

Ywaine and Gawaine,

? First half of the 14th century, MS early 15th century

based on *Yvain, ou le chevalier au lion* by Chrétien de Troyes, c. 1180

1. ll. 1-482, Introduction and Colgrentant's adventure

	Almyghti God that made mankyn, He schilde His servandes out of syn And mayntene tham with myght and mayne That herkens Ywayne and Gawayne;	<i>mankind protects; from who listens to</i>	Almighty God who made mankind, shield His servants from sin and maintain them with strength who hear <i>Ywain and Gawain</i> .
5	Thai war knightes of the Tabyl Rownde, Tharfore listens a lytel stownde. Arthure, the Kyng of Yngland, That wan al Wales with his hand And al Scotland, als sayes the buke,	<i>little while conquered as</i>	They were knights of the Round Table, so listen a little while. Arthure, King of England, who won all of Wales and Scotland as the book says,
10	And mani mo, if men wil luke, Of al knightes he bare the pryse. In werld was none so war ne wise. Trew he was in alkyn thing. Als it byfel to swilk a kyng,	<i>more was most worthy prudent every such</i>	and many more if men will look, bore the prize of all knights. There was no one in the world so wise; he was true in all things, as befits such a king.
15	He made a feste, the soth to say, Opon the Witsononday At Kerdyf that es in Wales. And efter mete thare in the hales Ful grete and gay was the assemblé	<i>feast; truth Whitsunday Cardiff after dinner; pavilions</i>	Arthure held a feast on Whitsunday at Cardiff in Wales, and in the halls after dinner there was a great and joyous assembly
20	Of lordes and ladies of that cuntré, And als of kynghtes war and wyse And damisels of mykel pryse. Ilkane with other made grete gamin And grete solace als thai war samin.	<i>great excellence each one; great pleasure as; were assembled</i>	of lords and ladies of that country, of wise and prudent knights and maidens of great esteem. And they amused each other with the pleasure of their company.
25	Fast thai carped and curtaysly Of dedes of armes and of veneri And of gude knightes that lyfed then, And how men might tham kyndeli ken By doghtines of thaire gude dede	<i>boasted feats; hunting lived truly know valor</i>	They spoke courteously of deeds of arms and hunting, and of good knights who lived before and how they might be known by the bravery of their deeds
30	On ilka syde, wharesum thai yede - For thai war stif in ilka stowre. And tharfore gat thai grete honowre. Thai tald of more trewth tham bitwene Than now omang men here es sene,	<i>every; wherever; went strong; every fight got accounted for; between among; is</i>	wherever they went, for they were unrelenting in battle and earned great honor. They valued truth more between them than is now seen among men,
35	For trowth and luf es al bylaft; Men uses now another craft. With worde men makes it trew and stabil, Bot in thaire faith es nocht bot fabil; With the mowth men makes it hale,	<i>love; abandoned words (i.e., writing) nothing but lies mouth; sweet</i>	for truth and love are lost, and men practice another craft. They use words to make things seem true and stable, but it is all but fable; the thing seems sound in their mouth but there is no truth in their tale.
40	Bot trew trowth es nane in the tale. Tharfore hereof now wil I blyn, Of the Kyng Arthure I wil bygin And of his curtayse cumpany; Thare was the flowre of chevallry.	<i>stop</i>	I will stop speaking of this and begin telling of Arthure and his courteous company, the flower of chivalry,
45	Swilk lose thai wan with speres-horde Over al the werld went the worde. After mete went the Kyng Into chamber to slepeing,	<i>such praise; spearpoint</i>	who won such renown with their spears that their fame went all over the world. After dinner the king went to the chamber to sleep;

	And also went with him the Quene.		and the queen went with him.
50	That byheld thai al bydene, For thai saw tham never so On high dayes to chamber go. Bot sone, when thai war went to slepe, Knyghtes sat the dor to kepe:	<i>one and all</i>	Everyone noticed, for they had never seen them go to the chamber on high days. When the two were asleep, knights soon came to guard the door:
55	Sir Dedyne and Sir Segramore, Sir Gawayn and Sir Kay sat thore, And also sat thare Sir Ywaine And Colgrevice of mekyl mayn.	<i>guard</i> <i>there</i>	Sir Dedine, Sir Sagramor, Sir Gawain and Sir Kay sat there, and so did Sir Ywain, and mighty Colgrevice.
60	This knight that hight Colgrevice, Tald his felows of a chance And of a stowre he had in bene, And al his tale herd the Quene. The chamber dore sho has unshet, And down omang tham scho hir set;	<i>much strength</i> <i>was called</i> <i>situation</i> <i>battle; been in</i>	This knight named Colgrevice told his fellows of an adventure and battle he had been in, and the queen heard his tale. She opened the chamber door and suddenly sat down among them
65	Sodainli sho sat down right, Or ani of tham of hir had sight Bot Colgrevice rase up in hy, And thareof had Syr Kay envy, For he was of his tong a skalde,	<i>opened</i> <i>suddenly</i> <i>before</i> <i>rose; haste</i>	before anyone saw her. But Colgrevice quickly rose up, which made Sir Kay, who had a sharp, boastful tongue, envious.
70	And forto boste was he ful balde. "Ow, Colgrevice," said Sir Kay, "Ful light of lepes has thou bene ay. Thou wenes now that the sal fall Forto be hendest of us all.	<i>tongue a scold</i> <i>boast; bold</i> <i>oh</i> <i>quick to rise; ever been</i> <i>think; you shall be held</i> <i>to be most courteous</i>	"Well, Colgrevice," said Sir Kay, "you've ever been light on your feet! You suppose that now you will be considered the most gracious of us all. The queen shall understand
75	And the Quene sal understand, That here es none so unkunand Al if thou rase and we sat styll. We ne dyd it for none yll, Ne for no manere of fayntise,	<i>shall</i> <i>ignorant</i> <i>arose</i>	that none of us are so ignorant, though you rose and we sat still, that we did it for ill or through sluggishness or would not have risen had we seen her."
80	Ne us denyd nocht forto rise, That we ne had resen had we hyr sene." "Sir Kay, I wote wele," sayd the Quene, "And it war gude thou left swilk sawes And nocht despise so thi felawes."	<i>sluggishness;</i> <i>deigned (refused)</i> <i>arisen; seen</i> <i>know</i> <i>quit such speech</i>	"Sir Kay," said the queen, "I know that well, and it would be good if you left off such words and not despise your fellows."
85	"Madame," he said, "by Goddes dome, We ne wist no thing of thi come And if we did nocht curtaysly, Takes to no velany. Bot pray ye now this gentil man	<i>judgment</i> <i>knew; coming</i> <i>[behave] courteously</i> <i>account it no discourtesy</i>	"Madam," he replied, "by God's doom, we did not know of your coming, and if we were not courteous, do not take it as disrespect. But ask now this nobleman to tell the tale he began."
90	To tel the tale that he bygan." Colgrevice said to Sir Kay: "Bi grete God that aw this day, Na mare manes me thi flyt Than it war a flies byt.	<i>made</i> <i>bothers; reproach</i> <i>bite</i>	Colgrevice told Sir Kay: "By God who holds this day, your quarreling bothers me no more than a fly's bite; you have often spitefully resented better men than I.
95	Ful oft wele better men than I Has thou desspised desspytusely. It es ful semeli, als me think, A brok omang men forto stynk. So it fars by the, Syr Kay:	<i>contemptuously</i> <i>as it seems to me</i> <i>badger</i> <i>fares</i>	In my opinion, it is full seemly for a badger to stink among men. And so it fares with you, Sir Kay; you have always been wicked of words, and because your words are wicked
100	Of weked wordes has thou bene ay. And, sen thi wordes er wikked and fell,	<i>evil words; ever been</i> <i>since; are; fierce</i>	

	This time tharto na more I tell, Bot of the thing that I bygan." And sone Sir Kay him answerd than		so this time there is no more to say. But about the story that I began—."
105	And said ful tite unto the Quene: "Madame, if ye had noght here bene, We sold have herd a selly case; Now let ye us of oure solace. Tharfore, madame, we wald yow pray,	<i>quickly</i> <i>should; marvelous incident</i> <i>you deprive us; entertainment</i>	Sir Kay interrupted him and quickly said to the queen: "Madam, if you had not been here, we would have heard a marvelous tale. So that we may have our pleasure, we pray you, Madam, to command him speak to tell his story as he meant."
110	That ye cumand him to say And tel forth, als he had tyght." Than answerd that hende knight: "Mi lady es so avyse, That scho wil noght cumand me	<i>command; speak</i> <i>as; intended</i> <i>courteous</i> <i>wise</i>	The courteous knight replied, "My lady is so discreet that she will not force me to tell that which distresses me; she is not of such wicked will." But Sir Kay said sharply, "Madame, this whole company together asks you heartily to have Colgrevice tell his tale so that we may hear what befell, if not on account of our request, then for the faith you owe to the king."
115	To tel that towches me to ill; Scho es noght of so weked will." Sir Kai said than ful smertli: "Madame, al hale this cumpani Praies yow hertly now omell,	<i>what redounds to my discredit</i> <i>wicked</i> <i>whole</i> <i>heartily; meanwhile</i>	that which distresses me; she is not of such wicked will." But Sir Kay said sharply, "Madame, this whole company together asks you heartily to have Colgrevice tell his tale so that we may hear what befell, if not on account of our request, then for the faith you owe to the king."
120	That he his tale forth might tell. If ye wil noght for oure praying, For faith ye aw unto the kyng, Cumandes him his tale to tell, That we mai here how it byfell."	<i>owe</i>	you owe to the king." "Sir Colgrevice," said the queen, "I pray you take no offense at Sir Kay's carping; he has always been wicked of speech, and no one may chastise him. Therefore I pray you, by all means, that you not let his words stop you, and tell me and your fellows all your tale and how it happened, I pray and bid you for my love."
125	Than said the Quene, "Sir Colgrevice, I prai the tak to no grevice This kene karping of Syr Kay; Of weked wordes has he bene ay, So that none may him chastise.	<i>bitter nagging</i> <i>always</i>	at Sir Kay's carping; he has always been wicked of speech, and no one may chastise him. Therefore I pray you, by all means, that you not let his words stop you, and tell me and your fellows all your tale and how it happened, I pray and bid you for my love."
130	Tharfore I prai the, on al wise, That thou let noght for his sawes, At tel to me and thi felawes Al thi tale, how it bytid. For my luf I the pray and byd."	<i>wholeheartedly</i> <i>cease</i> <i>but</i> <i>happened</i>	I pray and bid you for my love." "I am loathe to do so, Madam, but I will fulfil your commandment so that I don't anger you. If you will listen to me with understanding hearts and ears, I will tell you tidings such as you have never heard in any king's realm. But words fare as does the wind unless men bind them in their heart; words, when truly taken, pass the ears and enter the heart, where there is the treasure of each man's speech.
135	"Sertes, madame, that es me lath Bot for I wil noght mak yow wrath, Yowre cumandment I sal fulfill, If ye wil listen me untill, With hertes and eres understandes;	<i>reluctant</i> <i>angry</i> <i>to</i>	of each man's speech. So listen to my tale; I will tell you no trifles or lies to make you laugh, but exactly what I saw. "At this time six years ago I rode alone, as you shall hear,
140	And I sal tel yow swilk tithandes, That ye herd never none slike Reherced in no kynges ryke. Bot word fares als dose the wind, Bot if men it in hert bynd;	<i>such tidings</i> <i>like 'em</i> <i>recounted; realm</i>	So listen to my tale; I will tell you no trifles or lies to make you laugh, but exactly what I saw. "At this time six years ago I rode alone, as you shall hear,
145	And, wordes wo so trewly tase, By the eres into the hert it gase, And in the hert thare es the horde And knawing of ilk mans worde. "Herkens, hende unto my spell.	<i>who; takes</i> <i>goes</i> <i>treasury</i> <i>each</i> <i>good sirs, gracious lady; story</i>	So listen to my tale; I will tell you no trifles or lies to make you laugh, but exactly what I saw. "At this time six years ago I rode alone, as you shall hear,
150	Trofels sal I yow nane tell, Ne lesinges forto ger yow lagh, Bot I sal say right als I sagh. Now als this time sex yere I rade allane, als ye sal here,	<i>trivial tales shall</i> <i>lies; make you laugh</i> <i>saw</i> <i>six years ago</i> <i>rode; hear</i>	I rode alone, as you shall hear,

155	About forto seke aventurs, Wele armid in gude armurs. In a frith I fand a strete; Ful thik and hard, I you bihete, With thornes, breres, and moni a quyn.	<i>seek</i>	well armed to seek adventures.
160	Nerehand al day I rade thareyn, And thurgh I past with mekyl payn. Than come I sone into a playn, Whare I gan se a bretise brade, And thederward ful fast I rade.	<i>wood; path</i> <i>assure</i> <i>prickly branches; quince tree</i> <i>nearly</i> <i>great pain</i> <i>clearing</i> <i>parapet broad</i>	In a forest I found a path, thick with thorns, briars and whin. I rode nearly all day with great difficulty and then came into a plain where I saw a broad stronghold and rode quickly to it.
165	I saw the walles and the dyke, And hertly wele it gan me lyke; And on the drawbrig saw I stand A knight with fawkon on his hand. This ilk knight, that be ye balde,	<i>moat</i> <i>heartily</i>	I saw the walls and the dyke, which pleased me heartily. A knight, who was lord and keeper of the place, stood on the drawbridge with a falcon on his hand.
170	Was lord and keper of that halde. I hailed him kindly als I kowth; He answerd me mildeli with mowth. Mi sterap toke that hende knight And kindly cumanded me to lyght;	<i>falcon</i> <i>same; assured</i> <i>castle</i> <i>hailed; could</i> <i>courteous speech</i> <i>stirrup</i> <i>dismount</i> <i>straight away</i> <i>taken</i>	We greeted each other politely, and the gracious knight took my stirrup and told me to dismount, which I did presently, and we soon went into the hall. The good man thanked God seven times at least, and the way that brought me there and the adventures I sought.
175	His cumandment I did onane, And into hall sone war we tane. He thanked God, that gude man, Sevyn sithes or ever he blan, And the way that me theder broght,	<i>times before; ceased</i> <i>thither</i>	“Thus we entered, God reward him, and he led my steed. When we were in that fair, worthily wrought palace, I saw no living man around. There was a board hanging before us, made of neither iron, wood, nor any material I know of, and a mallet beside it. The knight struck the board with the mallet three times, and a company of fair, courteous men appeared, who led my horse to the stable.
180	And als the aventurs that I soght. "Thus went we in, God do him mede, And in his hand he led my stede. When we are in that fayre palays - It was ful worthly wroght always -	<i>give him recompense</i>	A maiden came to me, the most beautiful I have ever seen – a lovelier one never lived in this land. She took me by the hand, and soon that gentle creature unlaced my armor, and led me into a chamber where she clad me in a fine purple cloak lined with ermine.
185	I saw no man of moder born. Bot a burde hang us biforn, Was nowther of yren ne of tre, Ne I ne wist whareof it might be. And by that bord hang a mall.	<i>rectangular board</i> <i>neither of iron nor wood</i> <i>hammer</i>	
190	The knyght smate on tharwithal Thrise, and by then might men se Bifore him come a faire menye, Curtayse men in worde and dede. To stabil sone thai led mi stede.	<i>thrice</i> <i>group of followers</i>	
195	"A damisel come unto me, The semeliest that ever I se, Lufsumer lifed never in land. Hendly scho toke me by the hand, And sone that gentyl creature	<i>lovelier lived</i> <i>courteously</i>	
200	Al unlaced myne armure. Into a chamber sho me led, And with a mantil scho me cled: It was of purpуре faire and fine And the pane of riche ermyne.	<i>clothed</i> <i>purple cloth</i> <i>lining</i>	
205	Al the folk war went us fra, And thare was none than bot we twa. Scho served me hendely to hend:	<i>courteously close by</i>	All the people left us and we were alone, and she served me graciously

	Hir maners might no man amend. Of tong sho was trew and renable		with faultless manners and true speech,
210	And of hir semblant soft and stabile. Ful fain I wald, if that I might, Have woned with that swete wight. And, when we sold go to sopere, That lady with a lufsom chere	<i>tongue; eloquent demeanor gladly lived; person should gracious manner</i>	soft and reliable in her expression. I would have lived with that sweet person if I could. “When it was time for supper, that lovely lady
215	Led me down into the hall. Thare war we served wele at all; It nedes nocht to tel the mese, For wonder wele war we at esse. Byfor me sat the lady bright	<i>food ease</i>	led me to the hall, where we were served well. There is no need to tell the courses; we were made wondrously at ease. The lady sat before me
220	Curtaisly my mete to dyght; Us wanted nowther baken ne roste. And efter soper sayd myne oste That he cowth nocht tel the day That ani knight are with him lay,	<i>prepare lacked; meat pie; roast meat host could not recall previously</i>	and courteously prepared my food, which lacked neither pies nor roasts. After supper, my host said he could not remember the day a knight had stayed with him or sought any adventures.
225	Or that ani adventures soght. Tharfore he prayed me, if I moght, On al wise, when I come ogayne, That I sold cum to him sertayne. I said, "Sir, gladly, yf I may."	<i>might</i>	So he asked me if I could, by all means, when I returned, be sure to come to him again, and I said I would gladly if I could; it would have been shameful to refuse.
230	It had bene shame have said him nay. "That night had I ful gude rest And mi stede esed of the best. Alsome als it was dayes lyght, Forth to fare sone was I dyght.	<i>provided comfort</i>	“I had a good sleep that night, and my steed was well rested. I prepared to leave at daybreak,
235	Mi leve of mine ost toke I thare And went mi way withowten mare, Aventures forto layt in land. A faire forest sone I fand. Me thocht mi hap thare fel ful hard,	<i>host seek came upon by chance</i>	took leave of my host, and left without more ado to find adventures. I soon found a fair forest but thought it bad luck,
240	For thare was mani a wilde lebard, Lions, beres, bath bul and bare, That rewfully gan rope and rare. Oway I drogh me, and with that I saw sone whare a man sat	<i>leopard boar sorrowfully; cry out; roar drew</i>	for there were many wild leopards, lions, bears, bulls and boars that roared ruefully. I turned away and soon saw a man sitting
245	On a lawnd, the fowlest wight That ever yit man saw in syght. He was a lathly creature, For fowl he was out of mesure; A wonder mace in hand he hade,	<i>clearing; ugliest creature loathsome ugly wonderful club</i>	on a mound holding a mace; he was a loathly creature, the foulest ever seen.
250	And sone mi way to him I made. His hevyd, me thocht, was als grete Als of a rowncy or a nete; Unto his belt hang his hare, And efter that byheld I mare.	<i>head saddle-horse; ox down to; hair more</i>	I made my way towards him and saw that his head was as great as that of a horse or ox, a nd his hair hung down to his belt. As I continued to look at him,
255	To his forhede byheld I than, Was bradder than twa large span; He had eres als ane olyfant And was wele more than geant. His face was ful brade and flat;	<i>two; handbreadths like an elephant bigger than a giant broad</i>	I saw that his forehead was broader than the span of two large hands, and his ears like an elephant’s. The giant man had a wide, flat face
260	His nese was cutted als a cat;	<i>snubbed</i>	and a nose like a cat’s;

	His browes war like litel buskes; And his tethe like bare tuskes. A ful grete bulge opon his bak - Thare was noght made withowten lac.	<i>bushes</i> <i>boar's tusks</i>	his brows were like little bushes and his teeth like boar tusks. He had a huge bulge on his back,
265	His chin was fast until his brest; On his mace he gan him rest. Also it was a wonder wede, That the cherle yn gede; Nowther of wol ne of line	<i>fault</i> <i>firmly fixed</i> <i>club</i> <i>wondrous garment</i> <i>was dressed in</i> <i>wool; linen</i>	and his chin was attached to his chest. He rested on his club, and was dressed in curious clothing, made neither of wool or linen.
270	Was the wede that he went yn. "When he me sagh, he stode upright. I frayned him if he wolde fight, For tharto was I in gude will, Bot als a beste than stode he still.	<i>clothing</i> <i>asked</i>	"He stood up when he saw me, and I asked if he wanted to fight, for I was willing. But he stood as still as a beast,
275	I hopid that he no wittes kowth, No reson forto speke with mowth. To him I spak ful hardily And said, 'What ertow, belamy?' He said ogain, 'I am a man.'	<i>thought; had no ability to</i> <i>understand</i> <i>are you, fair friend</i>	so I thought he had no wits or reason to enable him to speak. I boldly asked him, 'What are you, friend?' and he answered, 'I am a man!'
280	I said, 'Swilk saw I never nane. What ertow?' alone said he. I said, 'Swilk als thou here may se.' I said, 'What does thou here allane?'	<i>such</i> <i>instantly</i> <i>alone</i>	I said, 'I have never seen such a one,' and he asked me, 'What are you?' I replied, 'Such as you see. What do you do here alone?'
285	He said, 'I kepe thir bestes ilkane.' I said, 'That es mervaille, think me, For I herd never of man bot the In wildernes ne in forestes, That kepeing had of wilde bestes, Bot thai war bunden fast in halde.'	<i>each one</i> <i>bound; confinement</i>	He told me, 'I tend all these beasts.' I said, 'This is a marvel to me, for I have never heard of any but you in wilderness or forest who kept wild beasts unless they were bound fast.'
290	He said, 'Of thire es none so balde Nowther by day ne bi night Anes to pas out of mi sight.' I sayd, 'How so? Tel me thi scill.' 'Parfay,' he said, 'gladly I will.'	<i>fearless</i> <i>alone</i> <i>skill</i>	He said, 'None of them are so bold as to pass out of my sight day or night.' I asked, 'How so? Explain your skill,' which he gladly did:
295	He said, 'In al this faire foreste Es thare none so wilde beste, That remu dar, bot stil stand, When I am to him cumand. Any ay, when that I wil him fang	<i>by my faith</i> <i>dare to move</i> <i>coming</i> <i>seize</i>	"There is no beast in this forest that dares to move and not stand still when I come to him. And when I seize him with my strong fingers,
300	With mi fingers that er strang, I ger him cri on swilk manere, That al the bestes when thai him here, Obout me than cum thai all, And to mi fete fast thai fall,	<i>make; such</i> <i>hear</i>	I make him cry in such a manner that when all the beasts hear him, they come to me and fall at my feet to beg mercy in their way.
305	On thaire manere merci to cry. Bot understand now redyli, Olyve es thare lifand no ma Bot I that durst omang tham ga, That he ne sold sone be al torent.	<i>readily</i> <i>alive; more</i>	But understand, I am the only man alive who can go among them without being torn apart.
310	Bot thai er at my comandment; To me thai cum when I tham call, And I am maister of tham all.' "Than he asked onone right,	<i>should soon be torn to pieces</i> <i>unless; are</i> <i>straight away</i>	They are under my control and come when I call them; I am master of them all.' "He then asked what kind

<p>What man I was. I said, 'A knyght 315 That soght aventurs in that land, My body to asai and fande. And I the pray of thi kownsayle, Thou teche me to sum mervayle.' He said, 'I can no wonders tell, 320 Bot here bisyde es a well. Wend theder and do als I say; Thou passes noght al quite oway. Folow forth this ilk strete, And some sum mervayles sal thou mete. 325 The well es under the fairest tre That ever was in this cuntré; By that well hinges a bacyne That es of gold gude and fyne, With a cheyne, trewly to tell, 330 That wil reche into the well. Thare es a chapel nere tharby, That nobil es and ful lufely. By the well standes a stane; Tak the bacyn sone onane 335 And cast on water with thi hand, And sone thou sal se new tithand. A storme sal rise and a tempest Al about, by est and west; Thou sal here mani thonor-blast 340 Al about the blawand fast. And thare sal cum slik slete and rayne That unnese sal thou stand ogayne; Of lightnes sal thou se a lowe, Unnethes thou sal thi selven knowe. 345 And if thou pas withowten grevance, Than has thou the fairest chance, That ever yit had any knyght, That theder come to kyth his myght.' "Than toke I leve and went my way 350 And rade unto the midday. By than I come whare I sold be, I saw the chapel and the tre. Thare I fand the fayrest thorne That ever groued sen God was born. 355 So thik it was with leves grene, Might no rayn cum tharbytwene; And that grenes lastes ay, For no winter dere yt may. I fand the bacyn als he talde, 360 And the wel with water kalde. An amerawd was the stane - Richer saw I never nane - On fowre rubyes on heght standand. Thaire light lasted over al the land, 365 And when I saw that semely syght, It made me bath joyful and lyght.</p>	<p><i>test; try</i></p> <p><i>direct</i></p> <p><i>go</i> <i>you won't get away so easily</i> <i>same path</i></p> <p><i>hangs; basin</i></p> <p><i>quickly</i></p> <p><i>shall see; tidings</i></p> <p><i>hear; thunderblasts</i> <i>you blowing fiercely</i> <i>such sleet</i> <i>with difficulty</i> <i>brightness; flame</i> <i>hardly</i> <i>harm</i></p> <p><i>proclaim</i></p> <p><i>rode</i> <i>by [the time] when; should</i></p> <p><i>grew since</i></p> <p><i>always</i> <i>may harm it</i> <i>basin</i> <i>cold</i> <i>emerald; stone</i></p> <p><i>standing aloft</i> <i>shone</i> <i>pleasing</i> <i>both; light-hearted</i></p>	<p>of man I was, and I told him 'I am a knight seeking adventures to test my body. I pray for your advice in directing me to some wonder.' 'He replied, 'I can tell no wonders, but there is a well close by. Go there and do as I say; you will not come away easily. Follow this path and you will soon meet some marvels. There is a well under the fairest tree ever to grow in this country, A gold basin hangs by the well on a chain, that reaches into the well.</p> <p>There is a noble and beautiful chapel nearby. A stone stands by the well. Take the basin quickly and with your hand cast water on the stone, and soon you will see new tidings. A storm and tempest will rise all about, east and west. You will hear thunder blasting, sleet and rain will come that will be difficult to withstand, and lightning will flash. You will barely know yourself, and if you pass through without harm you will have the best luck of any knight who has come there to show his might.' 'I took my leave and rode until midday, when I reached my destination. I saw the chapel and the tree, the most beautiful that ever grew since God was born. It was so thick with leaves that no rain could come through, and it stayed ever green, for no winter could harm it. I found the basin as he had told me, and the well of cold water. The stone was of the richest emerald I've ever seen, and the four rubies on which it stood shone their light across the land. The beautiful sight made me joyful and lighthearted.</p>
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	I toke the bacyn sone onane And helt water opou the stane. The weder wex than wonder-blak,	<i>at once poured</i>	"I took the basin and poured water on the stone. The weather grew black
370	And the thoner fast gan crak. Thare come slike stormes of hayl and rayn, Unnethes I might stand thare ogayn; The store windes blew ful lowd, So kene come never are of clowd.	<i>thunder such with difficulty violent bitter; before from driven scarcely lightning smote thought to have burned; hot at a loss death</i>	and the thunder cracked; I could barely stand against the hail and rain storms, and the loud winds were the strongest that ever came from cloud.
375	I was drevyn with snaw and slete, Unnethes I might stand on my fete. In my face the levening smate, I wend have brent, so was it hate, That weder made me so will of rede,		I was pelted with snow and sleet, so that I could hardly stand, and the lightning in my face was so hot I expected to be burned.
380	I hopid sone to have my dede; And sertes, if it lang had last, I hope I had never thethin past. Bot thorgh His might that tholed wownd, The storme sesed within a stownde.	<i>I expect I'd never have left suffered wounds (i.e., Christ) moment</i>	I was so confounded by that weather that I believed I would soon be dead, and certainly if it had lasted long, I would never have passed through.
385	Than wex the weder fayre ogayne, And thareof was I wonder-fayne; For best comforth of al thing Es solace efter myslikeing.	<i>wondrously joyous comfort unhappiness</i>	But by Christ's grace the storm ceased in a moment and the fair weather returned, which made me very happy, for the best comfort of all is pleasure after discomfort.
390	"Than saw I sone a mery syght: Of al the fowles that er in flyght, Lighted so thik opou that tre, That bogh ne lefe none might I se. So merily than gon thai sing, That al the wode bigan to ring;	<i>bough; leaf</i>	"Then I saw a cheering sight; every bird that flies alighted on the tree, so that neither bough nor leaf could be seen. They sang so happily that the woods rang with their merry melody,
395	Ful mery was the melody Of thaire sang and of thaire cry. Thare herd never man none swilk, Bot if ani had herd that ilk. And when that mery dyn was done,	<i>heard; such unless; same [song]</i>	such that no man has ever heard unless he has been there. When that glad sound ended, I soon heard another noise, like nine or ten horsemen.
400	Another noyse than herd I sone, Als it war of horsmen Mo than owther nyen or ten. "Sone than saw I cum a knyght; In riche armurs was he dight,	<i>as if more; either dressed</i>	Soon I saw a knight dressed in rich armor, and when I looked at him I took up my shield and spear. He hurried up to me and sharply asked
405	And sone, when I gan on him loke, Mi shelde and spere to me I toke. That knight to me hied ful fast, And kene wordes out gan he cast. He bad that I sold tel him tite,	<i>hastened bold commanded; immediately such injury storms; from wrong shall pay for it</i>	why I had insulted him by disturbing his rest with storms in his own forest. 'You shall pay for it,' he said and came at me eagerly.
410	Whi I did him swilk despite, With weders wakened him of rest And done him wrang in his forest. 'Tharfore,' he said, 'thou sal aby!' And with that come he egerly		He said I had done him great harm for no reason, which may never be amended, and therefore to defend myself. I quickly smote his shield,
415	And said I had ogayn resowne Done him grete destrucciowne, And might it never more amend. Tharfore he bad I sold me fend. And sone I smate him on the shelde,	<i>against reason defend myself as soon as</i>	

420	Mi schaft brac out in the felde, And than he bare me sone bi strenkith Out of my sadel my speres lenkith. I wate that he was largely By the shuldres mare than I;	<i>broke</i> <i>strength</i> <i>the length of my spear</i> <i>knew; larger</i>	and my shaft broke out into the field. Then, with his strength he threw me out of my saddle the length of my spear. I knew that he was much larger than I in the shoulders;
425	And bi the ded that I sal thole, Mi stede by his was bot a fole. For mate I lay down on the grownde, So was I stonayd in that stownde. A worde to me wald he noght say,	<i>death; suffer</i> <i>foal</i> <i>defeated (check-mated)</i> <i>stunned; time</i>	and by the death I will suffer, next to his steed, mine was but a foal. I was so stunned that I lay on the ground; he would speak no word to me but took my steed and went his way.
430	Bot toke my stede and went his way. Ful sarily than thare I sat, For wa I wist noght what was what. With my stede he went in hy The same way that he come by.	<i>horse</i> <i>then</i> <i>woe; knew not</i> <i>quickly</i>	Dejected and confused, I sat there as he hastily left with my mount. He went the same way he had come, but I dared not follow him for fear of further injury
435	And I durst folow him no ferr For dout me solde bitide werr. And also yit, by Goddes dome, I ne wist whare he bycome.	<i>farther</i> <i>fear I should suffer worse</i> <i>heaven</i> <i>didn't know; went</i> <i>promised</i>	and, by God, I still don't know where he went. "Then I thought how I had promised my host, the noble knight, and his lovely lady to return if I might.
440	"Than I thocht how I had hight Unto myne ost, the hende knyght, And also til his lady bryght, To com ogayn if that I myght. Mine armurs left I thare ilkane, For els myght I noght have gane.	<i>host; gracious</i> <i>to</i> <i>armor; also</i>	I left all of my armor behind as I would not have been able to go along otherwise. When I arrived, the knight and lady were very glad to see me and greeted me kindly and behaved in every way as they had the night before.
445	Unto myne in I come by day. The hende knight and the fayre may Of my come war thai ful glade, And nobil semblant thai me made. In al thinges thai have tham born	<i>lodging</i> <i>maiden</i> <i>coming were; glad</i> <i>reception</i>	Soon they knew where I had been and said that they had never seen a knight go that way and come home again.
450	Als thai did the night biforn. Sone thai wist whare I had bene, And said that thai had never sene Knyght that ever theder come, Take the way ogayn home.	<i>learned</i>	And so I spent that time in this way and found the follies I had sought." "Surely," said Sir Ywain, "you are my cousin and we should love each other truly as brothers.
455	On this wise that tyme I wroght; I fand the folies that I soght." "Now sekerly," said Sir Ywayne, "Thou ert my cosyn jermayne; Trew luf suld be us bytwene,	<i>in this manner</i> <i>found</i> <i>close kinsman</i>	You are a fool for not having told me of this amazing adventure sooner, for I would have avenged you of that knight immediately and still will, if I may. Sir Kay spoke to them with smarting, condescending words: "It's easy to see that it is after dinner! There is many a boast in a pot of wine.
460	Als sold bytwyx brether bene. Thou ert a fole at thou ne had are Tald me of this ferly fare, For sertes I sold onone ryght Have venged the of that ilk knyght.	<i>brother</i> <i>not to have [told me] earlier</i> <i>weird event</i> <i>at once</i> <i>avenged you; same</i>	Arm yourself quickly, Sir Ywain, and to insure your return,
465	So sal I yit, if that I may." And than als smertly sayed Syr Kay - He karpet to tham wordes grete: "It es sene, now es efter mete, Mare boste es in a pot of wyne	<i>sharply</i> <i>spoke; insolent</i> <i>is</i>	
470	Than in a karcas of Saynt Martyne. Arme the smertly, Syr Ywayne, And sone that thou war cumen ogayne;	<i>again</i>	

	Luke thou fil wele thi panele, And in thi sadel set the wele.	<i>saddlepad place yourself well</i>	pad your saddle well a nd seat yourself firmly.
475	And when thou wendes, I the pray, Thi baner wele that thou desplay; And, rede I, or thou wende, Thou tak thi leve at ilka frende. And if it so bytide this nyght,	<i>goes ere you go of every friend</i>	Display your banner when you go, and I advise you to take leave of every friend before you depart. And if tonight you are bothered
480	That the in slepe dreche ani wight Or any dremis mak the rad, Turn ogayn and say I bad."	<i>vex you frightened predicted [it]</i>	by any creature in your sleep or frightened by any dreams, turn back—and say I bade you do so!"

2. ll. 585-1364: Ywayne's adventure and "courtship"

585	Forth than went Sir Ywayne; He thinkes, or he cum ogayne, To wreke his kosyn at his myght. The squier has his hernays dyght; He did right als his mayster red;	<i>avenge his cousin with all armor prepared advised</i>	Sir Ywain then left, intent on avenging his cousin with all his might. The squire had prepared his armor just as he was instructed,
590	His stede, his armurs he him led. When Ywayn was withowten town, Of his palfray lighted he down And dight him right wele in his wede And lepe up on his gude stede.	<i>equipment; [to] him outside off dressed; armor</i>	and brought the steed and the armour. Once Ywain was outside the town, he dismounted from his horse, donned his armor and mounted his steed.
595	Furth he rade onone right, Until it neghed nere the nyght. He passed many high mowntayne In wildernes and mony a playne, Til he come to that lethir sty,	<i>straight away</i>	He rode forth until it neared nightfall, passing many high mountains in the wilderness and many plains until he came to the hazardous path
600	That him byhoved pass by. Than was he seker for to se The wel and the fayre tre. The chapel saw he at the last, And theder hyed he ful fast.	<i>treacherous crossing of necessity [had to] sure</i>	that would lead him to the well and tree. He saw the castle at last and was sheltered there for the night;
605	More curtaysi and more honowre Fand he with tham in that toure, And mare conforth by monyfalde, Than Colgrevice had him of talde. That night was he herberd thare:	<i>hastened</i>	he was treated with more courtesy and honor and found much greater comfort than Colgrevice had reported.
610	So wele was he never are. At morn he went forth by the strete, And with the cherele sone gan he mete That sold tel to him the way. He sayned him, the soth to say,	<i>many times over lodged before</i>	
615	Twenty sith or ever he blan; Swilk mervayle had he of that man; For he had wonder that nature Myght mak so fowl a creature. Than to the well he rade gude pase,	<i>churl should crossed himself times; ceased</i>	In the morning he went down the road and soon met the gamekeeper who would tell him the way, He crossed himself, truth to tell, at least twenty times, so much did he marvel at the man; it was awonder that nature had made such a foul creature.
620	And doun he lighted in that place; And sone the bacyn has he tane And kest water opon the stane; And sone thare wex withowten fayle, Wind and thonor and rayn and haile.	<i>at a good pace (i.e., rapidly)</i>	Then he rode at a good pace to the well and dismounted, and soon took the basin and cast water on the stone. Without fail came wind, thunder, rain and hail.
625	When it was sesed, than saw he	<i>soon; blew up thunder;</i>	When it ceased, he saw

	The fowles light upon the tre; Thai sang ful fayre opon that thorn, Right als thai had done byfor.	<i>birds</i>	the birds alight upon the tree and sing gaily just as they had done before.
630	And sone he saw cumand a knight Als fast so the fowl in flyght With rude sembland and sterne chere, And hastily he neghed nere. To speke of lufe na time was thare, For aither hated uther ful sare.	<i>as</i> <i>rough looks; fierce manner</i> <i>approached</i>	Soon he saw a knight with a stern expression coming toward him as fast as a bird in flight. They hated each other on sight
635	Togeder smertly gan thai drive, Thaire sheldes sone bigan to ryve, Thaire shaftes cheverd to thaire hand, Bot thai war bath ful wele syttand. Out thai drogh thaire swerdes kene	<i>either; sorely</i> <i>split</i> <i>splintered in</i> <i>[in the saddle]</i>	and began to battle; soon their shields and lances were shattered, but they remained seated. They drew out their swords and hewed each other's shields to pieces,
640	And delt strakes tham bytwene; Al to peces thai hewed thaire sheldes, The culpons flegh out in the feldes. On helmes strake thay so with yre, At ilka strake outbrast the fyre.	<i>pieces flew</i> <i>ire</i>	which flew out into the field. Their helms were struck with such anger that sparks flew.
645	Aither of tham gude buffettes bede, And nowther wald styr of the stede. Ful kenely thai kyd thaire myght And feyned tham noght forto fight. On thaire hauberkes that men myght ken,	<i>either; blows offered</i> <i>budge from</i> <i>bravely; made known</i>	Both gave good blows and none would budge from the place; eagerly they showed their might, and were not slow to fight, so that blood running from their bodies could be seen through their chain mail.
650	The blode out of thaire bodyes ren; Aither on other laid so fast, The batayl might noght lang last. Hauberkes er broken and helmes reven, Stif strakes war thare gyfen;	<i>coats of mail; see;</i> <i>coats of mail are; split</i>	They exchanged such strokes that the fight could not last long, with broken helms and hauberks;
655	Thai faght on hors stifly always; The batel was wele more to prays. Bot at the last Syr Ywayne On his felow kyd his mayne: So egerly he smate him than,	<i>stoutly</i> <i>made known; strength</i> <i>then</i>	neither would dismount, which made the battle praiseworthy. Finally Sir Ywain proved his prowess with a blow that split
660	He clefe the helme and the hernpan. The knyght wist he was nere ded; To fle than was his best rede, And fast he fled with al hys mayne, And fast folowd Syr Ywayne.	<i>skull</i> <i>knew</i> <i>plan</i> <i>strength</i>	his opponent's helm and brainpan. The knight knew he was near death and thought it best to flee, so he rode away with all his strength, followed fast by Sir Ywain,
665	Bot he ne might him overtake, Tharfore grete murning gan he make. He folowd him ful stowtlyk And wald have tane him ded or quik. He folowd him to the ceté;	<i>(Ywain); (the knight)</i> <i>resolutely</i> <i>dead or alive</i> <i>city</i>	but he could not be overtaken, which greatly troubled Sir Ywain. Sir Ywain would have taken him dead or alive; he followed fast to the city where he saw no living man.
670	Na man lyfand met he. When thai come to the kastel gate, In he folowd fast thareate. At aither entré was, iwys, Straytly wrought a portculis	<i>living</i> <i>truly;</i> <i>finely;</i>	When they came to the castle gate, he followed the knight; there were two inner gates, each of which had a portcullis
675	Shod wele with yren and stele And also grunden wonder wele. Under that than was a swyke, That made Syr Ywain to myslike.	<i>steel</i> <i>sharpened</i> <i>treacherous snare</i>	wrought of iron and steel and ground sharply at the tips. As Sir Ywain entered,

680	<p>His hors fote toched thareon Than fel the portculis onone Bytwyx him and his hinder arsown. Thorgh sadel and stede it smate al down, His spores of his heles it schare; Than had Ywaine murnyng mare.</p>	<p><i>iron gate instantly cantle (rear part of saddle)</i></p>	<p>his horse's foot touched a hidden trap and the portcullis dropped as he passed through; it hit just between Sir Ywain and his rear saddlebow, shearing the spurs of his heels and slicing through his saddle and steed.</p>
685	<p>Bot so he wend have passed quite, Than fel the tother bifore als tyte. A faire grace yit fel him swa, Al if it smate his hors in twa And his spors of aither hele,</p>	<p><i>spurs off; heels; cut mourning more as he thought to; free quickly; so</i></p>	<p>But more trouble was to come, as the other portcullis fell shut in front of him and trapped him. Though his horse had been cut in two and he'd lost his spurs, he was lucky to have passed through so well himself! Caught between the two gates, through which the other knight had passed, Sir Ywain moaned and mourned greatly.</p>
690	<p>That himself passed so wele. Bytwene tha gates now es he tane; Tharfore he mase ful mukel mane, And mikel murnyng gan he ma, For the knyght was went him fra.</p>	<p><i>from</i></p>	<p>As he was stuck in that space, he heard a door open in the wall behind him and saw a maiden come out, shutting the door after her. She spoke to him graciously: "Sir, by St Michael, this is poor lodging! Your life is in danger, for you have slain my lord.</p>
695	<p>Als he was stoken in that stall, He herd byhind him in a wall A dore opend faire and wele, And thareout come a damysel. Efter hir the dore sho stak,</p>	<p><i>makes; much moan great; make from trapped (stoked)</i></p>	<p>My lady and everyone in his company is sorrowful; you have many foes here, set on your destruction. You cannot escape from this stronghold, so they know they may not fail to slay you in battle."</p>
700	<p>Ful hinde wordes to him sho spak. "Syr," sho said, "by Saint Myghell, Here thou has a febil ostell. Thou mon be ded, es nocht at laine, For my lord that thou has slayne.</p>	<p><i>shut courteous; she Michael poor hostelry shall; certainly</i></p>	<p>Sir Ywain said, "So help me God, for all their might they shall not kill me or lay hands upon me." She said, "Certainly not, if I can help it. Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
705	<p>Seker it es that thou him slogh; My lady makes sorow ynogh And al his menye everilkane. Here has thou famen many ane To be thi bane er thai ful balde.</p>	<p><i>certain; killed</i></p>	<p>Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
710	<p>Thou brekes nocht out of this halde. And, for thai wate thai may nocht fayl, Thai wil the sla in playn batayl." He sayd, "Thai ne sal, so God me rede. For al thaire might do me to dede,</p>	<p><i>attendants everyone foes cause your death are; eager</i></p>	<p>Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
715	<p>Ne no handes opon me lay." Sho said, "Na, sertes, if that I may! Al if thou be here straytly stad, Me think thou ert nocht ful adrad. And sir," sho said, "on al wise</p>	<p><i>since they know</i></p>	<p>Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
720	<p>I aw the honore and servyse. I was in message at the king Bifore this time, whils I was ying; I was nocht than savese, Als a damysel aght to be.</p>	<p><i>shall not; counsel slay me</i></p>	<p>Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
725	<p>Fro the tyme that I was lyght In cowrt was none so hend knyght, That unto me than walde take hede, Bot thou allane, God do the mede. Grete honore thou did to me,</p>	<p><i>sore beset</i></p>	<p>Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
730	<p>And that sal I now quite the. I wate, if thou be seldom sene,</p>	<p><i>owe you on a mission to young [as] discreet</i></p>	<p>Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
730	<p>And that sal I now quite the. I wate, if thou be seldom sene,</p>	<p><i>alighted courteous</i></p>	<p>Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
730	<p>And that sal I now quite the. I wate, if thou be seldom sene,</p>	<p><i>alone; reward you</i></p>	<p>Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
730	<p>And that sal I now quite the. I wate, if thou be seldom sene,</p>	<p><i>repay know even though you</i></p>	<p>Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid. And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king. From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. "I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>

	Thou ert the Kyng son Uriene, And thi name es Sir Ywayne. Of me may thou be sertayne.	<i>are the son of King Uriene</i>	son of King Urien.
735	If thou wil my kownsail leve, Thou sal find na man the to greve; I sal lene the here mi ring, Bot yelde it me at myne askyng.	<i>counsel believe</i> <i>lend you</i>	You may trust me and if you take my advice, no man will harm you. I shall lend you my ring, but you must return it at my request; when you are out of distress, give it back to me.
740	When thou ert broght of al thi payn, Yelde it than to me ogayne. Als the bark hilles the tre, Right so sal my ring do the;	<i>protects</i>	As the bark protects the tree, so shall my ring do for you. No harm will come to you when you hold the stone in your hand,
745	When thou in hand has the stane, Dere sal thai do the nane; For the stane es of swilk myght, Of the sal men have na syght."	<i>harm</i> <i>such</i>	for it has such power that no man will see you."
750	Wit ye wele that Sir Ywayne Of thir wordes was ful fayne. In at the dore sho him led And did him sit opon hir bed.	<i>know</i> <i>these; joyful</i>	You can be sure that Sir Ywain was well pleased with her words. She led him through the door and had him sit on her bed,
755	A quylt ful nobil lay thareon, Richer saw he never none. Sho said if he wald any thing, He sold be served at his liking.	<i>quilt</i> <i>wanted</i> <i>pleasure</i> <i>eat; gladly</i>	which was covered with a quilt, the richest he had ever seen. She said that should he want anything he would be well served, and he asked for food.
760	He said that ete wald he fayn. Sho went and come ful sone ogain; A capon rosted broght sho sone, A clene klath and brede tharone	<i>cloth; bread</i>	She left and soon returned with roasted capon, bread on a clean cloth, and a pot of rich wine
765	And a pece to fil it yne. He ete and drank with ful gude chere, For tharof had he grete mystere. When he had eten and dronken wele, Grete noyse he herd in the kastele.	<i>cup; in</i> <i>need</i>	with a cup to pour it in. He ate with good cheer, for he had been very hungry. After his meal, he heard a loud noise in the castle;
770	Thai soght overal him to have slayn, To venge thaire lorde war thai ful bayn Or that the cors in erth was layd. The damysel sone to him sayd, "Now seke thai the fast forto sla,	<i>everywhere</i> <i>eager</i> <i>ere; corpse</i>	they looked everywhere to slay him in revenge, even before the corpse had been buried. The maiden told him, "They are now seeking to slay you, but whoever comes or goes, have no fear or move from this place.
775	Bot whosoever com or ga, Be thou never the more adred, Ne styr thou noght out of this stede; In this here seke thai wyll, Bot on this bed luke thou be styll,	<i>afraid</i> <i>nor move; place</i> <i>[place]</i>	They will look for you in here, but stay still on this bed and pay them no heed.
780	Of tham al mak thou na force. Bot when that thai sal bere the cors Unto the kyrk for to bery, Than sal thou here a sary cry; So sal thai mak a doleful dyn.	<i>body</i> <i>church; bury</i> <i>hear; grievous</i>	But when they bear the body to the church for burial, you will hear a sorry cry and a doleful din,
	Than wil thay seke the eft herein; Bot loke thou be of hert lyght, For of the sal thai have no syght. Here sal thou be, mawgré thaire berd, And tharfore be thou noght aferd.	<i>seek you afterwards</i> <i>despite their best efforts</i>	and they will seek you here again. But don't worry, they will not find you no matter how hard they look;

785	Thi famen sal be als the blynd, Both byfor the and byhind, On ilka side sal thou be soght. Now most I ga, bot drede the noght, For I sal do that the es lefe,	<i>foes</i>	they will be as the blind, unable to see you.
790	If al it turn me to mischeffe." When sho come unto the gate, Ful many men fand sho tharate Wele armed, and wald ful fayn Have taken and slane Sir Ywayne.	<i>every</i> <i>go</i> <i>what is agreeable [to] you</i> <i>even if</i>	I must go now, but don't be afraid, for I will help you even if it brings me trouble." When she came to the gate she found many well-armed men eager to take and slay Sir Ywain.
795	Half his stede thare fand thai That within the gates lay; Bot the knight thare fand thai noght: Than was thare mekil sorow unsoght.	<i>horse</i>	They found half his steed between the gates but not the knight.
800	Dore ne window was thare nane, Whare he myght oway gane. Thai said he sold thare be laft, Or els he cowth of wechecraft, Or he cowth of nygromancy, Or he had wenges forto fly.	<i>unrelieved</i>	There was no door or window through which he might have gone, so he should still have been there. Otherwise he knew witchcraft or necromancy, or had wings with which to fly.
805	Hastily than went thai all And soght him in the maydens hall, In chambers high (es noght at hide), And in solers on ilka side.	<i>knew</i> <i>knew</i>	They hastily went to the maiden's hall and searched all the rooms,
810	Sir Ywayne saw ful wele al that, And still opon the bed he sat. There was nane that anes mynt Unto the bed at smyte a dynt; Al about thai smate so fast, That mani of thaire wapins brast.	<i>to</i> <i>upper rooms; each</i>	which Sir Ywain watched as he sat on the bed. They struck all about except the bed, with blows so hard that many of their weapons broke.
815	Mekyl sorow thai made ilkane, For thai ne myght wreke thaire lord bane. Thai went oway with dreri chere, And sone thare efter come the bere.	<i>who once made a movement</i> <i>toward; to</i>	Greatly disappointed that they could not avenge their lord, they left with dreary faces and went to the bier.
820	A lady folowd white so mylk, In al that land was none swilk; Sho wrang hir fingers, outbrast the blode. For mekyl wa sho was nere wode.	<i>broke</i> <i>each one</i> <i>avenge; lord's death</i>	A lady, white as milk followed, nearly mad with woe. She wrung her hands until they bled – she was nearly mad with sorrow - pulled out her fair hair, wept, and often fell down in a swoon.
825	Hir fayre hare scho al todrogh, And ful oft fel sho down in swogh; Sho wepe with a ful dreri voice. The hali water and the Croyce Was born bifore the procession; Thare folowd mani a moder son;	<i>as</i> <i>such</i> <i>out burst</i> <i>gone mad</i> <i>hair; pulled out</i> <i>in a swoon</i>	The holy water and cross were borne before the procession, followed by many a mother's son. Before the body rode a knight on a strong steed, well armoured; his spear and shield were well arrayed.
830	Bifore the cors rade a knyght On his stede that was ful wight, In his armurs wele arayd, With spere and target gudely grayd. Than Sir Ywayn herd the cry And the dole of that fayre lady;	<i>Cross</i> <i>were</i> <i>corpse rode</i> <i>(the dead knight's) steed; strong</i> <i>(the dead knight's) armor</i> <i>shield; equipped</i>	Sir Ywain heard the lady's cry, for no one might have more sorrow than she when her lord went to his grave.
835	For more sorow myght nane have, Than sho had when he went to grave. Prestes and monkes on thaire wyse	<i>sorrow</i> <i>in every way</i>	Priests and monks solemnly

	Ful solempnly did the servyse.		performed the service.
	Als Lunet thare stode in the thrang,	<i>also</i>	As Lunet stood in the crowd,
840	Until Sir Ywayne thocht hir lang.	<i>long away</i>	she thought of Sir Ywain
	Out of the thrang the wai sho tase,	<i>takes</i>	and went to him quickly.
	Unto Sir Ywayne fast sho gase.	<i>goes</i>	
nbsp;	Sho said, "Sir, how ertow stad?	<i>how are you doing?</i>	She asked how he was
	I hope ful wele thou has bene rad."	<i>expect; frightened</i>	and expected that he had been afraid,
845	"Sertes," he said, "thou sais wele thare;		and he told her
	So abayst was I never are."	<i>upset; before</i>	he had never been so abashed.
	He said, "Leman, I pray the,	<i>sweetheart</i>	He said, "My friend,
	If it any wise may be,		is there some way
	That I might luke a litel throw	<i>look; while</i>	that I might briefly look out
850	Out at sum hole or sum window,		some hole or window,
	For wonder fayn," he sayd, "wald I	<i>would</i>	for I have a great desire
	Have a sight of the lady."		to see the lady,"
	The maiden than ful sone unshet	<i>then; opened up</i>	and she opened a secret gate
	In a place a prevé weket.	<i>secret window</i>	from which he could watch.
855	Thare of the lady he had a syght.		He saw the lady Alundyne and heard
	Lowd sho cried to God almyght,		her loud cries to God almighty:
	"Of his sins do hym pardowne,	<i>region</i>	"Pardon him for his sins,
	For sertainly in no regyowne		for there was never,
	Was never knight of his bewté,		nor will there be,
860	Ne efter him sal never nane be;		such a fine knight;
	In al the werld fro end to ende		there is no one so courteous
	Es none so curtayse ne so hende.	<i>gracious</i>	or gracious in all the world.
	God grant the grace thou mai won	<i>dwel</i>	God grant him grace to live
	In hevyn with His owyn son;		in heaven with His own Son,
865	For so large lifes none in lede	<i>generous; on earth</i>	for there is no one alive s
	Ne none so doghty of gude dede."	<i>worthy</i>	o generous or doughty of deeds."
	When sho had thus made hir spell,	<i>speech</i>	When she had made her speech,
	In swownyng ful oft sithes sho fell.	<i>times</i>	she swooned many times.
	Now lat we the lady be,		Now we will leave the lady
870	And of Sir Ywayne speke we.	<i>mighty of power</i>	and speak of Sir Ywain.
	Luf, that es so mekil of mayne,	<i>Sore</i>	Love, that is so powerful,
	Sare had wownded Sir Ywayne,		had sorely wounded him.
	That whareso he sal ride or ga,	<i>foe</i>	Wherever he went,
875	His hert sho has that es his fa.	<i>altogether</i>	she who was his foe
	His hert he has set al bydene,	<i>dare</i>	had his heart, which was set
	Whare himself dar nocht be sene.	<i>longing</i>	where he dare not be seen.
	Bot thus in langing bides he		But he lived in longing
	And hopes that it sal better be.		and hoped for better.
	Al that war at the enterement,	<i>burial</i>	Everyone at the interment
880	Toke thaire leve at the lady gent,	<i>of; gracious</i>	took leave of the gentle lady
	And hame now er thai halely gane;	<i>wholly</i>	went home
	And the lady left allane		and left her alone
	Dweland with hir chamberere	<i>lady-in-waiting</i>	with her lady-in-waiting
	And other mo that war hir dere.	<i>were close to her</i>	and some others who were dear to her.
885	Than bigan hir noyes al new,	<i>weeping</i>	Pale from sorrow,
	For sorow failed hir hide and hew.	<i>permeated; skin</i>	she began her mourning anew;
	Unto his sawl was sho ful hulde;	<i>loyal</i>	concentrating on his soul,
	Opon a sawter al of gulde	<i>psalter; gold</i>	she opened a gold psalter
	To say the salmes fast sho bigan	<i>psalms</i>	and started to read the psalms
890	And toke no tent unto no man.	<i>heed of any</i>	and paid no attention to any man.

	Than had Sir Ywain mekyl drede, For he hoped nocht to spede; He said, "I am mekil to blame, That I luf tham that wald me shame.		Sir Ywain then feared he could not succeed He said, "I am much to blame for loving one who would shame me.
895	Bot yit I wite hir al with wogh, Sen that I hir lord slogh. I can nocht se by nakyn gyn, How that I hir luf sold wyn.	<i>he did not expect success</i> <i>blame; wrongfully</i> <i>since</i> <i>any scheme</i>	Yet I blame her unjustly, since I have slain the lady's lord. I can think of no way to win her love.
900	That lady es ful gent and small, Hir yghen clere als es cristall; Sertes thare es no man olive, That kowth hir bewtese wele describe."	<i>gracious</i> <i>eyes</i> <i>alive</i> <i>could; beauty</i> <i>situated; time</i>	The lady is all lovely, with eyes as clear as crystal; no man alive could describe her beauty.
905	Thus was Syr Ywayne sted that sesowne; He wrought ful mekyl ogayns resowne To set his luf in swilk a stede, Whare thai hated him to the dede.	<i>place</i> <i>death</i>	For Sir Ywain to set his love in a place where he was hated to the death was against reason, but he said if he could not have her as his wife, he would rather lose his life.
910	He sayd he sold have hir to wive, Or els he sold lose his lyve. Thus als he in stody sat, The mayden come to him with that.	<i>reverie</i>	As he sat in thought, the maiden came and asked how he had been since she last left him.
915	Sho sayd, "How hasto farn this day, Sen that I went fro the oway?" Sone sho saw him pale and wan, Sho wist wele what him ayled than.	<i>have you fared</i> <i>ailed him then</i>	She could see from his pale, wan appearance what ailed him and said, "I know that your heart is set, and certainly I will do all I can to help you out of prison and bring you to your reward."
920	Sho said, "I wote thi hert es set, And sertes I ne sal nocht it let; Bot I sal help the fra presowne And bring the to thi warisowne." He said, "Sertes, damysele, Out of this place wil I nocht stele;	<i>allow</i> <i>from prison</i> <i>reward</i>	"Damsel," replied Sir Ywain, "I will not steal out of this place but will leave openly in daylight in men's sight; Regardless of what happens to me, I will go from here manly."
925	Bot I wil wende by dayes lyght, That men may of me have sight Opinly on ilka syde. Worth of me what so bityde, Manly wil I hethin wende."	<i>become</i> <i>nobly; hence depart</i>	
930	Than answerd tha mayden hende, "Sir, thow sal wend with honowre, For thou sal have ful gude socowre. Bot, sir, thou sal be here sertayne A while unto I cum ogayne."	<i>assistance</i>	She assured him, "Sir, you will go with honor, for you shall have good succor. But you will be safe here awhile until I return."
935	Sho kend al trewly his entent, And tharfore es sho wightly went Unto the lady faire and bright, For unto hir right wele sho myght Say whatsom hyr willes es.	<i>knew</i> <i>busily gone</i>	She was aware of his intentions and went right to her lady, to whom she was confidante, attendant and counselor and could speak freely, as you will hear.
940	For sho was al hir maystres, Her keper, and hir cownsaylere. To hir sho said, als ye sal here, Bytwix tham twa in gude cownsayl, "Madame," sho sayd, "I have mervayl That ye sorow thus ever on ane. For Goddes luf, lat be yowre mane. Ye sold think over alkyn thyng	<i>whatsoever</i> <i>(Lunette); (A's) governess</i> <i>manager of her affairs</i> <i>so persistently (all the time)</i> <i>grief</i> <i>every</i>	She said, "Madam, I am amazed at your constant sorrow. For God's sake, let go of your mourning and think about another thing:

<p>945 Of the Kinges Arthurgh cumyng. Menes yow noght of the message Of the Damysel Savage, That in hir lettre to yow send? Allas, who sal yow now defend Yowre land and al that es thareyn, 950 Sen ye wil never of wepeing blyn? A, madame, takes tent to me. Ye ne have na knyght in this cuntré, That durst right now his body bede Forto do a doghty dede, 955 Ne forto bide the mekil boste Of King Arthurgh and of his oste; And if he find none hym ogayn, Yowre landes er lorn, this es sertayn." The lady understode ful wele, 960 How sho hyr cownsaild ilka dele; Sho bad hyr go hir way smertly, And that sho war na more hardy Swilk wordes to hyr at speke; For wa hir hert wold al tobreke. 965 Sho bad, "Go wightly hethin oway." Than the maiden thus gan say, "Madame, it es oft wemens will Tham forto blame that sais tham scill." Sho went oway, als sho noght roght, 970 And than the lady hyr bythoght, That the maiden said no wrang, And so sho sat in stody lang. In stody thus allane sho sat; The mayden come ogayn with that. 975 "Madame," sho said, "ye er a barn; Thus may ye sone yowre self forfarn." Sho sayd, "Chastise thi hert, madame; To swilk a lady it es grete shame Thus to wepe and make slike cry; 980 Think opon thi grete gentri. Trowes thou the flowre of chevalry Sold al with thi lord dy And with him be put in molde? God forbede that it so solde! 985 Als gude als he and better bene." "Thou lyes," sho sayd, "by hevyn-quene! Lat se if thoue me tel kan, Whar es any so doghty man, Als he was that wedded me." 990 "Yis, and ye kun me na mawgré, And that ye mak me sekernes, That ye sal luf me never the les." Sho said, "Thou may be ful sertayn, That for na thing that thou mai sayn, 995 Wil I me wreth on nane manere." "Madame," sho said, "than sal ye here;</p>	<p><i>King Arthur's don't you recall</i></p> <p><i>stop pay attention</i></p> <p><i>offer</i></p> <p><i>lost</i></p> <p><i>every part</i></p> <p><i>bold to woe; break into pieces swiftly hence</i></p> <p><i>reasons with them as if she didn't care</i></p> <p><i>wrong</i></p> <p><i>child destroy (Lunette)</i></p> <p><i>such gentility believe</i></p> <p><i>earth should be</i></p> <p><i>if you will bear me no spite; give me reassurance</i></p> <p><i>grow angry</i></p>	<p>King Arthure's coming. Don't you remember the letter Damsel Savage sent you?</p> <p>Who will now defend you, your land, and all else, since you won't stop weeping?</p> <p>You have no knight in the country who will dare to offer himself to do a brave deed nor face the great menace of King Arthure and his host, and if he is not opposed, your lands will certainly be lost." The lady fully understood the maiden's counsel, but she sent her away and told her not to speak to her in this way, as her heart was breaking with woe. The maiden left unperturbed and told the lady, "It is often women's will to blame those who speak sense."</p> <p>Then the lady reflected that the maiden had not spoken wrongly, and she sat long in thought.</p> <p>The maiden returned and continued: "Madam, you are acting like a child and will soon destroy yourself. Chastise your heart, for it is a great shame for such a lady to weep and make such cries. Remember your great nobility. Do you believe that the flower of chivalry died and was buried with your lord? God forbid! There are others as good and better." "By heaven, you lie!" said the lady. "Let's see if you can tell me where there is a man as doughty as my husband." "Yes, if you assure me that you will love me no less."</p> <p>The lady promised that she would not become angry at anything the maiden said, so Lunet proceeded:</p>
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	I sal yow tel a preveté, And na ma sal it wit bot we. Yf twa knyghtes be in the felde	<i>secret</i> <i>more; know except the two of us</i> <i>two</i>	“Then I shall tell you a secret, which only we two will know. If two knights are on the field with spear and shield
1000	On twa stedes with spere and shelde And the tane the tother may sla, Whether es the better of tha?" Sho said, "He that has the bataile." "Ya," said the mayden, "sawnfayle,	<i>one; other; slay</i> <i>those</i> <i>won</i> <i>without fail</i> <i>powerful</i>	and one slays the other, which is the better?" The lady said, "He who wins the battle." “Certainly,” continued the maiden.
1005	The knyght that lifes es mare of maine Than yowre lord that was slayne. Yowre lord fled out of the place, And the tother gan hym chace Heder into his awyn halde;	<i>the other</i> <i>hither; own fortress</i> <i>know; brave</i>	“The knight that lives mightier than your lord, who was slain. Your lord fled, and the other chased him here into his own stronghold, which tells of his boldness.”
1010	Thare may ye wit, he was ful balde." The lady said, "This es grete scorne, That thou nevyngs him me biforne; Thou sais nowther soth ne right. Swith, out of myne eghen syght!"	<i>speaks of; before me</i> <i>truth</i> <i>instantly get out; eye</i> <i>as I hope to prosper</i> <i>promised</i> <i>abuse</i>	The lady said, "Talking of him to me is an insult. You speak neither truth nor right. Quickly, out of my sight!"
1015	The mayden said, "So mot I the, Thus ne hight ye nocht me, That ye sold so me myssay," With that sho turned hir oway, And hastily sho went ogayn	<i>(Lunette)</i>	“Speaking to me in this way is not what you promised,” said the maiden as she left and hastily returned to Sir Ywain’s chamber.
1020	Unto the chameber to Sir Ywayne. The lady thocht than al the nyght, How that sho had na knyght Forto seke hir land thorghout To kepe Arthurgh and hys rowt.	<i>(Alundyne)</i> <i>defend</i> <i>defend against; army</i>	The lady thought all night about having no knight to repel Arthure and his company, and began to feel ashamed:
1025	Than bigan hir forto shame And hirsself fast forto blame. Unto hirsself fast gan sho flyte And said, "With wrang now I hir wite. Now hopes sho I wil never mare	<i>reproach</i> <i>(Lunette) blame</i> <i>thinks</i> <i>love</i> <i>strength of mind and will</i>	“I blame Lunet wrongly, and now she believes I will never love her again as I always have. I will love her strongly, for what she told me was for my own good.”
1030	Luf hir als I have done are. I wil hir luf with main and mode; For that sho said was for my gode." On the morn the mayden rase, And unto chamber sone sho gase.	<i>arose</i>	The maiden came back the next morning and found the lady drearly hanging her head.
1035	Thare sho fyndes the faire lady Hingand hir hevyd ful drerily In the place where sho hir left; And ilka dele sho talde hir eft, Als sho had said to hir bifore.	<i>hanging; head</i> <i>every bit; then</i>	Lunet repeated all she said before,
1040	Than said the lady, "Me rewes sore, That I missayd the yisterday. I wil amend, if that I may. Of that knyght now wald I here, What he war and whethen he were.	<i>I sorely regret</i> <i>spoke gruffly to you</i> <i>would; hear</i> <i>whence</i>	and the lady apologized for having mistreated her and wished to make amends: “I would now like to hear about that knight.
1045	I wate that I have sayd omys; Now wil I do als thou me wys. Tel me baldely, or thou blin, If he be cumen of gentil kyn." "Madame," sho said, "I dar warand,	<i>know; amiss</i> <i>direct</i> <i>fearlessly; cease</i> <i>dare guarantee</i>	I know I was wrong and will now do as you advise. Tell me, is he of noble kin?" “Madam,” said Lunet, “I dare say

<p>And cled him sethin in gude scarlet Forord wele and with gold fret, 1105 A girdel ful riche for the nanes Of perry and of preciows stanes. Sho talde him al how he sold do, When that he come the lady to. And thus when he was al reddy, 1110 Sho went and talde to hyr lady, That cumen was hir messagere. Sho said smertly, "Do lat me here, Cumes he sone, als have thou wyn?" "Medame," sho said, "I sal nocht blin, 1115 Or that he be byfor yow here." Than said the lady with light chere, "Go bring him heder prevely, That none wit bot thou and I." Than the maiden went ogayn 1120 Hastily to Sir Ywayn. "Sir," sho sayd, "als have I wyn, My lady wate thou ert hereyn. To cum bifore hir luke thou be balde, And tak gode tent what I have talde." 1125 By the hand sho toke the knyght And led him unto chamber right Byfor hir lady (es nocht at layne), And of that come was sho ful fayne. Bot yit Sir Ywayne had grete drede, 1130 When he unto chamber yede. The chamber flore and als the bed With klothes of gold was al overspred. Hir thocht he was withowten lac, Bot no word to him sho spak. 1135 And he for dred oway he drogh. Than the mayden stode and logh. Sho sayd, "Mawgré have that knyght That haves of swilk a lady syght And can nocht shew to hir his nede. 1140 Cum furth, sir; the thar nocht drede, That mi lady wil the smyte; Sho loves the wele withouten lite. Pray to hir of hir mercy, And for thi sake right so sal I, 1145 That sho forgif the in this stede Of Salados the Rouse ded, That was hir lord, that thou has slayne." On knese him set than Syr Ywaine. "Madame, I yelde me yow untill 1150 Ever to be at yowre wyll; Yf that I might, I ne wald nocht fle." Sho said, "Nay, whi sold so be? To ded yf I gert do the now, To me it war ful litel prow. 1155 Bot for I find the so bowsum,</p>	<p><i>clothed; afterwards trimmed with fur; fastened occasion jewelry; [other]</i></p> <p><i>as you hope to have joy cease</i></p> <p><i>hither secretly knows</i></p> <p><i>joy knows fearless pay close attention</i></p> <p><i>(it can't be hidden) arrival; joyful</i></p> <p><i>went</i></p> <p><i>it seemed to her he was without fault</i></p> <p><i>drew laughed ill luck befall such</i></p> <p><i>you need not</i></p> <p><i>fault</i></p> <p><i>situation Salados the Rouse's death</i></p> <p><i>death; caused to advantage gracious</i></p>	<p>in fine, furred scarlet decorated with gold wire, and a rich girdle of precious stones, and gave him instructions for his meeting with the lady. When he was ready, the maiden told her lady that the messenger had arrived. The lady said, "Tell me truly, will he be here soon?" "Madam, I will not rest ere he's here before you." The lady asked the maiden to bring the knight to her privately so no one else would know. Lunet rushed to Sir Ywain and told him, "Sir, my lady knows you are here. Be bold to come before her and take heed of what I have told you." She took him by the hand and led him into the chamber before the lady, who was well pleased with his arrival. But Sir Ywain was afraid when he entered the room, the floor and bed of which were covered with gold cloths. She found him flawless but did not speak, and he drew away in dread. The maiden laughed and said, "A knight who has such a lady in sight and cannot express himself earns displeasure. Come forth, sir, my lady will not smite you! Truly, she loves you well. Pray to her for mercy (and so shall I for your sake) and forgiveness for slaying Salados the Red, who was her lord." Sir Ywain knelt before the lady: "Madam, I yield myself ever to your will; I will not flee." The lady said, "No, why should you? It would do me little good to kill you now. Since you have come to me willingly</p>
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	That thou wald thus to me cum, And for thou dose the in my grace, I forgif the thi trispase. Syt down," sho said, "and lat me here,			and asked for mercy, I forgive you. Sit down and tell me why you are being submissive."
1160	Why thou ert thus debonere." "Madame," he said, "anis with a luke, Al my hert with the thou toke. Sen I first of the had syght, Have I the lufed with al my might.	<i>since you place yourself</i>		"Madam," he said, "at one glance my heart belonged to you. Since I first saw you, I have loved you with all my might, and I will never love anyone else.
1165	To mo than the, mi lady hende, Sal never more my luf wende. For thi luf ever I am redy Lely forto lif or dy." Sho said, "Dar thou wele undertake	<i>meek</i> <i>once; look</i>		For your love I am ready to live or die."
1170	In my land pese forto make And forto maintene al mi rightes Ogayns King Arthure and his knyghtes?" He said, "That dar I undertane Ogaynes ilka lyfand man."	<i>more; gracious</i>	<i>loyally</i>	"Do you dare to undertake making peace in my land and maintaining my rights against King Arthure and his knights?" "I will, against any man alive."
1175	Swilk kownsail byfore had sho tane. Sho said, "Sir, than er we at ane." Hir barons hir ful rathly red To tak a lord hir forto wed.	<i>such; taken</i> <i>are</i> <i>quickly advised</i>		"Sir, then we are at one." She had already taken counsel with her barons, who advised she should take a husband. So she hastily went to the hall where they all gathered to hold their parliament and assent to her marriage. She said, "Sirs, with one accord, since we need a lord to lead and guard my lands, give me your judgment soon."
1180	Than hastily sho went to hall; Thare abade hir barons all Forto hald thaire parlement And mari hir by thaire asent. Sho sayd, "Sirs, with an acorde, Sen me bus nedely have a lord		<i>marry</i>	"Madam," they said, "we all shall assent to your will." She returned to Sir Ywain and told him, "Sir, by God I will have no other lord. It would not be right to reject a king's son and noble knight."
1185	My landes forto lede and yeme, Sais me sone howe ye wil deme." "Madame," thai said, "how so ye will, Al we sal assent thartyll."	<i>since I needs must</i> <i>oversee</i> <i>tell; judge</i>		Thus the maiden had accomplished to bring Sir Ywain out of danger. The lady led Sir Ywain into the hall, and all the barons rose and said with conviction, "This knight shall wed the lady." They said to each other that Sir Ywain was the fairest man they had seen and was fit to be an emperor, and that the wedding should take place that night. The lady sat at the dais and commanded silence
1190	Than the lady went ogayne Unto chameber to Sir Ywaine. "Sir," sho said, "so God me save, Other lorde wil I nane have. If I the left, I did nocht right, A king son and a noble knyght."	<i>thereto</i>		
1195	Now has the maiden done hir thocht: Sir Ywayne out of anger broght. The lady led him unto hall; Ogains him rase the barons all. And al thai said ful sekerly:	<i>accomplished her intention</i>		
1200	"This knight sal wed the lady." And ilkane said thamsel bitwene (So faire a man had thai nocht sene), "For his bewté in hal and bowre Him semes to be an emperowre.	<i>before him arose</i>		
1205	We wald that thai war trowth-plaint And weded sone this ilk nyght." The lady set hir on the dese And cumand al to hald thaire pese,	<i>each one</i>		
		<i>wish; engaged</i> <i>wedded immediately; very</i> <i>all came to her</i>		

<p>1210 And bad hir steward sumwhat say, Or men went fra cowrt oway. The steward said, "Sirs, understandes, Were es waxen in thir landes: The king Arthure es redy dight To be here byn this fowretenyght. 1215 He and his menye ha thocht To win this land if thai moght. Thai wate ful wele that he es ded, That was lord here in this stede. None es so wight wapins to welde 1220 Ne that so boldly mai us belde. And wemen may maintene no stowre - Thai most nedes have a governowre. Tharfor mi lady most nede Be weded hastily for drede; 1225 And to na lord wil sho tak tent, Bot if it be by yowre assent." Than the lordes al on raw Held tham wele payd of this saw; Al assented hyr untill 1230 To tak a lord at hyr owyn wyll. Than said the lady onone right, "How hald ye yow paid of this knight? He profers hym on al wyse To myne honore and my servyse. 1235 And sertes, sirs, the soth to say, I saw him never or this day; Bot talde unto me has it bene, He es the kyng son Uriene. He es cumen of hegh parage 1240 And wonder doghty of vasselage. War and wise and ful curtayse, He yernes me to wife alwayse. And nere the lese, I wate, he might Have wele better, and so war right." 1245 With a voice halely thai sayd, "Madame, ful wele we hald us payd. Bot hastes fast, al that ye may, That ye war wedded this ilk day." And grete prayer gan thai make 1250 On al wise, that sho suld hym take. Sone unto the kirk thai went And war wedded in thaire present. Thare wedded Ywaine in plevyne The riche lady Alundyne, 1255 The dukes doghter of Landuit; Els had hyr lande bene destruyt. Thus thai made the maryage Omang al the riche barnage. Thai made ful mekyl mirth that day, 1260 Ful grete festes on gude aray. Grete mirthes made thai in that stede,</p>	<p><i>before; court</i></p> <p><i>danger increases is already prepared within; fortnight followers have are able know</i></p> <p><i>courageous protect women; withstand no battle</i></p> <p><i>take heed</i></p> <p><i>in turn contented; speech to</i></p> <p><i>(i.e., are you contented with)</i></p> <p><i>before</i></p> <p><i>high lineage bold in knightly deeds</i></p> <p><i>know</i></p> <p><i>sweetly contented</i></p> <p><i>presence pledge</i></p> <p><i>nobility</i></p>	<p>so that her steward could speak before they left. "Sirs," said the steward, "war is growing in these lands; King Arthure is ready to be here within a fortnight with his company to win this country if they can. They know that our lord is dead and that we have no one to protect our lands.</p> <p>Since women may not battle, there must be a governor. Therefore my lady needs to be wedded quickly, and she will take no lord without your approval." The lords were pleased with this speech and assented to the lady's taking a lord at her will. The lady then addressed them regarding Sir Ywain: "How does this knight please you? He has proffered himself to my honor and service in all ways. To tell the truth I've never seen him before today, but I have been told he is the son of King Urien. He comes of high rank and is doughty, wary, wise and courteous. He yearns to marry me, although he might rightfully have better." With one voice the barons approved of Sir Ywain, but urged her to wed that day.</p> <p>So they went to the church, and Ywain married the rich lady Alundyne, the daughter of the Duke of Landuit, in the barons' presence. Otherwise her lands would have been destroyed. The rich baronage made much mirth that day, with feasts befitting the occasion.</p>
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<p>And al forgetyn es now the ded Of him that was thaire lord fre. Thai say that this es worth swilk thre, 1265 And that thai lufed him mekil more Than him that lord was thare byfore. The bridal sat, for soth to tell, Til Kyng Arthure come to the well With al his knyghtes everilkane; 1270 Byhind leved thare nocht ane. Than sayd Sir Kay, "Now, whare es he That made slike bost here forto be Forto venge his cosyn germayne? I wist his wordes war al in vayne. 1275 He made grete boste bifor the quene, And here now dar he nocht be sene. His proud wordes er now al purst, For, in fayth, ful ill he durst Anes luke opon that knyght 1280 That he made bost with to fyght." Than sayd Gawayn hastily: "Syr, for Goddes luf, mercy! For I dar hete the for sertayne, That we sal here of Sir Ywayne 1285 This ilk day, that be thou balde, Bot he be ded or done in halde; And never in no cumpany Herd I him speke the velany." Than sayd Sir Kay, "Lo, at thi will 1290 Fra this time forth I sal be still." The king kest water on the stane; The storme rase ful sone onane With wikked weders, kene and calde, Als it was byforehand talde. 1295 The king and his men ilkane Wend tharwith to have bene slane, So blew it store with slete and rayn; And hastily than Syr Ywayne Dight him graythly in his gere 1300 With nobil shelde and strong spere. When he was dight in seker wede, Than he umstrade a nobil stede. Him thocht that he was als lyght Als a fowl es to the flyght. 1305 Unto the well fast wendes he, And sone, when thai myght him se, Syr Kay (for he wald nocht fayle) Smertly askes the batayl. And alsone than said the kyng, 1310 "Sir Kay, I grante the thine askyng." Than Sir Ywayn neghed tham nere Thaire cowntenance to se and here. Sir Kay than on his stede gan spring; "Bere the wele now," sayd the kyng.</p>	<p><i>death</i> <i>gracious</i> <i>this [lord] (i.e., Ywain)</i></p> <p><i>wedding festivities lasted</i></p> <p><i>everyone</i></p> <p><i>such</i> <i>kinsman</i></p> <p><i>shut up</i></p> <p><i>once look</i></p> <p><i>promise</i> <i>hear</i> <i>same; assured</i> <i>unless; put in confinement</i></p> <p><i>of you</i></p> <p><i>at once</i></p> <p><i>thought</i> <i>violently</i></p> <p><i>prepared himself readily</i></p> <p><i>safe armor</i> <i>mounted</i></p> <p><i>arrogantly requests</i> <i>instantly</i></p> <p><i>approached</i></p>	<p>The death of their lord who had been so gracious was forgotten, and the new lord was proclaimed worth three of the former and loved much more. The wedding celebration continued until King Arthure came to the well with all of his knights; no one stayed behind. Sir Kay said, "Where is he who boasted he would avenge his cousin? I knew his words were in vain. He bragged before the queen; now he is nowhere to be seen. So much for his proud words; he doesn't dare face the knight he boasted he would fight." "Mercy, sir, for God's sake!" said Gawain. "You can be sure we will hear of Sir Ywain today, unless he is dead or being held. And I've never in any company heard him speak ill of you." Sir Kay agreed to keep silent.</p> <p>The king cast water on the stone, and the storm soon arose with wicked weather as was told before. It blew so hard with sleet and rain that the king and his men expected to be slain. Sir Ywain hastily dressed himself in his gear with a noble shield and strong spear. When he was well armored he mounted a steed he thought was as light as a bird in flight. He rapidly went to the well and when they saw him, Sir Kay immediately asked for the battle, which Arthure granted.</p> <p>Sir Ywain approached them and Sir Kay sprang onto his horse. "Bear yourself well," said the King.</p>
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1315	<p>Ful glad and blith was Syr Ywayne, When Sir Kay come him ogayn. Bot Kay wist noght wha it was; He findes his fere now or he pas. Syr Ywayne thinkes now to be wroken</p>	<p><i>who companion; goes forth avenged</i></p>	<p>Sir Ywain was very glad when Sir Kay came against him, but Kay didn't know who he was.</p>
1320	<p>On the grete wordes that Kay has spoken. Thai rade togeder with speres kene; There was no reverence tham bitwene. Sir Ywayn gan Sir Kay bere Out of his sadel lenkith of his spere;</p>	<p><i>the length</i></p>	<p>Sir Ywain thought he would now get revenge for Kay's sharp words. They rode fiercely at each other with sharp spears, and Sir Ywain unhorsed Sir Kay</p>
1325	<p>His helm unto the erth smate; A fote depe tharein yt bate. He wald do him na more despite, Bot down he lighted als tyte. Syr Kay stede he toke in hy</p>	<p><i>stuck injury quickly Kay's horse; haste</i></p>	<p>so that his helm dug into the earth a foot deep. But Sir Ywain would do Kay no more disgrace and dismounted. He took Sir Kay's steed and courteously presented it to the king.</p>
1330	<p>And presand the king ful curtaysly. Wonder glad than war thai all That Kay so fowl a shame gan fall; And ilkone sayd til other then, "This es he that scornes al men";</p>	<p><i>to the</i></p>	<p>Everyone was happy to see Kay brought to such shame, and they said to each other that Kay's scorn to all men was well repaid.</p>
1335	<p>Of his wa war thai wele paid. Syr Ywain than to the kyng said, "Sir Kyng, I gif to the this stede, For he may help the in thi nede; And to me war it grete trispas</p>	<p><i>woe; pleased</i></p>	<p>Sir Ywain then said to Arthure, "Sir King, I give you this steed, for he may help you in your need; and it would be a great trespass to withhold what is yours."</p>
1340	<p>Forto withhald that yowres was." "Wha man ertow?" quod the kyng; "Of the have I ne knawyng, Bot if thou unarmed were Or els thi name that I might here."</p>	<p><i>what rightly belongs to you</i></p>	<p>The king asked, "Who are you? I don't know you unless I see you unarmed or hear your name."</p>
1345	<p>"Lord," he sayd, "I am Ywayne." Than was the king ferly fayne; A sari man than was Sir Kay, That said that he was stollen oway; Al descumfite he lay on grownde,</p>	<p><i>wondrous joyful</i></p>	<p>When he heard "Lord, I am Ywain!" he was elated. Sir Kay, who had said Sir Ywain had stolen away, was a sorry man as he lay on the ground.</p>
1350	<p>To him that was a sary stownde. The king and his men war ful glad, That they so Sir Ywayne had, And ful glad was Sir Gawayne Of the weelfare of Sir Ywayne.</p>	<p><i>grievous moment</i></p>	<p>The king and his men were glad for Sir Ywain's victory, and Sir Gawain was happiest of all for Sir Ywain's welfare, as he loved him above all others at court.</p>
1355	<p>For nane was to him half so dere Of al that in the court were. The king Sir Ywayn sone bisoght To tel him al how he had wrought; And sone Sir Ywayne gan him tell</p>	<p><i>what he had done</i></p>	<p>The king asked Sir Ywain how this had come about, and the knight told him the full story of his battle at the well, his marriage, a nd the help he had received from the maiden.</p>
1360	<p>Of al his fare how it byfell: With the knight how that he sped, And how he had the lady wed, And how the mayden hym helped wele. Thus tald he to him ilka dele.</p>	<p><i>all the details</i></p>	

Mary Flowers Braswell, ed., *Sir Perceval of Galles and Ywain and Gawain*, Medieval Institute Publications 1995

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