

Quemar Press

Marie de France
Guildeluec and Guilliadon
(A romance known as *Eliduc*)

Translated by Katharine Margot Toohey



Guilheluec and Guilliadon (A romance known as Eliduc) by Marie de France

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Medieval French text is from manuscripts of *Eliduc (Guilheluec and Guilliadon)*

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Preface

The Quemar Press Edition of this unusual Romance by Marie de France, has the title *Guildeluec and Guilliadon* - the names of its female heroes. Marie begins the story, 'Because of both, the Lay is known/as *Guildeluec and Guilliadon*./*Eliduc* was its first name,/ but then the other title came,/ because this Lay's real adventure/ happened to the two ladies here.' Later, however, the work came again to be known almost exclusively as *Eliduc*, after the male central character. Reflecting Marie's reasoning, Quemar uses *Guildeluec and Guilliadon* as this Lay's title, as the two women are ultimately the narrative's catalysts and focus.

Quemar's new Modern English translation is presented here accompanied by the original 12th century text in Anglo-Norman French. Marie de France's translated and constructed her Lays based on stories from early Breton. To retain the narrative pace of the original, formal punctuation and capitalisation are minimised in the Modern English translation.

Often, elements of nature in the narrative have been interpreted as allegorical, mirroring other emotions, actions or aspects. In the text, however, it seems that natural elements can have power and roles independent from any metaphor. Here, a weasel can show the lady Guildeluec how to restore Guilliadon (the beloved of her husband Eliduc), by reviving its own companion weasel, instead of only mirroring Guildeluec as a resurrecting force in grief. The abilities of the lady and the weasel appear clear, incarnate, individual in problem-solving and effort. Here, the natural creature seems to be not just an allegory, but to have as much agency as the protagonist. Likewise, the two human female protagonists gain significance by having the power of observation and deliberation.



Similarly, a ship in a storm on the ocean does not only parallel the dangerous situation surrounding the Princess Guilliadon, uninformed about her betrothed's wife and about the secrets kept from her. Here, a sea-tempest is a setting that actively causes truth to be revealed to her - by one of the ship's crew, afraid of the storm's intensity.

A chapel in immense forest is not just a signal or a metaphor for benign change, revival and spiritual realisation, but ground on which Guideluec can choose to build her holy order as an Abbess.

Near the story's conclusion, the narrator explains 'they all made such effort/by the love of God, with beautiful faith,/so made their ending beautiful completely'. Here, effort belongs to both natural force and protagonist, whether it is a storm forcing necessary truth to be revealed, or someone actively on watch over one she resurrected. Whether in a wave-torn ship, or unfolding and enfolding forest depths, this is a story where humane survival, affection and rescue come from action and deliberation, to surpass societal concepts such as roles in relationships, marriage and rivalry. In light of this, this translation uses the active verb 'remember' in the last line, instead of the more passive 'should not forget'. This also empathises Marie's point that the important thing is not just to retain this lay as an artistic work (as has been the version in previous translations) but to remember deliberately the meaning of its words: 'The adventure, the story of the three,/ was told by ancient Bretons of courtesy./They constructed a lay to remember/this, which man should remember ever'.

Katharine Margot Toohey

Quemar Press



It is not necessary to be able to read the Medieval French original included underneath, as this English version translates all the text.

Guideluec and Guilliadon **(a romance known as *Eliduc*)**

An ancient Breton Lay exists -
there is a reason it persists -
this is it comprehended now
in truth, with what I know:
there was once a Knight in Brittany,
enduring and proud, courteous in bravery.
His name was Eliduc, I understand,
none more valiant in that land,
and the woman, his wife, was noble, sage,
of high rank, of great heritage.
They were together a long time,
in love stayed loyal and firm,
but after that it was because of war
that he went questing as a soldier
to a place where he loved a Lady -



a King and Queen's daughter, royalty.

Guilliadon was the Lady's name,

and none more lovely in that kingdom.

The name of the one in the first country

remained Guildeluec, as in our story.

Because of both, the Lay is known

as *Guildeluec and Guilliadon*.

Eliduc was its first name,

but then the other title came,

because this Lay's real adventure

happened to the two ladies here.



De un mut ancien Lai Bretun/Le cunte è tute la reisun,/Vus dirai si cum jeo entent,'La vérité mun escient./En Bretagne ot un Chevalier/Pruz, è curteis, hardi, è fier;/Eliduc ot nun, ceo m'est vis,/N'ot si vaillant hum al país./Feme ot espusée noble è sage,/De haut gent è de grant parage:/Ensemble furent lungument;/Mut s'entreamèrent léaument,/Mès puis avient par une guere/Que il alat soudées quere,/Iloc ama une Meschine,/Fille est à Rei è à Reïne./Guillardun ot nun la pucele,/El Réaume n'en ot plus bele,/La femme resteit apelée/Guildeluec en sa cuntrée:/De les deus ad li Lai à nun/Guildeluec è Guillardun./Eliduc fu primes nomez,/Mès ore est li nuns remuez,/Kar des Dames est venu,/L'aventure dunt li Lais fu;



I will tell you this story.

I will tell you honestly.

Knight Eliduc's lord was then



Britain-the-Less' ruling King,

who loved him fondly,

and Eliduc served him loyally.

When the King had to be away,

Eliduc guarded over the country,

maintaining chivalry there,

but evils was to suffer.

He was allowed to hunt the woods,

and no forester was so brave he could

dare speak against him,

ever resent him with derision.

In envy of his advantages, however -

an envy felt by many others -

some people mixed with the King,

darkening Eliduc's name, accusing,

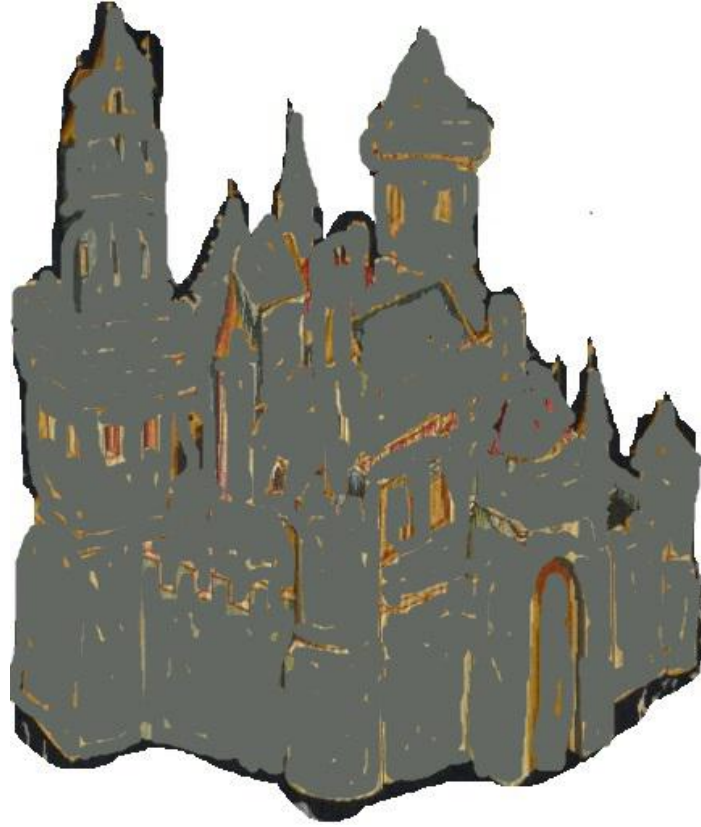
so the Court would bid him go

without a reason he could know.

Eliduc found the change bewildering,

time on time seeking the King,





Si cum avint vus cunterai/La vérité vus en dirai./Eliduc aveit un Seignur/Reis de Brutaine la Meinur,/Qui mut l'amot è chérisset/E il léaument le serveit./Usque li Reis déüst errer,/Il aveit la tere à garder./Pur sa pruesce le retint,/Purtant de mauz mut li avint:/Par les forez poeit chacier,/Ni ot si hardi forestier/Ki cunte-dire li osast,/Ne jà une feiz en gruscast./Pur l'envie del' bien de lui,/Si cum avient sovent d'autrui,/Esteit à sun Seignur medlez,/Empéïrez è encusez,/Que de la Curt le cungéa,/Sanz ceo qu'il nel' areisuna./Eliducs ne saveit purquei;/Sovente feiz requist le Rei,



entreating the King, was rejected constantly,

since the King believed cajolery.

Eliduc had served so much here,

but the King gave him no answer.

When the King would hear nothing,

for the Knight to leave seemed fitting.



He went home to his house then,
commanding all his friends attend.
He told them of his lord, his King,
of the King's strange rage at him.
Having served with all his power,
this should happen to him never.
There is a wise peasant saying
arguing with your lord is quarrelling
in debate with your own plough horse.
A man who is sage and virtuous
remains ever loyal to his lord,
as he loves his neighbour, in accord.
Not wanting to stay here in this country,
he said he'd traverse the sea,
travel to Logres' kingdom,
enjoy himself in that realm,
in charge of their land his wife-companion.
So he commanded his men
to guard her ever there faithfully,
commanded all his friends equally.
With that counsel, he left there,



preparing to go in rich attire.

His friends greatly began to grieve

for this knight who had to leave.

He led ten knights with him,

and his wife guided them

in sorrow clear, clear in dolour,

because her lord would leave this shore.

But he spoke to her to reassure

that his faith for her would still endure.

At that, she stepped away from her lord

as he held to the road forward.



Qu'il escundist de lui préseist/E que losange ne créist./Mut l'aveit volenters servi,/Mès
li Rei pas ne respondi:/Quant il nel' volt de rien oïr/Si l'en covient-il dunc partir./A sa
meisun en est alez,/Si ad tuz ses amis mandez,/Del' Rei sun Seignur lur mustra,/De



l'ire que vers li leva./Mut li servi à sun poeir,/Jà ne déust maugré avoir;/Li vileins dit
par reprovier/Quant tence à sun charier,/Qu'amur de Seignur n'est pas fieuz,/S'il est
sages è vedzieuz.Ki leauté tient à sun Seignur,/Envers ses bons veisins amur:/Nel volt
al païs arester,/Ainz passera ceo dit la mer./Al Réaume de Loengre ira,/E une pièce se
déduira;/Sa Femme en la terre l'arra,/A ses hummes cumandera,/Qu'il la gardoet
léaument,/E tuit si ami ensement./A cel cunseil s'est arestez,/Si s'est richement
aturnez;/Mut furent dolent si ami,/Pur ceo que d'eus se départi./Dis Chevalers od sei
mena,/E sa Femme le cunvéa/Forment demeine grant dolur,/Al départir de sun
Seignur./Mès il l'aséurat de sei/Qu'il la porterat bone fei;/De lui se départi à-tant,/il
tient sun chemin tut avant.



At the sea, he traversed over.
He arrived on Totnes shore,
and this land had many kings.
All were quarreling, all warring.
Away in this country, near Exeter,
lived a King with ancient power:
some elderly and venerable one,
who had no male heir, no son,
although there was a marriageable daughter.
When her father refused her to a suitor,
that man declared war on him
and so was now destroying his kingdom,
and within the castle entrapped them.



Throughout the castle were none
dared to try escaping or resisting,
to start combating or to start disputing.
Eliduc heard about this story
and wished not to travel from this country.
As he'd come upon war here,
he wished to go nowhere.
The King was truly overwhelmed,
damaged, injured, aggrieved and burdened.
The Knight wanted to help as in his power,
be in the King's service at this hour.
To the King, he sent messengers,
and set out this by letters:
that he had left his country's realm
and now had come hence to him,
and so asked him for his favour,
but if the King not retain him here
in this land, grant safe-passage
and the Knight may seek other service.
The King heard the messengers' information
And he cherished them with affection.





A la mer vient, si est passez,/En Totonois est arivez;/Plusurs Réis ot en la
 tere,/Entr'eus eurent estrif è guere./Vers Excestre en cel païs,/Maneit un Reis mut
 poestis,/Vieux humme è auntien esteit,/Ki héir madle ne aveit./Une fille ot à
 marier,/Por ceo k'il ne la volt doner,/A sun père s'il guerriot,/Tute sa tere si gastot./En
 un chastel l'aveit enclos,/N'aveit el chastel hum si os,/Ki cunte li osast eissir,/Ne estur
 ne mellée tenir./Elidus en oït parler,/Ne voleit mès avant aler,/Quant iloc ad guere
 trovée;/Remaner volt en la cuntrée./Li Reis ki plus esteit grevez,/E damagiez, è
 encumbrez,/Vodrat aider à sun poeir,/E en soudées remaneir./Ses Messages i
 enveïa,/E par ses lettres li manda,/Que de sun païs iert eissuz,/E en seïe esteit
 venuz./Mès li mandast pur sun plaisir,/E s'il nel' volust retenir,/Cunduit li dunast par
 sa tere,/Quant ireit ses soudées quere./Quant li Reis oit les Messagers/Mut les ama,
 mut les ot chers;

He called up his Constable,
 brought him near to tell
 that a guide would be made ready,



the Barons would lead the way quickly
and prepare some proper shelter
so the Knight and his men could rest here.
The King would give them so much wealth
that they could live on it for a month.
The guide was equipped and sent straight
away then to find the Knight.
In this honour, Eliduc came to town
for he'd come to the King's welcome.
The Knight's shelter belonged to a burgess,
a man sage, a man courteous,
with a beautiful room, with drapery,
which he gave in generosity.
The welcome Eliduc used well
and he arranged a great meal
for all the knights in poverty to come,
who had camped around the town.
He spoke to his men, ensuring
that none of them would have the daring
for the first of their days, the first forty,
to take coin or other money.



On the third day they were staying
cries went through the city saying
that suddenly then the enemy arrived
spreading through the countryside,
and now to this city, wishing to assail
the city's gates on their arrival.
Eliduc heard the frantic uproar
of those who cried in terror.
He armed himself immediately,
as did then all his company.
Fourteen knights on horses riding
sojourned there in the city resting.
Many of them had suffered injury,
and imprisoned also there were many.
Seeing Eliduc arrive as a cavalier,
they came armed from their shelters,
and went forward to the gates with him,
without awaiting anyone's summons.
'Sir, with you, we will go
and here, do as you do.'
He answered, 'You have my gratitude.



Is there not a man at my side
knows a difficult path, narrower,
to burden the enemy there and hinder?
If, waiting, we remain here,
we could fight them sure,
but that would gain us no advantage.
Offer other advice or knowledge.'
They said, 'By faith, sir,
close by the forest's flax field floor,
there is a path that narrows down,
where the enemy ever will return.



Sun Cunestable ad apelez,/E hastivement comandez,/Que cunduit li appareillast,/Ke les Barun li amenast./Si face osteus appareillier,/U ils puissent hébergier;/Tant lur face livrer è rendre,/Cum il vodrunt le meis despendre./Li cunduit fut apareillez,/E pur Eliduc envéiez,/E à grant honur recéuz,/Mut par fu bien al Rei venuz./Sun ostel fu chiés un Burgeis,/Qui mut esteit sage è curteis;/Sa bele chambre encurtinés/Li ad li Ostes délivrée./Eliduc se fist bien servir,/A sun manger feseit venir/Les buns Chevalers meseisez,/Qui al burc èrent herbergez;/A tuz ses hummes defendi,/Que ni éust nul si hardi,/Qui des quarante jurs primers/Préist livreisun ne deners./Al terz jur qu'il ot surjurné,/Li criz leva en la Cité/Que lur enemy sunt venu,/E par la cuntrée espandu./Jà vodrunt la ville asaillir,/E desi ke as portes venir;/Eliduc ad la noise oïe/De la gent ki est esturdie:/Il s'est armez plus ni atent,/E si cumpainuns ensement./Quatorze Chevalers muntant,/Ot en la vile surjurnant;/Plusurs en i aveit nafrez/E des prisuns i ot asez./Cil virent Eliduc munter/Par les osteus se vient armer,/Fors de la porte od li eissirent,/Que sumunse ni atendirent./Sire, funt-il, od vus irum/E ceo que vus ferez ferum;/Il lur respunt, vostre merci./Aureit-il nul de vus ici/Ki maupas u destreit séust/U l'um encumbrer les péust?/Si nus ici les atendums,/Peot cel estre nus justerums./Mès ceo n'atent à nul espleit,/Ki autre conseil en saveit;/Cil li dient, Sire, par fei,/Près de cel bois en cel ristei,/Là ad une estreite charrière,/Par unt ils respirent arrière:



When they've plundered their treasure,
they will return by the path there.
On their palfreys, they ride unarmed.
Often there they have returned.
By chance, they choose to be
in a place where they should die.



We could damage them then,
assault them so they weaken.’
‘Friends’, Eliduc said this,
‘By my Faith, I promise
that the one who not often goes
to a place knowing that he will lose,
where he will hardly achieve,
neither wins great prize.

You are all the King's men
keeping great faith with him,
so with me you will go,
and there, do as I do.

Loyally, I make this commitment:
that you will endure no torment,
as long as I can help here,
if we win nothing more.

We will have the prize clearly,
when we undermine our enemy.’

They accepted the Knight’s assurance,
and led him to the forest’s entrance.





Quant averunt fet lur eschec,/Si retournerunt pr ilec./Desarmez sur lur palefrez/Si s'en
revunt sovente fez;/Si se mettent en aventure/Cum de murir à dréiture:/Bien-tost les
poreit damagier,/E eus laidier è empeirier./Eliduc lur ad dit: Amis,/La meie fei vus en
pleivis,/Ki en tel liu ne va suvent,/U il quide perdre ascient;/U jà guères ne
gainera,/Ne en grant pris ne muntera./Vus estes tuz humes le Rei,/Si li devez porter
grant fei./Venez od mei là ù j'irai,/Si fêtes ceo que jeo ferai;/Jo vus asséur léaument/Jà
ni aurez encumbrement,/Ne tant cum jeo vus puis aider,/Si nus ne pouvum rien
gainer./Ceo nus iert trop à grant pris/De damagier nos enemis./Icil unt pris la
séurté;/Cil unt desi qu'al bois mené,



Near the road, and waiting for their chance,
waiting in ambush for their enemy to advance,
Eliduc demonstrated every skill,
teaching all, devising all,
how to attack nearby
and how to shout their battle cry.
The exact moment the enemy came
Eliduc called out to proclaim,
and called forth all his friends
to do well here, by his commands.
Strongly then his men struck,
holding nothing at all back.
So now the surprised adversary
disbanded, left there hastily,
to be vanquished soon after,
their Army's Officer taken prisoner
and other knights, so very many,
placed in the Squire's charge quickly :
they were five-and-twenty men,
and then thirty from afar were taken,
and cavalry equipment seized as treasure



and other gains marvellous in wonder.

Eliduc and his men returned, glad,
came back from accomplishing their deed.

The King was on the castle's tower.

He thought of his men in fear,
cried bitterly of Eliduc, the Knight,
whom he believed, or thought in fright,
might have chosen in the forest to abandon
there all of his knights, by treason.



Près del' chemin sunt enbuschié/Tant que cil se sunt repeirié./Eliduc lur ad tut
mustré,/E enseigné, è devisé,/De quel manère à eus puindrunt,/E cum il les
escrierunt./Quant al destreit furent arivez,/Eliduc les ad esoriez,/Tuz apela ses
cumpainuns,/De bien faire les ad sumuns:/Il i fièrent durement,/Nes' esparnièrent
néant./Cil estéient tut esbaï/Tost furent rumpu è départi;/En poi de hure furent
venou,/Lur Cunestable unt retenu,/E tant des autres Chevaliers,/Tut en chargent lur
esquiers./Vint è cinc furent cil de ça,/Trente en pristrent de ceus de là/Del' harneis
pristrent à grant espleit,/E merveillus gain i unt fait;/Arière s'en vunt tut lié/Mut
aveient bien espleité./Li Reis esteit sur une tour,/De ses hummes ad grant
pouor/D'Eliduc forment se pleigneit,/Kar il quidout è si crémeit/Qu'il ert mis en
abandon,/Ses Chevaliers par trahisun.



There trekked back this army,
treasure-laden, loaded heavy,
and more men came back
than had gone to join this combat.
The King could not know the men.
He was in doubt, in suspense, then
commanded 'Lock the doors!' to all,
and placed men on every wall,
to fire on them and throw weapons,
but it was for needless reasons.



The Knight and men had sent ahead
a squire spurring on his steed
to explain there the whole adventure,
and he spoke of the Knight-Soldier
how he had been victorious,
and how he had been courteous:
like him, there was no other.

Their Officer had been taken prisoner
and nine and twenty others captured.
Many had died in battle, many injured.

When he heard of the victory,
the King was now in wondrous joy
climbed down from the high tower,
to meet Eliduc arriving there,
and thanked him for such good actions.

Eliduc delivered the captives to the Kingdom,
left their battle equipment to others,
to his glory, retained but three warriors:
knights he acclaimed highly,
to all gave all freely.





Cil s'en viennent tut aruté/E tut chargié, è tut trussé,/Mut furent plus al revenir,/Qu'il n'estéient al fors eissir./Par ceo les descunut li Reis/Si fu en dute è en suspeis;/Les portes cumande à fermer,/E les genz sur les murs munter,/Pur traire à eus è pur lancier,/Mès n'en aurunt-il nul mestier./Cil eurent envéié avant,/Un Esquier esperunant,/Qui l'aventure lur mustra,/E del' Soudéeur li cunta: /Cum il ot ceus de là vencuz,/E cum il s'esteit cuntenuz;/Unc mès teu Chevalier ne fu,/Lur Cunestable ad retenu,/E vint è noef des autres pris/E muz nafrez, è muz ocis./Li Reis quant la novele oï,/A merveille s'en esjoï:/Jus de la tur est descenduz,/E encuntre Elidus venuz./De sun bien-fait le mercia,/E il les prisuns li livra:/As autres départ le harneis,/A sun los ne retient que treis/Chevalers qui li èrent loé,/Tut ad départi è duné.





All his battle-gains and treasures
he gave to prisoners and others,
and so I've told the reason
the King loved and cherished him,
retained him to remain for a year,
and those accompanying him here.
The Knight his promise gave to him
and so was made Guardian of the Kingdom.
Word of Eliduc, wise and courteous
a Knight beautiful, valiant and generous,
soon reached the King's daughter.
She heard of his good character,
so by one of her own chamberlains
she sent him her invitations
to pray that he pay her a visit,
so they could talk and meet.
She had been marvelling strongly



that he'd not gone to her already.

Eliduc answered he would go
willingly to become acquainted now.

He climbed his horse from combat
and, by him, he led a knight,
to go out to talk with the lady,
and came to her chamber doorway.

He sent forward the chamberlain,
paused, waiting a short time,
until he returned to the entrance.

With warm affection, with gentle appearance,
he spoke the speech of nobility,
spoke with well-learnt courtesy.

He thanked there the Lady,
Guilliadon, of such beauty,
that she had sent the invitation
he visit her for their conversation.

She had taken him by the hand,
and on the bed they sat down.

They spoke of many things,
while she observed him.





La sue part comunement/As prisuns è al autre gent;/Après cel fet que jeo vus di,/Mut
l'amat li Reis è chéri./Un an entier l'ad retenu,/E ceus qui sunt od li venu;/La fiance
de li enprist,/De sa tere gardeur en fist./Eliduc fu curteis è sage,/Beau Chevalier, è pruz,
è large;/La fill le Rei l'oï numer/E les biens de lui recunter:/Par un suen chamberlenc
privé/L'ad resquis, prié è mandé/Qu'à li venist esbainier,/E parler, è bien acunter;/Mut
durement s'esmerveillot/Que il à li ne repeirot./Eliduc respunt qu'il irrat,/Volenters si
acunterat:/Il est munté sur sun destrier,/Od li mena un Chevalier,/A la Pucele veit
parler,/Quant en la chambre deust entrer,/Le Chamberlenc enveit avant,/Cil s'alat
aukes en targant,/Deci que cil revient arière,/Od duz semblant od simple chièrè, /Od
mut noble acuntement,/Si parla mut afeitement,/E merciât la Dameisele,/Guilliardun
qui mut fu bele,/De ceo que li plot à mander,/Que il venist à li parler./Cele l'aveit par
la mein pris,/Desur un lit èrent asis;/De plusurs choses unt parlé,/Icele l'ad mut
esgardé



Watching his face, form, appearance,
she thought: fairest is his presence.
Powerfully beseeching her in courage,
love cast to her its message -
compelling her to love him.
She sighed, turned wan,
wishing it not subjected to reason,
in case he mistook her affection.
Staying with her for a long space,
he took his leave from her palace,
made her wish that he could stay,
but he went back far away,
returned now to his own lodging,
full of sorrow, pensively thinking,
distraught for the beautiful one, in fear,
thinking of the King's, his lord's, daughter,
how gently she'd called to him,
and of what she had felt to sigh then.
Now he was surprised that he
had been so long in this new country
without seeing her often.



Saying this, he thought again,
remembering here his wife, too,
how he had assured her so
that he would keep her faith truly,
ever behaving to her loyally.

The maiden he'd just seen
wished him be her love then.

She would prize none higher
if she might keep him with her.

Enduring the night, restless,
she remained awake, sleepless.



Sun vis, sun cors, è sun semblant:/Dit en lui n'ad mès-avenant, /Forment le prie en sun curage/Amurs i lance sun message/Qui la somunt de lui aimer,/Palir la fist, è suspirer./Mès nel' volt mettre à reisun,/Qu'il ne li tint à mesprisun./Une grant pièce i demura,/Puis prist cungré, si s'en ala;/El li duna mut à enviz,/Mès ne purquant s'en est partiz./A sun ostel s'en est alez,/Tut est murnes è trespensez,/Pur la bele est en effrei,/La fille sun Seignur le Rei/Qui tant ducement l'apela,/E de ceo qu'ele supira./Mut par se tient à entrepris/Que tant ad esté al païs/Que nel' ad pas véue sovent/Quant ceo od dit si se repret;/De sa femme li remembra,/E cum il li asséura/Que bone fei li portereit,/E léaument se cuntendreit,/La Pucele k'il ot véu/Vodra de li fère sun dru,/Unques mès tant nul ne prisa/Si ele peot s'il retendra./Tute la nuit veillat issi/Ne reposa ne ne dormi;



The next day, morning-risen,
she then called her chamberlain.
Evincing here all her being,
she went to a window's opening:
'By faith, I'm ill from this,
and fallen into a sad business.
I love the new knight-soldier,
Eliduc, that good knight here.
In the night, rest wouldn't come by,
to allow sleep or to close my eyes.



By love, if he loves me,
his true presence being guarantee,
I would give him all his joy then,
and from that great good can happen:
he would be king of this kingdom,
such is his courtesy and wisdom.

By love, if he does not love me,
I must grieve and I must die.'

When the lady had spoken as she wanted,
the chamberlain whom she had summoned
gave her advice that was so loyal
no man should be mistrustful:

'Lady, as you love him', he explained,
'command me and to the knight send
a belt, or plaited sash, or ring,
and if he is made glad by them,
if he receives all with grace,
and he becomes joyous at your message,
then you will know your love is sure.

Under heaven, no emperor -
if loved by you as you wish -



should not be delighted at this.'

So the lady spoke again,

upon hearing the advice of her chamberlain:

'How will I know, by my thinking,

if his wish to me be loving?

I have seen no knight ever living

who needed any begging -

whether in love or whether in hate -

who would willingly here forsake

a present made to him at all.

I would hate to be his fool.



Al demain est matin levée,/Sun Chamberlenc ad apelé,/Tut sun estre li ad mustré,/A une fenestre est alé./Par fei, fet-ele, mal m'esteit,/Jo sui chéie en mal espleit:/Jeo eim le novel Soudéer/Eliduc li bon Chevaler./Unques à nuit n'en ai repos,/Ne por dormir les oilz ne clos./Si par amur me veut amer,/E de sun cors asséurer,/Jeo ferai trestut sun pleisir,/S'il en peot grant bien avenir./De ceste tere serat Reis/Tant par est sages è curteis;/Que s'il ne m'aime par amur,/Murir m'estuet à grant dolur./Quant ele ot dit ceo ke li plot,/Li Chamberlenc qu'ele apelot/Li ad duné conseil léal,/Ne li deit-hum turner à mal./Dame, fet-il, quant vus l'amez/Envéiez-i, si li mandez/Ceinture, u las, u anel,/Envéiez-li, si li est bel./S'il le reçoit tut bonement,/E joius seit del' mandement,/Séur séez de son amur;/Il n'ad suz ciel Emperéur/Si vus amer bien le voliez,/Qui mut n'en déust estre liez./La Dameisele respundi/Quant le conseil oït de li:/Coment saurai par mun penser/S'il ad de mei talent d'amer,/Jeo ne vi unc nul Chevalier/Ki se féist de ceo prier;/Si il amast, u il haïst,/Que volenters ne retenist./Cil prisent k'hum li envéast/Mut harréie k'il me gabast,



But by his appearance, nevertheless,
there would be much to know, to witness.

Get ready and go out again.'

'I am ready,' said the Chamberlain.

'Carry a ring of gold to him.

Give to him my sash then.

Greet him a thousand times.'

The Chamberlain would from her return.



She remained in that same state,
and almost called him to wait,
and let him go, however,
then began lamenting here:
'Alas. My heart is overcome
for a man from another kingdom,
and of his lineage, I know nothing,
or if he will soon be leaving,
and I will stay here in mourning.
In madness now, I am resolving.
Yesterday, we'd not spoken
now I pray in love for him.
Supposing he blame me?
He will act graciously, if he has courtesy.
Now all is at chance's call.
If he not love me at all,
I will see myself as one tormented,
never in all my life contented.'
Meanwhile, as she grieved,
away the chamberlain quickly travelled
and soon arrived to meet the Knight,



greeting him, as she would like

- just as the maiden had commanded him,

he presented Eliduc with the ring,

gave him the sash from her.

The knight was grateful for them there:

her ring upon his finger placed,

cinctured her sash around his waist.



Mès nepurquant pur le semblant,/Peot l'un conustre li alquant./Aturnez-vus, è si
alez:/Je sui, fet-il, tut aturnez./Un anel d'or li porterez,/E ma ceinture li dunrez/Mile
feiz si le saluez./Li Chamberlenc s'en est tornez./Ele remeint en teu manère/Par poi



n'el' apelet arère,/E nekedent le lait aler,/Si se cumence à démenter. /Lasse! cum est mis quors suspris,/Por un humme d'autre païs;/Ne sai s'il est de haute gent,/Si s'en irat hastivement./Jeo remeindrai cume dolente,/Folement ai mise m'entente;/Unc mès ne parlai fors ier/Ore le faz de amer prier./Jeo quide k'il me blamera?/S'il est curteis gré me sauera./Ore est del' tut en aventure,/E si il n'ad de m'amer cure,/Mut me tendrai pur maubaillie,/Jamès n'aurai joïe en ma vie./Tant cum ele se dementa,/Li Chamberlanc mut se hasta./A Eliduc esteit venuz/A cunseil li ad dit saluz/Que la Pucele li mandot,/E l'anelet li presentot:/La ceinture li ad donée,/Li Chevalier li ad merciée./L'anelet d'or mist en sun dei,/La ceinture ceint entur sei,



The knight spoke no more to her servant,
asked nothing more in that moment,
offered some of his wealth as acknowledgement,
but the chamberlain left, taking no payment,
returned then to his lady soon.
He found her there in her room.
He gave the knight's greeting
for the gifts, thanked her from him.
She: 'God, don't lie:
wishes he to love me?'



To my knowledge, he answered her,
not trying to seem pleasant there:
'I find him courteous and sage -
a man hiding well his courage.
I gave him your greeting,
I gave him your offering.
On him, he cinctured your sash,
encircled tightly around his waist.
He placed the ring on his finger,
and we said nothing more.'
'Unless he in love take them,
this may leave me forsaken.'
He: 'By faith, I do not know.
Listen, for I will say now:
if he not wish you well,
he'd not want your gifts at all.'
'Your words ridicule', she said,
'I know I haven't his hatred.
I've not caused him any wrong,
except my love for him is strong,
and if for this he hate me,



then he is fit to die.

Not through you - nor another man -

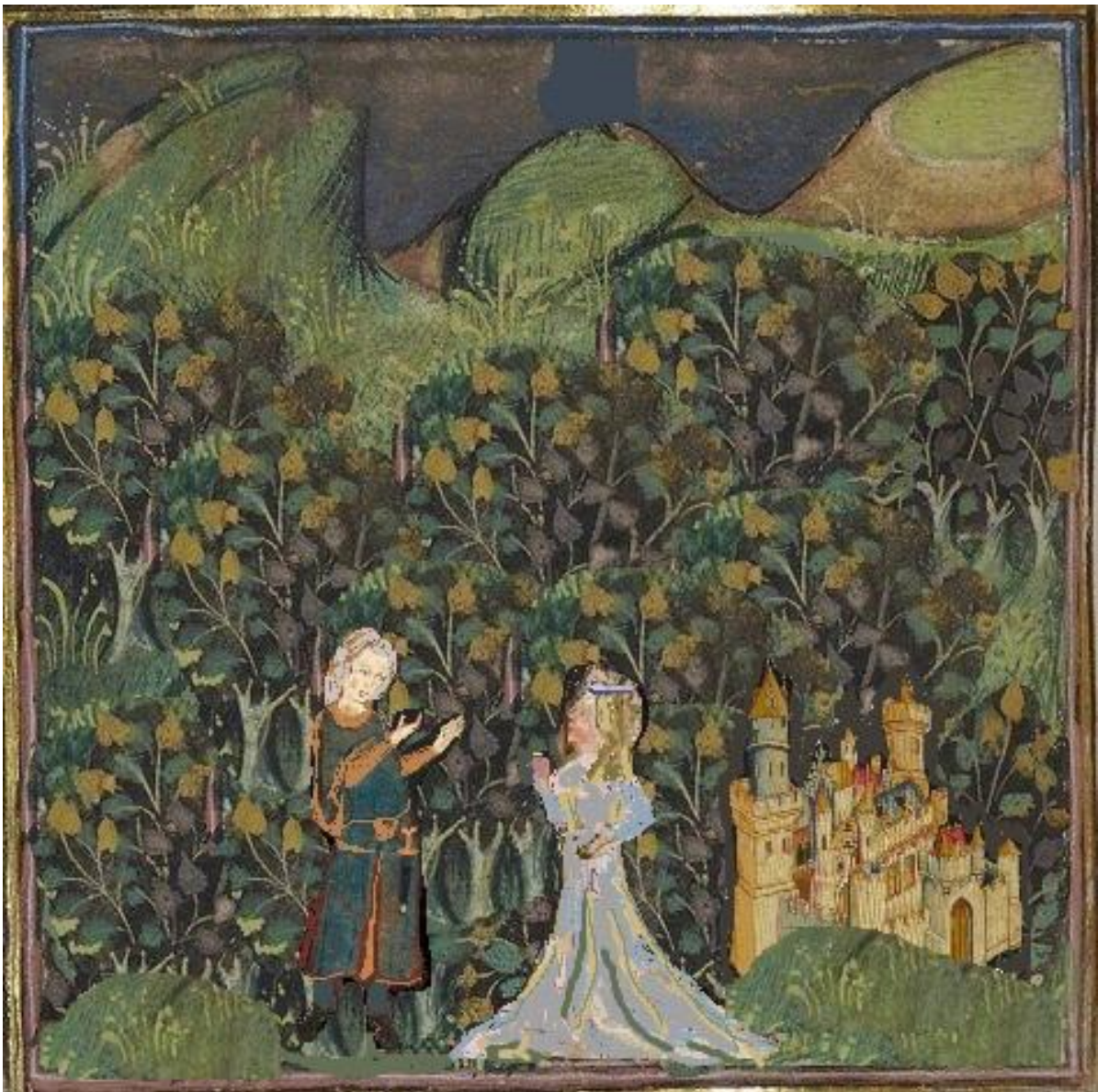
will I ask about the knight again

until speaking with him more -

for by myself I will appear

to show him that this love is a prison.

But I don't know if he'll be gone.'



Veut-il mei par amurs amer?/Il li respunt, ceo m'est avis./Li Chamberlenc n'est pas jolis/Jeo le tienc à curteis è sage,/Qui bien seit celer sun curage:/De vostre part le saluai,/E voz aveirs li presentai./De vostre ceinture se ceint,/E parmi les flancs bien s'estreint,/E l'anelet mist en son dei,/Ne li dis plus, ne il à mei./Nel' reçeut-il pur druerie,/Peot cel estre jeo sui trahie./Cil li ad dit: par fei ne sai;/Ore oez ceo ke jeo dirai./S'il ne vus vosist mut grant bien/Il ne vosist del' vostre rien./Tu paroles, fet-ele, en gas,/Jeo sai bien qu'il ne me heit pas,/Unc mès ne li forfis de nient,/Fors tant que jeo l'aim durement,/E si pur-tant me veut haïr,/Dunc est-il digne de murir. /Jamès par tei, ne par autrui,/Desi que jeo paroge à lui,/Ne li vodrai rien demander,/Kar jeo mesmes li voil mustrer,/Cum l'amur de li me destreint,/Mès jeo ne sai si il remeint



The chamberlain gave her this reply:

'The King has retained him, Lady,

to be oath-bound for a year,



to serve the King faithfully here,
and so you can be at ease
to show your love as you please.'
Hearing now that he would remain,
the lady in enduring joy again
remained happy now waiting,
knowing nothing of the knight's suffering.
Since he saw her there:
never delight, joy never,
without thinking of Guilliadon -
seeming to himself undone,
for to his wife, he'd sworn
before he turned from his home,
that he would have no other one.
With heart within great prison,
he wanted to protect his loyalty,
but now he could never deny
that he loved the Lady,
Guilliadon of such fine beauty.
Seeing and being with her, speaking,
embracing her to kiss in greeting,



he'd seek her love never,

lest it lead to dishonour.

For his wife, wanting to guard his promise,

and being, too, in the King's service,

Eliduc felt great suffering.

He climbed his horse, hurrying.

He called his companions to him.

He went to the castle for talk with the King,

but to see the Lady, if that could happen:

his true purpose on this occasion.

The King rose after dinner.

He went to his daughter's chambers,

and began to play at the chessboard,

with a knight who'd travelled from abroad,

while on the chessboard's other part,

his daughter by their moves was taught.

Eliduc stepped forward then.

With welcoming warm expression, the King

made the knight sit by him.

The King called his daughter to them.





Li Chamberlenc ad respundu:/Dame, li Reis l'ad retenu/Dèsqu'à un an par
serement/Qu'il li servirat léaument;/Asez purrez avoir loisir/De mustrer lui vostre
pleisir./Quant ele oït qu'il remaneit,/Mut durement s'esjoïeit,/Mut esteit lie de
sujur,/Ne saveit nient de la doloir,/U il esteit puis qu'il la vit./Unc n'ot joïe, unc n'ot
delit,/Fors tant cum il pensa de li,/Mut se teneit à maubailli./Kar à sa feme aveit
promis,/Ainz qu'il tornast de sun païs,/Que il n'avereit si li nun/Ore est sis quors en
grant prisun;/Sa léauté voleit garder,/Mès ne s'en peot néent juter/Que il n'en eimt la
Dameisele/Guilliardun qui tant fu bele./De li véer, è de parler,/E de baiser, è
d'acoler;/Mès jà ne li querra amur,/Ke li turt tant à deshonor. /Tant pur sa femme
garder fei,/Tant cume il est od li Rei:/En grant peine fu Elidus,/Il est munté ne targe
plus,/Ses cumpainuns apele sei,/Al chastel vet parler al Rei./La Pucele verra s'il peot
/C'est l'acheisun pur quoi s'esmeot;/Li Reis est del' manger levez,/As chambres sa fille
est entrez,/As eschés cumence à juer/A un Chevalier d'utre-mer;/Del' autre part del'
escheker,/Devent sa fille enseigner./Elidus es alez avant,/Le Reis li fist mut bel
semblant;/De juste lui séer le fist,/Sa fille apele, si li dist:





He spoke, 'Lady, with this knight
you should now become acquainted,
and show him great honour.
Of five hundred, none is better.'
When the young woman heard
these words asked by the King her lord,
the young woman was very glad,
called to the knight, and she stood.
From others, they sat distant,
both seized in love's restraints.
To address him she'd not dare,
and he was afraid to speak with her,
apart from thanking her here
for the gifts she'd sent earlier:
he'd never had objects so treasured.



So to the knight she answered:
how that to her was pleasing -
she'd sent him the ring,
she'd sent him the sash
with which he encircled his waist,
as her love for him was such love,
wishing him to be her lord betrothed.
If he may be hers never,
she knew in all candour
she would have no man alive
if the knight did not affirm this wish.
He said,' Lady, in graciousness,
by your love I'm in happiness,
as you value me so highly
I should be joyous for that strongly,
but I may not stay by right,
set for a year, a King's knight,
bound by oath to him in honour
and I will not leave here
until the King's war can end,
then I will return to my land.

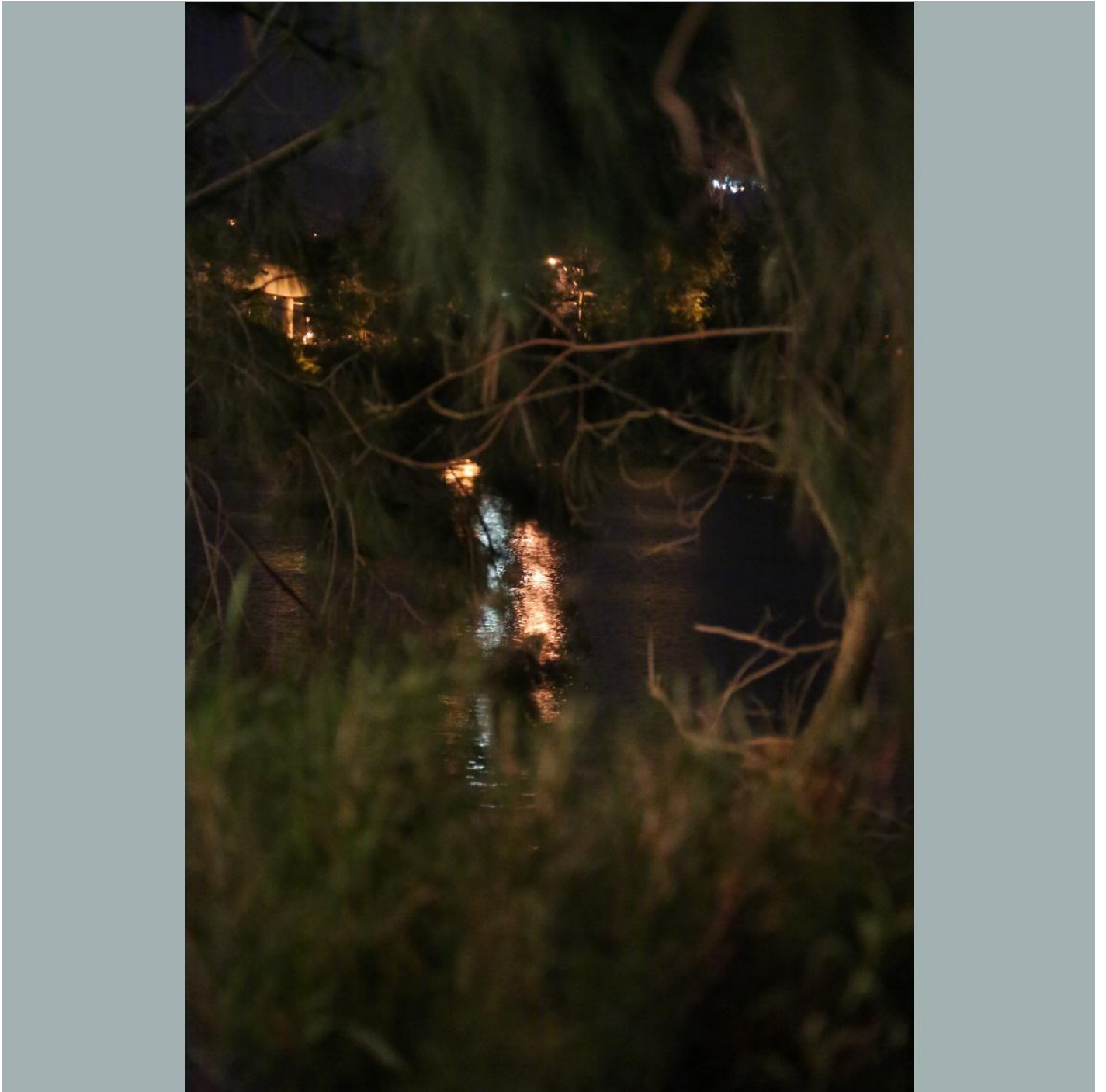


I planned not to stay,

if you may farewell me.'

In reply, the young woman spoke:

'My dear friend, many thanks.



Dameisele, à cest Chevaler /Vus devriez bien aquinter,/E fère lui mut grant
honor,/Entre cinc cenz n'en ad meillur./Quant la Meschine ot escuté,/Ceo que sis Sires
ot cumandé, /Mut en fu lée la Pucele;/Dresciée s'est, celui apele,/Luinz des autres se
sunt assis,/Amdui èrent d'amur espris. /El nel' osot areisuner,/E il dute à li parler,/Fors
tant ke il l'a mercia /Del' présent qu'el li envéia. /Unc mès n'ot avéir si chier;/Ele
respunt al Chevalier:/Que de ceo li esteit mut bel /Pur ceo li envéat l'anel,/E la
ceinture autresi,/Que de sun cors l'aveit seisi,/Ele l'amat de tel amur,/De lui volt faire
sun Seignur./Si ele ne peot lui avoir,/Une chose sace de veir,/Jamès n'auera hume
vivant,/Ne li redie sun talant. /Dame, fet-il, grant gré vus sai,/De vostre amur grant
joie en ai,/Quant vus tant me avez prisié,/Durement en dei estre lié;/Me remeindrat
pas en dreit mei,/Un an sui remis od le Rei,/La fiance ad de mei prise,/N'en partirai en
nule guise/De si que sa guere ait finée,/Puis m'en irai en ma cuntrée,/Kar ne voil mie
remaneir,/Si cungé puis de vus avoir./La Pucele li respundi:/Amis, la vostre grant
merci,



You've such courtesy and wisdom,
well before, you'll have seen
what you wish me to become.
Over all is my love and conviction.'
They were both much assured,
and, at that time, spoke no other word.
Eliduc went back to his lodging,
having done well and rejoicing.
He could speak with his companion often,



with great love between them.

He returned to the war then.

He captured and retained the man

who had kept the King at war,

and won all the land over -

Eliduc, lauded for chivalry, bravery,

for his great reason, his great generosity,

and much good happened to him.

Within this space, within this time,

his lord had sent for him from his home,

three messengers searching from his kingdom.



Tant estes sages è curteis,/Bien averez purveu ainceis/Quei vus vodriez fère de
mei;/Sur tute rien vus aim è crei./Bien s'estéent aséuré,/A cele feiz n'unt plus parlé./A
sun ostel Eliduc vet,/Mut est joius, mut ad bien fet,/Sovent peot parler od
s'Amie,/Grant est entre eus la druerie./Tant s'est de la guere entremis,/Qu'il aveit
retenu è pris/Celui ki le Rei guerréia,/E tute la tere aquita./Mut fu prisez par sa
pruesce,/Par sun sen, è par sa largesce;/Mut li esteit bien avenu;/Dedenz le terme ke
ceo fu,/Ses Sires l'ot envée quere,/Treis Messages fors de la tere;



His land's King was burdened and enraged,

cast out, hurt and disparaged.

That King was losing his every castle,

all his lands wasting in battle.

Now he came to regret often

the knight who had left him,

the ill advice he was given

and how wrong he'd been.

The knight's accusers, the betraying men

who had intermingled destructively then,

he'd cast from the country far,

in exile for all days, ever.

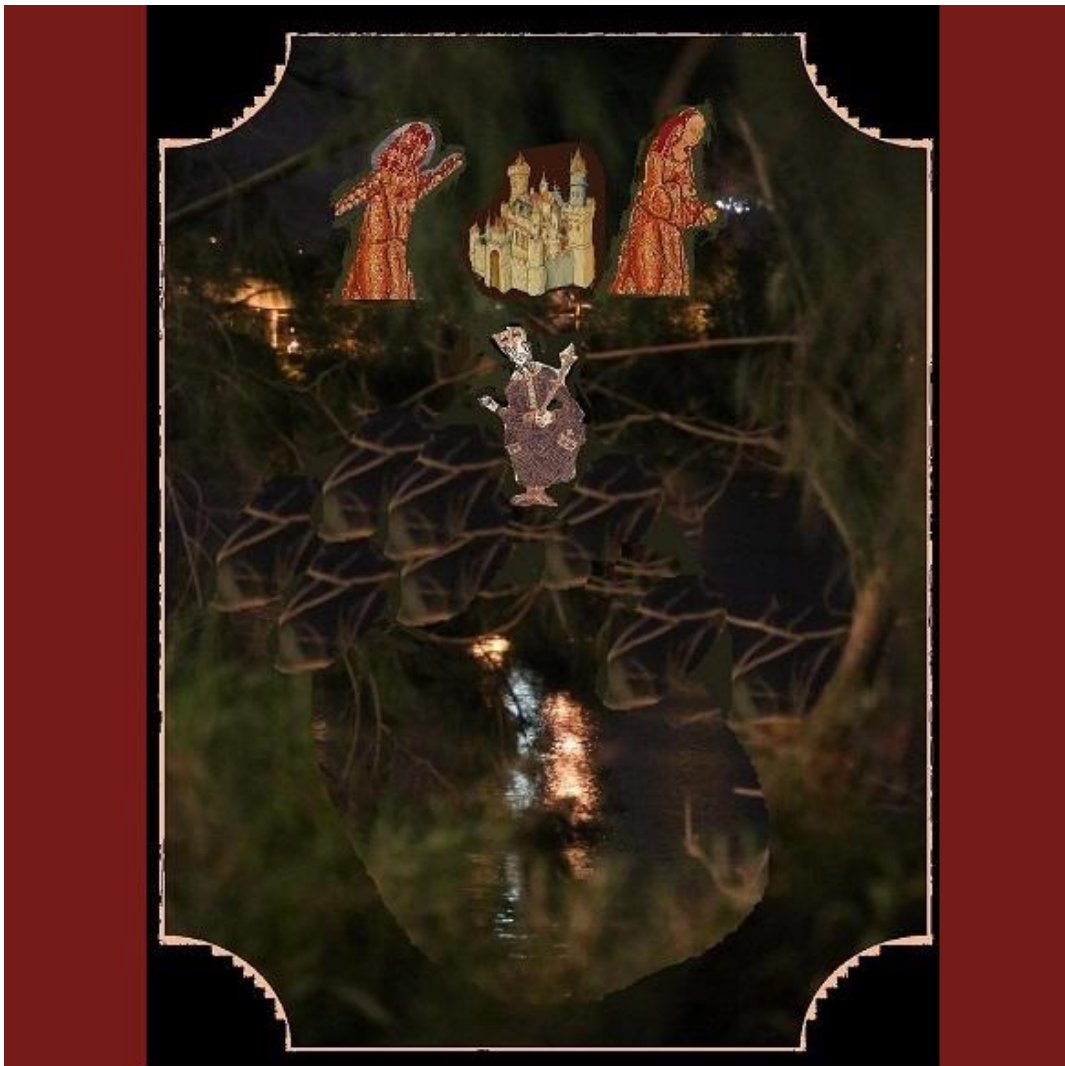
Eliduc was the knight he needed,



and the King commanded, summoned and pleaded
by the alliance that had been forged
when Eliduc had pledged
once to come always to his aid,
for there was much endeavour to be made.
Eliduc learned what was happening,
on his mind the young woman weighing,
because anxiously he loved her
and she could not love him deeper.
Between them there was no madness,
never familiarity, never darkness
but only speaking and gift-givings,
to give the other beautiful things,
was all their love and affection then.
The love that accompanied them
and this hope were tacit.
About him, she would reflect
if she could retain him here -
not knowing of his wife elsewhere.
He lamented that his wandering was wrong:
'I've tarried in this country too long.



Ill that I saw this realm,
and I came to love a woman,
the king's daughter, Guilliadon,
and she me with firm passion -
now if I must leave this country,
one of us both must die,
either that or both of us.
But I must leave because of this:
my lord commanded me by decree
and through a pledge beseeched me.



Mut est grevez è damagiez,/E encumbrez, è escilliez./Tuz ses chasteus alot perdant/E tute sa tere guastant:/Mut s'esteit sovent repentiz,/Que il de lui esteit partiz ;/Malvais cunseil en ot éu,/E malement l'aveit véu/Les trahiturs kil' encusèrent,/E empeirèrent è medlèrent./Aveit jeté fors del' païs/E en eissil à tuz-jurs mis./Por sun grant busuin le mandot,/E sumuneit, è conjurot,/Par l'aliance qu'il li fist,/Quant il l'umage de li prist/Que s'en venist pur lui aider,/Kar mut en aveit grant mester./Eliduc oï la novele,/Mut li pesa pur la Pucele:/Kar anguissusement l'amot,/E ele lui ke plus ne pot./Mès n'ot entre eus nule folie,/Ne jolifre, ne vileinie;/De dounéer è de parler,/E de lur beaus aveirs doner,/Esteit tute la druerie,/Par amur en lur cumpainie./Ceo fu s'entente, è sun espeir,/El le quidot del' tut avoir, /E retenir si ele peust/Ne saveit pas que femme eust./Allas! fet-il, mal ai erré,/Trop ai en cest païs esté,/Mar vi unkes ceste cuntrée/Une Meschine i ai amée,/Guilliardun la fille al Rei;/Mut durement è ele mei./Quant si del' m'estuet partir,/Un de nus estuet murir,/U ambedus estre ceo pot,/E ne porquant aler m'esteot;/Mis Sires m'ad par bref mandé,/E par serement conjuré:



My wife in my land, nevertheless
 compels me now to be cautious.
 Now, I can hardly stay.
 Soon I will leave by necessity.
 If my friend and I were to marry,
 it would never be allowed by Christianity.
 This is all going wrongly.
 God, how hard will this parting be.
 Whoever is mistaken on this,
 I'll think reasonably for the princess,
 so I will follow all her wishes.
 Voyaging, I'll act on her advice.
 The King has great peace here



and he will be at war no longer.
Because of my own lord's dismay,
I will seek leave by the day
- the time of my whole term's completion
of staying with the King in this kingdom.
I'll speak to the young woman
go to tell her my entire problem.
She will tell me her wish,
and in my power, I'll do this.'
Unhesitating, the knight moved hence,
saw the King to take his absence:
recounting, told him the adventure,
showed and read him the letter,
said his King had sent it earlier,
his King commanding him from terror.
The King here heard this order:
the knight would not remain at all there.
This King was suffering, in pain and pensive,
offered sufficiently as he could give:
one third of his heritage now,
and abandon his treasure also.
If Eliduc would therefore remain,
always he would praise his name.
'By God', said the knight, 'in this case,
since my lord is in sorrow in that place



and commanded me from such a distance,

I will go there to his assistance.

I will not remain in any way.

Then again you can employ me.

I'll return to you willingly

then with a great knight-army.'

Hearing that, the King was thankful,

and gave him his leave well.

All the possessions in the Kings' home

were now given away to him:

dogs, horses, silver, gold,

and sheets in silk, beautiful to hold.



E puis ma femme d'autre part/Or me convient que jeo me gart./Jeo ne puis mie remaneir,/Ainz m'en irai par estuveir,/Si m'Amie esteie espusez,/Ne le suffireit Crestientez./De tutes parz va malement,/Deu tant est dur le partement:/Mès ki k'il turt à mesprisun,/Vers li ferai tuz-jurs raisun./Tute sa volonté ferai/E puis par sun conseil errai:/Li Reis si Sires ad bone peis,/Ne qui que nul le guerreit meis/Pur la busuin de mun Seignur,/Querrai cungé devant le jur,/Que mes termes esteit asis,/Ke od lui sereit al païs. /A la Pucele irai parler,/E tut mun afere mustrer,/Ele me dirat sun voler,/E jol' ferai a mun poer./Li Chevaler n'ad plus targié/Al Rei veit prendre le cungié/L'aventure li cunte è dit,/Le bref li ad mustré è lit,/Que sis Sires li envéia,/Que par destresce le manda;/Li Reis oï le mandement,/E qu'il ne remeindra nient. /Mut est dolent, è trespensez,/Del' suen li ad offert asez /La terce part de s'hireté /E sun trésur abaundonné;/Puis remaneir tant li fera,/Dunt à tuz jurs le loera./Par Deu, fet-il, à cest feiz,/Puis que mis Sires est destreiz,/E il m'ad mandé de si loin /Jo m'en irai pur sun busoin./Ne remeindrai en nule guise,/S'avez mestier de mun servise, /A vus revendrai volenters /Od grant efforz de Chevalers;/De ceo l'ad li Reis mercié,/E bonement cungé doné. /Tuz les aveirs de sa meisun,/Li met li Reis en abaundun;/Or, è argent, chiens, è chevaus,/E dras de seie, bons, è beaus;



From that, he took a quantity,
then said to the King courteously
he would speak to his daughter willingly,
if he wished that to be.

The King agreed, 'Well by me',
and sent a young servant away,
who opened the princess' chamber.



Eliduc came to speak with her.
She saw and called to him,
said six thousand welcomes.
For advice about his problem quickly,
he revealed the cause of his journey.
Before he told her all,
before asking or farewell,
she fell faint with suffering,
pallid, losing all her colouring.
When Eliduc saw her faint,
he began then to lament.
He kissed often her mouth,
while in tenderness he wept,
clasped in his arms, kept her thus
until she awoke from her illness.
He said, 'My sweet friend,
by God, withstand here my words.
You are all my life, my death
and in you lives all my comfort.
For that, I follow your advice.
Be this faith between us.



By necessity, I go to my country.

I have leave from your father early,

but I will do as is chosen by you,

whatever may happen to me now.'

She said, 'Bring me,

since you wish not to stay.

If not, I will end my life.

I will have nothing joyous, only grief.'

Softly Eliduc answered her:

how his love for her was pure:

'Beauty, I am by oath

still bound to your father, in truth.

If I took you with me,

I would make my faith a lie,

until the set term finish.

I swear in loyalty, and promise:

if you will farewell me

in respite, name any day

if you wish me to return,

and I shall be by no world bound.

If I be alive and healthy,



my life is within your hands completely.'

With great love of him, the lady

set the time and chose his day

to come back and bring her.

So in grief they had to sever,

and they exchanged their gold rings,

each other fondly kissing.

He left, and reached the sea,

with a fair wind, crossing quickly.

When Eliduc returned to his country,

his lord was joyous and happy,

like his friends, like his relations

and all others felt the same,

and his good wife more than all

- very beautiful, wise and noble.

But he was pensive all days,

for the love that overwhelmed always -

for of nothing he saw ever

could he have joy or seem in cheer.

He'd have no happiness again

until he saw his beloved friend.





Il en prist mesurablement,/Puis li ad dit avenantment,/Qu'à sa fille parler ireit,/Mut
volenters si lui pleiseit:/Li Reis respunt: ceo m'est mut bel;/Avant enveit un
Dameisel/Qui l'us de la chambre ovri,/Eliduc vet parler od li,/Quant ele le vit, si
l'apela,/E sis mil feiz le salua:/De sun afère conseil prent/Sun eire li mustre
brèvement,/Ainz qu'il li éüst tut mustré/Ne cungé pris, ne demandé,/Se pauma-ele de
dolor,/E perdi tute sa culur./Quant Eliduc la veit paumer/Si se cumence à
desmenter,/La buche li baise sovent,/E si plure mut tendrement;/Entre ses braz la prist
è tient,/Tant que de paumeisuns revient./Par Deu, fet-il, ma duce Amie,/Sufrez un poi
ke jeo vus die,/Vos estes ma vie è ma mort,/E en vus est tut mun confort./Por ceo
preng-jeo conseil de vus,/Que fiance ad entre nus./Pur busuin vois en mun païs,/A
vostre père ai cungé pris,/Mès jeo ferei vostre plaisir/Quoi ke me deive avenir./Od vus,
fet-ele, me amenez,/Puis ke remaneir ne volez,/U si ceo nun me ocirai,/Jamès joie ne
bien n'averei;/Eliduc respunt par duçur,/Que mut l'amot de bon amur,/Bele, jeo sui par
serement,/A vostre père veirement:/Si jeo vus enmenoe od mei,/Jeo li mentirai ma
fei;/Desi k'al fine ki fu mis/Léaument vus jur é plevis,/Si cungé me volez doner,/E
respit mettre, è jur nomer,/Si vus volez que jeo reivenge,/N'est rien al monde ki me
tienge,/Pur ceo que seie vis è seins,/Ma vie est tute entre voz meins./Cele ot de lui
grant amur,/Terme li dune è nume jur./De venir è pur li mener/Grant déol firent al
désevrer./Lur anels d'or s'entrechangèrent/E ducement s'entrebaisèrent;/Il est desqu'à
la mer alez,/Bon ot le vent, tost est passez./Quant Eliduc ot repeirez,/Sis Sires est joius
è liez,/E si ami, è si parent,/E li autre comunement;/E sa bone Femme sur tuz,/Qui
mut est bele, sage è pruz./Mès il esteit tuz-jurs pensis,/Pur l'amur dunt il est
suspris;/Unques pur rien que il véist,/Joie ne bel semblant ne fist./Ne jamès joie n'en
auera,/Desi que s'Amie verra;





He remained with these emotions within.

At that, his wife's heart was in pain,
with no knowledge of his reasons why,
often she herself would cry.

She asked time and again
if he had heard from someone
that she'd acted disloyally in treachery
when he was far from this country.

She would face accusations, gladly
when he'd like: to his people, openly.

'I don't believe, lady,' he
replied, 'you were disloyal in treachery -
but in the country where I've been,

I've pledged and I've sworn
to the king, to return to him quickly
as he'd have much work for me.

If my lord, my king in our country, had peace,
I'd not tarry eight days.

In suffering I'll endure
until I may return there.





Mut se cuntient sutivement,/Se Feme en ot le queor dolent,/Ne sot mie que ceo
 deveit,/A sei méismes se pleigneit./Ele lui demandot suvent,/S'il ot oï de nule
 gent/Qu'ele eust meffet u mespris,/Tant cum il fut hors del' païs,/Volenters s'en
 esdrescera,/Devant sa gent quant li plaira./Dame, fet-il, ne vus aret/De mesprisiun, ne
 de meffet:/Mès al païs ù j'ai esté/Ai al Rei plevi è juré/Que jeo dei à lui repeirer/Kar
 de mei ad bien grant mester;/Si li Rei mis Sires aveit peis,/Ne remeindreie oit jurs
 après./Grant travail m' estuvra suffrir,/Ainz que jeo puisse revenir,



Until I've returned to that country
nothing joyous shall I see.
I'll not trespass against my promise,'
and she left him be at this.
When Eliduc was with his lord,
the knight gave his valour and aid.
With his advice the king went on
to protect all his kingdom,
but when the time came close,
the time - the time the lady chose -
he would go over to that place,
for his enemies had agreed accords of peace.
And then he prepared to go,
with those he would bring now:
two nephews loved by him;
and, too, he brought his chamberlain,
with advice about the situation -
who had carried a message then -
and no one else except his squires.
He had no care for any others,
making these men pledge and swear



to well conceal the entire matter,
and, without waiting, set to sea.
Going hastily, going rapidly,
he reached the country fast
where he was wished for most -
where, to be more clever
Eliduc sheltered far from the harbour,
wishing that no one see him,
recognise or find him in this realm.



Jà desi que revenu seie/N'averai joie de rien que veie,/Kar ne voil ma feie
 trespasser;/A-tant le lest la Dame vester./Eliduc od sun Seignur fu,/Mut li ad aidé è
 valu;/Par le cunseil de lui errot,/E tute la tere gardot,/Mès quant li termes apreça/Que
 la Pucele li numa/De pais fère s'est entremis,/Tuz accorda ses enemis:/Puis s'est
 appareillé d'errer,/E quel gent il vodra mener./Deus ses Nevuz qu'il mut ama,/E un
 suen Chamberlenc mena;/Cil ot de lur cunseil esté,/E le message aveit porté,/E ses
 Esquiers sulement,/Il n'ot cure de autre gent./A ceus fist plévir, è jurer/De tut sun
 afaire celer./En mer se mist, plus ni atent,/Utre furent hastivement;/En la cuntrée est
 arivez/U il esteit plus désirez./Eliduc fut mut veisiez,/Luin del' hafnes s'est
 herbergiez,/Ne voleit mie estre véuz,/Ne trovez, ne recunéuz.



Now he called his chamberlain
 and sent him away to his companion
 to say he'd returned to this land
 and he had held well to her command.
 In the shadows of night, by evening light,
 there she would from the city depart.
 Eliduc's chamberlain would go with her
 and again they would be together.



The chamberlain changed all his clothes,
discreetly went at footstep pace
travelling in a straight line to the town
where she was, the daughter of the king.
By such wishing and such pursuing,
he found he was in her room,
gave greetings to the young woman,
and said her companion had come.
When she heard this news from him,
she was distraught and overcome.
She cried with joy tenderly,
and she kissed him frequently.
He said that, when the evening fell,
to the knight they both should travel.
All the day had been spent entirely
planning every aspect of their journey.
When every shade of night had fallen,
they left together from the town,
only the lady with the knight's chamberlain.
They were accompanied by no one.
She feared so much to be seen



she'd dressed in silk covering
threaded through with gold embroidering
wrapped in a short mantel then.
From the gates, at a bow-shot away,
in the woods was a glade enclosed in beauty.
Here, waiting for them, on its border
was her friend, the knight, who had come for her.
The chamberlain led her to him.
Eliduc descended to kiss Guilliadon.
They were joyous together again.
She climbed on a horse, as bidden.
He climbed on and took the reigns,
and he left with her, hastening.
They came to Totnes Harbour,
at once boarded the ship there,
a ship with no men but his own
alone, and his loved companion Guilliadon.
They had fair wind and weather
and all punctual time was sure,
but before they reached their destination
a sea storm swept the ocean.





Sun Chamberlenc appareilla,/E à s'Amie l'envéia;/Si li manda que venuz fu,/E bien ad sun cumand tenu./La nuit quant tut fut à vespré/S'en éissi de la cité:/Li Chamberlenc od li ira,/E il encuntre li sera;/Cil aveit tuz changié ses dras,/A pié s'en vet trestut le pas./A la cité ala tut dreit,/U la fille le Rei esteit; /Tant aveit purchacié è quis,/Que dedenz la chambre s'est mis:/A la Pucele dist saluz,/E que sis Amis est venuz;/Quant ele ad la novele oïe,/Tute murne, è esbaïe,/De joïe plure tendrement,/E celui ad baisé suvent,/Il li ad dit que al vesprer,/Estuverat od li aler./Tut le jur ot issi esté/E lur eire bien devisé./La nuit quant tut fu aseri,/De la vile s'en sunt parti;/Li Dameisel è ele od li/E si ne furent mais il dui./Grant pour ad ke hum ne la veie,/Vestue fu d'un drap de seie,/Menuement de or brosdé/E un curt mantel afublé./Luinz de la porte al trait dun arc,/Là ot un bois clos d'un bel parc,/Suz le paliz les atendeit,/Sis Amis ki pur li veneit./Li Chamberlenc là l'amena,/E il descent: si la baisa./Grant joïe firent al assembler,/Sur un cheval la fist munter, /E il munta; sa reisne prent,/Od li s'en vet hastivement./Al hafne vient à Toteneis,/En la nef entrent demaneis;/Ni ot hume si les suens nun/E s'Amie Guilliardun./Bun vent eurent è bon oré,/E tut le tens aséuré;/Mès quant ils durent ariver,/Une turmente eurent en mer:





And before them a wind higher
threw them far from shore,
split their mast - the wood broken -
as it tore their sail open.

They called to God devoutly,
Saints Nicholas and Clement holy,
and the Lady Saint Mary to ask,
implore her Son help in this task,
save them from destruction here
so they may reach the harbour.

An hour ahead, an hour back,
they must allow the ship to slack,



float near the tempest closely.

Then one of his followers loudly

cried: 'What will we do?

Sir, here you have with you

her, to be the cause of our death.

Land we will never reach.

You have a wife, a loyal woman,

and you bring this other one,

against God, against the law,

against right, against honour.

Let us throw her to the sea,

and fast be able to finish our journey.'

Eliduc heard what was said

and, not misunderstanding, at the height of rage,

uttered: 'Evil son of a whore,

vile traitor, speak no more:

If I could but leave my companion,

I would cost your life and fortune',

but held her in his arms instead,

and comforted as best he could,





E un vent devant eus leva,/Qui luin del' hafne les geta,/Lur verge brusa è fendi,/E tut lur sigle desrumpi./Deu rëclement dévotement,/Seint Nicholas, è seint Clement,/E Madame Seinte Marie,/Que vers sun Fiz lur querge aïe,/Ke il les garris de périr,/E al hafne puissent venir./Un hure arière, un autre avant,/Issi alouent à costéant,/Mut estéïent près de turment./Un des Déciplés hautement/S'est escriez: quoi faimes nus?/Sire, ça einz avez od vus/Cele par qui nus périssumes;/Jamès à tere ne vendrumes. /Femme léal, espuse avez,/E sur cele autre enmenez/Cuntre Deu, è cuntre la lei,/Cuntre dreiture, è cuntre fei;/Lessez-la nus geter en mer,/Si povum s'empres ariver./Eliduc oï que cil dist,/E à poi d'ire ne mesprist:/Fiz à putain, fet-il, mauveis,/Fel traître, nel' dire meis,/Si m'Amie peust la laissier/Jeol' vus eusse vendu mut cher./Mès entre ses braz l'a teneit,/E cunfortout ceo qu'il poeit.



console the suffering she felt on the sea
and for what was now revealed to be:
her love had a wife - his spouse a lady:
another living there in his country.

Her face fell forward, faint,
pale, without colour's tint.

She remained like this, unconscious,
and without reviving, breathless.

Whoever, with him, was her carrier
believed her dead by sight there.

Eliduc rose to his feet, in dolour,
went quickly to the treacherous squire,
and with an oar he struck him.

He was stretched out and beaten.

Eliduc threw him by his feet,
so his body the waves swept,
as he cast him to the ocean.

Eliduc went to steer at the helm,
to govern the ship and to hold firm,
reached the harbour, and to land came
and, when they had arrived secure,



lowered the gangway and the anchor.

Guilliadon still remained insensate -

with no other look but that of death.



Del' mal que ele ot en la mer/E de ceo qu'ele oï numer;/Femme espusé ot sis
Amis/Autre ke li en sun païs,/De sur son vis chéi paumée/Tute pale, desculturée,/En la
paumeisun demurra,/Quel ne revint, ne suspira./Cil ki ensemble od lui
l'enporte,/Quidot por veir k'ele fust morte;/Mut fet grant doel, sus est levez,/Vers
l'esquier est tost alez,/Del' avirun si l'ad feru/K'il l'abati tut estendu. /Par le pié l'en ad
jeté fors,/Les undes enportent le cors;/Puisqu'il l'ot lanciai en la mer,/Al estière vait
gouverner,/Tant guverna la neif è tint,/Le hafne prist à tère vint./Quant il furent bien
arivé/Le pont mist jus, ancre ad geté;/Encor jut-ele en paumeisun/Ne n'ot semblant si
de mort nun.



Eliduc felt great anguish,
a place in death with her his wish.
He asked his companions to tell
him each what was their council.
He will bring the lady where?
For he will leave her never
if she does not rest ever
in a beautiful manner, in great honour,
to remain always on hallowed ground,
as is her right, the daughter of a king.
All at a loss, none of his men
could give him any suggestion.
Then Eliduc thought harder
on where he could bring her.
His house was close to the sea's shore.
By dinner, he could be there.
Forest trees encircled a space,
within a thirty-league expanse.
A devout hermit had come to dwell,
maintaining there a chapel,
for forty years had lived within.



The knight and he had often spoken.

Eliduc said he would take her to him,
and she could rest in his chapel then.

Eliduc would give such land
for the new abbey he would found,
and there he would place nuns
or holy monks, or holy canons,
to pray for her all the days:

'God, grant her mercy's grace'.

With his horses brought to his side,
he commanded all to ride,
but he took their oath by honour
that they would reveal this never.



Eliduc feseit mut grant doel,/Iloc fust mort od li sun voel,/A ses cumpainuns
 demanda,/Queil conseil chescun li dura./U la Pucele portera,/Kar de li jà ne partira,/Si
 serat enfuie è mise/Od grant honur, od bele guise,/En cimiterie benéiet,/Fille ert à Rei
 s'en aveit dreit./Cil en furent tut esgaré/Ne li aveient rien loé;/Eliduc prist à
 purpenser,/Quel part il l'a purrat porter./Sis recez fu près de la mer,/Estre i peust à sun
 deigner;/Une forest aveit entour/Trente liwes ot de lungur./Un seinz Hermites i
 maneit,/E une chapele i aveit,/Quarante anz i aveit esté,/Meinte feiz ot od li parlé./A
 lui, ceo dist, la portera,/En sa chapele l'enfuira;/De sa tere tant y durra,/Une Abéie i
 fundera,/Si metera cuvent de Moignes,U de Nuneins, u de Chanoignes,/Qui tuz-jurs
 prierunt pur li,/Deus li face bone merci./Ses chevaux ad fait amener,/Sis cumande tuz à
 munter:/Mès la fiaunce prent d'iceus/Qu'il n'iert descuvert par eus.



On his palfrey, close before him,
 he carried with him his companion,
 travelling straight along the road
 until they entered the woods.
 There they came to the chapel.
 The men tried to knock and call,
 but they found none to answer
 none to open up the door.



A man was bidden to climb over,
unlock and open the door from there.
Inside, eight days completed,
by the devout hermit in life perfected,
the new tomb was found by Eliduc -
who was sorrowful, so taken aback.
The men wanted to inter her,
but he restrained them further,
unsure where to place his lover.
He told them but this here:
'First, I will take my advice
from all the country's sages wise
on how I can make this place holy -
fit soon as a minster or an abbey.
We will lay her at the altar
and commend her to God there.'
Making them bring covers,
he made a bed in a fever.
They covered her beneath,
then left her as in death.
He, when he began to go,
believed he would die of sorrow,



kissed her eyes and kissed her face,
said: 'Beauty, by God's grace,
may I never take a weapon
or live throughout this season.
Ill that you saw me, beautiful companion,
ill that you followed me, my sweet dear one.
Beauty, you would now be queen
except for faithful love and fine -
loved me loyally for it.
For you sorrows so my heart,
the day that you rest here,
I'll take monastic orders
and on your tomb for each day more
I will cry again my dolour.'



Devant lui sur sun palefrei,/S'Amie porte ensemble od sei;/Le dreit chemin ont tant erré/Qu'il estéient al bois entré;/A la chapele sunt venu,/Apelé i unt è batu,/Ni trovèrent kis respundist,/Ne ki la porte lur ovrist./Un des suens fist utre-passer/La porte ovrir è deffermer;/Oit jurs esteit devant finiz/Li seinz Hermites li parfiz. /La tumbe novele trova/Mut fu dolenz, mut s'esmaia./Cil voleient la fosse faire,/Mès il les fist arière traire;/U il déust mettre s'Amie:/Il lur ad dit ceo ni ad mie,/Ainz en auerai mun conseil pris,/A la sage gent del' país,/Cum purrai le liu eshaucier,/U d'Abbéie, u de mustier./Devant l'auter la cuherum/E à Deu la cumanderum;/Il ad fet apporter ses dras,/Un lit li funt /La Meschine desus covrent/E cum pur morte la laissirent/Mès quant ceo vient al départir/Dunc quida-il de doel murir./Les oilz li baise è la face;/Bele, fet-il, jà Deu ne place/Que jamès puisse armes porter/Ne al sècle vivre ne durer./Bele Amie, mar me véistes,/Duce chère, mar me siwistes./Bele, jà fuissiez vus Reïne,/Ne fust l'amur léale et fine,/Dunt vus m'amastes léaument/Mut ai pur vus mun quor dolent. /Le jur que jeo vus enfuirai,/Ordre de Moigne recevrai;/Sur vostre tumbe chescun jur,/Feraï refreindre ma dolur.



So he left the lady there
and shut fast the chapel door.
He sent word to his home:
sending there a messenger to explain
to his wife that he had returned today,
but was exhausted and he'd travelled badly.
Hearing from him, she was so happy.
She made herself ready.
She met him, her lord, with welcoming,
but felt little joy at their meeting,
for he had no glad expression



and he had no warm conversation,
and no one dared question him.
He was two days at home.
He heard the Mass in the morning,
then he followed the path's direction
within the woods to reach the chapel
where the lady was lying still,
and still unconscious as he found her
without breath, unable to recover.
He felt great wonder
seeing her white and vermilion colour:
colour she lost never,
only turning slightly paler.
Then anxiously, he wept,
and he prayed here for her spirit.
When his prayer there was done,
he wended again to his home.
But once, as he went to the minster,
his wife arranged a boy as his watcher:
a valet, who promised intently
to follow him far and to see



then where his lord would turn.

She'd reward him with horses, weapons.

He fulfilled all her command,

set after the knight to the wood

without letting him perceive.

Here, he could watch and observe

how the knight entered the chapel

and he could hear his sorrow's struggle.



A-tant s'en part de la Pucele/Si ferme l'us de la chapele;/A sun ostel ad envée,/Sun Message li ad cunté/A sa femme que il veneit,/Mès las è travaillé esteit./Quant el l'oï, mut en fu lié/Cuntre lui s'est apareillié;/Sun Seignur receit bonement,/Mès poi de joïe l'en atent./Kar unques bel semblant ne fist/Ne bone parole ne dist,/Nul nel' osot mettre à reisun,/Deus jurs esteit en la meisun./La messe oeit bien par matin,/Puis se meteit sus al chemin,/Al bois alot à la chapele,/Là ù giseit la Dameisele./En la paumeisun l'a trovot,/Ne reveneit, ne suspirot,/De ceo li semblot grant merveille/K'il la véait blanche è vermeille./Unkes la colur ne perdi,/Fors un petit qu'ele enpali;/Mut anguissusement plurot,/E pur l'alme de li priot./Quant aveit fête sa prière,/A sa meisun alot arière;/Un jur al eissir del' muster/L'aveit sa femme fet gaiter,/Un suen Vadlet mut li prémist,/De luinz alast è si véist/Quel part sis Sires turnereit/Chevals é armes li durreit;/Cil ad sun cumandement fait,/Al bois se met, après li vait,/Si qu'il nel' ad aparçeu/Bien ad esgardé è véu,/Cument en la chapele entra,/Le dol oï qu'il démena.



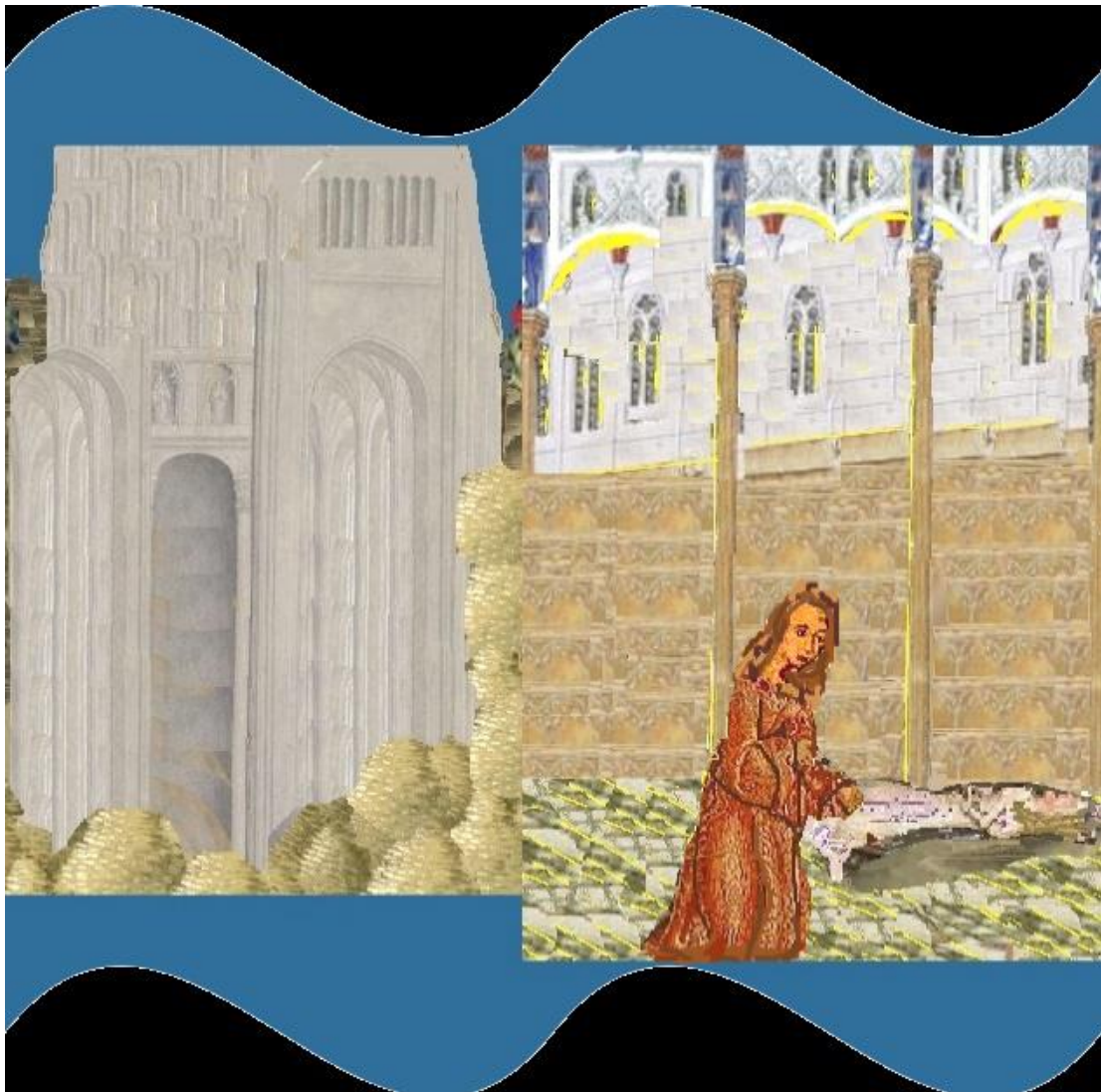
Before Eliduc left the oratory,
the valet returned to his manor's lady
and told her all that he'd been seeing:
the knight's pain, the sounds, the keening
as his lord cried out in the hermitage.
She was moved in all her courage.
The lady said: 'Let us go
to search the whole chapel now.
My lord said he thought of going



to the court, to speak to the King.
The hermit's been dead a long time.
Eliduc well loved him,
I know, but not to cause this
or lead him to such anguish'.
She left it at that, for then.
The same day in the afternoon,
Eliduc went to speak with the King.
She took the valet with her soon
and led him away to the chapel.
She entered the chapel's wall,
and saw the bed of the young woman,
here a new rose resembling.
Guilheluc lifted the cover from the lady
and saw the form complete in beauty:
long arms, hands white,
fingers long, smooth and delicate.
She knew the truth now -
why her lord had come to sorrow.
She called the valet closer,
there showed him the wonder,



and said, ' You see this woman,
she with beauty like a gemstone?
She is my lord's loved companion.
This is why he shows such pain.
I don't wonder at that, by faith,
if a woman of such beauty dies.
By such love, by such sadness,
on no day will I have happiness.'
So speaking, she began to cry,
and she lamented, grieving for the lady.



Ainz qu'Eliduc s'en seit eissuz/Est à sa Dame revenuz;/Tut li cunta ce que il vi/La
dolor, la noise, è le cri,/Cum fet sis Sires en l'hermitage,/Ele en mua tut sun
curage./La Dame dit: s'empres irums,/Tut l'hermitage cherchirums,/Mis Sires dit: ceo
quide errer,/A la Curt vet al Rei parler./Li Hermites fu mort pieça,/Jeo sai asez que il
l'ama, /Mès jà pur li ceo ne fereit,/Ne tel dolor ne demenreit./A cele feiz le lait issi/Cel
jur mesmes après midi,/Vait Eliduc parler al Rei./Ele prent le Vadlet od sei,/Al
hermitage l'ad mené,/Quant en la chapele est entré/E vit le lit à la Pucele/Qui
resemblot rose nuvele,/Del' cuvertur l'ad descovri,/E vit le cors tant eschevi;/Les bras
lungs, è blanches les meins,/E les deiz greilles, lungs, è pleins,/Or seit-ele la
vérité/Porquoi sis Sires ad duel mené./Le Vadlet avant apelat,/E la merveille li
mustrat,/Veiz tu, fet-ele, ceste femme/Qui de beuté ressemble gemme,/Ceo est l'Amie
mun Seignur,/Parquoi il meine tele dolor./Par fei, jeo ne me merveil mie/Quant si bele
femme est périe,/Tant par pitié, tant par amur,/Jamès n'averai joie nul jur./Ele
cumencet à plurer,/E la Meschine regreter.



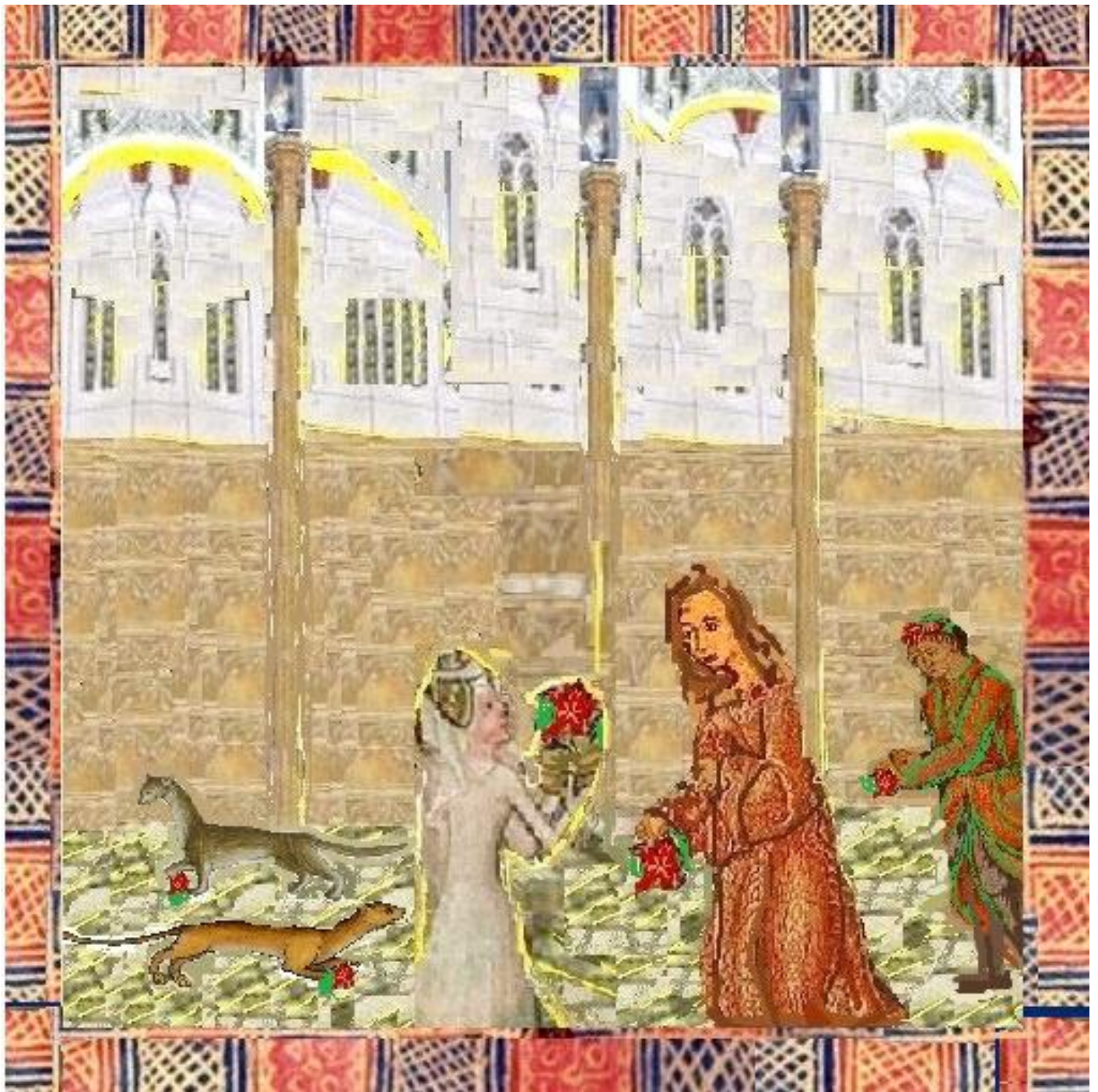
She sat at the bed, crying,
when a weasel came running
fast from under the chapel's altar.
The valet struck out at the creature,
because it crossed the body,
killed it with his stick instinctively,
and threw it through the air.
But it came down not far.



Another weasel, the companion, ran
and saw where the other had fallen,
walked around the head there,
and touched it often with her paw.
Unable to make it revive,
the other weasel seemed to grieve,
and she turned and left the hermitage,
to reach the wild forest grass,
to use her teeth to cut a flower,
all vermilion its colour.
The weasel came back in hurry,
placed the flower, in such a way
inside the mouth of the loved other
the valet had just killed there.
In the hour, it revived soon.
The lady discerned what was done,
cried: 'Keep it here!
Avoid disaster! Throw, your honour!'
He threw at the weasel, and so
it let the little blossom go.
The lady stood, the flower to take.



In hurry, she came back
and placed in the mouth of the young woman
this most truly beautiful of blossoms,
remaining with her, and in a short time,
Guilliadon recovered and breathed again.



Devant li list s'asist plurant,/Une musteile vint curant,/Desuz l'auter esteit eissue/E le
 Vadlet l'aveit ferue/Por ceo que sur le cors passa,/De un bastun qu'il tint la tua./Enmi
 l'eire l'aveit getée,/Ne demura ke une loée/Quant sa cumpaine i acurrut,/Si vit la place
 ù ele jut./Entur la teste li ala,/E del' pié suvent l'a marcha/Quant ne l'a pot fère
 lever,/Semblant feseit de doel mener./De la chapele esteit eissue,/As herbes est al bois
 venue,/Od ses denz ad pris une flur,/Tute de vermeille colur,/Hastivement reveit
 arière,/Dedenz la buche en teu manère/A sa cumpaine l'aveit mise/Que li Vadlez aveit
 ocise/En mêmes l'ure fu revescue;/Li Dame l'ad aparceü:/Al Vadlet crie: si retien
 la,/Jetez franc-humme mar se ira,/E il geta, si la féri,/Que la florete li chéi./La Dame
 liève, si la prent,/Arière va hastivement:/Dedenz la buche à la Pucele/Meteit la flur
 qui tant fu bèle/Un petitet i demurra./Cele revint è suspira,



Then she spoke, her eyes open:

'By God, I've slept so long.'

As she heard her speak, the lady

started thanking God intently

and asked who she was.

The young woman said in response:

'Lady, I'm from Logres, born

there, the daughter of the country's King.

I loved a knight much.

He was the good soldier Eliduc,



who led me away with him.
Deceiving me, he was in sin.
He'd married but confessed never,
never gave a sign of her.
When I heard talk of his wife,
I fell unconscious in grief.
He, ill-advised, immorally,
left me in another country,
betrayed and I know not why.
One that believes man is in folly.
'Beauty', the lady answered, told:
'Nothing living in all the world
can make him feel any joy.
One can speak that as true.
He believes you dead.
In awe, he's devastated,
yet each day watched you,
thinking you lifeless now.
In reality, I am his wife.
For him my heart is truly in grief
because of this sorrow he knew.



To know where he would go,

I followed and found you.

That you live is my great joy.

And taking you with me soon,

I will return you to your friend.



Peché ad fet k'il m'enginna./Femme ot espusé nel' me dist,/Ne uncques semblant ne m'en fist./Quant de sa femme oï parler/De duel k'eus m'estuet paumer,/Vileinement descunseillée/M'ad en autre terre laissée./Trahi m'ad è ne sai que deit,/Mut est fole ke humme creit:/Bele, la Dame li respunt,/N'ad rien vivant en tut le munt, /Qui joïe li féist aveir,/Ceo vus peot-humme dire por veir./Il quide ke vus séez morte,/A merveille se descunforte,/Chescun jur vus ad regardée,/Quide k'il vus trova pasmée,/Jeo sui sa spuse véreiment/Mut ai pur li mun quer dolent,/Pur la dolur ke il menot,/Saveir voleie ù il alot./Après lui vins si vus trovai,/Que vive estes grant joie en ai,/Ensemble od mei vus enmenrai,/E à vostre ami vus rendrai.



And I, from the vows he said,
will free him and veil my head.'
Guideluec was so comforting to her
she let herself be led from there.
By then, the valet had been prepared,
sent out to fetch his lord
and, travelling until finding him,
gave him a polite greeting.
He revealed and told of this adventure.



On his horse, Eliduc climbed, eager.

He awaited no companion now.

Returning home in night's shadow

to find his dear friend alive,

he lovingly thanked his wife.

This had cured him truly.

He'd been so glad on no day,

kissed the young woman often,

and, warmly, she kissed him.

Together, their joy was very great,

and when the lady saw this sight,

she spoke reason to her lord,

advising of the leave she sought,

so she could part then from him,

wanting to serve God as a nun,

asking for part of this land's country

where she could build an abbey:

'Choose this lady you love.

It could never be well enough

to keep two wives at once.

Nor would the law to it consent.'



Eliduc granted all of these.

He benignly bestowed her leave

and he would fulfil her wish exactly,

give from his land much country

within the forest near the castle.

The hermitage's woodland chapel

was where she created her minster.

She built dwellings there,

with great wealth, great land,

had anything she could need.



Del' tut le voil quite clamer,/E si ferai mun chef veler;/Tant l'ad la Dame confortée,/Qu'ensemble od lui l'en ad menée./Sun Vallet ad appareillé/E pur sun Seigneur envié;/Tant errat cil, qu'il le trova,/Avenantment le salua,/L'aventure li dit è cunte;/Sur un cheval Eliduc munte,/Une n'i atendi cumpainun,/La nuit revint à sa meisun./Quant vive ad trovée s'Amie/Ducement sa femme mercie, /Mut par est Eliduc haitiez,/Unc nul jur ne fu si liez./La Pucele baise suvent,/E ele lui mut ducement,/Ensemble funt joïe mut grant,/Quant la Dame vit lur semblant,/Sun Seigneur ad à reisun mis,/Cungé li ad rové è quis,/Que le puisse de li partir,/Nunnein volt estre Deu servir;/De sa tère li doint partie,/U ele face une Abéie;/Cele prenge qu'il aime tant,/Kar n'est pas bien ne avenant,/De deus espuses meintenir,/Ne la lei nel' deit cunsentir./Eliduc li ad otrié/E bonement cungé doné,/Tute sa volenté fera,/E de sa tere li durra/Près del chastel einz el bosage,/A la chapele al hermitage,/Là ad fet fère sun mustier,/Ses méisuns édifier,/Grant tere i met è grant avoir,/Bien averat sun estuveir.



When all had been prepared,
there the lady veiled her head,
thirty nuns together with her
to help establish her holy order.
Eliduc wed Guilliadon his lover
in a beautiful manner, with high honour.
All was joy, all celebration,
the day he married his companion.
Living for many days together,
love was perfect in them ever.
They gave immense charity
and themselves to God finally.



Close to the castle, in another place,
with great vigilance, good advice,
Eliduc built a church there.

From his land, he added more,
and all his gold and all his silver,
placing men within, and other
people of very high religion
to maintain his order and the dwelling.

When there was nothing left to ready,
he didn't much delay -
giving himself, with them,
to serve Omnipotent God again,
arranging that his first wife be
together now with his dear lady.

Guildeluec received her as her sister.

She gave her great honour,
counselled her in God's service,
and taught her of her order's ways.

They prayed to God for their companion:
to have good mercy for him,
and he also prayed for them



and sent them his messengers often,
to know they were both well,
know they both were comfortable.
They all made such effort
by the love of God, with beautiful faith,
so made their ending beautiful completely -
Divine truth, God's mercy.
The adventure, the story of the three,
was told by ancient Bretons of courtesy.
They constructed a lay to remember
this, which man should remember ever.



Quant tut ad fet bien aturner,/La dame i fet sun chief veler, /Trente nuneins ensemble
od li,/S'ajue è sun ordre establi./Eliduc s'Amie ad prise,/A grant honur od bel
guise,/En fu la feste démenée,/Le jur k'il l'aveit espusée./Ensemble vesquirent meint
jur/Mut od entre eus parfet amur./Granz aumoinnes è granz biens firent/Tant que à Deu
se cunvertirent./Près del' chastel, del' autre part,/Par grant conseil è par esgart,/Une
église fit Elidus,/De sa tere i mist le plus;/E tut sun or, è sun argent,/Hummes i mist, è
autre gent,/De mut bone religiun,/Pur tenir l'ordre è la meisun./Quant tut aveit
appareillé/E n'en ad puis guèrres targé;/Ensemble od eus se dune è rent,/Pur servir
Deu omnipotent./Ensemble od sa femme primère/Mist sa femme ke tant ot chère;/El
la reçeut cum sa serur,/E mut li porta grant honur:/De Deu servir l'amonesta,/E sun
ordre li enseigna./Deu prièrent pur lur ami,/Que il li fist bone merci,/E il pur eles
repréïot,/Ses messages lur envéïot,/Pur saveir cument lur esteit,/E cum chescun se
cunforteit./Mut se pena chascun pur sei,/De Deu amer par bele fei,/E mut firent tuz
bele fin,/La merci Deu le veir devin./Del' Aventure de ces treis,/Li auncien Bretun
curteis/Firent le Lai pur remembrer/Que hum nel' deust pas oblier.



Fin

The End

