layne j leue wel þu woldeȝ  
 bot helde þu hit neu' soholde ⁊ jhere passed  
 foūded for ferde for to fle i fōme þat þu telleȝ  
 j were aknyȝt kowarde j myȝt mot be excused  
 bot jwylto þe chapel for chaūce þat may falle  
 ⁊ talk wyth þat ilk tulk þe tale þat me lyfste  
 worþe hit wele oþ wo as þe wyrde lykeȝ  
 þaȝe he be asturn knape  
 to ſtiȝtel ⁊ ⁊ ſtad wȝ ſtaue  
 fulwel con dryȝtyn ſchape  
 his feruauteȝ forto faue  
 Mary q; þat oþ mon now þu ſomuch ſpelleȝ  
 þat þu wylt þynawen nye nyme to þy ſeluen  
 ⁊ þe lyft leſe þy lyf þe lette j ne kepe  
 haf here þi helme on þy hede þi ſpere i þi honde  
 ⁊ ryde me doū þis ilk rake biȝon rokke fyde  
 til þu be broȝt to þe boþem of þe brem valay  
 þene loke alittel onþe laude on þi lyfte honde  
 ⁊ þu ſchal fe i þat flade þe ſelf chapel  
 ⁊ þe borelych burne on bent þat hit kepeȝ  
 now fareȝ wel on godeȝ half gawayn þe noble  
 for alle þe golde vpon groude j nolde go wyth þe  
 ne bere þe felazſchip þurȝ þis fryth onfote fyrre  
 bi þat þe wyȝe i þe wod wendeȝ his brydel  
 hit þe hors wȝ þe heleȝ as harde as he myȝt  
 lepeȝ hȳ ou' þe laude ⁊ leueȝ þe knyȝt þere  
 bigoddeȝ ſelf q; gawayn  
 j wyl nauþ grete ne grone  
 to goddeȝ wylle jam ful bayn  
 ⁊ to hȳ jhaf me tone

hit hafe

al one

Thēne gyrdeȝ he to gryngoleȝ ȝ gedereȝ þe rake  
 schowueȝ ī biaschore at aschazeȝ syde  
 rideȝ þurȝ þe roȝe bonk ryȝt toþe dale  
 ȝ þēne he wayted hȳ aboute ȝ wylde hit hȳ þoȝt  
 ȝ seȝe nosȝgne of refette bifydeȝ nowhere  
 bot hyȝe bonkeȝ ȝ brent vpon boþe halue  
 ȝ ruȝe knokled knarreȝ wȝt knorned stoneȝ  
 þe skweȝ of þescowtes skayned hȳ þoȝt  
 þēne he houed ȝ wyth hylde his hors at þat tyde  
 ȝ ofte chaȝged his cher þe chapel toſeche  
 he seȝ non ſuche ī nosyde ȝ ſellyhym þoȝt  
 faue alyttel onalaude alawe as hit we  
 abalȝ berȝ biabonke þe brȳme by syde  
 bi aforȝ of aflode þȝt ferked þare  
 þe borne blubred þer īne as hit boyled hade  
 þe knyȝt kacheȝ his caple ȝ com to þelawę  
 liȝteȝ doū luſflyly ȝ at alynde tacheȝ  
 þe rayne ȝ his riche with a roȝe brauȝche  
 þēne he boȝeȝ to þe berȝe aboute hit he walkeȝ  
 debatande wȝt hȳ ſelf quat hit be myȝt  
 hit hade a hole on þe ende ȝ on ayþer syde  
 ȝ ouȝt growen wȝt gresse ī glodes ay where  
 ȝ al watȝ holȝ ī wȝt nobot an olde caue                    wȝt spelle  
 or a creuiſſe of anolde cragge he couþe hit noȝt deme  
 we lorde qȝ þe gentyle knyȝt  
 wheþer þis be þe grene chapelle  
 here myȝt aboute myd nyȝt  
 þe dele his matynes telle  
 Now i wysse qȝ wowayn wyſty is here  
 þis oritore is vgly wȝt erbeȝ ouȝt growen  
 wel bifemeȝ þe wyȝe wruxled ī grene  
 dele here his de uociouȝ on þe deueleȝ wyſe  
 now jfele hit is þe fende ȝ my fyue wytteȝ  
 þat hatȝ stoken me þis steuen toſtrye me here  
 þis is achapel of meschaunce þat chekke hit by tyde  
 hit is þe corsedest kyrk þat euȝ jcom īne

with heȝe helme onhis hede his lauce ī his honde  
 he romeȝ vp to þe roffe of þe roȝ wonēȝ  
 þene herde he ofþat hyȝe hil ī a harde roche  
 biȝonde þe broke ī abonk awonder breme noyse  
 quat hit clafed ī þe clyff as hit cleue schulde  
 as one vpon agryndelston hade groūden asyþe  
 what hit wharred ȝ whette as waf at a mulne  
 what hit rusched ȝ ronge rawþe tohere  
 þene bi godde q gawayn þat gere at j trowe  
 is ryched at þe reuȝence me renk to mete  
 let god worche we loo  
 hit helppeȝ me not a mote  
 my lif þaȝ jfor goo  
 drede dotȝ me nolote  
 Thēne þe knyȝt concalle ful hyȝe  
 who stiȝtleȝ ī þis sted me steuen to holde  
 for now is gode gawayn go ande ryȝt here  
 if any wyȝe oȝt wyl wȳne hidderfast  
 oþ now oþ neuȝ his nedeȝ to spedē  
 abyde q on on þe bonke abouen ouȝ his hede  
 ȝ þe schal haf al ī haſt þat jþe hyȝt ones  
 ȝet he rusched on þat rurde rapely a þrowe  
 ȝ wyth quettȝgawharf er he wolde lyȝt  
 ȝ syben he keuȝeȝ biacragge ȝ comeȝ of ahole  
 whyrlande out of a wro wyth afelle weppen  
 a deneȝ ax nwe dyȝt þe dynt wȝt o ȝelde  
 wȝt aborelych bytte bende by þe halme  
 fyled ī afylor fowre fote large  
 hit watȝ nolasse biþat lace þat lemed fulbryȝt  
 ȝ þe gome ī þe grene gered as fyrst  
 boþe þe lyre ȝ þe leggeȝ lokkeȝ ȝ berde  
 saue þat fayre onhis fote he foûdeȝ on þe erþe  
 sette þe stele to þe stone ȝ stalked bysyde  
 when he wan to þe watter þer he wade nolde  
 he hypped ouȝ on hys ax ȝ orpedly strydeȝ  
 bremly broþe onabent þat brode watȝ a bout

Bi rote

on snawe

¶ Gawayn þe knyȝt con mete  
 he ne lutte hȳ no þȳg lowe  
 þat oþ̄ sayde now ¶ swete  
 of steuen mon may þe trowe  
 Gawayn q̄ þat grene gome god þe mot loke  
 i wylle þ̄ art welcon wyȝe tomy place  
 ⁊ þ̄ hatȝ tymed þi trauayl as t̄ee mō schulde  
 ⁊ þ̄ knoweȝ þe couenaunteȝ keſt v9 by twene  
 at þis tyme twelmonyth þ̄ toke þ̄t þe falled  
 ⁊ jſchulde at þis nwe ȝere ȝeþly þe quyte  
 ⁊ we ar ī þis valay v̄ayly oure one  
 here ar no renkes vs to rydde rele as v9 likeȝ  
 haf þy helme of þy hede ⁊ haf here þy pay  
 busk no more debate þē i þe bede þēne  
 when þ̄ wyppeſ of my hede at a wap one  
 nay bi god q̄ gawayn þ̄t me goſt lante  
 i ſchal gruch þe no grwe for grem þat falleȝ  
 bot ſtyȝtel þe vpon on strok ⁊ jſchal ſtonde ſtylle      no whare  
 ⁊ warp þe no wernȳg toworch as þe lykeȝ  
 he lened w̄t þe nek ⁊ lutte  
 ⁊ ſchewed þat ſchyre albare  
 ⁊ lette as he noȝt dutte  
 for drede he wolde not dare

**T** hēþe gome ī þe grene grayþed hȳ ſwyþe  
 gedereȝ vp hys grȳme tole Gawayn toſmyte  
 w̄t alle þe bur ī his body he ber hit on lofte  
 mūt as maȝtyly as marre hȳ he wolde  
 hade hit dryuen adoū as dreȝ as he atled  
 þer hade ben ded ofhis dynt þat doȝty watȝ eū  
 bot Gawayn onþat giferne glyfte hȳ byſyde  
 as hit com glydande adoū on glode hȳ toſchende  
 ⁊ ſchranke alytel w̄t þe ſchulderes for þe ſcharp yrne  
 þat oþ̄ ſchalk wyth aſchūt þe ſchene wyth haldeȝ  
 ⁊ þēne reproued he þe prynce w̄t mony prowde wor  
 þ̄ art not gawayn q̄ þe gome þ̄t is ¶ d ha  
 þat neū arȝed for no here byhylle ne be vale



w<sup>t</sup> þe barbe of þe bitte biþe bare nek  
 þaȝ he homered hefly hurthȳ no more  
 bot snyrt hȳ on þat on syde þat seūed þe hyde  
 þe scharp schrank to þe flesche þurȝ þe schyre grece  
 þat þe schene blod oū his schulderes schot to þe erþe  
 ȝ quen þeburne seȝ þe blode blenk on þe snawe  
 he sprit forth spēne fote more þē aspere lenþe  
 hent hefly his helme ȝ onhis hed cast  
 schot w<sup>t</sup> his schuldereȝ his fayre schelde vnder  
 braydeȝ out abryȝt sworde ȝ bremely he spekeȝ  
 neū syn þat he watȝ burne borne of his moder  
 watȝ he neū i þis worlde wyȝe half soblyþe  
 blȳne burne of þy bur bede me no mo  
 jhaf a stroke i þis sted w<sup>t</sup> oute stryf hent      ȝ foo  
 ȝ if þow recheȝ me any mo jredyly schal quyte  
 ȝ zelde zederly aȝayn ȝ þ to ze tryȝt  
 bot on stroke here me falleȝ  
 þe couenaūt schop ryȝt so  
 fermed in Arþureȝ halleȝ  
 ȝ þer fore hende now hoo

The haþel held̄t hȳ fro ȝ onhis ax rested  
 sette þe schaft vpon schore ȝ to þe scharp lened  
 ȝ loked to þe leude þat on þe launde ȝede  
 how þat doȝty dredles deruely þer stondeȝ  
 armed fulaȝleȝ i hert hit hȳ lykeȝ  
 þēn he meleȝ muryly wyth amuch steuen  
 ȝ wyth arynkande rurde he to þe renk sayde  
 bolde burne on þis bent be not fogryndel  
 nomon here vn manly þe mys boden habbeȝ  
 ne kyd bot as couenaude at kȳgeȝ kort schaped  
 jhyȝt þe astrok ȝ þ hit hatȝ halde þe wel payed  
 j relece þe of þe remnaūt of ryȝtes alle oþ  
 uf i deliuer had bene aboffet paraunt  
 jcouþe wroþeloker haf waret to þe haf wroȝt ang  
 fyrst jmansed þe muryly w<sup>t</sup> amynt one  
 ȝ roue þe wyth no rof fore w<sup>t</sup> ryȝt jþe pfered

for þe forwarde þat we fest ī þe fyrst nyȝt  
 ȝ þ<sup>t</sup> trystyly þe trawþe ȝ trwly me haldeȝ  
 alþe gayne þow me gef as god mon schulde  
 þat oþ mūt forþe morne mon jþe profered  
 þ<sup>t</sup> kyssedes my clere wyf þe cosseȝ me raȝteȝ      boute scaþe  
 for boþe two here jþe bede bot two bare myntes  
 trwe mon trwe restore  
 þēne þar mō drede nowaþe  
 at þe þrid þ<sup>t</sup> fayled þore  
 ȝ þ<sup>x</sup> for þat tappe taþe  
 ffor hit is my wede þat þ<sup>t</sup> wereȝ þ<sup>t</sup> ilke wouen girdel  
 myn owen wyf hit þe weued jwot wel forsoþe  
 now know jwel þy cosses ȝ þy costes als  
 ȝ þe wowȝg of my wyf jwroȝt hit myseluen  
 jſende hir to asay þe ȝ soþly me þynkkeȝ  
 on þe fautlest freke þat eu' on fote ȝede  
 as perle biþe quite pese is of prys more  
 so is gawayn ī god fayth biþ<sup>t</sup> gay knyȝteȝ  
 bot here yowlakked alyttel ȝ lewte yow wonted  
 bot þat watȝ for no wylyde werke ne wowȝg naup<sup>t</sup>  
 bot for ȝe lufed yð lyf þelasse j yow blame  
 þat oþ stif mon ī study stod agret whyle  
 so agreued for greme he gryed w<sup>t</sup> īne  
 alle þe blode of his brest blende ī his face  
 þat al he schrank for schome þat þeschalk talked  
 þe forme worde vpon folde þat þe freke meled  
 corsed worth cowarddyse ȝ couetyse boþe  
 ī yow is vylany ȝ vyse þat v̄tue disstryeȝ  
 þēne he kaȝt to þe knot ȝ þe keft lawfeȝ  
 brayde broþely þe belt to þe burne seluen  
 lo þer þe falffȝg foule mot hit falle  
 for care of þy knokke cowardyse me taȝt  
 to acorde me w<sup>t</sup> couetyse my kynde to for sake  
 þat is larges ȝ lewte þat longeȝ toknyȝteȝ  
 now am j fawty ȝ falce ȝ ferde haf ben eu'      ȝ care  
 of trecherye ȝ vn trawþe boþe bityde forȝe  
                         j bi knowe yow knyȝt

j bi knowe yow knyȝt here styll  
al fawty is my fare  
leteȝ me oū take yō wylle  
r efte jſchal be ware  
Thēn loȝe þat oþ leude r luflyly sayde  
j halde hit hardilyly hole þe harme þat j hade  
þ art confessed so clene be knownen of þy myſſes  
r hatȝ þe penaūce apert of þe poȳt of myn egge  
j halde þe polyſed of þat plyȝt r pured as clene  
as þ hadeȝ neū forfeted syþē þ watȝ fyrſt borne  
r j gif þe ſ þe gurdel þat is golde hēmed  
for hit is grene as my goune ſ G: ȝe maye  
þenk vpon þis ilke þrepe þ þ forth þrýgeȝ  
amōg prynces of prys r þis apure token  
of þe chaūce of þe grene chapel at cheualroȝ knyȝteȝ  
r ȝe ſchal i þis nwe ȝer aȝayntomy wonȝ fulbene  
r waschȝ reuel þe remnaūt of þis ryche fest  
þer laped hȳ faſt þelorde  
r sayde wȝt my wyf jwene  
weschal yow wel acorde  
þat watȝ yō enmy kene  
Nay for ſoþe q þe segge r ſefed hys helme  
r hatȝ hit of hendely r þe haþel þonkkeȝ  
j haf ſoiorned ſadly ſele yow bytyde  
r he ȝelde hit yow ȝare þat ȝarkkeȝ al mēſkes  
r comaūdeȝ me to þat cortays yō comlych fere  
boþe þat on r þat oþ myn honðed ladyeȝ  
þat þ9 hor knyȝt wyth horkeſt han koȳtly bigyled  
bot hit is no ferly þaȝ afole madde  
r þurȝ wyles of wȳmen be wonen toſorȝe  
for ſo watȝ adam i erde wȝt one bygyled  
r salamon wȝt fele ſere r samſon eft ſoneȝ  
dalyda dalt hȳ hys wyrde r dauyth þer aft  
watȝ blended wȝt barſabe þat much bale þoled  
now þeſe were wrathed wyth her wyles hȝt were awȳne huge  
to luf homwel r leue hem not aleude þat couþe

for þes wer forne þe freest þat folȝed alle þe sele      þat mused  
 ex ellently of alle þyse oþ vnder heuen ryche  
 ȝ alle þay were bi wyled  
 with wyth wȳmen þat þay vſed  
 þaȝ jbe now bigyled  
 Me þink me burde be excused  
 Bot yð gordel q G: god yow for ȝelde  
 Pat wyl jwelde wyth guod wylle not for þe wȳne golde  
 Ne þe saynt ne þe sylk ne þe syde pendaūdes  
 for wele ne for worchyp ne for þe wlone werkkeȝ  
 bot iſygne of my surfet jſchal se hit ofte  
 when jride ī renoū remorde to myseluen  
 þe faut ȝ þe fayntyse of þe flesche crabbed  
 how tender hit is to entyse teches of fylþe  
 ȝ þ9 quen prude ſchal me pryk for prowes of armes  
 þe loke to þis luf lace ſchal leþe my hert  
 bot on jwolde yow pray displeses yow neuȝ  
 syn ȝe be lorde of þe ȝonder londe þ jhaf lent īne  
 wyth yow wyth worschyp þe wyȝe hit yow ȝelde  
 þat vphaldeȝ þe heuē ȝ on hyȝ fitteȝ  
 how norne ȝe yowre ryȝt nome ȝ þēne no more  
 þat ſchal i telle þe trwly q þt oþ þēne  
 Bernlak de hautdesert j hat ī þis londe  
 þurȝ myȝt of morgne lafaye þat ī my hoȝ lenges  
 ȝ koyntyse of clergye bi craftes wel lerned  
 þe mayſtres of m̄lyn mony ho taken  
 for ho hatȝ dalt drwry fuldere ſū tyme      at hame  
 with þat conable klerk þat knowes alle yð knyȝteȝ  
 morgne þe goddes  
 þefore hit is hir name  
 weldeȝ non so hyȝe hawteſſe  
 þat ho necon make fultame  
 ho wayned me vpon þis wyſe to yð wȳne halle  
 forto assay þe surquidre ȝif hit soth were  
 þat rēnes of þe grete renoū of þe roūde table  
 ho wayned me þis wonder yð wytteȝ to reue

for to haf greued gaynō 7 gart hir to dyȝe  
 w<sup>t</sup> gopnȳg of þat ilke gomen þat goſtlych ſpeked  
 w<sup>t</sup> his hede ī his honde biſore þe hyȝe table  
 þat is hoþat is at home þe aūcian lady  
 ho is euen þyn aūt arþureȝ half fuster  
 þe duches doȝter of tyntagelle þat dere v<sup>f</sup> aff  
 hade arþur vpon þat aþel is nowþe  
 þerfore jeþe þe haþel to com to þy naūt  
 Make myry ī my hoȝ my meny þelouies  
 7 jwol þe as wel wyȝe bi my faythe  
 as any gome vnder god for þy grete traueþe  
 7 he nikked hȳ naye he nolde bi nowayes  
 þay acolen 7 kyſſen ayþer oþ<sup>r</sup> oncoolde  
 to þe prynce of paradise 7 parten ryȝt þere  
 Gawayn onblonk fulbene  
 to þe kȳgeȝ burȝ buſkeȝ bolde  
 7 þe knyȝt ī þe enker grene  
 whiderwarde ſoeū he wolde  
 wylde wayeȝ ī þe worlde wowen now rydeȝ  
 on gryngoleþ þat þe g<sup>r</sup>ce hadde geten of his lyue  
 ofte he herbered ī house 7 ofte alþeroute  
 7 mony aventure ī vale 7 venquyſt ofte  
 þat j ne tyȝt at þis tyme ī tale to remene  
 þe hurt watȝ hole þat he hade hent ī his nek  
 7 þe blykkande belt he bere þeraboute  
 abelef as a bauderyk boūden bihis syde  
 loken vnder his lyfte arme þe lace w<sup>t</sup> aknot  
 ī tokenȳg he watȝ tane ī tech ofa faute  
 7 þ<sup>r</sup> he cōmes to þe cōt knyȝt al ī ſouðe  
 þer wakned wele ī þat wone when wyſt þe grete  
 þat gode G:: watȝ cōmen gayn hit hym þoȝt  
 þe kȳg kyſſeȝ þe knyȝt 7 þe whene alce  
 7 syþen mony syker knyȝt þat ſoȝt hȳ to haylce  
 of his fare þat hȳ frayned 7 ferlyly he telles  
 biknoweȝ alle þe coſtes of care þat he hade  
 þe chaūce of þe chapel þe chere of þe knyȝt

