MIDDLE HIGH GERMAN SERIES · VOLUME 36

Lanzelet

Ulrich von Zatzikhoven

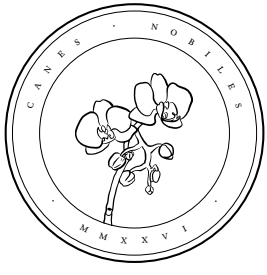
Lanzelet

Part Two: The Mantle and the Dragon's Kiss

---

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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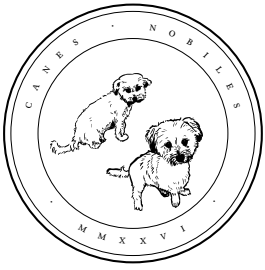

Volume 36 of the Canes Nobiles Middle High German interlinear texts

The Middle High German text follows Lanzelet: Eine erzählung von Ulrich von Zatzikhoven, herausgegeben von K. A. Hahn (Frankfurt am Main: Heinrich Ludwig Brönner, 1845), verses 4689 to 9444

Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench
Artwork by Esther Steves

The verses are numbered as Hahn numbers them, every fifth verse in the outer margin; a verse he marks as lost prints as asterisks and keeps the number he gives it. The paragraphs are his; the reading sections and their English heads are this press's.

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The sea-fairy's maiden tells the hero his name, Lanzelet, son of King Pant and Queen Clarine of Genewis, and gives him a tent in a casket. It is pitched on a flowering heath: a mirror for a roof under a golden eagle with carbuncle eyes, walls of samite, triblat, barragan, and fish-hair, inscriptions on love at the door, and it folds small enough for a maiden's hands. In its mirror Lanzelet and Iblis each see only the other.

Des genâdet im diu stæte.
For-that thanked him the steadfast-one.

‚ob ichz erwünschet hæte' 4690
‚if I-it wished had'

sprach siu ‚sô fund ich iuch niht baz.'
spoke she ‚so found I you not better.'

als siu zuo in gesaz,
when she to them sat,

siu hiez den ellenden
she bade the exiled-one

sich vreuwen unde menden
himself rejoice and be-glad

und saget im dienst und allez guot 4695
and told him service and all good

von der küniginne wol gemuot,
from the queen well minded,

diu in zôch und tugende lêrte
who him raised and virtues taught

und ir vlîz an in kêrte
and her diligence on him turned

und diu im gab zem êrsten swert.
and who him gave at-the first sword.

‚sît ir mîn vrowen hânt gewert 4700
‚since you my lady have granted

des si iuch bat‘ sprach der bote,
what she you begged‘ spoke the messenger,

‚sô dankent ir unde gote,
‚so thank her and God,

daz ir sît sus wol gedigen.
that you are thus well thriven.

iwer name was iuch ê verswigen:
your name was from-you before kept-silent:

den vernement durch mîne bete:
it hear for my request:

ir sint geheizen Lanzilete,
you are called Lanzelet,

von gebürte sælic unde grôz.
by birth blessed and great.

ich weiz nienâ iwern genôz.
I know nowhere your peer.

iwer vater der hiez Pant.
your father he was-called Pant.

Genewîs was sîn lant:
Genewis was his land:

daz ist iwer rehtez erbe:
that is your rightful inheritance:

ez wirt in unbederbe,
it becomes to-them useless,

die sich des hânt underwunden.
who themselves of-it have taken-charge.

der man wirt nimer funden,
the man becomes never found,

der iu eins tages an gesige.
who to-you one day over conquers.

daz ist wâr, wan ichs iu verpflige
that is true, for I-it to-you vouch

von mîner vrowen wârheit.
from my lady's truth.

ez ist ir allez vor geseit,
it is to-her all before told,

waz wunders iu geschehen sol.
what of-wonder to-you happen shall.

iwer muoter hât gedienet wol
your mother has served well

an allen dingen mit ir tugent,
in all things with her virtue,

daz ir an alter und an jugent
that you in age and in youth

von rehte müezet sælic sîn,
by right must blessed be,

Clârîne diu künigîn.
Clarine the queen.

ez gelebete nie vrowe baz.
it lived never lady better.

diu welt was ein teil gehaz
the world was a part hostile

iwerm vater, wan er zornes pflac.
to-your father, for he anger practiced.

er wart, als ich iu sagen mac,
he was, as I to-you tell may,

erslagen von sînen mannen.
slain by his men.

mîn vrowe fuort iuch dannen
my lady led you thence

und hât iuch zartlîch erzogen.
and has you tenderly raised.

daz ich iu niht hân gelogen,
that I to-you not have lied,

des sol min wortzeichen sîn
of-that shall my token be

den ich hie bringe dirre schrîn.
which I here bring this casket.

ein guot gezelt dâ inne lît.
a good tent there in lies.

daz ir von rehte sælic sît,
that you by right blessed are,

daz ist an dirre gâbe schîn.'
that is in this gift seen.'

do genâdet er der künigîn.
then thanked he the queen.

der mære vreute sich sîn lîp.
of-the tidings rejoiced himself his person.

gerne hôrt ez ouch sîn wîp,
gladly heard it also his wife,

Iblis diu guote,
Iblis the good,

und wart ir wol ze muote,
and became to-her well in mind,

daz ir sô rehte was geschehen.
that to-her so rightly was happened.

dar nâch îlten si besehen
there after hastened they to-look-at

daz gezelt, wan si der bote bat.
the tent, for them the messenger begged.

ez was ein wünneclîchiu stat,
it was a delightful place,

dâ si wârn gesezzen:
where they were sat:

des muge wir niht vergezzen.
of-that may we not forget.

diu heide was von bluomen gar
the heath was with flowers wholly

rôt, wîz, weitvar,
red, white, woad-colored,

brûn, grüene unde gel,
brown, green and yellow,

swarz, mervar, wolkenhel,
black, sea-colored, cloud-bright,

tusenvêch, trûbeblâ,
thousand-hued, grape-blue,

stahelbleich, îsengrâ,
steel-pale, iron-gray,

purpurbrûn, sîdeval.
purple-brown, silk-pale.

die vogel mit ir süezen zal
the birds with their sweet song

die vlugen ûf daz schœne velt.
they flew onto the beautiful field.

da enmitten satzte sîn gezelt
there in-the-midst set his tent

Lanzelet der milde.
Lanzelet the generous.

daz gewürhte was sô wilde,
the work was so marvelous,

daz Salomôn und Dârîus
that Solomon and Darius

und der rîche künec Augustus,
and the rich king Augustus,

den diente al diu erde,
whom served all the earth,

die enmöhten nâch sîm werde
they might after its worth

daz gezelt vergelten borwol,
the tent pay little-well,

als ich iu bescheiden sol.
as I to-you inform shall.

swelch man ie sô sælic wart,
whichever man ever so blessed became,

daz er drîn getet eine vart,
that he there-in made a journey,

der was imer mê gesunt
he was ever more healthy

und erschein im an der selben stunt
and appeared to-him at the same hour

sîn vriunt derm aller holdest was.
his friend who-him of-all most-devoted was.

daz ober teil was ein spiegelglas,
the upper part was a mirror-glass,

ûzân und innen ebenclâr.
outside and inside evenly-clear.

alsô grôz als ein hâr
so great as a hair

gewunn ez nimer einen krac
got it never a crack

weder durch wurf noch durch slac.
neither through throw nor through blow.

sus was ez obene gemaht.
thus was it above made.

ein guldîn knopf het ez bedaht,
a golden knob had it covered,

der was lobebære.
it was praiseworthy.

von golde ein ar vil mære
of gold an eagle very famous

was dar ûf gemezzen.
was there upon measured.

an dem was niht vergezzen
on it was nothing forgotten

swaz ze meisterlîchen dingen touc:
whatever to masterly things suited:

ân daz ein, daz er niht vlouc,
except that one, that it not flew,

sô stuont er als er lebete,
so stood it as-if it lived,

vogelîche er swebete.
bird-like it hovered.

sîn gezierde was niht cleine.
its adornment was not small.

zwên karvunkel reine
two carbuncles pure

wârn im für ougen gemaht.
were to-it for eyes made.

dâ von gesach man durch die naht
there from saw one through the night

als ez wære ein sunnen schîn.
as-if it were a sun's shine.

ouch was im der munt sîn
also was to-it the mouth its

gemaht daz er ginte hô,
made that it gaped high,

sô man eine keten zô.
when one a chain drew.

er was innân aller hol
it was inside all hollow

und sanc prîslîchen wol
and sang praiseworthily well

einen wunderlîchen dôn.
a wondrous tune.

sîn zunge was ein abestôn,
its tongue was an asbestos,

ein stein hizze rîche.
a stone of-heat rich.

der brinnet êwiclîche,
it burns eternally,

für daz er einest wirt enbrant.
from that it once becomes kindled.

der liuhtet ouch in daz lant
it lights also into the land

und behabet sîn perze
and keeps its brightness

baz danne ein michel kerze.
better than a great candle.

ditz was der pavelûne huot.
this was the pavilion's top.

niderhalp was siu harte guot,
below was it very good,

mit berlen gezieret.
with pearls adorned.

diu winde was gevieret.
the wall was squared.

(siu was hôch unde wît.)
(it was high and wide.)

ein teil was ein samît,
one part was a samite,

rehte grüene als ein gras.
right green as a grass.

manic bilde drane was
many-a image there-on was

mit starken listen gemaht.
with strong cunning made.

ez was verre bezzer slaht
it was far better kind

dan ze Kriechen dehein pfellel sî.
than in Greece any silk-cloth be.

daz ander teil was dâ bî
the other part was there by

ein rîcher triblât,
a rich triblat,

brûn sô man uns gesaget hât:
brown as one us told has:

dar an rôtiu bilde,
there on red images,

glîch vogelen und wilde,
like birds and beasts,

meisterlîche wol geworht.
masterfully well wrought.

daz gezelt stuont unervorht
the tent stood unafraid

vor aller slahte wetere.
before all kinds-of weather.

guldîn was daz etere,
golden was the seam,

dâ mite zesamene was genât
there with together was sewn

der samît und der triblât.
the samite and the triblat.

ich sages iu niht nâch wâne,
I tell-it to-you not after guess,

von rôtem barragâne
of red barragan

was diu dritte sîte.
was the third side.

siu lûhte harte wîte
it shone very widely

in dem grüenesten clê.
in the greenest clover.

im kunde nimer werden wê,
to-him could never become woe,

dem daz in teile was getân,
to-whom that in share was given,

daz er drîn mohte gân;
that he there-in might go;

er hât an sælden grôzen prîs.
he has in blessings great prize.

ez was ein irdisch paradîs,
it was an earthly paradise,

des muoz man jehen zwâre.
that must one say truly.

von wîzem visches hâre
of white fish's hair

was daz vierde ende,
was the fourth end,

mit wilder wîbe hende
by wild women's hands

geworht mit guoter ruoche.
wrought with good care.

ez was deheime tuoche
it was to-no cloth

niender gelîche getân,
nowhere alike made,

vil spæher danne ferrân;
very finer than fine-silk;

und die zoten niht ze lanc;
and the tassels not too long;

wünneclich der inganc.
delightful the entrance.

es geloubt eim kinde niht sîn vater,
it believes from-a child not its father,

diu tür was ein guldîn gater.
the door was a golden grating.

dâ stuonden buochstaben an,
there stood letters on,

der ich gemerken niene kan,
of-which I mark not-at-all can,

wan einer sprach dâ bevor
except one spoke there before

‚quid non audet âmor:
‚what not dares love:

waz getar diu minne niht bestân?'
what dares the love not withstand?'

der ander sprach, daz ist mîn wân,
the other spoke, that is my belief,

‚minne ist ein wernder unsin.‘
‚love is a lasting madness.‘

sît ich zellende worden bin,
since I telling become am,

sô stuont dar nâch geschriben
so stood there after written

‚minne hât mâze vertriben.
‚love has measure driven-out.

sine mugent samen niht bestân.‘
they may together not stand.‘

in ditz gezelt moht nieman gân,
into this tent might no-one go,

der guoten liuten lotter truoc.
who to-good people falseness bore.

der zeltstange ich niht gewuoc:
of-the tent-pole I not made-mention:

daz meinet ungefüegiu diet,
that means unfitting folk,

di geloubent mir des mæres niet.
they believe me of-the tale not.

doch sag ich iu, daz siu was
yet tell I to-you, that it was

verre grüener danne ein gras,
far greener than a grass,

lûter, sleht, smaragdîn.
clear, smooth, emerald.

diu græze mohte wol sîn
the thickness might well be

als zweier spannen enge.
as two spans narrow.

zweir sperscheft was diu lenge.
two spear-shafts’ was the length.

siu wuohs noch swie man wolde.
it grew yet however one would.

die stecken wârn von golde,
the pegs were of gold,

die dar zuo tohten,
which there to suited,

diu wintseil geflohten
the guy-ropes braided

von cleiner bortsîden.
of fine braid-silk.

ir sult des niht vermîden,
you shall of-that not avoid,

irn merkent mîne rede hie:
unless-you mark my speech here:

swâ ein nât über dander gie
wherever a seam over the-other went

und sich zesamene prîste,
and itself together hemmed,

dar über gienc eine lîste,
there over went a border,

der ich vergeȥȥen niht enmac.
which I forget not can.

ich sage iu waȥ dar an lac.
I tell to-you what there on lay.

dâ was geworht von golde,
there was wrought of gold,

als ein wîse meister wolde,
as a wise master would,

seltsæniu kunder,
strange creatures,

vische, merwunder,
fish, sea-marvels,

tier, gefügel unde man.
beasts, fowl and men.

diz was allez dar an,
this was all there on,

mit spæhen listen erhaben,
with curious cunning raised,

hol und innân ergraben.
hollow and inside engraved.

sô der wint kom drîn gevlogen,
when the wind came there-in flying,

so begund ez allez sament brogen,
so began it all together to-stir,

als ez wolte an die vart.
as-if it would to the journey.

ieglîchez sanc nâch sîner art
each sang after its kind

und half dem arn, der oben schrê.
and helped the eagle, who above cried.

von dem gezelt sag ich niht mê
of the tent tell I not more

wan einr nâtûre der ez wielt:
except one nature which it held:

swenne manz zesamene vielt,
when one-it together folded,

sô wart ez sô gefüege,
so became it so handy,

daz ez lîhte trüege
that it easily should-carry

ein juncvrowe in ir handen.
a maiden in her hands.

si endorfte nimer ganden
she needed never complain-of

daz spæhe zeltgeriusche.
the curious tent-gear.

diz ist niht ein getiusche,
this is not a deception,

ez ist wâr und ungelogen.
it is true and unlied.

swenne ez wart ûf gezogen,
when it was up drawn,

so enswârt ez an nihte.
so was-heavy it in nothing.

swenne manz ûf gerihte,
when one-it up set,

sô wart ez als ez solte,
so became it as it should,

dar nâch sîn herre wolte,
there after its lord would,

beidiu hôch unde wît.
both high and wide.

daz besuohten zer selben zît
that tried at-the same time

Lanzelet und Iblis:
Lanzelet and Iblis:

diu giengen drîn, des sît gewis,
they went there-in, of-that be certain,

und sâhen in daz spiegelglas.
and looked into the mirror-glass.

daz under in niht valsches was,
that among them nothing of-falseness was,

des muosen si von schulden jehen.
of-that must they by right say.

wan er enkunde niht ersehen
for he could not see

wan der vrowen bilde.
except the lady's image.

Iblis diu milde,
Iblis the generous,

ich weiz ir rehte alsam geschach,
I know to-her right likewise happened,

daz si ir selben niht ensach
that she her self not saw

niht wan ir gesellen.
nothing but her companion.

für wâr lât iu zellen,
for true let to-you tell,

wær er über tûsent mîle gesîn,
(if)-were he over thousand miles been,

si ensæh doch niht wan sînen schîn.
she saw yet nothing but his form.

XX · VALERIN'S CLAIM

Lanzelet sends the maiden home with a ring, learns that he is Arthur's sister's son, and rides to find Walwein. A squire tells him that King Valerin of the Tangled Wood claims Ginover as betrothed to him first and will fight one champion in a week, and he describes Valerin's castle behind its hedge of serpents. Leaving Iblis with his kinswoman, the duchess of the White Lake, Lanzelet unhorses a knight at a ford, reaches the combat, and joins Walwein on the Stone of Honor.

Es müesen wîse liute jehen,
It must wise people say,

dô Lanzelet het ersehen
when Lanzelet had seen

daz gezelt, daz er sich mante.
the tent, that he himself bethought.

den boten er heim sante
the messenger he home sent

wider in der Meide lant.
back into the Maiden land.

der wol gezogen wîgant
the well bred fighter

enbôt der merminne,
sent-word to-the mermaid,

daz sîu ûf leit in ir sinne
that she upon laid in her mind

swaz siu selbe wolte,
whatever she self would,

wan er daz tuon solte,
for he that do should,

geriet ez nâch unz an den tôt.
should-come it near until to the death.

vrowe Iblis ir ouch enbôt,
lady Iblis to-her also sent-word,

daz siu in ir hulde wolte sîn.
that she in her favor would be.

von golde ein sælde vingerlîn
of gold a luck little-ring

daz gab der herre Lanzelet
that gave the lord Lanzelet

der meide, dium den dienst tet
to-the maiden, who-to-him the service did

und diu in sînes namen berihte
and who him of-his name informed

ze sîner vriundîn angesihte.
in his beloved's sight.

diu miete muost ir wol behagen.
the reward must her well please.

siu jach, ez het in an geslagen
she said, it had him on struck

von dem aller miltesten man,
from the of-all most-generous man,

den diu welt ie gewan.
whom the world ever gained.

der künec Artûs von Kardigân
the king Arthur of Kardigan

der was sîn œhein sunder wân:
he was his uncle without doubt:

diu âventiure seit uns daz,
the adventure tells us that.

mir ist leit, daz ich vergaz,
to-me is sorrow, that I forgot,

daz vingerlîn was der geschiht,
the little-ring was of-the kind,

man verzêh im betlîches niht,
one refused to-him of-fitting nothing,

swer ez an der hant truoc.
whoever it on the hand bore.

diu maget danket im genuoc
the maiden thanked him enough

und fuor dannen siu was komen.
and fared thence she was come.

sus hete Lanzelet vernomen,
thus had Lanzelet heard,

daz er was Artûses swester barn.
that he was Arthur's sister child.

nu dâhte er, daz er wolte varn
now thought he, that he would fare

da er Wâlweinen funde,
where he Walwein found,

wan er im baz guotes gunde
for he to-him better good granted

danne deheim sîm mâge.
than any his kinsman.

alsus reit er mit vrâge
thus rode he with asking

dâ er in schierste wânde sehen.
where he him soonest believed to-see.

nu ez alsus was geschehen,
now it thus was happened,

daz er balde für sich reit
that he quickly before himself rode

und sîn vriundîn gemeit,
and his beloved joyful,

do begegent in ein valet:
then met them a valet:

den gruozte her Lanzelet
him greeted lord Lanzelet

und vrâget in um mære.
and asked him for tidings.

der knappe sprach, er wære
the squire spoke, he were

von Karidôl niuwens komen:
from Karidol newly come:

dâ heter ein wunder vernomen
there had-he a wonder heard

‚dâ von alliu wîsiu diet
‚from which all wise folk

grôzes übels sich versiet:
great evil itself expects:

diu künegîn lebet in grôzer clage.'
the queen lives in great lament.'

Lanzelet sprach ‚nu sage,
Lanzelet spoke ‚now say,

waz betiutet ez?' ‚ich tuonz iu schîn.'
what means it?' ‚I make-it to-you clear.'

er sprach ‚der künic Valerîn
he spoke ‚the king Valerin

von dem Verworrenen tan
of the Tangled wood

der ist betalle ein müelich man:
he is altogether a troublesome man:

der kom ze Kardigân geriten.
he came to Kardigan ridden.

do begund er den künic biten,
then began he the king to-beg,

daz er im gæbe geleite,
that he to-him should-give safe-conduct,

daz er mit gewarheite
that he with safety

redete swaz er gerte.
spoke whatever he desired.

der künec in dô gewerte,
the king him then granted,

daz er vride hæte,
that he peace had,

swaz rede er tæte,
whatever speech he should-make,

und er niht zürnen wolde.
and he not rage would.

Valerîn sprach, er solde
Valerin spoke, he should

Ginoveren billîcher hân
Ginover more-rightly have

danne Artûs âne wân,
than Arthur without doubt,

wan siu im gemehelt wære,
for she to-him betrothed were,

ê siu wurde hîbære.
before she became marriageable.

Artûs sprach und al sîn diet,
Arthur spoke and all his folk,

si enwisten umb die rede niet.
they knew about the speech nothing.

dô sprach der künic Valerîn
then spoke the king Valerin

„entriuwen, herre, siu ist mîn.
„in-faith, lord, she is mine.

ich wil beherten mîn reht
I will make-good my right

mit kampfe als ein guot kneht,
with combat as a good knight,

und swer dâ wider strîten wil,
and whoever there against fight will,

der neme der rede ein kurzez zil.
he take of-the speech a short goal.

ob er ist mîn genôz,
if he is my peer,

wær er als ein rise grôz,
were he as a giant great,

ich getar in harte wol bestân.
I dare him very well withstand.

doch wil ich ein gedinge hân,
yet will I a condition have,

daz mit mir ze rehte
that with me to right

niht wan einer vehte.
nothing but one fight.

mit mîner wârheit ich verpflige,
with my truth I vouch,

ob ich verliuse den sige,
if I lose the victory,

sô lâz ich mîne vrowen vrî.
so let I my lady free.

ob aber ich sô sælic sî,
if but I so blessed be,

daz mir daz heil gevalle,
that to-me the luck falls,

sô lânt mich rîten alle
so let me ride all

und gebent mir die künigîn."
and give me the queen."

der künec Artûs sprach „daz sol sîn.“
the king Arthur spoke „that shall be.“

dirr rede ist im ein tac geleit.
for-this speech is to-him a day laid.

er muoz es imer sîn gemeit,
he must of-it ever be joyful,

swer die künigîn fürstât,
whoever for-the queen stands-forth,

ob er guot gelücke hât:
if he good luck has:

dem wirt dicke wol gesprochen.
of-him becomes often well spoken.

von morne über ein wochen
from tomorrow over a week

hât Valerîn den kampf genomen.‘
has Valerin the combat taken.‘

‚möht ich enzît dar imer komen?‘
‚might I in-time there ever come?‘

sprach Lanzelet der stæte.
spoke Lanzelet the steadfast.

daz er der reise hæte
that he for-the journey had

genuoc, sô was des knappen sage,
enough, so was the squire’s saying,

beidiu ze naht und ze tage.
both at night and at day.

Daz ist ein vremde mære,
That is a strange tale,

wer Valerîn wære;
who Valerin were;

des vrâget Lanzelet der degen.
of-that asked Lanzelet the thane.

der knappe sprach ‚ich wil verpflegen,
the squire spoke ‚I will vouch,

er ist ein künic wol gemuot
he is a king well minded

und hât ein burc alsô guot,
and has a castle so good,

ze der niht ze bietenn ist.
to which nothing to offer is.

si ervorhte aller manne list
it feared of-all men cunning

sô grôz niht als umb ein hâr.
so great nothing as for a hair.

ich wil iu sagen für wâr,
I will to-you tell for true,

vor der burc lît ein hac,
before the castle lies a hedge,

dâ nieman durch komen mac
where no-one through come may

vor grôzem ungezibele.
for great vermin.

da ist allez ein genibele
there is all a mist

niden an der halden.
below on the slope.

von würmen manicvalden
by serpents manifold

ist der hac behüetet harte.
is the hedge guarded very.

ez ist gar ein würmegarte.
it is wholly a serpent-garden.

dâ durch gât ein strâze:
there through goes a road:

die würme nement die mâze,
the serpents take the measure,

daz si nimer koment dran,
that they never come there-on,

ê Valerîn der küene man
before Valerin the bold man

in gebiutet daz si komen.
them commands that they come.

mêr enhân ich niht vernomen,
more have I not heard,

wan daz ich iu sagen sol,
except that I to-you tell shall,

diu burc ist obenân wol
the castle is above well

erbûwen harte schône.
built very beautifully.

siu ist aller veste ein krône
it is of-all fortresses a crown

und liuhtet als diu sunne.
and shines as the sun.

da ist ûf ein guot brunne.
there is up a good spring.

der wirt ist selbe ein frumer man.
the host is self a valiant man.

dâ zem Verworrenen tan
there at-the Tangled wood

sô heizt diu burc und daz hûs.
so is-called the castle and the house.

mîn herre der künic Artûs
my lord the king Arthur

der enhât in sîme rîche
he has in his realm

kein burc, diu ir gelîche.
no castle, which to-it is-like.

er mac es wol angest hân,
he may of-it well fear have,

swer Valerînen sol bestân,
whoever Valerin shall withstand,

unde muoz sich leides nieten.
and must himself of-sorrow take-his-fill.

dâ mite sult ir mir gebieten,‘
there with shall you me command,‘

sprach der knappe wol gezogen,
spoke the squire well bred,

‚wan zwâre diz ist niht gelogen.‘
‚for truly this is not lied.‘

Dô hiez Lanzelet zestunt
Then bade Lanzelet at-once

den knappen wesen wol gesunt
the squire be well whole

und reit er naht unde tac,
and rode he night and day,

daz er lützel ruowe pflac,
that he little rest practiced,

und sîn friundîn alsam.
and his beloved likewise.

an dem fünften tage er kam
on the fifth day he came

ze des herzogn hûs vom Wîzen sê.
to the duke's house of-the White lake.

der was des vordern tages ê
he was of-the former day before

gegen dem kampfe geriten.
toward the combat ridden.

do begund diu herzogîn biten
then began the duchess to-beg

die müeden gesellen,
the weary companions,

daz sir geruohten zellen,
that they-to-her deigned tell,

wer si wæren beide,
who they were both,

wan si mit wârheide
for she with truth

sô schœne liute nie gesach.
so beautiful people never saw.

Lanzelet ir verjach,
Lanzelet to-her confessed,

wiez umb in was gewant.
how-it about him was turned.

dô bekande siun zehant
then knew she-him at-once

und gelebte nie liebern tac.
and lived never dearer day.

siu sprach ‚Lanzelet du Lac,
she spoke ‚Lanzelet du Lac,

dîn vater der was der neve mîn
thy father he was the nephew mine

und ist diu liebe muoter dîn
and is the dear mother thine

mînes herren künne.
of-my lord's kin.

ez ist mir ein michel wünne,
it is to-me a great delight,

daz du dîne friundîn
that thou thy beloved

bî mir hie lâzest sîn,
by me here lettest be,

unz si geruowe eteswaz.
until she should-rest somewhat.

ich enstên an dîner gæhe daz,
I understand by thy haste that,

daz du gerne woltest sehen
that thou gladly wouldst see

den kampf, der dâ sol geschehen.
the combat, which there shall happen.

doch kumestu kûme dar enzît.
yet comest-thou scarcely there in-time.

zwei geruowetiu râvît
two rested chargers

diu lîhe ich dir an dîne var
them lend I thee for thy journey

und einen ritter der dich dar
and a knight who thee there

zuo dem kampfe bringet alsô fruo,
to the combat brings so early,

ê man grîfe dar zuo.
before one should-grip there to.

die stiure tuon ich gerne dir,
the aid do I gladly thee,

daz frou Iblis bî mir
that lady Iblis by me

dîn gûetlîche bîte.
for-thee kindly wait.

zehant nâch dem strîte
at-once after the fight

sô kum her wider durch mîne bete.'
so come hither back for my request.'

dô lobet ir daz Lanzelete,
then promised her that Lanzelet,

er sprach, wie gerne erz tæte.
he spoke, how gladly he-it would-do.

dâ mite fuor der stæte
there with fared the steadfast-one

balde ûf sîne strâze.
quickly upon his road.

ob ichz ungesaget lâze,
if I-it untold leave,

sô sult ir doch wizzen daz,
so shall you yet know that,

daz nie deheiner vrowen baz
that never any lady better

noch sô schône wart gepflegen.
nor so nicely became cared-for.

nu ist Lanzelet under wegen
now is Lanzelet on way

und gâhete für sich harte.
and hastened before himself very.

zuo der Wahsenden warte
to the Growing watchtower

kam er von geschihten.
came he by chance.

nu lât mich iuch berihten,
now let me you inform,

wiez um die warte was gewant.
how-it about the watchtower was turned.

man sach übr allez Engellant
one saw over all England

und noch verrer dannen.
and yet farther thence.

zwein vehtenden mannen
for-two fighting men

was der bühel kûme wît.
was the hill scarcely wide.

er wuohs zetelîcher zît:
it grew at-every time:

dâ turnierten hundert rîter an.
there tourneyed hundred knights on.

swaz vorderungen ieman kan
whatever challenges anyone can

erdenken ze manheit,
devise for manhood,

des wirt er dâ wol bereit.
of-that becomes he there well furnished.

bî einer rivier, diu dâ vlôz,
by a river, which there flowed,

kom dar ein kreftic her grôz:
came there a mighty host great:

gegen dem reit ein anderz dar.
toward it rode an other there.

ein einic man wart niht gewar
a single man became not aware

wan eines andern ob er wolte.
except of-an other if he would.

Lanzelet sprach ‚ich solte
Lanzelet spoke ‚I should

wol versuochen dize mære,
well try this tale,

ob ez wâr oder gelogen wære,
whether it true or lied were,

wan daz wir sêre hân getrabet.'
except that we sorely have trotted.'

nu siht er wâ ein rîter habet
now sees he where a knight halts

bî dem furte an dem gevilde
by the ford on the field

mit gevazzetem schilde.
with grasped shield.

Nu vernement wie im dô geschach.
Now hear how to-him then happened.

si sprangten beide in den bach
they spurred both into the brook

und kômn sô vaste ein ander an,
and came so firmly one another at,

daz Lanzelet den lantman
that Lanzelet the countryman

verre von dem rosse warf
far from the horse threw

und stach im eine wunden scharf,
and stabbed him a wound sharp,

daz er sêre bluoten began
that he sorely to-bleed began

und den bach zetal ran.
and the brook down ran.

ine weiz selbe wa er gelac.
I know-not self where he lay.

dô nam Lanzelet du Lac
then took Lanzelet du Lac

ein ros ûz der mâze guot,
a horse out-of the measure good,

daz der degen wol gemuot
that the thane well minded

nie kein bezzerz überschreit,
never any better bestrode,

daz er ze Kardigân reit.
that he to Kardigan rode.

früeje vor der sunnen schîn
early before the sun's shine

dô was der künic Vallerîn
then was the king Valerin

gewæfent in eim ringe.
armed in a ring.

mit lîhtem dinge
with light thing

möht ich niht gesagen daz,
might I not tell that,

wie rehte rîterlîch er saz,
how right knightly he sat,

alsô daz im nihtes brast.
so that to-him nothing lacked.
ez endorfte nie kein fremde gast
it needed never any strange guest
gegen grôzeme dinge baz gehân.
against great thing better have.
bî im stuont sîn kastellân,
by him stood his Castilian,
bereit und ûf den strît bedaht.
ready and for the fight provided.
nu heten sich hin für gemaht
now had themselves thither forth made
beidiu rîter unde frouwen,
both knights and ladies,
die den kampf wolten schouwen.
who the combat would behold.
Nu saz Wâlwein der reine
Now sat Walwein the pure
ûf der Eren steine.
upon the of-Honor stone.
von dem ist iu gesaget gnuoc,
of him is to-you told enough,
daz er den man niht vertruoc,
that he the man not endured,
an dem was falsch oder haz.
in whom was falseness or hatred.
Ginovere bî ime saz,
Ginover by him sat,
sîn frowe diu künegîn.
his lady the queen.
siu hete im ein der hosen sîn
she had to-him one of-the hose his
mit ir handen an geschuot.
with her hands on shod.

daz sach manic helt guot.
that saw many-a hero good.

dô kom Lanzelet geriten
then came Lanzelet ridden

durch daz volc in almiten
through the folk in all-midst

und erbeizte bî dem steine.
and dismounted by the stone.

er gie zuo Wâlweine
he went to Walwein

mit urloube der künegîn:
with leave of-the queen:

diu hiez in willekomen sîn.
she bade him welcome be.

ouch dûhtes alle guot genuoc,
also seemed-it to-all good enough,

daz in der stein sô wol vertruoc.
that him the stone so well endured.

des wart sîn guot war genomen
of-that became of-him good heed taken

beidiu von swachen und von fromen
both by base and by valiant

durch sîn grôze sælikheit
for his great blessedness

und benamen um sîn schônheit.
and assuredly for his beauty.

Lanzelet claims the boon Walwein once promised him, to be the queen's champion, and his kinship is made known to all. They break two pairs of spears, then Lanzelet wounds Valerin with the sword until he yields and swears never to harm the queen; he is spared, though the poet foretells his treachery. Iblis is brought to court, and Arthur holds a feast of four weeks. Lanzelet takes his seat at the Round Table, commends Iblis to the queen, and tells Walwein that he means to ride to Pluris, arranging it so that few people know.

Dô was Wâlwein vil frô,
Then was Wâlwein very glad,
daz er lebende noch dô
that he living yet then
sînen gesellen vant.
his comrade found.
si bekanden sich zehant.
they knew each-other at-once.
dô manet in her Lanzelet,
then reminded him lord Lanzelet,
dô si schieden, daz er tet
when they parted, that he gave
im sicherheit mit stæte,
to-him pledge with steadfastness,
swes er in gebæte,
whatever he him should-beg,
daz er daz liezẹ werden wâr.
that he that should-let become true.
daz wart Wâlweine niht swâr.
that became to-Walwein not heavy.
der zühte rîche Lanzelete
the of-breeding rich Lanzelet
kêrte vlêhen unde bete,
turned imploring and request,

daz er in den kempfen liezе sîn.
that he him the champion should-let be.

‚neinâ, trût geselle mîn,‘
‚no-indeed, dear comrade mine,‘

sprach Wâlwein zuo sînem gaten,
spoke Walwein to his mate,

‚ich enmages mit êren niht gestaten:
‚I may-it with honors not allow:

ich het es missewende.‘
I should-have of-it disgrace.‘

dô sagete unz an ein ende
then told until to an end

Lanzelet gar sîn dinc.
Lanzelet wholly his affair.

um in wart ein michel rinc:
about him became a great ring:

si begunden zuo im gâhen,
they began to him to-hasten,

die in ê turnieren sâhen
who him before tourney saw

da er Wâlweines vater vienc.
where he Walwein's father captured.

vil wol im al sîn dinc ergienc.
very well to-him all his affair went.

sîn geslehte erkande man zehant.
his lineage knew one at-once.

Dô der künec Artûs bevant,
When the king Arthur perceived,

deiz in zein ander stuont alsô,
that-it to-them to-one other stood so,

dô wart er inneclîche frô
then became he inwardly glad

und ander die mâge sîn.
and other the kinsmen his.

dâ wart ein michel liebe schîn.
there became a great love seen.

der hof fröute sich gar.
the court rejoiced itself wholly.

Lanzelet beredete ez dar,
Lanzelet argued it there-to,

daz in der künec zer selben stat
that him the king at-the same place

und al sîn massenîe bat,
and all his household begged,

daz er væhte für die künegîn.
that he should-fight for the queen.

do ergap sich an die triwe sîn
then gave-up herself to the faith his

Ginovere diu milde,
Ginover the generous,

daz er daz unbilde
that he the wrong

widerreden solte.
gainsay should.

daz er dâ tuon wolte,
that he there do would,

des was Wâlwein gerende,
of-that was Walwein desiring,

sînen mâc wart er werende,
his kinsman became he granting,

daz er sich liez fürtreten
that he himself let step-before

den sæligen Lanzeleten,
the blessed Lanzelet,

wan er erkante sîne kraft
for he knew his strength

an turnei und an rîterschaft.
at tournament and at knighthood.

dô Falerîn die fröide ersach,
when Valerin the joy saw,

ich wil iu sagen, wie er sprach,
I will to-you tell, how he spoke,

daz im alsô mære
that to-him as dear

ein sô der ander wære
one as the other were

und daz im daz wær ein wünne,
and that to-him that were a delight,

daz si wæren küneges künne.
that they were of-king's kin.

Ditz mære was dâ nieman leit.
This tale was there to-no-one sorrowful.

dô wart Lanzelet bereit
then became Lanzelet ready

gelîch eim guoten knehte.
like a good knight.

‚nu erschein ez got ze rehte'
‚now show it God to right'

sprach diu milte künegîn.
spoke the generous queen.

dâ muose michel riuwe sîn,
there must great sorrow be,

wan ze diseme tegedinge
for at this parley

sâzen dâ ze ringe
sat there in ring

tûsent frowen unde mê:
thousand ladies and more:

den tet diu fürsorge wê
to-them did the foreboding woe

und diu bitter leides grimme.
and the bitter sorrow's fury.

mit weinlîcher stimme
with weeping voice

wunschtens alle heiles
wished-they all luck

der künegîn, diu unveiles
to-the queen, who not-for-sale

um êre nie kein guot gewan.
for honor never any goods gained.

swelch sinnic herze sich versan,
whatever wise heart itself bethought,

daz solt ir gerne gnædic sîn.
that should to-her gladly gracious be.

nu rennt der künic Valerîn
now rides the king Valerin

und Lanzelet ein ander an,
and Lanzelet one another at,

zwêne kreftige man:
two mighty men:

die muosen gezimieret sîn,
they must adorned be,

daz cristen man noch sarrazîn
that Christian man nor Saracen

nie sölhes niht gesâhen.
never such nothing saw.

si begunden beide gâhen,
they began both to-hasten,

ze ritterschefte was ir ger.
to knighthood was their desire.

si sâhen hin unde her
they saw thither and hither

schœne vrowen umbe sich.
beautiful ladies about themselves.

entriwen des verpflig ich mich,
in-faith of-that vouch I me,

si wâren deste küenre vil.
they were the bolder much.

nu griffens an daz nîtspil,
now grasped-they at the hate-play,

wan si wolten ez niht sûmen.
for they would it not delay.

si bâten in ûz rûmen
they begged them out make-room

und dahten sich gelîche
and covered themselves alike

mit den schilten rîterlîche.
with the shields knightly.

die zwêne degen wol geborn
the two thanes well born

nâmen diu ros mit den sporn
took the horses with the spurs

und fuortens an ein ander sân.
and led-them at one another at-once.

dô muose ietweder enphân
then must each receive

ungeselleclîchez phant.
uncomradely pledge.

zuo den vier nagelen gegen der hant
at the four nails toward the hand

dâ stâchens durch die schilte,
there stabbed-they through the shields,

daz den degenen milte
that to-the thanes generous

die starken schefte zercluben
the strong shafts cleaved

und die spelteren ûf stuben.
and the splinters up flew.

ir enweder kom dâ nider.
of-them neither came there down.

zwei ander sper si nâmen sider
two other spears they took afterward

und justierten mêre.
and jousted more.

dô wurden aber sêre
then became again sorely

diu ros zesamene gesant
the horses together sent

unde mit den sporn gemant,
and with the spurs urged,

daz si sich ein ander stiezen.
that they themselves one another thrust.

die küenen aber niht liezen,
the bold-ones but not left-off,

si zebrâchen die schefte
they broke the shafts

und zugen dô mit crefte
and drew then with strength

diu swert von den scheiden.
the swords from the sheaths.

nu vernement von in beiden.
now hear of them both.

Uns zalt diu âventiure daz,
To-us told the adventure that,

ez gevæhten nie zwên rîter baz
it fought never two knights better

ze rosse noch ze fuoze.
on horse nor on foot.

si pflâgen unmuoze
they practiced unrest

mit ir ellenthaften handen.
with their valorous hands.

beide si zetranden
both they unraveled

die ringe mit den swerten,
the rings with the swords,

wan si gelîche gerten
for they alike desired

des siges und der êre.
of-the victory and of-the honor.

si sluogen alsô sêre
they struck so sorely

ûf helme und ûf die schilte,
upon helms and upon the shields,

daz daz viur wilde
that the fire wild

wadelende drûze vlouc
waving there-out flew

und sich von den slegen bouc
and itself from the blows bent

ir ietweders stahelvaz.
of-them each's steel-vessel.

Lanzelet dô niht vergaz
Lanzelet then not forgot

der gewonlîchen slege sîn:
of-the accustomed blows his:

er treip den künic Valerîn
he drove the king Valerin

umbe in manege kêre
about him many-a turn

und wundet in als sêre,
and wounded him so sorely,

daz er vor im muose ligen.
that he before him must lie.

er wart des bluotes ersigen
he became of-the blood drained

alsô daz im der lîp was leit.
so that to-him the life was sorrowful.

dô twanc in umbe sicherheit
then forced him to surrender

Lanzelet der mære,
Lanzelet the famous,

daz er sîn gevangen wære.
that he his captive were.

dô wart gihtic Valerîn.
then became confessing Valerin.

ûf die genâde sîn
upon the grace his

ergab er sich dem jungen,
gave-up he himself to-the young-one,

der in hâte betwungen,
who him had subdued,

und swuor des harte sêre,
and swore of-that very sorely,

daz er nimer mêre
that he never more

der künegîn leit getæte.
to-the queen sorrow should-do.

Lanzelet der stæte
Lanzelet the steadfast

enruohte daz der helt genas,
cared-not that the hero survived,

wand er niht mortgire was
for he not murder-greedy was

und er in ungerne sluoc.
and he him unwillingly slew.

des dûhes allesament genuoc,
of-that seemed-it to-all-together enough,

die dâ frum wolten wesen.
who there valiant would be.

der künec Artûs lie'n ouch genesen
the king Arthur let-him also live

durch sîne tugende stæte,
for his virtues steadfast,

swie er in erzürnet hæte.
however he him angered had.

er êrte Lanzeleten dran,
he honored Lanzelet there-in,

der im den sige an gewan.
who from-him the victory on won.

dêswâr er hete es êre.
truly he had of-it honor.

ez gerouw in aber sît sêre:
it rued him but afterward sorely:

wan Falerîn tet dâ nâch
for Valerin did there after

künec Artûs einen leiden schâch,
to-king Arthur a sorrowful check,

dar an er sîne triwe brach.
there in he his faith broke.

daz man im ê wol sprach,
what one of-him before well spoke,

daz was dô allez verlorn.
that was then all lost.

wan swer die triwe hât verkorn,
for whoever the faith has renounced,

der hât die beste habe verlân;
he has the best property let-go;

des sulnt die guoten sich verstân.
of-that shall the good themselves understand.

Dô dem künege Artiure
When to-the king Arthur

geschach diu âventiure,
happened the adventure,

daz er sîn êre behielt,
that he his honor kept,

grôzer vreuden er dô wielt
great joys he then wielded

und Ginover diu künigîn
and Ginover the queen

und al die massenîe sîn.
and all the household his.

di genâdeten alle sêre
they thanked all sorely

Lanzelet der êre
Lanzelet for-the honor

und liez man Valerîn zehant.
and let one Valerin at-once.

dar nâch wurden gesant
there after became sent

driu hundert ritter wol getân
three hundred knights well made

und mîn herre Wâlwân,
and my lord Walwein,

daz vrowe Iblis kæme
that lady Iblis should-come

unde zuo ir næme
and to her should-take

die herzogîn vom Wîzen sê.
the duchess of-the White lake.

ir enfrieschent nie mê
you heard never more

sô minnenclîchen anpfanc.
so loving reception.

ez wær ze sagenne ze lanc,
it were to tell too long,

wie Iblis wart enpfangen:
how Iblis was received:

des müese iuch belangen.
of-that must you weary.

mit zierde maneger slahten,
with adornment of-many kinds,

mit rossen wol bedahten
with horses well caparisoned

und mit rîchen banieren
and with rich banners

begund si salûieren
began her to-salute

mîn herre der künic Artûs,
my lord the king Arthur,

wan er gewan in sîme hûs
for he got in his house

nie deheinen liebern gast.
never any dearer guest.

Ginovere liez des klupfes last,
Ginover let-go of-the fright's burden,

den si dâ vor von leide truoc.
which she there before from sorrow bore.

siu bôt ir êren genuoc
she offered her honors enough

und wurden beide gelîche
and became both alike

schœner vreuden rîche,
of-beautiful joys rich,

Iblis und diu künegîn.
Iblis and the queen.

swâ mite heinlich suln sîn
where with intimate shall be

zwô frowen an tugenden vollekomen,
two ladies in virtues perfect,

des wart sich von in an genomen.
of-that was itself by them on taken.

Ich envriesch sô grôze fröude nie.
I heard so great joy never.

der künec Artûs dô niht enlie
the king Arthur then not let

von sînem hove scheiden
from his court part

weder lieben noch leiden
neither dear nor hateful

innerthalb vier wochen.
within four weeks.

des wart im wol gesprochen,
for-that was of-him well spoken,

sô daz er lobes ist unverhert.
so that he of-praise is unharmed.

dâ wart durch êre vil verzert.
there was for honor much spent.

daz was Lanzeletes scholt.
that was Lanzelet's cause.

im wâren al die liute holt,
to-him were all the people devoted,

die zuo êren hügende wâren:
who to honors minded were:

wider die kund er gebâren
toward them could he bear-himself

sô daz ze hove nieman baz.
so that at court no-one better.

der künic Artûs dô vergaz
the king Arthur then forgot

durch sînes neven güete
for his nephew's goodness

swaz im ze widermüete
whatever to-him to vexation

ie geschach von kinde.
ever happened from childhood.

ze liebem ingesinde
as dear household-member

wart Lanzelet enphangen.
was Lanzelet received.

nu ez alsus ist ergangen,
now it thus is gone,

daz ein alse vorder man
that a so foremost man

durch sîne wirde gewan
through his worth gained

stuol zer tavelrunde,
seat at-the round-table,

dar nâch in kurzer stunde
there after in short hour

bevalch er sîne friundîn
commended he his beloved

sîner frowen der künegîn
to-his lady the queen

und saget er âne vrâge
and told he without asking

Wâlweine sînem mâge,
to-Walwein his kinsman,

daz er ze Plûrîs wolte varn.
that he to Pluris would fare.

er bat im sîn dinc bewarn
he begged him his affair to-guard

und geschuof daz mit listen,
and arranged that with cunning,

daz ez lützel liute wisten.
that it few people knew.

XXII · PLURIS

The queen of Pluris will marry the knight who unhorses her hundred knights in a day, and the dwarf who once whipped Lanzelet keeps their shields. Lanzelet unhorses them all and must marry her, and she keeps him nearly a year, unarmed and watched by forty knights. Arthur proclaims a Pentecost feast so that word of him may come, and Iblis grieves. Lanzelet persuades the queen to let the adventure stand, hoping to escape by it.

Nu ist Lanzelet bereit.
Now is Lanzelet ready.

im ist von Plûrîs geseit,
to-him is of Pluris told,

ez sî ein schœniu burc vast,
it be a beautiful castle firm,

erbûwen daz ir niht gebrast.
built that to-it nothing lacked.

dar under lac ein market guot,
there under lay a market good,

dâ bî ein heide wol gebluot
there by a heath well blossomed

von bluomen alder welte.
with flowers of-all-the world.

mit einem schœnen zelte
with a beautiful tent

was diu wise gezieret.
was the meadow adorned.

vil wol geparelieret
very well equipped

was diu pavelûne hêr
was the pavilion noble

mit hundert schilten, niht mêr;
with hundred shields, not more;

die hiengen nâch ein ander gar,
they hung after one another wholly,

mit fremden wâfen missevar
with strange arms variously-colored

si lûhten an daz grüene gras.
they shone on the green grass.

ein künegîn ûf der burc was,
a queen upon the castle was,

diu hât den site ûf geleit
who has the custom up laid

durch eine fremede spâcheit,
for a strange curiosity,

ir gehügede zeiner stiure.
her mind to-a guidance.

ez hiez ir âventiure,
it was-called her adventure,

der hübschen küniginne.
of-the courtly queen.

ez wâren ir sinne,
it was her mind,

daz siu niemer man genæme,
that she never man should-take,

ez enwær daz einer kæme,
it unless-were that one should-come,

für ander man sô wol gemuot,
before other men so well minded,

der an den hundert rittern guot,
who over the hundred knights good,

von der schilten ich ê sagete,
of whose shields I before told,

einen selhen ruom bejagete,
a such fame won,

daz ers alle nider stæche
that he-them all down should-stab

eines tages und alsô bræche
one day and so should-break

die âventiur ze Plûrîs:
the adventure at Pluris:

und swem geviele dirre prîs,
and to-whomever fell this prize,

dem gæb diu künegîn hêre
to-him would-give the queen noble

lîp, guot und êre
body, goods and honor

und hæte niht vor im gespart.
and would-have nothing before him spared.

swelhes rîters schilt geruort wart,
whichever knight's shield touched was,

der muos die êrste juste nemen.
he must the first joust take.

die andern muosten in gestemen,
the others must them restrain,

sin gesæhn wie im gelunge.
unless-they should-see how to-him succeeded.

der schilte rüerunge
of-the shields' touching

pflac daz getwerc, dem ê vertruoc
took-care the dwarf, from-whom before endured

Lanzelet, daz ez in sluoc,
Lanzelet, that it him struck,

dô er zem êrsten ûz reit.
when he at-the first out rode.

für wâr sî iu daz geseit,
for true be to-you that told,

daz er niht lenger hât gebiten:
that he not longer has waited:

er ist aber ûz geriten
he is again out ridden

und ist her ze Plûrîs komen.
and is hither to Pluris come.

dâ hât er schiere vernomen,
there has he quickly heard,

wiez um die âventiure was.
how-it about the adventure was.

er enbeizte an daz grüene gras.
he dismounted onto the green grass.

Dô liez er im balde zouwen:
Then let he him quickly hasten:

daz gezelt begunder schouwen
the tent began-he to-behold

und die rîter die dâ sâzen.
and the knights who there sat.

di enwolten des niht lâzen
they would of-that not leave

si enbüten der künigîn ir frouwen,
they unless-sent-word to-the queen their lady,

daz si her abe rite schouwen;
that she hither down rode to-behold;

dâ wær ein rîter wol getân
there were a knight well made

ûf der âventiure wân,
upon the adventure's hope,

der si nemen wolte.
who her take would.

si enbuten ir, siu solte
they sent-word to-her, she should

komen mit ir menigîn.
come with her household.

diu künegîn sprach ‚daz sol sîn.'
the queen spoke ‚that shall be.'

wie wol siu sich bedâhte.
how well she herself bethought.

* * *
(lacuna)

daz ie mit keiner frowen kam.
that ever with no lady came.

dô Lanzelet daz vernam,
when Lanzelet that heard,

sîn manheit aber dar an schein.
his manhood again there in shone.

er ruorte der selben schilte ein,
he touched of-the same shields one,

der an der pavelûne hienc.
which on the pavilion hung.

daz getwerc dô hin gienc
the dwarf then thither went

und saget daz ze mære,
and told that as tidings,

swes der schilt wære,
whosever the shield were,

daz der solte rîten dan.
that he should ride thence.

niht ich iu gezellen kan,
not I to-you tell can,

wer die hundert rîter wæren:
who the hundred knights were:

ez müese iuch beswæren
it must you burden

und billîch erdriezen.
and rightly irk.

ich saget, wie si hiezen,
I would-tell, how they were-called,

wan daz mir si nieman nande.
except that to-me them no-one named.

in allem diseme lande
in all this land

was nieman frümer denne sie.
was no-one more-valiant than they.

doch dês al ein, in missegie
yet that-is all one, to-them miscarried

allen sampt, da'n ist niht wider.
all together, there is not against.

Lanzelet stach si nider
Lanzelet stabbed them down

von den rossen ûf daz gras,
from the horses onto the grass,

alse vil sô ir was,
as many as of-them was,

daz ir deheiner nie gesaz.
that of-them none ever sat.

diu künigîn marcte daz.
the queen marked that.

si jach, daz Lanzelet der degen
she said, that Lanzelet the thane

hæte gar des wunsches segen
had wholly the wish's blessing

von manlîcher tiure,
of manly worth,

wand er ir âventiure
for he her adventure

alsô ritterlîche bræche.
so knightly broke.

si bat in, daz er ân widerspræche
she begged him, that he without gainsaying

füere mit ir ûf die burc.
should-fare with her up-to the castle.

diu was durch und durch kurc,
it was through and through choice,

gezieret wünnenclîche
adorned delightfully

und aller habe rîche,
and of-all property rich,

als si wîse liute biuten.
as it wise people offer.

dô muose aber briuten
then must again wed

der wîpsælige Lanzelet.
the woman-blessed Lanzelet.

ich enweiz, ob erz ungerne tet,
I know-not, whether he-it unwillingly did,

wan diu künegîn was ein schœne maget.
for the queen was a beautiful maiden.

si müeste wol sîn behaget
she must well have pleased

eim man der halbtôt wære.
a man who half-dead were.

daz diu hôchzît wære
that the wedding were

frœlich, daz ist uns gezalt.
joyful, that is to-us told.

manic frowe und degene balt,
many-a lady and thanes bold,

der was dâ ûzer mâze vil.
of-them was there out-of measure many.

nu werte dirre wünne spil
now lasted this delight's play

unz an den zweinzigesten tac.
until to the twentieth day.

har zuo geriet der geiselslac,
hither to led the whip-blow,

der Lanzelete wart geslagen.
which to-Lanzelet was struck.

ez enkan iu nieman gesagen,
it can to-you no-one tell,

wie cleine dinc dem man gefrumet
how small thing to-the man avails

und waz im wol ode übel kumet.
and what to-him well or ill comes.

Dô Lanzelet del Lac
When Lanzelet del Lac

bî der künegîn gelac,
by the queen lay,

do begunde siu in minnen.
then began she him to-love.

siu vorhte in ir sinnen,
she feared in her mind,

ob er ir entrunne,
if he from-her should-escape,

daz si nimmer gewunne
that she never should-win

deheinen man sô wol getân.
any man so well made.

daz muose ir an ir herze gân.
that must to-her at her heart go.

dar umbe schuof siu im zuo
there for appointed she to-him to

beidiu spâte unde fruo
both late and early

vierzic rîter die niht tâten
forty knights who nothing did

wan daz si Lanzeleten hâten
but that they Lanzelet had

in ir heimlîcher pflege:
in their secret care:

die wâren bî im alle wege,
they were by him all ways,

daz er in niht moht entrîten.
that he from-them not might outride.

er muose zallen zîten
he must at-all times

ân aller slahte wâfen sîn.
without all kinds-of weapons be.

in enliez diu wîse künegîn
him let the wise queen

sô vil niht sô ein mezzer tragen.
so much not as a knife carry.

alsus muos er bî ir tagen
thus must he by her dwell

unz gegen eime jâre.
until toward a year.

er gebârte untâre
he bore-himself ungraciously

von êrst unz hin ze leste.
from first until thither to last.

do begunde der muotveste
then began the firm-minded-one

werben vil güetlîchen.
to-act very kindly.

sus wolt er si beswîchen,
thus would he her deceive,

diun ûz der mâze minnete,
who-him out-of the measure loved,

wand er heim sinnete
for he homeward thought

in sînes œheimes hûs.
into his uncle's house.

der rîche künic Artûs
the rich king Arthur

waz tet der ze disen tagen?
what did he in these days?

dô im nieman kunde gesagen,
when to-him no-one could tell,

weder lantman noch der mâc,
neither countryman nor the kinsman,

wâ Lanzelet del Lac
where Lanzelet del Lac

in der welte wære,
in the world were,

dô luot der êrbære
then invited the honorable-one

nâch der âventiure sage
after the adventure's saying

zuo dem næsten phingesttage
to the next Pentecost-day

daz alle die dar kæmen
that all who there should-come

die sîn hôchzît vernæmen.
who his feast should-hear.

got müez in immer êren.
God may him ever honor.

sîn boten hiez er kêren
his messengers bade he turn

in fremdiu lant über mer,
into foreign lands over sea,

garzûne ein michel her:
pages a great host:

bî den sant er manegen brief.
by them sent he many-a letter.

daz lant al zesamene swief
the land all together swirled

von der rüstungen.
from the preparations.

die alten zuo den jungen
the old with the young

mahten seltsæniu cleit.
made strange garments.

in was daz für wâr geseit
to-them was that for true told

unde hôrten alle sprechen,
and heard all say,

der künic Artûs wolte brechen
the king Arthur would break

sîne treskameren umbe daz,
his treasure-chambers for that,

daz man in lobete dester baz,
that one him praised the better,

und wolte teilen sîn golt.
and would share his gold.

dar zuo bôt er micheln solt,
there to offered he great pay,

daz man dar gerne kæme
that one there gladly should-come

und mengelich næme
and everyone should-take

swes sô er gerte.
whatever so he desired.

wan mans in gewerte
for one-it to-them granted

als vil sô in geluste,
as much as them pleased,

der künec Artûs sich ruste.
the king Arthur himself armed.

er gewan wol tûsent kastelân.
he got well thousand chargers.

noch dô wolt er mêr hân
yet then would he more have

zwelf hundert râvîde unde mêre.
twelve hundred palfreys and more.

ouch begieng ein michel êre
also did a great honor

Ginovere diu künegîn:
Ginover the queen:

nuschen, bouge, vingerlîn,
brooches, arm-rings, little-rings,

der gewan si ûz der mâze vil.
of-them got she out-of the measure many.

die rede ich iu kürzen wil,
the speech I to-you shorten will,

wan ich daz wol bescheide:
for I that well explain:

ditz tâten siu beide,
this did they both,

Artûs und diu künegîn,
Arthur and the queen,

daz si deste werder möhten sîn
that they the worthier might be

in allen den landen,
in all the lands,

und daz si ouch bekanden,
and that they also learned,

ob iemen sagete mære,
if anyone told tidings,

wâ Lanzelet wære,
where Lanzelet were,

den si verloren wolten hân.
whom they lost would have.

diz wart umb anders niht getân.
this was for other nothing done.

Vrou Iblis diu guote
Lady Iblis the good

diu lebte in unmuote
she lived in ill-mood

und in herzesender nôt.
and in heart-longing distress.

si was vil nâch vor leide tôt
she was very nearly for sorrow dead

und von jæmerlîchem sêre.
and from wretched pain.

man gesach si niemer mêre
one saw her never more

frô, sît Lanzelet du Lac
glad, since Lanzelet du Lac

ir ze rehte niht enpflac.
of-her to right not took-care.

ir clage was ân ende,
her lament was without end,

swie siu âne missewende
however she without disgrace

dâ ze hove lebete.
there at court lived.

ir herze in riuwe swebete
her heart in sorrow hovered

als ez den minnæren tuot.
as it to-the lovers does.

si enwiste waz ir wære guot.
she knew-not what to-her were good.

doch hœr ich jehen, den sô geschiht,
yet hear I say, to-whom so happens,

die envolgen dicke râtes niht.
they follow often counsel not.

Hie sült ir wol merken daz,
Here shall you well mark that,

wie Lanzelet betwungen saz
how Lanzelet constrained sat

in sînem künicrîche.
in his kingdom.

er lebete wunderlîche,
he lived wondrously,

wîlent trûric, wîlent frô.
sometimes sad, sometimes glad.

iedoch stuont sîn herze sô,
yet stood his heart so,

swie frœlîche er die zît vertribe,
however joyfully he the time passed,

daz er niemer dâ belibe,
that he never there should-remain,

ern gesæhe sîne friundîn
unless-he saw his beloved

swenn ez mit fuoge möhte sîn.
when it with propriety might be.

einen list er derdâhte,
a cunning he devised,

den er ouch vollebrâhte:
which he also accomplished:

er bat die küneginne
he begged the queen

daz siu durch sîne minne
that she for his love

die âventiure liezе stân,
the adventure should-let stand,

als siu ê hæte getân.
as she before had done.

er dingete, daz kæme
he hoped, that should-come

eteswer der si næme,
someone who her should-take,

der ouch dâ von wurde wert.
who also there from became worthy.

swes er hæte gegert,
whatever he had desired,

daz muose gar getân sîn.
that must wholly done be.

von Plûrîs diu künegîn
of Pluris the queen

diu schônde sîner hulde,
she spared his favor,

swie lützel er ir gulde.
however little he her repaid.

sine wist ab sînes willen niet,
she knew but of-his will not,

daz er diz durch daz geriet,
that he this for that counseled,

daz er mit entrunne
that he with-it should-escape

swenn er des state gewunne.
when he of-that opportunity won.

in dirre vâre stuont sîn leben.
in this danger stood his life.

er hâte vil durch ruom gegeben:
he had much for fame given:

und swaz er tet ze guote,
and whatever he did for good,

sone kom ûz sînem muote
so came out-of his mind

vrowe Iblis ze keiner stunt.
lady Iblis at no hour.

im was niht sô liebes kunt,
to-him was nothing so dear known,

des sol man im getrûwen.
of-that shall one him trust.

nu lâzen wirn hie bûwen
now let we-him here dwell

und hœrent wiez süle ergân
and hear how-it shall go

ûf der burc ze Kardigân.
upon the castle at Kardigan.

At the Pentecost feast at Kardigan the sea-fairy's maiden arrives with a gift on condition of a boon, while Iblis lies sick. The gift is a magic mantle that shows each woman's faithfulness, and Arthur promises it to whomever it fits. On Ginover it stops above the ankles, for her thoughts have strayed; on Orphilet's wife it hangs short in front; and on Walwein's beloved it nearly fits, like a riding garment.

Ez ist komen ein schœner tac,
It is come a beautiful day,

an dem der âbent gelac
on which the eve lay

der pfinxtlîchen zîte.
of-the Pentecost time.

dô sach man harte wîte
then saw one very widely

daz volc zuo sîgen.
the folk hither stream.

ich enwil es niht verswîgen,
I will it not keep-silent,

daz her beleip âne zal
that host remained without number

ûf dem berc und in dem tal
upon the mountain and in the valley

al umb die burc ze Kardigân.
all about the castle at Kardigan.

man möhte dâ gesehen hân
one might there seen have

maneger pavelûne huot
of-many-a pavilion top

von pfelle und manege hütten guot,
of silk-cloth and many huts good,

wan dâ rîche kühege wâren
for there rich kings were

und fürsten in den vâren,
and princes in the manner,

daz si grôzes schalles pflâgen.
that they great clamor practiced.

die naht si schône lâgen
the night they nicely lay

nâch ir muotwillen wol.
after their pleasure well.

swaz man ze rehte haben sol
whatever one to right have shall

ze grôzen hôchzîten,
at great feasts,

des was âne strîten
of-that was without dispute

mit schœnen zühten dâ genuoc.
with beautiful breeding there enough.

man ensach deheinen unfuoc,
one saw no impropriety,

dâ von sich ieman clagete.
there of himself anyone complained.

des morgens, als ez tagete,
of-the morning, when it dawned,

dô sach man sich pînen
then saw one itself strive

die sunnen ûf schînen
the sun up to-shine

lûterlîche und clâre.
purely and clearly.

dô hôrte man zwâre
then heard one truly

manege schœne messe.
many-a beautiful mass.

noch dô nieman wesse
yet then no-one knew

dehein sô vorder mære,
any so foremost tale,

daz man offenbære
that one openly

dem wirte sagen solte,
to-the host tell should,

wand er niht enbîzen wolte,
for he not dine would,

ê er daz dinc vernæme,
before he the thing heard,

daz ze sagenne gezæme
which to tell would-befit

sîner massenîe und allen dien,
to-his household and to-all those,

die sich dâ nâch wolten zien,
who themselves there after would draw,

daz si sich êren vlizzen.
that they themselves of-honors strove.

sît si niht enbizzen,
since they not dined,

sô was dâ buhurt unde tanz
so was there jousting and dance

und maneger frouwen widerglanz,
and many-a lady's counter-shine,

die man güetlîchen an sach.
whom one kindly on looked.

der künic Artûs zebrach
the king Arthur broke

sîne treskameren alle
his treasure-chambers all

und gebete mit schalle
and gave with clamor

swaz man wolt enpfâhen.
whatever one would receive.

da endorfte nieman gâhen
there needed no-one hasten

noch für den andern dringen:
nor before the other press:

man gab in sunderlingen:
one gave them separately:

dâ enwas kein widersatz.
there was no resistance.

gewant ros unde schatz,
garments horses and treasure,

des enwart nie eines tages sô vil
of-that became never one day so much

gegeben, als ich wænen wil.
given, as I believe will.

Ginovere diu künegîn
Ginover the queen

diu liez ir milte wesen schîn.
she let her generosity be seen.

siu gab ze dem anpfange
she gave at the reception

mentel vil lange,
mantles very long,

gezobelt wol unz an die hant,
sabled well until to the hand,

mit den besten dachen diu man vant
with the best covers which one found

in allen künicrîchen,
in all kingdoms,

mit invillen rîchen,
with linings rich,

und swaz ein frowe geben sol.
and whatever a lady give shall.

dâ mite beharte siu wol
there with maintained she well

ir êre ze vlîze.
her honor with diligence.

früegem imbîze
to-early meal

begund ez harte nâhen.
began it very to-near.

die rîter dô sâhen
the knights then saw

von verre rîten die maget,
from afar ride the maiden,

diu Lanzelete hât gesaget
who to-Lanzelet has told

sîn gesleht und sînen namen.
his lineage and his name.

dô sprach diu massenîe alsamen
then spoke the household all-together

‚jenez mac wol ein bote sîn,
‚that may well a messenger be,

daz ist an sîner gæhe schîn.
that is in its haste seen.

er bringet niwiu mære.'
it brings new tidings.'

Wâlwein der êrbære
Walwein the honorable

begie sîn zuht, des hab er danc:
performed his breeding, for-that have he thanks:

er fuort die maget durch daz gedranc
he led the maiden through the throng

zuo des wirtes angesihte.
to the host's sight.

dô sprach siu in alrihte
then spoke she to-them straight

mit gezogenlîchen worten,
with courteous words,

daz ez die fürsten hôrten
that it the princes heard

‚künec, du müezest gêret sîn
‚king, thou mayest honored be

von got (und ouch diu künegîn,)
by God (and also the queen,)

und allen den du guotes ganst.
and all to-whom thou good grantest.

wan duz wol verschulden kanst
for thou-it well deserve canst

mit guote und mit dem lîbe dîn:
with goods and with the person thine:

des wünschet dir diu frowe mîn,
that wishes thee the lady mine,

ein wîse merminne.
a wise mermaid.

si ist ein küneginne,
she is a queen,

hübescher dan nu iemen lebe.
more-courtly than now anyone lives.

si sendet dir ein stolze gebe:
she sends thee a proud gift:

daz enmac widerreden niht
that may gainsay not

kein wîse man, der si gesiht.
any wise man, who it sees.

guotes gan siu niemen baz.
of-good grants she no-one better.

ûf ein gedinge tuot si daz,
upon a condition does she that,

daz du, künic hêre,
that thou, king noble,

wol bewarst dîn êre,
well guardest thy honor,

und tuo ein dinc des ich dich bite.'
and do a thing which I thee beg.'

‚wie ungerne ich daz vermite'
'how unwillingly I that should-avoid'

sprach der wirt dâ ze hûs,
spoke the host there at house,

der rîche künic Artûs,
the rich king Arthur,

wand er niht zwîfels hæte,
for he not doubt had,

daz si iht wan fuoge bæte.
that she aught but propriety should-beg.

Swaz er gesprach, daz was gewis.
Whatever he spoke, that was certain.

nu lac mîn frowe Iblis
now lay my lady Iblis

von jâmer siech und ungesunt.
from grief sick and unwell.

si enwas dâ niht zer selben stunt,
she was there not at-the same hour,

dô diu maget kom geriten.
when the maiden came ridden.

diu enmöhte niemer hân vermiten,
she might never have avoided,

si enhæte si bekennet,
she unless-had her known,

gegrüezet und genennet,
greeted and named,

wan si sament wârn gesîn,
for they together were been,

do ir Lanzelet daz vingerlîn
when to-her Lanzelet the little-ring

gab, daz ir wol behagete.
gave, which her well pleased.

als ich iu nu sagete,
as I to-you now told,

sô sült ir fürbaz verstân,
so shall you further understand,

wie der megede ernde was getân,
how the maiden's harness was made,

sît irz hœrent gerne.
since you-it hear gladly.

mit eime riemen von Iberne
with a strap of Ibernia

was si begürtet harte wol.
was she girded very well.

als ich iuch berihten sol,
as I you inform shall,

ir roc was gezieret,
her gown was adorned,

wol gefischieret
well fitted

rîterlîche an ir lîp,
knightly on her body,

alse Franzoise wîp
as French women

pflegent, die wol geschaffen sint.
practice, who well shaped are.

diz selbe wîse hübsche kint
this same wise courtly child

daz truoc an dem gürtel sîn
it carried on the girdle her

ein mæzigez teschelîn:
a moderate little-pouch:

daz was harte wæhe,
that was very artful,

geworht mit fremeder spæhe.
wrought with strange skill.

dar ûz nam diu maget sân
there out-of took the maiden at-once

ein mantel wunderlîch getân:
a mantle wondrously made:

der wuohs in allen gâhen,
it grew in all haste,

daz siz an sâhen:
while they-it on looked:

er wart lanc unde breit.
it became long and broad.

für wâr sî iu daz geseit,
for true be to-you that told,

daz al diu varwe dran erschein,
that all the color there-on appeared,

die eht menschen dehein
which just men any

ie gesach oder erkande.
ever saw or knew.

an diseme fremeden gewande
on this strange garment

was geworht aller slahte
was wrought of-all kinds

mit wîses herzen ahte
with wise heart's heed

tier vogel merwunder.
beasts birds sea-marvels.

swaz ûf der erde od drunder
whatever upon the earth or there-under

und zwischen himel ist erkant,
and between heaven is known,

daz eht mit namen ist genant,
that just with name is named,

daz stuont dran als ez lebte.
that stood there-on as-if it lived.

so ez iezuo hie swebte,
when it now here hovered,

sô ruct ez aber fürbaz.
so moved it again further.

ein zouberlist geschuof daz
a magic-cunning made that

von nigromanzîe.
from necromancy.

dô diz diu massenîe
when this the household

und künic Artûs ersach,
and king Arthur saw,

diu maget im aber zuo sprach
the maiden to-him again to spoke

‚künec, du solt den mantel nemen
‚king, thou shalt the mantle take

und gib in dâ er müge gezemen
and give it where it may befit

under allen den frouwen.
among all the ladies.

ouch wil ich gerne schouwen,
also will I gladly behold,

wer diu sî, der er kome.
who she be, to-whom it comes.

und swâ er sîe dehein frome,
and wherever it to-her not avail,

dâ solt dun geben fürbaz:
there shalt thou-it give further:

des gert mîn frowe und ich baz,
of-that desires my lady and I better,

wan du ez hâst gesprochen.'
for thou it hast spoken.'

,es enwirt niht zerbrochen,'
,it becomes not broken,'

sprach Artûs ,ez müeze ergân
spoke Arthur ,it must happen

swaz ich dir gelobet hân.'
whatever I to-thee promised have.'

dâ mite gienc diu frowen schar
there with went the ladies' troop

ûz der massenîe dar,
out-of the household thither,

die dâ stætelîchen wolten sîn.
who there steadfast would be.

der künec sprach zuo der wirtîn
the king spoke to the hostess

,dês al ein, swiez ergê,
,that-is all one, however-it goes,

versuocht wie iu der mantel stê,
try how to-you the mantle stands,

legent in snellelîchen an.
lay it swiftly on.

ich bin der iu sîn wol gan,
I am who to-you of-it well grants,

wan mir nieman lieber ist.'
for to-me no-one dearer is.'

dâ wider was dehein frist,
there against was no delay,

Ginovere leit den mantel an,
Ginover laid the mantle on,

dâ von se ein teil schame gewan,
there from she a part shame gained,

wan ir daz selbe gewant
for to-her the same garment

ob den enkelen erwant
above the ankles stopped

alsô daz ez ir niht tohte.
so that it to-her not suited.

der bote vrâcte, ob er mohte
the messenger asked, whether he might

sagen, waz ez betûte.
tell, what it meant.

der wirt sprach harte lûte,
the host spoke very loudly,

daz ez manic fürste vernam,
that it many-a prince heard,

er wurd ir nimer drumbe gram
he became to-her never there-for hostile

und ir schadet diu rede niht ein hâr.
and her harms the speech not a hair.

diu maget sprach ‚daz ist wâr,
the maiden spoke ‚that is true,

Ginovere ist hübsch unde guot,
Ginover is courtly and good,

an den werken hât siu sich behuot,
in the deeds has she herself guarded,

daz siu niewan wol getete.
that she nothing-but well did.

doch ist siu durch zwîfels bete
yet is she through doubt's request

an den gedenken missevarn.
in the thoughts gone-astray.

ein sælic man sol wol bewarn
a blessed man shall well guard

sîn wîp mit allem guote.
his wife with all goodness.

swer der künegîn minre huote,
whoever of-the queen less should-guard,

sô hæt siu dicke daz getân,
so would-have she often that done,

daz si sus durch êre hât verlân.
which she thus for honor has let.

starkiu huote und ungetriuwer muot
strong guard and faithless mind

diu machent stætiu wîp unguot:
they make steadfast women bad:

daz ist gewis sam der tôt.
that is certain as the death.

diu küngîn den mantel von ir bôt
the queen the mantle from her offered

und sprach der künic Artûs
and spoke the king Arthur

‚die vrowen gar in mîme hûs
‚the ladies wholly in my house

die müezen in versuochen,
they must it try,

und wil es got geruochen.
and will it God deign.

dâ von lânt iu alle enspuon.
there from let to-you all hasten.

ir sult ez deste gerner tuon,
you shall it the more-gladly do,

wan ichz für iuch hân gelobet.
for I-it for you have promised.

diu des niht tuot, diu ertobet
who of-that not does, she raves

unde hât gevelschet mich.‘
and has falsified me.‘

dô bedâhtens alle sich,
then bethought themselves all,

daz si gerner wolten dulden
that they rather would suffer

laster zuo den schulden,
disgrace to the guilts,

dan si von im imer mêre
than they from him ever more

gewunnen liep noch êre.
won love nor honor.

Dô der künec die rede getet,
When the king the speech made,

dô antwurt im Orphilet,
then answered him Orphilet,

der fürste, ein bescheiden man
the prince, a discreet man

‚so ich imer meist gevlêhen kan,
‚as I ever most implore can,

sô bite ich mîne vriundîn,
so beg I my beloved,

daz siu nu diu êrste welle sîn.
that she now the first will be.

swaz siu unz her getân hât,
whatever she until here done has,

ob siu michs fürder mâle erlât,
if she me-of-it further times spares,

sô sî mit triuwen diz verkorn.‘
so be with faith this forgiven.‘

diu rede was der vrowen zorn;
the speech was to-the lady anger;

den mantel siu doch an swief.
the mantle she yet on swung.

dô wart er ir alsô tief,
then became it to-her so deep,

daz er ir verre nâch gienc,
that it to-her far behind went,

wan ein ort, daz vor ir hienc,
except a corner, which before her hung,

daz was sô sêre ûf gangen,
that was so sorely up gone,

daz ez niht mohte gelangen
that it not might reach

wan ein lützel für daz knie.
except a little before the knee.

vil harte wundert es sie,
very very wondered it them,

di den mantel sô kurzen sâhen.
who the mantle so short saw.

diu maget sprach in allen gâhen
the maiden spoke in all haste

‚ich wil iu sagen über lût,
‚I will to-you tell over loud,

der vrowen ist ir man ze trût;
to-the lady is her husband too dear;

und swenn er ir abe gât
and when he from-her off goes

des er si gewenet hât,
of-that he her accustomed has,

sô müezen alle ir sinne
so must all her wits

an vremder liute minne
on strange people's love

sich senlîchen vlîzen.
themselves longingly strive.

ich enwil ir niht verwîzen
I will her not reproach

dâ von siu mir sî gehâz:
there from she to-me be hostile:

einer andern stât der mantel baz.
on-an other stands the mantle better.

Dô diu rede alsus ergienc,
When the speech thus went,

Wâlwein den mantel enpfienc
Walwein the mantle received

und bat sîne vriundîn,
and begged his beloved,

daz siu durch den willen sîn
that she for the will his

den mantel umbe wolte nemen.
the mantle about would take.

dô muost er ir vil nâch gezemen,
then must it her very nearly befit,

als ez wære ein reitcleit.
as-if it were a riding-garment.

diu maget sprach ‚iu sî geseit,
the maiden spoke ‚to-you be told,

kœme der mantel nieman baz,
should-come the mantle to-no-one better,

sô trüege in billîch âne haz
so would-wear it rightly without hatred

diu vrowe diu in an hât:
the lady who it on has:

siu lebt ab der er baz stât.‘
she lives but whom it better stands.‘

The mantle wrinkles up behind on Keiin's wife, lacks a brooch on Loifilol's, gapes on Givreiz's, and trails on Kailet's. On the tiny wife of Malduz it rides up like a jupon, on the tall wife of Iwan it drags along the ground, and each time the maiden tells the lady's fault. Two hundred ladies try it. Iblis is fetched from her grief, and on her it fits perfectly; the mantle is hers. The maiden tells the court that Lanzelet lies captive at Pluris and takes her leave.

Dô sprach der arcspreche Keiîn
Then spoke the ill-speaker Keiin

,an des mantels lenge ist schîn,
,by the mantle's length is seen,

daz er mîme wîbe zimet.‘
that it my wife befits.‘

zehant ouch si den mantel nimet.
at-once also she the mantle takes.

daz volc es alles war nam.
the folk of-it all heed took.

ich wæn err vorne wol kam,
I believe it-to-her in-front well came,

gegen irm man dâ er saz.
toward her husband where he sat.

Kaiîn sprach ,er kümpt ir baz
Keiin spoke ,it comes to-her better

dan allen disen vrouwen.
than to-all these ladies.

wer mac dar an schouwen
who may there on behold

buozwirdiges iht umb ein hâr?‘
of-penance-worthy aught by a hair?‘

der mantel hinden was für wâr
the mantle behind was for true

an den gürtel ûf gerumpfen hô.
at the girdle up wrinkled high.

swie vil man in nider zô,
however much one it down drew,

sô dent er sich fürnamens niet.
so stretched it itself at-all not.

dô sprach alliu diu diet
then spoke all the folk

‚daz ist ein wol stândez cleit.‘
‚that is a well standing garment.‘

als Kaiîn sach die wârheit,
when Keiin saw the truth,

dô wart er vor schame rôt.
then became he for shame red.

sîn wîp er hiez und gebôt,
his wife he bade and commanded,

daz siu ginge zuo der künigîn,
that she should-go to the queen,

und wes siu wert wolte sîn,
and of-what she worth would be,

daz siu wânde daz ir kæme
that she believed that to-her should-come

daz sîner frowen missezæme
what to-his lady should-misbefit

durch deheines lasters âhte.
for any disgrace's reckoning.

diu aber den mantel brâhte,
she but the mantle brought,

diu zêch si, daz siu gerne
she accused her, that she gladly

willic wær ze werne
willing were to grant

und daz siu gereche tæte
and that she readily should-do

swes man si gebæte
whatever one her should-beg

und, swie man ez versuohte,
and, however one it tried,

daz siu des alles ruohte.
that she of-that all cared.

Dô Kaiîns vriundîn misselanc,
When to-Keiin's beloved mis-succeeded,

mit zühten dô her für dranc
with breeding then hither forth pressed

Loifilol der stæte,
Loifilol the steadfast,

der sîn wîp geminnet hæte
who his wife loved had

ê siu wurde geborn ein jâr.
before she became born a year.

er gezurnde nie für wâr
he raged never for true

mit ir des siu sich kunde enstân.
with her of-what she herself could understand.

des wânde er dô genoz̧z̧en hân
of-that believed he then enjoyed have

und wolt ir triuwe schouwen.
and would her faith behold.

under allen den vrouwen
among all the ladies

was borvil ieman baz̧ getân.
was little anyone better made.

ir keiniu wart des vor gelân,
of-them none was of-that before allowed,

diu ir man holder wære.
who to-her husband more-devoted were.

daz verdient der êrbære
that deserved the honorable-one

mit triuwen als ein hübsch man.
with faith as a courtly man.

nu leit er ir den mantel an.
now laid he on-her the mantle on.

dô stuont er ir ze wunsche wol
then stood it to-her to wish well

wan als ich iu sagen sol:
except as I to-you tell shall:

da enwas nieman ze stunde,
there was no-one at-the hour,

der ir den nüschel kunde
who to-her the brooch could

gelegen, wol ze rehte.
lay, well to right.

daz was dem guoten knehte
that was to-the good knight

swære und âne mâze leit
heavy and without measure sorrowful

und ouch der vrouwen gemeit.
and also to-the lady joyful.

diu maget diuz allez beschiet,
the maiden who-it all explained,

diu versweic die massenîe niet,
she kept-silent from-the household not,

wâ von daz dinc was komen.
where from the thing was come.

siu sprach ,diu vrowe hât genomen
she spoke ,the lady has taken

gewerp unt dienstes genuoc,
wooing and service enough,

dâ von siu in in herzen truoc
there from she them in heart bore

wünne und dicke hôhen muot.
delight and often high spirit.

doch was siu des vil wol behuot,
yet was she of-that very well guarded,

daz siu durch iemans minne
that she for anyone's love

nâch tumbes herzen sinne
after foolish heart's mind

diu werc ie getæte,
the deeds ever should-do,

swie vil man sis gebæte,
however much one her-it should-beg,

wan daz siuz tete umbe daz,
except that she-it did for that,

daz ir gemüete deste baz
that her mind the better

ze vreuden stüende und ouch ze spil.
to joys should-stand and also to play.

für wâr ich iu daz sagen wil,
for true I to-you that tell will,

ez ist noch maneger vrouwen site,
it is yet many-a lady's custom,

diu wænet tiuren sich dâ mite.
who believes to-make-dear herself there with.

nein, siu swechet sich vil sêre:
no, she weakens herself very sorely:

ez ist laster und unêre,
it is disgrace and dishonor,

swelch wîp des mannes gâbe enphât
whichever woman the man's gift receives

und im doch ungelônet lât.
and him yet unrewarded leaves.

Dô hiez der künic Gîvreiz
Then bade the king Givreiz

sîn vriundîn treten in den kreiz.
his beloved step into the circle.

als siu den mantel an genam,
when she the mantle on took,

al umbe und umbe err rehte kam,
all about and about it-to-her rightly came,

wan ein michel loch gie drîn:
except a great hole went there-in:

daz solte vermachet sîn
that should closed be

mit eim uosezzel breit,
with a brooch broad,

der ir doch was unbereit.
which to-her yet was unready.

diu maget sprach ‚diz betiutet daz,
the maiden spoke ‚this means that,

diu vrowe ist ir man gehaz
the lady is to-her husband hostile

durch daz er ist undære,
for that he is small,

swie doch vil bezzer wære
however yet much better were

ein mæzlich man mit fuoge
a moderate man with propriety

danne grôzer manne gnuoge.‘
than great men enough.‘

diu vrowe den mantel von ir tet.
the lady the mantle from her did.

Dô hiez der herre Kailet
Then bade the lord Kailet

sîn vriundîn in an legen.
his beloved it on lay.

für wâr wir iu daz sagen megen,
for true we to-you that tell may,

der brach der nüschel zehant:
to-her broke the brooch at-once:

dâ mite wart daz bekant,
there with became that known,

daz er mit ir ze vil um fuor.
that he with her too much about fared.

diu maget des vil tiure swuor,
the maiden of-that very dearly swore,

ez wære ein unwîsheit,
it were an unwisdom,

swer sîm wîbe tæte leit
whoever to-his wife should-do sorrow

und ir niht êren liezе
and her not honors should-let

und si dâ wesen hiezе,
and her there be should-bid,

dâ siu niht gerne wære.
where she not gladly were.

diu nâhe gânde swære
the near going heaviness

tuot manegen nüschel brechen.
does many-a brooch break.

man sol dem übel sprechen,
one shall of-him evil speak,

der weder lützel noch vil
who neither little nor much

sînem wîbe entwîchen wil.
to-his wife give-way will.

der mantel an die erde sleif.
the mantle on the earth trailed.

diu maget in ir teschen greif
the maiden into her pouch grasped

und zôch ein nüschel her ûz.
and drew a brooch hither out.

Dô hiez der wîse Maldûz,
Then bade the wise Malduz,

sô daz cleit genüschet wære,
when the garment brooched were,

daz sîn vriundîn niht verbære
that his beloved not should-forbear

si enleite in balde an den lîp.
she unless-laid it quickly on the body.

ditz was daz minneste wîp
this was the smallest woman

under allen den vrouwen.
among all the ladies.

hie sült ir wunder schouwen.
here shall you wonder behold.

dô siu den mantel an getete
when she the mantle on did

mit vorhten unde mit gebete
with fears and with prayer

und mit ir wibluppe,
and with her hesitation,

dô wart er als ein juppe,
then became it as a jupon,

daz er ir fürnamens nie
that it to-her at-all never

für den gürtel nider gie,
below the girdle down went,

doch si diu minnest wære.
though she the smallest were.

diu maget sprach ‚ich bewære,
the maiden spoke ‚I prove,

daz diz ist ein vremde dinc:
that this is a strange thing:

über allen disen rinc
over all this ring

kan nieman spotten alsô wol;
can no-one mock so well;

daz sage ich iu, wan ichz tuon sol:
that tell I to-you, for I-it do shall:

siu lât alle liute
she lets all people

mit worte und mit gediute
with word and with gesture

durch ir hende gegân,
through her hands go,

dâ von ist ir ditz getân.'
there from is to-her this done.'

Dar nâch hiez her Iwân
There after bade lord Iwan

sîne vriundîn ûf stân:
his beloved up stand:

dar an schein sîn gelimpf.
there in shone his seemliness.

ich sage iu einen schœnen schimpf:
I tell to-you a beautiful jest:

siu was sô lanc, daz siu erschein
she was so tall, that she appeared

des houptes lenger dan ir kein.
by-the head taller than of-them any.

als siu sich in den mantel twanc,
when she herself into the mantle forced,

dô wart er ir alsô lanc,
then became it to-her so long,

daz er nâch ir lag gespreit
that it after her lay spread

ûf der erde drîer hande breit
upon the earth three hands broad

mit unebem schrôte.
with uneven cut.

des nâmens war genôte.
of-that took-they heed closely.

diu maget sis aber beschiet,
the maiden them-it again explained,

siu sprach ‚ern kumet ir ouch niet:
she spoke ‚it comes to-her also not:

siu ist ze alwære.
she is too simple.

swes ir ze muote wære,
whatever to-her in mind were,

daz enlieze siu durch nieman.
that would-let she for no-one.

er ist tump, der niht entwîchen kan
he is foolish, who not give-way can

und der an sîme strîte
and who in his strife

belîbet zaller zîte.‘
remains at-all times.‘

Als ir unz her hânt vernomen,
As you until here have heard,

der mantel wære genuogen komen
the mantle were to-enough come

vil wol unz an ein cleine.
very well until to a little.

Enîte diu reine
Enite the pure

und Wâlweines vriundîn,
and Walwein's beloved,

der vrowen mohte manegiu sîn,
of-the ladies might many be,

diu in vil wol haben solte,
who it very well have should,

wan daz diu maget enwolte,
except that the maiden would-not,

diu in dar brâhte.
who it there brought.

als ez dô izuo nâhte,
as it then now neared,

daz von rehte enbizzen solte sîn
that by right dined should be

Artûs und al sîn menegîn
Arthur and all his household

und diu maget von dem Sê,
and the maiden from the Lake,

(zwei hundert vrowen unde mê
(two hundred ladies and more

versuochtenz nâch ir werde)
tried-it after their worth)

der bote noch dô gerde,
the messenger yet then desired,

daz der künic hieze für gân
that the king should-bid before go

eine vrowen wol getân,
a lady well made,

diu niht was mit den andern komen,
who not was with the others come,

wan siu hete wol vernomen,
for she had well heard,

daz Iblis diu getriuwe
that Iblis the faithful

durch senelîche riuwe,
through longing rue,

als ir stæte wol gezam,
as her steadfastness well befitted,

des tages niht hin vür kam.
of-the day not thither forth came.

doch dês al ein, siu muoste her:
yet that-is all one, she must hither:

daz was der massenîe ger,
that was the household's desire,

wan siu begie nie valschiu dinc.
for she did never false things.

als si dô kom in den rinc,
when she then came into the ring,

dô gruozte siu die selben maget,
then greeted she the same maiden,

diu dâ hâte gesaget
who there had told

wunder als siu kunde.
wonder as she could.

mit lachendem munde
with laughing mouth

neig ir der merfeine bote
bowed to-her the sea-fairy's messenger

und beswuor si bî gote,
and adjured her by God,

daz siu den mantel an leite.
that she the mantle on laid.

diu vrouwe dô niht enbeite,
the lady then not waited,

siu leit in vor in allen an.
she laid it before them all on.

dô sprach wîp unde man,
then spoke woman and man,

ez wære mit der wârheit
it were with the truth

daz aller beste stênde cleit,
the of-all best standing garment,

daz ie dehein vrowe getruoc.
which ever any lady wore.

der aber von nîde des gewuoc,
who but from envy of-that mentioned,

daz dar an iht missezæme,
that there on aught should-misbefit,

ê man daz volle vernæme,
before one that fully heard,

sô schicte sich der mantel dar
so arranged itself the mantle there

alsô daz im niht enwar.
so that to-it nothing lacked.

Dô wart mîn her Wâlwein
Then became my lord Walwein

mit ganzer volge des in ein,
with whole following of-that at one,

daz dem mantel niht enwürre.
that to-the mantle nothing should-harm.

nu velsch in der getürre,
now falsify it who dare,

wan ez nieman frumer tuot.
for it no-one valiant does.

er dûht ouch Keiînen guot.
it seemed also to-Keiin good.

er sprach zuo sîner vriundîn
he spoke to his beloved

‚ir müezent mir wol liep sîn,
‚you must to-me well dear be,

wan ir iuch hânt des wol bewart,
for you yourselves have of-that well guarded,

daz ir in der merren schar vart.
that you in the greater troop fare.

daz in der tiufel henke,
that him the devil hang,

der dis gwerbes imer gedenke
who of-this business ever thinks

wan ze guote und âne haz,‘
except to good and without hatred.‘

dô lobtens allesament daz
then praised-they all-together that

durch des küneges êre,
for the king’s honor,

daz es nimer mêre
that it never more

ze übele wurde gedâht.
to ill should-become thought.

diu den mantel hâte brâht,
she the mantle had brought,

diu saget in ze mære,
she told them as tidings,

daz Lanzelet wære
that Lanzelet were

ze Plûrîs gevangen
at Pluris captive

und wie ez was ergangen,
and how it was gone,

dô er die âventiure brach
when he the adventure broke

und hundert ritter nider stach,
and hundred knights down stabbed,

und wie er pflæge minne
and how he practiced love

mit einer küniginne
with a queen

anders danne er gerte.
otherwise than he desired.

siu saget ouch, daz noch werte
she told also, that yet lasted

diu âventiure umbe daz,
the adventure for that,

daz sich ein ritter deste baz
that himself a knight the better

ze Plûrîs möhte bejagen.
at Pluris might win.

dô siu daz begunde sagen,
when she that began to-tell,

dô îlten si an schouwen
then hastened they to behold

ritter unde vrouwen.
knights and ladies.

si liezen gar den erren haz,
they left wholly the former hatred,

sîner schame kindegelich vergaz
of-his shame everyone forgot

und wurden von dem mære vrô,
and became of the tidings glad,

daz Lanzelet noch dô
that Lanzelet yet then

lebet unde was gesunt.
lived and was whole.

urloup nam dô zestunt
leave took then at-once

der wîsen merfeine bote.
the wise sea-fairy's messenger.

siu bevalch dem oberesten gote
she commended to-the highest God

Lanzeletes vriundîn.
Lanzelet's beloved.

siu enwolte dâ niht lenger sîn
she would there not longer be

durch des rîchen küneges bete;
for the rich king's request;

sweder man si liep ald anders hete,
whether one her dear or otherwise had,

daz huop ir harte cleine.
that raised her very little.

vrowe Iblis diu reine
lady Iblis the pure

diu kuste si mit triuwen.
she kissed her with faith.

umb irn mantel niuwen
for her mantle new

genât siu minneclîche
thanked she lovingly

der küniginne rîche,
the queen rich,

diu ir die gâbe sande
who her the gift sent

und si niht bekande,
and her not knew,

wan daz diu merminne wîs
except that the mermaid wise

si êrte durch ir âmîs.
her honored for her beloved.

The mantle drives grief from Iblis, and the court feasts more than thirty days. Walwein, Karjet, Erec, and Tristant ride secretly to Pluris to free Lanzelet, agreeing not to show that they know him. He knows them by their arms. Before the queen, Karjet unhorses sixty-four, Erec seventy-three, Tristant all but one of ninety, and Walwein ninety-nine, until the hundredth strikes off his helm.

Der mantel het noch einen site,
The mantle had yet a custom,

swer in truoc, daz er vermite
whoever it wore, that he avoided

jâmer unde senedez clagen.
grief and longing lament.

des bedorfte wol in disen tagen
of-that needed well in these days

Iblis der er wol gezam.
Iblis whom it well befitted.

als diu maget enwec kam,
when the maiden away came,

dô huop sich rede manicvalt,
then raised itself talk manifold,

wie Lanzelet dem helde balt
how to-Lanzelet the hero bold

die sælde got gefuogte,
the blessing God fitted,

der tûsent man genuogte.
which thousand men sufficed.

si wundert, wes im wære
them wondered, why to-him were

diu gevancnisse swære.
the captivity heavy.

dâ was ritter harte vil,
there were knights very many,

die imer in dem leitspil
who ever in the sorrow-play

gerne wolten sîn beliben
gladly would be remained

und die zît hin hân vertriben
and the time away have passed

als in von im was geseit.
as to-them of him was told.

nu vernement nâch der wârheit:
now hear after the truth:

dirre hof wert nâch der sage
this court lasted after the saying

mê danne drîȝec tage
more than thirty days

mit voller vreude für sich an.
with full joy before itself on.

dar nâch als ichz gesagen kan
there after as I-it tell can

und als vil ir mirs gelouben welt,
and as much you me-it believe will,

uns ist nie vor gezelt,
to-us is never before told,

daz Artûs, der künic hêr,
that Arthur, the king noble,

sô grôȝen hof ie mêr
so great court ever more

gewunne mit sölhem schalle
won with such clamor

sô hie, dâ die vrowen alle
as here, where the ladies all

den mantel hæten getragen.
the mantle had worn.

dâ mite wil ich gedagen
there with will I keep-silent

der geste und wie si wurben sît,
of-the guests and how they acted afterward,

wan si riten dô sis dûhte zît.
for they rode when them-it seemed time.

Wâlwein und Karjet,
Walwein and Karjet,

dô die vernâmn, daz Lanzelet,
when they heard, that Lanzelet,

ir muomen sun, gevangen lac,
their aunt's son, captive lay,

vil nâhe in daz ze herzen wac.
very near to-them that to heart weighed.

dâ von gerten si zehant,
there from desired they at-once,

daz Erec und Tristant,
that Erec and Tristant,

die zwêne degene alse wîs,
the two thanes so wise,

mit in gegen Plûrîs
with them toward Pluris

in recken wîs wolten varn,
in warriors' manner would fare,

wan si mit sæze noch mit scharn
for they with siege nor with troops

dâ niht erwerben kunden.
there nothing win could.

die gesellen dô funden
the comrades then found

an ein ander des si bâten.
in one another what they begged.

dô si diz gelobet hâten,
when they this promised had,

dô wart her Wâlwein
then became lord Walwein

mit den drîn des enein,
with the three of-that agreed,

daz si niemannes biten
that they for-no-one waited

und geswæslîchen riten
and secretly rode

gegen der âventiure.
toward the adventure.

si vermâzen sich vil tiure,
they vowed themselves very dearly,

als in ir herze geriet,
as to-them their heart counseled,

enwære Lanzelet dâ niet
were Lanzelet there not

gevangen als in was gesaget,
captive as to-them was told,

si hæten doch gereche bejaget
they had yet readily won

eteslîche werdikheit.
some worthiness.

sus hâtens al ir vlîz geleit
thus had-they all their diligence laid

deste mê dar an,
the more there on,

daz er kæme mit in dan;
that he should-come with them away;

des woltens immer wesen frô.
of-that would-they ever be glad.

si wurden des in ein alsô,
they became of-that at one so,

ob sie in immer gesæhen,
if they him ever should-see,

daz sie des niht verjæhen,
that they of-that not should-confess,

daz in ir kein bekande
that him of-them any knew

und daz die wîgande
and that the fighters

von im niht hæten vernomen.
of him not had heard.

mit der rede sint si komen
with the speech are they come

ze Plûrîs ûf daz schœne velt,
to Pluris onto the beautiful field,

dâ mit den schilten daz gezelt
where with the shields the tent

harte wol gezieret was.
very well adorned was.

si enbeizten alle ûf daz gras
they dismounted all onto the grass

und schoweten daz gevilde,
and looked-at the field,

daz gezelt und ouch die schilde,
the tent and also the shields,

und wie der site wære.
and how the custom were.

dâ kômen schiere mære
there came quickly tidings

alhin ûf die veste,
thither up-to the fortress,

dâ wæren komen geste,
there were come guests,

schœner ritter viere,
of-beautiful knights four,

hübsch mit geziere
courtly with adornment

an ross und an gereite,
on horses and on harness,

sô daz mit wârheite
so that with truth

nieman kunde gezellen
no-one could tell

von sô stolzen gesellen,
of so proud comrades,

die degenlîcher ie geriten.
who more-thane-like ever rode.

ouch enwart dâ niht vermiten,
also became there not avoided,

man sagete, wes in was gedâht:
one told, of-what to-them was thought:

ir wille hætes ûz brâht
their will had-them out brought

ûf der âventiure wân
upon the adventure's hope

und daz ir keiner wolte lân,
and that of-them none would leave,

er versuohte sîn heil.
he unless-tried his luck.

dô wart Lanzelet vil geil
then became Lanzelet very merry

und bat im schiere rüegen,
and begged to-him quickly to-report,

waz wâfens sie trüegen.
what arms they bore.

Der bote hât in des bereit,
The messenger has him of-that furnished,

er sprach ,der ritter einer treit,
he spoke ,of-the knights one bears,

der mich gruoẓte schône,
who me greeted nicely,

einen lewen mit einer crône,
a lion with a crown,

von golde erhaben harte wol.
of gold raised very well.

der schilt ist als ich sagen sol
the shield is as I tell shall

ûẓ und inne harte rîch,
outside and inside very rich,

von lâsûre al gelîch.
of azure all alike.

der ander einen arn treit
the second an eagle bears

von golde, dêst ein wârheit.
of gold, that-is a truth.

von dem kan ich niht mê gesagen.
of him can I not more tell.

den dritten ritter sah ich tragen
the third knight saw I bear

von harm einen schilt wîẓ:
of ermine a shield white:

dar ûf ist in allen vlîẓ
there upon is in all diligence

ein mouwe von zobel gemaht.
a sleeve of sable made.

der vierde schilt der ist bedaht
the fourth shield it is covered

mit eime pantiere.'
with a panther.'

do erkantes alle viere
then knew-them all four

Lanzelet der milte,
Lanzelet the generous,

ritter unde schilte,
knights and shields,

und wisse wol âne vrâge,
and knew well without asking,

daz si wâren sîne mâge
that they were his kinsmen

und sîne gesellen guote.
and his comrades good.

des wart im wol ze muote,
by-that became to-him well in mind,

er entet ab niene dem gelîch,
he made but not-at-all the like,

und bat die künigîn rîch,
and begged the queen rich,

daz siu ir balde liezе zouwen
that she herself quickly should-let hasten

und mit rittern unde vrouwen
and with knights and ladies

gein der pavelûne riten.
toward the pavilion rode.

er sprach ‚wir sîn vermiten
he spoke ‚we are avoided

beidiu vert und hiure
both last-year and this-year

an unser âventiure.
at our adventure.

daz wirt gebüezet hiute.
that becomes atoned today.

got gebe, daz unser liute
God give, that our people

sô gerîten daz ichs êre habe.
so ride that I-of-it honor have.

dâ mite fuoren si hin abe
there with fared they thither down

gein der wünnenclîchen stat.
toward the delightful place.

doch enwistens niht dêr heiles bat
yet knew-they not who luck begged

den Britûnen die dâ kâmen,
for-the Britons who there came,

wan alle die in vernâmen,
for all who him heard,

die stuonden im des wunsches bî.
they stood to-him of-the wish by.

ich wæn ez noch ein site sî,
I believe it yet a custom be,

daz man den wirten nâch giht.
that one to-the hosts after says.

si erkanten aber sîns herzen niht.
they knew but of-his heart not.

Dô si die unkunden
When they the unknown-ones

grüezen begunden,
to-greet began,

ritter unde vrouwen,
knights and ladies,

dô mohten si wol schouwen,
then might they well behold,

daz si stolz wâren unde starc.
that they proud were and strong.

ir iegelîcher sich verbarc,
of-them each himself hid,

als si der rede iht wisten.
as-if they of-the speech aught knew.

mit wîslîchen listen
with wise cunning

enpfiengen si die gruoze.
received they the greetings.

idoch in der unmuoze
yet in the bustle

hiez in diu künegîn schenken.
bade to-them the queen pour.

do begunde sich bedenken
then began himself to-bethink

der ellenthafte Karjet.
the valorous Karjet.

nâch sînem willen er tet,
after his will he did,

den er ûz fuorte:
which he out led:

der schilte er einen ruorte,
of-the shields he one touched,

der an der pavelûne hienc,
which on the pavilion hung,

dâ von diu êrste just ergienc.
there from the first joust happened.

des gesindes ein vorder man
of-the household a foremost man

der rante Karjeten an.
he rode Karjet at.

den stach er balde dernider
him stabbed he quickly there-down

und der andern sô vil sider,
and of-the others so many afterward,

unz ir vil schiere
until of-them very quickly

sehzic unde viere
sixty and four

vielen als der êrste man.
fell as the first man.

dar nâch rant in einer an:
there after rode him one at:

als si zesamen kâmen,
as they together came,

dô wolte Karjet râmen,
then would Karjet aim,

daz er sîn sper behafte.
that he his spear fixed.

sîn ros ûf gnafte,
his horse up stumbled,

daz im der schuf den stich benam
that from-him the leap the stab took-away

und der ritter für kam.
and the knight past came.

beide si sich underranden.
both they themselves rode-past.

dô sprach zuo den wîganden
then spoke to the fighters

diu wol gezogen künigîn
the well bred queen

‚dirr ritter muoz wol gêret sîn
‚this knight must well honored be

der juste der wir hân gesehen.
of-the joust which we have seen.

ich muoz im von schulden jehen,
I must to-him by right say,

daz er wol hât gestochen,
that he well has stabbed,

doch hât er niht zerbrochen
yet has he not broken

mîn âventiur sin müeȝe wern
my adventure unless-it must last

unz daȝ ir ander liute gern.‘
until that of-it other people desire.‘

Der rede antwurt Erec
To-the speech answered Erec

‚vrowe, si varnt niht sô enwec,
‚lady, they fare not so away,

ich versuoche waȝ diu rede sî.‘
I try what the speech be.‘

er stach ir sibenzic unde drî
he stabbed of-them seventy and three

nider snellîche,
down swiftly,

Erec der tugende rîche,
Erec the of-virtues rich,

wan in ritterschefte niht bevilt.
for him of-knighthood not irks.

er stach ir einen ûf den schilt,
he stabbed of-them one upon the shield,

daȝ daȝ gestelle gar zerbrach
that the frame wholly broke

und man den schilt vallen sach
and one the shield fall saw

verre und der man gesaȝ.
far and the man sat.

ein ungelücke fuocte daȝ.
a misfortune fitted that.

sus muost im misselingen.
thus must to-him fail.

in disen teidingen
in these dealings

wart Lanzelet und Wâlwein
became Lanzelet and Walwein

alles ir dinges enein,
of-all their affair agreed,

des borvil ieman warte.
of-which scarcely anyone watched.

Tristant sich ouch niht sparte,
Tristant himself also not spared,

er enwolte niht lenger bîten
he would not longer wait

und begunde balde rîten
and began quickly to-ride

gegen den hûsgenôzen.
toward the household-companions.

er tet in schaden grôzen:
he did to-them harm great:

im gesaz von niunzigen enkein,
to-him sat of ninety none,

geloubent mirs, wan ir ein.
believe me-it, except of-them one.

ich wil iu sagen wie ez geschach.
I will to-you tell how it happened.

sîn sper er gar durch in stach,
his spear he wholly through him stabbed,

daz der edel wîgant
that the noble fighter

für sich reit unz an die hant
before himself rode until to the hand

und der wunde von dem sper
and the wounded-one from the spear

mohte komen hin noch her.
might come thither nor hither.

sîns undankes er gesaz:
of-his against-will he sat:

er wære doch gevallen baz.
he were yet fallen better.

alsus muoste Tristant
thus must Tristant

vervælet hân, daz er derwant.
missed have, that he stopped.

Dô sprach her Wâlwein
Then spoke lord Walwein

‚des ist zwîfel enkein,
‚of-that is doubt none,

ich müeze ouch mîn heil besehen.‘
I must also my luck look-at.‘

dô muostens im alle jehen,
then must-they to-him all say,

daz er wol pungierte
that he well charged

und alsô justierte,
and so jousted,

daz niht dervor mohte wern.
that nothing there-before might last.

si begunden wünschen unde gern
they began to-wish and desire

sîns lîbes und ouch sîner site.
of-his body and also of-his manners.

si jâhen daz er wol rite
they said that he well rode

unde sô daz nieman baz.
and so that no-one better.

der hundert ritter im gesaz
of-the hundred knights to-him sat

enkeiner wan als ich iu sol
none except as I to-you shall

sagen. dô er harte wol
tell. when he very well

niun und niunzic nider gestach,
nine and ninety down stabbed,

dô daz der zehenzigest ersach,
when that the hundredth saw,

dô rant er Wâlweinen an.
then rode he Walwein at.

dô wolt in der küene man
then would him the bold man

mit dem sper treffen hô.
with the spear hit high.

dô geriet der stich alsô,
then turned-out the stab so,

daz er in ze hôhe stach
that he him too high stabbed

und im den helm durchbrach
and to-him the helm broke-through

ob den ringen durch die batwât.
above the rings through the padding.

do enwas des dehein rât,
then was of-it no remedy,

die riemen brâchen von dem sper,
the straps broke from the spear,

der helm viel und gesaz er,
the helm fell and sat he,

daz Wâlwein sîn niht nider stach.
that Walwein him not down stabbed.

der gast gezogenlîchen sprach
the guest courteously spoke

‚mir was nâch gelungen wol.
‚to-me was nearly succeeded well.

sô aber daz dinc niht wesen sol, 6440
when but the thing not be shall,

so enhilfet niht swaz ieman tuot.
so helps not whatever anyone does.

ein versuochen ist etswenne guot.‘
a trying is sometimes good.‘

XXVI · THE ESCAPE FROM PLURIS

Lanzelet begs leave of the queen to joust once, swearing to return, and arms. When Tristant feigns flight he chases all four away and escapes with them, keeping his oath, for he never jousts there again. The queen swoons and offers a dukedom for his capture, but the forest and the night save them. They rest with the mute Gilimar, silent at his lady's command, and near home a page tells them of a great misfortune.

Dô in alsus missegie
When to-them thus miscarried

an cleinen dingen, als ir hie
in small things, as you here

von mir nu niuwes hânt vernomen, 6445
from me now newly have heard,

dô was in doch baz bekomen
then was to-them yet better come

dan jenen die man dâ nider stach.
than to-those whom one there down stabbed.

nu hœrt, wie Lanzelet sprach
now hear, how Lanzelet spoke

zuo der künegîn diu sîn huote
to the queen who him guarded

,vrowe, mir ist ze muote,
,lady, to-me is in mind,

daz ich trûric imer lebe,
that I sad ever live,

ez ensî daz dîn genâde gebe
it unless-be that thy grace give

mir ein urloup, daz ich hiere
me a leave, that I here

niht wan einest justiere.
not but once joust.

wan alle, die sich iht verstânt,
for all, who themselves aught understand,

die jehent, daz die recken hânt
they say, that the warriors have

vervâlt von ungelücke grôz.
missed from misfortune great.

ich gesach nie keinen ir genôz.
I saw never any their peer.

si füerent grôzen ruom hin,
they carry great fame thither,

dâ von ich immer trûric bin,
there from I ever sad am,

ob ichs ein teil niht widertuo.
if I-of-it a part not undo.

si kômen leider her ze fruo.
they came alas hither too early.

daz bedenke, hêriu künigîn.
that consider, noble queen.

daz du imer sælic müezest sîn!
that thou ever blessed must be!

si wænent wir sîn alle zagen.
they believe we are all cowards.

ich enkan dir rehte niht gesagen,
I can to-thee rightly not tell,

waz du dîns gefüeres drane begâst,
what thou of-thy profit there-in doest,

ob du mich justieren lâst
if thou me joust lettest

wider der selben ritter ein.
against of-the same knights one.

ez ist ein spot und ein mein,
it is a mockery and a wrong,

daz si als guote knehte
that they as good knights

wider ritter rehte
against knights rightly

gelestert und gehœnet hânt.
disgraced and shamed have.

ob sis alsus hin gânt,
if they-it thus thither go,

daz tuot mir inneclîche wê
that does to-me inwardly woe

und wolte nemelîchen ê
and would namely rather

lebende werden begraben,
living become buried,

dann ich diz laster müese haben,
than I this disgrace must have,

daz si mîn êre fuorten hinnen.‘
that they my honor carried hence.‘

mit zorne und mit minnen
with anger and with love

beretter daz siun rîten liez.
persuaded-he that she-him ride let.

vil tiure er ir gehiez
very dearly he to-her promised

mit sîner manne sicherheit,
with his men's surety,

dar zuo swuor er ir einen eit,
there to swore he to-her an oath,

daz er isâ wider kæme
that he at-once back should-come

als er eine just genæme
when he one joust took

wider ir deheinen dier dâ sach.
against of-them any whom-he there saw.

sîne triuwe er niht enbrach,
his faith he not broke,

wan erz biz an sînen tôt vermeit:
for he-it until to his death avoided:

alsus behielt er sînen eit.
thus kept he his oath.

dô er den urloup gewan,
when he the leave got,

dô schuohte er sîne hosen an
then shod he his hose on

und wâfent sich in sîn harnas,
and armed himself in his harness,

der im vor behalten was.
which to-him before kept was.

er endorfte niht wîzer sîn.
he needed not whiter be.

dô gap im diu künigîn
then gave him the queen

einen wâfenroc sô vremde,
a surcoat so strange,

daz bezzern roc noch hemde
that better coat nor shirt

dehein künic nie getruoc.
any king never wore.

des cleinœdes was ouch genuoc
of-the jewels was also enough

des siu im vil hiez dar tragen.
of-which she to-him much bade there carry.

dâ von wil ich lützel sagen,
there of will I little tell,

wan erz niht sô hôhe wac
for he-it not so high weighed

als vil doch tiure dran lac.
as much yet dear there-on lay.

ir wizt wol, durch ein swachez geben
you know well, through a small giving

muoz maneger mit vreuden leben,
must many-a-one with joys live,

und fromet ein grôz gâbe niht
and avails a great gift nothing

dâ man sich triuwen niht versiht.
where one himself of-faith not expects.

Nu grîfen wider an daz liet.
Now grasp back on the song.

diu künigîn vermeit niet
the queen avoided not

siun kuste ir gesellen.
unless-she kissed her companion.

unlange twellen,
not-long to-tarry,

des bat in diu vrowe hêr.
of-that begged him the lady noble.

doch enweiz ich ob er imer mêr
yet know-not I whether he ever more

gesunt her dan gewende.
whole hither thence turned.

die recken ellende
the warriors exiled

die wârn mit grôzeme nîde.
they were with great hatred.

ungerne ich doch vermîde
unwillingly I yet avoid

ich ensage iu noch fürbaz.
I unless-tell to-you yet further.

dô er ûf sîn ors gesaz,
when he upon his steed sat,

dô liez ouch her Tristant
then let also lord Tristant

sîn ros springen zehant,
his horse spring at-once,

als er justieren solte.
as-if he joust should.

Lanzelet niht wolte
Lanzelet not would

ze Plûrîs langer wirt sîn:
at Pluris longer host be:

daz wart dô snelleclîchen schîn.
that became then swiftly seen.

als er sîn ros erspranctе,
when he his horse spurred,

Tristant wider wancte.
Tristant back swerved.

do begunde in Lanzelet jagen.
then began him Lanzelet to-hunt.

nu vluhens alle als zagen,
now fled-they all as cowards,

die vier hergesellen.
the four war-comrades.

daz begunde missevellen
that began to-displease

der vrowen und ir gesinden,
the lady and her household,

dô er niht wolt erwinden.
when he not would desist.

des gewan diu künigîn zehant
of-that got the queen at-once

sô grôze riwe, daz ir geswant
so great sorrow, that to-her swooned

und daz siu viel in unmaht.
and that she fell in swoon.

diu tôtvinster naht
the death-dark night

der bitterlîchen minne
of-the bitter love

diu benam ir die sinne
it took-from her the wits

und ir varwe und ir kraft:
and her color and her strength:

siu was mit leide behaft.
she was with sorrow beset.

Als ir der sin wider kan,
When to-her the sense back came,

dô wâren die fünf man
then were the five men

ir ûz den ougen entriten.
from-her out-of the eyes ridden-away.

do begund siu vlêhen unde biten
then began she to-implore and beg

starclîche ûz der ahte
strongly out-of the measure

alle die siu mahte,
all whom she might,

daz man ir man vienge;
that one her husband should-capture;

und swenn ez alsô ergienge,
and if it so should-happen,

der si mit im beriete,
who her with him provided,

dem gæb siu guote miete,
to-him would-give she good reward,

ein herzogentuom des siu pflac.
a dukedom of-which she took-care.

ir gebot dô nieman verlac,
her command then no-one neglected,

der et ze rosse mohte komen.
who just to horse might come.

des wart manigem benomen
by-that became from-many taken

beidiu lîp und êre.
both life and honor.

ez engestriten nie mêre
it fought never more

ritter als balde.
knights so quickly.

si muosens einem walde
they must-it to-a forest

danken und der vinstern naht,
thank and to-the dark night,

daz man niht mê mit in vaht.
that one not more with them fought.

Alsus kômens kûme hin.
Thus came-they scarcely thither.

dâ nâch, als ich bewîset bin,
there after, as I informed am,

sô ritens ûf ein montâne.
so rode-they onto a mountain.

die rihte gein Britâne,
the direction toward Britain,

der enmohtens niht gevâren,
of-it could-they not take-heed,

wan si verirret wâren:
for they astray were:

dô si des âbendes striten,
when they of-the evening fought,

al die naht si für sich riten
all the night they before themselves rode

unz morgen fruo an den tac.
until morning early to the day.

dô kômens dâ ein burc lac
then came-they where a castle lay

ûf eim bühel niht ze hô:
upon a hill not too high:

dâ gein kêrten sie dô.
there toward turned they then.

der wirt der der bürge pflac,
the host who of-the castle took-care,

der was, als ich iu sagen mac,
he was, as I to-you tell may,

wîse biderbe unde guot,
wise worthy and good,

hübsch unde wol gemuot,
courtly and well minded,

an allen dingen vollekomen.
in all things perfect.

swaz er hâte vernomen
whatever he had heard

daz zêren und ze lobe stuont,
that to-honor and to praise stood,

daz warp er sô die frumen tuont.
that acted he as the valiant do.

er versuohtes ie sîn ahte,
he tried-it ever his reckoning,

wan er tet als er iht mahte
for he did as-if he at-all might

dehein wort gesprechen.
any word speak.

er was in den gerechen,
he was in the readiness,

swaz im ze tuonne gezam,
whatever to-him to do befitted,

daz er daz allez vernam
that he that all perceived

mit einer hande getiute.
with a hand's sign.

ez enwurden nie liute
it became never people

baz enpfangen dan die fünf man.
better received than the five men.

der wirt sich schiere versan
the host himself quickly perceived

an allem ir gebâren,
in all their bearing,

daz si müede wâren.
that they weary were.

dô schuof er in gemaches vil.
then provided he to-them comfort much.

er hiez als ich iu sagen wil
he was-called as I to-you tell will

der wîse stumme Gilimâr.
the wise mute Gilimar.

er was sô snel, daz ist wâr,
he was so swift, that is true,

daz ûf zwein füezen nie
that upon two feet never

dehein man sneller gegie.
any man more-swiftly went.

er urliugete starke.
he warred strongly.

wan er pflac einer marke,
for he took-care of-a march,

im was manic man bereit
to-him was many-a man ready

durch sîn unbedrozenheit.
for his tirelessness.

swie in sîn lantliut zige,
however him his land-folk accused,

daz er durch eine vrowen swige,
that he for a lady kept-silent,

mit êren hât er sich bejaget.
with honors has he himself won.

ditz hân ich iu durch daz gesaget,
this have I to-you for that told,

wan er sîner geste wol pflac.
for he of-his guests well took-care.

nu muose Lanzelet du Lac
now must Lanzelet du Lac

und die viere, sîne gesellen
and the four, his comrades

bî Gilimâre twellen,
by Gilimar tarry,

unz daz die tiurlîche gomen
until that the precious men

ir müede heten überkomen
their weariness had overcome

und in diu ros wol mahten.
and to-them the horses well might.

wer möhte daz geahten,
who might that reckon,

waz si schœner mære sageten,
what they of-beautiful tales told,

die wîle daz si tageten
the while that they dwelt

ûf des stummen veste?
upon the mute's fortress?

Wâlwein tet daz beste,
Walwein did the best,

er begunde Lanzelete enbarn,
he began to-Lanzelet to-reveal,

wie ez umb den mantel was gevarn
how it about the mantle was fared

von êrste unz hin ze leste.
from first until thither to last.

nu enwolten ouch die geste
now would also the guests

belîben niht mêre.
remain not more.

durch sîn selbes êre
for his self's honor

fuor der wirt mit in dan
fared the host with them away

und kondewiert die vremden man
and conducted the strange men

mit manegem guoten knehte,
with many-a good knight,

unz daz si kômen rehte
until that they came right

zuo ir bekennigen wegen.
to their familiar ways.

dô bâten si sîn got pflegen
then begged they him God keep

und aller der sînen.
and all the his.

dô liez er aber schînen
then let he again shine

daz er verstandenlîchen fuor.
that he understandingly fared.

mit sînen bærden er swuor,
with his gestures he swore,

daz er den helden mære
that he to-the heroes famous

sîns dienstes willic wære.
of-his service willing were.

Ich enweiz wie iu daz behaget,
I know-not how to-you that pleases,

daz ich sô kurze hân gesaget
that I so briefly have told

von dem hübschen swîgære.
of the courtly mute.

vernement irz niht für swære,
take you-it not for heavy,

sô wær von im ze sagenne guot.
so were of him to tell good.

ir wizzent wol, wie minne tuot,
you know well, how love does,

swâ si den liuten an gesiget,
wherever she the people over conquers,

daz si deheiner mâze pfliget,
that she no measure practices,

wan siu aller vreude nimt den zol.
for she of-all joy takes the toll.

daz schein an disem ritter wol.
that showed in this knight well.

er dienet einer vrowen clâr
he served a lady bright

mit stæter triuwe manic jâr.
with steadfast faith many-a year.

mit rede er ir niht vergaz,
with speech he her not forgot,

unz die liute marcten daz
until the people marked that

und zêh in einer ‚ez ist diu,'
and accused him one ‚it is she,'

der ander sprach ‚nein siu:
the other spoke ‚no she:

ich wæne erz alz durch jene tuot,
I believe he-it all for that-one does,

diu ist sô hübsch und sô guot.'
she is so courtly and so good.'

sus wart er maniges bezigen.
thus became he of-many accused.

do enmoht daz mære niht geligen:
then could the tale not lie-still:

etslîcher riet die wârheit.
some guessed the truth.

daz wart der vrouwen geseit,
that became to-the lady told,

des enbôt sium dise buoze.
for-that sent-word she-to-him this penance.

durch enkein unmuoze
for no trouble

enwolter si zebrechen niet.
would-he it break not.

ditz mære merke hübschiu diet,
this tale mark courtly folk,

wan es im sît wol gelônet wart.
for it to-him afterward well rewarded was.

ez ist der rehten minne art,
it is the right love's kind,

daz getriuwen liuten wol geschiht
that to-faithful people well happens

und er sichs lange rüemet niht,
and he himself-of-it long boasts not,

der mit valsche dient od dienst nimet,
who with falseness serves or service takes,

wan ez weizgot niht enzimet.
for it God-knows not befits.

des selben Lanzelet verjach,
the same Lanzelet said,

do er Gilimâres triuwe sach.
when he Gilimar's faith saw.

Wa gehôrt ir ie gezellen
Where heard you ever tell

von stolzern gesellen
of prouder comrades

dan ouch die vremden geste,
than also the strange guests,

die von des stummen veste
who from the mute's fortress

mit vreude niuwens sint geriten?
with joy newly are ridden?

swie vil si müeje hânt erliten,
however much they toil have suffered,

des was in nu vergezzen.
of-that was to-them now forgotten.

die helde vermezzen
the heroes bold

wâren geil und harte vrô.
were merry and very glad.

wan daz kumt dicke alsô,
for that comes often so,

so dem man iht leides sol geschehen,
when to-the man aught of-sorrow shall happen,

daz im des muoz sîn herze jehen
that to-him of-that must his heart say

dâ vor mit ungedultikheit.
there before with impatience.

die herren, von den ich hân geseit,
the lords, of whom I have told,

den wart nie baz ze muote:
to-them became never better in mind:

wan diu heide gruote
for the heath greened

und sungen in dem walde
and sang in the forest

diu vogellîn vil balde:
the little-birds very eagerly:

in ganzer vreude ir hüge lac,
in whole joy their mind lay,

sît Lanzelet du Lac
since Lanzelet du Lac

sîn selbes man sîn mahte:
his self's man be might:

ouch was ir aller ahte,
also was of-them all reckoning,

daz si enzît kœmen heim.
that they in-time should-come home.

Wâlwein sprach ‚mîn œheim
Walwein spoke ‚my uncle

sol den wîzen hirz jagen.‘
shall the white hart hunt.‘

dô er in daz begunde sagen,
when he to-them that began to-tell,

dô was in ernst unde gâch.
then was to-them earnest and hasty.

nu sint si komen alsô nâch,
now are they come so near,

daz si vil sanfte an dem driten
that they very gently on the third

tage wæren heim geriten
day were home ridden

ûf die burc ze Kardigân.
up-to the castle at Kardigan.

si jâhen, daz si wolten hân
they said, that they would have

gern ir geselleschaft gesehen.
gladly their company seen.

als si des begunden jehen
as they of-that began to-say

und si wâren geil zunmâze,
and they were merry beyond-measure,

dô kam in ûf der strâze
then came to-them on the road

ein garzûn, den si bekanten.
a page, whom they knew.

bî namen si in nanten
by name they him named

und vrâgten in um mære,
and asked him for tidings,

wâ der künic wære,
where the king were,

und was ouch daz ir frâge,
and was also that their question,

obe sich ir mâge
whether themselves their kinsmen

wol gehapten alde wie.
well fared or how.

noch dô versuochter sie:
yet then tried-he them:

mit weinenden ougen
with weeping eyes

er sprach ‚es ist kein lougen,
he spoke ‚it is no lie,

gehôrt irs niht ze disen tagen,
(if)-heard you-it not in these days,

sô wil ich iu daz grœste sagen,
so will I to-you the greatest tell,

daz wir alle ie vernâmen.'
which we all ever heard.'

die helde sich des erkâmen
the heroes themselves of-that were-startled

und sprâchen, si enwisten niht
and spoke, they knew nothing

von einer grôzen ungeschiht.
of a great misfortune.

The page tells them that during the hunt for the white hart Valerin carried off Ginover and wounded Arthur. They find Arthur besieging the Tangled Wood in vain, while Valerin courts the queen without force. Arthur's son Lout arrives with three thousand knights, lamenting his mother's abduction. Lanzelet urges patience and counsel.

Dô huop er an und seit in sus:
Then raised he on and told them thus:

er sprach ‚mîn herre der künec Artûs
he spoke ‚my lord the king Arthur

mit alder massenîe sîn
with all-the household his

und mîn vrowe diu künegîn,
and my lady the queen,

die wolten ir spil begân:
they would their play perform:

den wîzen hirz si wolten vân
the white hart they would catch

und daz der künec dâ næme
and that the king there should-take

von rehte, als im gezæme,
by right, as him befitted,

der schœnsten kus, daz was sîn lôn.
of-the most-beautiful-one kiss, that was his reward.

sîn vater Utpandragôn
his father Utpandragon

der het ez alsô ûf geleit.
he had it so up laid.

die selben gewonheit
the same custom

behielt der sun imer sît.
kept the son ever afterward.

nu ist verendet der nît,
now is ended the hatred,

der dâ von solte komen.
which there from should come.

mîn vrowe diu künegîn ist genomen
my lady the queen is taken

mîm herren künec Artiure.
from-my lord king Arthur.

daz hât der ungehiure,
that has the monstrous-one,

der künic Valerîn getân.
the king Valerin done.

ich verstân mich wol und ist mîn wân,
I understand me well and is my belief,

der künec sî selbe sêre wunt.
the king be self sorely wounded.

dar zuo ist mir unkunt,
there to is to-me unknown,

wie vil der ritter sî erslagen,
how many of-the knights be slain,

die mit dem künege wâren jagen.
who with the king were hunting.

ez was vil ungehœret,
it was very unheard-of,

daz alsus zestœret
that thus destroyed

unser vreude solte werden.'
our joy should become.'

do erbeizten zuo der erden
then dismounted to the earth

die küenen hûsgenôze.
the bold household-companions.

ungehabe sô grôze,
distress so great,

die si heten under in,
which they had among them,

der enkunde iu niht ein kranker sin
of-it could to-you not a weak mind

ze rehter mâȥe verjehen.
to right measure tell.

wenne diz wære geschehen
when this were happened

und war der künic Valerîn
and whither the king Valerin

wære komen mit der künigîn,
were come with the queen,

daȥ wart in allez kunt getân.
that became to-them all known made.

nu muostens aber ir vreude lân,
now must-they again their joy leave,

unz daȥ si got sô gêrte,
until that them God so honored,

daȥ er ir leit verkêrte.
that he their sorrow turned.

Dô diu fünf degene hêr
When the five thanes noble

gewunnen michel herzesêr
gained great heart-pain

von sölhem niumære,
from such new-tidings,

daȥ ir vrowe wære
that their lady were

Ginovere gevangen,
Ginover captive,

und wie ez was ergangen
and how it was gone

dem künege und ouch den sînen,
with-the king and also with-the his,

dô liezen si wol schînen,
then let they well shine,

daz in sô leide nie geschach.
that to-them so sorrowful never happened.

michel was ir ungemach
great was their distress

als helde die sich lasters schament.
as heroes who themselves of-disgrace shame.

nu sâzens ûf alle sament
now sat-they up all together

und riten harte balde
and rode very quickly

gerihte von dem walde,
straight from the forest,

unz si ze lande kâmen,
until they to land came,

dâ si dâ vernâmen
where they there heard

von vriunden, diez in tâten kunt,
from friends, who-it to-them made known,

daz der künec was helflîche wunt
that the king was curably wounded

und er schiere wære genesen,
and he quickly were recovered,

wan daz er trûric muose wesen
except that he sad must be

von ander ungeschihte.
from other misfortune.

die recken man dô berihte,
the warriors one then informed,

daz der künic was gevallen
that the king was fallen

mit den sînen allen
with the his all

für daz Verworren tan
before the Tangled wood

und aldes werkes des ie man
and of-all-the work which ever man

ze gesæze erdenken kunde,
for siege devise could,

daz man des dâ begunde,
that one of-it there began,

doch ez lützel töhte.
though it little availed.

der künec sprach, swie er möhte
the king spoke, however he might

deheine wîle geleben,
any while live,

so enwurde der burc niht vride geben,
so would-become to-the castle no peace given,

unz daz sîn wîp dâ wære.
until that his wife there were.

diz was vil ummære
this was very unwelcome

dem künege Valerîne.
to-the king Valerin.

er und al die sîne
he and all the his

vorhten in borvil.
feared him scarcely.

buhurt tanzen unde spil,
jousting dancing and play,

des pflâgens ûf der veste.
of-that practiced-they upon the fortress.

Falerîn der muotveste
Valerin the firm-minded
der küniginne gehiez,
to-the queen promised,
daz er ouch vil wâr liez,
which he also very true let,
mit triuwen und mit sicherheit,
with faith and with surety,
daz er ir dehein leit
that he to-her no sorrow
undankes tæte,
against-her-will should-do,
wan daz er si bæte
except that he her should-beg
mit zühten umb ir minne.
with breeding for her love.
diu edel küniginne
the noble queen
lebet in unmuote.
lives in ill-mood.
wan daz si got behuote,
except that her God guarded,
sô wær ir êren vil benomen.
so were of-her honors much taken.
nu sint zuo dem gesæze komen
now are to the siege come
sîne gesellen unde Lanzelet.
his comrades and Lanzelet.
swaz er ze manheit ie getet,
whatever he of manhood ever did,

daz wolter allez hân vermiten
that would-he all have avoided

durch daz er möhte hân gestriten
for that he might have fought

und err ze stiure wære gesîn,
and he-her for aid were been,

dô geroubet wart diu künigîn.
when robbed was the queen.

Sît ez alsus ergangen was,
Since it thus gone was,

do erbeizten samen an daz gras
then dismounted together onto the grass

die viere unde Wâlwein.
the four and Walwein.

der ritter was dâ enkein
of-the knights was there none

wan die des benamen jâhen,
but who of-that assuredly said,

daz si si gerne sâhen.
that they them gladly saw.

si liefen gein den gesten,
they ran toward the guests,

wan si die muotvesten
for they the firm-minded

ir gevertes wol erkanden.
of-their companions well knew.

der schade zuo den schanden
the harm to the disgraces

wart in gar kunt getân.
became to-them wholly known made.

do begunden die recken gân
then began the warriors to-go

dâ si den künic funden
where they the king found

von trûren ungesunden.
from sorrowing unwell.

nu wart ir zuht wol schîn:
now became their breeding well seen:

helme und ouch diu hüetelîn
helms and also the little-caps

diu wurden schiere ab genomen.
they became quickly off taken.

dô si der künic sach komen,
when them the king saw come,

ûf stuont der êrbære,
up stood the honorable-one,

swie trûric er wære,
however sad he were,

und kustes alle zehant.
and kissed-them all at-once.

er claget in, daz er wære geschant
he lamented to-them, that he were disgraced

und wiez im was ergangen.
and how-it to-him was gone.

man sach im von den wangen
one saw to-him from the cheeks

die zeher nider vliezen.
the tears down flow.

die recken dô niht liezen
the warriors then not left-off

sin weinten bitterlîche:
unless-they wept bitterly:

sam tâten al gelîche
likewise did all alike

die in der reise wâren.
who on the journey were.

wer kunde des gevâren
who could of-that take-heed

durch sîne wolflîche site,
through his wolfish custom,

der dâ trûren vermite?
who there grieving avoided?

dô wart von jâmer ein schal,
then became from grief a clamor,

daz ez harte verre hal,
that it very far echoed,

dô die recken weinden.
when the warriors wept.

mit triuwen si bescheinden,
with faith they showed,

daz in daz leit ze herzen wac.
that to-them the sorrow to heart weighed.

ich enweiz waz ich iu sagen mac
I know-not what I to-you tell may

wan dâ was riuwe unde nôt.
but there was rue and distress.

manec ritter wære gerner tôt,
many-a knight were rather dead,

dan er des lasters het erbiten,
than he the disgrace had awaited,

daz die wîgande liten,
which the fighters suffered,

die besten von der welte.
the best of the world.

mit manegem widergelte
with many-a echo

was dâ schal und wüefe.
was there clamor and wailing.

ich sage iu waz dâ schüefe
I tell to-you what there made

der guoten knehte ungemach.
for-the good knights discomfort.

als in der künic des verjach,
when to-them the king of-that confessed,

daz er die fröide het begeben,
that he the joy had given-up,

sô muosen si mit swære leben,
so must they with heaviness live,

ir hende se alle wunden.
their hands they all wrung.

isâ ze den selben stunden
at-once at the same hours

kom zuo dem gesæze geriten
came to the siege ridden

ein helt mit zornigen siten,
a hero with angry manners,

der driu tûsent ritter brâhte.
who three thousand knights brought.

getriuwelîchen er gedâhte,
faithfully he thought,

daz er ze staten wolte stân
that he at service would stand

dem künege von Kardigân,
to-the king of Kardigan,

wan in truopte diz undinc.
for him troubled this wrong.

dirre selbe jungelinc
this same youth

was an tugenden vollekomen.
was in virtues perfect.

wir hân selten vernomen
we have seldom heard

von keiner slahte mære,
of no kind-of tale,

daz dehein ritter wære
that any knight were

hübscher: daz wart dicke schîn.
more-courtly: that became often seen.

künec Artûs was der vater sîn
king Arthur was the father his

und Ginovere sîn muoter.
and Ginover his mother.

dirre helt guoter
this hero good

der hiez Lôût der milde.
he was-called Lout the generous.

er claget daz unbilde
he lamented the outrage

umb sîner muoter nôtzüge.
about his mother's abduction.

ez ist ein wârheit, niht ein lüge,
it is a truth, not a lie,

daz er sich roufte unde brach.
that he himself tore and broke.

dô er Lanzeleten sach
when he Lanzelet saw

und ander sîne gesellen,
and other his comrades,

er begunde im fuozvellen.
he began to-him to-fall-at-feet.

der degen wüeteclîchen schrê.
the thane ragingly cried.

daz tet den rittern allen wê,
that did to-the knights all woe,

wan ich wil iu wærlîche sagen,
for I will to-you truly tell,

für daz er swert begunde tragen,
since that he sword began to-bear,

daz nie kein kindischer man
that never any childlike man

kürlobes mê gewan,
of-choice-praise more won,

unz daz er in ein lant gereit,
until that he into a land rode,

als uns diu âventiure seit,
as us the adventure tells,

mit Artûs sînem vater hêr,
with Arthur his father noble,

dâ ir noch beider immer mêr
where them yet both ever more

die Britûne bîtent,
the Britons await,

wan si dar umbe strîtent,
for they there for strive,

daz si noch süln wider komen.
that they yet shall back come.

daz mære hânt ir dicke vernomen,
the tale have you often heard,

dâ von lâz ich ez an sie.
there from leave I it to them.

nu merkent wie ez ergie
now mark how it went

ze dem leitlîchen sæze.
at the sorrowful siege.

ob ich der rede vergæzȩ,
if I of-the speech should-forget,

sô sult ir doch wizȩn daz,
so shall you yet know that,

daz nie maneger ouge naz
that never many-a eye wet

von sô ûz genomen helden wart
from so out taken heroes became

als an der selben hervart.
as on the same war-journey.

Lôût der getriuwe
Lout the faithful

hete grôzȩ riuwe
had great rue

durch sîner muoter ungemach.
for his mother's distress.

den rittern er zuo sprach:
to-the knights he to spoke:

er nant ir ein teil bî namen
he named of-them a part by names

und claget in laster unde schamen
and lamented to-them disgrace and shame

,edel ritter alle,
,noble knights all,

daz worden sint ze schalle
that become are to clamor

mîn vater und diu muoter mîn,
my father and the mother mine,

daz sol iu geclaget sîn
that shall to-you lamented be

ûf gnædeclîche triuwe.
upon gracious faith.

diu clagelîche riuwe
the lamentable rue

sol durch nôt erbarmen
shall through need pity

die rîchen zuo den armen,
the rich with the poor,

wan ir des wol gedenket,
for you of-that well think,

daz nie man wart beschrenket,
that never man became entrapped,

der sich an mînen vater lie.
who himself on my father relied.

stæte vreude hât sich hie
steadfast joy has itself here

ze ungehabe verkêret.
to distress turned.

mîn muoter hât gêret
my mother has honored

nâch sînem werde manegen man.
after his worth many-a man.

swâ siu sich ie gesûmde dran,
wherever she herself ever neglected there-in,

daz muost âne ir danc geschehen.
that must against her will happen.

ouch hânt ir alle wol gesehen,
also have you all well seen,

wie mîn lieber vater Artûs
how my dear father Arthur

die ritter hielt in sîme hûs.
the knights held in his house.

sol in diu milte niht vervân
(if)-shall him the generosity not avail

und diu tugent, die er hât begân
and the virtue, which he has done

durch weltlîche êre,
for worldly honor,

so ensol sich nimer mêre
so shall himself never more

man gevlîzen, daz er wol getuo.‘
man strive, that he well does.‘

dô sprach Lanzelet dar zuo
then spoke Lanzelet there to

‚neve, stillent iwer clage
‚nephew, still your lament

und geloubent mir daz ich iu sage.
and believe me what I to-you tell.

ez geschiht niht wan daz sol geschehen.
it happens nothing but what shall happen.

ich hân die liute hie ersehen,
I have the people here seen,

daz ich des gewis bin,
that I of-that certain am,

hielt aldiu welt engegen in
should-hold all-the world against them

ûf einer slehten heide
upon a level heath

und hæten sin ze leide
and had to-them for sorrow

als vil als Falerîn getân,
as much as Valerin done,

sie getorstens wol bestân.
they dared-it well withstand.

nu ist aber sîn burc sô starc,
now is but his castle so strong,

daz nieman lebender ist sô karc,
that no living-one is so cunning,
den si umb ein hâr entsitzen.
whom they by a hair fear.
ich enkan nâch mînen witzen
I can after my wits
erdenken niht sô guotes
devise nothing so good
sô daz ir iwers muotes
as that you of-your mind
gedultic sint und nement rât
patient are and take counsel
von den fürsten umbe die getât,
from the princes about the deed,
dâ von wir sîn unvrô.'
there from we are unglad.'
des volgeten sie alle dô
of-that followed they all then
und giengen zeim gespræche gar,
and went to-a parley wholly,
die künege und ouch der herren schar.
the kings and also the lords' troop.

Tristant proposes the sorcerer Malduc of the Misty Lake, though Erec recalls that he killed Malduc's father and Walwein his brother. Arthur rides with Tristant, Karjet, and Lanzelet, and the wild Dodines leads them over the Screaming Moor to his castle on a rock and then to Malduc's island. Malduc's daughter brings Arthur's plea, and Malduc demands Walwein and Erec as his price.

Dô si zesamen wâren komen,
When they together were come,

dô wart dâ manic rede vernomen,
then became there many-a speech heard,

wan dâ saz manic wîser man.
for there sat many-a wise man.

ze jungest stuont von in dan
at last stood from them away

der listige Tristant.
the cunning Tristant.

er sprach ‚uns ist wol erkant,
he spoke ‚to-us is well known,

daz mîn vrowe lebet gesunt.
that my lady lives whole.

dar zuo ist uns allen kunt,
there to is to-us all known,

daz ir ie was bereit
that to-her ever was ready

witze und grôziu sælikheit
wit and great blessedness

durch die tugent, der siu waltet:
for the virtue, which she wields:

dâ von ouch siu behaltet
there from also she keeps

ir êre unz an ir ende.
her honor until to her end.

dâ von rât ich, daz besende
there from counsel I, that send-for

mîn herre, der künic mære,
my lord, the king famous,

Malducken, den zouberære
Malduc, the sorcerer

von dem Genibeleten sê.
from the Misty lake.

der kan zoubers michels mê
he can of-magic much more

dan ieman in den rîchen.
than anyone in the realms.

mit dem suln wir beswîchen
with him shall we deceive

Falerînen den kargen
Valerin the stingy

mit allen sînen wargen.
with all his wretches.

ist daz uns got heiles gan,
(if)-is that to-us God salvation grants,

wir gewinnen im die burc an
we win from-him the castle on

von Maldukes râte.'
by Malduc's counsel.'

dô antwurte drâte
then answered quickly

Erec fil de roi Lac
Erec fil de roi Lac

,ich wæne, mîn herre enmac
,I believe, my lord may-not

den man niht her besenden:
the man not hither send-for:

wir sîn im manegen enden
we are to-him at-many ends

dicke ze unstaten komen:
often to ill-turn come:

sîm vater hân ich den lîp genomen:
his father have I the life taken:

dô sluoc Wâlwein den bruoder sîn:
then slew Walwein the brother his:

ouch hât in der herre mîn
also has him the lord mine

der künic Artûs vertriben
the king Arthur driven-out

vome lande dâ er was beliben
from-the land where he was remained

mit sime galster manegen tac.
with his sorcery many-a day.

doch dês al ein, ob er uns mac
yet that-is all one, if he to-us may

ze disen dingen iht vervâhen,
in these things aught avail,

sô sulen wir gerne gâhen
so shall we gladly hasten

und süenen uns swie wir megen,
and reconcile ourselves however we may,

daz wir daz laster nider gelegen.‘
that we the disgrace down lay.‘

Zehant berieten sie sich.
At-once counseled they themselves.

si endûhte niht sô wætlich
to-them seemed nothing so likely

sô daz man wurbe umb den man.
as that one strove for the man.

si kômen alle dar an,
they came all there on,

daz der künic niht vermite
that the king not avoided

wan daz er selbe vierde rite
but that he self fourth rode

nâch dem gougelære
after the juggler

und er daz her mære
and he the host famous

enpfulhe dem sune sîn.
commended to-the son his.

dô wart aber wol schîn,
then became again well seen,

daz im diu künegîn liep was.
that to-him the queen dear was.

von dem her er ûz las
from the host he out chose

die er ze manheit het erkant:
whom he for manhood had known:

daz was Karjet und Tristant
that was Karjet and Tristant

unde Lanzelet: si drîe
and Lanzelet: them three

nam er von der massenîe.
took he from the household.

ze der verte was er gereht.
for the journey was he ready.

nu reit er in den foreht,
now rode he into the forest,

der nâch bî Kardigân lac.
which near by Kardigan lay.

als in erschein der vierde tac,
when to-them appeared the fourth day,

der strâze si vermisten,
the road they missed,

daz si lützel wisten,
that they little knew,

wâ si wâren in dem walde.
where they were in the forest.

dô riten si für sich balde
then rode they before themselves quickly

unz ze dem Schrîenden mose.
until to the Screaming moor.

swer nu welle, der lose,
whoever now will, he listen,

wie ez stuont umb daz mos.
how it stood about the moor.

dar über mohte dehein ros
there over might no horse

borwol oder nimer komen.
scarcely or never come.

wir hân mit wârheit daz vernomen
we have with truth that heard

von manegem man, der noch lebet,
from many-a man, who yet lives,

daz dâ ein michel sê swebet.
that there a great lake floats.

dar ûz rinnt ein ahe clâr,
there out-of runs a stream clear,

der nie dehein tier für wâr,
of-which never any beast for true,

swie sêre ez durste, getranc.
however sorely it thirsted, drank.

die vische sint ebenlanc
the fish are equally-long

und ebenkurz, die drinne gânt:
and equally-short, which there-in go:

die Engellende ir vil hânt:
the English of-them many have:

si sint lanc als ein arm.
they are long as an arm.

diu ahe ist wîlent als warm,
the stream is sometimes so warm,

von neizwaz nâtûre,
from I-know-not-what nature,

daz al die nâchgebûre
that all the neighbors

und die trünne der tiere
and the herds of-the beasts

vliehent harte schiere
flee very quickly

ein tageweide und mêre:
a day's-journey and more:

und schrît daz mos sô sêre,
and screams the moor so sorely,

daz al diu tier sterbent,
that all the beasts die,

diu sô tœrliche werbent,
which so foolishly act,

daz si der stunde hânt erbiten.
that they the hour have awaited.

idoch von disen vremden siten
yet from these strange customs

sô wirt daz wazzer alsô heiz,
so becomes the water so hot,

daz dâ von tiergelich wol weiz,
that there from every-beast well knows,

daz in der lîp niht mêre frumet,
that to-it the life not more avails,

swenne daz geschrei kumet.
when the screaming comes.

nu lânt mich iuch berihten:
now let me you inform:

drî tage vor sunegihten
three days before solstice

sô schrît daz mos und selten mêr.
so screams the moor and seldom more.

man siht dâ vogele alsô hêr,
one sees there birds so noble,

der vil ûf dem sêwe swebet,
of-which many upon the lake hovers,

daz er nimer jâr gelebet,
that he never year lives,

der in iht ze leide tuot.
who to-them aught to sorrow does.

hie von ist sagehaft der fluot.
here from is famous the flood.

Do der künec Artûs ze der ahe kam
When the king Arthur to the stream came

und er rehte vernam,
and he rightly perceived,

wâ er was in den walden,
where he was in the forests,

dô muos er ûf halden
then must he up halt

und eine wîle stille haben.
and a while still hold.

dô sach er einen ritter draben
then saw he a knight trot

über daz Schrîende mos.
over the Screaming moor.

sô rehte snel was sîn ros,
so right swift was his horse,

daz man die slâ niht kunde spehen.
that one the track not could spy.

als er den künic het ersehen,
when he the king had seen,

do erkant er in, daz was reht:
then knew he him, that was right:
wan der selbe guote kneht,
for the same good knight,
swa er den sumer hin vertreip,
wherever he the summer thither passed,
den winter er imer beleip
the winter he ever remained
bî Artûses massenîe.
by Arthur's household.
den künic und die drîe
the king and the three
hiez er sîn willekomen.
bade he be welcome.
ouch moht er in wol gevromen
also might he them well avail
über daz tiefe gevilde.
over the deep field.
er hiez Dodines der wilde
he was-called Dodines the wild
mit den breiten handen.
with the broad hands.
den künec von Irlanden,
the king of Ireland,
den brant er unde herte.
him burned he and ravaged.
er gap umb sîn geverte
he gave for his companion
niht ein hâr, ist uns geseit,
not a hair, is to-us told,
swenn er sîn ros überschreit:
when he his horse bestrode:
wan daz hete sölhen ganc,
for it had such gait,

daz er daz tou niht erswanc,
that it the dew not shook-off,

swenn ez der wilde Dodines
when it the wild Dodines

stolzlîche ûf daz kes
proudly upon the ice

und über daz mos rande:
and over the moor rode:

dâ sîne vîande
where his foes

von tiefe muosen swanken,
from depth must sway,

dâ sach man ez niht wanken,
there saw one it not sway,

daz ez im iht möhte werren.
that it him aught might trouble.

dô fuorte sînen herren
then led his lord

Dodines der helt balt
Dodines the hero bold

ûf sîn hûs. daz was gestalt
up-to his house. that was placed

bî dem mose ûf einen stein.
by the moor upon a rock.

ez enwart nie burc dehein
it became never castle any

erbûwen baz noch alsô wol.
built better nor so well.

dise veste nam des landes zol,
this fortress took the land's toll,

wan im der walt was undertân.
for to-him the forest was subject.

als ein kerze gedrân
like a candle turned

was der stein âne mûre,
was the rock without wall,

ein turn von nâtûre,
a tower by nature,

daz nie kein bezzerre wart,
that never any better became,

innen hol und ûzen hart
inside hollow and outside hard

als ein gellendiu fluo.
like an echoing cliff.

dar ûf umbe die zuo
there upon about the top

was gemaht guot gesæze.
was made good dwelling.

wie ungern ich vergæze,
how unwillingly I would-forget,

daz Artiure dem künege hêr
that to-Arthur the king noble

wart gegeben nie mêr
became given never more

diu wirtschaft noch sô voller rât
the hospitality nor so full provision

von zame noch von wiltbrât,
of tame nor of game,

als im gap der wilde.
as to-him gave the wild-one.

dar nâch reit der milde,
there after rode the generous,

der rîche künic Artûs,
the rich king Arthur,

von sînes lieben vriundes hûs
from his dear friend's house

gein dem furte hin dan,
toward the ford thither away,

dâ diu ahe von dem sêwe ran.
where the stream from the lake ran.

daz wazzer was grôz unde tief,
the water was great and deep,

dar zuo ez als drâte lief,
there to it so swiftly ran,

daz nieman dran getorste komen
that no-one thereon dared come

wan, als ich ez hân vernomen,
except, as I it have heard,

zeiner brücke gein dem wege:
at-a bridge toward the way:

diu hiez ze dem Stiebenden stege.
it was-called at the Spraying footbridge.

dâ muosen die recken
there must the warriors

den rossen bedecken
to-the horses cover

diu houbet und bewinden,
the heads and wrap,

wan si enkunden vinden
for they could-not find

deheinen rât der bezzer wære.
any counsel which better were.

Artûsen den künic mære
to-Arthur the king famous

dûhte daz ein grôz gewin,
seemed that a great gain,

in fuorte Dodines hin
him led Dodines thither

zuo der burc des zouberæres.
to the castle of-the sorcerer.

dô was er vrô des mæres
then was he glad of-the tidings

und die sîne michels mê:
and the his much more:

ze dem Genibeleten sê
to the Misty lake

riten si ize an den sant.
rode they at-once to the sand.

umb den was ez sô gewant.
about it was it so turned.

dâ sîn der gougelære pflac,
where of-him the juggler took-care,

ein hûs enmitten drinne lac.
a house in-the-middle there-in lay.

von dem lande gienc ein brücke dar:
from the land went a bridge thither:

der enwart nieman gewar
of-it became no-one aware

wan alse Malduc gebôt.
except as Malduc commanded.

nu hielt Artûs durch nôt
now halted Arthur through need

gein der burcstrâze.
toward the castle-road.

ich enweiz wer in în lâze.
I know-not who him in lets.

Morne nâch des küneges ger
Next-morning after the king's desire

dô reit über die brügge her,
then rode over the bridge hither,

als ez vruo was ertaget,
when it early was dawned,

des wirtes tohtr, ein schœniu maget,
the host's daughter, a beautiful maiden,

hübsch und êrbære.
courtly and honorable.

siu fuort ein sperwære,
she carried a sparrowhawk,

von maneger mûze wol getân.
from many-a molt well made.

man sach ir pferit schône gân.
one saw her palfrey nicely go.

mit dem selben stolzen kinde
with the same proud child

liefen zwêne winde,
ran two greyhounds,

wan siu durch baneken ûz reit.
for she for pleasure out rode.

als uns daz welsche buoch seit,
as to-us the French book tells,

so endorfte siu niht wîser wesen,
so needed she not wiser be,

wan siu hâte gelesen
for she had read

diu buoch von allem liste,
the books of all craft,

dâ von siu wunder wiste.
there from she wonder knew.

âne Fêmurgân die rîchen
except Femurgan the rich

sô enkund sich ir gelîchen
so could herself to-her compare

kein wîp, von der ich ie vernam.
no woman, of whom I ever heard.

als siu für die brücke kam,
when she before the bridge came,

dâ siu die rîchen geste vant,
where she the rich guests found,

diu maget gruozte si zehant,
the maiden greeted them at-once,

wan siu sach an ir gebâren,
for she saw in their bearing,

daz si alle fürsten wâren.
that they all princes were.

dar zuo merkent einen list,
there to mark a cunning,

der noch an manegem wîbe ist:
which yet in many-a woman is:

dar nâch als ir was gesaget,
there after as to-her was told,

sô bekande diu maget
so knew the maiden

des küneges antlütze.
the king's face.

siu sprach ‚herre, iust nütze,
she spoke ‚lord, to-you-is useful,

daz ich iuch hiute gegrüezet hân.
that I you today greeted have.

und het ich es niht getân,
and (if)-had I it not done,

sô müesent ir verlorn wesen.
so must you lost be.

idoch sult ir wol genesen
yet shall you well recover

durch niht wan umbe daz„
for nothing but for that,

daz iwer herze ie baz
that your heart ever better

für ander man ze milte stuont,
before other men to generosity stood,

dar an ir harte rehte tuont:
there in you very rightly do:

dêst wâr, ir hânt es êre.‘
that-is true, you have of-it honor.‘

des gnâdet ir sêre
for-that thanked her sorely

Artûs der ellende.
Arthur the exiled.

er begund ir an ein ende
he began to-her to an end

alliu sîniu dinc clagen.
all his things to-lament.

er moht ihr lîhte gesagen,
he might to-her easily tell,

wan siu het ez ê vernomen,
for she had it before heard,

wie im sîn dinc was komen.
how to-him his affair was come.

dô bôt err rîche miete,
then offered he-her rich reward,

daz siu im har zuo riete.
that she him hither to counseled.

durch daz lobet im diu guote
for that promised him the good-one

mit getriuwelîchem muote,
with faithful mind,

daz siu sîn bote wære
that she his messenger were

zuo ir vater dem gougelære.
to her father the juggler.

Dô reit von den helden
Then rode from the heroes
diu frowe zuo ir selden,
the lady to her dwelling,
dâ siu den gougelære vant.
where she the juggler found.
diu tohter kuste in zehant
the daughter kissed him at-once
und begunde in allen gâhen
and began him in-all haste
in güetlîch umbevâhen.
him kindly to-embrace.
siu sprach ‚vater herre,
she spoke ‚father lord,
ich wil dich manen verre,
I will thee remind far,
daz ich dir ie was undertân:
that I to-thee ever was subject:
des solt du mich geniezen lân
of-that shalt thou me enjoy let
und solt mich einer bete wern
and shalt me a request grant
der ich an dich wil gern.'
which I of thee will desire.'
‚ich tuon. sage waz ez sî.'
‚I do. tell what it be.'
‚hie haltent ritter nâhe bî'
‚here halt knights near by'
sprach diu maget wol getân,
spoke the maiden well made,
‚den solt du einen vride lân:
‚to-them shalt thou a peace leave:
daz ist wol mîn wille.'
that is well my will.'

do gesweic der vater stille
then kept-silent the father still

unz er vernam daz mære,
until he heard the tidings,

daz der künic Artûs wære
that the king Arthur were

ûf genâde dar komen
upon grace thither come

und er im büezen ze vromen
and he to-him to-atone to profit

wolte laster unde leit,
would disgrace and sorrow,

daz er im sîn arebeit
that he to-him his toil

mit listen hulfe minren.
with cunning should-help lessen.

‚wil er mich des ginren,
‚(if)-will he me of-that grant,

daz er daz tuo‘ sprach der wirt,
that he that do‘ spoke the host,

‚swie harte mich mîn schade swirt,
‚however sorely me my harm pains,

so versuoch ich gerne swaz ich kan.
so try I gladly whatever I can.

ich enwil ab niht wan zwêne man,
I will but nothing but two men,

daz mir der künec die bringe
that to-me the king them bring

ân allerslahte gedinge,
without any-kind-of condition,

swenn ich sîn dinc gelende,
when I his affair accomplish,

ald daz man mir se sende
or that one to-me them send

her heim, ob ich in hân gewert
hither home, if I him have granted

sînes wîbes als er gert.
his wife as he desires.

er mac sich selbe wol enstân,
he may himself self well understand,

waz si mir leides hânt getân.
what they to-me of-sorrow have done.

daz ist Wâlwein und Erec.
that is Walwein and Erec.

nu rît, tohter, dînen wec
now ride, daughter, thy way

und gib in des die triwe dîn,
and give them of-that the faith thine,

daz ditz diu miete müeze sîn,
that this the reward must be,

der ich an den künic ger.
which I of the king desire.

niht anders wil ich sîn dîn wer.'
nothing otherwise will I be thy grantor.'

Lanzelet and the others persuade Arthur to agree, and Walwein and Erec give themselves up. Malduc's arts send the castle and its serpents to sleep, the army storms it, and Valerin is slain; Ginover is found asleep with thirty maidens, and the castle is razed. Malduc leads Walwein and Erec away to his tower, deaf to the queen's pleas. Lanzelet gathers a hundred knights to free them, riding by night.

Mit der rede reit diu maget
With the speech rode the maiden

dâ ir daz leit was geclaget
where to-her the sorrow was lamented

von dem künege und ouch der unfuoc.
by the king and also the wrong.

des lônes siu im zuo gewuoc
of-the reward she to-him to mentioned

des ir vater gerte.
which her father desired.

‚swie gerne ich in des werte'
‚however gladly I him of-that would-grant'

sprach der künec erbolgen,
spoke the king angered,

‚si enwoltens lîht niht volgen:
‚they would-it perhaps not follow:

ez wære ein ungefüegiu bete.'
it were an unseemly request.'

dô antwurt im Lanzelete
then answered him Lanzelet

‚herre, irn dürfent des niht jehen,
‚lord, you need of-that not say,

wan ir dicke hânt gesehen,
for you often have seen,

daz Erec und Wâlwein
that Erec and Walwein

durch iuch diu dinc hânt getân,
for you the things have done,

daz in der lîp ze wâge stuont.
that to-them the life at stake stood.

daz selbe si noch hiute tuont,
the same they yet today do,

hinder uns an der reise.
behind us on the journey.

ouch enist kein vreise
also is no peril

wan die ich selbe gerne lite,
except which I self gladly would-suffer,

dâ ich mîne vrowen mite
where I my lady with

von ir kumber möhte ernern.
from her grief might save.

al des selben wil ich swern
all of-the same will I swear

von den zwein helden balt,
of the two heroes bold,

ûf die diu nôt ist gezalt.'
upon whom the need is counted.'

dem künege riet ouch Tristant,
to-the king counseled also Tristant,

ein wortwîser wîgant,
a word-wise fighter,

daz er albalde tæte
that he at-once should-do

als im gerâten hæte
as him counseled had

der tugenthafte Lanzelet.
the virtuous Lanzelet.

Dodines und Karjet
Dodines and Karjet

die wolten ez dâ für hân,
they would it there for have,

daz Erec und Wâlwân
that Erec and Walwein

sô wol nâch êren wurben,
so well after honors strove,

daz si nimer ersturben
that they never should-die

wan rehte und sæleclîche.
except rightly and blessedly.

sus überrettens algelîche
thus over-talked-they all-alike

den künec, daz er gewerte
the king, that he granted

Malducken des er gerte.
to-Malduc what he desired.

wan si wisten wol die wârheit,
for they knew well the truth,

daz im die helde wærn bereit
that to-him the heroes were ready

ze tuonne swes er in gewuoc.
to do whatever he them mentioned.

diu maget ez dô zesamene truoc
the maiden it then together brought

mit wîslîchem râte,
with wise counsel,

fruo unde spâte,
early and late,

daz ir vater mit dem künege reit,
that her father with the king rode,

und doch mit der gewarheit,
and yet with the surety,

daz im arges niht geschach.
that to-him ill nothing happened.

swaz der künec Artûs gesprach,
whatever the king Arthur spoke,

daz zerbræch er durch nieman.
that would-break he for no-one.

mit der rede riten si dan
with the speech rode they away

über ein sleht gevilde.
over a level field.

Dodines der wilde
Dodines the wild

der fuort den künec sô guoten wec,
he led the king so good way,

âne brücke und âne stec,
without bridge and without footbridge,

daz er schiere heim kam.
that he quickly home came.

als daz diu ritterschaft vernam,
when that the knighthood heard,

dô wart nie man enpfangen baz.
then became never man received better.

si erscheinden an ir fröide daz,
they showed in their joy that,

daz ez im dicke wol ergât,
that it to-him often well goes,

swer die sîne willic hât.
whoever the his willing has.

Ze dem sæze was niht der mære,
At the siege was nothing of-the tidings,

diu si dûhten sagebære
which to-them seemed tellable

ir herren, dô er wider kam.
to-their lord, when he back came.

der künec Artûs die fürsten nam
the king Arthur the princes took

und kunt in, waz dâ was gelobet.
and made-known to-them, what there was promised.

‚ir hætent anders getobet‘ 7330
‚you would-have otherwise raved‘

sprâchens algelîche.
spoke-they all-alike.

Erec der tugentrîche
Erec the virtue-rich

und der hübsche Wâlwein,
and the courtly Walwein,

die wurden beide des enein,
they became both of-that agreed,

ob ez ir vrowen iht vervienge, 7335
if it to-their lady aught should-avail,

swar zuo ez in ergienge,
where to it to-them should-go,

daz si sich gerne wolten
that they themselves gladly would

antwürten swar si solten,
deliver wherever they should,

swenne ez in der künec gebüte;
when it them the king should-command;

ob man si schunde oder süte 7340
whether one them should-flay or should-boil

od swie man sie hielte,
or however one them held,

daz des gelücke wielte.
that of-that fortune ruled.

si bedâhten sich des wol,
they bethought themselves of-that well,

daz nieman ersterben sol
that no-one die shall

wan einest und niht mêre.
except once and not more.

si wâgten lîp und êre
they risked life and honor

gerner dan daz solte sîn,
more-gladly than that should be,

daz ir vrowe diu künigîn
that their lady the queen

und diu massenî ze Kardigân
and the household at Kardigan

mit jâmer müese zergân.
with grief must perish.

hie von wart in wol gesprochen.
here from became of-them well spoken.

dar nâch zer næhesten wochen
there after at-the next week

tet der wîse Malduc
did the wise Malduc

Falerîn einen sölhen zuc,
to-Valerin a such stroke,

dâ von er schaden vil gewan.
there from he harm much got.

nu hœrent wie ez dar zuo kan.
now hear how it there to came.

Er begunde an den swarzen buochen
He began in the black books

sîne liste versuochen
his arts to-try

und schuof, daz die würme
and brought-about, that the serpents

liezen ir gestürme,
left their storming,

die in der vorburc lâgen
which in the outer-castle lay

und des hages pflâgen
and of-the hedge took-care

in dem Verworrenen tan.
in the Tangled wood.

Malduc der wîse man
Malduc the wise man

der enswebete gar (da enist niht wider)
he put-to-sleep wholly (there is nothing against)

ûf der burc und dernider
upon the castle and there-down

allez daz dâ lebete.
all that there lived.

daz her dô hin ûf strebete
the host then thither up strove

und vielen über die mûre.
and fell over the wall.

si brâhten imz ze sûre,
they brought him-it to bitterness,

daz Artûs trûric was gewesen.
that Arthur sad was been.

si enliezen nieman genesen,
they let no-one survive,

swen si ûf der burc funden,
whom they upon the castle found,

weder siechen noch gesunden:
neither sick nor whole:

si muosen gar verlorn sîn.
they must wholly lost be.

dô wart der künic Falerîn
then became the king Valerin

mit den sînen erslagen.
with the his slain.

den müese man wol iemer clagen,
him must one well ever lament,

wan daz ez sêre missezimet.
except that it sorely misbefits.

swer wîp gerne nôtes nimet,
whoever woman gladly by-force takes,

ez ist laster und ein mein.
it is disgrace and a wrong.

die tiursten wurden des in ein
the dearest became of-that at one

und sprach der gougelære,
and spoke the juggler,

ob diu künegîn dankes wære
if the queen willingly were

mit Falerîne entrunnen,
with Valerin escaped,

sô daz sium wolte gunnen
so that she-him would grant

ir süezer minne unerwert,
her sweet love unrefused,

sô hæten si in wol ernert.
so would-have they him well saved.

des vermâzen sich genuoge,
of-that vowed themselves enough,

den ouch mit unfuoge
to-whom also with impropriety

diu minne sêrte den muot.
the love wounded the mind.

der künic Artûs was sô guot,
the king Arthur was so good,

daz er des selben sich vermaz.
that he of-the same himself vowed.

swer welle der geloube daz.
whoever will he believe that.

Dô Falerîn durch übermuot
When Valerin through arrogance

verlôs lîp unde guot,
lost life and goods,

als ir wol hânt vernomen,
as you well have heard,

innân des was komen
meanwhile of-that was come

mîn herre der künic Artûs
my lord the king Arthur

in ein wünneclîchez hûs,
into a delightful house,

dâ Ginovere inne lac.
where Ginover inside lay.

ein wunder ich iu sagen mac:
a wonder I to-you tell may:

siu selbe und drîzic megede hêr,
she self and thirty maidens noble,

wan ir was niht mêr,
for of-them was not more,

die sliefen alsô harte,
they slept so hard,

daz ir dehein warte
that of-them none heeded

des schalles ûf der veste.
the clamor upon the fortress.

dô die vremden geste
when the strange guests

die burc gar verwuosten,
the castle wholly laid-waste,

durch nôt si dô muosten
through need they then must

und ir undankes wachen.
and of-their against-will wake.

daz kom von den sachen,
that came from the causes,

daz zouber was sô grimme,
that magic was so grim,

enwær Malduckes stimme,
were-not Malduc's voice,

sô wæren si verdorben gar.
so were they perished wholly.

der half in daz in niht gewar.
he helped them that to-them nothing harmed.

Die vrowen fuorte man hin abe
The ladies led one thither down

und wart diu burc mit aller habe
and became the castle with all goods

verderbet, daz siu nider gelac.
destroyed, that it down lay.

beidiu berc unde hac
both hill and hedge

die zerfuorte man durch nît,
them destroyed one for hatred,

daz dervon nieman sît
that there-from no-one afterward

dem andern mohte geschaden.
to-the other might harm.

alsus wart leides entladen
thus became of-sorrow unburdened

der milte künec von Kardigân,
the generous king of Kardigan,

wan daz er angest muose hân
except that he fear must have

umb den tiurlîchen solt,
about the costly pay,

den Malduc dâ verholt
which Malduc there earned

hete mit den listen sîn.
had with the arts his.

Ginovere diu künigîn
Ginover the queen

bat den zouberære,
begged the sorcerer,

als liep siu im wære
as dear she to-him were

und durch aller vrowen willen,
and for all ladies' sake,

daz er geruohte stillen
that he deigned to-still

sîn zorn und daz er solte
his anger and that he should

nemen swaz er wolte
take whatever he would

under allem daz siu hæte,
among all that she had,

daz er die helde stæte
that he the heroes steadfast

erliezę sölher reise,
should-release from-such journey,

diu in stüende zuo der vreise
which to-them would-stand to the peril

ir lîbes unt ir êre.
of-their life and their honor.

doch enbat siu nie sô sêre,
yet begged she never so sorely,

daz siz iht mohte vervân.
that she-it aught might avail.

des muose siu die rede lân.
of-that must she the speech leave.

Dô wart daz scheiden alsô,
Then became the parting so,

daz dâ von trûric und unvrô
that there from sad and unglad

al die rîter muosen sîn.
all the knights must be.

daz wart an manegen dingen schîn,
that became in many things seen,

mit klägelîchem wuofe,
with lamentable wailing,

mit weinen und mit ruofe,
with weeping and with crying,

mit sölher ungehabe,
with such distress,

ob si stüenden ob dem grabe,
if they should-stand above the grave,

so enwære ir riuwe niht mêr.
so were their rue not more.

daz ane sehende herze sêr
the on seeing heart's pain

was dem gougelær ein wint.
was to-the juggler a wind.

er fuort die herren an den sint.
he led the lords onto the way.

sus muosen sie rîten
thus must they ride

âne widerstrîten,
without resisting,

her Wâlwein und Erec,
lord Walwein and Erec,

mit dem gougelær enwec,
with the juggler away,

mit Artûses geleite,
with Arthur's escort,

ze sînre gewarheite,
to his safekeeping,

da er si in einen turn warf.
where he them into a tower threw.

ich wæn ich iu niht sagen darf,
I believe I to-you not tell need,

waz si dâ ungemaches liten.
what they there of-discomfort suffered.

ir gesellen ouch niht vermiten,
their comrades also not avoided,

in enwær daz herze swære,
to-them unless-were the heart heavy,

swie liep in doch wære,
however dear to-them yet were,

daz ir vrowe was wider komen.
that their lady was back come.

ez ist selten vernomen
it is seldom heard

von liuten dehein merre clage,
of people any greater lament,

dan dâ was ze manegem tage
than there was for many-a day

nâch des küneges mâgen.
after the king's kinsmen.

ich wil iu âne vrâgen
I will to-you without asking

schiere lâzen werden kunt,
quickly let become known,

daz Ginovere in kurzer stunt
that Ginover in short hour

kom wider heim ze Kardigân.
came back home to Kardigan.

der vreude, die si mohten hân
the joy, which they might have

mit fuoge, der begunden sie.
with propriety, it began they.

Lanzelet dô niht enlie
Lanzelet then not left-off

durch wîp noch durch ander guot,
for woman nor for other goods,

im wære trûric der muot,
to-him unless-were sad the mind,

do er bekante die nôt,
when he knew the distress,

wie man ez Wâlweine bôt
how one it to-Walwein offered

und Erec sîme gesellen,
and to-Erec his comrade,

daz man si wolte quellen,
that one them would torment,

unz si hungers sturben.
until they of-hunger died.

vil leitlîche dô wurben
very sorrowfully then acted

der künec und alliu sîn diet,
the king and all his folk,

wan si trûten in gehelfen niet.
for they trusted them to-help not.

ez was ein angestlîchiu nôt.
it was a fearful distress.

swaz man Malducke bôt
whatever one to-Malduc offered

daz er die herren liezе,
that he the lords should-release,

daz vervie niht zir geniezе,
that availed not to-their profit,

wan daz ern deste wirs tet.
except that he-to-them the worse did.

dô vant mîn her Lanzelet
then found my lord Lanzelet

hundert ritter wol gemuot,
hundred knights well minded,

die beidiu lîp unde guot
who both life and goods

durch in ze wâge liezen
for him at stake let

und im daz gehiezen,
and to-him that promised,

si wolten durch in sterben,
they would for him die,

dô si in sâhen werben
when they him saw act

von jâmer seneclîche.
from grief longingly.

wan nieman ist sô rîche,
for no-one is so rich,

in ensweche an sîner hübscheit
him unless-weakens in his courtliness

ein zorn und ein herzeleit
an anger and a heart-sorrow

und nâhe gândiu riuwe.
and near going rue.

als Lanzelet die triuwe
when Lanzelet the faith

an als guoten knehten vant,
in so good knights found,

dô beriet er sich zehant
then counseled he himself at-once

mit in, daz si niht enbiten,
with them, that they not waited,

wan daz si ie die naht riten
except that they ever the night rode

(und tages lægen verborgen)
(and by-day lay hidden)

unz fruo an den morgen,
until early to the morning,

ê ez die lantliute vernæmen,
before it the land-people heard,

und alsô zesamen kæmen
and so together should-come

ze dem sê, dâ diu burc lac,
to the lake, where the castle lay,

der der gougelære pflac.
of-which the juggler took-care.

do vertriuweten si ze handen,
then pledged they to hands,

daz si den sê swanden
that they the lake swam

und ir lîp ze wâge sazten,
and their life at stake set,

oder si gelazten
or they lamed

den kargen gougelære
the stingy juggler

an etslîchem mære.
in some tale.

XXX · THE RESCUE

Tristant, Karjet, and the giant Esealt, who has grown a span every month of his seventeen years, join the hundred. At dawn Esealt wades the Misty Lake beside them and lifts them two at a time over the wall, and they slay Malduc and his household, sparing his daughter, who had cared for the captives. They burn the castle and bring her to Arthur. Ginover gives Esealt, sent ahead with the news, a shield full of gold; Arthur rides out to welcome them and holds a great festival.

Man saget uns, dô Tristant
One tells to-us, when Tristant

die heinlîche reise bevant,
the secret journey discovered,

daz er Karjeten nam
that he Karjet took

zuo im und îlende kam
to him and hastening came

an die ritterschaft geriten.
to the knighthood ridden.

ouch enwart daz niht vermiten,
also was that not avoided,

ze der reise kæm ein vremde man,
to the journey came a strange man,

von dem ich iu wol sagen kan.
of whom I to-you well tell can.

und hât diu âventiure reht,
and (if)-has the adventure right,

der selbe was ein guot kneht,
the same was a good knight,

der langeste gîgant,
the tallest giant,

der ie mit wârheit wart bekant
who ever with truth became known

ûf allem ertrîche.
upon all earth.

nu vernement bescheidenlîche
now hear discerningly

und bedenkent mich der rede niet.
and suspect me of-the speech not.

von im kündet uns daz liet,
of him tells to-us the song,

von daz er êrst geborn wart,
since that he first born was,

sô wuohs er für sich alle vart
so grew he before himself all way

mânedeclîches eine spange.
monthly a span.

der hiez Esêalt der lange.
he was-called Esealt the tall.

der selbe was von kinde
the same was from child

des küneges Artûses gesinde,
of-the king Arthur's household,

wan er in durch ein wunder zôch.
for he him for a wonder raised.

er was gewahsen alsô hôch,
he was grown so high,

daz er verre langer schein
that he far taller appeared

danne türne dehein;
than towers any;

und was im doch dar zuo gereit
and was to-him yet there to ready

ze der länge grôz behendikeit
with the length great nimbleness

und hübschlîche gebære.
and courtly bearing.

swelch man küener wære,
whatever man bolder were,

der müese schaden dran gevân.
he must harm there-in catch.

er mohte rîten niht, wan gân,
he might ride not, but walk,

und was snel unde balt.
and was swift and bold.

sibenzehen jâr alt
seventeen years old

was er dô zer selben stunt,
was he then at-the same hour,

dô im diu reise wart kunt,
when to-him the journey became known,

die Lanzelet sô stille warp,
which Lanzelet so quietly arranged,

dâ von manic man verdarp
there from many-a man perished

in des zouberæres hûs.
in the sorcerer's house.

mîn herre der künic Artûs
my lord the king Arthur

wart der reise niht gewar,
became of-the journey not aware,

ê si zesamene kœmen gar,
before they together should-come wholly,

die ir vriunt wolten lœsen.
who their friend would free.

die frumen, niht die bœsen,
the valiant, not the wicked,

wurden an die vart gebeten
became to the journey bidden

durch den milten Lanzeleten,
for the generous Lanzelet,

der zageheit niht erkande.
who cowardice not knew.

si huoben sich ûz̧er lande.
they raised themselves out-of land.

die hundert ritter und der helt,
the hundred knights and the hero,

von des lenge ich hân gezelt,
of whose length I have told,

die sint bereit an die vart.
they are ready for the journey.

nu waz̧ sol daz̧ mê gespart?
now what shall that more spared?

Die die strâz̧en kunden,
Those the roads knew,

die wîsten sâ ze stunden
they directed at-once at-the hour

die ritterschaft ûf den wec
the knighthood onto the way

gegen der burc, ûf der Erec
toward the castle, on which Erec

und Wâlwein der geselle sîn
and Walwein the comrade his

dulten jæmerlîchen pîn,
suffered wretched pain,

der sölhen helden niht gezam.
which to-such heroes not befitted.

welt ir hœren wie ez̧ kam,
(if)-will you hear how it came,

sô sult ir dar zuo gedagen.
so shall you there to keep-silent.

eins morgens do ez begunde tagen,
one morning when it began to-dawn,

dô wârens alle an dem sê,
then were-they all at the lake,

vor tage ein lützel ê.
before day a little earlier.

dô was daz genibel sô dicke,
then was the mist so thick,

daz si kûme bî dem blicke
that they scarcely by the glimpse

die burc kuren nâch wâne.
the castle descried by guess.

idoch lûht in der mâne,
yet shone to-them the moon,

als ez der rîche got gebôt.
as it the rich God commanded.

nu was in schiffe harte nôt,
now was to-them of-ships very need,

diu in doch wâren unbereit.
which to-them yet were unready.

Lanzelet dô niht enbeit,
Lanzelet then not waited,

er sprancte vor in an den wâc,
he spurred before them into the wave,

und dar nâch Karjet, sîn mâc.
and there after Karjet, his kinsman.

dô wart Tristande gâch
then became to-Tristant hasty

und al den rîtern dar nâch:
and to-all the knights there after:

si sprancten manlîch an die fluot.
they spurred manfully into the flood.

Esêalt der helt guot
Esealt the hero good

balde in den sê spranc.
quickly into the lake sprang.

dô half si daz er was sô lanc,
then helped them that he was so tall,

wan er behuote die schar,
for he guarded the troop,

daz si gesunt unde gar
that they whole and wholly

kômen über des sêwes fluot:
came over the lake's flood:

neben den rittern er wuot
beside the knights he waded

und nam ir vil guote war:
and took of-them very good heed:

als ir eime iht gewar,
when of-them to-one aught harmed,

zehant er im ze staten kan:
at-once he to-him to aid came:

er enthielt ros unde man,
he held-up horse and man,

unz si über kômen gar.
until they over came wholly.

ê es ieman wurde gewar,
before it anyone became aware,

dô wâren die geste
then were the guests

bî des gougelæres veste.
by the juggler's fortress.

dô nam si aber Esêalt
then took them again Esealt

und huop ir ie zwêne mit gewalt
and lifted of-them ever two with force

über der bürge zinne.
over the castle's battlement.

dô galt man mit unminne
then repaid one with unkindness

dem wirte daz mein,
to-the host the wrong,

daz Erec und Wâlwein
that Erec and Walwein

lebten mit leide.
lived with sorrow.

man vant die helde beide
one found the heroes both

in swære boyen versmidet.
in heavy fetters forged.

hie wart ez ungevridet,
here became it unpeaceful,

dô si wurden ûf verlâzen,
when they became up let,

wan si niht vergâzen
for they not forgot

ir nôt und der harnschar:
their distress and the torment:

si ersluogens alle gar,
they slew-them all wholly,

den wirt und daz gesinde,
the host and the household,

wan der maget, sîm kinde,
except the maiden, his child,

der si niht tâten.
to-whom they nothing did.

wan siu het berâten
for she had provided-for

die helde güetlîche.
the heroes kindly.

si wæren nemelîche
they were namely

ê ze tôde dicke erslagen,
before to death often slain,

wan ir wuofen und ir clagen:
except her wailing and her lament:

hie mite vriste si diu maget.
here with saved them the maiden.

des sî ir gnâde gesaget
of-that be to-her thanks said

und allen vrowen, die sô lebent,
and to-all ladies, who so live,

daz si sendem leide trôst gebent,
that they to-longing sorrow comfort give,

und die swære gemüete
and the heavy minds

senftern durch ir güete.
soften through their goodness.

Dô ez allez für was
When it all past was

und dô nieman genas
and when no-one survived

des zouberærs gesindes
of-the sorcerer's household

wan eine sînes kindes,
except alone his child,

der schœnen juncvrouwen,
the beautiful young-lady,

dô diu begunde schouwen,
when she began to-see,

daz si die burc branden,
that they the castle burned,

dô half siu den wîganden
then helped she the fighters

in vil kurzen stunden,
in very short hours,

daz si die brücke funden,
that they the bridge found,

diu über daz breite wazzer gie.
which over the broad water went.

ein michel vreude gevie
a great joy seized

die ritterschaft über al.
the knighthood over all.

si vorhten ungelückes val,
they feared misfortune's fall,

ob si aber swanden den sê
if they again swam the lake

swâ si heten geriten ê
wherever they had ridden before

mit kumberlîchen zîten.
with grievous times.

nu mugens ûz rîten
now may-they out ride

âne vorhte guoten wec.
without fear good way.

der herre Wâlwein und Erec
the lord Walwein and Erec

die sint nu ledic unde vrî.
they are now unbound and free.

diu maget was in allez bî.
the maiden was to-them all by.

ouch lônten si der stæten
also rewarded they the steadfast-one

mit manegen guottæten
with many good-deeds

des siun ze liebe ie getete.
of-what she-to-them for love ever did.

wan ez kumet dicke âne bete
for it comes often without request

lôn des vriunt dem andern tuot.
reward of-what friend to-the other does.

der des gedenket, daz ist guot.
who of-that thinks, that is good.

Die helde riten heinwert.
The heroes rode homeward.

swes si hæten gegert,
whatever they had desired,

daz was in allez widervarn.
that was to-them all befallen.

des kargen gougelæres barn,
the stingy juggler's child,

die brâhten si ze hûse
her brought they to house

dem künige Artûse,
to-the king Arthur,

daz siu sîn gesinde wære
that she his household were

durch ir êrbære,
through her honorableness,

wan siu was ein wîsiu maget.
for she was a wise maiden.

hie sol niht werden verdaget,
here shall not become kept-silent,

daz mîn her Lanzelet,
that my lord Lanzelet,

der ie daz beste tet
who ever the best did

mit tugenden manicvalden,
with virtues manifold,

der nam Esêalden
he took Esealt

unde bat in für gân
and begged him ahead go

hein hin ze Kardigân
home thither to Kardigan

und enbôt dem künege mære,
and sent to-the king tidings,

wie im sîn reise wære
how to-him his journey were

komen zuo der sælikheit.
come to the blessedness.

Esêalt dô niht vermeit,
Esealt then not neglected,

er tete als im wol zam.
he did as to-him well befitted.

schiere er hin hein kam.
quickly he thither home came.

er liez im zowen deste baz
he let himself hasten the better

und sagete dem künege daz,
and told the king that,

wie den helden was gelungen.
how to-the heroes was succeeded.

die alten zuo den jungen
the old with the young

gewunnen grôze mende,
gained great gladness,

dô er si an ein ende
when he them to an end

des mæres hæte bereit.
of-the tidings had furnished.

Iblis dô vil kûme erbeit,
Iblis then very scarcely awaited,

wenne Lanzelet kæme.
when Lanzelet should-come.

waz botenbrôtes ouch næme
what messenger's-reward also should-take

der michel man, daz lât iu sagen.
the great man, that let to-you tell.

im hiez diu künigîn dar tragen
to-him bade the queen there carry

einen schilt vollen goldes.
a shield full of-gold.

dô vreut sich sînes soldes
then rejoiced himself of-his pay

Esêalt der rîche.
Esealt the rich.

aber d'andern gelîche
but the-others alike

die wârn des niumæres vrô:
they were of-the new-tidings glad:

wan ez kumet dicke alsô,
for it comes often so,

dâ eim manne leide geschiht,
where to-a man sorrow happens,

dar umbe gæbe ein ander niht:
there for would-give an other nothing:

wan ez ist ouch ein leit,
for it is also a sorrow,

niht al der liute, ist uns geseit.
not all the people's, is to-us told.

Nu sult ir alle gedenken des:
Now shall you all think of-that:

von welhem dinge oder wes
from which thing or of-what

solte sich der künic hêr
should himself the king noble

baz gehaben imer mêr
better fare ever more

dan von dem mære, do erz vernam,
than from the tidings, when he-it heard,

daz sîn gesinde wider kam,
that his household back came,

Erec und Wâlwein?
Erec and Walwein?

Artûs wart des enein,
Arthur became of-that agreed,

daz er gegen den sînen rite
that he toward the his rode

unde niemer vermite,
and never avoided,

er begundes salûieren
he unless-began-them to-salute

mit tûsent banieren,
with thousand banners,

mit rossen wol bedahten,
with horses well covered,

wan si wol haben mahten,
for they well have might,

beidiu die sînen und ouch er,
both the his and also he,

wâfenrocke unde sper,
surcoats and spears,

diu besten von den landen.
the best of the lands.

gegen den wîganden
toward the fighters

reit er einen halben tac.
rode he a half day.

dô wart Lanzelet du Lac
then became Lanzelet du Lac

enpfangen harte schône,
received very nicely,

mit sölher êren krône,
with such honor's crown,

dês einen swachen man bevilte.
of-which a weak man irked.

maneger mit vreuden spilte,
many-a-one with joys played,

dens êdes niht geluste.
whom-it before not desired.

der künec si alle kuste,
the king them all kissed,

die wazzermüeden helede.
the water-weary heroes.

hin heim ûf sîne selede
thither home up-to his dwelling

fuort er die lieben vriunde sîn.
led he the dear friends his.

Ginover diu künigîn
Ginover the queen

gelebete vrœlîcher nie,
lived more-joyfully never,

wan si die herren enpfie
for she the lords received

sô se aller beste mahte.
as she of-all best might.

die rede lânt ûz der ahte,
the speech leave out-of the reckoning,

wurden ie liut enpfangen baz,
became ever people received better.

von mändeltrehenen wurden naz
from almond-tears became wet

der schœnen vrowen ougen schîn.
the beautiful ladies' eyes bright.

der selbe site muoz imer sîn,
the same custom must ever be,

daz von liebe und ouch von leide
that from love and also from sorrow

diu ougen truobent beide.
the eyes cloud both.

Nu, waz sol der künic tuon,
Now, what shall the king do,

der durch êre und durch ruon
who for honor and for fame

hât manegen hof gewunnen?
has many-a court won?

er wolt nu aber kunnen,
he would now again know,

ob er iht vriunde hæte.
whether he any friends had.

Artûs der êren stæte
Arthur the of-honors steadfast

begunde manegen fürsten laden.
began many-a prince to-invite.

er übersach wol allen schaden,
he overlooked well all harm,

den ein bœse herre entsitzet,
which a wicked lord fears,

der von swachem bruche switzet,
who from petty loss sweats,

derme guote dient und ez im niet.
who-to-the goods serves and it to-him not.

nu kom dar al des landes diet,
now came thither all the land's folk,

künege, grâven, herzogen.
kings, counts, dukes.

oder uns hânt diu buoch gelogen,
or to-us have the books lied,

sô wart dâ diu schœnest hôhgezît,
so became there the most-beautiful festival,

diu weder vor oder sît
which neither before nor afterward

in sô kurzer vrist moht ergân.
in so short span might happen.

man möhte dâ gesehen hân
one might there seen have

buhurt tanzen unde spil,
jousting dancing and play,

des grôz hof niht enbern wil.
which great court not forgo will.

wir suln lange rede lân,
we shall long speech leave,

wan Erec und Wâlwân
for Erec and Walwein

gewunnen süeẓes lobes kraft
gained sweet praise's strength

umb die erren geselleschaft,
for the former company,

von der diu künegîn wart erlôst.
from which the queen became freed.

jo enzimet nieman untrôst
indeed befits no-one discomfort

wan bœsen liuten eine.
except wicked people alone.

die recken wac daz cleine,
to-the warriors weighed that little,

daz si vor liten nôt,
that they before suffered distress,

sît manz sô manegem rîter bôt
since one-it so to-many-a knight offered

durch ir willen schône.
for their sake nicely.

er verzaget niht an lône,
he despairs not of reward,

swer sô setzet sînen muot,
whoever so sets his mind,

daz er den frumen dienst tuot.
that he to-the valiant service does.

XXXI · THE DRAGON'S KISS

Lanzelet's fame grows. In bed Iblis tells him of a monstrous serpent that begs every knight for a kiss, and he rides out at once with nine companions. The serpent pleads with a human voice; he kisses it, and it bathes and becomes the most beautiful of women, Elidia, daughter of a king of Thule, cursed for wronging a lover. At court she becomes the judge of love.

Nu hœrt die rede fürbaz.
Now hear the speech further.

künec Artûse wart nie baz
to-king Arthur became never better

in sînen tagen ze muote.
in his days in mind.

sîn herze an vreuden bluote,
his heart in joys bloomed,

wan er sach die künegîn
for he saw the queen

und die lieben mâge sîn
and the dear kinsmen his

vor im vrô und gesunt.
before him glad and whole.

nu jach ir algemeiner munt,
now said their all-common mouth,

die geste und daz gesinde,
the guests and the household,

daz Lanzelet von kinde
that Lanzelet from child

wær ein der sæligeste man
were one the most-blessed man

über al die welt. swes er began,
over all the world. whatever he began,

dar an behart er wol den strît.
there in held-out he well the strife.

sîn heil verdruht im ouch den nît,
his luck suppressed to-him also the envy,

daz seltsæn ist und unvernomen,
which rare is and unheard-of,

wan die bœsen hazzent ie die fromen.
for the wicked hate ever the valiant.

gelücke huote sîn dar an.
fortune guarded him there in.

sich entwarf des nieman,
himself took-back of-that no-one,

ern wære mit der wârheit
unless-he were with the truth

sô vollekomen an manheit,
so perfect in manhood,

daz kein ritter bezzer wære.
that no knight better were.

ouch sagete man ze mære,
also told one as tidings,

waz im âventiure was geschehen.
what to-him of-adventure was happened.

wellents frume liute jehen,
(if)-will-it valiant people say,

sô heter sîn dinc sô vollebrâht, 7815
so had-he his affair so accomplished,

daz sîn zem besten wirt gedâht.
that of-him at-the best becomes thought.

Dô diu hôhgezît ergie
When the festival passed

und menlich sîn dinc an vie
and everyone his affair on took

als in sîn wille leite,
as him his will led,

Lanzelet dô seite 7820
Lanzelet then said

genâde sîner vriundîn,
thanks to-his beloved,

daz siu sô dicke tæte schîn
that she so often made seen

ir wîplîche güete.
her womanly goodness.

sich vreute sîn gemüete,
itself rejoiced his mind,

daz ir ir dinc sô wol gezam 7825
that to-her her affair so well befitted

und ir der mantel rehte kam,
and to-her the mantle rightly came,

den ir gap diu merfeine.
which to-her gave the sea-fairy.

eines nahtes lâgen eine
one night lay alone

Iblis und Lanzelet.
Iblis and Lanzelet.

als er dô manege rede getet
when he then many-a speech made

mit sîner vriundinne
with his beloved

von hübscheit und von minne,
of courtliness and of love,

dô vrâgt er si ze leste,
then asked he her at last,

waz siu mæres weste
what she of-tidings knew

aller vremdest nâch ir wâne.
of-all strangest after her belief.

dô sprach diu wolgetâne
then spoke the well-made-one

‚ich enweiz verre noch bî
‚I know-not far nor near

kein mære, daz sô vremde sî
any tale, that so strange be

sô daz, dô de uns wære entriten,
as that, when thou from-us were ridden-away,

do begunde mîn herre biten,
then began my lord to-beg,

swer sîn ze vriunde geruohte,
whoever him as friend deigned,

daz dich der genôte suohte.
that thee he closely sought.

dâ von ritens in diu lant.
there from rode-they into the lands.

dô kom der snelle Roidurant
then came the swift Roidurant

in einen wilden foreht.
into a wild forest.

dâ vant der selbe guote kneht
there found the same good knight

einen grôzen wurm, der was gebart,
a great serpent, which was shaped,

daz nie tier sô vreislich wart.
that never beast so terrible became.

er sprach rehte als ein man.
it spoke right as a man.

er ruofte den recken dicke an,
it called the warrior often on,

daz ern durch got kuste.
that he-it for God kissed.

den degen des niht geluste,
to-the thane of-that not lusted,

er dûht in ungehiure.
it seemed to-him monstrous.

er saget ez ze âventiure
he told it as adventure

hie heime, wie im was geschehen.
here at-home, how to-him was happened.

dô fuor den selben wurm sehen
then fared the same serpent to-see

vil nâch diu massenîe gar.
very nearly the household wholly.

swenn er der ritter wart gewar,
when it of-the knights became aware,

sô bat er daz sin kusten.
so begged it that they-it kissed.

die helde sich dan rusten
the heroes themselves thence readied

mê ze flühte danne zim.
more to flight than to-it.

trût geselle, daz vernim,
dear companion, that hear,

durch waz ich dir daz hân gesaget.
for what I to-thee that have told.

und ist daz dir wol behaget
and (if)-is that to-thee well pleases

swaz ich dir gedienen kan,
whatever I to-thee serve can,

sô solt du êren mich dar an,
so shalt thou honor me there in,

daz du in imer mîdest.'
that thou it ever avoidest.'

‚ine weiz waz du lîdest'
'I-not know what thou sufferest'

sprach Lanzelet der stæte.
spoke Lanzelet the steadfast.

‚ob michs imer man gebæte,
'if me-of-it ever man should-beg,

vil lîhte ich ez verbære.'
very easily I it should-forgo.'

er begunde dem mære
he began the tale

volgen mit listen nâch:
to-follow with cunning after:

(im wart zer âventiure gâch:)
(to-him became for-the adventure hasty:)

er sprach ‚nu sage fürbaz.'
he spoke 'now tell further.'

diu vrowe sprach ‚si sagent daz„
the lady spoke 'they say that,

der wurm schüzze als er vlüge,
the serpent should-shoot as-if it should-fly,

den liuten er nâch züge
the people it after should-draw

und vrâget, wenne er wolte
and asks, when he would

komen, der in solte
come, who it should

lœsen von der harnschar.‘
free from the torment.‘

dô er alsus des mæres gar
when he thus of-the tale wholly

an ein ende wart bereit,
to an end became furnished,

zehant dar nâch er niht enbeit,
at-once there after he not waited,

selbe zehende reit er hin,
self tenth rode he thither,

dâ im ein wunderlich gewin
where to-him a wondrous gain

von dem wurme geschach.
from the serpent happened.

als schiere er in gesach
as quickly he it saw

und in der wurm erhôrte,
and him the serpent heard,

von vreude er sich erbôrte,
for joy it itself reared,

vil vremdeclîchen er schrê
very strangely it cried

als ein wildez wîp ‚ôwê,
as a wild woman ‚alas,

wie lange sol ich bîten dîn!‘
how long shall I await thee!‘

do erschrâken die gesellen sîn,
then were-startled the comrades his,
die niune, und hielten hinder sich.
the nine, and halted behind themselves.
dô sprach Lanzelet ‚nu sprich,
then spoke Lanzelet ‚now speak,
wannen kom dir menschlich stimme?
whence came to-thee human voice?
ich gesach nie tier sô grimme
I saw never beast so grim
noch als engeslîch getân
nor so fearfully made
aldes ich ervarn hân
of-all-that I experienced have
in wazzer oder an lande.
in water or on land.
hæt ichs niht immer schande,
should-have I-of-it not ever shame,
sô wær ich gerne von dir.'
so were I gladly from thee.'
‚neinâ, helt, daz verbir'
‚no, hero, that forgo'
sprach der grôze serpant:
spoke the great serpent:
‚got hât liut unde lant
‚God has people and land
von manegem wunder gemaht,
of many-a wonder made,
mit sîner tougen bedaht.
with his secret covered.
der selben dinge bin ich ein.
of-the same things am I one.
wan lebet nu ritter dehein,
would-that lived now knight any,

der mich kuste an mînen munt!
who me kissed on my mouth!

sô wurde ich schœne und sâ gesunt.
so would-become I beautiful and at-once whole.

ich enmohts ab nieman nie erbiten,
I could-it but from-no-one never obtain,

si envlühen gar mit unsiten,
they unless-fled wholly with bad-manners,

alle die mich ie gesâhen.
all who me ever saw.

doch möhter gerne gâhen,
yet might-he gladly hasten,

ein ritter, daz er kuste mich:
a knight, that he kissed me:

dâ mite bezzert er sich:
there with betters he himself:

wan swem daz erteilet ist,
for to-whomever that allotted is,

der ist âne kargen list
he is without stingy cunning

der beste ritter, der nu lebet.
the best knight, who now lives.

swie harte ir nu hin dan strebet,
however hard you now thither away strive,

mir vertrîbet etswer mîn sêr.
to-me drives-away someone my pain.

dâ von bit ich dich, degen hêr,
there from beg I thee, thane noble,

tuo ez durch den rîchen got,
do it for the rich God,

lœse mich. ezn ist niht mîn spot,
free me. it is not my mockery,

wan ich wil dich manen mêre
for I will thee remind more

durch aller vrowen êre,
by all ladies' honor,

bît niht unde küsse mich.'
wait not and kiss me.'

dô sprach Lanzelet ‚daz tuon ich,
then spoke Lanzelet ‚that do I,

swaz imer drûz werde.'
whatever ever from-it become.'

er erbeizte ûf die erde
he dismounted onto the earth

und kuste den wirst getânen munt,
and kissed the worst made mouth,

der im vordes ie wart kunt.
which to-him before ever became known.

zehant vlôch der wurm hin dan,
at-once fled the serpent thither away,

dâ ein schœne wazzer ran,
where a beautiful water ran,

und badet sînen rûhen lîp.
and bathed its rough body.

er wart daz schœneste wîp,
it became the most-beautiful woman,

die ieman ie dâ vor gesach.
whom anyone ever there before saw.

dô diz wunder geschach
when this wonder happened

und ez die niune gesâhen,
and it the nine saw,

dô begundens gâhen
then began-they to-hasten

zuo dem küenen Lanzelete,
to the bold Lanzelet,

der sô frümeclîchen tete,
who so valiantly did,

daz er getorste bestân
that he dared withstand

daz dinc daz nie mê wart getân.
the thing that never more became done.

Dô Lanzelete niht enwar,
When to-Lanzelet nothing troubled,

dô kêrt er und die ritter gar
then turned he and the knights wholly

alhin gein der schœnen fluot.
thither toward the beautiful flood.

dâ funden si die vrowen guot
there found they the lady good

wünnenclîche wol becleit.
delightfully well clothed.

wâ siuz næme, dêst uns ungeseit,
where she-it took, that-is to-us untold,

wan daz ein wunder dâ geschach.
except that a wonder there happened.

diu vrowe zuo den helden sprach
the lady to the heroes spoke

‚got lâz in imer sælic sîn,
‚God let him ever blessed be,

den tugentrîchen herren mîn,
the virtue-rich lord mine,

der mich von leide hât erlôst.
who me from sorrow has freed.

ouch mac er haben guoten trôst
also may he have good comfort

einer rede, der im diu sælde pfliget,
of-a speech, which to-him the blessing grants,

daz er an allen dingen siget
that he in all things conquers

und sich im niht erwern mac.'
and himself to-him nothing resist may.'

dô nam Lanzelet du Lac
then took Lanzelet du Lac

die vrowen alsô wol getân
the lady so well made

und fuorte si ze Kardigân.
and led her to Kardigan.

dô wart daz mære harte grôz.
then became the tidings very great.

die vremden vrowen niht verdrôz,
the strange lady not irked,

siu seite, waz ir wære geschehen.
she told, what to-her were happened.

si begund in offenlîchen jehen,
she began to-them openly to-say,

wer siu was und wie siu hiez.
who she was and how she was-called.

diu vrowe niht ungesaget liez,
the lady not untold left,

wâ von siu was beswæret.
where from she was burdened.

hie mite was ez bewæret,
here with was it proved,

dô diu magt alsô genas,
when the maiden so recovered,

daz bî Lanzeletes zîten was
that by Lanzelet's times was

dehein rîter alsô guot.
no knight so good.

er behabet ân allen widermuot
he kept without all ill-will

den prîs vor sînen gesellen.
the prize before his comrades.

ich möht iu übel gezellen,
I might to-you badly tell,

wie manege manheit er begienc,
how many manhood he performed,

wan er früeje zuo vienc
for he early to took-hold

und behart ez ouch vil manegen tac,
and held-out it also very many-a day,

mîn her Lanzelet du Lac.
my lord Lanzelet du Lac.

Durch der liute niugerne
For the people's curiosity

so entouc mir niht zenberne,
so avails to-me nothing to-forgo,

ich sage iu daz ze mære,
I unless-tell to-you that as tidings,

wer diu vrowe wære,
who the lady were,

diu von dem wurme ein wîp wart.
who from the serpent a woman became.

waz sol daz langer gespart?
what shall that longer spared?

ich beriht es iuch sâ.
I inform-of it you at-once.

siu hiez diu schœne Elidiâ,
she was-called the beautiful Elidia,

von Thîle eines küneges kint.
from Thule of-a king child.

daz wizzent wol die wîse sint
that know well who wise are

und die die welt hânt erkant,
and who the world have known,

daz Thîle ist ein einlant,
that Thule is an island,

ein breit insele in dem mer.
a broad isle in the sea.

dâ ist von wunder manic her,
there is of wonder many-a host,

diu nieman kunde geahten.
which no-one could reckon.

ein wochen vor wîhnahten
a week before Christmas

sint sô kurz dâ die tage
are so short there the days

nâch Rômære buoche sage,
after the-Romans' book's saying,

dâ manic wunder an stât,
where many-a wonder in stands,

daz ein loufer kûme gât
that a runner scarcely goes

vor naht ein halbe mîle.
before night a half mile.

die tage sint ouch ze Thîle
the days are also at Thule

ze sumer langer danne hie.
in summer longer than here.

ir envrieschent vremder mære nie
you would-learn of-stranger tales never

dan uns dannen sint geseit.
than to-us from-there are told.

swelch wîp sich an ir hübscheit
whichever woman herself in her courtliness

verwurke und des gedenke,
forfeits and of-that thinks,

daz si den beschrenke,
that she him entraps,

der ir dienet umb ir minne,
who her serves for her love,

daz kumet ir ze ungewinne.
that comes to-her to loss.

siu unwirdet sich dermite,
she dishonors herself there-with,

wan daz ist des landes site,
for that is the land's custom,

ez enwirt ir nimer jâr vertragen.
it becomes to-her never year forgiven.

nu wær ze lanc, solt ich iu sagen,
now were too long, should I to-you tell,

waz diu vrowe het getân.
what the lady had done.

ir wart erteilet und gelân,
to-her became adjudged and left,

daz siu wære ein wurm unz an die stunt,
that she were a serpent until to the hour,

daz si des besten ritters munt
that her the best knight's mouth

von alder welte kuste.
of all-the world kissed.

dâ von sleichs ûf ir bruste
there from crept-she upon her breast

ze Britân in ein foreht,
to Britain into a forest,

wan dar in manic guot kneht
for there into many-a good knight

durch âventiure reit.
for adventure rode.

als ich dâ vor hân geseit,
as I there before have told,

sô wart siu erlœset von der nôt,
so became she freed from the distress,

als Lanzelet gebôt.
as Lanzelet commanded.

ouch was daz ie der frumen rât,
also was that ever the valiant's counsel,

daz sich vor valscher missetât
that themselves from false misdeed

wîp und man behuote,
woman and man guarded,

wan ez kumet ze allem guote.
for it comes to all good.

man saget uns ze mære,
one tells us as tidings,

daz diu vremde maget wære
that the strange maiden were

rihtære über die hübscheit.
judge over the courtliness.

swer in der massenîe streit
whoever in the household strove

von ihte, daz an minne war,
about anything, that in love was,

daz beschiet siu schône unde gar,
that settled she nicely and wholly,

wan siu sô grôz arbeit
for she so great toil

durch valsche minne vordes leit.
for false love before suffered.

Lanzelet gathers a host to win his inheritance of Genewis: Arthur, Walwein, Torfilaret, Erec, and men of Cornwall and Ireland, and Tristant, who comes alone. They meet at the Wild Ball, a casting of bronze that seems a horse, a mule, a dog, and a fox as one nears it, and at last a ball. Iwan and Giot ride ahead as envoys, and the lords of Genewis gladly receive Lanzelet as king; his kinsman Duke Aspjol, who kept his mother, has them swear to yield everything.

Von manegem wunder, daz er tet,
Of many-a wonder, which he did,

sô was mîn her Lanzelet,
so was my lord Lanzelet,

als ich an dem mære vinde,
as I in the tale find,

ein daz liebest gesinde,
one the dearest household-member,

daz künic Artûs ie gewan. 8045
which king Arthur ever won.

doch enlebet dehein man,
yet lives no man,

der ie gewan zer welte muot,
who ever gained in-the world spirit,

ern habe gerne selbe guot,
unless-he have gladly own goods,

wand ez erlât in blûger bete.
for it spares him shy begging.

hie von gedâhte Lanzelete 8050
here from thought Lanzelet

an sîn erbe ze Genewîs,
of his inheritance at Genewis,

wan in dûhte ein unprîs,
for to-him seemed a dishonor,

daz ez stuont an vremder hant.
that it stood in strange hand.

dô warp der küene wîgant
then raised the bold fighter

ein hervart mit den vriunden sîn.
a war-journey with the friends his.

dar an wart ouch vil wol schîn,
there in became also very well seen,

daz er was ein geminnet man:
that he was a beloved man:

die schœnsten reise er gewan,
the most-beautiful expedition he won,

von der uns iender ist gezalt.
of which to-us anywhere is told.

Artûs der künic balt
Arthur the king bold

brâht eine schœne schar,
brought a beautiful troop,

driu tûsent ritter, wol gar
three thousand knights, well wholly

mit harnasch lûter als ein îs.
with harness bright as an ice.

ouch fuort im der fürste wîs,
also led to-him the prince wise,

dêst zwîfel dehein,
that-is doubt none,

von Garnanz her Wâlwein
from Garnanz lord Walwein

tûsent helde wol gemuot,
thousand heroes well minded,

snel, küene unde guot,
swift, bold and good,

zallen gerechen wol bereit.
to-all readiness well ready.

dô leit im eine schar breit
then led to-him a troop broad

Torfilaret von Wâlest:
Torfilaret of Walest:

die enheten deheinen brest,
they had no lack,

swaz wol bereiten helden zam.
whatever well readied to-heroes befitted.

Erec im ouch kam,
Erec to-him also came,

der fuorte wîgande
he led fighters

von Destregâls sîm lande,
from Destregals his land,

aht hundert justiure;
eight hundred jousters;

îsnîne kovertiure;
iron coverings;

mit brûnen scharpfen swerten,
with brown sharp swords,

wan si des sturmes gerten
for they of-the storm desired

und in niht flühte was erkant.
and to-them no flight was known.

von Kornwâl und von Irlant
from Cornwall and from Ireland

kômen im zwei grôzȩiu her
came to-him two great hosts

und von hinnen über mer
and from hence over sea

manic fürste lobehaft.
many-a prince praiseworthy.

sô schœne was diu ritterschaft,
so beautiful was the knighthood,

daz siu niht, sô man uns saget,
that it not, as one us tells,

wær vor alder welt verzaget.
were before all-the world disheartened.

Tristant brâhte ritter niet,
Tristant brought knights not,

wan er von Lohenîs schiet
for he from Lohenis parted

daz er dâ niht mohte sîn
that he there not might be

durch die liebe der künigîn,
for the love of-the queen,

Isalden sîner vrouwen.
Isalde his lady.

doch moht mann gerner schouwen
yet might one-him more-gladly behold

dan manegen an der reise:
than many-a-one on the journey:

ze nôt noch ze vreise
in need nor in peril

wart nieman frümer, sô man jach,
became no-one more-valiant, as one said,

wan es im dicke nôt geschach
for it to-him often of-need happened

beidiu naht unde tac.
both night and day.

mîn her Lanzelet du Lac
my lord Lanzelet du Lac

sprach sîn samenunge
appointed his gathering

dar alte unde junge
where old and young

wol kunden komen von Kardigân,
well could come from Kardigan,

ûf einen bühel wol getân,
upon a hill well made,

der hiez ze dem Wilden ballen.
which was-called at the Wild ball.

wil ez iu wol gevallen,
(if)-will it to-you well please,

sô sage ich iu ein schœnen list.
so tell I to-you a beautiful cunning.

swer dannen eine mîle ist,
whoever from-there a mile is,

den dunket des nâch sîner spehe,
to-him seems of-that after his sight,

wie er ein michel ros sehe,
as-if he a great horse saw,

gegozzen ûzer êre.
cast out-of bronze.

ê er danne ie mêr bekêre
before he then ever more turns

darwert ein halbe mîle,
thither-ward a half mile,

sô dunkt in an der wîle,
so seems to-him in the while,

wie ez ein cleiner mûl sî.
as-if it a small mule be.

als er aber kumet nâher bî,
when he but comes nearer by,

sô schînet ez als ein hunt.
so appears it as a dog.

dar nâch in kurzer stunt,
there after in short hour,

sô man beginnet nâher gân,
when one begins nearer to-go,

sô ist ez als ein fuhs getân.
so is it as a fox made.

vil schiere kumet ez dar zuo,
very quickly comes it there to,

ê man diu ougen zuo getuo,
before one the eyes to does,

daz man dâ niht gesehen mac
that one there nothing see may

wan ein gôz, daz ie dâ lac,
except a casting, which ever there lay,

als ein kugele gedrân.
as a ball turned.

ez enmöhte nieman ûf gehân
it might no-one up lift

noch von der stat bringen,
nor from the place bring,

mit keiner slahte dingen,
with no kind-of things,

durch sîne wunderlîche kraft.
for its wondrous strength.

her kam aldiu ritterschaft,
hither came all-the knighthood,

die Lanzelet der wîgant
which Lanzelet the fighter

solte füeren in sîn lant
should lead into his land

ze Genewîs, daz sîn erbe was,
to Genewis, that his inheritance was,

da er mit nôt dâ vor genas.
where he with need there before survived.

Dô daz mehtige her
When the mighty host

allenthalben von dem mer
on-all-sides from the sea

ze Lanzeletes reise kam
to Lanzelet's expedition came

und swaz rittern gezam
and whatever to-knights befitted

daz in des nihtes enbrast
that to-them of-that nothing lacked

und sich manic frumer gast
and himself many-a valiant guest

ze vlîze wol geruste,
with diligence well equipped,

die herren dô geluste
the lords then desired

und dûhte si gezæme,
and seemed to-them fitting,

daz man boten næme,
that one messengers should-take,

die sich êren vlizzen
who themselves of-honors strove

und die wæren verwizzen:
and who were discreet:

die bat man für rüeren,
them begged one forth spur,

daz si in erfüeren
that they to-them should-find-out

bescheidenlîch in allen wîs,
discerningly in all ways,

waz rede die von Genewîs
what speech they of Genewis

Lanzelete verjæhen
to-Lanzelet should-confess

umb sîn erbe, und ouch gesæhen,
about his inheritance, and also should-see,

wer im wolte gestân.
who to-him would stand-by.

diu botschaft wart dô gelân
the embassy became then left

an Iwân und an Gîoten.
to Iwan and to Giot.

die zwêne wâren die boten,
the two were the messengers,

wan si wol reden kunden.
for they well speak could.

die helde in dô befunden
the heroes to-them then found-out

in kurzen zîten al daz dinc.
in short times all the affair.

si kômen an ein teidinc
they came to a parley

unverwizzen von geschihte,
unawares by chance,

dâ ein fürste berihte
where a prince governed

die von Genewîs ze rehte.
them of Genewis to right.

dâ wârn ouch guote knehte
there were also good knights

und die herren vome lande,
and the lords from-the land,

vil küene wîgande.
very bold fighters.

swer et dar zuo tohte,
whoever just there to availed,

daz er gerîten mohte,
that he ride might,

der was zuo dem gespræche komen,
he was to the parley come,

wan si heten wol vernomen
for they had well heard

von Lanzelet diu mære,
of Lanzelet the tidings,

daz er sô vrum wære,
that he so valiant were,

daz er si niht ûf satzte,
that he them not off let,

ê daz man in ergatzte
before that one him compensated

beidiu lasters unde schaden.
both disgraces and harms.

hie von wâren si geladen
here from were they laden

mit vorhtlîcher swære.
with fearful heaviness.

waz in daz beste wære,
what to-them the best were,

des giengen si ze râte.
of-that went they to counsel.

dô kam geriten drâte
then came ridden quickly

an disen hof wolgetân
to this court well-made

Gîôt und Iwân,
Giot and Iwan,

des zuoname was Penelôî.
whose surname was Peneloi.

nu hœrent waz diu rede sî.
now hear what the speech be.

Dô si von den rossen giengen,
When they from the horses went,

die ritter si enpfiengen
the knights them received

als helde lussam.
as heroes lovely.

dô tâten si daz in gezam,
then did they what to-them befitted,

si vrâgten ze stunden,
they asked at once,

wen si dâ funden,
whom they there found,

der des landes wære
who of-the land were

oberster rihtære.
highest judge.

dô wart in bescheiden
then became to-them shown

ein herre, der in beiden
a lord, who to-them both

daz mære rehte beschiet.
the tidings rightly explained.

er sprach ‚hien ist küneges niet,
he spoke ‚here is of-king not,

wan daz ich dar zuo bin erkant,
except that I there to am known,

daz ich berihte ditz lant
that I govern this land

niwan durch der fürsten bete.
only for the princes' request.

er ist geheizen Lanzelete,
he is called Lanzelet,

der hie künic wesen sol.
who here king be shall.

wir bekennen sîn niht wol
we know him not well

wan daz wir daz hân vernomen,
except that we that have heard,

er sî an tugenden vollekomen
he be in virtues perfect

und an manheit sô behart,
and in manhood so steadfast,

daz nie bezzer ritter wart
that never better knight became

geborn bî unsern zîten.
born by our times.

wir wellens gerne bîten
we will-him gladly await

als lange als er gebiutet.
as long as he commands.

ob er uns baz triutet
if he us better cherishes

dan sîn vater der künic Pant,
than his father the king Pant,

sô mac er liute unde lant
so may he people and land

nâch sîme gebote handeln.
after his command handle.

wir suln ez gerne wandeln
we shall it gladly amend

nâch genâden und nâch schulden,
after graces and after debts,

swaz wir wider sînen hulden
whatever we against his favor

an keinen dingen hân getân.
in any things have done.

er mac diu dinc an uns begân,
he may the things on us do,

daz man in lobet deste baz,
that one him praises the better,

8220 und gedienen wir vil gerne daz.'
and serve we very gladly that.'

Dô her Iwân und her Gîôt
When lord Iwan and lord Giot

vernâmen, daz man in bôt
heard, that one to-them offered

sölhe rede, diu wol gezam,
such speech, which well befitted,

und die besten, die ie man vernam,
and the best, which ever man heard,

8225 und daz arme und rîche
and that poor and rich

einmüeteclîche
unanimously

mit gemeinem munde jâhen,
with common mouth said,

wolt ez in niht versmâhen,
(if)-would it to-them not disdain,

sô diente daz gesinde
so would-serve the household

8230 des küneges Pantes kinde
of-the king Pant's child

gerne, wan daz wære reht,
gladly, for that were right,

dô antwurt in der guote kneht,
then answered them the good knight,

Iwân Penelôî
Iwan Peneloi

,ob diu rede wâr sî,
,if the speech true be,

als wir von iu hân vernomen,
as we from you have heard,

sô sîn wir durch daz ûz komen,
so are we for that out come,

ich und her Gîôt,
I and lord Giot,

daz wir sagen, waz iu enbôt
that we tell, what to-you sent

mîn herre Lanzelet du Lac.
my lord Lanzelet du Lac.

er ist enterbet manegen tac.
he is disinherited many-a day.

dar umbe lât er noch entuot,
there for leaves-off he nor not-does,

er enbiutet minne und allez guot
he sends love and all good

den herren die sich wol enstânt,
to-the lords who themselves well understand,

daz si im sîn lant genomen hânt,
that they from-him his land taken have,

ob si sich erkennent dran.
if they themselves acknowledge there-in.

und sint aber deheine man
and (if)-are but any men

von tumben sinnen sô balt,
from foolish senses so bold,

daz si im sîn lant mit gewalt
that they from-him his land with force

iht langer nement, daz wil er clagen.
any longer take, that will he lament.

ouch suln wir den widersagen
also shall we to-them defy

von im und von den vriunden sîn.
from him and from the friends his.

künec Artûs, der herre mîn,
king Arthur, the lord mine,

der wil ouch sîn ir vîant.
he will also be their foe.

dar zuo rîtet in diz lant
there to rides into this land

manic fürste wol geborn.
many-a prince well born.

si hânt lîp und guot verlorn,
they have life and goods lost,

die sich niht wellen süenen
who themselves not will reconcile

wider Lanzeleten den küenen.'
with Lanzelet the bold.'

Dirr rede mengelich erschrac.
At-this speech everyone took-fright.

nu hete Lanzelet du Lac
now had Lanzelet du Lac

in dem lande ze Genewîs
in the land at Genewis

einen mâc, der was ein fürste wîs,
a kinsman, who was a prince wise,

genant der herzoge Aspjol:
named the duke Aspjol:

der kunde sprechen harte wol.
he could speak very well.

der selbe het behalten
the same had kept

mit tugenden manicvalten
with virtues manifold

und nâch den êren sînen
and after the honors his

die edelen Clârînen,
the noble Clarine,

Lanzeletes muoter.
Lanzelet's mother.

der edel degen guoter
the noble thane good

antwurte für die andern sô
answered for the others so

‚ir herren, wir sîn harte vrô,
‚you lords, we are very glad,

daz wir den tac gelebet hân
that we the day lived have

und ez uns ist sô wol ergân,
and it to-us is so well gone,

daz wir noch suln beschouwen
that we yet shall behold

den sun mîner vrouwen
the son of-my lady

und des landes rihtære.
and of-the land judge.

ist ab ieman swære
(if)-is but to-anyone heavy

diu selbe rede, der ich dâ gihe,
the same speech, which I there say,

des ich mich doch niht versihe,
of-which I myself yet not expect,

der ist tump und ungemuot:
he is foolish and ill-minded:

wan ich hânz hie sô guot
for I have-it here so good

und mîne vriunt, die mir gestânt,
and my friends, who by-me stand,

die mir nihtes abe gânt,
who from-me in-nothing off go,

daz er nimer hinnen kæme
that he never hence should-come

mit êren, ob ich vernæme,
with honors, if I should-hear,

daz sich mir ieman satzte wider.'
that himself to-me anyone should-set against.'

des antwurtens alle sider,
to-that answered-they all afterward,

die fürsten, mit fuoge
the princes, with propriety

,wir hân êren genuoge
,we have honors enough

an swaz dinges ir welt:
in whatever thing you will:

wan ir sint sô ûz erwelt
for you are so out chosen

an lûterlîchen triuwen,
in pure faith,

ez enmac uns niht geriuwen,
it may us not rue,

swaz wir iu dienen, daz ist wol.'
whatever we to-you serve, that is well.'

dô bat der fürste Aspjol,
then begged the prince Aspjol,

daz die herren alle swüeren,
that the lords all should-swear,

ê daz si dannen füeren,
before that they thence should-fare,

daz si enweder liezen vor
that they neither should-keep back

burc lant noch urbor
castle land nor revenue

unde da niht næmen abe,
and there nothing should-take off,

wan daz si lîp und alle ir habe
except that they life and all their goods

antwurten âne gedinge
should-deliver without condition

dem edelen jungelinge,
to-the noble youth,

Lanzelete ir herren:
Lanzelet their lord:

so enmöht in niht gewerren
so might to-them nothing harm

und ez wær in daz beste.
and it were to-them the best.

dô retten ouch die geste,
then spoke also the guests,

die boten und daz lantdiet,
the messengers and the land-folk,

den fürsten wær sô wæge niet
to-the princes were so worth nothing

sô rehter volge an der nôt.
as right following in the need.

dô tâten si daz in gebôt
then did they what them commanded

der herzoge Aspjol von Tîmant:
the duke Aspjol of Timant:

alsô was sîn burc genant.
so was his castle named.

Lanzelet enters Genewis in joy, is crowned, gives lavishly, and is reunited with his mother, leaving Aspjol and Clarine to rule. Back at Kardigan, envoys from Iweret's land arrive with rich gifts, among them Iweret's sword and a net of silk and gold knotted on the cold stone Galazia, which Evax of Arabia praised. Iblis knows the envoys, and Arthur feasts them.

Dô wart zesamene getragen
Then became together brought

ein suone als ich iu wil sagen,
a settlement as I to-you will tell,

daz von Genewîs die herren balt
that of Genewis the lords bold

in des herzogen gewalt
into the duke's power

ergæben bürge unde lant,
should-surrender castles and land,

und swenne Lanzelet der wîgant
and when Lanzelet the fighter

zuo in geruohte rîten,
to them deigned to-ride,

so ensolten si niht bîten,
so should they not wait,

wan dazs ân alle rede ir lîp,
except that-they without all speech their life,

dar zuo kint unde wîp
there to child and wife

antwurten swar er wolde.
should-deliver wherever he would.

von silber und von golde
of silver and of gold

butens im grôzen hort
offered-they to-him great hoard

und sô êrbæriu wort,
and so honorable words,

diu in wol gezâmen.
which to-them well befitted.

die boten des eide nâmen,
the messengers of-that oaths took,

Gîôt und her Iwân,
Giot and lord Iwan,

daz ez mit triuwen wære getân.
that it with faith were done.

Dô fuoren die boten ze stunden
Then fared the messengers at once

dâ si Lanzeleten funden.
where they Lanzelet found.

si sageten im diu mære,
they told him the tidings,

wie der rede wære.
how of-the speech were.

der helt sich schiere beriet.
the hero himself quickly counseled.

dô was dâ widerrede niet,
then was there gainsaying none,

diu suone behaget in allen wol.
the settlement pleased them all well.

vreuden wart diu reise vol,
of-joys became the expedition full,

daz si muosen rîten,
that they might ride,

âne widerstrîten,
without resisting,

vrîlîch und âne widersatz,
freely and without opposition,

dâ michel golt unde schatz
where much gold and treasure

wætlich was vil manegem man.
likely was very to-many-a man.

nu bunden si die banier an,
now bound they the banners on,

mit schalle si sich zierten.
with clamor they themselves adorned.

die helde buhurdierten,
the heroes jousted,

die Lanzelete mit gelfe
who to-Lanzelet with exultation

wâren komen ze helfe,
were come to help,

wan si dâhten dar an,
for they thought there on,

daz eim iegelîchen man
that to-a each man

ân vorhte vreude baz stât
without fear joy better stands

danne dem der die sorge hât.
than to-him who the care has.

Nu fuorte Lanzelet der helt
Now led Lanzelet the hero

manegen ritter ûz erwelt
many-a knight out chosen

ze Genewîs, dar er gerne kam.
to Genewis, whither he gladly came.

da enpfienc man in soz wol gezam.
there received one him as-it well befitted.

sîne mâge wârn die erren,
his kinsmen were the first,

dar nâch die lantherren,
there after the land-lords,

die im und sînen gesellen
who to-him and to-his comrades

durch ir tugentlîchez ellen
through their virtuous valor

erbuten sölhe wirdikheit,
offered such worthiness,

daz uns niender ist geseit
that to-us nowhere is told

von rîcherme gruoze.
of richer greeting.

nu schuof mit guoter muoze
now ordered with good leisure

mîn her Lanzelet du Lac
my lord Lanzelet du Lac

beidiu naht unde tac
both night and day

swaz im künic Artûs riet.
whatever him king Arthur counseled.

die fürsten sûmden sich ouch niet
the princes delayed themselves also not

und die guoten knehte,
and the good knights,

di ez solten tuon von rehte,
who it should do by right,

si satzten ûf vil schône
they set up very nicely

Lanzelete die krône
on-Lanzelet the crown

nâch küniclîcher gwonheit.
after kingly custom.

si swuoren im des einen eit,
they swore to-him of-that an oath,

daz̧s im nihtes abe giengen.
that-they from-him in-nothing off should-go.

ir lêhen si enpfiengen
their fiefs they received

von dem künege wol gezogen,
from the king well bred,

fürsten, grâven, herzogen,
princes, counts, dukes,

vrîen unde dienestman.
freemen and ministerials.

einen grôz̧en hof er gewan:
a great court he won:

diu lantmenege zuo im sluoc.
the land's-multitude to him flocked.

die suone man sô zsamen truoc,
the settlement one so together brought,

daz̧ man dem helde balt
that one to-the hero bold

übergulte zehenvalt
repaid tenfold

daz̧ im was versez̧z̧en.
what to-him was withheld.

do enwolt er niht vergez̧z̧en
then would he not forget

der an geborner miltikeit:
the in born generosity:

golt silber pfeller breit
gold silver brocade broad

gap der edel wîgant
gave the noble fighter

den guoten knehten, dier dâ vant
to-the good knights, whom-he there found

und ouch die mit im kâmen,
and also who with him came,

die guot umb êre nâmen
who goods for honor took

oder durch geselleschaft.
or for companionship.

hie behielt sîns lobes kraft
here kept of-his praise strength

Lanzelet der rîche.
Lanzelet the rich.

er wirbet sæliclîche,
he acts blessedly,

swer mit frümikheit begât,
whoever with valor contrives,

daz er dâ heime wirde hât:
that he there at-home worth has:

wan lop von lantliuten
for praise from land-people

sol nieman verkiuten.
shall no-one squander.

Diz bedâhte Lanzelet du Lac
This bethought Lanzelet du Lac

manegen wünneclîchen tac,
many-a delightful day,

do er sîn lant berihte.
when he his land governed.

er dankete der geschihte
he thanked for-the event

sîm neven, der der triuwen wielt,
his nephew, who of-the faith ruled,

daz er im sîn muoter behielt,
that he to-him his mother kept,

diu ir kint vil gerne sach.
who her child very gladly saw.

ietwederz dem andern verjach
each to-the other confessed

vil liebes unde leides.
much of-joy and of-sorrow.

nu manet ouch ir eides
now reminded also of-their oath

Lanzelet der wîgant
Lanzelet the fighter

die fürsten wîten erkant,
the princes widely known,

daz ez ir wille wære,
that it their will were,

daz Aspjol der mære,
that Aspjol the famous,

der getriuwe neve sîn,
the faithful nephew his,

und Clârîn diu künigîn
and Clarine the queen

des landes die wîle solten pflegen,
of-the land the while should take-care,

unz daz der tiurlîche degen
until that the precious thane

sîn kintheit überwunde
his childhood should-overcome

und ouch unz er befunde,
and also until he should-find-out,

ob im die von Dôdône
whether to-him they of Dodone

jæhen der krône
should-grant the crown

von Iwaretes lande.
of Iweret's land.

dem edelen wîgande
to-the noble fighter

fuocte sich sîn dinc ze heile:
fitted itself his affair to salvation:

im wâren an allem teile
to-him were in every part

die sîne vil gehôrsam.
the his very obedient.

der herre dô urloup nam,
the lord then leave took,

Lanzelet der stæte,
Lanzelet the steadfast,

mit der reise, die er hæte
with the expedition, which he had

frœlîch in daz lant brâht.
joyfully into the land brought.

swes dem helde was gedâht,
whatever to-the hero was thought,

des was ir wille wol bereit.
of-that was their will well ready.

ez ist ein alt gewonheit,
it is an old custom,

daz man dem sæligen ie
that one to-the blessed-one ever

gerne diende, swie manz an gevie.
gladly served, however one-it on took.

Sus behabete sælde unde prîs
Thus kept blessing and prize

der junge künec von Genewîs,
the young king of Genewis,

der wol gezogen wîgant.
the well bred fighter.

als er nu bürge unde lant
when he now castles and land

ze stæte wol bewarte
for steadfastness well secured

und er vor nieman sparte
and he from no-one spared

swaz er gereites mohte hân,
whatever he of-ready-goods might have,

dô was ez im sô wol ergân,
then was it to-him so well gone,

daz der ritter was enkeine,
that of-the knights was none,

im enwære grôz od cleine
to-him unless-were great or small

sîner gâbe worden etswaz.
of-his gift become something.

dâ von wart er gelobet baz
there from became he praised better

danne kein sîn gelîche.
than any his like.

nu schieden minnenclîche
now parted lovingly

von im die fürsten mit ir scharn
from him the princes with their troops

und bâten in got bewarn.
and begged him God keep.

si gelobeten allesament daz,
they praised all-together that,

daz si dehein künic baz
that them no king better

in sîn reise möhte bringen
on his expedition might bring

ze angestlîchen dingen
to fearful things

danne Lanzelet der küene degen.
than Lanzelet the bold thane.

dâ mite riten si ze wegen
there with rode they to ways

aller menneglich hin heim.
of-all everyone thither home.

aber Lanzeletes œheim
but Lanzelet's uncle

fuort den helt dannen
led the hero thence

ze hûs mit sînen mannen.
to house with his men.

dô brâht der künec von Genewîs
then brought the king of Genewis

ze Kardigân sô hôhen prîs,
to Kardigan so high prize,

daz al die welt wunder nam,
that all the world wonder took,

daz im sîn dinc sô wol kam.
that to-him his affair so well came.

Nu lât iu grôz gelücke sagen.
Now let to-you great fortune tell.

in disen wünneclîchen tagen,
in these delightful days,

dô der künic Artûs
when the king Arthur

mit Lanzelete was ze hûs,
with Lanzelet was at house,

ze Genewîs, als ir hânt vernomen,
at Genewis, as you have heard,

indes wâren boten komen,
meanwhile were messengers come,

vil küene wîgande,
very bold fighters,

von Iweretes lande.
from Iweret's land.

die fuorten prîsant mære,
they carried presents famous,

drîzic soumære,
thirty packhorses,

geladen mit rîchen krâmen,
laden with rich wares,

daz nie von Kriechen kâmen
that never from Greece came

noch von Salenicke
nor from Salonica

pfeller alsô dicke
brocades so thick

und die besten die diu welt hât;
and the best which the world has;

samît unde ciclât,
samite and ciclatoun,

zobele, vedere hermîn,
sables, furs ermine,

die endorften niht bezzer sîn;
they needed not better be;

und gesmîdes vil von golde;
and of-smithwork much of gold;

swaz man vrowen solde
whatever one for-ladies should

wurken drûz od machen,
work out-of-it or make,

des was mit vremden sachen
of-that was with strange things

diu gezierde niht cleine;
the adornment not small;

von edelem gesteine
of noble gems

was diu gâbe vollekomen.
was the gift perfect.

die boten heten ouch genomen
the messengers had also taken

krâm, der was unkostebære
wares, which was inexpensive

an sîm namen, doch er wære
in its name, yet it were

sîner tiure maneger marke wert:
of-its preciousness many-a mark worth:

ez was ein nezze und daz swert,
it was a net and the sword,

daz Iweret der helt truoc,
which Iweret the hero bore,

da mite er alle die ersluoc,
there with he all them slew,

mit den er strîtes ie began,
with whom he strife ever began,

wan daz der sælige man,
except that the blessed man,

Lanzelet, dervor genas,
Lanzelet, there-before survived,

als sîn gelücke guot was.
as his fortune good was.

daz sahs was schœne unde hart,
the blade was beautiful and hard,

daz nie künec sô rîche wart
that never king so rich became

wan dem ez wol gezæme.
except to-whom it well would-befit.

daz netze was ouch genæme,
the net was also pleasing,

als ez von rehte solde,
as it by right should,

von sîden und von golde
of silk and of gold

harte wol gestricket.
very well knotted.

ûf die maschen wârn geschicket
upon the meshes were placed

guldîne kasten reine,
golden settings pure,

dar inne edel gesteine
there in noble gems

von alder welt daz beste.
of all-the world the best.

daz netze was vil veste,
the net was very firm,

gemachet wol ze der wîs,
made well in the manner,

daz mîn vrouwe Iblis
that my lady Iblis

drunder ligen solte
there-under lie should

swenne siu ruowen wolte.
whenever she rest would.

ez ist ein wârheit, niht ein spel,
it is a truth, not a tale,

daz netze was sinewel,
the net was round,

in einen knopf wol gemaht,
into a knob well made,

der was ein stein von vremder slaht
which was a stone of strange kind

und ist Galazîâ genant.
and is Galazia named.

umb den ist ez sô gewant,
about it is it so turned,

daz er ist kälter danne ein îs,
that it is colder than an ice,

als in schreip ein künic wîs:
as it wrote a king wise:

der bekant al edel gesteine,
he knew all noble gems,

grôz unde cleine:
great and small:

(er hiez Evax von Arabîâ.)
(he was-called Evax of Arabia.)

der sprach ‚der stein Galazîâ
he spoke ‚the stone Galazia

ist edel unde tiure.
is noble and precious.

und læger inme fiure
and should-lie-it in-the fire

ein jâr, ern wurde nimer warm.
a year, it would-become never warm.

swer in treit, dern wirt niht arm,
whoever it bears, he becomes not poor,

und swâ er bî den liuten ist,
and wherever it by the people is,

da enschadet dehein zouberlist
there harms no magic-cunning

den mannen noch den wîben.‘
the men nor the women.‘

hie mite lân wir belîben
here with let we remain

sîn nâtûre kalte,
its nature cold,

wan mir nieman zalte
for to-me no-one told

iht mêre von des steines kraft.
anything more of the stone's strength.

ein guldîn keten was gehaft
a golden chain was fastened

dar an, diu dervon gienc,
there on, which there-from went,

dâ mite man daz netze hienc
there with one the net hung

hôhe ûf swie man gerte.
high up however one desired.

an dem krâme und an dem swerte
in the wares and in the sword

was harte schînbære,
was very evident,

daz den boten liep wære,
that to-the messengers dear were,

daz si den helt erkanden,
that they the hero knew,

der mit ellenthaften handen
who with valorous hands

den sige an Iwerete nam,
the victory over Iweret took,

wan si enwisten war er kam.
for they knew-not whither he came.

nu was in niwens kunt getân,
now was to-them newly known made,

daz er wær ze Kardigân
that he were at Kardigan

mit ir lieben vrouwen,
with their dear lady,

di si gerne wolten schouwen,
whom they gladly would behold,

durch daz si wârn gerüstet wol,
for that they were equipped well,

als ich iuch berihten sol,
as I you inform shall,

daz in nihtes enbrast
that to-them nothing lacked

des ie dehein vremder gast
of-which ever any strange guest

durch cleinôt ûz brâhte.
for jewels out brought.

der zît ez dô nâhte,
of-the time it then neared,

daz Artûs hin heim reit.
that Arthur thither home rode.

daz fuocte ein michel sælikheit:
that fitted a great blessedness:

des tages, dô er wider kam
the day, when he back came

und er ze naht daz wazzer nam
and he at night the water took

und sîn ezzen was bereit,
and his eating was ready,

dâ wart dem künige geseit
there became to-the king told

ein mære, des er loste,
a tidings, of-which he listened,

dâ wærn mit rîcher koste
there were with rich cost

komen rîter wol getân.
come knights well made.

sich enkunde nieman des enstân,
himself could no-one of-that understand,

daz er ie mê gesæhe
that he ever more should-see

gereite alsô spæhe
harness so artful

und ros geziert sô schône,
and horses adorned so nicely,

als dâ von Dôdône
as there from Dodone

fuort diu kumpânîe.
led the company.

von der massenîe
by the household

wurden si wol gegrüezet.
became they well greeted.

ir zwîvel wart gebüezet,
their doubt became atoned,

dem ie die liute fluochten,
which ever the people cursed,

wan si funden daz si suochten.
for they found what they sought.

unkünde sint unminne.
unknown-folk are unloved.

do bekant diu küniginne
then knew the queen

vrowe Iblis die helde,
lady Iblis the heroes,

wan si heten selde
for they had dwelling

und heimuot in Behforet.
and home in Behforet.

dô gruozte si und Lanzelet
then greeted she and Lanzelet

die boten wirdeclîche.
the messengers worthily.

vil bescheidenlîche
very discerningly

erbiten si der mære.
awaited they the tidings.

waz nu daz næhste wære,
what now the next were,

des enwil ich niht lâzen
of-that will I not leave

ungesaget: si âzen,
untold: they ate,

der wirt mit den gesten,
the host with the guests,

trahte die aller besten,
dishes the of-all best,

der man in den zîten pflac.
which one in the times practiced.

swar an ir wille gelac,
where on their will lay,

dar nâch mohten sie leben.
there after might they live.

der künic Artûs hiez in geben
the king Arthur bade to-them give

lûtertranc met unde wîn,
clear-drink mead and wine,

wan er kund wol ein wirt sîn.
for he could well a host be.

The envoys kneel to Iblis and tell her that Dodone will crown none but her husband. Iblis gives her wares away, Ginover receiving the net, and Lanzelet gives the sword to Arthur, his host, who takes nothing for himself; Arthur sends the envoys home with gifts. At their request Lanzelet proclaims a court at Dodone for the spring, to which Arthur and Ginover will come, and the land prepares lavishly.

Dô die herren gâzen,
When the lords ate,
die boten niht lenger sâzen:
the messengers not longer sat:
si heten schiere ir übercleit
they had quickly their overcloaks
hübschlîche hin geleit.
courteously away laid.
diz was ir êrste werc sider,
this was their first work afterward,
si knieten allesament nider
they knelt all-together down
für ir vrowen dâ siu saz
before their lady where she sat
und sagten ir ditz unde daz,
and told her this and that,
ir geverte und ir spehen,
their journey and their spying,
daz si si solten gesehen
that they her should see
von den lantherren allen,
from the land-lords all,
den ir vater was enpfallen,
from-whom her father was fallen-away,
der si wol berihte.
who them well governed.

si sprâchen ,der geschihte
they spoke ,of-the event

der wir von iu vernomen hân,
which we from you heard have,

daz ez iu ist sô wol ergân,
that it to-you is so well gone,

des sîn wir inneclîche vrô.
of-that are we inwardly glad.

weder durch vlêhen noch durch drô
neither through imploring nor through threat

enwolten von Dôdône
would from Dodone

die fürsten die krône
the princes the crown

niemanne geben ze rehte
to-no-one give by right

wan dem guoten knehte,
except to-the good knight,

der iuch mit manheit gewan.
who you with manhood won.

herren unde dienstman
lords and ministerials

mit den lantliuten allen,
with the land-people all,

die sint dar an gevallen,
they are there on fallen,

daz si in ze künege gerne hânt.
that they him as king gladly have.

iwer lant ouch vridelîche stânt:
your lands also peacefully stand:

da enist nieman wider iu.
there is no-one against you.

die rede sagen wir ze diu,
the speech say we to that,

daz ir gnædeclîche enpfât
that you graciously receive

unser rede, wan ez alsô stât,
our speech, for it so stands,

daz ir niht tuont wan swaz er gert.
that you nothing do except whatever he desires.

wir bringen Lanzelet ein swert
we bring Lanzelet a sword

und ander cleinôt iu ze gebe.
and other jewels to-you as gift.

ez ist reht, daz mit vreuden lebe
it is right, that with joys live

der junge künec von Genewîs.
the young king of Genewis.

durch sînen vorderlîchen prîs
for his surpassing prize

sol er heizen imer mêr
shall he be-called ever more

von Behforet der künic hêr,
of Behforet the king noble,

der fürste von Dôdône.'
the prince of Dodone.'

dar nâch zouctens schône
there after showed-they nicely

den prîsant, den si heten brâht.
the present, which they had brought.

si heten sich des wol bedâht,
they had themselves of-that well bethought,

daz er rehte was behalten.
that it rightly was kept.

nu lâts die vrowen walten
now let-it the lady rule

und gebe siu swem siu welle
and give she to-whom she will

sô vil als ir gevelle.
as much as to-her pleases.

Iblis diu wol getâne
Iblis the well made-one

wart ir krâmes âne
became of-her wares rid

mit lobelîcher wîsheit.
with praiseworthy wisdom.

ich wil iu sagen ûf mînen eit,
I will to-you tell upon my oath,

ez enwart nie michel guot baz
it became never great goods better

geteilet, wan siu niht vergaz,
divided, for she not forgot,

siun gæbe in algelîchen,
unless-she gave to-them all-alike,

den armen und den rîchen,
to-the poor and to-the rich,

dar nâch ez möhte gezemen.
there after it might befit.

Ginovere muose dez netze nemen,
Ginover must the net take,

von dem ich vor hân gezalt.
of which I before have told.

Lanzelet der helt balt
Lanzelet the hero bold

der gap dem wirte daz swert,
he gave to-the host the sword,

wan er was aller êren wert.
for he was of-all honors worth.

Artûs, der miltekeite stam,
Arthur, the generosity's stem,

Iblis ir krâmes niht ennam,
Iblis of-her wares nothing took,

wan ir beleip ân valschen wanc
for to-her remained without false wavering

gnâde lop unde danc
thanks praise and gratitude

niht eingenôte von in,
not only from them,

die des guotes gewin
who of-the goods gain

von der vrowen nâmen,
from the lady took,

wan von allen, diez vernâmen,
but from all, who-it heard,

die pruoften ir miltekeit.
who proved her generosity.

swâ man noch guotiu mære seit
wherever one yet good tidings tells

von deheim tugentlîchen site,
of any virtuous custom,

daz man sich bezzer dâ mite,
that one himself better there with,

daz was ie der wîsen rât.
that was ever the wise's counsel.

der lop wert sô der lîp zergât.
the praise lasts when the body perishes.

durch die selben sache
for the same cause

lebet in ungemache
lives in discomfort

manec man durch sîn frümikheit
many-a man for his valor

mit ringender arbeit.
with struggling toil.

ez ist ouch maneger vrowen site,
it is also many-a lady's custom,

daz siu imer gerne kumber lite
that she ever gladly grief should-suffer

durch daz siu lobes wære gewis.
for that she of-praise were certain.

des gedâhte mîn vrouwe Iblis
of-that thought my lady Iblis

und ranc nâch êren durch ir tugent,
and strove after honors through her virtue,

wan ir sinne rîchiu jugent
for her of-senses rich youth

gebôt, daz siu daz beste tet.
commanded, that she the best did.

als vil sô mîn her Lanzelet
as much as my lord Lanzelet

gelobet was für manegen man,
praised was before many-a man,

da enwil ich iu niht liegen an,
there will I to-you not lie on,

dar nâch brâht ez ouch sîn wîp,
there after brought it also his wife,

daz ir niemannes lîp
that of-her no-one's body

niht wandelbæres ie gesprach.
nothing changeable ever spoke.

dô diz allez geschach
when this all happened

und die boten hâten
and the messengers had

erworben des si bâten
gained what they begged

und allez daz si wolden
and all that they would

als si von rehte solden,
as they by right should,

do besprach sich mîn her Lanzelet,
then took-counsel himself my lord Lanzelet,

mit sînen vriunden er daz tet,
with his friends he that did,

die im gerâten kunden:
who him counsel could:

die rieten im ze stunden,
they counseled him at-the hours,

daz er die boten mit êren
that he the messengers with honors

von im liezе kêren
from him should-let turn

wider ze Dôdône
back to Dodone

und er in gebete schône
and he them should-give nicely

swaz er gewinnen möhte
whatever he win might

und zêren wol töhte
and to-honors well availed

und daz in liep wære.
and what to-them dear were.

Artûs der êrbære,
Arthur the honorable,

der künic von Britâne,
the king of Britain,

der êrte sîn parâne
he honored his companion

und al die massenîe sîn.
and all the household his.

dô wart sîn milte wol schîn,
then became his generosity well seen,

daz er dicke hübslîche tet.
that he often courteously did.

den werden boten von Bêforet
to-the worthy messengers from Beforet

den gab er gâbe wol getân,
to-them gave he gifts well made,

pferit unde kastelân,
palfreys and castilians,

hunde unde vederspil,
dogs and hawks,

hübscher tagalte vil,
of-courtly pastimes much,

arnbrüste unde bogen,
crossbows and bows,

strâle, kocher wol bezogen,
arrows, quivers well covered,

gefult mit matertellen.
filled with bolts.

den helden alsô snellen
to-the heroes so swift

gap man swaz si dûhte guot,
gave one whatever them seemed good,

als man den lieben dicke tuot.
as one to-the dear-ones often does.

ich sag iu daz die boten grôz
I tell to-you that the messengers great

wâren und fürsten genôz
were and of-princes peers

und ir sumelîche
and of-them some

als edel und als rîche,
so noble and so rich,

daz si an der êrsten vart,
that they at the first time,

dô Iweret erslagen wart
when Iweret slain was

und ê er wurde begraben,
and before he became buried,

ze künege wæren erhaben,
as kings were raised,

obe sis gerten,
if they-it desired,

wan daz sis entwerten
except that they-it refused

durch ir triuwe veste.
through their faith firm.

alsus wârn die geste
thus were the guests

ûz komen durch ir êre.
out come for their honor.

man saget uns noch mêre,
one tells us yet more,

daz dise wîgande
that these fighters

in Iweretes lande
in Iweret's land

sô gewaltic wâren,
so powerful were,

daz des endorfte vâren
that of-that needed fear

nieman durch sîn vrevelheit,
no-one for his boldness,

daz er in dehein leit
that he to-them any sorrow

imer getörst erbieten.
ever dared offer.

swaz sie gerieten,
whatever they counseled,

des heten si die meisten
of-that had they the most

volge mit volleisten
following with full-support

vonirâ lantliuten gar.
from-their land-people wholly.

nu wrn si worden gewar
now were they become aware

und heten vernomen ze Kardigân,
and had heard at Kardigan,

wiez Lanzelete was ergân
how-it to-Lanzelet was gone

ze Genewîs, dâ im wol gelanc
at Genewis, where to-him well succeeded

und er ân ungelückes kranc
and he without misfortune's weakness

mit sælden was beschœnet,
with blessings was adorned,

sô daz er wart gekrœnet
so that he became crowned

ze wunsche nâch sîm muote.
to wish after his mind.

im fuocte sich ze guote
to-him fitted itself to good
sîn dinc von allem rehte.
his affair by all right.
des wârn die guoten knehte
of-that were the good knights
von Dôdône wol bedâht,
from Dodone well minded,
si heten in gerne mit in brâht
they had him gladly with them brought
wider in daz lant sîn,
back into the land his,
dâ Iblis, diu künigîn,
where Iblis, the queen,
von rehte wesen solte
by right be should
und er, ob er wolte.
and he, if he would.
Uns hât daz mære unverswigen,
To-us has the tale unconcealed,
daz sich niht möhten verligen
that themselves not might lie-idle
dise boten si wurben etswaz
these messengers they strove-for something
des in geviel, ich sag iu waz:
which them pleased, I tell to-you what:
si geschuofen daz mit ir bete,
they brought-about that with their request,
daz mîn her Lanzelete
that my lord Lanzelet
den fürsten einen hof sprach,
to-the princes a court proclaimed,
an die er sich versach,
of whom he himself expected,

daz̧s im undertân solten sîn
that-they to-him subject should be

und Iblê der künigîn.
and to-Ible the queen.

dirr hof gezôch sich alsô
this court drew itself so

in dem jâre, sô die liute vrô
in the year, when the people glad

sint von der lieben sumerzît
are from the dear summertime

und diu heide grüene lît,
and the heath green lies,

ze ûz̧ gândem aberellen.
at out going April.

nu lânt iu fürbaz̧ zellen
now let to-you further tell

ein lützel unde merkent daz̧.
a little and mark that.

her Lanzelet niht vergaz̧,
lord Lanzelet not forgot,

daz̧ er alle die gesellen sîn
that he all the comrades his

und iegelîches vriundîn
and each-one's beloved

mit im füeren solte
with him lead should

ze dem hove und daz̧ er wolte
to the court and that he would

dâ sîn mit schalle,
there be with clamor,

oder sîn vriunt alle
or his friends all

müesen im geswîchen.
must him fail.

diz saget er nemelîchen
this told he namely

den boten und bat in zouwen.
to-the messengers and begged them hasten.

er sprach ‚mit mîner vrouwen
he spoke ‚with my lady

wil mîn œheim künec Artûs
will my uncle king Arthur

ze pfingsten sîn in mîme hûs.
at Pentecost be in my house.

dar nâch schafent irz diu baz.'
there after provide you-it the better.'

dô lobeten die boten daz,
then promised the messengers that,

swes er in zuo gedæhte,
whatever he them to should-think,

ob er hundert künege bræhte,
if he hundred kings should-bring,

die wurden wol behalten.
they became well kept.

solt es gelücke walten,
should it fortune rule,

sô funder sîn hûs bereit
so would-find-he his house ready

mit êren und mit sælikheit.
with honors and with blessedness.

Sus sprâchen die von Dôdône
Thus spoke they of Dodone

und nâmen urloup schône,
and took leave nicely,

alsô wol verwizzen man.
as well discreet men.

si schieden alsô von dan,
they parted so from thence,

daz die jungen und die alten
that the young and the old

von Britân si zalten
of Britain them counted

ze den tiuresten helden,
among the dearest heroes,

die ze künec Artûses selden
who to king Arthur's dwelling

ie dâ vor wâren komen.
ever there before were come.

sît si urloup hânt genomen,
since they leave have taken,

sô wart dâ lenger niht gebiten,
so became there longer not waited,

si sint wider heim geriten.
they are back home ridden.

nâch ir gelübde se tâten,
after their vow they did,

si gebuten unde bâten
they commanded and begged

und santen boten in diu lant.
and sent messengers into the lands.

si brâhten manegen wîgant
they brought many-a fighter

zesamene unde fürsten grôz,
together and princes great,

dar zuo alle ir hûsgenôz,
there to all their household-companions,

die ze Dôdôn rehtes warten.
who at Dodone of-right awaited.

vil lützel sie sparten
very little they spared

weder guot noch lîp.
neither goods nor life.

ez gevriesch nie man noch wîp
it learned never man nor woman

durch lobes gewin sô grôzen vlîz.
for praise's gain so great diligence.

manec helt von alter snêwîz
many-a hero from age snow-white

der vleiz sich ûf die hôhgezît.
he applied himself to the festival.

des heten aber die jungen nît
of-that had but the young envy

und schuofen, daz man in sneit
and brought-about, that one for-them cut

von hôher koste rîchiu cleit,
of high cost rich garments,

und frumten ir gereite
and furnished their harness

mit spæher rîcheite
with artful richness

von golde kostbære,
of gold costly,

als ez die schiltære
as it the shield-makers

wol gemachen kunden,
well make could,

die man ze den stunden
whom one at the hours

ze Ackers vant in der habe.
at Acre found in the harbor.

waz sol ich zellen mê dar abe
what shall I tell more there of

wan daz ich iu wol sagen mac,
except that I to-you well tell may,

ez enwirt biz an den suonestac
it becomes until to the judgment-day

nimer hof gesprochen mê,
never court proclaimed more,

dâ wætlich grœzer vreude ergê. 8850
where likely greater joy happens.

XXXV · THE JOURNEY TO DODONE

A thousand knights of Genewis reach Kardigan richly arrayed, bringing Iblis gifts from Clarine, and envoys from Dodone come daily, so that Iblis longs for home. Arthur bids his knights let their ladies ride with Ginover and pairs knights with ladies to escort, though many ride without. They ride from Britain, Walwein and Erec beside Iblis; more knights join daily, and Lanzelet's pavilion shines above every other tent.

Lanzelet nâch êren ranc:
Lanzelet after honors strove:

durch sînen wîsen fürgedanc
through his wise forethought

und durch sînen hôhen prîs
and through his high prize

sô sant er boten ze Genewîs
so sent he messengers to Genewis

und kunte sînen mannen 8855
and proclaimed to-his men

sînen hof, des kom im dannen
his court, of-that came to-him thence

von gezierde manic rîcheit
of adornment many-a richness

und tûsent ritter wol becleit.
and thousand knights well clothed.

als ich von in geschriben vant,
as I of them written found,

algelîch was ir gewant,
alike was their clothing,

der hübschen kumpânîe.
of-the courtly company.

von Alexandrîe
from Alexandria

was der samît den si truogen an.
was the samite which they wore on.

hermîn wîzer danne ein swan
ermine whiter than a swan

wâren diu inville.
were the linings.

von Cûmis, dâ Sibille
from Cumae, where Sibyl

diu alte wîssage was,
the old prophetess was,

was der zobel, als ich ez las.
was the sable, as I it read.

armuot was in vremede.
poverty was to-them strange.

sîdîn wârn diu hemede
silken were the shirts

und daz cleit, daz dar zuo stât.
and the garment, which there to belongs.

scharlât was ir beinwât.
scarlet was their leg-wear.

si endorften sich niht zieren
they needed themselves not adorn

baz mit banieren
better with banners

danne si hæten getân.
than they had done.

ir pferit und ir kastelân
their palfreys and their Castilians

diu wâren sô daz man niht vant
they were so that one not found

ze Pûlân noch ze Spangenlant,
in Apulia nor in Spain,

diu sich in gelîchen mohten.
which themselves to-them compare might.

gereite, diu dar zuo tohten, 8880
harness, which there to availed,

der was sich wol gevlizzen.
of-it was itself well applied.

die helde wârn verwizzen.
the heroes were discreet.

ir harnasch der gie mit in,
their harness it went with them,

brûn lûter als ein zin,
brown bright as a tin,

und manic wâfenroc dâ mite. 8885
and many-a surcoat there with.

geloubent mir des ich iuch bite
believe me what I you beg

und wizzent daz âne wân,
and know that without doubt,

si kômen wol ze Kardigân,
they came well to Kardigan,

als ich iuch nu bewîse,
as I you now show,

bereitet wol ze brîse. 8890
readied well for praise.

si heten ûz̧er mâz̧e vil
they had beyond measure much

swes ein ritter wünschen wil
of-whatever a knight wish will

und sînen lîp gelüstet.
and his body desires.

sus wâren ûz̧ gerüstet
thus were out equipped

die helde von Genewîs
the heroes of Genewis

an ir gereite in alle wîs.
in their harness in all ways.

si brâhten ouch ir vrouwen
they brought also to-their lady

gâbe die si schouwen
gifts which she behold

wol mit êren mahte,
well with honors might,

cleinôt ûz̧ der ahte
jewels out-of the reckoning

von golde und von gewande,
of gold and of clothing,

daz̧ ir Clârîne sande,
which to-her Clarine sent,

ir swiger an tugenden ûz̧ genomen.
her mother-in-law in virtues out taken.

dise rîter wâren ûz̧ komen
these knights were out come

durch zuht und ûf den selben wân,
through breeding and upon the same hope,

daz̧ ir michel êre solte hân
that of-it great honor should have

Iblis und Lanzelet,
Iblis and Lanzelet,

swenne si ze Behforet
when they to Behforet

mit in kæmen geriten.
with them came ridden.

man pflac hie vor bî alten siten, 8910
one practiced here before by old customs,

daz die herren gerne sâhen
that the lords gladly saw

die liut und daz si jâhen,
the people and that they said,

in wære under dingen zwein
to-them were among things two

imer lieber daz ein,
ever dearer the one,

holtschaft und guot wort, 8915
devotion and good word,

danne haz unde hort.
than hatred and hoard.

ez wære ouch noch ein êre.
it were also yet an honor.

ze dem liede ich wider kêre:
to the song I back turn:

dâ von lât iuch niht belangen.
there from let you not weary.

ez enwurden nie enpfangen 8920
it became never received

rîter baz danne die,
knights better than they,

von den ich iu sagete hie.
of whom I to-you told here.

daz gebôt Artûs der milte.
that commanded Arthur the generous.

sîn muot an vreuden spilte,
his mind in joys played,

daz er den mâc ie gewan,
that he the kinsman ever won,

durch den sich man und dienstman
for whom himself man and ministerial

ze hove sô wol bereiten
for court so well readied

mit sölhen rîcheiten.
with such riches.

er lobete wol ir getât,
he praised well their deed,

daz si rîchiu cleit und îsenwât
that they rich garments and iron-wear

beidiu sament brâhten.
both together brought.

die helde wol gedâhten,
the heroes well thought,

si solten sô ir selber pflegen,
they should so of-themselves self take-care,

daz si nieman roubete under wegen.
that them no-one should-rob under ways.

Der hof erschal in diu lant,
The court resounded into the lands,

daz Lanzelet der wîgant
that Lanzelet the fighter

an sîn erbe solte
to his inheritance should

und im dar füeren wolte
and to-him there lead would

sîn herre der künic Artûs
his lord the king Arthur

driu tûsent rîter ze hûs
three thousand knights to house

und ir enkeiner wære,
and of-them none were,

der dehein êrbære
who any honorable

vrowen ze vriunde hæte,
lady as beloved had,

daz er daz niht entæte,
that he that not should-do,

daz er si durch den willen sîn
that he her for the sake his

mit Ginovere der künigîn
with Ginover the queen

ze dem hove liezę rîten.
to the court should-let ride.

wer solt dâ wider strîten?
who should there against strive?

si tâten daz der künec gebôt.
they did what the king commanded.

er muoste sîn an fröiden tôt,
he must be in joys dead,

swer sich niht gaste dar gegen.
whoever himself not readied there against.

daz mære muoste bewegen
the tidings must move

durch nôt manegen hübschen man.
through need many-a courtly man.

swer ûf minne ie muot gewan
whoever for love ever spirit gained

und er dar mohte gevarn,
and he thither might fare,

der enwolte lîp noch guot sparn.
he would-not life nor goods spare.

von allen landen wîte
from all lands wide

kam volc ze der hôchgezîte,
came folk to the festival,

daz man dâ von ze redenne hât
that one there of to speak has
die wîle und disiu welt stât.
the while and this world stands.
ez ist reht daz ich iu sage,
it is right that I to-you tell,
ez kâmen boten alle tage
it came messengers all days
von Dôdôn ze Kardigân.
from Dodone to Kardigan.
hie bî moht Iblis entstân,
here by might Iblis understand,
wie liep ir kunft wære.
how dear their coming were.
si sagten ir ze mære,
they told her as tidings,
ir lant dingete dar zuo
her land waited there for
und ez diuhte nieman ze fruo,
and it seemed to-no-one too early,
swie schiere sô siu kæme.
however quickly so she should-come.
daz was ir vil genæme
that was to-her very pleasing
unde senete sich ir muot,
and longed itself her mind,
als er noch den wîben tuot.
as it yet to-the women does.
swar in daz herze in hüge lît,
whither to-them the heart in mind lies,
dar wænents niemer komen enzît.
there believe-they never to-come in-time.
swes der künec Artûs sich vermaz,
whatever the king Arthur himself vowed,

ungerne liez er daz.
unwillingly left he that.

sîn dinc was allez bereit
his affair was all ready

wîslîch und mit hübescheit.
wisely and with courtliness.

im ist vil rîtr und frouwen komen,
to-him is very-many knights and ladies come,

als ir ê hânt vernomen, 8980
as you before have heard,

die wâren alle becleit,
who were all clothed,

nâch ir muote und nâch ir wirdekheit,
after their mind and after their worthiness,

als hübesche liute gerten.
as courtly people desired.

den künec si ouch gewerten
the king they also granted

des er si bat ich sage iu wie: 8985
what he them begged I tell to-you how:

deheinen rîter er erlie
no knight he spared

wan demer enpfalch in sîne pflege
except to-whom-he commended into his care

eine frowen ûf dem wege,
a lady upon the way,

dazs alden tac samen riten
that-they all-the day together rode

mit zühten und mit sölhen siten, 8990
with breeding and with such customs,

der guote liute sich niht schament.
of-which good people themselves not shame.

er fuogte in allen sament
he fitted to-them all together

gesellen nâch ir wunsches wale.
companions after their wish's choice.

noch was der helde ein michel zale,
yet was of-the heroes a great number,

die âne frowen muosten rîten.
who without ladies must ride.

nu wolte niht lenger bîten
now would not longer wait

der milte künic Artûs,
the generous king Arthur,

er frumt nâch êrn ûz sîme hûs
he sent-forth after honors out-of his house

sînen mâc Lanzelet,
his kinsman Lanzelet,

deme er dicke liep tet.
to-whom he often dear did.

Alsô diz ûf geleit was,
When this up laid was,

sîn gesinde er ûz las,
his household he out chose,

daz sîn hofliut hiez:
which his court-people was-called:

dem gebôt er, daz man ûf stiez
to-it commanded he, that one up loaded

manegen soum swære.
many-a pack heavy.

sîne kamerære
his chamberlains

und die sîn ezzen solten machen,
and who his food should make,

die fuoren mit manegen sachen
they fared with many things

hin für gegen den strâzen.
thither before toward the roads.

die frowen dô ûf sâzen
the ladies then up sat

* * *
(lacuna)

* * *
(lacuna)

und bî Ginovere rîten.
and by Ginover ride.

anderthalben bî ir sîten
on-the-other-side by her side

reit der hübsche Karjet,
rode the courtly Karjet,

der * * * Ramuret
who (lacuna) Ramuret

dâ vor lobelîchen sluoc:
there before praiseworthily slew:

da begienc er manheite gnuoc.
there performed he of-manhood enough.

des ist zwîvel enkein,
of-that is doubt none,

Iblis und Wâlwein
Iblis and Walwein

diu riten sament ûf den wec.
they rode together onto the way.

anderhalp der frowen reit Erec
on-the-other-side of-the lady rode Erec

als ein getühtic rîter sol.
as a well-bred knight shall.

si riten alle sament wol,
they rode all together well,

wan si hâten rîcheit und den muot,
for they had richness and the spirit,

der dô die liute dûhte guot.
which then to-the people seemed good.

ouch wart der vil funden,
also became of-them many found,

die wol mit valken kunden.
who well with falcons could.

dâ was ouch tagalte vil
there was also of-pastimes much

* * *
(lacuna)

buhurt ûf maneger plâne.
jousting upon many-a plain.

si riten von Britâne
they rode from Britain

frœlîchen mit sölhen siten,
joyfully with such customs,

daz nie liute ûz geriten,
that never people out rode,

der noch diu welt möhte
of-whom yet the world might

baz gedenken obez in töhte.
better think whether-it to-them availed.

iedoch sol si helfen daz,
yet shall them help that,

man sprichet in deste baz,
one speaks of-them the better,

daz ir herze tugent erkande,
that their heart virtue knew,

wan got selbe hazzet schande.
for God self hates shame.

Ez was ein wünneclîchiu vart,
It was a delightful journey,

wan der künic Artûs hete bewart
for the king Arthur had secured

beidiu lant und sîne veste
both land and his fortress

* * *
(lacuna)

daz ime kein schade möhte sîn.
that to-him no harm might be.

nu wart ir sælde wol schîn
now became their blessing well seen

dar an, ez wâren liehte tage,
there in, it were bright days,

harte wünneclich nâch sage,
very delightful after saying,

weder ze heiz noch ze kalt.
neither too hot nor too cold.

diu heide und der grüene walt
the heath and the green forest

und dar zuo guot geselleschaft,
and there to good company,

diu machten alle rîche kraft
they made all rich strength

engegen ir ougenweide.
toward their eyes'-pasture.

vor urdruzze und vor leide
from weariness and from sorrow

hâte si got behuot.
had them God guarded.

si lepten swie si dûhte guot,
they lived however them seemed good,

beide naht unde tac.
both night and day.

des fröut sich Lanzelet du Lac.
of-that rejoiced himself Lanzelet du Lac.

in dirre wünne riten sie,
in this delight rode they,

daz si enkein tac vergie,
that to-them no day passed,

si enfrieschen etlich mære
they unless-learned some tidings

daz si dûhte fröiden bære,
which them seemed of-joys bearing,

wan ir reise mêrte sich
for their expedition increased itself

von rîtern aller tegelich
with knights of-all daily

und wart ze jungest harte grôz:
and became at last very great:

wan künege und fürsten genôz,
for kings and of-princes peers,

der was sô vil daz man vermeit
of-them was so many that one avoided

die zale, wan in zuo reit
the number, for to-them to rode

manec schœniu schar über diu velt.
many-a beautiful troop over the fields.

swenne man diu gezelt
whenever one the tents

durch herbergen ûf sluoc,
for lodgings up struck,

sô was ir vil unde gnuoc,
so were of-them many and enough,

die ir busûnen bliesen.
who their trumpets blew.

sô moht man êrste kiesen
so might one first descry

Lanzeletes pavilûn,
Lanzelet's pavilion,

wîz, grüene, rôt, brûn,
white, green, red, brown,

sô hêrlich über die ander,
so splendid above the others,

als ein brinnder zander
as a burning brand

für ein erloschen kol.
before a quenched coal.

doch wârens alle harte wol
yet were-they all very well

geworht und gezieret.
wrought and adorned.

dô wart gebuhurdieret,
then became jousted,

si triben unz an die snüere.
they drove until to the ropes.

ich wæne nie gefüere
I believe never fared

sô wol ze wunsche ein rîterschaft
so well to wish a knighthood

als diu selbe heres kraft.
as the same host's strength.

Iblis is welcomed in her land and at Dodone with jousting, and her playmates, who have stayed unmarried for her sake, ride out to meet her; Lanzelet and Iblis are crowned. Arthur stays three months, and they escort him for many days before parting. Ulrich names his source, a French book brought by Hugh of Morville, a hostage for the captured king of England. Lanzelet brings his mother; he and Iblis have three sons and a daughter, and they die in honor on one day.

Nu was in allen niht ze gâch,
Now was to-them all not too hasty,

doch sint si komen alsô nâch,
yet are they come so near,

daz si sanfte nâch sage
that they gently after saying

wæren an dem vierden tage
were on the fourth day

geriten in daz Schœne lant,
ridden into the Beautiful land,

des sich Iblis underwant,
of-which herself Iblis took-charge,

daz ir erbe solte sîn.
that her inheritance should be.

nu wart ir rîcheit wol schîn
now became her richness well seen

und erschein ir sælikheit dar an,
and appeared her blessedness there in,

ir bekâmen ir vater man,
her met her father's men,

mit zwein tûsent schilten,
with two thousand shields,

die alle ûf orsen spilten,
who all upon steeds played,

mit sîdîn kovertiuren guot:
with silken coverings good:

an der gebærden schein der muot,
in the bearing shone the mind,

daz̧s ir frowen gerne sâhen.
that-they their lady gladly saw.

si îlten zuo ir gâhen
they hastened to her hastily

mit rîchen banieren.
with rich banners.

si begundens salûieren
they began-her to-salute

und al die mit ir kâmen.
and all who with her came.

ich wæn wir nie vernâmen
I believe we never heard

sô minneclîchen anpfanc.
so loving reception.

dar nâch was ez̧ unlanc
there after was it not-long

ê si ze herbergen riten.
before they to lodgings rode.

dâ was daz̧ niht vermiten
there was that not avoided

si enfunden allen weltrât.
they unless-found all world's-provision.

als uns daz̧ buoch gekündet hât,
as us the book made-known has,

sô ist reht, daz̧ ich iu sage,
so is right, that I to-you tell,

in was geschaffet zehen tage,
to-them was provided ten days,

ê si kœmen in daz̧ lant,
before they came into the land,

daz man liuten unde rossen vant
that one for-people and for-horses found

swes in beiden gezam.
whatever to-them both befitted.

dô aber diu schœne reise kam
when but the beautiful expedition came

in daz lant dâ Dôdône lac,
into the land where Dodone lay,

dô wart in naht unde tac
then became to-them night and day

erboten sô michel êre,
offered so great honor,

daz Artûs der künic hêre
that Arthur the king noble

sprach, im wurde nie kunt
spoke, to-him became never known

unz an die gegenwertigen stunt
until to the present hour

von rîcheit als michel kraft.
of richness so great strength.

nu kam in manec geselleschaft
now came to-them many-a company

tegelich ûf der strâze,
daily upon the road,

die sich ze guoter mâze
who themselves to good measure

gasten ûf den hoveschal.
readied for the court's-clamor.

si dûhte, daz berc unde tal
them seemed, that hill and dale

vol rîterschefte wære.
full of-knighthood were.

sus reit daz her mære
thus rode the host famous

unz zuo dem Schœnen walde,
until to the Beautiful forest,

von dem ich ê zalde,
of which I before told,

dâ Lanzelet daz heil geschach,
where to-Lanzelet the luck happened,

daz er die âventiure brach
that he the adventure broke

an dem küenen Iwerete.
on the bold Iweret.

daz her es guote war tete
the host of-it good heed took

und jâhen daz nie berc noch walt
and said that never hill nor forest

ze vreude wurde baz gestalt.
for joy became better shaped.

In dem walde wârens über naht.
In the forest were-they over night.

morgen fruo mit aller maht
morning early with all might

ritens ze Dôdône.
rode-they to Dodone.

dâ wurden si schône
there became they nicely

gegrüezet und enpfangen.
greeted and received.

wil es iuch niht belangen,
will it you not weary,

sô sage ich iu vil drâte,
so tell I to-you very quickly,

di gespilen, die Iblis hâte,
the playmates, whom Iblis had,

mit den siu gienc bluomen lesen,
with whom she went flowers to-gather,

die sint imer sît gewesen
they are ever since been

durch ir willen âne man.
for her sake without man.

ir keiniu vreude nie gewan,
of-them any joy never gained,

ê si nu mugen schouwen
before they now may behold

vrowen Iblis ir vrouwen.
lady Iblis their lady.

nu sint si gein ir geriten.
now are they toward her ridden.

mit vrowelîchen siten
with ladylike customs

enpfiengen si die künigîn.
received they the queen.

der ritter muos ouch vil sîn,
of-the knights must also many be,

die der vrowen pflâgen,
who of-the ladies took-care,

und der mê, die sich wâgen
and of-them more, who themselves ventured

ûf buhurt, des dâ was genuoc.
upon jousting, of-which there was enough.

vernement ez niht für unfuoc,
take it not for impropriety,

die rîter sô die tumben trugen
the knights so the foolish deceived

daz si wol swüeren, sie vlugen
that they well swore, they flew

und daz si engel wæren.
and that they angels were.

ir envrieschent nie an mæren,
you heard never in tales,

daz sô vil ritter spilten
that so many knights played

ûf rossen und mit schilten.
upon horses and with shields.

ir prîses muoz ich vil verdagen,
of-their prize must I much keep-silent,

wan daz eine muoz ich sagen, 9170
except that one must I tell,

dâ reit sô manic wîgant
there rode so many-a fighter

sô wol, daz nie ze Brâbant
so well, that never in Brabant

ein ritter sich geschihte baz,
a knight himself arranged better,

swenne er ûffem rosse gesaz
whenever he upon-the horse sat

und er sich ûf ein puneiz 9175
and he himself upon a charge

mit rîchem muote gevleiz.
with rich spirit applied.

Uns zelt daz welsche buoch daz,
To-us tells the French book that,

ez enwurde nie vrowe baz
it became never lady better

enpfangen noch sô schône
received nor so nicely

als Iblis ûf Dôdône 9180
as Iblis upon Dodone

wart mit aller der getât,
became with all the deed,

diu an vrowen anpfange stât.
which in ladies' receptions stands.

und aldie mit ir kâmen dar,
and all-who with her came there,

der nam man als guote war,
of-them took one so good heed,

daz in nihtes enbrast
that to-them nothing lacked

des weder wirt oder gast
of-which either host or guest

erdenken kan ze wirtschaft.
devise can for hospitality.

alles guotes überkraft,
of-all goods superabundance,

des gap man in den vollen.
of-that gave one to-them in-the full.

daz mære ist ûz erschollen
the tale is out resounded

daz si ze wunsche lebeten.
that they to wish lived.

die herren ouch dâ gebeten
the lords also there gave

varendem volke als ez zam.
to-traveling folk as it befitted.

der et durch êre guot nam,
whoever just for honor goods took,

der wart mit rîcheit geladen
he became with richness laden

und erkovert sich alles schaden
and recovered himself of-all harm

des im armuot ie getete.
which to-him poverty ever did.

daz gebôt der milte Lanzelete.
that commanded the generous Lanzelet.

Nu enpfienc ze Dôdône
Now received at Dodone

Lanzelet die krône
Lanzelet the crown

nâch küniclîchem site.
after kingly custom.

ich wæne ouch Iblis niht vermite
I believe also Iblis not avoided

siu wurde gekrœnet mit ir man.
she unless-became crowned with her husband.

ir vremden mantel siu an
her strange mantle she on

truoc ze tische und ouch ze spil:
wore at table and also at play:

dem wart gewartet harte vil,
to-it became attended very much,

sô daz gwürhte lebelîche tet.
so the work lifelike did.

ouch enpfienc her Lanzelet
also received lord Lanzelet

sîne fürsten ze man,
his princes as man,

dar nâch er schiere gewan
there after he quickly gained

den gewalt mit ganzer êre.
the power with whole honor.

dô wart dâ vreuden mêre
then became there of-joys more

danne vor, daz was reht,
than before, that was right,

wande im manic guot kneht
for to-him many-a good knight

was getriuwe unde holt.
was faithful and devoted.

er gap in silber unde golt,
he gave them silver and gold,

des er dâ guote state vant.
of-which he there good means found.

swaz Iweret der wîgant
whatever Iweret the fighter

het verlân, daz was dâ gar,
had left, that was there wholly,

unde was gesamenet dar
and was gathered there

vil getregdes ûz der mâze.
much of-stores beyond the measure.

an die schaffenær ichz lâze,
to the stewards I-it leave,

den ez gebôt Lanzelet,
to-whom it commanded Lanzelet,

daz nie mê liut baz getet
that never more people better did

mit sô vil guotes danne sie.
with so much goods than they.

dâ mite lâz ich die rede hie.
there with leave I the speech here.

War umbe tæt ich aber daz?
What for should-do I but that?

ich wil iu sagen fürbaz
I will to-you tell further

mit kurzer rede die wârheit.
with short speech the truth.

swaz uns iender ist geseit
whatever to-us anywhere is told

von hôhvart oder von schalle,
of splendor or of clamor,

daz sult ir merken alle,
that shall you mark all,

des was ze Dôdône mê,
of-that was at Dodone more,

danne man sît oder ê
than one afterward or before

âne lüge habe vernomen.
without lie have heard.

swer ze grôzem hove ist komen,
whoever to great court is come,

dâ man vreude und wunder sach,
where one joy and wonder saw,

ob des hie alles niht geschach,
if of-that here all nothing happened,

so geloubent mir niht des ich sage.
so believe me nothing of-what I say.

ze Dôdôn was alle tage,
at Dodone was all days,

die wîl der hof werte,
the while the court lasted,

swes et iman gerte,
whatever just anyone desired,

hübscheit und wünne.
courtliness and delight.

dâ enwas dehein künne
there was no kind

ze leides ungewinne,
for sorrow's loss,

ez enwære dan diu minne,
it unless-were then the love,

diu dâ tet daz siu dicke tuot:
which there did what she often does:

siu twinget manigem den muot,
she forces to-many-a-one the mind,

swie vrœlich sîn gebærde sîn,
however joyful his bearing be,

daz doch sîn herze duldet pîn.
that yet his heart suffers pain.

Nu was Artûs der künic hêr
Now was Arthur the king noble

drî mânôde unde mêr
three months and more

mit aller der geselleschaft
with all the company

und mit der grôzen heres kraft
and with the great host's strength

ze Dôdône in Behforet.
at Dodone in Behforet.

dâ bôt in her Lanzelet
there offered them lord Lanzelet

michel êre und allez guot.
great honor and all good.

daz was sîn site und ouch sîn muot,
that was his custom and also his mind,

daz er nimer des vergaz,
that he never of-that forgot,

er enbüte den liuten etswaz,
he unless-offered the people something,

dâ bî er in bescheinde
there by he to-them showed

sîne tugent und daz er meinde
his virtue and that he loved

mit triuwen got und ouch die welt.
with faith God and also the world.

Ginoveren wart daz guot gezelt.
to-Ginover became that good counted.

dô wolt Iblis diu künigîn
then would Iblis the queen

hern Keiînes vriundîn
to-lord Keiin's beloved

ir mantel gerne hân gegeben,
her mantle gladly have given,

wan daz siu vorhte daz ûf streben
except that she feared that up striving

als ir ê hânt vernomen.
as you before have heard.

iemitten ist ez dar zuo komen,
meanwhile is it there to come,

daz der künic Artûs
that the king Arthur

von sînes lieben neven hûs
from his dear nephew's house

mit urloub wolte rîten.
with leave would ride.

er enmoht niht langer bîten,
he might not longer wait,

wan im von heime ein bote kam,
for to-him from home a messenger came,

der seit im des ich niht vernam.
who told to-him what I not heard.

Do begunden sich die vrowen wenen,
Then began themselves the ladies to-accustom,

daz in trûren unde muotsenen
that to-them sorrowing and longing

an daz herze muose gân.
to the heart must go.

wie kunde Iblis nu gelân,
how could Iblis now leave-off,

siu und Lanzelet du Lac
she and Lanzelet du Lac

müesen etswie manegen tac
must somehow many-a day

Artûsen harte schône
Arthur very nicely

kundewieren von Dôdône?
escort from Dodone?

dô wart dâ urloup genomen
then became there leave taken

von herren die dar wâren komen.
by lords who there were come.

si wunschtn an allem teile,
they wished in every part,

daz Lanzelet mit heile
that Lanzelet with salvation

und sîn wîp müesen leben.
and his wife might live.

dâ mite hiez im sîn ros geben
there with bade to-him his horse give

Artûs der milte man.
Arthur the generous man.

Iblis fuor mit in dan
Iblis fared with them away

mit vil rittern, unde Lanzelet,
with many knights, and Lanzelet,

der in guote volleist tet,
who to-them good escort did,

schône ichn weiz wie manegen tac:
nicely I-not know how many-a day:

wan sô sich ieze bewac
for when herself now resolved

Iblis mit ir gesinden,
Iblis with her household,

daz si wolt erwinden,
that she would turn-back,

sô reit siu aber fürbaz:
so rode she again further:

durch Ginoveren tet siu daz.
for Ginover did she that.

ze jungest muosens scheiden.
at last must-they part.

dô huop sich undr in beiden
then raised itself between them both

küssen, weinen, dran ir liebe schein.
kissing, weeping, there-in their love shone.

künec Artûs kom schiere hein
king Arthur came quickly home

und reit ouch Lanzelet her wider
and rode also Lanzelet hither back

und Iblis dâ si beidiu sider
and Iblis where they both afterward

mit vreuden lebten schône
with joys lived nicely

ûf ir guoten burc Dôdône.
upon their good castle Dodone.

Nu hânt ir alle wol vernomen,
Now have you all well heard,

daz ich schiere zende wære komen
that I quickly to-the-end were come

des mæres von Lanzelete.
of-the tale of Lanzelet.

von diu bit ich einer bete
from that beg I a request

alle tugentrîche diet,
all virtue-rich folk,

swer er sî der ditz liet
whoever he be who this song
von êrste habe gehœret her,
from first have heard hither,
ob er stætelîcher vreuden ger
if he of-steadfast joys desire
und vorderlîcher sælikheit,
and of-surpassing blessedness,
daz er der werde bereit
that he of-it become ready
ze wunsche an dirre welte,
to wish in this world,
durch daz er niht beschelte
for that he not scold
diz selbe getihte.
this same poem.
als ich iuch berihte,
as I you inform,
so enist dâ von noch zuo geleit,
so is-not there from nor to added,
wan als ein welschez buoch seit,
except as a French book tells,
daz uns von êrst wart erkant,
which to-us at first became known,
dô der künec von Engellant
when the king of England
wart gevangen, als got wolde,
became captured, as God would,
von dem herzogen Liupolde,
by the duke Liupold,
und er in hôhe schatzte.
and he him high ransomed.

der gevangen künec im satzte
the captured king to-him set

ze gîseln edel herren,
as hostages noble lords,

von vremden landen verren,
from strange lands far,

an gebürte harte grôz,
in birth very great,

grâven, vrîen und der gnôz:
counts, freemen and the peers:

di bevalch ab keiser Heinrich
them committed but emperor Heinrich

in tiutschiu lant umbe sich,
into German lands about himself,

als im riet sîn wille.
as him counseled his will.

Hûc von Morville
Hugh of Morville

hiez der selben gîsel ein,
was-called of-the same hostages one,

in des gewalt uns vor erschein
in whose power to-us before appeared

daz welsche buoch von Lanzelete.
the French book of Lanzelet.

dô twanc in lieber vriunde bete,
then compelled him dear friends' request,

daz dise nôt nam an sich
that this need took on himself

von Zatzikhoven Uolrich,
of Zatzikhoven Ulrich,

daz er tihten begunde
that he to-compose began

in tiutsche, als er kunde,
in German, as he could,

diz lange vremde mære
this long strange tale

durch niht wan daz er wære
for nothing but that he were

in der frumen hulde dester baz.
in the valiant-ones' favor the better.

nu lât die rede âne haz:
now let the speech without hatred:

sô sag ich iu des liedes mêr.
so tell I to-you of-the song more.

dô Lanzelet der künic hêr
when Lanzelet the king noble

sîn dinc gesatzte an selhe stat
his affair set in such place

als er selbe wolte unde bat,
as he self would and begged,

dô liez er êrste sine man
then let he first his men

von Genewîs rîten wider dan
from Genewis ride back thence

mit êren als ez wol gezam.
with honors as it well befitted.

er schuof, daz im sîn muoter kam:
he arranged, that to-him his mother came:

di enpfienc er mit triuwen
her received he with faith

und ergatztes alder riuwen
and compensated-her of-all-the rue

der ir dâ vor was beschehen.
which to-her there before was happened.

nu moht siu êrste wünne sehen
now might she first delight see

an ir lieben kinde.
in her dear child.

al sîn ingesinde
all his household

bôt ir grôzẹ werdikheit.
offered her great worthiness.

sus überwant siu al ir leit.
thus overcame she all her sorrow.

Nu vrumt in sælde und ir gebet,
Now availed them blessing and her prayer,

daz Iblis und Lanzelet
that Iblis and Lanzelet

gewunnen lussamiu kint,
gained lovely children,

als die liute algernde sint,
as the people all-desiring are,

die mit dem guote
who with the goods

volziehent dem muote.
fulfill to-the mind.

merkent wie der rede sî.
mark how of-the speech be.

ein tohter unde süne drî,
a daughter and sons three,

diu vier kint mit wârheit
the four children with truth

diu arpten, sô man uns seit,
they inherited, as one us tells,

an ir habe und an ir guote,
in their property and in their goods,

an tugenden und an muote.
in virtues and in mind.

daz fuogt sich sælecl îche,
that fitted itself blessedly,

wan vier künicrîche
for four kingdoms

hete Lanzelet du Lac,
had Lanzelet du Lac,

driu der Iweret pflac,
three of-which Iweret took-care,

daz vierde Genewîs sîn lant,
the fourth Genewis his land,

daz im lie der künic Pant,
which to-him left the king Pant,

sîn herre und ouch der vater sîn.
his lord and also the father his.

Iblis diu künigîn,
Iblis the queen,

diu riet im niht wan êre.
she counseled him nothing but honor.

ez endurfent niemer mêre
it need never more

zwei liep gesamenet werden
two lovers joined become

ûf aller der erden,
upon all the earth,

diu glîcher tugent zesamene wete
who more-alike virtue together yoked

dann Iblên und Lanzelete.
than Ible and Lanzelet.

als ich iuch berihten muoz,
as I you inform must,

ir enwederz liez niht einen fuoz
of-them either let not a foot

daz ander an den êren für.
the other in the honors before.

ir milte wart sô wîtspür,
their generosity became so wide-tracked,

daz si nieman niht verzigen.
that they to-no-one nothing refused.

des sint si lobes unverswigen
of-that are they of-praise unsilenced

die wîle und diu welt stât.
the while and the world stands.

swelch herre daz begât,
whichever lord that achieves,

daz er ze lobe wirt durch guot
that he to praise becomes through good

und niht durch schalkheit, daz ist guot.
and not through roguery, that is good.

von übele genæme,
from evil taken,

daz lob ist niht gezæme,
the praise is not fitting,

wan ez den frumen niht behaget.
for it the valiant not pleases.

durch daz sî iu daz gesaget,
for that be to-you that told,

daz der herre Lanzelet
that the lord Lanzelet

allez an daz beste tet.
all to the best did.

er was guot wirt in sîme hûs,
he was good host in his house,

als im der künic Artûs
as him the king Arthur

riet durch sîner triuwen kraft,
counseled through his faith's strength,

und verlac kein ritterschaft,
and neglected no knighthood,

die er gereichen mohte.
which he reach might.

diz werte unz im tohte
this lasted until to-him availed

sîns lîbes kraft mit der jugent.
of-his body strength with the youth.

er gelepte mit ganzer tugent,
he lived with whole virtue,

daz im sô liebe geschach,
that to-him so dear happened,

daz er sîner kinde kint gesach
that he of-his children children saw

mit wahsender werdikheit.
with growing worthiness.

nu waz touc iu mêr geseit
now what avails to-you more told

wan daz in got sô wol tet,
except that to-them God so well did,

daz Iblis und Lanzelet
that Iblis and Lanzelet

mit grôzen êren wurden alt
with great honors became old

und sturben, als uns ist gezalt,
and died, as to-us is told,

beidiu sampt an eime tage.
both together on one day.

swaz iu anders ieman sage
whatever to-you otherwise anyone tell

von in, des hân ich niht vernomen.
of them, of-that have I nothing heard.

wer möhtes alles zende komen,
who might-it all to-the-end come,

waz wunders Lanzelet begienc?
what of-wonder Lanzelet performed?

sît er ze êrst ze tugenden vienc,
since he at first to virtues took-hold,

sô wuohs sîn lop unz er verschiet.
so grew his praise until he departed.

alsus endet sich daz liet.
thus ends itself the song.

Ditz mære ist ûz, daz ich kan.
This tale is out, that I can.

durch den ichz tihten began,
for whom I-it to-compose began,

der lôn mirs, dêst sîn êre. 9435
he reward me-for-it, that-is his honor.

ich wil noch michels mêre
I will yet much more

durch in tuon, sol ich leben.
for him do, (if)-shall I live.

er mac mir lîhte lôn gegeben,
he may to-me easily reward give,

sî er mir als ich im bin.
(if)-be he to-me as I to-him am.

des sult ir alle biten in, 9440
of-that shall you all beg him,

die diz liet hœren oder lesen.
who this song hear or read.

daz ir imer sælic müezent wesen
that you ever blessed must be

und iuch got berihte,
and you God guide,

des gert Uolrich derz tihte.
that desires Ulrich who-it composed.