

OLD FRENCH SERIES • VOLUME 11

REYNARD AND ISENGRIM

Le Roman de Renart

Reynard and Isengrim

The Romance of Reynard the Fox, Branches I–V

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation
preserving the original word order

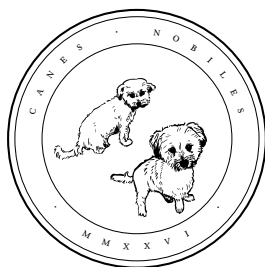


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Volume 11 of the Canes Nobiles Old French interlinear texts

The Old French text follows Ernest Martin's text,
Le Roman de Renart, volume I (Strasbourg, 1882)

Set from a page scan of Martin's edition

Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench

Artwork by Esther Steves

The text is Martin's as his own errata in tome III correct it, and his spelling carries the tréma and almost no other accent. Speech stands between “ ” and a quotation inside a speech between ‘ ’, where Martin sets single and double marks the other way round, and the square brackets are his. The verses are numbered as Martin numbers them, anew in each numbered branch, every fifth in the margin; his indented paragraphs take a row of air, and the reading sections and their English heads are this press's.

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The Court at Ascensiontide, and Isengrim's Complaint

The poet says that Perrot, who put Reynard and Isengrim into verse, left out the best of his matter: the suit. Noble the lion calls his court as Ascension nears, and every beast comes but Reynard. Isengrim accuses him of forcing his wife Hersent and fouling his cubs, and the barons argue whether so public a shame can be tried at all. Hersent offers to clear herself by ordeal, and the king is making peace when a cart arrives carrying a mangled hen.

Perrot, qui son engin et s'art

Perrot who his wit and his-art

mist en vers fere de Renart

put into verse to-make of Reynard

et d'Isengrin son cher conpere,

and of-Isengrim his dear godfather-in-law

lessa le meus de sa matere:

left the best of his matter

car il entroblia le plet

for he forgot the suit

et le jugement qui fu fet

and the judgment which was made

en la cort Noble le lion

in the court (of-)Noble the lion

de la grant fornicacion

of the great fornication

que Renart fist, qui toz maus cove,

that Reynard did who all evils hatches

envers dame Hersent la love.

toward lady Hersent the she-wolf

5

10

Ce dit l'estoire el premer vers

This says the-story in-the first verse

que ja estoit passe ivers

that already was past winter

et que la rose espanissoit

and that the rose was-blooming

et l'aube espine florissoit

and the-white thorn was-flowering

15 et pres estoit l'asencions,

and near was the-Ascension

que sire Noble li lions

when lord Noble the lion

totes les bestes fist venir

all the beasts made to-come

en son pales por cort tenir.

into his palace for court to-hold

Onques n'i ot beste tant ose

Ever not-there was beast so bold

20 qui remansist por nule chose

who stayed-away for any thing

qui ne venist hastivement:

who not came hastily

fors dan Renart tant solement,

save sir Reynard so only

le mal lere, le soulduiant,

the evil thief the deceiver

que li autre vont encusant

whom the others go accusing

et enpirant devant le roi

and maligning before the king

et son orgueil et son desroi.

and his pride and his outrage

Et Ysengrin qui pas ne l'eime,

And Isengrim who at-all not him-loves

devant toz les autres se cleime

before all the others himself complains

et dit au roi "baux gentix sire,

and says to-the king fair noble lord

car me fai droit de l'avoutire

now to-me do right for the-adultery

que Renart fist a m'espossee

that Reynard did to my-wife

dame Hersent, quant l'ot serree

lady Hersent when her-be-had cornered

a Malpertuis en son repere,

at Malpertuis in his lair

quant il a force li volt faire,

when he by force to-her would do

et conpissa toz mes lovaux:

and pissed-on all my wolf-cubs

c'est li dels qui plus m'est noveax.

that-is the grief which most to-me-is fresh

Renart prist jor de l'escondire

Reynard took day for the-denial

qu'il n'avoit fet tel avoutire.

that-be not-had done such adultery

25

30

35

Quant li seint furent aporte,

When the saints were brought

40 ne sai qui li out enorte,

not I-know who to-him had counseled

si se retrest molt tost arere

so himself he-drew very quickly back

et se remist en sa tesnere.

and himself put-again into his den

De ce ai oü grant coroz”.

Of this I-have had great anger

Li rois li a dit oiant toz

The king to-him has said hearing all

45 “Ysengrin, leissiez ce ester.

Isengrim leave this to-be

Vos n'i poes rien conquerer,

You not-there can anything gain

ainz ramentevez vostre honte.

rather you-recall your shame

Musart sont li roi et li conte,

Fools are the kings and the counts

et cil qui tienent les granz corz

and those who hold the great courts

50 devienent cop, hui est li jorz.

become cuckolds today is the day

Onques de si petit damage

Ever from so little damage

ne fu tel duel ne si grant rage.

not was such grief nor so great rage

Tele est cele ovre a escient

Such is that deed in truth

que li parlers n'i vaut noient."

that the talking not-there is-worth anything

Dist Brun li ors, "biaux gentix sire,

Said Bruin the bear fair noble lord

ja porriez asez meuz dire.

indeed you-could much better say

Est Ysengrin ne mort ne pris,

Is Isengrim neither dead nor taken

se Renart a vers lui mespris,

if Reynard has against him offended

que bien n'en puist avoir venchance.

that well not-thereof he-may have vengeance

Ysengrin est de tel puissance,

Isengrim is of such power

se Renart pres de lui manoit,

if Reynard near to him dwelt

et por la pes ne remanoit

and for the peace not were-bindered

qui novelement est juree,

which newly is sworn

que ja oüst vers lui duree.

that ever he-would-have against him endurance

Mes vos estes prince de terre:

But you are prince of land

si metes pes en ceste guerre!

so put peace in this war

Metes pes entre vos barons:

Put peace among your barons

55

60

65

qui vos harrez, nos le harrons,

whom you will-hate we him will-hate

et meintendron de vostre part.

and we-will-maintain on your side

70 S'Isengrins se pleint de Renart,

if-Isengrim himself complains of Reynard

fetes le jugement seoir:

make the judgment to-sit

c'est li meuz que g'en puis veoir.

that-is the best that I-thereof can see

Se l'un doit a l'autre, si rende,

If the-one owes to the-other so let-him-pay

et del mesfet vos pait l'amende.

and for-the misdeed to-you let-him-pay the-amends

75 Mandes Renart a Malpertuis:

Summon Reynard at Malpertuis

gel' amenrai, se je le truis

I-him will-bring if I him find

et vos m'i voles envoyer.

and you me-there wish to-send

Si l'apprendrai a cortoyer."

So him-I-will-teach to be-courteous

"Sire Brun" dit Bruianz li tors,

Lord Bruin says Bruiant the bull

80 "mal daheit ait sans vostre cors

evil curse have saving your body

qui ja conseiliera le roi

who ever will-counsel the king

qu'il prende amende del desroi,

that-he take amends for-the outrage

de la honte et del avoutere

for the shame and for-the adultery

que Renart fist a sa conmere.

that Reynard did to his godmother-in-law

Renart a fait tante moleste,

Reynard has done so-many harms

et conchiee tante beste,

and befouled so-many beasts

que ja nus ne li doit aidier.

that ever anyone not to-him ought to-help

Comment doit Ysengrin plaider

How ought Isengrim to-plead

de chose qui si est aperte

of a-thing which so is open

et conneüe et discoverte?

and known and uncovered

De moi sa ge, que que nus die,

Of myself know I whatever that anyone may-say

se cil qui tot le mont conchie,

if he who all the world befouls

eüst ma fame en sa baillie,

had my wife in his keeping

contre son gre l'oüst sesie:

against her will her-be-had seized

ja Malpertuis nel garandist,

ever Malpertuis not-him would-protect

ne forteresce qu'il feïst,

nor fortress that-be might-make

85

90

95

que je ne l'eüsse escuillie

that I not him-bad gelded

et puis en un conping gitie.

and then into a close [?] thrown

Hersent, dont vos vint en coraje?

Hersent whence to-you came into heart

100 Certes ce fu molt grant damaje,

Certainly that was very great harm

quant Renart qui est fox garcons

when Reynard who is foolish knave

vos monta onques es arcons".

you mounted ever in-the saddle-bows

"Sire Bruiant" dist li tessons,

Lord Bruiant said the badger

"cist maux, se nos ne l'abesson,

this evil if we not it-abate

105 porra encore trop monter.

will-be-able still too-much to-rise

Car tex porra le mal conter

For such-a-one will-be-able the evil to-tell

et bien espandre et essaucier

and well to-spread and to-magnify

qui nel porra pas abessier.

who not-it will-be-able at-all to-abate

Et puis qu'il n'i ot force fete,

And since that-it not-there was force done

110 ne huis brisie ne treve enfrete,

nor door shattered nor truce broken

se Renart li fist par amors,

if Reynard to-her did by love

n'i afiert ire ne clamors.

not-there belongs anger nor complaint

Pieca que il l'avoit amee.

Long-ago that he her-had loved

Ja cele ne s'en fust clamee,

Ever she not herself-thereof would-have complained

s'en li en fust: mes par mon chef

if-on her thereof it-were but by my head

Ysengrin l'a trop pris en gref.

Isengrim it-has too-much taken in grievance

Voiant le roi et son barnaje,

Seeing the king and his baronage

gart Ysengrin a son damaje!

let-him-look Isengrim to his harm

Se li vasseax est enpiries

If the vessel is damaged

et par Renart mal atiriez

and by Reynard ill handled

le vaillant d'une nois de coudre,

the worth of-a nut of hazel

pres sui que je li face soudre,

near I-am that I to-him make to-pay

des que Renart sera venus

as-soon as Reynard will-be come

et li jugement ert tenus.

and the judgment will-be held

Mes c'est li meus que ge i sent,

But that-is the best that I there feel

li blame soit dame Hersent.

the blame be lady Hersent

115

120

125

Ahi, quel onor et quel plet

Ab what honor and what suit

vos a hui vostre mari fet

to-you has today your husband done

a tantes bestes regarder!

for so-many beasts to-look-on

130 Certes len vos devroit larder,

Certainly one you ought to-lard

s'il vos apele bele suer,

if-be you calls fair sister

se james li portes bon cuer.

if ever to-him you-bear good heart

Il ne vos crient ne ne resogne".

He not you fears nor not dreads

Hersent rogist, si ot vergoigne,

Hersent blushed so had shame

135 que tot le poil li vet tirant.

that all the hair to-her goes pulling

Si respondi en sozpirant

So she-answered in sighing

"Sire Grinbert, je n'en puis mes.

Lord Grimbart I not-thereof can more

Ge amasse molt meus la pes

I would-love much better the peace

entre mon segnor et Renart.

between my lord and Reynard

140 Voir il n'ot onques en moi part

Truly he not-had ever in me part

en tel maniere n'en tel guise,

in such manner nor-in such wise

si que j'en feroie un joïse,

so that I-thereof would-make an ordeal

de caude eve ou de fer caut.

of hot water or of iron hot

Mes mon escondire que vaut,

But my denial what is-worth

lasse, caitive, malostrue,

wretched captive ill-starred

quant je ja n'en serai creüe?

when I ever not-thereof shall-be believed

Par trestoz les sainz qu'on aore

By all the saints whom-one adores

ne se damledex me secore,

and so Lord-God me help

c'onques Renart de moi ne fist

that-ever Reynard with me not did

que de sa mere ne feïst.

that with his mother not he-would-do

Por dan Renart nel di je mie

For sir Reynard not-it say I at-all

ne por amender sa partie:

nor for to-better his case

c'autretant m'est qu'en de lui face,

that-as-much to-me-is what-one of him may-do

ne qui que l'eint ne qui le hace,

nor who that him-loves nor who him hates

con vos est d'un cardon asnin.

as to-you is of-a thistle of-the-ass

Mes je le di por Ysengrin,

But I it say for Isengrim

145

150

155

qui de moi par est si jalox

who of me much is so jealous

que toz jors s'en quide estre cox.

that all days himself-thereof thinks to-be cuckold

Foi que je doi Pincart mon fil,

Faith that I owe Pincart my son

160 oan le premer jor d'avril

this-year the first day of-April

que pasques fu, si con or sist,

when Easter was so as now fell

ot dix anz qu'Isengrin me prist.

it-was ten years that-Isengrim me took

Les noces furent molt pleneres:

The nuptials were very full

que les fosses et les lovieres

for the dens and the wolf-holes

165 furent de bestes totes pleines,

were with beasts all full

voire certes si qu'a grant peines

indeed certainly so that-with great pains

peüssies tant de vuit trover

you-could so-much of empty to-find

ou une oe pouïst cover.

where a goose might brood

La devin ge loiale espouse,

There became I lawful wife

170 ne m'en tenes pas a mentose

not me-thereof bold at-all for liar

n'a songnant ne a beste fole.

nor-for concubine nor for beast wanton

Or revendrai a ma parole.

Now I-will-return to my word

Qui m'en vout croire, si m'en croie,

Who me-thereof wishes believe so me-thereof let-him-believe

et si voil bien que chascun l'oie:

and so I-wish well that each-one it-bear

onc, foi que doi sainte Marie,

ever faith that I-owe holy Mary

ne fis de mon cors puterie

not I-did of my body harlotry

ne mesfet ne maveis afere

nor misdeed nor wicked business

q'une none ne poïst fere".

that-a nun not might do

Quant Hersent ot sa raison dite

When Hersent had her speech said

et ele se fu escondite,

and she herself was cleared

Bernars li annes qui l'oï,

Bernart the ass who it-heard

trestot son cuer s'en esjoï.

all his heart itself-thereof rejoiced

Qar or quide tot a estros

For now he-thinks all at once

que Isengrin ne soit pas cos.

that Isengrim not is at-all cuckold

"Ahi" fet il, "gentil barnesse,

Ab says he noble baroness

qar fust or si loial m'annesse,

would-that were now so loyal my-she-ass

175

180

185

et chen et lou et autres bestes,

and dog and wolf and other beasts

et totes femes con vos estes!

and all females as you are

Qar si me face dex pardon,

For so to-me may-do God pardon

190 si me doinst il trover cardon

so to-me may-grant he to-find thistle

qui soit tendres en ma pasture,

which be tender in my pasture

que vos n'ouïstes onques cure

that you not-had ever care

de Renart ne de son deduit,

of Reynard nor of his pleasure

ne de s'amor, si con je quit.

nor of his-love so as I think

195 Mes li secles est si maveis,

But the world is so wicked

si mesdisans et si pugnes,

so slanderous and so foul

qu'il tesmoinne ce qu'il ne voit

that-it witnesses that which-it not sees

et blame ce que loer doit.

and blames that which to-praise it-ought

Ahi, Renart li forsenes,

Ab Reynard the mad-one

200 con de mal hore tu fus nes

how in evil hour thou wast born

et engendres et conceüs,

and begotten and conceived

quant tu jà ne seras creüs!

when thou ever not wilt-be believed

Or ert la novele expandue

Now will-be the news spread

que aviez Hersent croissue.

that you-had Hersent crushed

Ele en velt ci fere un joïse:

She thereof wishes here to-make an ordeal

onques par lui ne fu requise.

ever by him not she-was solicited

He, gentix sire deboneire,

Ah noble lord gracious

qar metez pes en cest afere,

now put peace into this business

et s'aiez de Renart merci!

and so-have of Reynard mercy

Lessiez le moi vostre merci

Leave him to-me your mercy

ca aconduire a sauvete:

here to-bring to safety

de qanqu'Isengrin l'a rete

for whatever-Isengrim him-has charged

itele amende li fera

such amends to-him he-will-make

con vostre cort esgardera.

as your court will-adjudge

205

210

- 215 Et se il a fait par despit
And if he has done through spite
 le hardement et le respit
the boldness and the delay
 qu'il a pris de venir a cort,
that-he has taken of to-come to court
 amendera einz qu'il s'en tort."
he-will-amend before that-he himself-thence turn
 "Sire" ce respont li conciles,
Lord that answers the council
- 220 "onques ne vos aït saint Giles,
ever not you help saint Giles
 (se vos plest et vos conmandez)
if to-you pleases and you command
 se ja Renart i est mandez
if ever Reynard there is summoned
 hui ne demain: se il n'i vient,
today nor tomorrow if he not-there comes
 après demain, e s' il s'en tient,
after tomorrow and if he himself-thence holds
- 225 fetes li a force amener,
make him by force to-bring
 et puis tel livroison doner
and then such ration to-give
 dont il en apres se recort."
whereof he in after himself remember
 Ce dit Nobles "vos aves tort
That says Noble you have wrong
 qui Renart volez forsjuger.
who Reynard wish to-outlaw

Tel os poes vos bien ronger:

Such bone can you well to-gnaw

s'aucun de vos me mene orgoil,

if-any of you to-me shows pride

ce meïme vos pent a l'ueil.

that same to-you hangs at the-eye

Renart ne he ge mie tant

Reynard not hate I at-all so-much

por rien qu'en li voist sus metant,

for anything that-one on-him goes up laying

que je le voille encor honir,

that I him wish yet to-shame

s'il se voult a moi abonir.

if-he himself wishes to me amend

Ysengrin, pernez cest juïse

Isengrim take this ordeal

que vostre feme vos devise,

which your wife to-you offers

se vos laissier ne le volez.

if you to-leave not it wish

Gel prendroie". "Sire, tolez!

I-it would-take Lord take-it-away

Se Hersent porte le joïse,

If Hersent bears the ordeal

et ele soit arse et esprise,

and she be burnt and kindled

tex le saura qui or nel set.

such-a-one it will-know who now not-it knows

Liez en sera qui or me het.

Glad thereof will-be who now me hates

230

235

240

- 245 Lors diront il tot a estrox,
Then will-say they all at once
 ‘Vez la le cox et le jalox!’
See there the cuckold and the jealous-one
 Meuz me vaut il, selonc le plet
Better to-me is-worth it according-to the suit
 souffrir la honte qu’il me fet
to-suffer the shame that-he to-me does
 tant que je me puisse venger.
until that I myself may avenge
- 250 Mez einz que doive vendenger
But before that one-should gather-vintage
 quit ge Renart movoir tel gerre:
think I Reynard to-stir such war
 ne le garra ne clef ne serre
not him will-save nor key nor lock
 ne mur ne fosse desfensable”.
nor wall nor moat defensible
 “Or dont” dit Nobles, “au deable!
Now then says Noble to-the devil
- 255 Por le cuer be, sire Ysengrin,
By the heart bab lord Isengrim
 prendra ja vostre gerre fin?
will-take ever your war end
 Quidiez i vos rien gaagnier,
Think there you anything to-gain
 Renart mater ne meegnier?
Reynard to-subdue nor to-maim
 Foi que je doi saint Lienart,
Faith that I owe saint Leonard

ge connois tant les arz Renart:

I know so-well the arts (of-)Reynard

plus tost vos puet il fere ennui,

more quickly to-you can he do trouble

honte et damaje que vos lui.

shame and harm than you to-him

D'autre part est la pes juree

On-other side is the peace sworn

dont la terre est aseüree:

whereby the land is made-safe

qui l'enfrendra, s'il est tenuz,

who it-will-break if-he is taken

molt mal li sera avenuz".

very ill to-him will-be happened

Quant Ysengrin oï le roi

When Isengrim heard the king

qui de la pes prenoit conroi,

who of the peace was-taking care

molt fu dolanz, ne set que fere,

very he-was grieved not he-knows what to-do

ne n'en set mes a quel chef trere.

nor not-thereof knows more to what end to-draw

A la terre entre deus eschames

On the ground between two stools

s'asiet la coue entre les janbes.

he-sits the tail between the legs

Or est Renart bien venu,

Now is (to-)Reynard well come

si dex li oüst porveü:

as-if God for-him had provided

260

265

270

- 275 q'en tel point avoit pris li rois
that-in such point had taken the king
 l'acorde maugre as yrois,
the-accord despite to-the angry-ones
 que ja preïst la gerre fin
that ever would-take the war end
 entre Renart et Ysengrin,
between Reynard and Isengrim
 se ne fust Chantecler et Pinte
if not were Chanticleer and Pinte
- 280 qui a la cort venoit soi qinte
who to the court was-coming self fifth
 devant lo roi de Renart pleindre.
before the king of Reynard to-complain
 Or est li feus gres a esteindre.
Now is the fire hard to quench
 Car sire Chantecler li cos
For lord Chanticleer the cock
 et Pinte qui pont les ues gros,
and Pinte who lays the eggs big
- 285 et Noire et Blance et la Rossete
and Noire and Blance and the Rossete
 amenoient une charete
were-bringing a cart
 qui envouxte ert d'une cortine.
which covered was with-a curtain

Dedenz gisoit une geline

Within lay a hen

que l'en amenoit en litere

whom one was-bringing on litter

fete autresi con une bere.

made just as a bier

Renart l'avoit si maumenee

Reynard her-had so mishandled

et as denz si desordenee

and with-the teeth so mangled

que la cuisse li avoit frete

that the thigh to-her he-had broken

et une ele hors del cors trete.

and a wing out of-the body drawn

290

The Burial of Dame Copee

Pinte laments over the body of Copee, the hen Reynard has killed, and tells the court that he has eaten her five brothers and four of her five sisters. The king rages until the whole court trembles, and swears vengeance. Bruin commends the soul, Tardif reads the three lessons, Rooneel and Brichemer sing, and Copee is buried in a leaden vessel under a marble with her epitaph. The king sends Bruin to fetch Reynard, and at her tomb Coart loses his fever and Isengrim claims his earache is healed.

Quant li rois ot jugie asez,

When the king had judged much

qui del pleider estoit lassez,

who of-the pleading was weary

295

ez les jelines maintenant

behold the hens at-once

et Chantecler paumes batant.

and Chanticleer palms beating

Pinte s'escrie premereine

Pinte herself-cries first

300 et les autres a grant aleine:

and the others with great breath

“Por deu” fet ele, “gentix bestes

For God says she noble beasts

et chen et leu tex con vos estes,

both dog and wolf such as you are

qar conseilliez ceste chaitive!

now counsel this wretch

Molt he l'oure que je sui vive.

Much I-hate the-hour that I am alive

305 Mort, car me pren, si t'en delivre,

Death now me take so thyself-thereof deliver

quant Renart ne me lesse vivre!

since Reynard not me lets to-live

Cinc freres oi tot de mon pere:

Five brothers I-had all from my father

toz les manja Renart li lere,

all them ate Reynard the thief

ce fu grant perte et grant dolors.

that was great loss and great grief

310 De par ma mere oi cinc serors,

From by my mother I-had five sisters

que virges poules, que mescines:

both virgin hens and maidens

molt i avoit beles jelines.

many there were fair hens

Gonberz del Frenne les passoit,

Gonbert of-the Frenne them fed

qui de pondre les anguissoit:

who of to-lay them pressed

li las! mal les i encressa.

the wretch ill them there he-fattened

Qar ainc Renart ne l'en laissa

For ever Reynard not to-him-thereof left

de totes cinc que une soule:

of all five but one alone

totes passerent par sa goule.

all passed through his throat

Et vos qui la gisez en bere,

And you who there lie on bier

ma douce suer, m'amie chere,

my sweet sister my-friend dear

con vos estieez tendre et crasse!

how you were tender and fat

Que fera vostre suer la lasse

What will-do your sister the wretched

que a nul jor ne vos regarde?

who on any day not you sees

Renart, la male flambe t'arde!

Reynard the evil flame thee-burn

Tantes foiz nus avez foleez

So-many times us you-have outraged

et chacies et tribulees,

and chased and harried

315

320

325

et descirees nos pelices,

and torn our pelts

et enbatues dusq'as lices.

and driven as-far-as-the palings

Ier par matin devant la porte

Yesterday by morning before the gate

330 me jeta il ma seror morte,

to-me threw he my sister dead

puis s'en foï parmi un val.

then himself-thence fled through a vale

Gonberz n'ot pas isnel cheval,

Gonbert not-had at-all swift horse

ne nel poïst a pie ateindre.

nor not-him could on foot to-catch

Ge me voloie de lui pleindre,

I myself wished of him to-complain

335 mes je ne truis qui droit m'en face:

but I not find who right to-me-thereof may-do

car il ne crent autrui manace

for he not fears another's threat

n'autrui coroz vaillant deus foles".

nor-another's anger worth two leaves

Pinte la lasse a ces paroles

Pinte the wretched at these words

chaï pamee el pavement,

fell swooning on-the pavement

340 et les autres tot ensement.

and the others all likewise

Por relever les quatre dames

For to-raise-again the four ladies

se leverent de lor escames

themselves rose from their stools

et chen et lou et autres bestes,

both dog and wolf and other beasts

eve lor getent sor les testes.

water to-them they-throw on the heads

Quant revindrent de paumoisons,

345

When they-came-back from swoons

si con nos en escrit trovons,

so as we in writing find

la ou lo roi virent seoir

there where the king they-saw to-sit

totes li vont au pie chaoir:

all to-him go at-the foot to-fall

et Chantecler si s'ajenoille

and Chanticleer so himself-kneels

et de ses lermes ses piez moille.

350

and with his tears his feet wets

Et quant li rois vit Chantecler,

And when the king saw Chanticleer

pitie li prent du baceler.

pity to-him takes of-the young-man

Un sopir a fet de parfont,

A sigh he-has made from deep

ne s'en tenist por tot le mont.

not himself-thereof he-would-hold for all the world

Par mautalant drece la teste.

355

In anger he-raises the head

Onc n'i ot si hardie beste,

Ever not-there was so bold beast

ors ne sengler, que poor n'et

bear nor boar that fear not-had

quant lor sire sospire et bret.

when their lord sighs and bellows

Tel poor ot Coars li levres

Such fear had Coart the hare

360 que il en ot deus jors les fevres.

that he thereof had two days the fevers

Tote la cort fremist ensemble.

All the court shudders together

Li plus hardis de peor tremble.

The most bold for fear trembles

Par mautalent sa coue drece,

In anger his tail he-raises

si se debat par tel destrece

so himself he-beats with such distress

365 que tot en sone la meson,

that all thereof resounds the house

et puis fu tele sa reson.

and then was such his speech

“Dame Pinte” fet l'enperere,

Lady Pinte says the-emperor

“foi que doi a l'ame mon pere

faith that I-owe to the-soul (of-)my father

por qui je ne fis aumonne hui,

for whom I not did alms today

370 il me poisse de vostre anui,

it to-me grieves of your trouble

se ge le peüsse amender.

if I it could to-mend

Mes je ferai Renart mander

But I will-make Reynard to-summon

si que vos a vos euz verres

so that you with your eyes will-see

et a voz oreilles orres

and with your ears will-hear

con grant venchance sera prise.

how great vengeance will-be taken

Quar j'en voil fere grant justise

For I-thereof wish to-do great justice

del omecide et du desroi".

for-the homicide and for-the outrage

Quant Ysengrin oï lo roi,

When Isengrim heard the king

isnelement en pies se drece.

quickly on feet himself raises

"Sire" fet il, "c'est grant proece.

Lord says he that-is great prowess

Molt en seres par tot loes,

Much thereof you-will-be through all praised

se vos Pinte venger poes

if you Pinte to-avenge can

et sa seror dame Copee

and her sister lady Copee

que Renart a si esclopee.

whom Reynard has so crippled

Ge nel di mie por haïne,

I not-it say at-all for hatred

375

380

385

mes je le di por la mescine

but I it say for the maiden

qu'il a morte, que je le face

whom-he has killed that I it do

por chose que je Renart hace."

for anything that I Reynard hate

Li emperere dit "amis,

The emperor says friend

390 il m'a molt grant dol el cuer mis.

he to-me-has very great grief in-the heart put

Ce n'est or pas li premereins.

That not-is now at-all the first

As voz et a tos les foreins

To-the your-(people) and to all the outsiders

me plein si, con je fere sueil,

myself I-complain so as I to-do am-wont

del avoltire et del orgueil

of-the adultery and of-the pride

395 et de la honte qu'il m'a fete,

and of the shame that-he to-me-has done

et de la pes qu'il a enfrete.

and of the peace that-he has broken

Mes or parlons d'autre parole.

But now let-us-speak of-other matter

Brun li ors, pernez vostre estole,

Bruin the bear take your stole

si commandes l'ame del cors!

and commend the-soul of-the body

400 Et vos, sire Bruianz li tors,

And you lord Bruiant the bull

la sus enmi cele costure

there above amid that tilled-field

me fetes une sepouture”!

for-me make a sepulcher

“Sire” dit Brun, “vostre plesir”.

Lord says Bruin your pleasure

Atant vet l'estole sesir,

Thereupon he-goes the-stole to-seize

et non mie tant solement:

and not at-all so only

et li rois au commendement

and the king at-the command

et tuit li autre del concile

and all the others of-the council

ont commencie la vigile.

have begun the vigil

Sire Tardis li limacons

Lord Tardif the snail

lut par lui sol les trois lecons,

read by him alone the three lessons

et Roenel chanta les vers,

and Roonel sang the verses

et li et Brichemers li cers.

both he and Brichemer the stag

Quant la vigile fu chantee

When the vigil was sung

et ce vint a la matinee,

and it came to the morning

le cors porterent enterrer.

the body they-carried to-bury

405

410

415

Mes einz l'orent fet encerrer

But first it-they-had made to-enclose

en un molt bel vaissel de plom,

in a very fair vessel of lead

onques plus bel ne vit nuz hom.

ever more fair not saw any man

Puis l'enfoïrent soz un arbre

Then it-they-buried under a tree

420 et par desus mirent un marbre,

and over above they-put a marble

(s'i ot escrit le non la dame

and-there was written the name (of-)the lady

et sa vie) et conmandent l'ame.

and her life and they-commend the-soul

Ne sai a cisel ou a grafe

Not I-know with chisel or with graver

i ont escrit en l'espitafe

there they-have written in the-epitaph

425 "Desoz cest arbre enmi ce plain

Beneath this tree amid this plain

gist Copee la sor Pintein.

lies Copee the sister (of-)Pinte

Renart qui chascun jor enpire,

Reynard who each day grows-worse

en fist as denz si grant martire".

thereof made with-the teeth so great martyrdom

Qui lors veïst Pintein plorer,

Who then might-have-seen Pinte to-weep

430 Renart maudire et devorer,

Reynard to-curse and to-devour

et Chantecler les piez estendre,

and Chanticleer the feet to-stretch

molt grant pitie l'en poïst prendre.

very great pity him-thereof might take

Quant li deuls fu un poi laissiez

When the grief was a little left-off

et il fu del tot abessiez,

and it was of-the all abated

“Emperere” font li baron,

Emperor say the barons

“qar nos vengies de cel laron

now us avenge of that thief

qui tantes guiches nos a fetes

who so-many tricks to-us has done

et qui tantes pes a enfretes”.

and who so-many peaces has broken

“Molt volontiers” dit l'enperere.

Very willingly says the-emperor

“Qar m'i ales, Brun, bauz doz frere:

Now for-me-there go Bruin fair sweet brother

vos n'aurez ja de lui regart.

you not-will-have ever from him fear

Dites Renart de moie part

Tell Reynard from my part

q'atendu l'ai trois jors enters”.

that-waited him-I-have three days entire

“Sire” dit Brun, “molt volenters”.

Lord says Bruin very willingly

435

440

- 445 Atant se met en l'ambleüre
Thereupon himself he-puts into the-amble
 parmi le val d'une coture,
through the vale of-a tilled-field
 que il ne siet ne ne repose.
that he not sits nor not rests
 Lors avint a cort une chosse
Then befell at court a thing
 endementers que Bruin s'en vet,
meanwhile that Bruin himself-thence goes
- 450 qui Renart enpire son plet.
whicb (for-)Reynard worsens his suit
 Qar misire Coart li levres,
For my-lord Coart the hare
 que de poor pristrent les fevres,
whom from fear seized the fevers
 (dous jors les avoit ja oües)
two days them he-had already had
 merci deu or les a perdues
thanks (to-)God now them he-has lost
- 455 sor la tombe dame Copee.
on the tomb (of-)lady Copee
 Car quant ele fu enterree,
For when she was buried
 onc ne se vout d'iloc partir,
ever not himself would from-there to-depart
 s'eüst dormi sor le martir.
until-he-had slept on the martyr

Et quant Ysengrin l'oï dire

And when Isengrim it-heard to-say

que ele estoit vraie martire,

that she was true martyr

dit qu'il avoit mal en l'oreille.

says that-he had pain in the-ear

Et Roonel qui li conseille,

And Roonel who to-him counsels

sus la tombe gisir le fist.

on the tomb to-lie him made

Lors fu gariz, si con il dist.

Then he-was healed so as he said

Mes se ne fust bone creance

But if not were good faith

dont nus ne doit avoir dotance,

whereof anyone not ought to-have doubt

et Roenel qui le tesmoingne,

and Roonel who it witnesses

la cort quidast, ce fust mencoingne.

the court would-think it were a-lie

460

465

Bruin the Bear, and the Honey Tree

Bruin brings the summons to Malpertuis. Reynard keeps to his den, complains of the poor man's table, and offers him honey in Lanfroi's wood. Bruin puts his snout into a split oak; Reynard knocks out the wedges and it shuts on his head. The forester rouses the village, and Bruin tears free, leaving the skin of his head and forepaws. He reaches the court bleeding, and the king sends Tibert, who finds a bird of ill omen at Reynard's door. Reynard welcomes him, agrees to come, and promises mice.

Quant a la cort vint la novele,

When to the court came the news

470 a tex i ot qu'ele fu bele.

to such [some] there were that-it was fair

Mes a Grinbert fu ele lede,

But to Grimbart was it ugly

qui por Renart parole et plede

who for Reynard speaks and pleads

entre lui et Tybert le chat.

between him and Tibert the cat

S'or ne set Renart de barat,

If-now not knows Reynard of trickery

475 mal est bailliz, s'il est tenuz.

ill he-is handled if-be is taken

Qar Brun li ors est ja venuz

For Bruin the bear is already come

a Malpertus le bois enter

to Malpertuis the wood entire

parmi l'adrece d'un senter.

by the-shortcut of-a path

Por ce que grant estoit sis cors

For this that great was his body

remeindre l'estuet par defors.

to-remain him-it-behooves by outside

S'estoit devant la barbacane.

So-he-was before the barbian

Et Renart qui le mont engane,

And Reynard who the world tricks

por reposer ert trais arere

for to-rest was drawn back

enmi le fonz de sa tesnere.

amid the bottom of his den

Garni avoit molt bien sa fosse

Stocked he-had very well his burrow

d'une geline grant et grosse,

with-a hen large and fat

et s'avoit mangie au matin

and so-he-had eaten in-the morning

deux beles cuisses de poucin.

two fair thighs of chicken

Or se repose et est a ese.

Now himself he-rests and is at ease

Atant es vos Bruin a la hese.

Thereupon behold you Bruin at the gate

“Renart” fait il, “parlez a moi!

Reynard says he speak to me

Ge sui Brun messagier lo roi.

I am Bruin messenger (of-)the king

Issiez ca fors en ceste lande:

Come here out into this beath

480

485

490

s'orrez ce que li rois vos mande."

and-you-will-bear that which the king to-you sends

495 Renart set bien que c'est li ors,

Reynard knows well that that-is the bear

reconneü l'avoit au cors:

recognized him-he-had by-the body

or se commence a porpenser

now himself he-begins to consider

con se porra vers lui tenser.

how himself he-will-be-able against him to-defend

"Brun" fet Renart, "baus doz amis,

Bruin says Reynard fair sweet friend

500 en molt grant peine vos a mis

in very great pain you has put

qui ca vos a fet avaler.

who here you has made to-come-down

Ge m'en devoie ja aler:

I myself-thence was-to already to-go

mes que j'aie mangie ancois

provided that I-have eaten first

d'un mervellos mangier francois.

of-a marvelous dish French

505 Qar, sire Brun, vos ne savez,

For lord Bruin you not know

l'en dit a cort 'sire, lavez'

one says at court lord wash

a riche home, quant il i vient.

to rich man when he there comes

Garis est qui ses manches tient.

Saved is-he who his sleeves holds

De primes vient buef a l'egres.

From first comes beef with the-verjuice

Apres viennent li autre mes,

After come the other dishes

quant li sires les velt avoir.

when the lord them wishes to-have

Qar povres hom qui n'a avoir,

For poor man who not-has wealth

fu fet de la merde au diable.

was made from the dung of-the devil

Ne siet a feu, ne siet a table,

Not he-sits at fire nor sits at table

ainz mangue sor son giron.

rather he-eats on his lap

Li chen li viennent environ

The dogs to-him come around

qui le pain li tolent des meins.

who the bread from-him take from-the hands

Une fois boivent, c'est del meins.

One time they-drink that-is of-the least

Ja plus d'une fois ne bevront,

Ever more than-one time not they-will-drink

ne ja plus d'un sol mes n'auront.

nor ever more than-one single dish not-they-will-have

Lor os lor gitent li garçon,

Their bones to-them throw the serving-lads

qui plus sont sec que vif carbon.

which more are dry than live coal

Chascun tient son pain en son poing.

Each holds his bread in his hand

510

515

520

Tuit furent feru en un coing,

All were struck in one die

525 et li seneschal et li queu.

both the seneschals and the cooks

De ce ont li seignor grant preu

From this have the lords great profit

dont li laron ont a plente.

whereof the thieves have in plenty

Qar fussent il ars et vente!

Now were they burnt and winnowed

La char lor enblent et les peins

The flesh from-them they-steal and the loaves

530 qu'il envoient a lor puteins.

whiche-they send to their whores

Por tel afere con ge di,

For such business as I say

beax sire, avoie des midi

fair lord I-had since midday

mon lart et mes pois aünes,

my bacon and my peas gathered

dont je me sui desjeünes:

whereon I myself am breakfasted

535 et s'ai bien mangie set denrees

and so-I-have well eaten seven pennyworths

de novel miel en fresces rees".

of new honey in fresh combs

"Nomini dame Cristum file"

In-name Lord Christ son

dit li ors, "por le cors saint Gile,

says the bear by the body (of-)saint Giles

cel meuls, Renart, dont vos abonde?

that honey Reynard whereof to-you abounds

Ce est la chose en tot le monde

That is the thing in all the world

que mes las ventres plus desire.

which my wretched belly most desires

Car m'i menes, baux tres doz sire,

Now me-there lead fair very sweet lord

por le cuer be, dex moie cope”!

by the heart bab God my fault

Et Renart li a fet la lope

And Reynard at-him has made the grimace

por ce que si tost le descoit,

for this that so quickly him he-deceives

et li chaitis ne s’aperçoit,

and the wretch not himself-perceives

et il li trempe la corroie.

and he for-him soaks the strap

“Brun” dit Renart, “se je savoie

Bruin says Reynard if I knew

que je trovasse en vos fiance

that I might-find in you trust

et amistie et aliance,

and friendship and alliance

foi que je doi mon fil Rovel,

faith that I owe my son Rovel

540

545

550

de cest bon miel fres et novel

with this good honey fresh and new

vos enplirai encui le ventre

to-you I-will-fill this-very-day the belly

ca an dedens si que l'en entre

here in within so that one enters

555 el bois Lanfroi le forestier...

in-the wood (of-)Lanfroi the forester

mes ce que vaut? ce n'a mestier.

but this what is-worth this not-has use

Qar se je ore o vos aloie,

For if I now with you went

et de vostre ese me penoie,

and for your ease myself troubled

tost me fereez male part".

soon to-me you-would-do evil part

560 "Qu'avez vos dit, sire Renart?

What-have you said lord Reynard

Mescreez me vos dont de rien"?

Mistrust me you then of anything

"Oil". "De qoi"? "Ce sa ge bien:

Yes Of what This know I well

de traïson, de felonnie."

of treason of felony

"Renart, or est ce diable,

Reynard now is this devilry

565 quant de tel chosse me desdites".

when of such thing me you-gainsay

"Non faz: or en soiez toz quites!

Not I-do now thereof be all quit

Ne vos en port nul mal corage.”

Not to-you thereof I-bear any ill heart

“Vos aves droit, que par l’omaje

You have right for by the-homage

que je fis Noble le lion,

that I did (to-)Noble the lion

onc vers vos n’oi entencion

ever toward you not-I-had intention

d’estre traîtres ne tricerres,

to-be traitor nor trickster

ne envers vos estre boiseres.”

nor toward you to-be deceive

“Ge n’en quier autre seürte,

I not-thereof seek other surety

ge me met en vostre bonte.”

I myself put in your goodness

Trestot Brun a Renart otroie.

All Bruin to Reynard grants

Atant se mistrent a la voie.

Thereupon themselves they-put on the way

Onques n’i ot resne tenu

Ever not-there was rein held

de si a tant qu’il sont venu

from so to when that-they are come

el bois Lanfroi le forester:

in-the wood (of-)Lanfroi the forester

iloc s’arestent li destrer.

there themselves-stop the chargers

Lanfroi qui le bois soloit vendre,

Lanfroi who the wood was-wont to-sell

570

575

580

un chesne ot commence a fendre.

an oak had begun to split

Deus coins de cesne toz entiers

Two wedges of oak all whole

i avoit mis li forestiers.

there had put the forester

585 "Brun" fet Renart, "bau doz amis,

Bruin says Reynard fair sweet friend

vez ci ce que je t'ai promis.

see here that which I to-thee-have promised

Ici dedenz est li castoivre.

Here within is the electuary

Or del mangier, si iron boire:

Now of-the eating then we-will-go to-drink

or as bien trove ton avel."

now thou-hast well found thy desire

590 Et Brun li ors mist le musel

And Bruin the bear put the snout

el cesne et ses deus pies devant.

in-the oak and his two feet before

Et Renart le vet sus levant

And Reynard him goes up lifting

et adrecant en contremont.

and setting-straight in upward

En sus se trest, si le semont.

In back himself he-draws so him he-urges

595 "Cuverz" fait il, "ovre ta boce!

Wretch says he open thy mouth

A pou que tes musauz n'i toce.

At little that thy snout there touches

Fil a putein, ovre ta gole!"

Son of whore open thy throat

Bien le concie et bien le bole.

Well him be-befouls and well him be-cheats

Maudite soit sa vie tote,

Cursed be his life all

que james n'en traisist il gote,

for ever not-thereof would-draw he drop

que n'i avoit ne miel ne ree.

for not-there was neither honey nor comb

Endementres que Brun i bee,

While that Bruin there gapes

Renart a les coinz enpoigniez

Reynard has the wedges gripped

et a grant peine descoigniez.

and with great pain driven-out

Et quant li coing furent oste,

And when the wedges were removed

la teste Brun et li coste

the head (of-)Bruin and the sides

furent dedens le cesne enclos.

were within the oak shut

Ore est li las a mal repos:

Now is the wretch at ill rest

moult l'avoit mis en male presse.

much him-he-had put in evil press

Et Renart qui ja n'ait confesse,

And Reynard who ever not-may-have confession

600

605

610

(quar onc ne fist bien ne amhone)

for ever not he-did good nor alms

de long s'estut, si le ranprone.

from afar himself-stood so him he-taunts

"Brun" fet il, "jel savoie bien

Bruin says he I-it knew well

que queriez art et engien

that you-sought art and device

615 que ja del miel ne gosterioie.

that ever of-the honey not I-would-taste

Mes je sai bien que je feroie,

But I know well what I would-do

s'une autre fois avoie a fere.

if-an other time I-bad to do

Molt estes ore deputerere

Very you-are now base

que de cel miel ne me paes.

that of that honey not me you-feed

620 Ahi! con me conduisiez,

Ah how me you-would-lead

et con seroie a savete,

and how I-should-be in safety

se g'estoie en enfremete!

if I-were in infirmity

Vos me lairees poires moles."

You to-me would-leave pears soft

Atant es vos a cez paroles

Thereupon behold you at these words

625 sire Lanfroi le forestier,

lord Lanfroi the forester

et Renart se mist au frapier.

and Reynard himself put to-the flight

Quant li vileins vit Brun l'ors pendre

When the villein saw Bruin the-bear to-hang

au cesne que il devoit fendre,

on-the oak that he was-to split

a la vile s'en vient le cors.

to the village himself-thence comes (at-)the run

"Harou! harou!" fait il "a l'ors!

Help help says he at the-bear

Ja le porrons as poins tenir."

Now him we-shall-be-able in-the hands to-hold

Qui dont veïst vileins venir

Who then might-have-seen villeins to-come

et formier par le boscage!

and to-swarm through the woodland

Qui porte tinel, et qui hache,

Who carries cudgel and who axe

qui flael, qui baston d'espine.

who flail who staff of-thorn

Grant peor a Brun de s'escine.

Great fear has Bruin for his-back

Quant il oï venir la rage,

When he heard to-come the fury

fremist et pense en son corage

he-shudders and thinks in his heart

que meus li vient le musel perdre

that better to-him comes the snout to-lose

que Lanfroi le pouïst aerdre,

than Lanfroi him might seize

630

635

640

qui devant vient a une hache.

who in-front comes with an axe

Tent et retent, tire et relache

He-strains and re-strains pulls and slackens

(estent le cuir, ronpent les venes)

stretches the hide burst the veins

si durement que a grans peines

so hard that with great pains

645 fent li cuirs et la teste qasse.

splits the hide and the head cracks

Del sanc i a perdu grant masse,

Of-the blood there he-has lost great quantity

le cuir des pies et de la teste.

the hide of-the feet and of the head

Onc nus ne vit si leide beste.

Ever anyone not saw so ugly beast

Li sans li vole del musel,

The blood from-him flies from-the snout

650 entor son vis n'ot tant de pel

around his face not-was so-much of skin

dont en poïst fere une borse.

whereof one might make a purse

Einsi s'en vet le filz a l'orse.

Thus himself-thence goes the son of the-she-bear

Parmi le bois s'en vet fuiant,

Through the wood himself-thence goes fleeing

et li vilein le vont huiant:

and the villeins him go hallooing

655 Bertot le filz sire Gilein,

Bertot the son (of-)lord Gilein

et Hardoïn Copevilein,
and Hardoin Copevilein
 et Gonberz et li filz Galon,
and Gonbert and the son (of-)Galon
 et danz Helins li niez Faucon
and sir Helin the nephew (of-)Faucon
 et Otrans li quens de l'Angle
and Otran the count of the-Angle
 qui sa feme avoit estranglee:
who his wife had strangled
 Tyegiers li forniers de la vile
Tyegier the baker of the village
 qui esposa noire Cornille,
who married black Cornille
 et Aymer Brisefaucille
and Aymer Brisefaucille
 et Rocelin li filz Bancille,
and Rocelin the son (of-)Bancille
 et le filz Oger de la Place,
and the son (of-)Oger of the Place
 qui en sa mein tint une hache:
who in his hand held an axe
 et misire Hubert Grosset
and my-lord Hubert Grosset
 et le filz Faucher Galopet.
and the son (of-)Faucher Galopet
 Li ors s'enfuit a grant anguisse.
The bear himself-flees in great anguish

660

665

- 670 Et li prestres de la parose
And the priest of the parish
 qui fu pere Martin d'Orliens,
who was father (of-)Martin of-Orleans
 qui venoit d'espandre son fiens,
who was-coming from-spreading his dung
 (une force tint en ses meins)
a fork he-held in his hands
 si l'a feru parmi les reins,
and him-bas struck across the loins
- 675 que par pou ne l'a abatu.
that by little — him-bas felled
 Molt l'a blecie et confondu.
Much him-bas wounded and confounded
 Cil qui fet pinnes et lanternes,
He who makes combs and lanterns
 atteint Brun l'ors entre deus cesnes:
reaches Bruin the-bear between two oaks
 d'une corne de buef qu'il porte
with-a horn of ox that-be carries
- 680 li a tote l'escine torte.
to-him has all the-spine twisted
 Et d'autres vileins i a tant
And of-other villeins there are so-many
 qui as tinels le vont batant,
who with-the cudgels him go beating
 que a grant peine s'en escape.
that with great pain himself-thence escapes
 Or est Renarz pris a la trape,
Now is Reynard caught in the trap

se Bruns li ors le puet atendre.

if Bruin the bear him can to-catch

Mes quant il l'oï de loin pleindre,

But when he him-heard from afar to-moan

tantost s'est mis par une adrece

at-once himself-he-is put by a shortcut

a Malpertuis sa forterece,

to Malpertuis his fortress

ou il ne crient ost ne aguet.

where he not fears host nor ambush

Au trespasser que Bruns a fet

At-the passing that Bruin has made

li a Renart deus gas lancies.

to-him has Reynard two jests hurled

“Brun, estes vos bien avancies”

Bruin are you well advanced

ce dit Renart “del miel Lanfroi

that says Reynard of-the honey (of-)Lanfroi

que vos aves mangie sans moi?

which you have eaten without me

Vostre male foi vos parra.

Your ill faith to-you will-appear

Certes il vos en mescharra

Certainly it to-you thereof will-go-ill

que ja n'atures en la fin prestre.

for ever not-you-will-have at the end priest

De quel ordre voles vos estre

Of what order wish you to-be

que roge caperon portes?”

that red hood you-wear

685

690

695

700 Et li ors fut si amates
And the bear was so subdued
 qu'il ne li pot respondre mot.
that-he not to-him could to-answer word
 Fuiant s'en vet plus que le trot:
Fleeing himself-thence goes more than the trot
 qu'encor quide caoir es meins
for-still he-thinks to-fall in-the hands
 Lanfroi et les autres vileins.
(of-)Lanfroi and the other villeins

705 Tant a ale esporonant
So-much he-has gone spurring
 que dedens le midi sonant
that within the noon striking
 en est venus en la carere
thence he-is come into the courtyard
 ou li lions tint cort plenere.
where the lion held court full
 Pasmes chaï el parevis.
Swooning he-fell on-the forecourt

710 Li sans li cuevre tot le vis
The blood to-him covers all the face
 et si n'apporte nule oreille.
and so not-he-brings any ear
 Trestote la cort s'en merveille.
All the court itself-thereat marvels
 Li rois dit "Brun, qui t'a ce fet?
The king says Bruin who to-tee-has this done
 Ledement t'a ton capel treit,
Fouilly from-tee-be-has thy cap drawn

par pou qu'il ne t'a escuissie."

by little that-he — thee-has thigh-broken

Brun avoit tant del sanc lessie

Bruin had so-much of-the blood left

que la parole li failli.

that the speech to-him failed

"Rois" fet il, "ainsi m'a bailli

King says he thus me-has handled

Renart com vos poes veoir."

Reynard as you can to-see

Atant li vet au pie caoir.

Thereupon to-him goes at-the foot to-fall

Qui lors veïst le lion brere,

Who then might-have-seen the lion to-roar

par mautalant ses crins detrerre!

in anger his mane to-tear

Et jure le cuer et la mort.

And he-swears the heart and the death

"Brun" fet li rois, "Renart t'a mort,

Bruin says the king Reynard thee-has killed

ne quit q'autre merci en aies.

not I-think that-other mercy thereof thou-mayest-have

Mes par le cuer et par les plaies

But by the heart and by the wounds

je t'en ferai si grant vechance

I for-thee-thereof will-make so great vengeance

qu'en le saura par tote France.

that-one it will-know through all France

Ou estes vos, Tyberz li chaz?

Where are you Tibert the cat

715

720

725

- 730 Ales moi por Renart vias!
Go for-me for Reynard quickly
 Dites moi le rox deputere
Tell for-me the red base-one
 qu'il me viegne a ma cort dreit fere
that-he to-me come at my court right to-do
 en la presence de ma gent.
in the presence of my folk
 Si n'i aport or ni argent,
And not-there let-him-bring gold nor silver
- 735 ne parole por soi deffendre,
nor speech for himself to-defend
 mes la hart a sa goule pendre."
but the halter at his throat to-hang
 Tybers ne l'osa refuser:
Tibert not it-dared to-refuse
 qar s'il s'en poüst escuser,
for if-he himself-thereof could to-excuse
 encor fust sans lui li senters.
still would-be without him the path
- 740 Mes a anvis ou volonters
But with reluctance or willingly
 convient au sene aler le prestre.
it-behooves to-the synod to-go the priest
 Et Tybert se met a senestre
And Tibert himself puts to left
 parmi le fons d'une valee.
through the bottom of-a valley

Tant a sa mule esporonee

So-much he-has his mule spurred

qu'il est venus a l'uis Renart.

that-he is come to the-door (of-)Renard

Deu recleime et saint Lienart

God he-invokes and saint Leonard

cil qui deslie les prisons,

he who unbinds the prisoners

qu'il le gart par ses oreisons

that-he him keep by his prayers

des meins Renart son compaignon:

from-the hands (of-)Reynard his companion

qar il le tient tant a gaignon

for he him holds so-much for cur

et a beste de put conroi,

and for beast of foul sort

neïs a dex ne porte il foi.

even to God not bears he faith

La rien qui plus le desconforte,

The thing which most him dismays

ce fu quant il vint a la porte.

that was when he came to the gate

Entre un frenne et un sapin

Between an ash and a fir

a veü l'oiseil saint Martin.

he-has seen the-bird (of-)saint Martin

Asez huca "a destre, a destre!"

Much he-called to right to right

Mes li oisauls vint a senestre.

But the bird came to left

745

750

755

Tibert s'en tint une grant pose.

Tibert himself-thereof held a great while

760 Or vos di que ce fu la chosse

Now to-you I-say that this was the thing

qui plus l'esmaie et plus le donte.

which most him-dismays and most him subdues

Son cuer dit que il aura honte

His heart says that he will-have shame

et grant ennui et grant vergoigne.

and great trouble and great disgrace

Tant dote Renart et resoigne

So-much he-fears Reynard and dreads

765 qu'il n'ose entrer en sa meson.

that-he not-dares to-enter into his house

Par dehors conte sa reson:

From outside he-tells his speech

mes maves en est ses gaainz.

but poor thereof is his gain

"Renart" fet il, "baux doz conpainz,

Reynard says he fair sweet companion

respon moi, es tu la dedenz?"

answer me art thou there within

770 Ce dit Renart entre ses denz

That says Reynard between his teeth

tot coiemment que il ne l'oie,

all quietly that he not it-hear

“Tybert, par vostre male joie

Tibert by your evil joy

et par vostre male aventure

and by your evil fortune

soiez venus en ma pasture!

be come into my pasture

Si seres vos, s'engin ne faut.”

So will-be you if-device not fails

Et puis li respondi en haut

And then to-him he-answered in high

“Tybert” ce dist Renart, “welcomme!

Tibert that said Reynard welcome

Se tu venoiez or de Rome

If thou camest now from Rome

ou de seint Jaque frescement,

or from saint James freshly

bien soiez venus hautement

well be come highly

comme le jor de pantecoste.”

as the day of Pentecost

Mes sa parole, que li coste?

But his word what to-him costs

Si le salue belement.

So him he-greets fairly

Et Tybert li respont brement

And Tibert to-him answers briefly

“Renart, nel tenes a desroi,

Reynard not-it bold for outrage

se je vien ca de par le roi:

if I come here from by the king

775

780

785

ne quidiez pas que je vos hace.

not think at-all that I you hate

Li rois durement vos manace.

The king grievously you threatens

Vos n'aves a la cort voisin

You not-have at the court neighbor

790 fors dant Grinbert vostre cosin

save sir Grimbart your cousin

qui ne vos hee durement."

who not you hates grievously

Et Renart li respont brement

And Reynard to-him answers briefly

"Tybert, or lessiez manacier

Tibert now let-them threaten

et sor moi lor denz aguiser.

and on me their teeth sharpen

795 Ge vivrai tant con je porrai.

I will-live as-long as I will-be-able

G'irai a la cort, si orrai

I-will-go to the court and I-will-bear

qui sor moi voudra noient dire."

who against me will-wish anything to-say

"Ce sera grant savoir, baux sire.

That will-be great wisdom fair lord

Ge le vos lo, et si vos eim.

I it to-you advise and so you I-love

800 Mes certes je ai si grant fein

But certainly I have so great hunger

que tote en ai corbe l'escine.

that all thereof I-have bent the-spine

Avez vos ne coc ne geline,

Have you neither cock nor hen

ne chosse qu'en puisse manger?"

nor thing that-one may to-eat

"Que trop me menes grant dangier"

For too-much to-me you-show great hardship

ce dit Renart: "baraz, baraz

that says Reynard trickery trickery

de soris crasses et de raz:

of mice fat and of rats

ge cuit, que n'en gosteriez."

I think that not-thereof you-would-taste

"Si feroie." "Non feriez."

Yes I-would Not you-would

"Certes ja n'en serai lassez."

Certainly ever not-thereof I-will-be weary

"Et je vos en donrai asez

And I to-you thereof will-give plenty

demein einz le soleil levant.

tomorrow before the sun rising

Or me sivez, g'irai avant."

Now me follow I-will-go ahead

805

810

Tibert the Cat, and the Priest's Trap

Reynard leads Tibert to a village and promises him mice in a priest's grain store. The priest has no grain, and his son Martinet has set two snares at the hole. Tibert goes through, the snare takes him by the neck, and the household wakes. Struck by the priest and his concubine, he tears away one of the priest's testicles, gnaws the snare through, and escapes. He carries his complaint to court, and the king sends Grimbert to Malpertuis with a sealed letter, which Reynard breaks open.

Atant s'en ist de sa tesnere.

Thereupon himself-thence goes-out of his den

Tybert le sivi par derere

Tibert him followed from behind

815 qui n'i entent barat ne gile.

who not-there perceives trickery nor guile

Traiant en vont a une vile

Drawing thence they-go to a village

ou il n'avoit coc ne geline

where there not-was cock nor hen

dont Renart n'ait fet sa cuisine.

of-which Reynard not-has made his kitchen

“Tybert, savez que nos ferons?

Tibert know-you what we will-do

820 La dedenz entre ces mesons”

There within among these houses

fet soi Renart “esta uns prestres,

says himself Reynard dwells a priest

et ge conois molt bien ses estres.

and I know very well his quarters

Ases a forment et aveine.

Plenty he-has wheat and oats

Mes les soris en font grant peine:

But the mice thereof make great trouble

mangie en ont bien demi mui.

eaten thereof they-have quite half bushel

N'a encor gueres que g'i fui.

Not-is yet much that I-there was

Lores lor fis une envaïe.

Then to-them I-made an onslaught

Dis gelines pris sans faillie.

Ten hens I-took without fail

Les cinc en ai ge mangies hui,

The five thereof have I eaten today

et les autres mis en estui.

and the others put in store

Voiz ci par la ou l'en i entre.

See here by there where one therein enters

Passe outre, saoule ton ventre!"

Pass beyond glut thy belly

Mes li leceres li mentoit.

But the rogue to-him lied

Car li prestres qui la manoit,

For the priest who there dwelt

n'avoit ne orge ne aveine.

not-had neither barley nor oats

De ce n'estoit il ja en peine.

Of this not-was he ever in trouble

Toute la vile le plaignoit

All the village him pitied

por une putein qu'il tenoit,

for a whore that-he kept

825

830

835

qui mere estoit Martin d'Orliens.

who mother was (of-)Martin of-Orleans

840 Si l'avoit gite de granz biens

So him-she-had cast from great goods

que il n'avoit ne buef ne vache

that he not-had neither ox nor cow

ne autre beste que je sache

nor other beast that I know

fors deus gelines et un coc.

save two hens and a cock

Martinet qui puis ot le froc

Martinet who afterward had the frock

845 et qui puis fu moines rendus

and who afterward was monk professed

avoit au trou deus las tendus

had at-the hole two snares set

por Renart prendre le gorpil.

for Reynard to-take the fox

Dex garisse au prestre tel fil

God preserve to-the priest such son

qui ja aprent si bel barat

who already learns so fine trickery

850 con de prendre gorpil ou chat!

as of to-take fox or cat

"Tybert, passe outre" dit Renart.

Tibert pass beyond says Reynard

"Fi merde, con tu es cuart!

Fie dung how thou art coward

Ge t'atendrai au trou ca fors."

I thee-will-await at-the hole here outside

Et Tybert lance avant son cors.

And Tibert throws forward his body

Et or se pot tenir por fol,

And now himself he-could hold for fool

que li las l'a pris par le col.

for the snare him-has taken by the neck

Tret et retret Tybert li chaz:

Pulls and pulls-back Tibert the cat

con plus tret, plus estreint li las.

the more he-pulls more tightens the snare

Eschaper quide, rien ne vaut:

To-escape he-thinks anything not avails

qar Martinez li clercons saut.

for Martinet the little-clerk leaps

“Or sus, or sus” fet il, “bel pere!

Now up now up says he fair father

Aïde, aïde, bele mere!

Help help fair mother

Alumez, si corez au trou:

Light-up and run to-the hole

li gorpilz est tenus por fou.”

the fox is held for fool

La mere Martinet s'esveille,

The mother (of-)Martinet herself-wakes

saut sus, s'alume la chandelle.

leaps up herself-lights the candle

A une mein tint sa conoille.

In one hand she-held her distaff

Li prestres, en son poing sa coille,

The priest in his hand his testicle

855

860

865

s'est erraument du lit sailliz.

himself-he-is straightway from-the bed leapt

870 Lors est Tybert molt asailliz,

Then is Tibert much assailed

qu'il prist cent cox de livroison

for-he took a-hundred blows of ration

eins qu'il partist de la meson.

before that-he departed from the house

Fiert li prestres, fiert la soignanz.

Strikes the priest strikes the concubine

Et Tybert jete avant les danz,

And Tibert throws forward the teeth

875 si con nos trovons en l'estoire,

so as we find in the-story

esgarda la colle au provoire:

he-eyed the testicle of-the priest

as denz et as ongles trenchans

with-the teeth and with-the claws cutting

li enracha un des pendans.

from-him he-tore one of-the dangles

Quant la feme vit sa grant perte,

When the woman saw her great loss

880 lors par fu sa dolor aperte.

then much was her grief open

Trois fois s'est chaitive clamee,

Three times herself-she-is wretched called

a la quarte chaï pammee.

at the fourth she-fell swooning

Au duel que Martinet menoit

At-the grief that Martinet made

de sa mere qui se pasmoit,

for his mother who herself swooned

Tybert s'en eschape li chaz,

Tibert himself-thence escapes the cat

qu'il ot as denz mangiez les laz.

for-he had with-the teeth eaten the snares

Il a este bien ledengiez:

He has been well mauled

mes en la fin s'est bien venchez

but in the end himself-he-is well avenged

del prestre qui si le batoit.

on-the priest who so him beat

Ahi, con il s'en vencheroit

Ah how he himself-thereof would-avenge

de Renart, s'il ert au desore!

on Reynard if-he were at-the upper-hand

Mes li lecheres n'i demore,

But the rogue not-there stays

ainz s'enfoï sans plus atendre

rather himself-fled without more to-wait

des que Tybert vit au laz prendre.

as-soon as Tibert he-saw in-the snare to-be-caught

Quant Martinet dit "leves sus",

When Martinet said rise up

onques n'i volt demorer plus:

ever not-there he-wished to-stay more

ainz s'en foï a son repere,

rather himself-thence fled to his lair

885

890

895

et cil remeist por le mal trere.

and he remained for the ill to-bear

“Ahi” fait il, “Renart, Renart!

Ah says he Reynard Reynard

900 Ja dex n’ait en vostre arme part!

Ever God not-have in your soul part

Bien doüsse estre chastiez

Well ought-I to-be chastened

qui tantes fois sui conchiez

who so-many times am befouled

par le barat Renart le rox!

by the trickery (of-)Reynard the red

Et li prestres li maveis cox

And the priest the wicked cuckold

905 qui dex doint mal giste et pou pain

to-whom God grant ill lodging and little bread

entre lui et s’orde putein,

between him and his-foul whore

qui hui m’a fet tele envaie.

who today to-me-has done such onslaught

Mes d’un des pendanz n’a il mie.

But of-one of-the dangles not-has he at-all

A tot le meins en sa paroche

At all the least in his parish

910 ne puet soner qu’a une cloche.

not he-can to-ring but-with one bell

Et Martinez son filz d’Orliens,

And Martinet his son of-Orleans

que ja ne croisse en lui nus biens,

that ever not grow in him any good

qui si m'aloit iui batant!

who so me-went today beating

Ja ne muire il de si q'atant

Ever not die be until so that-then

qu'il ait este moines retrez

that-be have been monk withdrawn

et puis par larecin desfez!"

and then by theft undone

Tant a sa plainte demenee

So-much he-has his complaint carried-on

qu'il est venus en la valee

that-be is come into the valley

et en la cort ou li rois siet.

and into the court where the king sits

Ou il le voit, as piez li chet,

Where he him sees at-the feet to-him falls

si li reconte la merveille.

and to-him recounts the marvel

"Dex!" dist li rois "car me conseille!

God said the king now me counsel

Con oi ore grant diable

How I-hear now great devilry

de Renart qui si me conchie!

of Reynard who so me befouls

Ne je ne puis trover nullui

Nor I not can to-find anyone

qui me venche de cest ennui.

who me avenge of this trouble

Sire Grinbert, molt me merveil,

Lord Grimbert much myself I-marvel

915

920

925

se ce est par vostre conseil

if this is by your counsel

que Renart me tient si por vil.”

that Reynard me holds so for vile

930 “Ge vos plevis, sire, nenil.”

I to-you pledge lord nay

“Ales donc tost, sel m’amenes,

Go then quickly and-bim to-me-bring

gardes sans lui que ne venes.”

take-care without him that not you-come

“Sire, ce ne puis je pas fere.

Lord this not can I at-all to-do

Renart est si de put afere,

Reynard is so of foul dealing

935 bien sai que pas ne l’amenroie,

well I-know that at-all not bim-I-would-bring

si je vos letres n’en avoie.

if I your letters not-thereof had

Mes s’il veoit vostre seel,

But if-he saw your seal

foi que je doi saint Israel,

faith that I owe saint Israel

lors sai ge bien que il vendroit.

then know I well that he would-come

940 Ja nul essoingne nel tendroit.”

Ever any excuse not-him would-hold

“Par foi vos dites voir, baux sire.”

By faith you say truth fair lord

Lors li devise la matire

Then to-him sets-out the matter

li rois et Baucent li escrist

the king and Baucent for-him wrote

et seela qanque il dist.

and sealed whatever he said

Puis bailla Grinbert le seel.

Then he-gave (to-)Grimbert the seal

Et cil se mist en un prael,

And he himself put into a meadow

et apres entra en un bos.

and after he-entered into a wood

Molt li sua la pel del dos

Much to-him sweated the skin of-the back

ainz qu'il venist a l'uz Renart.

before that-he came to the-door (of-)Reynard

Au vespre trove en un essart

At-the evening he-finds in a clearing

un senter qui bien le conduit

a path which well him leads

a l'uis Renart devant la nuit.

to the-door (of-)Reynard before the night

Li mur sunt haut et li destroit.

The walls are high and the straits

Par un guicet s'en ala droit.

By a wicket himself-thence he-went straight

Apres entra el premer baille.

After he-entered into-the first bailey

945

950

955

Dont ot peor qu'en ne l'asaille

Then he-had fear that-one — him-assail

Renart, quant celi ot venir.

Reynard when him he-heard to-come

Pres de meson se volt tenir

Near to house himself he-wished to-keep

tant qu'il sache la verite.

until that-he know the truth

960 Es vos Grinbert en la ferte.

Behold you Grimbart in the stronghold

Au pont torneïz avaler

At-the bridge turning to-come-down

au petit pas et al aler,

at-the little pace and at-the going

ainz qu'il entrast en la tesnere,

before that-he entered into the den

le cul avant, la teste arere,

the rump forward the head back

965 l'a bien Renart reconeü,

him-has well Reynard recognized

ainz que de plus pres l'ait veü.

before that from more near him-be-has seen

Grant joie en fet et grant solaz,

Great joy thereof he-makes and great cheer

au col li met andous les braz:

at-the neck to-him he-puts both the arms

desoz li ploie deus cossins

beneath him he-folds two cushions

970 por ce qu'il estoit ses cosins.

for this that-he was his cousin

De ce tien ge Grinbert a sage,
For this hold I Grimbart for wise
 que ne volt conter son message
that not he-wished to-tell his message
 devant qu'ouïst mangie asez.

before that-he-had eaten enough
 Et quant li mangers fu fines,
And when the eating was finished
 "Sire Renart" ce dist Grinbert,

975

Lord Reynard that said Grimbart
 "trop est vostre barat apert.

too-much is your trickery open
 Savez vos que li rois vos mande,
Know you what the king to-you sends
 non mie mande, mes conmande?

not at-all sends but commands
 Que vos li viengnes fere droit
That you to-him come to-do right
 en son pales ou que il soit.

980

in his palace wherever that he be
 Prendra ja vostre gerre fin?
Will-take ever your war end
 Que demandes vos Ysengrin

What ask you Isengrim
 ne Brun l'ors ne Tybert le chat?
nor Bruin the-bear nor Tibert the cat
 Mar veïstes vostre barat.

Ill you-saw your trickery
 Ne vos en puis doner confort:
Not to-you thereof I-can to-give comfort

985

ja n'en aures el que la mort,

ever not-thereof will-you-have other than the death

ne vos ne tuit vostre chael.

neither you nor all your whelps

Tenez mon, brisies cest seel,

Take indeed break this seal

gardes que la letre vos dit".

see what the letter to-you says

990 Renart l'ot, si tremble et fremist.

Reynard it-bears so trembles and shudders

A grant peor la cire brise

In great fear the wax he-breaks

et voit que la letre devise.

and sees what the letter sets-out

Il sospira, au premer mot

He sighed at-the first word

bien sot a dire qu'il i ot.

well he-knew to say what there was

Grimbert the Badger, and Reynard's Confession

Grimbert brings the king's summons: come to court tomorrow or wear the halter. Reynard confesses to his cousin — Hersent, the wolf trap, the frozen tail, the moon Isengrim took for cheese, the dogs he cheated of their wages — and is absolved half in French, half in Latin. He takes leave of his wife and children and prays at his threshold for his wits. On the road he turns toward a nunnery's bens until Grimbert shames him back, and they ride to court, Reynard in the greatest fear of his life.

“Mesire Nobles li lions,

995

My-lord Noble the lion

qui de totes les regions

who of all the regions

est des bestes et rois et sire,

is of-the beasts both king and lord

mande Renart honte et martire

sends (to-)Reynard shame and torment

et grant ennui et grant contrere,

and great trouble and great hurt

se demain ne li vient droit fere

1000

if tomorrow not to-him he-comes right to-do

enz en sa cort devant sa gent.

within in his court before his folk

Si n'i aport or ni argent,

And not-there let-him-bring gold nor silver

ne n'ameint hon por lui deffendre,

nor let-him-bring man for him to-defend

fors la hart a sa gole pendre.”

save the halter at his throat to-hang

- 1005 Quant Renart entent la novele.
 When Reynard hears the news
 Le cuer li bat soz la mamele,
 The heart to-him beats under the breast
 tot le viaire li neirci.
 all the face to-him blackened
 “Por deu” fet il, “Grinbert, merci!
 For God says he Grimbart mercy
 Conseilliez cest dolant chaitif!
 Counsel this grieving wretch
 1010 Molt he l’ore que je tant vif,
 Much I-hate the-hour that I so-long live
 quant je serai demain pendus.
 since I shall-be tomorrow hanged
 Qar fusse je moignez rendus
 Would-that were I monk professed
 a Clugni ou a Cleresvax!
 at Cluny or at Clairvaux
 Mes je conois tant moines fax
 But I know so-many monks false
 1015 que je croi q’issir m’en conviegne.
 that I believe that-to-leave to-me-thereof it-would-behoove
 Por ce est meus que je m’en tiegne.”
 For this is better that I myself-thereof hold
 “N’aiez de ce” dit Grinbert “cure!
 Not-have of this says Grimbart care
 Vos estes en grant aventure.
 You are in great peril
 Tant con vos estes ci sanz gent,
 As-long as you are here without folk

confessies vos a moi brement!

1020

confess yourself to me briefly

Rent toi a moi vrai confes,

Render thyself to me true confessed

qar je n'i voi prestre plus pres."

for I not-there see priest more near

Renart respont "sire Grinbert,

Reynard answers lord Grimbert

ci a conseil bon et apert.

here is counsel good and open

Qar se ge vos di ma confesse

1025

For if I to-you say my confession

devant ce que la mort m'apresse,

before this that the death me-presses

de ce ne pot venir nus max,

from this not can to-come any evil

et se je muir, si serai sax.

and if I die so I-will-be saved

Or entendez a mes pechez!

Now bear to my sins

Sire, g'ai este entechez

1030

Lord I-have been stained

de Hersent la feme Ysengrin.

with Hersent the wife (of-)Isengrim

Mes je vos en dirai la fin.

But I to-you thereof will-tell the end

Ele en fu a droit mescreüe

She thereof was at right disbelieved

que voirement l'a je fotue.

for truly her-have I mounted

1035 Or m'en repent, dex moie corpe!

Now myself-thereof I-repent God my fault

Meinte foiz li bati la corpe.

Many-a time to-ber I-beat the rump

Ysengrin ai ge tant forfet

(against-)Isengrim have I so-much offended

que nel puis veer a nul plet.

that not-it I-can to-deny at any suit

Dex mete or m'ame a garison!

God put now my-soul into safety

1040 Trois foiz l'ai fet metre en prison,

Three times him-I-have made to-put in prison

si vos dirai en queil manere.

and to-you I-will-tell in what manner

Gel fis chaoir en la lovee

I-him made to-fall into the wolf-trap

la ou il enporta l'agnel.

there where he carried-off the-lamb

La ot il bien batu la pel:

There had he well beaten the hide

1045 qu'il prist cent cox de livroison

for-he took a-hundred blows of ration

ains qu'il partist de la meson.

before that-he departed from the house

Gel fis el braion enbraier

I-him made in-the gin to-be-caught

ou le troverent trois bercher,

where him found three shepherds

sil batirent con asne a pont.

and-him they-beat like ass at bridge

Trois bacons avoit en un mont

1050

Three fitches there-were in one heap

ches un prodome en un larder:

at-the-house-of a worthy-man in a larder

de cous li fis ge tant manger,

of those to-him made I so-much to-eat

n'en pot issir, tant fu ventrez,

not-thereof he-could to-get-out so-much he-was big-bellied

par la u il estoit entres.

by there where he had entered

Gel fis pecher en la gelee

1055

I-him made to-fish in the frost

tant qu'il out la queue engelee.

until that-he had the tail frozen

Gel fis pecher en la fonteine

I-him made to-fish in the spring

par nuit, quant la lune estoit plene.

by night when the moon was full

De l'ombre de la blanche image

From the-shadow of the white image

quida de voir, ce fust furmage.

1060

he-thought for truth it were cheese

Et si refu par moi traïz

And so he-was-in-turn by me betrayed

devant la charete as plaïz.

before the cart of-the lampreys

Cent foiz a este par moi mat.

A-hundred times he-has been by me checkmated

Par fine force de barat

By sheer force of trickery

1065 li fis je tant qu'il devint moines,

to-him made I so-much that-he became monk

puis dit qu'il volt estre chanoines.

then said that-he wished to-be canon

Qant en li vit la char manger,

When one him saw the flesh to-eat

fox fu qui de lui fist berger.

mad he-was who of him made shepherd

Ge ne vos auroie hui retrait

I not to-you would-have today recounted

1070 tot le mal que je li ai fet.

all the harm that I to-him have done

Il n'a beste en la cort le roi

There not-is beast in the court (of-)the king

qui ne se puist pleindre de moi.

who not herself may to-complain of me

Je fis Tybert chaoir es laz,

I made Tibert to-fall into-the snares

qant il cuida mengier les raz.

when he thought to-eat the rats

1075 De tot le parente Pintein

Of all the kindred (of-)Pinte

que soulement lui et s'antein

save only her and her-aunt

n'i a remeis coc ne jeline

not-there has remained cock nor hen

dont je n'aie fet ma cuisine.

of-which I not-have made my kitchen

Quant li os fu devant mon crues

When the host was before my burrow

de senglers, de vaches, de bues

of boars of cows of oxen

et d'autres bestes bien armees,

and of-other beasts well armed

que Ysengrin ot amenees

that Isengrim had brought

por cele gerre metre a fin,

for that war to-put to end

retin Roonel le mastin.

I-retained Roonel the mastiff

Bien furent set vinz compaignon,

Well they-were seven score companions

que chen, que lische, que gaingnon.

both dog and bitch and cur

Tuit furent batu et plaie.

All were beaten and wounded

Mais malement furent laie:

But ill were paid

qar je lor toli lor soudees.

for I from-them took their wages

Quant les oz s'en furent alees,

When the hosts themselves-thence were gone

par gile et par conchiement

by guile and by befoulment

lor toli ge lor convenant.

from-them took I their covenant

Au departir lor fis la loupe.

At-the parting to-them I-made the grimace

1080

1085

1090

Or me repent, dex moie coupe!

Now myself I-repent God my fault

1095 Or voil venir a repentanche

Now I-wish to-come to repentance

de quanque j'ai fet en m'enfanche."

for whatever I-have done in my-childhood

"Renart, Renart" ce dit Grinbert,

Reynard Reynard that says Grimbart

"vos pechez m'aves descovert

your sins to-me-you-have uncovered

et le mal que vos aves fet.

and the harm that you have done

1100 Se dex vos gite de cest plet,

If God you delivers from this suit

gardes vos bien del renchooir."

guard yourself well from-the falling-again

"Ja dex ne me lest tant veoir"

Ever God not me let so-much to-see

ce dist Renart, "que je mes face

that said Reynard that I more do

nule chose que dex desplace."

any thing which (to-)God displeases

1105 Il li otroie quanqu'il vout.

He to-him grants whatever-he wishes

Il s'abaissa et cil l'asout

He himself-bowed and he him-absolves

moitie romanz, moitie latin.

half romance half Latin

Renart, quant ce vint au matin,

Reynard when it came to-the morning

besa sa feme et ses enfans.

kissed his wife and his children

Au departir fu li dous grans.

At-the parting was the grief great

Il prist congie a son manage:

He took leave of his household

“Enfant” fet il, “de haut lignaje,

Children says he of high lineage

pensez de mes casteax tenir,

think of my castles to-hold

que que de moi doie avenir,

whatever that of me must to-befall

contre contes et contre rois:

against counts and against kings

que vos ne troveres des mois

for you not will-find for months

conte, prince ne chasteleine

count prince nor castellan

qui vos forface un fil de leine.

who against-you may-do-wrong a thread of wool

Ja par ous ne seres grevez,

Ever by them not you-will-be harmed

se vos aves les pons leves:

if you have the bridges raised

que vos aves ases vitaille.

for you have enough victuals

Ne quit devant set ans vos faille.

Not I-think before seven years to-you it-fails

Que vos iroie ge disant?

What to-you would-go I saying

1110

1115

1120

A dame deu toz vos conmant

To Lord God all you I-commend

1125 qui me rameint si con je vueil."

who me bring-back so as I wish

Atant feri le pie au sueil:

Thereupon be-struck the foot on-the threshold

au departir de sa tesnere

at-the parting from his den

a commencie sa proiere.

be-has begun his prayer

"Dex" fait il, "rois omnipotens,

God says he king omnipotent

1130 maintien mon savoir et mon sens

maintain my wit and my sense

que je n'i perde par peor

that I not-there lose through fear

par devant lo roi mon segnor,

by before the king my lord

quant Ysengrin m'acusera:

when Isengrim me-will-accuse

de quanqu'il me demandera,

of whatever-he to-me will-demand

1135 que je li puisse reson rendre

that I to-him may reason to-render

ou del noier ou del defendre:

either of-the denying or of-the defending

me doint sein et sauf repairer

to-me grant safe and sound to-return

que je me puisse encor vengier

that I myself may yet to-avenge

de cels qui me font si grant guere.”

on those who to-me make so great war

Lors se couca adens a tere,

Then himself he-laid face-down on ground

et trois fois se rendi copables,

and three times himself declared guilty

puis se segna por les diables.

then himself he-crossed against the devils

Or s'en vont li baron a cort,

Now themselves-thence go the barons to court

et passent l'eve qui la cort,

and they-cross the-water which there runs

et les destrois et la monteinne,

and the straits and the mountain

et puis chevauchent par la pleigne.

and then they-ride through the plain

En ce que Renart se demente,

In this that Reynard himself laments

el bois ont perdue la sente,

in-the wood they-have lost the path

la voie et le chemin ferre.

the way and the road paved

Et nequedent tant ont erre,

And nevertheless so-much they-have wandered

1140

1145

1150

qu'il s'avoient parmi un pleins

that they-found-their-way amid a plain

deles une grange a noneins.

beside a grange of nuns

La meson est molt bien garnie

The house is very well furnished

de toz les biens que terre crie,

with all the goods that earth yields

1155 de let, de formaches et d'ues,

with milk with cheeses and with-eggs

de berbiz, de vaches, de bues,

with sheep with cows with oxen

d'unes et d'autres norricons.

with-ones and with-others nurslings

"Ca" dit Renart "nos adrecons,

Here says Reynard ourselves we-make-our-way

par encoste de ces espines,

by beside of these thorns

1160 vers cele cort a ces gelines:

toward that yard to those hens

la est la voie que lessons."

there is the road that we-leave

"Renart, Renart" dit li tessons,

Reynard Reynard says the badger

"dex set bien por quoi vos le dites.

God knows well for what you it say

Filz a putein, puanz heirites,

Son of whore stinking heretic

1165 malves lecheres et engres,

wicked lecher and greedy

n'estiees vos a moi confes

were-not you to me confessed

et aviez merci crie?"

and had-you mercy cried

Fet il "ge l'avoie oblie.

Says he I it-had forgotten

Alon nos ent, je sui toz prest."

Let-us-go ourselves hence I am all ready

"Renart, Renart, por noient est.

Reynard Reynard for nothing it-is

Dex parjures, deu foi mentie,

God forsworn (to-)God faith broken

toz jors durra ta lecherie.

all days will-last thy lechery

Con tu es fole criature!

How thou art mad creature

Tu es de mort en aventure,

Thou art of death in peril

et as pris ta confession.

and hast taken thy confession

Or si vels fere traïson.

Now so thou-wishest to-do treason

Certes grant peche te cort sore.

Certainly great sin thee runs upon

Vien t'ent: maleoite soit l'eure

Come thyself-hence cursed be the-hour

que tu onques nasquis de mere!"

that thou ever wast-born of mother

"Belement le dites, baux frere!

Fairly it you-say fair brother

1170

1175

1180

Alon nos ent en pes amblant.”

Let-us-go ourselves hence in peace ambling

N'en ose fere autre samblant

Not-thereof he-dares to-make other show

por son cosin qui le chastie,

for his cousin who him chastens

et neporoc sovent colie

and nevertheless often he-glances

1185 vers les jelines cele part.

toward the hens that way

Molt est dolant, quant il s'en part,

Much he-is grieving when he himself-thence departs

et qui la teste li coupast,

and whoever the head to-him cut-off

as gelines tot droit alast.

to-the hens all straight he-would-go

Or s'en vont li baron ensemble:

Now themselves-thence go the barons together

1190 dex, con la mule Grinbert anble!

God how the mule (of-)Grimbert ambles

Mes li chevax Renart acope.

But the horse (of-)Reynard stumbles

Li sans li bat desoz la crope:

The blood to-him beats beneath the rump

tant crient et dote son segnor,

so-much he-fears and dreads his lord

qu'onques mes n'ot si grant peor.

that-ever before not-he-had so great fear

Tant ont ale et plein et bos

1195

So-much they-have gone both plain and wood

et l'ambleure et les galos,

both the-amble and the gallops

et tant ont la monteigne alee,

and so-much they-have the mountain gone

qu'il sont venu en la valee

that-they are come into the valley

qui en la cort lo roi avale.

which into the court (of-)the king goes-down

Descendu sont devant la sale.

1200

Dismounted they-are before the hall

Reynard at Court, and the Judgment

Reynard faces the court head high, asks what Bruin and Tibert can charge him with, and argues that he is no lecher, since Isengrim's wife never complained. The king abuses him and Grimbert pleads for law, but the barons judge him to hang and the gallows go up on a rock. The ape cuffs him, and Coart pelts him from afar and hides in a hedge. Seeing the gallows, Reynard asks for the cross instead and falls at the king's feet; the king grants it if he stays overseas.

Sitost com Renart vint a cort,

As-soon as Reynard came to court

onc n'i ot beste ne s'atort

ever not-there was beast (that-)not itself-made-ready

ou d'oposer u de respondre.

either of-to-accuse or of to-answer

Or est Renart pres de confondre.

Now is Reynard near to be-confounded

1205 N'en tornera qu'il ne s'en cuisse:

Not-thereof he-will-turn that-he not himself-thereof smart

qar Ysengrin ses dens aguise

for Isengrim his teeth sharpens

et Tybert li chaz se conseille,

and Tibert the cat himself takes-counsel

et Bruns qui la teste ot vermeille.

and Bruin who the head had red

Mes qui q'aint ou hee Renart,

But whoever that-loves or hates Reynard

1210 ne fet pas chere de coart.

not he-makes at-all countenance of coward

Ainz commence enmi la meson

Rather he-begins amid the house

teste levee sa reson.

head raised his speech

“Rois” fet Renart, “je vos salu

King says Reynard I you greet

con cil qui plus vos a valu

as he who more to-you has been-worth

1215 que baron qui soit en l'enpire.

than baron who be in the-empire

Mes tort a qui vers vos m'enpire.

But wrong has who toward you me-worsens

Ne sai se c'est par mon oür,

Not I-know if that-is by my luck

ge ne fui onques asoür

I not was ever assured

de vostre amor un jor enter.

of your love one day entire

Ge parti de cort avantier

1220

I departed from court the-day-before-yesterday

par vostre gre et par amor,

by your good-will and by love

sanz maltalant et sanz clamor.

without ill-will and without complaint

Or ont tant fet li losenger

Now have so-much done the flatterers

qui de moi se volent venger,

who on me themselves wish to-avenge

que vos m'aves juge a tort.

1225

that you me-have judged in wrong

Mes puis, sire, que rois s'amort

But since lord that king himself-brings

a croire les maveis larons,

to believe the wicked thieves

et il lesse ses bons barons,

and he leaves his good barons

et gerpist le chef por la queue,

and forsakes the head for the tail

lors vet la terre a male veue.

1230

then goes the land to evil sight

Qar cil qui sont serf par nature

For those who are serfs by nature

ne sevent esgarder mesure.

not know to-keep measure

S'en cort se poent alever,

If-in court themselves they-can to-raise

molt se peinent d'autrui grever.

much themselves they-trouble for-another to-burden

- 1235 Cil enortent le mal a fere
Those urge the evil to do
 que bien en sevent lor prou fere,
for well thereof they-know their profit to-make
 et enborsent autrui avoir.
and pocket another's goods
 Ice voudroie je savoir
This would-wish I to-know
 que Bruns et Tybert me demande.
what Bruin and Tibert of-me demand
- 1240 Il est voirs, se li rois commande,
It is true if the king commands
 que bien me poent fere let.
that well me they-can to-do injury
 Encore ne l'ai ge forfet,
Still not it-have I deserved
 qu'il ne sevent dire por quoi.
for-they not know to-say for what
 Se Bruns manja li miel Lanfroi
If Bruin ate the honey (of-)Lanfroi
- 1245 et li vileins le ledenja,
and the villain him mauled
 et il por qoi ne s'en venja?
and he for what not himself-thereof avenged
 Ja a il tex meins et tex piez,
Indeed has he such hands and such feet
 si granz musteas et si grant giez.
such great shanks and such great claws

Se misire Tybert li chaz

If my-lord Tibert the cat

manja les soris et les raz

ate the mice and the rats

quant en le prist et li fist honte,

when one him took and to-him did shame

por le cuer be a moi qu'en monte?

by the heart bah to me what-thereof matters

D'Ysengrin ne sa ge que dire:

of-Isengrim not know I what to-say

que il n'a mie tort del dire

for he not-has at-all wrong of-the saying

que j'avoie sa feme amee.

that I-had his wife loved

Et quant ele ne s'est chamee,

And since she not herself-is complained

sui ge lecheres de m'amie?

am I lecher of my-friend

Li fox jalox en a envie:

The mad jealous-one thereof has envy

est por ce drois que l'en me pende?

is for this right that one me hang

Nenil, sire: dex m'en defende!

Nay lord God me-thereof defend

Molt est grant vostre roiaute:

Very is great your royalty

1250

1255

1260

la foi et la grant loiaute

the faith and the great loyalty

que j'ai toz jors vers vos eüe

that I-have all days toward you had

m'a la vie el cors meinteneue.

to-me-has the life in-the body maintained

1265 Mes foi que doi deu et saint Jorge

But faith that I-owe (to-)God and saint George

g'ai tote chenuue la gorge.

I-have all grizzled the throat

Vels sui, si ne me puis aidier,

Old I-am so not myself I-can to-help

si n'ai mes cure de plaidier:

so not-I-have more care of to-plead

peche fet qui a cort me mande.

sin he-does who to court me summons

1270 Mes puis que missire conmande,

But since that my-lord commands

si est il drois que je i viegne.

so is it right that I there come

Or sui devant lui, si me tiegne

Now I-am before him so me let-him-hold

et si me face ardoir ou pendre:

and so me let-him-make to-burn or to-hang

qar ne me puis vers lui deffendre.

for not myself I-can against him to-defend

1275 Ge ne sui pas de grant puissance.

I not am at-all of great power

Mes ce seroit povre venchance:

But this would-be poor vengeance

s'en parleroient meinte gent,

so-thereof would-speak many folk

se l'en sanz jugement me pent.”

if one without judgment me hangs

“Renart, Renart” dist l'enperere,

Reynard Reynard said the-emperor

“dahez ait l'ame vostre pere

a-curse have the-soul (of-)your father

et la pute qui voz porta

and the whore who you bore

quant ele ne vos avorta!

when she not you aborted

Or me dites, traîtres lere,

Now to-me tell traitor thief

por quoi estes tant baretere?

for what are-you so-much a-cheat

Bien saves parler et plaidier:

Well you-know to-speak and to-plead

mes ce que vaut? ce n'a mestier.

but this what is-worth this not-has use

N'en partires en nule guise

Not-thereof will-you-part in any wise

que de vos ne fache justice.

that of you not I-do justice

N'i a mester chere hardie

Not-there is use bold countenance

ne n'i vaut vostre renardie.

nor not-there avails your fox-craft

Molt savez de la fauve annesse,

Much you-know of the tawny she-ass

1280

1285

1290

se ja n'avez vostre promesse

if ever not-you-have your promise

que l'en vos a toz jors promisse.

which one to-you has all days promised

Hui estes venus a juïse

Today you-are come to ordeal

1295 tel con jugeront mi baron,

such as will-judge my barons

que l'en doit fere de laron

what one ought to-do of thief

et con de felon traïtor.

and as of felon traitor

N'en partires sans maves tor,

Not-thereof you-will-part without evil turn

se ne vos poes escondire

if not yourself you-can to-clear

1300 de quanque l'en vos voldra dire."

of whatever one to-you will-wish to-say

"Sire" dit Grinbert li tesson,

Lord says Grimbart the badger

"se nos vers vos nos abessons

if we toward you ourselves lower

por droit fere et por afetier,

for right to-do and for to-make-amends

ne devez pas por ce tretier

not you-ought at-all for this to-treat

1305 vostre baron vilainement,

your barons basely

mes par loi et par jugement.

but by law and by judgment

Entendes ca, ne vos ennuit,

Hear here not to-you let-it-vex

Renart est venuz par conduit.

Reynard is come by safe-conduct

S'est qui vers lui fache clamor,

If-there-is who against him make complaint

vos li otroiez par amor

you to-him grant by love

a respondre par jugement

to answer by judgment

en vostre cort voiant la gent.”

in your court in-sight-of the folk

Ains que Grinbert oüst finee

Before that Grimbart had finished

sa reson et bien terminee,

his speech and well ended

se dreca en piez Ysengrin

himself raised on feet Isengrim

et li motons sire Belin,

and the ram lord Belin

Tybert li chas et Rooneax,

Tibert the cat and Roonel

et don Tieceleins li corbeax,

and sir Tieceleins the crow

et Chantecler et dame Pinte,

and Chanticleer and lady Pinte

si con el vint a cort soi quinte,

so as she came to court self fifth

et Espinarz li hericons,

and Espinart the hedgehog

1310

1315

1320

et danz Petipas li poons.

and sir Petipas the peacock

Frobers li gresillon s'avance,

Frobert the cricket himself-advances

qui sor les autres crie et tance,

who above the others cries and wrangles

1325 et danz Roxax li escuireus

and sir Roxax the squirrel

qui il a fet de molt granz deuz.

to-whom he has done of very great griefs

Coars li levres molt s'argue

Coart the hare much himself-bestirs

de cort en cort, de rue en rue:

from court to court from street to street

meinte fois li a fet ennui,

many-a time to-him has done trouble

1330 vencher s'en quide encor encui.

to-avenge himself-thereof he-thinks yet this-very-day

Or est Renart en mal randon,

Now is Reynard in evil pass

se l'en le velt metre a bandon.

if one him wishes to-put at mercy

Mes li rois les fet en sus trere,

But the king them makes in back to-draw

lui en lest en venchance fere.

him thereof lets in vengeance to-do

1335 Li rois a parle hautement

The king has spoken loudly

si que l'oent tote sa gent.

so that it-hear all his folk

“Segnor” fet il, “entendes moi!

Lords says he hear me

De cest laron de pute foi,

Of this thief of foul faith

quel justise de lui ferai,

what justice of him shall-I-do

dites comment m'en vencherai.”

say how myself-thereof I-will-avenge

“Sire” font li baron au roi,

Lord say the barons to-the king

“trop est Renart de pute loi.

too-much is Reynard of foul law

Nus ne vos sauroit desloer

Anyone not to-you would-know to-dissuade

que vos nel fachoies encroer.”

that you not-him make to-hang

Li rois respont “bien aves dit.

The king answers well you-have said

Or tost” fet il, “sanz contredit!

Now quickly says he without gainsaying

Se Renart s'en estoit tornez,

If Reynard himself-thence were turned

james ne seroit retornez.

ever not he-would-be returned

Sachez qu'il nos en mescaroit,

Know that-it to-us thereof would-go-ill

tex n'en set mot qui en plorroit.”

such-a-one not-thereof knows word who thereof would-weep

1340

1345

1350

Sor un haut mont en un rocher

On a high bill on a rock

fet li rois les forches dreces

makes the king the gallows to-raise

por Renart pendre le gorpil:

for Reynard to-hang the fox

estes le vos en grant peril.

behold him you in great peril

1355 Li singes li a fet la moue,

The ape at-him has made the grimace

et si li done lez la joe.

and so to-him gives(-a-blow) beside the cheek

Renart regarde arere soi,

Reynard looks behind himself

et voit qu'il viennent plus de troi.

and sees that-they come more than three

Li un le tret, l'autre le bote:

The one him pulls the-other him shoves

1360 n'est merveille, se il redote.

not-is marvel if he dreads

Coars li levres l'aroçoit

Coart the bare him-was-pelting

de loing, que pas ne l'aproçoit.

from afar for at-all not him-approached

A l'aroche qu'a fet Coart

At the-pelting that-has done Coart

en a crolle le chef Renart:

thereof has shaken the head (of-)Reynard

Coarz en fu si esperdüz

1365

Coart thereof was so terrified

que onques puis ne fu veüs.

that ever afterward not he-was seen

Del signe qu'ot veü s'esmaie.

At-the sign that-he-had seen himself-he-dismays

Lors s'est muchez en une haie:

Then himself-he-is bidden in a hedge

d'iloc, ce dit, esgardera

from-there that he-says he-will-watch

quel justice l'en en fera.

1370

what justice one thereof will-do

Mar i muca, si con je croi:

Ill there he-bid so as I believe

enqui aura poor de soi.

this-very-day he-will-have fear for himself

Renart se vit molt entrepris,

Reynard himself saw much hemmed-in

de totes parz liez et pris.

on all sides bound and taken

Mes il ne pot engin trover

1375

But he not could device to-find

comment il s'en puist escaper.

how he himself-thence may to-escape

Del eschaper est il noienz,

Of-the escaping is it nothing

si li enginz n'i est trop granz

if the device not-there is very great

quant il vit les forces dreuer,

when he saw the gallows to-rise

1380 lors n'ot en lui que corocier,

then not-had in him but to-be-angry

et dit au roi "baux gentix sire,

and says to-the king fair noble lord

qar me lessies un petit dire.

now me let a little to-say

Vos m'avez fet lier et prendre,

You me-have made to-bind and to-take

or me voles sanz forfet pendre.

now me you-wish without wrongdoing to-hang

1385 Mes j'ai fet de molt grant pechez

But I-have done of very great sins

dont je sui auques entechez:

whereof I am somewhat stained

or voil venir a repentance.

now I-wish to-come to repentance

El non de seinte penitance

In-the name of holy penance

voeil la crois prendre por aler

I-wish the cross to-take for to-go

1390 la merci deu outre la mer.

by-the mercy (of-)God beyond the sea

Se je la muir, si serai sax.

If I there die so I-will-be saved

Se je sui penduz, ce ert max:

If I am hanged this will-be evil

si seroit molt povre venjance.

so it-would-be very poor vengeance

Or voeil venir a repentance.”

Now I-wish to-come to repentance

Atant li vet chaoir as piez.

1395

Thereupon to-him he-goes to-fall at-the feet

Au roi en prist molt grant pitiez.

To-the king thereof took very great pity

Grinbert revint de l'autre part

Grimbert came-back on the-other side

qui merci crie por Renart.

who mercy cries for Reynard

“Sire, por deu entent a moi!

Lord for God attend to me

Qar le fai bien, porpense toi

1400

Now it do well bethink thyself

con Renart est prous et cortois.

how Reynard is valiant and courteous

Se Renart vient dusqu'a cinc mois,

If Reynard comes within five months

encor aura mester molt grant,

still he-will-have use very great

qar n'aves plus hardi serjant.”

for not-you-have more bold retainer

“Ce” dit li rois “ne fet a dire.

1405

That says the king not it-does to say

Quant revendroit, si seroit pire:

When he-would-return so he-would-be worse

qar tuit ceste custume tenent:

for all this custom hold

qui bon i vont, mal en revenent.

who good there go ill thereof return

Tot autretel refera il,

All just-the-same will-do-again he

1410 s' il escape de cest peril."

if he escapes from this peril

"Se il n'a lores bone pes,

If he not-has then good peace

sire, il n'en reviegne james."

lord let-him not-thereof return ever

Ce dit li rois "et il la pregne

That says the king and let-him it take

par tel convent que la remeigne."

by such covenant that there be-remain

1415 Quant Renart l'ot, si a grant joie.

When Reynard it-heard so he-has great joy

Ne set s'il fornira la voie:

Not he-knows if-he will-complete the way

mes comment que il en doie estre,

but however that he thereof must to-be

la crois est en l'espaule destre.

the cross is on the-shoulder right

Escrepe et bordon li aportent.

Scrip and staff to-him they-bring

1420 Les bestes molt s'en desconfortent:

The beasts much themselves-thereat discomfort

cil qui enpeint et bote l'ont,

those who pushed and shoved him-have

dient qu'encor le conperront.

say that-still it they-will-pay-for

The Pilgrim's Scrip, and the Escape

Reynard leaves with scrip and staff, and the queen gives him her ring for his prayers. Clear of the court he seizes Coart the hare and carries him up a rock to feed to his cubs. He wipes his rump with the cross and throws it on the heads below. Coart breaks free and reaches the king, who sends the court after Reynard; they tear his pelt and pierce his flanks before he reaches Malpertuis. There his wife and sons wash his wounds and nurse him back to health.

Ez vos Renart le pelerin

Behold you Reynard the pilgrim

escrepe au col, bordon fresnin.

scrip at-the neck staff of-ash

Li rois li dit qu'il lor pardont

The king to-him says that-he to-them pardon

trestoz les maus que fet li ont,

all the harms that done to-him they-have

et degerpisse engins et max:

and be-forsake devices and evils

adont s'il mort, si sera sax.

then if-he dies so he-will-be saved

Renart ne met riens en defois

Reynard not puts anything in refusal

de qanque li prie li rois.

of whatever to-him asks the king

Ainz li otroie toz ses dis

Rather to-him grants all his words

tant que il soit d'iloc partis.

until that he be from-there departed

Ront le festu, si lor pardone.

He-breaks the straw and to-them pardons

1425

1430

De cort se part un pou ainz none,
From court himself he-parts a little before nones

1435 onques nus d'ous ne salua.
ever any of-them not he-greeted

Enz en son cuer les desfia,
Within in his heart them he-defied

ne mes que li rois et s'espouse
not except that the king and his-spouse

ma dame Fere l'orgellose,
my lady Fiere the-proud

qui molt estoit cortoise et bele.
who very was courteous and fair

1440 Renart gentement en apele,
Reynard nobly thereupon she-calls

"Sire Renart, proiez por nos
Lord Reynard pray for us

et nos reproierons por vos."
and we will-pray-again for you

"Dame" fet il, "vostre proiere
Lady says he your prayer

devroie ge avoir molt chere.
ought I to-have very dear

1445 Et molt par devroit estre liez
And very much ought-be to-be glad

por qui proier dengneriez.
for whom to-pray you-would-deign

Et se cel vostre anel avoie,
And if that your ring I-had

molt en seroit mellor ma voie.
much thereof would-be better my way

Et sachez, se le me donez,

And know if it to-me you-give

bien vos sera gerredonez:

well to-you it-will-be repaid

redonrai vos de mes jouax

I-will-give-again to-you of my jewels

tant que bien vaura cent aneax.

so-much that well it-will-be-worth a-hundred rings

La roïne l'anel li tent,

The queen the-ring to-him holds-out

et Renart volenters le prent.

and Reynard willingly it takes

Entre ses denz basset a dit

Between his teeth low he-has said

“Certes qui unques ne le vit

Certainly whoever ever not it saw

l'anel, por voir le comparra.

the-ring for truth it will-pay-for

Ja por nullui ne remandra.”

Ever for anyone not it-will-remain-undone

Renart mist l'anel en son doi,

Reynard put the-ring on his finger

puis si a pris congie au roi.

then so he-has taken leave of-the king

Le cheval fiert des esperons,

The horse he-strikes with-the spurs

fuiant s'en va les granz trotons.

fleeing himself-thence goes at-the great trots

1450

1455

1460

Vers la haie s'est aprociez

Toward the hedge himself-be-is approached

la u Coart s'estoit muchez.

there where Coart himself-was hidden

1465 Fain a gregnor que il ne selt,

Hunger be-has greater than he — is-wont

de jeüner li ches li del.

from fasting the head to-him aches

Atant s'en entra en la haie.

Thereupon himself-thence he-entered into the hedge

Coart le voit, molt s'en esmaie.

Coart him sees much himself-thereat dismays

En piez se dreche de poor,

On feet himself he-raises for fear

1470 puis si li a ore bon jour.

then so to-him he-has wished good day

Ce dit Coarz "molt par sui liez

That says Coart very much I-am glad

que vos estes seins et haitiez:

that you are safe and hale

forment me poisse del ennui

greatly to-me grieves of-the trouble

que l'en vos a fet si grant hui."

that one to-you has done so great today

1475 Dit Renart qui tot le mont boise

Says Reynard who all the world deceives

"Quant il de mon anui vos poise

When it of my trouble to-you grieves

et que bel ne vos est del nostre,

and that fair not to-you is of-the ours

dex doint qu'il nos repoist del vostre!"

God grant that-it to-us grieve-again of-the yours

Quant Coart l'ot, molt bien l'entent,

When Coart it-hears very well it-be-understands

ne s'asoüre de noient:

not himself-be-assures of anything

ainz s'apareille de foïr,

rather himself-be-prepares of to-flee

(que molt se dote de traïr)

for much himself he-dreads of to-be-betrayed

qu'il se volt trere vers le plein.

that-be himself wished to-draw toward the plain

Mes Renart le sesist au frein.

But Reynard him seized by-the bridle

"Par le cuer be, sire Cuart,

By the heart bah lord Coart

ca esterroiz" ce dit Renart.

here you-will-stand that says Reynard

"Ja cist vostre chevax inneax

Ever this your horse swift

ne vos garra de mes chaiax,

not you will-save from my whelps

ne lor en face livroison."

but to-them thereof I-make ration

Pognant le vet de son bordon.

Pricking him be-goes with his staff

La cort le roi et li serjant

The court (of-)the king and the retainers

fu en un val parfont et grant,

was in a valley deep and great

1480

1485

1490

entre quatre roches agues,

between four rocks sharp

contremont hautes vers les nues.

upward high toward the clouds

1495 En la plus haute Renart monte,

On the most high Reynard climbs

o lui Coart cui il fet honte.

with him Coart to-whom he does shame

Coart pendant vet contreval

Coart hanging goes downward

par devers les pies au cheval.

by toward the feet of-the horse

Renart qui molt est deputere,

Reynard who very is base

1500 en quide bien livroisson fere

thereof thinks well delivery to-make

a ses enfanz sanz demorance.

to his children without delay

Or penst dex de la delivrance!

Now let-think God of the deliverance

Renart regarde en la gaudine

Reynard looks into the woodland

et voit le roi et la roïne.

and sees the king and the queen

1505 Tant voit barons et tantes bestes,

So-many he-sees barons and so-many beasts

li bois fermist conme tempestes.

the wood roars like tempests

Entr'ous parloent de Renart.

Among-them they-spoke of Reynard

Mes mot ne sevent de Coart,

But word not they-know of Coart

conme il l'enmeine en sa prison

how he him-leads-off into his prison

tot autresi con un laron.

all just-so as a thief

1510

Renart a pris as meins la crois,

Reynard has taken in-the hands the cross

si lor escrie a haute vois

so to-them he-cries in loud voice

“Danz rois, tenes vostre drapel!

Sir king take your rag

Que dex confonde le musel

That God confound the snout

qui m'enconbra de ceste frepe

which me-encumbered with this trumpery

1515

et del bordon et de l'escrepe!”

and with-the staff and with the-scrip

Son cul en tert voiant les bestes,

His rump thereon he-wipes in-sight-of the beasts

puis si lor jete sor les testes.

then so to-them he-throws on the heads

En haut parole et dit au roi:

In high he-speaks and says to-the king

“Sire” fet il, “entendes moi!

Lord says he hear me

1520

Saluz te mande Coradins

Greetings to-thee sends Coradin

par moi qui sui bons pelerins.

by me who am good pilgrim

Si te crement li paien tuit,

So thee fear the pagans all

a pou que chacuns ne s'en fuit."

by little that each — himself-thence flees

1525 Tant lor a dit gas et lanciez

So-much to-them he-has said jests and gibes

que dant Coarz s'est delaciez.

that sir Coart himself-is unlaced

Si sist sor un cheval corant:

So he-sat on a horse running

si fist un saut molt avenant.

so he-made a leap very fitting

Ainz que Renart se regardast

Before that Reynard himself looked-round

1530 et que il garde s'en donast,

and that he heed himself-thereof gave

fu Coars molt pres de la cort

was Coart very near to the court

sor son cheval qui molt tost cort.

on his horse which very fast runs

Les costez a tos pertusiez,

The sides he-has all pierced

qar li bordons i fu fiches,

for the staff there was driven

1535 et la pel des piez et des meins

and the skin of-the feet and of-the bands

a ronpue, n'est mie seins.

he-has broken not-he-is at-all whole

Tant s'est penes et travelliez

So-much himself-he-is toiled and labored

qe as pies lo roi s'est lanchez,

that at-the feet (of-)the king himself-he-is thrown

et li conte la diable.

and to-him tells the devilry

“Sire” fet il, “por dex aïe!”

1540

Lord says he for God's help

“Dex” fet li rois, “con sui traïs

God says the king how I-am betrayed

et afolez et malbailliz

and maimed and ill-handled

de Renart qui si pou me crent!

by Reynard who so little me fears

Or sai bien qu'a maveis me tient.

Now I-know well that-for wretch me he-holds

“Segnors” fet il, “or apres tuit,

1545

Lords says he now after all

que ge le voi ou il s'enfuit:

for I him see where he himself-flees

par le cuer be s'il nos estort,

by the heart bah if-he from-us escapes

vos estez tuit pendu et mort.

you are all hanged and dead

Et cil de vos qui le prendra,

And he of you who him will-take

toz ses lignages franc sera.”

1550

all his lineage free will-be

Qui dont veïst sire Ysengrin

Who then might-have-seen lord Isengrim

et le moton sire Belin,

and the ram lord Belin

et Brun l'ors et Pele le rat,

and Bruin the-bear and Pele the rat

et mon segnor Tybert le chat,

and my lord Tibert the cat

1555 et Chantecler et dame Pinte

and Chanticleer and lady Pinte

si con el vint a cort soi quinte,

so as she came to court herself fifth

et segnor Ferran le roncín

and lord Ferran the cart-horse

et dant Roonel le mastin!

and sir Roonel the mastiff

Frobert le siut li gresillons

Frobert him follows the cricket

1560 et Petitporchaz li fuirons.

and Petitporchaz the ferret

Après le seut sire Baucens

After him follows lord Baucent

li sengler as agues dens:

the boar with-the sharp teeth

Bruanz li tors tot enragiez

Bruiant the bull all enraged

et Brichemers toz eslessiez.

and Brichemer all at-full-speed

1565 Li limacons porte l'enseigne,

The snail carries the-ensign

bien les conduit par la canpaigne.

well them he-leads through the country

Renart regarde arere soi,

Reynard looks bebind himself

et voit qu'il vienent sanz deloi,

and sees that-they come without delay

et vit Tardif qui les cadele,

and saw Tardif who them marshals

o l'ensegne qui molt ventele.

with the-ensign which much flutters

Ne set conseil que fere doie.

Not he-knows counsel what to-do he-must

Un saut a fet fors de la voie:

A leap he-has made out of the way

entres s'en est en une croute,

entered himself-thence he-is into a crypt

apres le siut tote la rote.

after him follows all the troop

Li autre point ne l'asoürent,

The others at-all not him-assure

molt le manachent tuit et jurent

much him they-threaten all and swear

que nel puet garir plasseïz,

that not-him can to-save palisade

mur ne fosse ne rolleïz

wall nor moat nor stockade

ne forteresce ne donjons,

nor fortress nor keep

1570

1575

1580 crues, ne tesnere, ne boisson
hollow nor den nor thicket
 que il ne soit pris et rendus
that he not be taken and rendered
 au roi, et qu'il ne soit pendus.
to-the king and that-he not be hanged
 Renart voit qu'il ne puet durer
Reynard sees that-he not can to-last
 ne por foïr ne por aler.
neither for to-flee nor for to-go

1585 La bouche li vet escumant.
The mouth to-him goes foaming
 Tuit li autre le vont sivant,
All the others him go following
 si li poillent le pelicon
so to-him they-pluck the pelt
 q'en haut en volent li flocon.
that-on high thereof fly the tufts
 Si li pertuisent toz les reins,
So to-him they-pierce all the loins

1590 a poi ne chet entre lor meins.
by little — he-falls between their hands
 Molt le tenent en fere frape:
Much him they-bold in fierce press
 c'est merveille si lor escape.
it-is marvel if from-them he-escapes
 Por quant tant s'est esbaneies
For all-that so-much himself-he-is bestirred
 q'a Malpertuis s'est adrechies,
that-to Malpertuis himself-he-is made-bis-way

son fort chastel et sa meson,

his strong castle and his house

sa forterece, son donjon,

his fortress his keep

ou il ne crent ost ne asaut.

where he not fears host nor assault

Or qui mes velt aler, si aut:

Now who more wishes to-go so let-him-go

hui mes li est poi de manace,

today more to-him is little of threat

qui amer nel velt, si le hace.

who to-love not-him wishes so him let-him-hate

Sa feme a l'encontre li vient,

His wife to the-meeting to-him comes

qui molt le dote et molt le crent.

who much him dreads and much him fears

Troi filz avoit la dame france:

Three sons had the lady noble

c'est Percehaie et Malebrance,

that-is Percehaie and Malebrance

et li tiers si a nun Rovel:

and the third so has name Rovel

ce est des autres le plus bel.

that is of-the others the most fair

Trestuit li viennent environ.

All to-him come around

Si le prenent par le giron

So him they-take by the lap

et virent les plaies qui senent.

and they-saw the wounds which bleed

1595

1600

1605

1610 Molt le dolosent et conpleignent:

Much him they-grieve-over and lament

totes li levent de blanc vin.

all to-him they-wash with white wine

Si l'aseent sor un cossin:

So him-they-seat on a cushion

li disner fu aparelliez.

the dinner was made-ready

Tant estoit las et travelliez

So-much he-was weary and labored

1615 qu'il ne manja que le braon

that-he not ate but the brawn

d'une jeline et le crepon.

of-a ben and the rump

La dame le fist bien baignier

The lady him made well to-bathe

et puis ventuser et sener

and then to-cup and to-bleed

tant qu'il refu en la sante

until that-he was-again in the health

1620 ou il avoit devant este.

in-which he had before been

The Siege of Malpertuis

The king brings his host to Malpertuis and finds it too strong to storm. From his tower Reynard names every beast and what he did to each. The siege lasts half a year. One night he slips out and ties every sleeper to a tree by tail or foot, the king included, then lies with the queen, who wakes and cries out. Tardif the snail, forgotten and unbound, cuts the rest loose at tail or foot, leaving most of them tailless, then seizes Reynard and hands him to the king.

Misire Noble l'enperere

My-lord Noble the-emperor

vint au castel ou Renart ere:

came to-the castle where Reynard was

et vit molt fort le plasseïs,

and saw very strong the palisade

les murs, les tors, les rolleïs,

the walls the towers the stockades

les fortereces, les donjons:

the fortresses the keeps

si haut n'i tressist uns bozons.

so high not-there would-shoot a bolt

Vit les trenchees et les murs

He-saw the trenches and the walls

fors et espes et hاوز et durs.

strong and thick and high and hard

Vit les quernaux desus la mote

He-saw the battlements above the mound

par la ou en entre en la crote.

by there where one enters into the crypt

1625

1630

Garde, si vit leve le pont

He-looks so he-saw raised the bridge

et la chaene contremont.

and the chain upward

Li chastax sist sor une roche.

The castle sat on a rock

Li rois tant con il puet l'aproce,

The king as-much as he can it-approaches

1635 devant la porte a pie descent

before the gate on foot he-dismounts

et li barnages ensement.

and the baronage likewise

Au chastel viennent environ.

To-the castle they-come around

Chascun i tent son pavellon

Each there pitches his pavilion

et herbergent de totes parz.

and they-lodge on all sides

1640 Or puet avoir peor Renarz.

Now can to-have fear Reynard

Mes par asaut n'iert ja conquis.

But by assault not-it-will-be ever conquered

Ne par force ne sera pris.

Nor by force not it-will-be taken

Se traïs n'est ou afamez,

If betrayed not-he-is or starved

ja ne sera par host grevez.

ever not he-will-be by host harmed

Renart fu bien en sa vigor.

1645

Reynard was well in his vigor

Montes s'en est en son la tor:

Climbed himself-thence he-is on top-of the tower

si vit Hersent et Ysengrin

so he-saw Hersent and Isengrim

qui sont logie desos un pin.

who are lodged beneath a pine

A haute vois lor escria

In loud voice to-them he-cried

“Sire conpaing, antendes ca!

1650

Lord companion attend here

Que vos senble de mon castel?

What to-you seems of my castle

Veïstes vos onques si bel?

Saw you ever so fair

Dame Hersent, comment qu'il prenge,

Lady Hersent however that-it take

ge vos ai fole la vendenge:

I to-you have trodden the vintage

et moi ne caut, s'ïries en est

1655

and (to-)me not matters if-angered thereof is

li cox, li jalox qui vos pest.

the cuckold the jealous-one who you feeds

Et vos, sire Tyberz li chaz,

And you lord Tibert the cat

ge vos fis cheoir en mes laz.

I you made to-fall into my snares

Ainz qu'ïssissiez de la prison,

Before that-you-left from the prison

- 1660 eüstes vos tel livroison:
had you such ration
 tex cent cous quit que vos oüistes
such hundred blows I-think that you had
 que vin ne eve n'i boüistes.
that wine nor water not-there you-drunk
 Et vos, misire Brun li ors,
And you my-lord Bruin the bear
 ge vos fis ja prendre tel cors,
I you made once to-take such run
- 1665 quant voussistes le miel manger,
when you-wished the honey to-eat
 bien vos i quidai damacher:
well you there I-thought to-damage
 vos i laissastes les oreilles
you there left the ears
 si que tuit virent les merveilles.
so that all saw the marvels
 Et vos, misire Chantecler,
And you my-lord Chanticleer
- 1670 je vos fis ja si haut chanter:
I you made once so high to-sing
 que par cele gorge vos ting.
that by that throat you I-beld
 Vos m'eschapastes par engin.
You from-me-escaped by device
 Et vos, danz Brichemers li cers,
And you sir Brichemer the stag
 je vos ting ja dedenz les ners.
I you beld once within the sinews

Par mon engin et par mon los

1675

By my device and by my counsel

perdistes de la pel del dos

you-lost of the skin of-the back

trois coroies que chen vos firent;

three thongs which dogs to-you made

molt a ci de cels qui le virent.

many there-are here of those who it saw

Et vos, sire Peles li ras,

And you lord Pele the rat

ge vos fis ja caoir es laz,

1680

I you made once to-fall into-the snares

qui bien vos estreindrent la gorge,

which well to-you tightened the throat

quant vos alastes mengier l'orge.

when you went to-eat the-barley

Et vos, misire Tiecelin,

And you my-lord Tiecelin

a vos di ge, par seint Martin,

to you say I by saint Martin

je vos fis ja mon ju poïr,

1685

I you made once my game to-stink

se bien ne soüssiez foïr,

if well not you-had-known to-flee

vos i laississiez vostre gaje.

you there would-have-left your pledge

Quant je vos toli le formaje

When I from-you took the cheese

que je mangai a molt grant joie

which I ate with very great joy

1690 por ce que mester en avoie.

for this that need thereof I-had

Et vos, Rossaus li escuireus,

And you Rossel the squirrel

ge vos fis ja de molt granz dels,

I you made once of very great griefs

quant je vos dis qu'estoit juree

when I to-you said that-it-was sworn

la pes et bien aseüree.

the peace and well assured

1695 Del cesne vos fis je descendre,

From-the oak you made I to-come-down

ice vos quidai ge cher vendre.

this to-you thought I dear to-sell

Par la coue vos ting as denz,

By the tail you I-held with-the teeth

molt fustes tristres et dolenz.

much you-were sad and grieving

Qu'iroie je fesant lonc conte?

What-would-go I making long tale

1700 N'i a celui n'aie fet honte.

Not-there is that-one (to-whom-)not-I-have done shame

Encor en quit je fere asez

Still thereof think I to-do plenty

ainz que cist mois soit trespases.

before that this month be passed

Qar j'ai l'anel en ma sesine

For I-have the-ring in my seizin

que me dona ier la roïne.

which to-me gave yesterday the queen

Bien sachez tuit, se Renart vit,

Well know all if Reynard lives

tel le conperra qui nel vit."

such-a-one it will-pay-for who not-it saw

"Renart, Renart" dit li lions,

Reynard Reynard says the lion

"molt par est fors vostre mesons:

very much is strong your house

mes n'est si fors ne l'aie asisse,

but not-it-is so strong not it-I-have besieged

n'en tornerai, si sera prise.

not-thereof I-will-turn until it-will-be taken

Et d'une rien vos asoür,

And of-one thing you I-assure

qu'a mon vivant le sege jur.

that-in my lifetime the siege I-swear

Ne por pluie, ne por orage,

Neither for rain nor for storm

n'en tornerai en mon aage:

not-thereof I-will-turn in my lifetime

anchois iert li castax rendus

rather will-be the castle rendered

et vos par la gule penduz."

and you by the throat hanged

"Sire, sire" ce dit Renart,

Lord lord that says Reynard

1705

1710

1715

"einsi esmaie l'en coart:

thus dismays one (a-)coward

gar j'ai caiens ases vitaille,

for I-have in-here enough victuals

1720 ne quit devant set ans me faille.

not I-think before seven years to-me it-fails

Et anchois que il soit rendus,

And before that it be rendered

vos sera il molt chers vendus.

to-you will-be it very dearly sold

J'ai ases capons et jelines,

I-have enough capons and hens

et ases bestes armelines.

and enough beasts ermine-furred

1725 Si ai assez oes et formaches:

So I-have enough eggs and cheeses

grosses brebiz et grosses vaches.

fat sheep and fat cows

En cest castel est la fontene

In this castle is the spring

qui ases est et clere et seine.

which quite is and clear and wholesome

Et d'une rien me puis vanter,

And of-one thing myself I-can to-boast

1730 ne puet tant plovoir ne venter,

not it-can so-much to-rain nor to-blow

se l'eve chaoit del ciel tote,

if the-water fell from-the sky all

que ja chaens n'en caroit gote.

that ever in-here thereof would-fall drop

Cist chastax est si bien assis,

This castle is so well set

ja par force ne sera pris.

ever by force not it-will-be taken

Or vos sees, je m'en irai,

Now yourselves seat I myself-thence will-go

travelliez sui, si mangerai

weary I-am so I-will-eat

avoc ma feme la cortoise.

with my wife the courteous

Se jeünez, pas ne m'en poise."

If you-fast at-all not to-me-thereof it-grieves

A icest mot jus s'en avale,

At this word down himself-thence he-goes

par un guicet entre en la sale.

by a wicket he-enters into the hall

La nuit se dorment cil de l'ost,

The night themselves sleep those of the-host

et lendemein se levent tost.

and next-day themselves they-rise early

Ses barons fait li rois venir.

His barons makes the king to-come

"Or tost" fait il, "del asaillir

Now quickly says he of-the assaulting

nos estovroit aparellier,

us it-would-beboove to-make-ready

qar cest laron veoil desrochier."

for this thief I-wish to-dislodge

A icest mot s'eslessent tuit,

At this word themselves-hurl all

1735

1740

1745

au castel viennent de grant bruit.

to-the castle they-come with great noise

Li asaus fu molt meruelleus,

The assault was very marvelous

1750 onc ne vit nus si perilleus:

ever not saw anyone so perilous

des le matin dusqu'a la nuit

from the morning until-to the night

ne finerent d'asaillir tuit.

not they-ceased from-assaulting all

La nuit les a fait departir,

The night them has made to-depart

vont s'ent, si laissent l'asaillir.

they-go themselves-thence so they-leave the-assaulting

1755 Et lendemein apres mangier

And next-day after to-eat

recommencerent le mestier.

they-began-again the trade

Onc nel pourent de tant grever

Ever not-it they-could of so-much to-harm

que piere en poïssent oster.

that stone thereof they-might to-take-out

Bien i fu demi an li rois,

Well there was half year the king

1760 Renart n'i pert vaillant un pois.

Reynard not-there loses worth a pea

Onques n'i furent un sol jor

Ever not-there they-were a single day

que n'asaillissent a la tor,

that not-they-assaulted at the tower

mes ne la porent enpirier

but not it they-could to-worsen

dunt el vausist meins un denier.

whereby it might-be-worth less a penny

Un soir furent molt travellie

One evening they-were much wearied

1765

et d'asaillir molt anuie,

and of-assaulting much vexed

chascuns se jut soürement

each himself lay securely

en sa loge molt longement.

in his lodge very long

Et la roïne fu iree

And the queen was angered

et vers lo roi molt corecee:

and toward the king much wroth

1770

si va cocher a une part:

so she-goes to-lie at one side

atant es vos venir Renart

thereupon behold you to-come Reynard

de son castel molt coïement,

from his castle very quietly

vit les dormir soürement,

he-saw them to-sleep securely

chascun gisoit dessoz un cesne,

each lay beneath an oak

1775

ou fou, ou tremble, ou charme, ou fresne.

either beech or aspen or hornbeam or ash

Renart a bien chascun loie

Reynard has well each bound

ou par la coue ou par le pie.

either by the tail or by the foot

Molt par a fait grant diableie,

Very much he-has done great devilry

1780 a chacun arbre le suen lie,

to each tree the his he-binds

nes lo roi lia par la coue,

even the king he-bound by the tail

grant merveille est se il desnoue.

great marvel is if he unties-himself

Puis si s'en vint par la roïne

Then so himself-thence he-came by the queen

la ou ele gisoit sovine:

there where she lay supine

1785 entre les janbes li entra.

between the legs to-her he-entered

Cele de lui ne se garda,

She of him not herself guarded

bien cuida que ce fust li ber,

well she-thought that this were the baron

q'a lui se voussist acorder.

who-to her himself would-wish to-accord

Or poez oïr grant merveille,

Now you-can to-hear great marvel

1790 il li fist et ele s'esveille.

he to-her did(-it) and she herself-wakes

Quant vit que Renart l'a traïe

When she-saw that Reynard her-has betrayed

si s'escria tote esbahie,

so herself-she-cried all astounded

et ja estoit l'aube crevee,

and already was the-dawn broken

li jorz granz et la matinee.

the day great and the morning

Por le cri sont tuit estormi

At the cry are all roused

cil qui estoient endormi:

those who were asleep

de Renart le rox s'esbahirent

at Reynard the red themselves-they-astonished

qant avec la dame le virent,

when with the lady him they-saw

et por ice qu'il li fesoit

and for this that-he to-her was-doing

tel jou qui pas ne lor plesoit.

such game which at-all not to-them pleased

Tuit escrient "levez, levez,

All they-cry rise rise

et cel prive laron pernez!"

and that familiar thief take

Mis sire Nobles en piez saut,

My lord Noble on feet leaps

et sache et tire: ne li vaut.

and pulls and tugs not to-him it-avails

Par pou la coue n'a ronpue,

By little the tail he-has broken

1795

1800

1805

grant demi pie l'a estendue.

great half foot it-be-has stretched

Et li autre sachent et tirent,

And the others pull and tug

par pou li cul ne lor descirent.

by little the rumps — from-them tear

Mes dan Tardif le limaçon,

But sir Tardif the snail

1810 qui solt porter le gonfalon,

who was-wont to-carry the gonfalon

oblia Renart a loier.

forgot Reynard to bind(-him)

Cil cort les autres desloier,

He runs the others to-unbind

tret l'espee, si les desnœ,

he-draws the-sword so them he-unties

a chascun coupe ou pie ou coue:

to each he-cuts either foot or tail

1815 del desloier s'est si hastez

of-the unbinding himself-be-is so hastened

qu'ases i ot des escoez.

that-plenty there were of-the tail-shorn

Ainz que tuit soient desnœ

Before that all be untied

sont li plusor tuit escoue.

are the most-part all tail-sborn

Envers lo roi s'en viennent tuit

Toward the king themselves-thence come all

1820 si cum il pueent de grant bruit.

so as they can with great noise

Et quant Renart les vit venir,

And when Reynard them saw to-come

si s'aparelle de foir.

so himself-be-prepares of to-flee

En ce qu'il entre en sa tesniere

In this that-be enters into his den

le saisist Tardis par derrere,

him seized Tardif from behind

par un des piez ariers le tire,

by one of-the feet backward him be-pulls

molt se contint bien conme sire.

much himself he-bore well like (a-)lord

Atant i vint li rois pognant

Thereupon there came the king spurring

et tuit li autre esporonant,

and all the others spurring

et dan Tardis qui Renart tient,

and sir Tardif who Reynard holds

lo roi le rent qui devant vient.

(to-)the king him renders who in-front comes

De totes pars le prenent tuit,

From all sides him take all

tote l'ost en fremist et bruit.

all the-host thereof shudders and roars

1825

1830

Reynard Led to the Gallows

Reynard is blindfolded and dragged toward the gallows while Isengrim, Bruin, Roonel, and Tibert each take their blow at him; he strangles Pele the rat in the crush. The queen comes out of her chamber, repents of her ring, and sends him a charm by Grimbert with a message to speak with her privately. At the foot of the gallows Reynard makes his will, leaving his castle and clearings to his sons, and asks to become a monk.

Estez vos que Renart fu pris,

Behold you that Reynard was taken

molt en sont lie cil du païs.

much thereof are glad those of-the country

1835 As forces le meinent por pendre,

To-the gallows him they-lead for to-hang

li rois n'en volt raencon prendre.

the king not-thereof wishes ransom to-take

“Sire” dist Ysengrin au roi,

Lord said Isengrim to-the king

“por amor deu bailliez le moi:

for love (of-)God give him to-me

et j'en prendrai si grant venchance

and I-thereof will-take so great vengeance

1840 qu'en le saura par tote France”.

that-one it will-know through all France

Li rois n'en velt fere neent,

The king not-thereof wishes to-do anything

de ce sont tuit lie et joiant.

of this are all glad and joyful

Les elz a fait Renart bender,

The eyes he-has made (of-)Reynard to-bind

li rois li prist a demander:

the king to-him began to ask

“Renarz, Renarz” dist li leons,

1845

Reynard Reynard said the lion

“ci voi de tex escorpions

here I-see of such scorpions

qui vos vendront encui l’outrage

who to-you will-sell this-very-day the-outrage

que fait avez en vostre aage,

that done you-have in your lifetime

et le deduit de la roïne

and the sport with the queen

que teniez iui sovine:

1850

whom you-were-holding today supine

de moi honir vos vi tot prest.

of me to-shame you I-saw all ready

Mais je sai bien comment il est.

But I know well how it is

Or parleron d’autre Bernart:

Now we-will-speak of-other Bernart

si vos metron el col la hart.”

so to-you we-will-put on-the neck the halter

Danz Ysengrin en piez se drece,

1855

Sir Isengrim on feet himself raises

s’aert Renart par la chevece,

and-he-seizes Reynard by the collar

del poing li done tel bufet,

with-the fist to-him he-gives such buffet

del cul li fait salir un pet.

from-the rump to-him he-makes to-leap a fart

Et Brun l'aert par le chaon,

And Bruin him-seizes by the nape

1860 les denz i mist dusqu' au braon:

the teeth there he-put as-far as-the brawn

et Roenax parmi la gorge

and Roonel through the throat

trois tors li fet fere en un orge.

three turns to-him he-makes to-do in a barley-field

Tiberz li chaz gite les denz

Tibert the cat throws the teeth

et les ongles qu'il ot ponnanz,

and the claws which he-had pricking

1865 sesist Renart au pelicon.

he-seized Reynard by-the pelt

Bien li valut une fricon.

Well to-him it-was-worth a shudder

Tardis qui porte la banere,

Tardif who carries the banner

li a done une cropere.

to-him has given a rump-blow

Tant veïssez bestes venir,

So-many you-might-have-seen beasts to-come

1870 li tierz n'i puet pas avenir.

the third not-there can at-all to-reach

Tant en i vient parmi la rue,

So-many thereof there comes through the street

qui n'i puet avenir s'i rue.

who not-there can to-reach himself-there burls

Dan Renarz qui le secle engigne,
Sir Reynard who the world tricks
 fiert meinte beste et hocepigne
strikes many-a beast and shakes
 ne set sos ciel que fere doie. 1875
not he-knows under heaven what to-do he-must
 Molt crient que morir ne se voie:
Much he-fears that to-die — himself he-see
 Renart n'i avoit nul ami,
Reynard not-there had any friend
 tuit li estoient enemi.
all to-him were enemies
 Bien saves tuit certainement
Well you-know all certainly
 ceste parole apertement, 1880
this saying openly
 que puis que hon est entrepris
that since that a-man is hemmed-in
 et par force loiez et pris,
and by force bound and taken
 bien puet l'en veoir au besoing
well can one to-see at-the need
 qui l'eime et qui de lui a soing.
who him-loves and who of him has care
 Por dan Renart que l'en devoure 1885
For sir Reynard whom one devours
 ploure Grinbert et prie et oure:
weeps Grimbart and prays and entreats
 ses parens ert et ses amis,
his kinsman he-was and his friend

loie le voit et entrepris:

bound him he-sees and hemmed-in

ne set comment il le reqoe,

not he-knows how he him may-rescue

1890 que la force n'est mie soe.

for the strength not-is at-all his

Pelez li raz s'est avanciez,

Pele the rat himself-is advanced

encontre Renart s'est lanciez:

against Reynard himself-is hurled

entre lor piez chet en la fole.

between their feet he-falls in the throng

Renart l'aert parmi la gole,

Reynard him-seizes through the throat

1895 entre ses braz forment l'estreint

between his arms greatly him-he-squeezes

morir l'estot, si le destreint.

to-die it-behooves-him so him he-presses

Onques nus d'ous ne s'en garda,

Ever anyone of-them not himself-thereof guarded

ne nel vit, ne nel regarda.

nor not-him saw nor not-him beheld

Madame Fiere l'orgillouse

My-lady Fiere the-proud

1900 qui molt est prous et mervellouse,

who very is worthy and wonderful

s'en est fors de la cambre issue.

herself-thence is out of the chamber come

De dol fermist tote et tressue,

With grief she-shudders all and sweats

que por Renart, que por l'anui

both for Reynard and for the-trouble

que l'en li a fait si grant hui.

that one to-him has done so great today

Del don del anel se repent,

Of-the gift of-the ring herself she-repents

qu'ele set bien certainement,

for-she knows well certainly

qu'ele en aura contrere ases,

that-she thereof will-have hurt plenty

quant cist aferes ert passes.

when this business will-be past

Mes n'en velt fere nul senblant.

But not-thereof she-wishes to-make any show

Son petit pas s'en va amblant,

Her little pace herself-thence she-goes ambling

devant Grinbert s'est arestee,

before Grimbart herself-she-is stopped

a lui parla conme senee.

to him she-spoke like (a-)wise-one

"Sire Grinbert" dist la roïne,

Lord Grimbart said the queen

"mar vit Renart son fol convine

ill saw Reynard his mad purpose

et sa folie et son otrage:

and his folly and his outrage

hui en recoit molt grant damage.

today thereof he-receives very great harm

Si vos aport ici un bref,

So to-you I-bring here a writ

1905

1910

1915

nus n'a poür de mort si gref,
anyone not-has fear of death so grievous

s'il l'avoit par bone creance,
if-be it-had with good belief

1920 que ja de mort oüst dotance.
that ever of death he-would-have doubt

Se dan Renart l'avoit sor lui
If sir Reynard it-had upon him

ne doteroit la mort mes hui,
not he-would-fear the death more today

ne por droiture ne por tort
neither for right nor for wrong

n'auroit mes hui poor de mort.
not-be-would-have more today fear of death

1925 Dites de par moi le receive
Say from by me it let-him-receive

Baset que nus s'en apercoive,
Softly that no-one himself-thereof perceive

que grant pitiez me prent de lui.
for great pity me takes of him

Gardes nel dites a nului.
Take-care not-it say to anyone

Ge nel di pas por lecherie,
I not-it say at-all for lechery

1930 se dex me doinst bone escherie!
so God me grant good fortune

Por ce qu'il est bien afaitiez
For this that-be is well accomplished

me poise qu'il est deshaitiez."
me grieves that-be is undone

Grinbert respont “douce honoree,

Grimbert answers sweet honored-one

franche roïne coronee,

noble queen crowned

cil qui haut siet et de loing mire,

he who high sits and from afar looks

et de toz biens est rois et sire,

and of all good-things is king and lord

qui t'a mis en si grant honor,

who thee-has put in so great honor

icil te gart de deshonor!

he thee keep from dishonor

Car s'il en puet estordre viz

For if-he thereof can to-escape alive

encor sera molt vostre amis.”

still be-will-be much your friend

A icest mot le bref li tent,

At this word the writ to-bim she-holds-out

et Grinbert volentiers le prent,

and Grimberty willingly it takes

et la roïne li conseille

and the queen to-bim counsels

molt priveement en l'oreille

very privately in the-ear

que quant Renart ert escapez

that when Reynard will-be escaped

de ce dont il est entrapez,

from this whereby he is entrapped

que il ne lest en nule guise,

that he not leave in any wise

1935

1940

1945

por l'amor que il a premise,

for the-love that he has promised

que il a li parler ne voise

that he to her to-speak — go

1950 priveement et sanz grant noise.

privately and without great noise

A icest mot se departirent:

At this word themselves they-parted

si enemi Renart mar virent.

his enemies Reynard ill saw

La hart li ont ja el col mise,

The halter to-him they-have already on-the neck put

ja fust molt pres de son joïse,

already he-was very near to his ordeal

1955 quant Grinbert ses cosins i vient

when Grimbart his cousin there comes

et voit Renart qu'Ysengrins tient.

and sees Reynard whom-Isengrim holds

Trere le velt as forces sus,

To-draw him he-wishes to-the gallows up

li autre se sont tret en sus.

the others themselves are drawn in back

Dant Grinbert parla hautement

Sir Grimbart spoke loudly

1960 et oiant toz comunaument

and hearing all together

“Renart, sanz nule autre devise,

Reynard without any other parley

hui estes venus a joïse,

today you-are come to ordeal

par ci vos en convient passer.

by here you thereof it-behooves to-pass

Si vos doüssiez confesser

So yourself you-ought to-confess

et fere lez a vos enfanz

and to-make bequests to your children

dont vos avez trois bauz et janz."

of-which you have three fair and comely

"Vos dites bien" ce dist Renart.

You say well that said Reynard

"Bien est que il aient lor part.

Well it-is that they have their part

Mon castel laiz mon filz l'ainz ne

My castle I-leave (to-)my son the-elder born

qui ja n'iert pris par ome ne:

which ever not-will-be taken by man born

mes tors, mes autres forteresces

my towers my other fortresses

lerai ma feme as cortes tresces:

I-will-leave (to-)my wife with-the short tresses

a mon filz l'autre Percehaie

to my son the-other Percehaie

lerai l'essart Tibert Fressaie

I-will-leave the-clearing (of-)Tibert Fressaie

ou il a tant soriz et raz,

where there are so-many mice and rats

il n'en a tant jusq'a Aras:

there not-thereof are so-many as-far-as Arras

1965

1970

1975

et a mon petit filz Rovel

and to my little son Rovel

lairai l'essart Tibaut Forel

I-will-leave the-clearing (of-)Tibaut Forel

et le cortil detrers la grance

and the garden behind the grange

1980 ou a meinte jeline blanche.

where there-is many-a hen white

Ne lor sai plus que departir,

Not to-them I-know more what to-bequeath

de ce se poront bien garir.

of this themselves they-will-be-able well to-keep

Einsi lor devis ci lor lais

Thus to-them I-set-out here to-them I-leave

que ici devant toz lor lais."

that here before all to-them I-leave

1985 "Pres est" dist Grinbert, "vostre fins.

Near is said Grimbart your end

Et ge sui pres vostre cosins:

And I am near your cousin

de vostre avoir aucune rien

of your goods some thing

me relaissiez, si ferez bien

to-me leave-again so you-will-do well

et si feres molt grant savoir."

and so you-will-do very great wisdom

1990 Renart respont "vos dites voir,

Reynard answers you say truth

et se ma feme se marie,

and if my wife herself marries

foi que devez seinte Marie,

faith that you-owe (to-)holy Mary

toles li quanque je li les

take from-her whatever I to-her leave

et si tenes ma terre en pes.

and so hold my land in peace

Qar molt m'aura tost oblie

For much me-will-have soon forgotten

puis que me saura devie.

since that me she-will-know deceased

Ainz que Tibaut soit crestiens

Before that Tibaut be Christian

en aura un en ses liens.

thereof she-will-have one in her arms

Qar qant li om est en la biere,

For when the man is on the bier

sa feme esgarde par deriere,

his wife looks by behind

s'ele veit home a son plaisir,

if-she sees man to her pleasure

ne puet pas son voloir tessir,

not she-can at-all her will to-hide

con plus recoie et va tremblant,

the more she-draws-back and goes trembling

qu'il ne li face aucun senblant.

that-she — to-him make some sign

Tot autretel fera la moie,

All just-the-same will-do the mine

jusqu'au tiers jor raura sa joie.

by-the third day she-will-have-again her joy

1995

2000

2005

Se mon sennor le roi plesoit

If (to-)my lord the king it-pleased

et une chose me fesoit

and one thing to-me be-did

qu'il voussist que je fusse moines,

that-he might-wish that I were monk

2010 reclus hermites o canoines,

recluse hermit or canon

et me laissast vestir la haire,

and me should-let to-wear the hair-shirt

certes ce li devroit molt plaie.

certainly this to-him ought much to-please

Cest mortel seicle et ceste vie

This mortal world and this life

lairoie, plus n'en ai envie."

I-would-leave more not-thereof I-have desire

Reynard Freed

Isengrim demands the rope, but Reynard's wife arrives with her sons and a packhorse of treasure, and the covetous king grants Reynard his life at her prayer, on the terms that the next misdeed hangs him. Then the bier of Pele the rat arrives, his widow Chauve with forty sons and daughters and sixty cousins, crying for justice. Reynard climbs an oak and mocks the court below until the king sends for axes; he knocks the king down with a stone, escapes, and the barons give up the chase.

2015 Dist Ysengrin "cuiverz traïtres,

Said Isengrim base traitor

et que est or ce que vos dites?

and what is now this that you say

Tante guenche nos aves faite,

So-many dodges to-us you-have made

quel treslue nos avez traite!

what a-delusion to-us you-have drawn

En vos auroit bele persone,

In you there-would-be fair person

s'avieez vestue la gone.

if-you-had put-on the gown

Ja dex ne doinst le roi onor,

Ever God not grant (to-)the king honor

s'il ne vos pent a desonor.

if-he not you hangs to dishonor

Et s'il ne vos en aseüre.

And if-he not you thereof assures

Qar la harz est vostre droiture:

For the halter is your due

qui de mort vos respiteroit,

whoever from death you would-respite

james mis cuers ne l'amerait,

ever my heart not him-would-love

cil qui laron a pendre areste,

he who a-thief to hang stops

toz jors het mes lui et son estre."

all days hates henceforth him and his being

Ce dit Renart "sire Ysengrin,

That says Reynard lord Isengrim

or seront vostre li cemin.

now will-be yours the roads

Encor est dex la ou il selt,

Still is God there where he is-wont

2020

2025

2030

que tex ne peche qui s'en delt."

that such-a-one not sins who himself-thereof grieves

Ce dist li rois "penses del pendre:

That said the king think of-the hanging

car ne puis mie tant atendre."

for not I-can at-all so-long to-wait

2035 Ja fust pendus qui que s'en pleigne,

Already he-would-have-been hanged who that himself-thereof complain

quant Renarz garde aval la plagne:

when Reynard looks down-over the plain

si vit une grant chevaucie

so he-saw a great cavalcade

ou meinte dame avoit irie:

where many-a lady there-was grieved

et si ert la feme Renart

and so there-was the wife (of-)Reynard

2040 qui vint pognant tot un essart.

who came spurring all a clearing

Molt par venoit hastivement

Very much she-was-coming hastily

mervellos dol va demenant.

marvelous grief she-goes making

Si troi fil pas ne s'atardoient,

Her three sons at-all not themselves-delayed

avoc le grant dol qu'il faisoient:

along-with the great grief that-they made

2045 lor chevoz ronpent et detirent,

their hairs they-tear and pull

et tote lor robe descirent;

and all their robe they-rend

tel noisse font et tel crie

such noise they-make and such outcry

qu'en les oïst d'une lieue.

that-one them might-hear from-a league

Ne venoient pas belement,

Not they-came at-all fairly

ainz chevaucent isnelement:

rather they-ride swiftly

un somier tot cargie d'avoir

a pack-horse all laden with-wealth

ameinent por Renart avoir.

they-bring for Reynard to-have

Ancois qu'il ait oï confesse,

Before that-be have had confession

ont cil deronpue la presse,

have they broken-through the throng

qui vienent par si grant desroi,

who come with so great disorder

que choï sont as piez lo roi.

that fallen they-are at-the feet (of-)the king

La dame s'est tant avancie

The lady herself-is so-much advanced

que avant toz s'estoit lancie:

that before all herself-she-was hurled

"Sire, merci de mon segnor

Lord mercy for my lord

por deu le pere creator!

for God the father creator

2050

2055

2060

Ge te donrai tot cest avoir

I to-thee will-give all this wealth

se de lui vels merci avoir.

if of him thou-wishest mercy to-have

Rois Nobles choisi le tresor

King Noble espied the treasure

devant lui et d'argent et d'or.

before him and of-silver and of-gold

2065 Del avoir fu molt covoitoz

Of-the wealth he-was very covetous

et dist "dame, foi que doi vos.

and said lady faith that I-owe you

Renart n'a pas vers moi bon plet:

Reynard not-has at-all toward me good suit

q'a mes omes a trop mesfet

for-to my men he-has too-much done-wrong

que nus ne vos poroit retrere.

which anyone not to-you could to-recount

2070 Por ce en doit on vengeance fere.

For this thereof ought one vengeance to-do

Quant de son mesfet ne s'amende.

Since of his misdeed not himself-be-amends

Bien a deservi qu'en le pende.

Well he-has deserved that-one him hang

Ce me dient tuit mi baron

This to-me say all my barons

q'as forces pende le laron,

that-on-the gallows one-hang the thief

2075 et por voir se je ne lor ment,

and for truth if I not to-them lie

par tens ert livres a torment”.

in time he-will-be delivered to torment

“Sire, por deu en cui tu croiz,

Lord for God in whom thou believest

pardone li a ceste foiz.”

pardon to-him at this time

Li rois respont “en deu amor

The king answers in God's love

por vos li pardong a cest tor,

for you to-him I-pardon at this turn

et si vos ert par telendus

and so to-you he-will-be on such rendered

q’au premer mesfait ert pendus.”

that-at-the first misdeed he-will-be hanged

“Sire” fet ele, “et je l’otroi,

Lord says she and I it-grant

ja ne sera recuis par moi.”

ever not he-will-be asked-for by me

Atant le firent desbender,

Thereupon him they-made to-unbind

li rois l’a fait atant mander

the king him-has made thereupon to-summon

et il i vient toz eslessiez,

and he there comes all at-full-speed

les menuz sauz joianz et liez.

the little bounds joyful and glad

“Renart” fait il, “gardes vos mes!

Reynard says he guard yourself henceforth

De ci avez vos ore pes:

From here have you now peace

2080

2085

2090

mes quant vos me forferes primes,

but when you me will-wrong first

vos revendres a ce meïmes.”

you will-come-again to this same

“Sire” fait il, “dex m’en desfende

Lord says he God me-thereof defend

que je ne face qu’en me pende.”

that I not do that-one me hang

2095 Grant joie fet a sa mesnie

Great joy he-makes to his household

que devant lui voit ameisnie:

whom before him he-sees brought

celui bese et cestui enbrace,

that-one he-kisses and this-one he-embraces

car ne voit chose, tant li place.

for not he-sees anything so-much to-him it-pleases

Quant Ysengrin le vit delivre,

When Isengrim him saw free

2100 lors voussist mels morir que vivre.

then he-would-wish better to-die than to-live

Grant poor ont trestuit de lui

Great fear have all of him

qu’il ne lor face encore ennui:

that-he — to-them do still trouble

si fera il, se dex li done

so will-do he if God to-him grants

que il voie ou vespres ou none.

that he see either vespers or nones

2105 Torner s’en voldrent par derere,

To-turn themselves-thence they-wished by behind

quant li rois vit par la chariere

when the king looked along the road

et voit venir par une adrece

and sees to-come by a shortcut

une biere chevalerece:

a bier horse-borne

ce estoit Chauve la soriz

that was Chauve the mouse

et Pelez li raz sez mariz

and Pele the rat her husband

que dan Renart ot estrangle,

whom sir Reynard had strangled

quant desoz lui l'ot enangle.

when beneath him him-be-had cornered

En la compaigne dame Chauve

In the company (of-)lady Chauve

estoit sa sor ma dame Fauve

was her sister my lady Fauve

et diz que freres que sorors.

and ten both brothers and sisters

Au roi viennent a granz clamors

To-the king they-come with great outcries

que filz que filles bien quarante,

both sons and daughters quite forty

d'autres cosins plus de sesante.

of-other cousins more than sixty

De la noisse que il menoient

From the noise that they made

trestot ensi con il venoient,

all just-so as they came

2110

2115

2120

trestos li airs retentissoit

all the air resounded

et toz li cielz en fermissoit.

and all the sky thereat shuddered

Li rois s'est tres un poi sor destre

The king himself-is drawn a little to right

por savoir que ce pooit estre.

for to-know what this could to-be

2125 Entent le cri, entent la noise,

He-hears the cry he-hears the noise

or n'a talant que il s'envoisse.

now not-be-has desire that he himself-disport

Quant Renart ot le duel venir,

When Reynard heard the mourning to-come

de poor commence a fermir:

for fear he-begins to shudder

grant poor a de cele bere.

great fear he-has of that bier

2130 Sa feme en envoia arere

His wife thence he-sent back

et sa mesnie et ses enfans,

and his household and his children

mes il remest li sosduians.

but he remained the deceiver

Molt coientement issent de l'ost.

Very quietly they-go-out from the-host

A lor chevaus en viennent tost:

To their horses thence they-come quickly

2135 Renart remeint en aventure.

Reynard remains in peril

La bierre vient grant aleüre:

The bier comes at-great speed

ma dame Chauve par la presse,

my lady Chauve through the throng

ou voit le roi, forment s'eslesse,

where she-sees the king greatly herself-burles

"Sire merci" fet ele en haut.

Lord mercy says she in loud

A terre chet, li cuers li faut.

To ground she-falls the heart to-her fails

La bierre chet de l'autre part.

The bier falls on the-other side

Trestuit se cleiment de Renart

All themselves complain of Reynard

et font une noise si grant

and they-make a noise so great

qu'en n'i oïst pas deu tonant.

that-one not-there would-hear at-all God thundering

Et li rois si volt Renart prendre,

And the king so wished Reynard to-take

mes il ne le volt pas attendre:

but he not him wished at-all to-await

ains s'en foï, si fist que sages,

rather himself-thence fled so did as wise

que pres li estoit ses damages.

for near to-him was his harm

N'avoit que fere de lonc conte.

Not-be-had what to-do of long tale

Desus un grant chesne s'en monte.

Upon a great oak himself-thence he-climbs

2140

2145

2150

Après lui vont tuit aroute.

After him go all in-a-troop

Soz le chesne sont areste,

Under the oak they-are stopped

le sege metent environ,

the siege they-set around

n'en descendra se par els non.

not-thence he-will-come-down except by them not

2155 Li rois i vient, si li conmande

The king there comes so to-him commands

qu'il aille jus et si descende.

that-he go down and so descend

“Sire, ce ne fera je mie

Lord this not will-do I at-all

se tes barnages ne m'afie

if thy baronage not to-me-pledges

et vos ne m'en livres ostages

and you not to-me-thereof deliver hostages

2160 que ne m'en vendra nus damages.

that not to-me-thereof will-come any harms

Car je voi molt, ce m'est avis,

For I see many this to-me-is opinion

entor moi de mes enemis:

around me of my enemies

se chascun me tenoit a plein,

if each me held in open

il me donroit tot el que pain.

he to-me would-give anything other than bread

2165 Or vos tenes la jus tuit coi,

Now yourselves keep there below all quiet

contes d'Auchier et de Lanfroï!

tell of-Auchier and of Lanfroï

Qui set noveles, si les cont:

Who knows news so them let-him-tell

ge l'orai bien de ca amont."

I it-will-hear well from here above

Li rois oï gaber Renart,

The king heard to-mock Reynard

de maltalent fermist et art:

with ill-will he-shudders and burns

deus cogniez fait apporter.

two axes he-makes to-be-brought

Le chesne prennent a couper.

The oak they-begin to cut

Renart a grant poor oïe

Reynard has great fear had

quant iceste chosse a veüe.

when this thing he-has seen

Les barons voit toz arengiez:

The barons he-sees all ranged

chascun atent qu'il soit vengiez.

each waits that-he be avenged

Ne set comment s'en puisse aler.

Not he-knows how himself-thence he-may to-go

Un petit prist a devaler,

A little he-began to come-down

en son poing tint une grant roche,

in his hand he-held a great rock

voit Isengrin qui si l'aproehe.

he-sees Isengrim who so him-approaches

2170

2175

2180

Oiez con par fet grant merveille!

Hear how much he-does great marvel

Le roi en fiert delez l'oreille:

The king therewith he-strikes beside the-ear

por cent mars d'or ne se tenist

for a-hundred marks of-gold not himself would-hold

li rois q'a terre ne chaïst.

the king that-to ground — he-fell

2185 Tuit li baron i acorurent,

All the barons there ran-up

entre lor bras le socorurent.

between their arms him they-succored

Endementres qu'il entendoient

Meanwhile that-they attended

a lor segnor que il tenoient,

to their lord whom they held

Renart saut jus, si torne en fuie.

Reynard leaps down so turns to flight

2190 Quant che virent, chascun le huie,

When this they-saw each him boots

et dient tuit si con il sont,

and say all such as they are

que jamais jor nel chaceront.

that ever day not-him they-will-chase

Car ce n'est pas chose avenable,

For this not-is at-all thing fitting

ainz est un raim de vif diable.

rather it-is a limb of living devil

2195 Or est remeis li chaceïz.

Now is left-off the chase

Fuiant va vers un plasseïz.

Fleeing he-goes toward a palisade

Lo roi enportent si baron

The king carry-off his barons

droit el palais de sa meson.

straight into-the palace of his house

Huit jors se fist li rois seigner

Eight days himself made the king to-be-bled

et sejourner et haiesier,

and to-rest and to-be-eased

tant qu'il revint en la sante

until that-be came-back into the health

ou il avoit devant este.

in-which he had before been

Et Renart einsî s'en eschape.

And Reynard thus himself-thence escapes

Des or gart bien chascun sa cape!

From now let-guard well each his cape

2200

Reynard the Dyer

The king has it cried that whoever can catch Reynard is to kill or hang him at once rather than bring him to court. Reynard prays on a hilltop to go unrecognized, and falls into a dyer's vat of yellow. He talks the dyer into pulling him out by claiming the trade, and comes away dyed and unknowable. Isengrim takes him for a beast out of strange lands; Reynard answers in broken French as Galopin, a Breton minstrel, and hears his own crimes recited to him.

- 2205 Li rois a fait son ban crier,
The king has made his ban to-cry
par tot plevir et afier
through all to-pledge and to-swear
que qui porra Renart tenir,
that whoever will-be-able Reynard to-hold
que ja nel fache a cort venir,
that ever not-him let-him-make to court to-come
ne roi ne conte n'i atende,
neither king nor count not-there let-him-await
- 2210 mes maintenant l'oci ou pende.
but at-once him-let-him-kill or let-him-hang
De tot cou fu molt pou Renart.
Of all this was very little (to-)Reynard
Fuiant s'en va vers un essart.
Fleeing himself-thence he-goes toward a clearing
Son petit pas s'en va tendant.
His little pace himself-thence he-goes stretching
Environ lui va regardant:
Around him he-goes looking
- 2215 n'est merveille s'il se regarde,
not-is marvel if-be himself looks-round

qui de totes bestes a garde.

who of all beasts has fear

En son un grant tertre s'aresté,

On top a great hill himself-be-stops

vers Orient torne sa teste.

toward East he-turns his head

Lors dist Renart une proiere

Then said Reynard a prayer

qui molt fut pressieuse et chiere.

which very was precious and dear

"He dex, qui meins en trinite,

Ab God who dwellest in trinity

qui de tans perilz m'as jete

who from so-many perils me-hast drawn

et m'as soufert tans malz a fere

and me-hast suffered so-many evils to do

que je ne doüsse pas fere,

which I not ought at-all to-do

garde mon cors d'ore en avant

guard my body from-now on forward

par le tien seint commandement!

by the thy holy commandment

Et si m'atorne en itel guisse,

And so me-arrange in such wise

en tel maniere me devise

in such manner me fashion

qu'il ne soit beste qui me voie,

that-there not be beast which me see

qui sache a dire que je soie."

who know to say what I may-be

2220

2225

2230

Vers Orient sa teste cline,

Toward East his head he-bows

granz colz se done en la poitrine,

great blows himself he-gives on the breast

drece sa poe, si se seigne.

he-raises his paw so himself he-crosses

Va s'ent le plein et la montegne.

He-goes himself-thence the plain and the mountain

2235 Mes de fein sofre grant destrece.

But from hunger he-suffers great distress

Envers une vile s'adreche

Toward a village himself-he-makes-his-way

en la meson d'un teinturier

into the house of-a dyer

qui molt savoit de son mester.

who much knew of his trade

Sa teinture avoit destempree

His dye he-had steeped

2240 au mielz qu'il pout et atrempee.

at-the best that-he could and tempered

Faite l'avoit por teindre en jaune.

Made it-he-had for to-dye in yellow

Alez fu querre une droite aune

Gone he-was to-seek a straight ell

dont il voloit son drap auner

with-which he wished his cloth to-measure

qu'en la cuve voloit jeter.

that-in the vat he-wished to-throw

2245 Laissiee l'avoit discoverte.

Left it-he-had uncovered

Et la fenestre estoit overte,

And the window was open

dont il veoit a sa teinture,

whereby he looked to his dye

quant la fesoit et nete et pure.

when it he-made both clean and pure

Renart dedenz la cort s'en entre

Reynard within the yard himself-thence enters

por proie querre a ues son ventre:

for prey to-seek for need (of-)his belly

le cortil a trestot chercie

the garden he-has all searched

et tot environ reverchie,

and all around ransacked

n'i puet trover rien qu'il manjuce.

not-there he-can to-find anything that-he may-eat

Parmi la fenestre se muce.

Through the window himself he-slips

Renart n'i voit ame dedenz,

Reynard not-there sees soul within

il joint les piez, si sailli enz.

he joins the feet so he-leapt in

Esbahiz fu quant vint en l'ombre

Astonished he-was when he-came into the-dark

oiez con li maufez l'enconbre.

bear how the devil him-encumbers

Malbailliz fu et decoüz:

Ill-handled he-was and undone

car dedenz la cuve est coüz.

for within the vat he-is fallen

2250

2255

2260

Au fonz va, mes pas n'i demoure:

To-the bottom he-goes but at-all not-there he-stays

isnelement resailli soure.

swiftly he-leapt-again up

La cuve out auques de parfont,

The vat had somewhat of deep

par desus noe qu'il n'afont.

on top he-swims that-he not-sink

2265 Atant estes vos le vilein

Thereupon behold you the villain

qui l'aune tenoit en sa mein.

who the-ell held in his hand

Son drap a auner reconmence,

His cloth to measure he-begins-again

quant il oï Renart qui tence

when he heard Reynard who struggles

por ce que oissir s'en voloit,

for this that to-get-out himself-thence he-wished

2270 tant a noe, tot se doloit.

so-much he-has swum all himself he-ached

Li vileins a drece l'oreille,

The villain has raised the-ear

oï Renart, molt se merveille.

he-heard Reynard much himself he-marvels

A terre jeta toz ses draz,

To ground he-threw all his cloths

a lui en vient plus que le pas.

to him thence he-comes more than the pace

2275 Renart choisist en la teinture,

Reynard he-espied in the dye

par lui en vint grant aleüre.

by him thence he-came at-great speed

Ferir le volt parmi la teste,

To-strike him he-wished through the head

qant il conut que ce fu beste.

when he knew that this was beast

Mes Renart forment li escrie

But Reynard loudly to-him cries

“Baus sire, ne me ferez mie!

2280

Fair lord not me strike at-all

Je sui beste de ton mester,

I am beast of thy trade

si te puis bien avoir mester.

so to-thee I-can well to-have use

Sovent en ai este lassez,

Often thereof I-have been weary

si en sai plus que toi asez.

so thereof I-know more than thou by-far

Encor t'en cuit ases aprendre

2285

Still to-thee-thereof I-think plenty to-teach

de mesler teinture avoc cendre,

of to-mix dye with ash

qar ne sez comment en le fet.”

for not thou-knowest how one it does

Dist li vilein “ci a bon plet.

Said the villein here is good matter

Par ont venistes ca dedenz?

By where came-you here within

Por qoi entrastes vos caienz?”

2290

For what entered you in-here

Ce dist Renart “por atemper

This said Reynard for to-temper

ceste teinture et atoner:

this dye and to-prepare

c'est la costume de Paris

that-is the custom of Paris

et de par tot nostre païs.

and of through all our country

2295 Ore est ele molt bien a droit

Now is it very well at right

atornee tot a son droit.

prepared all to its right

Aidez moi tant que je fors soie,

Help me so-much that I out may-be

puis vos dirai que je feroie.”

then to-you I-will-say what I would-do

Quant li vileins Renart entent

When the villein Reynard hears

2300 et voit que la poe li tent,

and sees that the paw to-him be-holds-out

par tel aïr le sache fors

with such force him be-pulls out

par pou ne li a tret del cors.

by little — to-him be-has drawn from-the body

Quant Renart vit qu'il fu au plein,

When Reynard saw that-he was at-the open

trois paroles dist au vilein.

three words he-said to-the villein

2305 “Prodom, entent a ton afere,

Worthy-man attend to thy business

que je n'en sai a nul chef trere.

for I not-thereof know to any end to-draw

Mes en ta cuve iere sailliz,

But into thy vat I-was leapt

a poi ne fui molt malbailliz.

by little — I-was very ill-handled

Car si m'äit seinz esperiz,

For so me-help holy spirit

noiez i dui estre et periz:

drowned there I-was-to to-be and perished

grant peor ai oü del cors,

great fear I-have had of-the body

dex m'a eidie quant j'en sui fors.

God me-has helped since I-thereof am out

Ta teinture est molt bien pernanz,

Thy dye is very well taking

jaunez en sui et reluisanz.

yellow thereof I-am and shining

Ja ne serai mes coneüz

Ever not I-will-be more recognized

en leu ou j'ai este veüz.

in place where I-have been seen

Molt par en sui liez, dex le set,

Very much thereof I-am glad God it knows

que trestoz li siecles me het.

for all the world me bates

Or remanez, car je m'en voiz

Now stay for I myself-thence go

querre aventure par ce bois.”

to-seek adventure through this wood

2310

2315

2320

A icest mot de lui se part.

At this word from him himself he-parts

Fuiant s'en vait vers un essart:

Fleeing himself-thence he-goes toward a clearing

molt se regarde, molt se mire,

much himself he-looks-round much himself he-admires

de joie conmenca a rire.

for joy he-began to laugh

2325 Fors del chemin les une haie

Outside of-the road beside a hedge

voit Ysengrin, molt s'en esmaie,

he-sees Isengrim much himself-thereat he-dismays

ou il atendoit aventure,

where he was-awaiting adventure

qar fein avoit a desmesure.

for hunger he-had beyond measure

Mes molt par estoit granz et forz.

But very much he-was great and strong

2330 "Las!" dist Renart "or sui ge morz.

Alas said Reynard now am I dead

Qar Ysengrin est fors et cras

For Isengrim is strong and fat

et je de fein megres et las.

and I from hunger lean and weary

Molt en ai sosfert grant angoisse.

Much thereof I-have suffered great anguish

Ne quit pas qu'il me reconoisce:

Not I-think at-all that-be me recognize

fors q'au parler (ce sa je bien)

except that-at-the speaking this know I well

me conostra sor tote rien.

me be-will-know above every thing

G'irai a lui, a que qu'il tort,

I-will-go to him at whatever that-it turn

s'orraï noveles de la cort."

so-I-will-bear news of the court

Lors se porpense en son corage

Then himself be-bethinks in his heart

que il changera son langage.

that he will-change his language

Ysengrin garde cele part

Isengrim looks that way

et voit venir vers lui Renart.

and sees to-come toward him Reynard

Drece la poe, si se seigne

He-raises the paw so himself be-crosses

ancois que il a lui parveigne,

before that he to him arrive

plus de cent fois, si con je cuit:

more than a-hundred times so as I think

tel poor a, por poi ne fuit.

such fear be-has by little — be-flees

Qant ce out fet, puis si s'aresté

When this be-had done then so himself-be-stops

et dit que mes ne vit tel beste,

and says that more not be-saw such beast

d'estranges terres est venue.

from-strange lands it-is come

2335

2340

2345

- 2350 Ez vos Renart qui le salue:
Behold you Reynard who him greets
 “Godehelpe” fait il, “bel sire!
God-help says he fair lord
 Non saver point ton reson dire.”
Not to-know at-all thy speech to-say
 “Et dex saut vos, bau dous amis!
And God save you fair sweet friend
 Dont estes vos? de quel país?
Whence are you of what country
- 2355 Vos n'estes mie nes de France
You are-not at-all born of France
 ne de la nostre connoissance.”
nor of the our acquaintance
 “Nai, mi signor, mais de Bretaing.
Nay my lord but of Brittany
 Moi fot perdez tot mon gaaing
Me be lost all my winning
 et fot cerchier por ma compaing,
and do to-seek for my companion
- 2360 non fot mes trover qui m'enseing.
not do but to-find who me-direct
 Trestot France et tot Engleter
All France and all England
 l'ai cerchiez por mon compaing qer.
it-I-have searched for my companion to-seek
 Demorez moi tant cest païs
Tarried me so-much this country
 que j'avoir trestot France pris.
that I-to-have all France taken

Or moi volez torner arier,

2365

Now me you-wish to-turn back

non saver mes ou moi le quier.

not to-know but where me it seek

Mes torner moi Paris ancois

But to-turn me Paris before

que j'aver tot apris francois."

that I-to-have all learned French

"Et savez vos neisun mestier?"

And know you any trade

"Ya, ge fot molt bon jogler.

2370

Yea I be very good minstrel

Mes je fot ier rober, batuz

But I be yesterday robbed beaten

et mon viel fot moi toluz.

and my fiddle be from-me taken

Se moi fot aver un viel,

If me do to-have a fiddle

fot moi diser bon rotruel,

do me to-say good rotrouenge

et un bel lai et un bel son

2375

and a fair lay and a fair air

por toi qui fu sembles prodrom.

for thee who do seem worthy-man

Ne fot mangie deus jors enters,

Not be eaten two days entire

or si mangera volenters."

now so I-will-eat willingly

"Comment as non?" dist Ysengrin.

How hast-thou name said Isengrim

- 2380 "Moi fot aver non Galopin.
Me do to-have name Galopin
 Et vos, comment, sir bel prodrom?"
And you how sir fair worthy-man
 "Frere, Ysengrin m'apele l'on."
Brother Isengrim me-calls one
 "Et fot vos nez en cest contre?"
And be you born in this country
 "Oil, g'i ai meint jor este."
Yes I-there have many-a day been
- 2385 "Et saver tu del roi novel?"
And to-know thou of-the king new
 "Por qoi?" "Tu n'as point de viel?"
For what Thou not-hast a-whit of fiddle
 Je fot servir molt volenter
I do to-serve very willingly
 tote la gent de ma mester.
all the folk of my trade
 Ge fot savoir bon lai Breton
I do to-know good lay Breton
- 2390 et de Merlin et de Noton,
both of Merlin and of Noton
 del roi Artu et de Tristan,
of-the king Arthur and of Tristan
 del chevrefoil, de saint Brandan."
of-the boney-suckle of saint Brendan
 "Et ses tu le lai dam Iset?"
And knowest thou the lay (of-)lady Iseult
 "Ya, ya: goditoët,
Yea yea God-knows-it

ge fot saver" fet il "trestoz."

2395

I do to-know says he all

Dist Ysengrin "tu es molt prous

Said Isengrim thou art very worthy

et si ses molt, si con je croi.

and so thou-knowest much so as I believe

Mes foi que doiz Artu lo roi,

But faith that thou-owest (to-)Arthur the king

se tu veïs, se dex te gart,

if thou sawest so God thee keep

un ros garcon de pute part,

2400

a red fellow of foul sort

un losenger, un traïtor

a flatterer a traitor

qui envers nullui n'ot amor,

who toward anyone not-had love

qui tot decoit et tot engigne?

who all deceives and all tricks

Damledex doinst q'as poinz le tiegne!

lord-God grant that-in-the hands him I-hold

Avanter escapa lo roi

2405

The-day-before-yesterday he-escaped the king

par son engin, par son bofoi,

by his device by his impudence

qui pris l'avoit por la roïne

who taken him-had for the queen

que devant lui tenoit sovine,

whom before him he-held supine

et por autres forpez asez

and for other misdeeds plenty

2410 dont onc ne pot estre lassez.

of-which ever not he-could to-be weary

Tant m'a forfet que je voldroie

So-much to-me-has done-wrong that I would-wish

que il tornast a male voie.

that he turned to evil way

Se gel pooie as poinz tenir,

If I-him could in-the hands to-hold

molt tost le convendroit morir:

very soon him it-would-behoove to-die

2415 li rois m'en a done congie,

the king to-me-thereof has given leave

bien conmande et otroie.”

well commanded and granted

Reynard the Jongleur

Still in his jargon, Reynard asks the name of Isengrim's enemy and guesses at Asnon, which delights the wolf. Isengrim then names Reynard, curses him, and offers to bring the stranger to court; Reynard asks only for a fiddle. The wolf knows of one at a villein's house, climbs in through the window by night and hands it out. Reynard tips the propping stick so the shutter falls and shuts him in. The household wakes, the mastiff has Isengrim by the testicles, and he is gelded before he escapes over the villein he flattens in the mire.

Renart tenoit le chef enclin.

Reynard held the head bowed

“Par foi” fet il, “dant Ysengrin,

By faith says he sir Isengrim

malves lecher, fot il devez?

wicked rogue be he mad

Comment fot il a non pelez?

How be he for name called

Dites nos comment il a non,

Tell us how he has name

fot il donques pelez Asnon?”

be he then called Asnon

Ysengrin rist, quant il ce ot,

Isengrim laughed when he this heard

et por le non d'Asnon s'esjot,

and for the name of-Asnon himself-rejoiced

molt l'amast mels que nul avoir.

much it-he-liked better than any wealth

“Volez” fait il “son non savoir?”

Wish-you says he his name to-know

2420

2425

“Oïl: comment fut il pelez?”

Yes how be he called

“Renart a non li desfæez.

Reynard has name the accursed

Toz nos decoit, toz nos engigne,

All us be-deceives all us be-tricks

2430 dex doinst que ge as poinz le tiegne!

God grant that I in-the hands him hold

De lui seroit la terre quite.

Of him would-be the land quit

Sa part en seroit molt petite.”

His share thereof would-be very small

“Toz fot il malement tornez,

All be he evilly turned

se tu le foz aver trovez.

if thou him dost to-have found

2435 Foi que devez le seint martir

Faith that you-owe (to-)the holy martyr

et seint Tomas de Cantorbir,

and saint Thomas of Canterbury

ne por tot l’or que dex aver

nor for all the-gold that God to-have

ne fot voloir moi lui sambler.”

not do to-wish me him to-resemble

“Vos aves droit” dist Ysengrin.

You have right said Isengrim

2440 “Ne vos gariroit Apollin,

Not you would-save Apollo

ne tot li ors qui soit en terre,

nor all the gold which be on earth

que james nos moüssies gerre.

that ever to-us you-might-stir war

Mes or me di, baus doz amis,

But now to-me say fair sweet friend

del mestier dont t'es entremis,

of-the trade whereof thou-art busied

ses en tu tant servir a cort,

knowest thereof thou so-much to-serve at court

que nul jogleres ne t'en tort,

that any minstrel not thee-thereof turn

et que n'en soies entrepris

and that not-thereof thou-be hemmed-in

par nul qui soit en cest país?"

by any who be in this country

"Par mon segnor seint Jursalen,

By my lord saint Jerusalem

ne fot itel troves oan."

not be such found this-year

"Donques t'en ven avoques moi

Then thyself-thence come with me

et je t'acointerai au roi

and I thee-will-make-known to-the king

et a ma dame la roïne

and to my lady the queen

qui tant par est gente meschine,

who so much is noble maiden

et je te voi et bel et gent,

and I thee see both fair and comely

si t'acointerai a la gent.

so thee-I-will-make-known to the folk

2445

2450

2455

Et se tu vels a cort venir,

And if thou wishest to court to-come

ge te ferai bien retenir.”

I thee will-make well to-be-retained

“Fotre merci” dist Galopins.

Your mercy said Galopin

2460 “Je fot saver molt bons chopins,

I do to-know very good songs [?]

si fot saver bon lecheri

so do to-know good ribaldry

dont je fot molt a cort cheri.

whereof I be much at court cherished

Se pot aver moi un viel,

If it-can to-have me a fiddle

fot moi diser bon rotruel,

do me to-say good rotrouenge

2465 et fot un vers dit de chancon

and do a verse said of song

por toi qui fot sembler prodorm.”

for thee who do to-seem worthy-man

Dist Ysengrin “sez que tu fai?

Said Isengrim knowest-thou what thou doest

Vien t'ent, une vile sai

Come thyself-hence a fiddle I-know

ches un vilein, que tote nuit

at a villein's where all night

2470 i asenblent si voisin tuit.

there gather his neighbors all

A ses enfanz en fet grant joie,

To his children thereof he-makes great joy

n'est gueres nuiz que je ne l'oie.

not-is much night that I not it-hear

Par la foi que je doi seint Pere,

By the faith that I owe (to-)saint Peter

la viele est et bone et chere.

the fiddle is both good and costly

Se tu vieniz avoc moi a cort,

If thou comest with me to court

tu l'auras a quoi que il tort."

thou it-wilt-have at whatever that it turn

Atant se metent a la voie.

Thereupon themselves they-put on the way

Andui s'en vont et font grant joie.

Both-two themselves-thence go and make great joy

Dant Ysengrin ases li conte

Sir Isengrim much to-him tells

comment Renart li a fet honte.

how Reynard to-him has done shame

Asez li conte en son francois:

Much to-him he-tells in his French

Renart li respont en englois.

Reynard to-him answers in English

Tant sont ale qu'il sont venu

So-much they-are gone that-they are come

tries la meson a un rendu,

behind the house of a lay-brother

droit la u Ysengrin savoit

straight there where Isengrim knew

celui qui la viele avoit.

him who the fiddle had

2475

2480

2485

Dedenz le cortil au vilein

Within the garden of-the villein

s'en entrerent andui a plein.

themselves-thence entered both-two at full

Le vilein ont molt redote,

The villein they-have much dreaded

2490 lez le paroi sont acoute.

beside the wall they-are crouched

Il vont escoutant tote nuit

They go listening all night

con li vileins fet son deduit.

how the villein makes his sport

Quant li dormirs le va matant,

When the sleeping him goes overcoming

chocier s'en va de maintenant.

to-lie-down himself-thence he-goes from at-once

2495 Ysengrin a drece l'oreille,

Isengrim has raised the-ear

puis si regarde et oreille:

then so he-looks and listens

q'en la paroi un trou avoit,

for-in the wall a hole there-was

plus a d'un an qu'il l'i savoit,

more is of-a year that-he it-there knew

et par une ais qui ert fendue

and by a plank which was split

2500 vit la viele au clou pendue.

he-saw the fiddle on-the nail hung

Soufflent et ronflent molt forment

They-blow and snore very loudly

tant que il se vont endormant.

until that they themselves go falling-asleep

Un grant mastins gist lez le feu,

A great mastiff lies beside the fire

delez la couce ot fet son leu,

beside the bed he-had made his lair

par un petit au fou ne touce.

by a little at-the fire — he-touches

Mes li essombres de la couce

But the shadow of the bed

nel laissa veoir Ysengrin.

not-him let to-see (to-)Isengrim

“Frere” fet il a Galopin,

Brother says he to Galopin

“atent moi ci, g’irai veoir

await me here I-will-go to-see

comment je la porrai avoir.”

how I it shall-be-able to-have

“Tot fot moi sol” ce dit Renart.

All be me alone that says Reynard

“Conment, es tu donc si coart?”

How art thou then so cowardly

“Coarz? nai voir, mes g’ai poor

Coward nay truly but I-have fear

par ci ne soit par cest contor.

by here — be by this corner

Se moi fot sol, ja fot portez,

If me be alone already be carried-off

2505

2510

2515

por ce fot moi desconfortez.”

for this be me discomforted

Ysengrin l'ot et si s'en rist,

Isengrim it-heard and so himself-thereat laughed

ses cuers forment li atendrist,

his heart greatly to-him softens

et si li dist “en deu amor

and so to-him said in God's love

2520 onc ne vi hardi jugleor,

ever not I-saw bold minstrel

hardi prestre, ne sage fame.

bold priest nor wise woman

Qant ele plus a, plus forsane:

When she more has more she-rages

et quant ele a ce qu'ele velt,

and when she has that which-she wishes

lors quiert ce dont ele se delt.”

then she-seeks that whereof she herself grieves

2525 Ce dist Renart qui ainc n'ot loi,

This said Reynard who ever not-bad law

“Dant Ysengrin, en moie foi,

Sir Isengrim by my faith

se fot ici celui Renart,

if be here that Reynard

ja fot il toz pendus a hart.”

already be he all hanged on halter

“Leissiez ester” dist Ysengrin,

Let to-be said Isengrim

2530 que je sai bien toz les chemins.

for I know well all the ways

Mes or te sie ici a terre

But now thee sit here on ground

et g'irai la viele querre."

and I-will-go the fiddle to-see

Lors s'en vient droit a la fenestre

Then himself-thence he-comes straight to the window

conme cil qui savoit bien l'estre.

like he who knew well the-place

Apoie fu d'une courre,

2535

Propped it-was with-a pole

la nuit fu obliece a clore.

the night it-was forgotten to shut

Ysengrin fu montez en haut,

Isengrim was climbed on high

par la fenestre laiens saut.

by the window within he-leaps

La droit ou la viele pent

There straight where the fiddle hangs

s'en va tot droit, si la despent,

2540

himself-thence he-goes all straight so it he-takes-down

si l'a son compaignon tendue,

so it-be-has (to-)his companion held-out

et cil l'a a son col pendue.

and he it-has at his neck hung

Renart se pense qu'il fera,

Reynard himself bethinks what he-will-do

comment il le conchiera.

how he him will-befoul

"Ja bien" fet Renart "ne m'aviengne,

2545

Ever well says Reynard not to-me-befall

se nel conchi, comment qu'il prengne."

if not-him I-befoul however that-it take

A la fenestre droit en vient

To the window straight thence he-comes

au bastonnet qui la sostient.

to-the little-stick which it holds-up

Le baston cline et ele clot,

The stick he-tips and it shuts

2550 et Ysengrin laiens encloz.

and Isengrim within shuts-in

Quida, close fust par lui sole.

He-thought closed it-was by it alone

Lors a grant poür de sa gole.

Then he-has great fear for his throat

Au saut q'a la fenestre fist,

At-the leap that-at the window he-made

et a la noise s'esbahist

and at the noise himself-is-startled

2555 li vileins qui ert endormiz.

the villein who was asleep

Sailli en piez toz estordiz,

He-leapt on feet all dazed

sa feme escrie et ses enfanz:

his wife he-cries-to and his children

"Or sus! il a larons caienz."

Now up there are thieves in-here

Li vileins saut, c'est sa costume,

The villein leaps that-is his custom

2560 au feu en vient et si l'alume.

to-the fire thence he-comes and so it-be-lights

Quant Ysengrin le voit lever,

When Isengrim him sees to-rise

voit qu'il velt le feu alumer,

he-sees that-he wishes the fire to-light

un petitet se tret arere,

a little-bit himself he-draws back

par les naches le prent deriere.

by the buttocks him he-takes behind

Li vileins a jete un cri.

The villein has thrown a cry

Li mastins l'a sempres oï:

The mastiff him-has at-once heard

Ysengrin prent parmi la coille,

Isengrim he-takes through the testicle

enpoint et tire et sache et roille,

he-shoves and pulls and tugs and worries

trestot esrache quenqu'il prent.

all he-tears-away whatever-he takes

Et Ysengrin molt bien se prent

And Isengrim very well himself takes

deriere as naches au vilein.

behind by-the buttocks of-the villein

Mes de ce avoit le cuer vein,

But from this he-had the heart faint

et sa dolor li engregnoit,

and his pain to-him grew

qar li chens ses coilles tenoit.

for the dog his testicles held

2565

2570

2575 Tant se sont laiens travellie

So-much themselves they-have in-there labored

que Ysengrin ont escoille.

that Isengrim they-have gelded

Li vileins crie ses voisins

The villain cries-to his neighbors

et ses parens et ces cosins:

and his kinsmen and his cousins

“Aidez, por deu l’esperitable!

Help for God the-spiritual

2580 Caienz conversent li deable.”

In-here dwell the devils

Quant Ysengrin vit l’uis overt,

When Isengrim saw the-door open

et li vilein felun cuvert

and the villeins felon base

a cuinnies et a macues

with axes and with clubs

vienent corant parmi les rues,

come running through the streets

2585 entre la porte et le vilein

between the gate and the villain

fet Ysengrin un saut a plein.

makes Isengrim a leap at full

Si fort le horte qu’il l’abat

So hard him he-butts that-he him-fells

en une fange trestot plat.

into a mire all flat

Des quatre pies fiert a la terre,

With-the four feet he-strikes at the ground

ne set son compaignon ou querre.

2590

not he-knows his companion where to-see

Por les vileins s'en vet fuiant,

For the villeins himself-thence he-goes fleeing

et cil le vont apres huiant.

and they him go after booting

Le vilein trovent en la boe

The villein they-find in the mud

grant et parfonde qu'il i noe.

great and deep that-be there swims

Fors l'en ont tret a molt grant peine,

2595

Out him-thereof they-have drawn with very great pains

d'un mois ne fu sa plaie seine.

of-a month not was his wound whole

Hersent Leaves, and the Wedding at Malpertuis

Isengrim comes home maimed and will not lie with his wife; Hersent finds out what he has lost, is told it is lent to a nun, and leaves him at dawn. Reynard, meanwhile, has learned the fiddle, and finds his own wife about to marry Poncet, Grimbert's cousin, on the news that Reynard has been hanged. Unrecognized in his English, he is hired as the minstrel. The beasts gather at Malpertuis for the feast, Hersent among them, and he sings to them.

Ysengrin pas ne s'asoüre,

Isengrim at-all not himself-assures

fuiant s'en vet grant aleüre.

fleeing himself-thence he-goes at-great speed

N'avoit cure de sojourner,

Not-be-had care of to-tarry

2600 ancois commence a galoper.

rather he-begins to gallop

El bois se met par une sente.

In-the wood himself he-puts by a path

Molt est dolenz, molt se demente

Much he-is grieving much himself he-laments

por che qu'il a perdu la chose,

for this that-he has lost the thing

mes a nului parler n'en ose.

but to anyone to-speak not-thereof he-dares

2605 Car se sa feme le savoit,

For if his wife it knew

james de lui cure n'auroit.

ever of him care not-she-would-have

Et neporqant va s'ent grant oire,

And nevertheless he-goes himself-thence great journey

or ne se set mes en cui croire.

now not himself he-knows more in whom to-trust

Tant va et vient danz Ysengrins

So-much goes and comes sir Isengrim

2610 sentiers et voies et chemins:

paths and ways and roads

ulle et garmente en son langage,

he-bowls and laments in his language

par un petit que il n'enrage.

by a little that he goes-mad

Tant fet qu'il vient en sa lovere.

So-much he-does that-he comes into his wolf-den

Par l'uis s'en entre par deriere,

By the-door himself-thence he-enters from behind

sa mainie trove laienz.

2615

his household he-finds in-there

“Dex soit” fait il “o vos caienz!”

God he says he with you in-here

Ne parla gueres hautement,

Not he-spoke much loudly

mes soavet. Dame Hersent

but softly Lady Hersent

qui durement estoit aese,

who greatly was at-ease

au col li saut, sovent le bese.

2620

at-the neck to-him she-leaps often him she-kisses

Et si fil saillent, si l’acolent,

And his sons leap so him-embrace

juent et gabent et parolent.

they-play and jest and talk

Mes s’il seüssent tot l’afere,

But if-they knew all the-business

autre joie doüisent fere.

other joy they-ought to-make

Quant ont mangie a grant loisir,

2625

When they-have eaten at great leisure

si parolent d’aler jesir:

so they-talk of-to-go to-lie

et lors i ot molt, ce sachez,

and then there was much this know

parle ainz que il fust coche.

spoken before that he was gone-to-bed

Molt grant piece s’i arestut.

Very great while himself-there he-stayed

- 2630 Mes neporoc cocher l'estut:
But nevertheless to-lie-down him-it-behooved
 Hersent l'achole, si l'enbrache,
Hersent him-embraces so him-clasps
 et lez lui se jut fache a face.
and beside him herself lay face to face
 Et cil commence a reüser
And he begins to draw-back
 et durement a reculer.
and hard to give-ground
- 2635 Mes ne li vault, si con je quit.
But not to-him it-avails so as I think
 Encore ora tel chose anuit
Still he-will-hear such thing tonight
 dont il n'öüst ja nule envie,
whereof he not-would-have ever any desire
 qu'il n'avoit cure de sa vie.
for-he not-had care of his life
 Hersent l'achole et cil se tret
Hersent him-embraces and he himself draws
- 2640 en sus, n'a soing de son atret.
in back not-he-has care of her advance
 "Et qu'est or ce" fet ele, "sire?
And what-is now this says she lord
 Avez me vos coilli en ire?"
Have me you taken in anger
 "Dame" fet il, "et que volez?"
Lady says he and what wish-you
 "Si faites ce que vos solez."
So do that which you are-wont

“Ge n'en sui mie ore aiesiez,

2645

I not-thereof am at-all now at-ease

mes desormes vos en tesiez.”

but henceforth you thereof be-silent

Fet Hersent “je ne m'en puis tere,

Says Hersent I not myself-thereof can to-be-silent

ainz vos covient la cose fere.”

rather to-you it-behooves the thing to-do

“Que ferai, va?” “Que te covient,

What shall-I-do go What thee behooves

ce qu'a totes femes avient.”

2650

that which-to all women befalls

“Taisiez” fait il: “n'en ferai mie.

Be-silent says he not-thereof I-will-do at-all

Or doussiez estre endormie

Now you-ought to-be asleep

et avoir dit vo patrenostre,

and to-have said your paternoster

que vigile est d'un seint apostre.”

for vigil it-is of-a holy apostle

“Sire” fet ele, “par seint Gile,

2655

Lord says she by saint Giles

ja n'i aura mester vigile.

ever not-there will-have use vigil

Se vos volez m'amor avoir,

If you wish my-love to-have

fetes en tost vostre pooir.”

do thereof quickly your power

Dame Hersent forment le haste,

Lady Hersent greatly him presses

- 2660 il se trestorne, ele li taste
he himself turns-away she him feels
 iloc ou la coille soloit
there where the testicle was-wont
 estre par raison et par droit.
to-be by reason and by right
 N'i trova mie de l'andoille.
Not-there she-found at-all of the-sausage
 "Chetis" fet ele, "ou est ta coille,
Wretch says she where is thy testicle
 2665 qui ci endroit te soloit pendre?
which here in-this-place thee was-wont to-hang
 Tote la vos covient a rendre."
All it to-you it-behooves to render
 "Dame" fait il, "je l'ai preste."
Lady says he I it-have lent
 "A qui? "Une nonein velee,
To whom To-a nun veiled
 qui en son cortil me fist prendre.
who in her garden me made to-take
 2670 Mes bien la m'afia a rendre."
But well it to-me-she-pledged to render
 Hersent respont de maintenant
Hersent answers of at-once
 "Sire, ce n'est pas avenant.
Lord this not-is at-all fitting
 S'il i avoit trente fiances,
If-there there were thirty pledges
 dones pleges et aliances,
given sureties and covenants

si lairoit les pleges encorre.

2675

so she-would-let the sureties to-be-forcfeit

Alez tost, ne finiez de corre,

Go quickly not cease of to-run

et si dites a la nonein

and so say to the nun

qui fille est au conte Gilein,

who daughter is to-the count Gilein

que plus n'i demort n'i atende,

that more not-there she-delay not-there wait

mes tost vostre coille vos rende.

2680

but quickly your testicle to-you she-render

Qar s'une fois l'avoit sentie,

For if-a time it-she-had felt

tost en auroit sa foi mentie

soon thereof she-would-have her faith broken

ainz que james la vos rendist.

before that ever it to-you she-rendered

Si seroit drois qu'en vos pendist,

So it-would-be right that-one you hanged

quant baillie la li avez.

2685

since given it to-her you-have

Bien voi que gueres ne savez.

Well I-see that much not you-know

Molt m'avez morte et malbaillie,

Much me-you-have killed and ill-handled

quant une autre l'a en baillie.

since an other it-has in keeping

Mise m'avez en grant effroi,

Put me-you-have in great dismay

2690 **demein m'en clamerai au roi."**

tomorrow myself-thereof I-will-complain to-the king

"Pute vielle" dist Ysengrin,

Foul old-woman said Isengrim

"demein vos viengne mal matin!

tomorrow to-you come ill morning

Car vos taisiez, si vos dormez,

Now you be-silent so you sleep

et mal jor vos soit ajornez!

and evil day to-you be dawned

2695 **Gardes bien que n'en parles plus."**

Take-care well that not-thereof you-speak more

Atant Hersent del lit saut jus:

Thereupon Hersent from-the bed leaps down

"Filz a putein, meveis traïtres,

Son of whore wicked traitor

einsi n'en ires vos pas quites.

thus not-thereof will-go you at-all quit

Se ne m'estoit por un petit,

If not to-me-it-were for a little

2700 **ge vos traïroie fors del lit,**

I you would-draw out of-the bed

se dex me doinst demein veoir."

so God me grant tomorrow to-see

Atant s'en vait a l'uis seoir,

Thereupon herself-thence she-goes at the-door to-sit

molt fort commence a sopirer

very hard she-begins to sigh

et ses cevols a detirer.

and her hairs to tear

Ses dras deront, ses poinz detort,

Her clothes she-rends her hands she-wrings

plus de cent fois s'ore la mort.

more than a-hundred times for-herself-she-prays the death

“Que ferai mes, lasse chative!

What shall-I-do more wretched captive

Molt me poise que je sui vive,

Much me grieves that I am alive

q'or ai perdu tote ma joie

for-now I-have lost all my joy

et la rien que je plus amoie.

and the thing that I most loved

Onques n'oi mes si grant anui:

Ever not-I-had more so great trouble

q'a je mes a fere de lui?

what-have I more to do of him

Fole est qui delez lui se couche,

Mad is-she who beside him herself lies

qu'il ne valt mes ne q'une souche.

for-he not is-worth more — than-a stump

Je ne quier mes o lui cocher,

I not seek more with him to-lie

qu'en ne doit mes a lui toucher.

for-one not ought more to him to-touch

Puis qu'il ne puet la chose fere,

Since that-he not can the thing to-do

q'ai ge donques de lui a fere?

what-have I then of him to do

2705

2710

2715

Mais aille ermites devenir

But let-him-go hermit to-become

2720 et en un bois por deu servir:

and into a wood for God to-serve

qar bien sai qu'il est conchiez,

for well I-know that-he is befouled

quant de la coille est derochez."

since of the testicle he-is felled

A icest dol qu'ele demeine

At this grief that-she makes

del jor vit tote la cort pleine.

by day she-saw all the court full

2725 En la meson en est entree,

Into the house thereof she-is entered

au lit en vient tote devee.

to-the bed thence she-comes all frantic

"Or sus" fait ele, "danz vileins,

Now up says she sir villein

ales vos ent a vos puteins!

go you hence to your whores

Ne sai se fustes entrepris,

Not I-know if you-were hemmed-in

2730 mais bien en ont le gage pris.

but well thereof they-have the pledge taken

Einssi doit l'en mener celui

Thus ought one to-treat him

qui sa feme a et tient l'autrui."

who his wife has and holds another's

Ne set li lox un mot respondre,

Not knows the wolf a word to-answer

ne contre lui n'en ose groindre.

nor against her not-thereof he-dares to-growl

Dame Hersent est noble et fiere,

2735

Lady Hersent is noble and proud

et toz jorz a este legere,

and all days has been light

cointe et pleine de grant orgoil.

dainty and full of great pride

Des quatre piez feri el soil

With-the four feet she-struck on-the threshold

et a torne le cul au vant.

and has turned the rump to-the wind

“A deu” fet ele “vos conmant.”

2740

To God says she you I-commend

Drece sa poe, si se seigne.

She-raises her paw so herself she-crosses

Vet s'ent, comment que li plez pregne.

She-goes herself-thence however that the suit take

Or vos dirai de l'autre part

Now to-you I-will-tell of the-other side

de la mesnie dan Renart,

of the household (of-)sir Reynard

con il s'en va par le boschage.

2745

how he himself-thence goes through the woodland

Ysengrin a lessie en gage.

Isengrim he-has left in pledge

Por la viele qu'il enporte

For the fiddle that-he carries-off

molt s'esbaudist, molt se conforte.

much himself-be-rejoices much himself be-comforts

Va s'ent a tote sa viele,

He-goes himself-thence with all his fiddle

2750 d'Ysengrin n'oi puis novele.

of-Isengrim not-he-heard afterward news

Tant fist Renart qu'en quinze dis

So-much did Reynard that-in fifteen days

fu si de la viele apris:

he-was so in the fiddle taught

sages en fu et escoles.

skilled thereof he-was and schooled

Onc ne fu tex baraz trovez.

Ever not was such trickery found

2755 Einsi s'en va par la contree

Thus himself-thence he-goes through the country

tant qu'il ot sa feme trovee,

until that-he had his wife found

qui o lui meine un jovencel

who with her leads a young-man

que prendre voloit de novel:

whom to-take she-wished of new

cosin Grinbert le tesson fu.

cousin (of-)Grimbert the badger he-was

2760 Quant il le vit, s'est arestu:

When he them saw himself-he-is stopped

sachez bien les a conneüs,

know well them he-has recognized

tantost con il les a veüs.

at-once as he them has seen

Ja oüst Poncet espuse,

Already she-would-have Poncet espoused

s'il oüst jogleür trove.

if-she had minstrel found

Mes ele pas tort n'en avoit:

But she at-all wrong not-thereof had

tuit disoient que mors estoit.

all said that dead he-was

Tybert lor dist, se dex le saut,

Tibert to-them said so God him save

que Renart vit lever en haut

that Reynard he-saw to-be-raised on high

as forches, et si le vit pendre,

to-the gallows and so him he-saw to-hang

(ce lor a fet Tybert entendre)

this to-them has made Tibert to-understand

a unes forches granz et hautes,

at a gallows great and high

trers le dos liees les pates.

behind the back bound the paws

“Il resenblot trop bien Renart,

He resembled exceedingly well Reynard

ge le vi pendre à une hart.”

I him saw to-hang on a balter

La dame lor respont brement

The lady to-them answers briefly

“Je ne vos en mescroi noient.

I not you thereof disbelieve at-all

2765

2770

2775

Qar je sai qu'il avoit tant fet

For I know that-he had so-much done

vers son seignor de maveis plet,

against his lord of wicked suit

s'un des barons le poïst prendre,

if-one of-the barons him could to-take

2780 que maintenant le feïst pendre."

that at-once him he-would-have hanged

N'i ot plus tenu parlement,

Not-there was more held parley

beisier se vont estroitement.

to-kiss themselves they-go closely

Renart ne se pot plus tenir,

Reynard not himself could more to-hold

ainz a fet un molt grant sopir.

rather he-has made a very great sigh

2785 A Poncet dist entre ses denz

To Poncet he-said between his teeth

"Tu en seras encor dolenz."

Thou thereof wilt-be still grieving

Grant tens avoit que cil l'amoit,

Great time there-was that he her-loved

mais dant Renart ne le savoit.

but sir Reynard not it knew

Ainme s'estoient molt lonc tens,

Loved themselves-they-had very long time

2790 Renart le saura tot a tens.

Reynard it will-know all in time

Autretel font, ce m'est avis,

Just-the-same do this to-me-is opinion

tex dames a en cest païs.

such ladies there-are in this country

La dame son novel segnor

The lady her new lord

bese et acole par amor.

kisses and embraces with love

Renart voient vers els venir

Reynard they-see toward them to-come

et la viele au col tenir:

and the fiddle at-the neck to-hold

molt furent lie, pas nel connurent,

much they-were glad at-all not-him they-recognized

salue l'ont si con il durent.

greeted him-they-have so as they ought

“Qui estes vos” font il, “bel frere?”

Who are you say they fair brother

“Sire, ge fot un bon juglere,

Lord I be a good minstrel

et saver moi molt bon chancon

and to-know me very good song

que je fot pris à Besencon.

that I be taken at Besançon

Encor molt de bons lais saurai,

Still many of good lays I-will-know

nul plus cortois jogler n'aurai.

any more courteous minstrel not-I-shall-have

Ge fot molt bon jogler à toz,

I be very good minstrel to all

bien sai dir et chanter bons moz.

well I-know to-say and to-sing good words

2795

2800

2805

Par foi mon segnor seint Colas,

By faith my lord saint Nicholas

bien fot sembler que tu l'amas,

well do to-seem that thou her-lovedst

et li senbler bien toi amer.

and she to-seem well thee to-love

2810 Et ou voler tu si aler?"

And where to-wish thou so to-go

Lors dist Poncet "au deu plesir

Then said Poncet at-the God's pleasure

nos alomes la messe oïr.

we go the mass to-hear

Tuit alomes vers le moster,

All we-go toward the minster

ceste dame voil nocoier.

this lady I-wish to-wed

2815 Ses sire est mors novelement:

Her lord is dead newly

mes li rois le haoit forment.

but the king him hated greatly

Meinte foiz l'a pris a forfet,

Many-a time him-be-has taken at wrongdoing

or a de lui son plesir fet.

now be-has of him his pleasure done

Renart ot non li engignerres.

Reynard had name the trickster

2820 Fel fu traïtres et boisières,

Felon be-was traitor and deceiveer

meinte traïson avoit fete:

many-a treason be-had done

en haut en a sa goule trete.

on high thereof he-has his throat drawn

Trois fil en sont remes molt bel

Three sons thereof are left very fair

qui sont molt cointe damoisel:

who are very dainty young-lords

lor pere quident bien venger

their father they-think well to-avenge

ainz que l'en doive vendenger.

before that one must to-gather-vintage

Moü sont ja por querre aïe

Set-out they-are already for to-seek help

a ma dame Once la haïe.

to my lady Once the hated

Tot li secles est en sa mein,

All the world is in her hand

et tuit li mont et bois et plein.

and all the mountains and woods and plains

Il n'en a beste jusq'as porz,

There not-thereof is beast as-far-as-the passes

tant soit hardie ne si forz,

however be bold nor so strong

ors, chien ne lou ne autre beste,

bear dog nor wolf nor other beast

qui vers lui ost torner la teste.

who toward her dare to-turn the head

Por soudees i vont li frere.

For wages there go the brothers

Quunque il ont, lessent lor mere,

Whatever they have they-leave (to-)their mother

2825

2830

2835

qui molt par est cortoise dame.

who very much is courteous lady

Ge la prendrai par tens a feme.

I her will-take in time as wife

Einsi est la chose atornee,

Thus is the thing arranged

2840 q'ainz demein nuit l'aurai juree."

that-before tomorrow night her-I-shall-have sworn

Renart respont entre ses denz

Reynard answers between his teeth

"Tu en seras encor dolenz,

Thou thereof wilt-be still grieving

encor en charras en tel briche,

still thereof thou-wilt-fall into such trap

nel voudroies por une fliche."

not-it thou-wouldst-wish for a flitch

2845 "Certes, sire" ce dist Poincaz,

Certainly lord that said Poncet

qui molt estoit cortois et baux,

who very was courteous and fair

"Se vos voles as noces estre,

If you wish at-the wedding to-be

dont ne nos faut mes que le prestre.

then not to-us lacks more than the priest

Ge vos donrai del nostre asez,

I to-you will-give of-the ours plenty

2850 quant cist aferes iert pasez."

when this business will-be past

"Fotre merci" dist il, "bel sir,

Thanks mercy said he fair lord

moi saura fer tot ton plesir.

me shall-know to-do all thy pleasure

Moi saver bon chancon d'Ogier,

Me to-know good song of-Ogier

et d'Olivant et de Rollier

and of-Olipbant and of Rollier

et de Charlon le char chanu".

and of Charles the face hoary

"Dont vos est il bien avenu".

Then to-you is it well befallen

Entre ses denz dist li maufez

Between his teeth said the devil

"Et vos estes mal asenez."

And you are ill provided

Atant se metent a la voie,

Thereupon themselves they-put on the way

Renart viele et fet grant joie,

Reynard fiddles and makes great joy

tant qu'il vindrent a la tesnere

until that-they came to the den

qui molt estoit large et plenere.

which very was wide and spacious

Quant Renart vit adesertir

When Reynard saw to-be-laid-waste

son castel gaste et enhermir,

his castle ravaged and made-desert

il n'en velt fere autre senblant.

he not-thereof wishes to-make other show

Ja soit ce qu'il se voist joant,

Though be it that-be himself go playing

2855

2860

2865

en son cuer pense, se il vit,

in his heart he-thinks if he lives

tex en plorra qui or en rit.

such-a-one thereof will-weep who now thereof laughs

Par le país et par la terre

Through the country and through the land

2870 envoia cil ses amis querre:

sent he his friends to-seek

tant veïssiez bestes venir

so-many you-might-have-seen beasts to-come

nus n'en poïst conte tenir.

anyone not-thereof could count to-keep

De molt long s'i asenblent tuit,

From very far themselves-there gather all

par la vile meinent grant bruit.

through the village they-make great noise

2875 Dame Hersent i est venue.

Lady Hersent there is come

Ysengrin est remeis en mue:

Isengrim is left in mew

novelement laissie l'avoit

newly left him-she-had

por ce que maengniez estoit,

for this that maimed he-was

et jure seinte Pentecoste

and she-swears holy Pentecost

2880 ga ne girra mes a sa coste.

that-ever not she-will-lie more at his side

Q'a on a fere d'ome en chanbres

What-has one to do of-a-man in chambers

puis que il n'a trestoz ses membres?

since that he not-has all his members

Mes voist aillors, si se porcast.

But let-him-go elsewhere so himself let-him-shift

Drois est que tos li mons le chast.

Right it-is that all the world him chase

Por ce s'en est de lui tornee.

For this herself-thence she-is from him turned

As noces vint bien atornee,

To-the wedding she-came well arrayed

et des autres i ot grant flote,

and of-the others there was great throng

et Renart lor chante une note.

and Reynard to-them sings a tune

A grant joie les noces firent,

With great joy the wedding they-made

Tybers li chaz et Brun servirent.

Tibert the cat and Bruin served

Totes sont pleines les cuisines

All are full the kitchens

et de capons et de jelines:

both with capons and with hens

d'autres vitailles i avoit

of-other victuals there were

selonc ce que chascun voloit.

according-to that which each wished

Et li jugleres lor chantoit,

And the minstrel to-them sang

2885

2890

2895

a chascun d'els forment plesoit.

to each of-them greatly it-pleased

Onc n'oï on si grant janglois

Ever not-beard one so great jangling

con il demeine en son englois.

as he makes in his English

The Two Wives

Reynard sends the bridegroom to keep vigil at Copee's tomb, shoves him into the snares he had set there, and jeers at him until a villein and four dogs kill him. He beats his wife Hermeline with a staff, rounds on Hersent, and puts them both out of the house; the two she-beasts, each taunting the other with her adulteries, fight until a passing pilgrim parts them and sends each back to her husband. Reynard settles at home with Hermeline, and the branch of Reynard the dyer ends.

Apres mangier savez que firent?

After to-eat know-you what they-did

2900 Hastivement se departirent,

Hastily themselves they-parted

qu'il n'i remeist ne bons ne max

that-there not-there remained neither good nor bad

fors ouls, ne chevelox ne caux:

save them neither hairy nor bald

chascun s'en va a son repere.

each himself-thence goes to his lair

Renart remest son mester fere.

Reynard remained his trade to-do

Dame Hersens s'en est entree

2905

Lady Hersent herself-thence is entered

dedenz la chambre a l'esposee,

within the chamber to the-bride

et a Poncet a fet son lit

and for Poncet has made his bed

ou quide fere son delit.

where he-thinks to-make his delight

A une liue d'iloc ot,

At a league from-there there-was

si que Renart molt bien le sot,

2910

so that Reynard very well it knew

une tombe d'une martire

a tomb of-a martyr

dont vos avez bien oï dire:

of-which you have well heard to-tell

de Coupee qui la gisoit.

of Copee who there lay

Trestoz li mondes le disoit

All the world it said

qu'ele fesoit apertement

2915

that-she did openly

vertus a toz cumunalment.

miracles for all commonly

Nus homs n'i vient, tant soit enfers,

Any man not-there comes however be sick

ou soit moignes, ou lais ou clers,

whether be monk or lay or clerk

de tot le mal que il oüst

of all the ill that he had

2920 que maintenant gariz ne fust.

that at-once healed not he-was

Renars i fu, si ot veüz

Reynard there was so he-had seen

le jor devant deus laz tenduz

the day before two snares stretched

et un braion en terre enclox.

and a gin in ground shut

Bien le ferma a quatre clox

Well it he-fastened with four nails

2925 q'a un vilein avoit emble.

which-from a villain he-had stolen

Iloc l'ot repost et ente,

There it-be-had hidden and planted

bien sot qu'il en auroit a fere,

well he-knew that-he thereof would-have to do

gar il savoit de meint afere.

for he knew of many-a business

Quant Poncet dut aler gesir,

When Poncet was-to to-go to-lie

2930 si l'a fet devant lui venir,

so him-he-has made before him to-come

et si li dist en son langage

and so to-him said in his language

“Sire Boucez, fez tu que sage:

Lord Boucet doest thou as wise

se tu creez que je dira,

if thou believest that I shall-say

merveille fu qui te vendra,

marvel it-was which thee will-come

et bien saver que je voil dir.

and well to-know what I wish to-say

Lasus giser un seint martir,

Up-there to-lie a holy martyr

por lui faser dex tant vertuz:

for her does God so-many miracles

se tu voler aler piez nuz

if thou to-wish to-go feet bare

et port un candoil en ton mein,

and carry a candle in thy hand

et tu veillier anuit a mein,

and thou to-watch tonight till morning

et tu vus ton candoil lumer,

and thou wilt thy candle to-light

tu fus demein un fil gendrer.”

thou wast tomorrow a son to-beget

Ce dist Poncez “molt volonters”.

This said Poncet very willingly

Atant se metent es senters:

Thereupon themselves they-put on-the paths

en sa mein porte une candoille

in his hand he-carries a candle

qui si art cler con une estoille.

which so burns bright as a star

Desoz un pin en un moncel

Beneath a pine on a hillock

illoc troverent le tombel.

there they-found the tomb

2935

2940

2945

Renart s'estut, cil passe avant:

Reynard himself-stood he passes forward

2950 "Basse, Bousez, dex t'en avant!"

Stoop Bousez God thee-thereof advance

Cil vait avant, si se redote,

He goes forward so himself he-dreads

Renart le vit, avant le bote.

Reynard him saw forward him he-shoves

Tant fort l'enpeint qu'il ciet es laz

So hard him-he-thrusts that-he falls into-the snares

parmi le col et l'un des braz.

through the neck and the-one of-the arms

2955 Il est choüs ens el braion

He is fallen within into-the gin

qui cevelliez fu el raion.

which fixed was in-the furrow

Il tire fort et li braz froisse.

He pulls hard and the arm cracks

Li laz li refet grant angoisse:

The snare to-him makes-again great anguish

forment s'esforche, forment tire,

greatly himself-he-strains greatly he-pulls

2960 recleime deu et la martire

he-invokes God and the martyr

qu'ele li soit verais garanz.

that-she to-him be true warrant

Il n'i a nul de ses parenz.

There not-there is any of his kinsmen

Tire et retire, ne li vaut,

He-pulls and pulls-again not to-him it-avails

et Renars le ranpronne en haut.

and Reynard him taunts in high

“Bosez, vos fot asez ore,

2965

Bosez you be enough now

et tu seraz ci trop more.

and thou wilt-be here too long

Molt ama vos icil martir

Much loved you this martyr

que ne laisse toi li partir.

who not lets thee to depart

Tu voler devener, ce quit,

Thou to-wish to-become this I-think

moine ou canon en cest abit.

2970

monk or canon in this habit

Ou tu venir, ou moi ira.

Either thou to-come or me will-go

Ou fot me bien, je li dira

Or do me well I to-her will-say

que vos velt ermit devenir,

that you wishes hermit to-become

et la martir fot vos tenir.

and the martyr do you to-hold

Ce fot forment a merveiller

2975

This do greatly to marvel-at

que tu voler tot nuit veller,

that thou to-wish all night to-watch

et vos fustes novel bosez.

and you were new wedded

Et ta moiller fot vos tendez

And thy wife be you awaited

et fot ja mienuit obscure.”

and be already midnight dark

2980 Atant es vos grant aleüre

Thereupon behold you at-great speed

quatre gaignons et un vilein,

four curs and a villain

uns enemis frere Brian.

an enemy brother (of-)Brian

Le boschage avoit bien apris.

The woodland he-bad well learned

Poincet ont trove entrepris.

Poncet they-have found hemmed-in

2985 Tant l'ont tire et desache

So-much him-they-have pulled and torn

que tot l'ont mort et esqachie.

that all him-they-have killed and crushed

Renars le vit, molt s'en esmaie,

Reynard it saw much himself-thereat dismays

fuiant s'en va par une haie.

fleeing himself-thence he-goes by a hedge

Les granz galoz s'en va arere.

The great gallops himself-thence he-goes back

2990 Fuiant s'en vet a sa tesnere.

Fleeing himself-thence he-goes to his den

Sa feme trove asovinee

His wife he-finds laid-supine

qui atendoit sa destinee:

who was-awaiting her destiny

molt li pesoit de la demoure,

much to-her it-grieved of the delay

que ja ne quidoit veoir l'oure.

that ever not she-thought to-see the-hour

Quant voit venir le juleor

When she-sees to-come the minstrel

tot sol, lors si ot grant peor.

all alone then so she-had great fear

Quant Renart l'a soule trovee,

When Reynard her-has alone found

“Or sus” fet il, “pute provee!

Now up says he whore proved

Or sus, si tenes vostre voie,

Now up so hold your way

gardes que james ne vos voie!

take-care that ever not you I-see

Molt est maveze vostre sorz.

Very is wicked your lot

Ge ne sui mie encore morz,

I not am at-all yet dead

ains sui Renars, ce m'est avis,

rather I-am Reynard this to-me-is opinion

seins et haities et trestoz vis.

safe and hale and all alive

Molt avez tost le dol boü

Much you-have quickly the grief drunk

que vos aves de moi eü.

that you have of me had

Or sus” fet il, “levez de ci,

Now up says he rise from here

2995

3000

3005

alez veoir vostre mari!

go to-see your husband

S'orrez comment il se contient,

So-you-will-bear how he himself bears

3010 car la martire le retient."

for the martyr him holds-back

Quant la dame ot ceste parole,

When the lady heard this word

a pou que de dol ne s'afole.

by little that from grief — herself-she-kills

"Lasse!" fet ele belement,

Wretched says she fairly

"ce est mesires vraiment."

that is my-lord truly

3015 Et danz Renars prist un baston,

And sir Reynard took a staff

si li paia sa livreisson,

so to-her he-paid his delivery

et fiert et hurte et rolle et bat

and strikes and knocks and cudgels and beats

tant que crie "merci, Renart!

until that she-cries mercy (to-)Reynard

Sire, por deu merci te quier,

Lord for God mercy thee I-beg

3020 laisse moi vive repairier!"

let me alive to-go-back

"Or sus" fet il, "car par mes denz

Now up says he for by my teeth

mar enterres james caenz.

ill you-will-enter never in-here

Ja ne gerrez mes a ma coste,

Ever not you-will-lie more at my side

quant receü avez tel oste.

since received you-have such guest

Ainz vos trenceraï ceu baulievre,

Rather to-you I-will-cut that lower-lip

et cel grant nes sor cele levre,

and that great nose above that lip

et vos enfonderai ceu ventre,

and to-you I-will-slit that belly

et la boele qu'est soentre

and the bowel which-is behind

vos saudra fors par le poitron

to-you will-leap out through the fundament

malgre vostre novel baron.

despite your new baron

Et vos" fet il, "dame Hersent,

And you says be lady Hersent

asez fet mal qui le consent.

much does ill who it consents

Hai!" fet il "quex dous barnesses!

Ha says be what two baronesses

C'estoient ore beles messes

That-were now fair masses

que feissiez por moi chanter,

that you-would-make for me to-sing

de vos poistrons fere roillier.

of your fundaments to-make to-be-beaten

3025

3030

3035

Co sache dex et seint Martins,

This let-know God and saint Martin

qu'ore est venue vostre fins."

that-now is come your end

Quant les deus dames ce oïrent,

When the two ladies this heard

3040 sachez que pas ne s'esjoïrent.

know that at-all not themselves-they-rejoiced

Bien sorent qu'engignies furent

Well they-knew that-tricked they-were

quant au parler le reconnurent:

when at-the speaking him they-recognized

molt grant merveille lor est prise,

very great marvel to-them is taken

en grant poor chascune est mise.

in great fear each-one is put

3045 Bien quident estre enchantees,

Well they-think to-be enchanted

forment en sont espoentees.

greatly thereof they-are terrified

De peor l'une et l'autre trenble,

For fear the-one and the-other trembles

molt s'esmaient andui ensemble.

much themselves-they-dismay both together

Renars ambedous les a prises,

Reynard both them has taken

3050 fors de la meson les a mises.

out of the house them he-has put

Onc ne lor lut parole dire,

Ever not to-them was-allowed word to-say

ne l'une ne l'autre escondire.

neither the-one nor the-other to-clear

Et l'une et l'autre s'espoente,

And the-one and the-other herself-terrifies

chascune forment se demente,

each-one greatly herself laments

dame Hersens por son segnor

lady Hersent for her lord

qui a perdue la color,

who has lost the color

et la barbe li est coüe

and the beard to-him is fallen

por la coille qu'il a perdue.

for the testicle that-he has lost

Dame Hermeline li raconte

Lady Hermeline to-her recounts

q'avenue li est grant honte

that-befallen to-her is great shame

de Poncet a la crine bloie

of Poncet with the hair blond

dont a oü si corte joie.

whereof she-has had so short joy

“Qui caut?” ce dist dame Hersens.

What matters this said lady Hersent

“Molt par ert povres nostre sens,

Very much will-be poor our sense

se nos ne retrovons maris.

if we not find-again husbands

3055

3060

3065

Dont sera tot li mons faillis

Then will-be all the world failed

et d'unz et d'autres granz et baus.

both of-ones and of-others great and fair

Si troveron deus jovenceax

So we-shall-find two young-men

qui bien feront nos volentez.

who well will-do our wills

3070 De folie vos dementez."

Of folly yourself lament

"Vos dites voir" ce dist dame Emme.

You say truth this said lady Emme

"Mes molt est let de vielle feme

But very is ugly of old woman

qui ne crent honte et deshonor,

who not fears shame and dishonor

de honir soi et son segnor.

of to-shame herself and her lord

3075 Ensorquetot l'en me disoit

Above-all one to-me said

que mes mariz penduz estoit,

that my husband hanged was

se j'avoie autre mari pris,

if I-bad other husband taken

avoie je de rienz mespris?

bad I of anything done-wrong

J'ai bien ceste chosse essaiee,

I-have well this thing tried

3080 feme mesprent a la foiee."

woman errs at the times

“Vos dites voir” ce dit Hersenz.

You say truth this says Hersent

“Cist mesprendres n'est mie genz.

This erring not-is at-all seemly

Mespris avez en tel manere

Erred you-have in such manner

qu'en vos en tient a camberere

that-one you thereof holds for chambermaid

qui comunax est a garcons:

who common is to serving-lads

trestuit li entrent es arcons.

all to-her enter in-the saddle-bows

Mes je ne fis einc lecherie,

But I not did ever lechery

ce set en bien, ne puterie

this knows one well nor harlotry

fors une fois par mesprison

save one time by mistake

vers dant Renart vostre baron.

toward sir Reynard your baron

Quant mes loveax ot conpissiez,

When my wolf-cubs be-had pissed-on

mesaasmez et ledengiez.

insulted and mauled

Gel fis chaoir en sa tesnere:

I-him made to-fall into his den

il fist son tor par de deriere.”

he did his turn by from behind

3085

3090

3095 Dame Hermeline ot la parole.

Lady Hermeline heard the word

Respondi li con fame fole:

She-answered to-her like woman mad

jalouse fu et enflamee

jealous she-was and inflamed

quant ses sires l'avoit amee,

when her lord her-bad loved

et dist "ne fu ce puterie?"

and she-said not was this barlotry

3100 Vos feïstes grant lecherie,

You did great lechery

grant deshonor et grant hontage

great dishonor and great shame

feïstes vos et grant putage,

did you and great whoredom

quant vos soffristes mon baron

when you suffered my baron

qu'il vos bati cel ort crepon.

that-he to-you beat that foul rump

3105 Pute vielle, pute remese!

Foul old-woman whore left-over

En vos doüst ardoir en brese,

One you ought to-burn in embers

si que la poudre en fust ventee,

so that the dust thereof were winnowed

quant a moi vos estes vantee

since to me you are boasted

de mon segnor qu'il vos a fet.

of my lord that-he to-you has done

Haï! con aves bien forfet

3110

Ha how you-have well done-wrong

qu'en vos tolist le pelicon

that-one from-you took the pelt

et feïst l'en de vos carbon,

and made one of you coal

quant aviez vostre baron

since you-had your baron

et feïstes tel desreson,

and did such wrong

et il sa feme d'autre part.

3115

and he his wife on-other side

Or sont tuit vostre enfant bastart.

Now are all your children bastards

Tost vos en fu li dels passez,

Soon to-you thereof was the grief past

qant vos les avez avoutres.

since you them have adulterated

Et Ysengrin vostre segnor

And (to-)Isengrim your lord

aves fete tel deshonor

3120

you-have done such dishonor

que james ne sera amez,

that ever not he-will-be loved

mes toz jors mes ert cox clamez."

but all days more will-be cuckold called

Molt li dit et molt se coroce,

Much to-her she-says and much herself she-angers

saches que forment se degroce.

know that greatly herself she-storms

- 3125 Hersent respondi en riant
 Hersent answered in laughing
 “Molt a en vos pute friant,
Much there-is in you whore dainty
 quant vostre segnor aveez
since your lord you-had
 et autre mari perniez.
and other husband you-took
 Molt par est maveis et escars,
Very much he-is wicked and niggardly
 3130 quant il ne vos a le cul ars.
since he not to-you has the rump burnt
 Molt par estes de maveis estre,
Very much you-are of wicked being
 de poior ne poiez vos estre.
of worse not can you to-be
 Qar plus estes pute que moche
For more you-are whore than fly
 qui en este la gent entоче.
who in summer the folk infects
 3135 Qui que viegne ne qui que aut,
Whoever that come nor whoever that go
 vostre taverne ne li faut:
your tavern not to-him fails
 meint en tornez a vostre part.
many-a-one thereof you-turn to your side
 Se por ce sont mi fil bastart,
If for this are my sons bastards
 por ce nes gitera ge mie.
for this not-them will-cast-out I at-all

Foi que je doi seinte Marie,

Faith that I owe (to-)holy Mary

qui les voudroit trestoz jeter

whoever them would-wish all to-cast-out

les bastars et desheriter,

the bastards and to-disinherit

asez auroit plus de puissance

much he-would-have more of power

que n'out onques li rois de France.

than had ever the king of France

Mes vos qui estes bordelere

But you who are a-brothel-keeper

les avoutres en tel manere,

them adulterate in such manner

les vos enfanz, ce set l'en bien:

the your children this knows one well

onc nel veastes a nul chen."

ever not-it you-refused to any dog

"Vos i mentes, pute sorcere.

You there lie foul sorceress

Tesiez vos que je ne vos fiere!"

Be-silent you that I not you strike

"Vos me ferez, pute merdouse,

You me will-strike foul dungy-one

pute vielle, pute teignouse?

foul old-woman foul scabby-one

Se l'aviez pense a certes,

If it-you-had thought in earnest

3140

3145

3150

- ja i auroit paumes overtes
already there would-be palms opened
- 3155 et peax trenciees et ronpues,
and skins slashed and broken
 se ne me faillent denz agues.”
if not to-me fail teeth sharp
 Hermeline plus n'i demoure,
Hermeline more not-there stays
 isnelement li corut soure,
swiftly to-her she-ran upon
 et Hersens par molt grant aïr
and Hersent with very great fury
- 3160 revet Hermeline sesir.
she-goes-in-turn Hermeline to-seize
 A terre se voltrent et hercent,
On ground themselves they-roll and harrow
 et neporquant les peax i percent,
and nevertheless the skins there they-pierce
 as denz agues les detrencent,
with-the teeth sharp them they-tear
 lor maltalant forment i venchent,
their ill-will greatly there they-avenge
- 3165 rompent et sachent et descirent,
they-break and pull and rend
 as denz durement se martirent.
with-the teeth hard themselves they-martyr
 Lors veïssiez en molt poi d'oure
Then you-might-have-seen in very little of-hour
 l'une desos, l'autre desoure.
the-one below the-other above

Dame Hersent fu granz et fors,
Lady Hersent was great and strong
 soz lui la tient par grant esforz. 3170
under her her she-holds by great force
 Encontre un fust l'a enanglee,
Against a tree her-she-has cornered
 ja l'oüst morte et estranglee.
already her-she-would-have killed and strangled
 Atant es vos un pelerin
Thereupon behold you a pilgrim
 qui vint clocant tot le chemin,
who came limping all the road
 trova les dames combatant. 3175
he-found the ladies fighting
 Une en a prise maintenant,
One thereof he-has taken at-once
 par la mein l'a levee sus,
by the hand her-he-has raised up
 "Or sus" fet il, "n'en fetes plus!"
Now up says he not-thereof do more
 Et quant departies les a,
And when parted them he-has
 molt doucement les castia. 3180
very gently them he-chid
 Demanda lor dont eles sont,
He-asked to-them whence they are
 dont eles viennent et ou vont.
whence they come and where they-go
 Celes li ont conte lor estre,
They to-him have told their state

- car il estoit seins hom et prestre,
for he was holy man and priest
- 3185 et il lor done bon conseil
and he to-them gives good counsel
 que chascune aut a son pareil:
that each-one go to her mate
 merci li crit et li requiere
mercy to-him let-her-cry and to-him let-her-require
 qu'il l'aint et qu'il la tiegne chiere.
that-he her-love and that-he her hold dear
 Dame Hersent a fait aler
Lady Hersent he-has made to-go
- 3190 a Ysengrin por acorder.
to Isengrim for to-be-reconciled
 Dame Hermeline ameine ariere
Lady Hermeline he-leads back
 a dan Renart en sa tesniere.
to sir Reynard in his den
 Tant est seins et religious
So-much he-is holy and religious
 q'acordees les a andous,
that-reconciled them he-has both
- 3195 et tant i a s'entente mise
and so-much there he-has his-effort put
 que par tot a la pes asise.
that through all he-has the peace set
 Puis fu Renars en sa meson
Then was Reynard in his house
 o sa moillier molt grant seson.
with his wife very great season

Trestot li dist et tot li conte:

All to-her he-said and all to-her tells

comment il dut recevoir honte,

how he was-to to-receive shame

qant en la cuve fu sailliz:

when in the vat he-was leapt

con il dut estre malbailliz,

how he was-to to-be ill-handled

et escharni le teinturier,

and mocked the dyer

dist qu'il estoit de son mestier:

said that-he was of his trade

comment il fist la coille perdre

how he made the testicle to-lose

a Ysengrin qui ne puet serdre.

to Isengrim who not can to-couple

Trestot li conte et tot li dit:

All to-her he-tells and all to-her says

cele ne fet mes que s'en rit.

she not does more than herself-thereof laughs

Molt lonc tens fu Renart en mue:

Very long time was Reynard in mew

ne va ne vient ne se remue.

neither goes nor comes nor himself stirs

Ci faut Renart li teinturier

Here ends Reynard the dyer

qui tant sot de maveis mestier.

who so-much knew of wicked trade

3200

3205

3210

The Beginning of the War, and Chanticleer's Dream

The poet promises the war between Reynard and Isengrim that no one has yet told. Reynard, a master of guile, comes to Constant des Noes' well-stocked yard for his sport and gets in through a gap in the paling. The hens see him fall and scatter; Chanticleer asks what frightened them, tells Pinte it is nothing, and settles down to doze. He dreams that a beast in a red pelisse bordered with bone forces it on him backward, wakes frightened, and goes to Pinte for the meaning.

Seigneurs, oï avez maint conte

Lords heard you-have many-a tale

que maint conterre vous raconte,

which many-a teller to-you recounts

conment Paris ravi Elaine,

how Paris carried-off Helen

le mal qu'il en ot et la paine:

the harm that-he thereof had and the pain

5 de Tristan qui la chievre fist,

of Tristan which the goat [La-Chievre] made

qui assez bellement en dist

who quite finely thereof told

et fabliaus et chancon de geste.

both fabliaux and song of deeds

Romanz de lui et de sa geste

Romance of him and of his deeds

maint autre conte par la terre.

many another tells through the land

10 Mais onques n'oïstes la guerre,

But ever not-you-heard the war

qui tant fu dure de grant fin,

which so-much was hard of great end

entre Renart et Ysengrin,

between Reynard and Isengrim

qui moult dura et moult fu dure.

which much lasted and much was hard

Des deus barons ce est la pure

Of-the two barons this is the plain-truth

que ainc ne s'entrainerent jour.

that ever not each-other-loved a-day

Mainte mellee et maint estour

Many-a fray and many-a battle

ot entr'eulz deus, ce est la voire.

had between-them two this is the truth

Des or commencerai l'estoire.

From now I-will-begin the-story

Or oez le commencement

Now hear the beginning

et de la noise et du content,

both of the quarrel and of-the strife

par quoi et por quel mesestance

by what and for what mischance

fu entr'eus deus la desfiance. —

was between-them two the defiance

Il avint chose que Renars,

It befell a-thing that Reynard

qui tant par fu de males ars

who so much was of evil arts

et qui tant sot toz jors de guile,

and who so-much knew all days of guile

s'en vint traiant a une vile.

himself-thence came drawing toward a village

15

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La vile seoit en un bos.

The village sat in a wood

Molt i ot gelines et cos,

Many there were hens and cocks

anes et malarz, jars et oes.

ducks and drakes ganders and geese

30 Et li sires Constans des Noes,

And the lord Constant of-the Noes

un vilain qui moult ert garnis,

a villein who very was provided

manoit moult pres du plesseïs.

dwelt very near to-the enclosure

Plenteïve estoit sa maisons.

Plentiful was his house

De gelines et de chapons

Of hens and of capons

35 bien avoit garni son hostel.

well he-had provided his dwelling

Assez i ot et un et el:

Plenty there were both one and other

char salee, bacons et fliches.

flesh salted bacons and fitches

De ble estoit li vilains riches.

With corn was the villein rich

Molt par estoit bien herbergiez,

Very much he-was well housed

40 que moult iert riches ses vergiers.

for very was rich his orchard

Assez i ot bonnes cerises

Plenty there were good cherries

et plusieurs fruis de maintes guises.

and several fruits of many kinds

Pommes i ot et autre fruit.

Apples there were and other fruit

La vait Renart pour son deduit.

There goes Reynard for his sport

Li courtilz estoit bien enclos

The garden was well enclosed

de piex de chesne agus et gros.

with stakes of oak sharp and thick

Hourdes estoit d'aubes espines.

Hurdled it-was with-white thorns

Laiens avoit mis ses gelines

In-there he-had put his bens

dant Constant pour la forteresce.

sir Constant for the strength

Et Renart celle part s'adresce,

And Reynard that way himself-makes-bis-way

tout coiemement le col bessie

all quietly the neck lowered

s'en vint tout droit vers le plessie.

himself-thence came all straight toward the enclosure

Moult fu Renart de grant pourchaz.

Much was Reynard of great enterprise

45

50

Mais la force des espinars

But the strength of-the thorn-hedges

55 li destourne si son affaire

to-him binders so his business

que il n'en puet a bon chief traire,

that he not-thereof can to good end to-draw

ne pour mucier ne pour saillir:

neither for to-slip-in nor for to-leap

n'aus gelines ne veult faillir.

nor-to-the hens not he-wishes to-fail

Acroupiz s'est enmi la voie.

Crouched himself-be-is amid the way

60 Moult se defripe, moult coloie.

Much himself he-fidgets much he-cranes

Il se pourpense que s'il saut,

He himself bethinks that if-he leaps

pour quoi il chiece auques de haut,

because-of which he would-fall somewhat from high

il iert veüz et les gelines

he will-be seen and the hens

se ficheront souz les espines.

themselves will-thrust under the thorns

65 Si pourroit tost estre surpris

So he-could soon to-be surprised

ainz qu'il eüst gaires acquis.

before that-he had much gained

Moult par estoit en grant esfroï.

Very much he-was in great dismay

Les gelines veult traire a soi

The hens he-wishes to-draw to himself

que devant lui voit pasturant.

whom before him he-sees pasturing

Et Renart vait cheant levant.

And Reynard goes falling rising

Ou retour de la soif choisist

In-the turn of the hedge he-espied

un pel froissie: dedenz se mist.

a stake broken within himself he-put

La ou li paliz iert desclos,

There where the paling was open

avoit li vilains plante chos:

had the villein planted cabbages

Renart y vint, oultre s'em passe,

Reynard there came beyond himself-thereof passes

cheoir se laist en une masse

to-fall himself he-lets in a heap

pour ce que la gent ne le voient.

for this that the folk not him see

Mais les gelines en coloient,

But the hens thereof crane

qui l'ont choisi a sa cheoite.

who him-have espied at his fall

Chascune de fuir s'exploite.

Each-one of to-flee herself-bestirs

70

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80

Mesire Chantecler li cos

My-lord Chanticleer the cock

en une sente les le bos

on a path beside the wood

entre deus piex souz la raiere

between two stakes under the furrow

s'estoit traiz en une poudriere.

himself-was drawn into a dust-heap

85 Moult fierement leur vient devant

Very proudly to-them he-comes before

la plume ou pie, le col tendant.

the feather on-the foot the neck stretching

Si demande par quel raison

So he-asks for what reason

elles s'en fuient vers maison.

they themselves-thence flee toward house

Pinte parla qui plus savoit,

Pinte spoke who more knew

90 celle qui les gros hues ponnoit,

she who the big eggs laid

qui pres du coc jucoit a destre:

who near to-the cock roosted on right

si li a raconte son estre

so to-him has recounted her state

et dit "paour avons eüe."

and says fear we-have bad

"Pourquoi? quel chose avez veüe?"

Why what thing have-you seen

“Je ne sai quel beste sauvage

I not know what beast wild

qui tost nous puet faire damage,

who soon to-us can to-do harm

se nous ne vuidons ce pourpris.”

if we not empty this enclosure

“C'est tout noient, ce vous plevis”

That-is all nothing this to-you I-pledge

ce dit li cos: “n'aies peür,

this says the cock not-have fear

mais estes ci tout asseür.”

but be here all assured

Dist Pinte “par ma foi jel vi:

Said Pinte by my faith I-it saw

et loiaument le vous affi:

and loyally it to-you I-affirm

que je le vi tout a estrouz.”

that I it saw all at outright

“Et comment le veïstes vous?”

And how it saw you

“Comment? je vi la soif branler

How I saw the hedge to-shake

et la fuelle du chou trembler

and the leaf of-the cabbage to-tremble

ou cilz se gist qui est repus.”

where he himself lies who is bidden

“Pinte” fait il, “or n'i a plus.

Pinte says he now not-there is more

Trives avez, jel vous ottroi:

Truce you-have I-it to-you grant

95

100

105

- 110 que par la foi que je vous doi,
for by the faith that I to-you owe
 je ne sai putoiz ne gourpil
I not know polecat nor fox
 que osast entrer ou courtil.
who dared to-enter into-the garden
 Ce est gas: retournez arriere.”
This is jest turn back
 Cilz se radresce en sa poudriere,
He himself settles-again in his dust-heap
- 115 [qu'il n'a paour de nulle riens
for-he not-has fear of any thing
 que li face gourpilz ne chiens.
that to-him do fox nor dogs
 De nulle riens n'avoit peür,
Of any thing not-he-had fear
 que moult cuidoit estre aseür.]
for much he-thought to-be assured
 Moult se contint seürement.
Much himself he-bore securely
- 120 Ne set gaires q'a l'eil li pent.
Not he-knows much what-at the-eye to-him hangs
 Rien ne douta: si fist que fox.
Anything not he-feared so he-did as fool
 L'un oeil ouvert et l'autre clos,
The-one eye open and the-other shut
 l'un pie crampi et l'autre droit
the-one foot drawn-up and the-other straight
 s'est apuiez delez un toit.
himself-he-is leaned beside a roof

La ou li cos est apoiez

125

There where the cock is leaned

comme cilz qui iert anuiez

like he who was wearied

et de chanter et de veiller,

both of to-sing and of to-watch

si conmenca a someillier.

so he-began to doze

Ou someillier que il faisoit

In-the dozing that he did

et ou dormir qui li plaisoit

130

and in-the sleeping which to-him pleased

conmenca li cos a songier.

began the cock to dream

Ne m'en tenes a menconger.

Not me-thereof hold for a-liar

Car il sonja (ce est la voire,

For he dreamed this is the truth

trover le poez en l'estoire)

to-find it you-can in the-story

que il avoit ne sai quel cose

135

that he had not I-know what thing

dedens la cort, que bien ert close,

within the yard which well was closed

qui li venoit enmi le vis,

which to-him came amid the face

ensi con il li ert avis,

so as it to-him was opinion

(si en avoit molt grant fricon)

so thereof he-had very great shudder

140 et tenoit un ros pelicon

and it-held a red pelisse

dont les goles estoient d'os.

of-which the collars were of-bone

Si li metoit par force el dos.

So to-him it-put by force on-the back

Molt ert Chantecler en grant peine

Much was Chanticleer in great trouble

del songe qui si le demeine,

of-the dream which so him torments

145 endementiers que il somelle.

meanwhile that he dozes

Et del pelicon se mervelle,

And of-the pelisse himself he-marvels

que la chevece ert en travers:

for the collar was in across

et si l'avoit vestu envers.

and so it-he-had put-on reversed

Estrois estoit en la chevece

Narrow it-was in the collar

150 si qu'il en a si grant destrece

so that-he thereof has so great distress

qu'a peines s'en est esveilliez.

that-with pains himself-thereof he-is awakened

Mes de ce s'est plus merveilliez

But of this himself-be-is more marveled

que blans estoit desos le ventre

that white he-was beneath the belly

et que par la chevece i entre,

and that by the collar there he-enters

si que la teste est en la faille

so that the head is in the opening

et la coue en la chevecaille.

and the tail in the collar-band

Por le songe s'est tressailliz,

For the dream himself-be-is startled

que bien cuide estre malbailliz

for well he-thinks to-be ill-handled

por la vision que a veüe,

for the vision that he-has seen

dont il a grant peor oüe.

whereof he has great fear had

Esveillies s'est et esperiz

Awakened himself-be-is and roused

li cos et dist "seint esperiz,

the cock and said holy spirit

garis hui mon cors de prison

save today my body from prison

et met a sauve garison!"

and put in safe keeping

155

160

165 Lors s'en torne grant aleüre

Then himself-thence he-turns at-great speed

con cil qui point ne s'aseüre

like he who at-all not himself-assures

et vint traiant vers les gelines,

and came drawing toward the hens

qui estoient soz les espines.

who were under the thorns

Tres q'a eles ne se recroit.

Right to them not himself he-slackens

170 Pinte apela ou molt se croit,

Pinte he-called in-whom much himself he-trusts

a une part l'a asenee.

at one side her-he-has led

"Pinte, n'i a mester celee.

Pinte not-there is use concealment

Molt sui dolanz et esbahiz.

Much I-am grieving and dismayed

Grant poor ai d'estre traïz

Great fear I-have of-to-be betrayed

175 d'oiseil ou de beste sauvage.

of-bird or of beast wild

Qui tost nos puet fere damage."

Who soon to-us can to-do harm

"Avoi!" fait Pinte "baus dos sire,

Fie says Pinte fair sweet lord

ice ne debes vos pas dire.

this not ought you at-all to-say

Mau fetes qui nos esmaies.

Ill you-do who us dismay

Si vos dirai, ca vos traies!

180

So to-you I-will-say here you draw

Par trestoz les seinz que l'en prie,

By all the saints whom one prays

vos resembles le chen qui crie

you resemble the dog who cries

ains que la pierre soit coüe.

before that the stone be fallen

Por qu'aves tel poor oüe?

Why have-you such fear had

Car me dites que vos aves."

185

Now to-me tell what you have

"Qoi?" dist li cos "vos ne saves

What said the cock you not know

que j'ai songie un songe estrange

that I-have dreamed a dream strange

deles cel trou les cele granche,

beside that hole beside that grange

et une avision molt male,

and a vision very evil

por qoi vos me vees si pale.

190

for which you me see so pale

Tot le songe vos conterai,

All the dream to-you I-will-tell

ja riens ne vos en celerai.

ever anything not to-you thereof I-will-hide

Saurees m'en vos conseillier?

Will-know me-thereof you to-counsel

Avis me fu el somellier

Opinion to-me was in-the dozing

195 que ne sai quel beste veneit

that not I-know what beast came

qui un ros pelicon vestoit,

which a red pelisse wore

bien fet sanz cisel et sanz force:

well made without chisel and without shears

sil me fesoit vestir a force.

and-it to-me made to-wear by force

D'os estoit fete l'orleüre,

Of-bone was made the-border

200 tote blanche, mes molt ert dure:

all white but very it-was hard

la chavesce de travers fete,

the collar of across made

estroite, qui molt me dehaite.

narrow which much me displeases

Le poil avoit dehors torne.

The hair it-had outward turned

Le pelicon si atorne

The pelisse so arranged

205 par le chevece le vestoie.

by the collar it I-wore

Mais molt petit i arestoie.

But very little there I-stopped

Le pelicon vesti ensi:

The pelisse I-wore thus

mes a reculons m'en issi.

but at backward myself-thereof I-came-out

Lors m'en merveillai a cele ore

Then myself-thereat I-marveled at that hour

por la coue qui ert desoure.

for the tail which was above

Ca sui venus desconseilliez.

Here I-am come counsel-less

Pinte, ne vos en merveilliez,

Pinte not you thereat marvel

se li cuers me fremist et tramble.

if the heart to-me shudders and trembles

Mes dites moi que vos en semble.

But say to-me what to-you thereof seems

Molt sui por le songe grevez.

Much I-am for the dream burdened

Par cele foi que me devez,

By that faith that to-me you-owe

savez vos que ce senefie?"

know you what this signifies

Pinte respont, ou molt se fie,

Pinte answers in-whom much himself he-trusts

"Dit m'avez" fait ele "le songe.

Said to-me-you-have says she the dream

Mes se dex plect, ce est mencoigne.

But if God pleases this is a-lie

Ne porquant si vos voil espondre:

Not for-all-that so to-you I-wish to-expound

car bien vos en saurai respondre.

for well to-you thereof I-will-know to-answer

210

215

220

Chanticleer Taken

Pinte reads the dream: the red pelisse is the fox, the bone collar his teeth, and the cock will be taken by the neck before noon. Chanticleer scoffs and sleeps again. Reynard's first lunge misses and the cock leaps clear onto the dunghill, so Reynard flatters him about his father's singing until he crows with his eyes shut, then takes him by the neck. The goodwife's cry raises the village; Reynard, egged on by the cock to answer back, opens his mouth, the cock flies to an apple tree, and the two trade morals.

Icele chose que veïstes

That thing which you-saw

el someller que vos feïstes,

in-the dozing that you did

225 qui le ros pelicon vestoit

which the red pelisse wore

et issi vos desconfortoit

and thus you discomforted

c'est li gorpils, jel sai de voir.

that-is the fox I-it know for truth

Bien le poes apercevoir

Well it you-can to-perceive

au pelicon qui ros estoit

by-the pelisse which red was

230 et qui par force vos vestoit.

and which by force you clothed

Les goles d'os ce sont les denz

The collars of-bone those are the teeth

a qoi il vos metra dedenz.

with which he you will-put within

La chevece qui n'iert pas droite,

The collar which not-was at-all straight

qui si vos iert male et estroite,

which so to-you was evil and narrow

ce est la boce de la beste,

that is the mouth of the beast

dont il vos estreindra la teste.

with-which he to-you will-grip the head

Par illoques i enterois,

By there therein you-will-enter

sanz faille vos le vestirois.

without fail you it will-wear

Ce que la coue est contremont,

That which the tail is upward

par les seinz de trestot le mont,

by the saints of all the world

c'est li gorpils qui vos prendra

that-is the fox who you will-take

parmi le col, quant il vendra.

through the neck when he will-come

Dont sera la coue desore.

Then will-be the tail above

Einsi ert, se dex me secore.

Thus it-will-be so God me help

Ne vos gara argent ne ors.

Not you will-save silver nor gold

Li peus qui ert torne defors

The hair which was turned outward

c'est voirs, que tot jors porte enverse

that-is true that all days he-wears reversed

sa pel, quant il mels plot et verse.

his skin when it most rains and pours

235

240

245

Or avez oï sanz faillance

Now you-have heard without failing

250 de vostre songe la senblance.

of your dream the likeness

Tot soürement le vos di:

All assuredly it to-you I-say

ainz que voiez passe midi,

before that you-see past midday

vos avandra, ce est la voire.

to-you it-will-befall this is the truth

Mes se vos me volieez croire,

But if you me would-wish to-believe

255 vos retorneriez ariere:

you would-turn back

car il est repos ci derere

for he is bidden here behind

en cest boisson, jel sai de voir,

in this bush I-it know for truth

por vos traïr et decevoir.”

for you to-betray and to-deceive

Quant cil ot oï le respons

When he had heard the answer

260 del songe, que cele ot espons,

of-the dream that she had expounded

“Pinte” fait il, “molt par es fole.

Pinte says he very much thou-art mad

Molt as dit vileine parole,

Much thou-hast said villainous word

qui diz que je serai surpris,

who sayest that I shall-be surprised

et que la beste est el porpris

and that the beast is in-the enclosure

qui par force me conquerra.

265

who by force me will-conquer

Dahez ait qui ja le crera!

A-curse have-he who ever it will-believe

Ne m'as dit rien ou ge me tiegne.

Not to-me-thou-hast said anything whereby I myself hold

Ja nel crerai, se biens m'aviegne,

Ever not-it I-will-believe so good to-me-befall

que j'aie mal por icest songe."

that I-have harm for this dream

"Sire" fait ele, "dex le donge!

270

Lord says she God it grant

Mais s'il n'est si con vos ai dit,

But if-it not-is so as to-you I-have said

je vos otroi senz contredit,

I to-you grant without gainsaying

je ne soie mes vostre amie."

that-I not be more your friend

"Pinte" fait il, "ce n'i a mie."

Pinte says he this not-there is at-all

A fable est li songes tornez.

275

Into fable is the dream turned

A itant s'en est retornez

At that himself-thence he-is returned

en la poudrere a solaller.

into the dust-heap to sun-himself

Si reconmance a someller.

So he-begins-again to doze

Et quant il fu aseürez,

And when he was assured

280 (molt fu Renars amesurez

much was Reynard measured

et voisiez a grant merveille)

and cunning to great marvel

quant il voit que celui somelle,

when he sees that he dozes

vers lui aprime sanz demore

toward him he-draws-near without delay

Renars, qui tot le mont acore

Reynard who all the world afflicts

285 et qui tant set de maveis tors.

and who so-much knows of wicked turns

Pas avant autre tot sanz cors

Step before other all without run

s'en vet Renars le col baissant.

himself-thence goes Reynard the neck lowering

Se Chantecler le par atent

If Chanticleer him indeed awaits

que cil le puisse as denz tenir,

that he him may with-the teeth to-hold

290 il li fera son jou poïr.

he to-him will-make his game to-stink

Quant Renars choisi Chantecler,

When Reynard espied Chanticleer

senpres le volst as denz haper.

straightway him he-wished with-the teeth to-snatch

Renars failli, qui fu engres,

Reynard failed who was eager

et Chantecler saut en travers.

and Chanticleer leaps in across

Renart choisi, bien le conut,

Reynard he-espied well him he-knew

desor le fumier s'arestut.

upon the dungbill himself-be-stopped

Quant Renars voit qu'il a failli,

When Reynard sees that-he has failed

forment se tint a malbailli.

greatly himself be-held for ill-handled

Or se commence a porpenser,

Now himself he-begins to consider

comment il porroit Chantecler

how he could Chanticleer

engignier: car s'il nel manjue,

to-trick for if-he not-him eats

dont a il sa voie perdue.

then has he his way lost

“Chantecler” ce li dist Renart,

Chanticleer this to-him said Reynard

“ne fuïr pas, n'aies regart!

not to-flee at-all not-have fear

Molt par sui liez, quant tu es seinz:

Very much I-am glad since thou art safe

car tu es mes cosins germeins.”

for thou art my cousin german

Chantecler lors s'asoïra.

Chanticleer then himself-assured

Por la joie un sonet chanta.

For the joy a little-air he-sang

295

300

305

Ce dist Renars a son cosin

This said Reynard to his cousin

310 "Membre te mes de Chanteclin,

Comes-to-mind to-thee still of Chanteclin

ton bon pere qui t'engendra?

thy good father who thee-begot

Onques nus cos si ne chanta.

Ever any cock so not sang

D'une grant liue l'ooit on.

From-a great league him-heard one

Molt bien chantoit en haut un son

Very well he-sang in high a tune

315 et molt par avoit longe aleine

and very much he-had long breath

les deus els clos, la vois ot seine.

the two eyes shut the voice he-had sound

D'une leüe ne veoit,

From-a league not he-saw

quant il chantoit et refregnoit.

when he sang and modulated

Dist Chantecler "Renart cosin,

Said Chanticleer Reynard cousin

320 voles me vos trere a engin?"

wish me you to-draw into trick

"Certes" ce dist Renars "non voil.

Certainly this said Reynard not I-wish

Mes or chantez, si clinnies l'oeil!

But now sing so close the-eye

D'une char somes et d'un sanc.

Of-one flesh we-are and of-one blood

Meus voudroie estre d'un pie manc

Better I-would-wish to-be of-one foot maimed

que tu eüses maremenz:

than thou hadst harms

car tu es trop pres mi parenz."

for thou art too near my kinsman

Dist Chantecler "pas ne t'en croi.

Said Chanticleer at-all not thee-thereof I-believe

Un poi te trai ensus de moi

A little thee draw back from me

et je dirai une chancon.

and I will-say a song

N'aura voisin ci environ

Not-there-will-be neighbor here around

qui bien n'entende mon fauset."

who well not-bear my falsetto

Lores s'en sozrist Renardet:

Then himself-thereat smiled little-Reynard

"Or dont en haut: chantez, cosin!

Now then in high sing cousin

Je saurai bien, se Chanteclin,

I shall-know well if Chanteclin

mis oncles, vos fu onc neant."

my uncle to-you was ever anything

Lors comenca cil hautement:

Then began he loudly

puis jeta Chantecler un bret.

then threw Chanticleer a cry

L'un oil ot clos et l'autre overt:

The-one eye he-bad shut and the-other open

325

330

335

car molt forment dotoit Renart.

for very greatly he-feared Reynard

340 Sovent regarde cele part.

Often he-looks that way

Ce dist Renars “n’as fet neent.

This said Reynard not-thou-hast done anything

Chanteclins chantoit autrement

Chanteclin sang otherwise

a uns lons trez les eilz cligniez:

at some long drafts the eyes closed

l’en l’ooit bien par vint plaissiez.”

one him-heard well through twenty enclosures

345 Chantecler quide que voir die.

Chanticleer thinks that truth he-says

Lors let aler sa melodie

Then he-lets to-go his melody

les oilz cligniez par grant aïr.

the eyes closed with great fervor

Lors ne volt plus Renars soffrir.

Then not wished more Reynard to-suffer

Par de desoz un roge chol

By from beneath a red cabbage

350 le prent Renars parmi le col,

him takes Reynard through the neck

fuiant s’ent va et fait grant joie

fleeing himself-thence goes and makes great joy

de ce qu’il a encontre proie.

of this that-he has met prey

Pinte voit que Renars l’enporte,

Pinte sees that Reynard him-carries-off

dolente est, molt se deconforte.

grieving she-is much herself she-distresses

Si se commence a dementer,

So herself she-begins to lament

quant Chantecler vit enporter,

when Chanticleer she-saw to-be-carried-off

et dit "sire, bien le vos dis

and says lord well it to-you I-said

et vos me gabiez todis

and you me jested-at always

et si me tenieez por fole.

and so me you-held for mad

Mes ore est voire la parole,

But now is true the word

dont je vos avoie garni.

whereof I to-you had warned

Vostre senz vos a escharni.

Your sense you has mocked

Fole fui, quant jel vos apris,

Mad I-was when I-it to-you taught

et fox ne crient tant qu'il est pris.

and a-fool not fears until that he-is taken

Renars vos tient qui vos enporte.

Reynard you holds who you carries-off

Lasse dolente, con sui morte!

Wretched grieving how I-am dead

Car se je ci pert mon seignor,

For if I here lose my lord

a toz jors ai perdu m'onor."

for all days I-have lost my-honor

355

360

365

La bone feme del mainil

The good woman of-the homestead

370 a overt l'uis de son cortil.

has opened the-door of her yard

Car vespres ert, por ce voloit

For evening it-was for this she-wished

ses jelines remetre en toit.

her hens to-put-back in coop

Pinte apela, Bise et Rosete.

Pinte she-called Bise and Rosete

L'une ne l'autre ne recete.

The-one nor the-other not shelters

375 Quant voit que venues ne sont,

When she-sees that come not they-are

molt se merveille qu'elles font.

much herself she-marvels what they-do

Son coc rehuice a grant aleine.

Her cock she-calls-again with great breath

Renart regarde qui l'enmeine.

Reynard she-looks-at who him-leads-away

Lors passe avant por le rescure

Then she-passes forward for him to-rescue

380 et li gorpils commence a core.

and the fox begins to run

Quant voit que prendre nel porra,

When she-sees that to-take not-him she-will-be-able

porpense soi qu'el crieria.

she-bethinks herself that-she will-cry

"Harou!" escrie a pleine gole.

Help she-cries at full throat

Li vilein qui sont a la coule,

The villeins who are at the ball-game

quant il oent que cele bret,

when they hear that she bellows

trestuit se sont cele part tret.

all themselves are that way drawn

Si li demandent, que ele a.

So to-her they-ask what she has

En sospirant lor reconta

In sighing to-them she-recounted

“Lasse, con m'est mal avenu!”

Wretched how to-me-is ill befallen

“Coment?” font il. “Car j'ai perdu

How say they For I-have lost

mon coc que li gorpil enporte.”

my cock which the fox carries-off

Ce dist Costans “pute vielle orde,

This said Constant foul old-woman filthy

qu'aves dont fet que nel preïstes?”

what-have-you then done that not-him you-took

“Sire” fait ele, “mar le dites.

Lord says she ill it you-say

Par les seinz deu, je nel poi prendre.

By the saints (of-)God I not-him could to-take

“Por quoi?” “Il ne me volt attendre.”

For what He not me wished to-await

“Sel ferissiez?” “Je n'oi de quoi.”

If-him you-bad-struck I not-bad of what

“De cest baston.” “Par deu ne poi:

With this staff By God not I-could

385

390

395

car il s'en vet si grant troton,

for he himself-thence goes at-such great trot

400 nel prendroient deus chen breton."

not-him would-take two dogs Breton

"Par ou s'en vet?" "Par ci tot droit."

By where himself-thence goes-he By here all straight

Li vilein corent a exploit.

The villeins run in haste

Tuit s'escrient "or ca, or ca!"

All themselves-cry now here now here

Renars l'oï qui devant va.

Reynard it-heard who in-front goes

405 Au pertuis vint, si sailli jus

To-the gap he-came so leapt down

qu'a la terre feri li cus.

that-on the ground struck the rump

Le saut qu'il fist ont cil oï.

The leap that-he made have they heard

Tuit s'escrient "or ca, or ci!"

All themselves-cry now here now here

Costans lor dist "or tost apres!"

Constant to-them said now quickly after

410 Li vilein corent a esles.

The villeins run at speed

Costans apele son mastin,

Constant calls his mastiff

que tuit apellent Mauvoisin,

whom all call Mauvoisin

["Bardol, Travers, Humbaut, Rebors,

Bardol Travers Humbaut Rebors

cores apres Renart le ros!"]

run after Reynard the red

au corre qu'il font l'ont veü

at-the run that-they do him-they-have seen

et Renart ont aperceü.

and Reynard they-have perceived

Tuit s'escrient "vez le gorpill!"

All themselves-cry see-there the fox

Or est Chanteclers en peril,

Now is Chanticleer in peril

s'il ne reseit engin et art.

if-he not knows-in-turn device and art

"Conment" fait il, "sire Renart,

How says he lord Reynard

dont n'oez quel honte vos dient,

then not-you-bear what shame to-you they-say

cil vilein qui si vos escrient?

those villeins who so you cry-at

Costans vos seut plus que le pas.

Constant you follows more than the pace

Car li lanciez un de vos gas

Now to-him hurl one of your jests

a l'issue de cele porte.

at the-issue of that gate

Quant il dira 'Renars l'enporte',

When he will-say Reynard him-carries-off

'maugrez vostre' ce poes dire.

despite yours this you-can to-say

Ja nel porres mels desconfire."

Ever not-it you-will-be-able better to-confound

415

420

425

N'i a si sage ne foloit.

Not-there is so wise (who-)not plays-the-fool

430 Renars qui tot le mont decoit,

Reynard who all the world deceives

fu decoüs a cele foiz.

was deceived at that time

Il s'escria a haute vois.

He himself-cried in loud voice

"Maugre vostre" ce dist Renart

Despite yours this said Reynard

"de cestui enpor je ma part."

of this-one carry-off I my part

435 Quant cil senti lache la boce,

When he felt loose the mouth

bati les eles, si s'en toche.

he-beat the wings so himself-thence he-takes

Si vint volant sor un pomer.

So he-came flying onto an apple-tree

Renars fu bas sor un fomier,

Reynard was low on a dunghill

greinz et maris et trespenses

vexed and sorry and dismayed

440 del coc qui li est escapez.

at-the cock who to-him is escaped

Chantecler li jeta un ris.

Chanticleer to-him threw a laugh

"Renart" fait il, "que vos est vis

Reynard says he what to-you is opinion

de cest siegle? que vos en semble?"

of this world what to-you thereof seems

Li lecheres fremist et tramle.

The rogue shudders and trembles

Si li a dit par felonie:

So to-him has said in felony

“La boce” fait il “soit honie,

The mouth says he be shamed

qui s’entremet de noise fere

which itself-busies of noise to-make

a l’ore qu’ele se doit tere.”

at the-hour that-it itself ought to-be-silent

“Si soit” fet li cos, “con je voil.

So he says the cock as I wish

La male gote li cret l’oil

The evil gout to-him may-burst the-eye

qui s’entremet de someller

which itself-busies of to-doze

a l’ore que il doit veillier.

at the-hour that he ought to-watch

Cosins Renart” dist Chantecler,

Cousin Reynard said Chanticleer

“nus ne se puet en vos fier.

anyone not himself can in you to-trust

Dahez ait vostre cosinage!

A-curse have your cousinsship

Il me dut torner a damage.

It me was-to to-turn to harm

Renart parjure, ales vos ent!

Reynard forsworn go you hence

Se vos estes ci longement,

If you are here long

445

450

455

vos i lairois vostre gonele."

you there will-leave your tunic

460 Renars n'a soing de sa favele.

Reynard not-has care of his prattle

Ne volt plus dire, atant s'en torne.

Not he-wishes more to-say thereupon himself-thence he-turns

Ne repose ne ne sejourne,

Neither he-rests nor not he-stays

besongnieus est, le cuer a vein.

needy he-is the heart he-has faint

Par une broce lez un plein

By a thicket beside a plain

465 s'en vait fuiant tot une sente.

himself-thence he-goes fleeing all a path

Molt est dolans, molt se demente

Much he-is grieving much himself he-laments

del coc, qui li est escapes,

at-the cock who to-him is escaped

quant il n'en est bien saoles. —

since he not-thereof is well sated

The Titmouse

Reynard asks his gossip the titmouse to come down and kiss him, swearing the king has proclaimed a general peace. She brushes a fistful of moss and leaves against his whiskers instead, and he snaps twice and gets nothing. When he begs a third turn she refuses and keeps to her branch, and huntsmen and horns break in while he is still pleading; she asks what became of his peace. Reynard says the young hounds never swore it, and flees. A lay-brother with two hounds nearly takes him, he talks his way past, and the dogs lose him at a ditch.

Que qu'il se pleint de sa losenge,

While that-he himself complains of his flattery

atant es vos une mesange

thereupon behold you a titmouse

sor la brance d'un cainne crues,

on the branch of-an oak hollow

ou ele avoit repost ses ues.

where she had bidden her eggs

Renars la vit, si la salue.

Reynard her saw so her greets

“Comere, bien soiez venue!

Gossip well be come

Car descendes, si me besiez!”

Now come-down so me kiss

“Renart” fet elle, “or vos tesiez!

Reynard says she now you be-silent

Voirement estes mes comperes,

Truly you-are my godfather-in-law

se vos ne par fussiez si leres.

if you not indeed were so thievish

470

475

Mes vos aves fait tante guiche

But you have done so-many tricks

480 a tant oisel, a tante biche,

to so-many birds to so-many hinds

qu'en ne s'en set a quoi tenir.

that-one not himself-thereof knows at what to-hold

Et que quidiez vos devenir?

And what think you to-become

Maufes vos ont si deserte

Devils you have so deserted

qu'en ne vos puet prendre a verte."

that-one not you can to-take at truth

485 "Dame" ce respont li gorpilz,

Lady this answers the fox

"si voirement con vostre filz

so truly as your son

est mes fillous en droit bapteme,

is my godson in right baptism

onques ne fis semblant ne emme

ever not I-made show nor intention

de rien qui vos doüst desplaire.

of anything which to-you ought to-displease

490 Savez, por quoi je nel vol fere?

Know-you for what I not-it wish to-do

Droiz est que nos le vos dions.

Right it-is that we it to-you say

Mesire Nobles li lions

My-lord Noble the lion

a or par tot la pes juree,

has now through all the peace sworn

se dex plaist, qui aura duree.

if God pleases which will-have duration

Par sa terre l'a fait jurer

Through his land it-be-has made to-swear

et a ses homes afier

and to his men to-pledge

que soit gardee et meinteneue.

that it-be kept and maintained

Molt lie en est la gent menue.

Very glad thereof is the folk little

Car or carront par plusors terres

For now will-fall through many lands

plez et noises et mortex guerres,

suits and quarrels and mortal wars

et les bestes grans et petites

and the beasts great and small

la merci deu seront bien quites."

the mercy (of-)God will-be well quit

La messange respont atant

The titmouse answers thereupon

"Renart, or m'ales vos flatant.

Reynard now me-you-go you flattering

Mes se vos plest, queres autrui:

But if to-you pleases seek another

car moi ne beseres vos hui,

for me not will-kiss you today

ne ja por rien que vos diez,

nor ever for anything that you say

icist besers n'iert otroiez."

this kiss not-will-be granted

495

500

505

Quant Renars voit que sa conmere

When Reynard sees that his godmother-in-law

510 ne velt pas croire son compere,

not wishes at-all to-believe her godfather-in-law

“Dame” fait il, “or m’escotez!

Lady says he now me-listen-to

Por ce que vos me redotez,

For this that you me mistrust

les ielz cloingniez vos beserai.”

the eyes closed you I-will-kiss

“Par foi” fait ele, “et jel ferai.

By faith says she and I-it will-do

515 Or cligniez donc!” cil a clignie

Now close then he has closed

et la mesengne a enpoignie

and the titmouse has gripped

plein son poing de mousse et de foille.

full her hand of moss and of leaf

N’a talant que besier le voille,

Not-she-has desire that to-kiss him she-wish

les gernons li commence a tordre:

the whiskers to-him she-begins to rub

520 et quant Renars la cuide aerdre,

and when Reynard her thinks to-seize

n’i trove se la foille non,

not-there he-finds except the leaf not

qui li fu remese au grenon.

which to-him was left at-the whisker

La mesenge li escria

The titmouse to-him cried

“Haï Renart, quel pez ci a!

Ha Reynard what peace here is

Tost oüssiez la trive enfrete,

Soon you-would-have the truce broken

se ne me fusse arere trete.

if not myself I-had back drawn

Vos disiez que afiee

You said that (was-)pledged

la pes et qu'ele estoit juree.

the peace and that-it was sworn

Mal l'a juree vostre sire.”

Ill it-has sworn your lord

Renars li conmenca a rire,

Reynard to-her began to laugh

si li a jete un abai.

so to-her has thrown a bark

“Certes” fait il, “je m'en gabai.

Certainly says he I myself-thereof jested

Ce fis je por vos poor fere.

This did I for you fear to-make

Mes qui caut? or soit a refere.

But what matters now be-it to to-do-again

Je reclingnerai autre fois.”

I will-close-again another time

“Or dont” fet ele “estez toz cois!”

Now then says she be all quiet

Cil cligne qui molt sot de bole.

He closes who much knew of deceit

525

530

535

Cele li vint pres de la gole

She to-him came near to the throat

raiant, mes n'entra pas dedenz.

grazing but not-she-entered at-all within

540 Et Renars ra jete les denz.

And Reynard has-again thrown the teeth

Prendre la quide, mes il faut.

To-take her he-thinks but he fails

“Renart fait ele, ce que vaut?

Reynard says she this what is-worth

Ce n'iert ja que croire vos doie.

This not-will-be ever that to-believe you I-ought

Par quel manere vos creroie?

By what manner you I-would-believe

545 Se ja vos croi, li maufes m'arde!”

If ever you I-believe the devil me-burn

Ce dist Renars “trop es coarde.

This said Reynard too thou-art cowardly

Ce fis je por vos esmaier

This did I for you to-dismay

et por vos auques essaier.

and for you somewhat to-try

Car certes je n'i enten mie

For certainly I not-there intend at-all

550 ne traïson ne felonie.

neither treason nor felony

Mes or revenes autre foiz!

But now come-again another time

Tierce foïe, ce est droiz.

Thirde time this is right

Par non de seinte carite,

By name of holy charity

par bien et par establete,

by good and by steadfastness

bele conmere, sus leves!

555

fair godmother-in-law up rise

Par cele foi que me debes

By that faith that to-me you-owe

et que vos debes mon fillol,

and that you owe (to-)my godson

qui la chante sor ce tilloil,

who there sings on this linden

si faisomes ceste racorde.

so let-us-make this reconciliation

De peceor misericorde."

560

On a-sinner mercy

Mes ele fet oreille sorde:

But she makes ear deaf

qu'ele n'est pas fole ne lorde,

for-she not-is at-all mad nor dull

ainz siet sor la branche d'un chesne.

rather she-sits on the branch of-an oak

Que que Renars si se deresne

While that Reynard so himself argues

atant este vos veneor

565

thereupon behold you huntsmen

et braconier et corneor

and boundsmen and horn-blowers

qui sor le col li sont coü.

who on the neck to-him are fallen

Et quant Renars a ce veü,

And when Reynard has this seen

forment s'en est esmervelliez.

greatly himself-thereat he-is marveled

570 De fuïr s'est aparelliez.

Of to-flee himself-he-is made-ready

Si drece la coue en arcon.

So he-raises the tail in bow

Forment s'escrient li garçon,

Loudly themselves-cry the lads

sonent graïles et moieneax.

they-sound horns and little-horns

Et Renars trosse ses panaux,

And Reynard trusses his skirts

575 qui molt petit en els se fie.

who very little in them himself trusts

Et la mesenge li escrie

And the titmouse to-him cries

"Renart, cist bans est tost brisie,

Reynard this ban is soon broken

et la peiz que vos disiez.

and the peace that you spoke-of

Ou fuiez vos? ca revenez!"

Where flee you here come-back

580 Renars fu cointes et senez,

Reynard was clever and sensible

si li ra trait une mençoigne.

so to-her has-again drawn a lie

Que qu'il parole, si s'esloigne.

While that-he speaks so himself-he-distances

“Dame, les trives sont jurees

Lady the truces are sworn

et plevies et afiees,

and pledged and affirmed

la pes ausi de tot en tot.

the peace likewise of all in all

585

Mes nel sevent mie par tot.

But not-it they-know at-all through all

Ce sont cael qui ci nos vienent,

These are whelps who here to-us come

qui la pes que lor pere tiennent,

who the peace that their fathers keep

n'ont encor pas aseüree,

not-have yet at-all assured

si con lor pere l'ont juree.

so as their fathers it-have sworn

590

N'erent pas encore si saive

Not-they-were at-all yet so wise

au jor, que lor pere et lor aive

at-the day when their fathers and their grandfathers

jurerent la pes a tenir,

swore the peace to keep

que l'en les i feïst venir.”

that one them there might-make to-come

“Certes ore estes vos maves.

595

Certainly now are you wicked

Cuidiez qu'il enfrennent la pes?

Think-you that-they break the peace

Ca revenez, si me baisiez!”

Here come-back so me kiss

“Jei n'en sui pas or aisiez.”

I not-thereof am at-all now at-ease

“Ja jura la pes vostre sire.”

Already swore the peace your lord

600 Renars s'en fuit, ne vout plus dire,

Reynard himself-thence flees not he-wished more to-say

come cil qui sot le travers.

like he who knew the crossing

Atant estes vos un convers

Thereupon behold you a lay-brother

que dous veautres enchaenez

who two bounds chained

avoit lez la voie amenez.

had beside the way brought

605 Li gars qui seut Renart premiers,

The lad who follows Reynard first

quant il choisi les leemiers,

when he espied the tracking-bounds

voit le convers, si li escrie

he-sees the lay-brother so to-him cries

“Deslie va, les chiens deslie!

Unleash go the dogs unleash

Vois le gorpil! mar en ira.”

See the fox ill thereof he-will-go

610 Renars l'oï, si sospira.

Reynard it-heard so he-sighed

Bien set que il ert malvenuz,

Well he-knows that he will-be ill-come

se il puet estre retenuz.

if he can to-be held

Car itel gent entor lui voit,

For such folk around him he-sees

n'i a celui, s'il le tenoit,

not-there is he-who if-he him held

que bien ne li ostast la pel

that well not to-him would-take-off the skin

a la pointe de son cotel.

with the point of his knife

Poor a de perdre sa corce,

Fear he-has of to-lose his hide

se plus n'i vaut engin que force.

if more not-there is-worth device than force

Molt dote perdre sa gonele,

Much he-fears to-lose his tunic

s'auques ne li vaut sa favele.

if-somewhat not to-him avails his prattle

Li convers qui autre part muse,

The lay-brother who other side muses

et Renars, qui pas ne rehusé,

and Reynard who at-all not draws-back

ne puet mucier ne puet guenchir

not can to-hide nor can to-dodge

ne nule part ne puet foïr

nor any side not can to-flee

ne trestorner en nule guise.

nor to-turn-about in any wise

Es vos le convers qui l'avise,

Behold you the lay-brother who him-espies

devant lui vient toz aïrez:

before him he-comes all enraged

615

620

625

“Ha ha, cuivrez, vos n'en irez.”

Ha ha base-one you not-thereof will-go

“Sire” fait il, “por deu ne dites!

Lord says he for God not say

630 Car seins hom estes et ermites.

For holy man you-are and hermit

Si ne devez en nul endroit

So not you-ought in any place

a nul home tolir son droit.

to any man to-take-away his right

S'or estoie ci arestes

If-now I-were here stopped

ne par voz chenz point destorbes,

nor by your dogs at-all bindered

635 sor vos en seroit li pecies:

on you thereof would-be the sin

et j'en seroie corociez,

and I-thereof would-be angered

car miens en seroit li damages.

for mine thereof would-be the harm

Nos corrien ici a gages

We run here for stakes

entre moi et ceste cenaille:

between me and this pack

640 molt a grant cose en la fermaille.”

much there-is great thing in the bargain

Cil se porpense qu'il dist bien.

He himself bethinks that-he said well

A deu et a seint Julien

To God and to saint Julian

le conmande, si s'en retourne.

him be-commends so himself-thence he-turns

Et Renars qui pas ne sojorne,

And Reynard who at-all not tarries

molt esperone son cheval.

much spurs his horse

Par une sente les un val

By a path beside a valley

s'en vet fuiant tot une plegne.

himself-thence goes fleeing all a plain

Li cris qui apres lui engreigne

The cry which after him grows

le fet aler plus que le pas.

him makes to-go more than the pace

A une voie, a un trespas

At a way at a crossing

a un grant fosse tressailli.

at a great ditch he-leapt-over

Iloques l'ont li chen gerpi:

There him-have the dogs abandoned

n'en sevent mes ne vent ne voie.

not-thereof they-know more neither wind nor way

Et Renars qui bien se devoie,

And Reynard who well himself turns-aside

n'i atent per ne conpaignon:

not-there awaits peer nor companion

645

650

655

car molt dote mors de gaignon.

for much he-fears bites of cur

N'est merveille s'il est lassez.

Not-is marvel if-he is weary

Car le jor out foï asez.

For the day he-bad fled much

Si a trove mauves eür.

So he-has found evil luck

660 Mais que chaut? ore est asoür.

But what matters now he-is assured

Ases a grant travail eü

Much he-has great toil had

por ce qu'il li est mescoü.

for this that-it to-him is gone-ill

Par ce que il s'en va fuitis,

By this that he himself-thence goes fugitive

manace molt ses enemis.

he-threatens much his enemies

Tibert the Cat, and the Villein's Gin

Reynard hires Tibert against Isengrim, then leads him toward a gin set in a narrow path and dares him to show his horse's paces. Tibert spots the trap, draws back at the first run, and clears it at the second. When two mastiffs come at them both, Tibert shoulders Reynard into the gin, which closes on his foot, then makes off with a jeer. The villein's axe splits the trap instead of Reynard's head, and he escapes badly hurt, glad to have kept the foot. The dogs run him as far as the wood before they give up.

Que qu'il se pleint de s'aventure,

While that-he himself laments of his-adventure

garde et voit en une rue

he-looks and sees in a lane

Tiebert le chat, qui se deduit

Tibert the cat who himself disports

sanz compaignie et sens conduit.

without company and without escort

De sa coe se vet joant

With his tail himself he-goes playing

et entor lui granz saus faisant.

and around him great leaps making

A un saut qu'il fist se regarde,

At a leap that-he made himself he-looks-round

si choisi Renart qui l'esgarde.

so he-espied Reynard who him-watches

Il le conut bien au poil ros.

He him knew well by-the hair red

"Sire" fait il, "bien vegnes vos!"

Lord says he well come you

665

670

675 Renars li dist par felonie

Reynard to-him said in felony

“Tibert, je ne vos salu mie.

Tibert I not you greet at-all

Ja mar vendrez la ou je soie.

Never ill you-will-come there where I be

Car par mon chef, je vos feroie

For by my head I you would-strike

volentiers, se j'en avoie aise.”

willingly if I-thereof had ease

680 Tibert besoigne qu'il se taise:

Tibert needs that he be-silent

qar Renars est molt coreciez.

for Reynard is very angered

Et Tibers s'est vers lui dreciez

And Tibert himself-is toward him raised

tot simplement et sanz grant noise,

all simply and without great noise

“Certes” fait il, “sire, moi poisse

Certainly says he lord to-me it-grieves

685 que vos estes vers moi iriez.”

that you are toward me angered

Renars fu auques enpiriez

Reynard was somewhat worsened

de jeüner et de mal traire.

from to-fast and from ill to-bear

N'a ores soing de noisse fere,

Not-he-has now care of quarrel to-make

car molt ot joüne le jor.

for much he-bad fasted the day

Et Tieberz fu pleins de sojour,

And Tibert was full of rest

s'ot les gernons vels et cenuz

so-be-had the whiskers old and hoary

et les denz trencans et menus,

and the teeth cutting and small

si ot bons ongles por grater.

so be-had good claws for to-scratch

Se Renars le voloit mater,

If Reynard him wished to-overcome

je cuit qu'il se voudroit desfendre.

I think that-be himself would-wish to-defend

Mais Renars nel velt mie enprendre

But Reynard not-it wishes at-all to-undertake

[envers Tibert nule meslee

against Tibert any fray

qu'en maint leu ot la pel aree].

for-in many-a place be-had the skin plowed

Ses moz retorne en autre guise.

His words be-turns in other wise

“Tibert” fait il, “je ai enprise

Tibert says he I have undertaken

guerre molt dure et molt amere

war very hard and very bitter

vers Ysengrin un mien compere.

against Isengrim a mine godfather-in-law

690

695

700

S'ai retenu meint soudoier

so-I-have retained many-a mercenary

et vos en voil je molt proier

and you thereof wish I much to-treat

705 qu'a moi remanes en soudees.

that-with me you-remain in wages

Car ains que soient acordees

For before that be reconciled

les trives entre moi et lui

the truces between me and him

li cuit je fere grant ennui."

to-him think I to-do great trouble

Tieberz li chaz fet molt grant joie

Tibert the cat makes very great joy

710 de ce dont dan Renars le proie.

of this whereof sir Reynard him entreats

Si li a retorne le vis.

So to-him has turned the face

"Tenes" fait il, "je vos plevis

Hold says he I to-you pledge

que ja nul jor ne vos faudre

that ever any day not to-you I-will-fail

et que volontiers asaudre

and that willingly I-will-assail

715 dant Ysengrin: qu'il a mesfet

sir Isengrim for-he has done-wrong

vers moi et en dit et en fet."

toward me both in word and in deed

Or l'a Renars tant acorde

Now him-has Reynard so-much brought-to-terms

qu'entr'aus dous se sont acorde.

that-between-them two themselves they-are agreed

Andui s'en vont par foi plevie.

Both themselves-thence go by faith pledged

Renars qui est de male vie,

Reynard who is of evil life

nel laissa onques a haïr,

not-him left ever to hate

ainz se peine de lui traïr.

rather himself be-troubles of him to-betray

En ce a mis tote s'entente.

In this he-has put all his-intent

Il garde en une estroite sente,

He looks in a narrow path

si a choisi pres de l'orniere

so he-has espied near to the-rut

entre le bois et la carere

between the wood and the road

un broion de chesne fendu,

a gin of oak split

c'uns vileins i avoit tendu.

that-a villain there had set

Il fu recuiz: si s'en eschive.

He was crafty so himself-thence he-avoids

Mes danz Tibers n'a nule trive,

But sir Tibert not-has any truce

720

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730

s'il le puet au braion atrere

if-he him can to-the gin to-draw

qu'il ne li face un mal jor traire.

that-he not to-him make an evil day to-bear

Renars li a jete un ris

Reynard to-him has thrown a laugh

"Tibert" fait il, "de ce vos pris

Tibert says he for this you I-prize

735 que molt estes et prous et baus

that much you-are both worthy and fair

et tis chevaus est molt isnaus.

and thy horse is very swift

Mostrez moi, conment il set core.

Show me how he knows to-run

Par ceste voie, ou a grant poure,

By this way where there-is great dust

corez tote ceste sentele!

run all this little-path

740 La voie en est igax et bele."

The way thereof is level and fair

Tibers li caz fu eschaufez

Tibert the cat was heated

et Renars fu un vis maufez,

and Reynard was a living devil

qui le vost en folie enjoindre.

who him wished into folly to-engage

Tibers s'apareille de poindre,

Tibert himself-prepares of to-spur

cort et racort les sauz menuz

he-runs and runs-again the leaps small

tant qu'il est au braion venuz.

until that-he is at-the gin come

Quant il i vint, s'apercut bien

When he there came he-perceived well

que Renars i entent engien.

that Reynard there intends device

Mes il n'en fet semblent ne chere,

But he not-thereof makes show nor countenance

en eschivant se tret arere

in avoiding himself he-draws back

ensus du braion demi pie.

away from-the gin half foot

Et Renars l'a bien espie.

And Reynard him-has well spied

Si li a dit "vos ales mal,

So to-him has said you go ill

qui en travers corez cheval."

who in across run horse

Cil s'est un petit esloigniez.

He himself-is a little distanced

"A refere est, or repoigniez!

To to-do-again is now spur-again

Menes l'un poi plus droitement!"

Lead him-a little more straightly

"Volentiers: dites moi, comment!"

Willingly say to-me how

745

750

755

“Conment? si droit qu’il ne guenchisse

How so straight that-he not swerve

760 ne hors de la voie n’en isse.”

nor out of the way not-thereof go-out

Cil lait core a col estendu

He lets to-run at neck stretched

tant qu’il voit le braion tendu.

until that-he sees the gin set

Ne guenchit onques, einz tresaut.

Not he-swerves ever rather he-leaps-over

Renars qui a veü le saut,

Reynard who has seen the leap

765 sot bien qu’il s’est aperceüz

knew well that-he himself-is perceived

et que par lui n’iert deceüz.

and that by him not-he-will-be deceived

Porpense soi que il dira

He-bethinks himself what he will-say

et comment il le decevra.

and how he him will-deceive

Devant lui vint, si li a dit

Before him he-came so to-him has said

770 par mautalant et par afit

in ill-will and in scorn

“Tibert” fait il, “bien vos os dire,

Tibert says he well you I-dare to-say

vostre cheval est ases pire

your horse is quite worse

et por vendre en est meins vaillanz,

and for to-sell thereof he-is less worth

por ce q'est eschis et saillanz."

for this that-he-is skittish and leaping

Tieberz li chaz forment s'escuse

Tibert the cat greatly himself-excuses

de ce dont danz Renars l'acuse.

of this whereof sir Reynard him-accuses

Forment a son cors engregnie

Greatly he-has his body strained

et meinte fois recomencie.

and many-a time begun-again

Que quil s'esforce, es vos atant

While that-he strains behold you thereupon

deus mastinz qui viennent batant.

two mastiffs who come rushing

Renart voient, s'ont abaie.

Reynard they-see so-they-have barked

Andui s'en sont molt esmaie:

Both themselves-thereat are much dismayed

par la sente s'en vont fuiant

by the path themselves-thence they-go fleeing

(li uns aloit l'autre botant)

the one went the-other shoving

tant qu'il vindrent au liu tot droit

until that-they came to-the place all straight

ou li braions tendus estoit.

where the gin set was

Renars le vit, guencir cuida.

Reynard it saw to-dodge he-thought

Mais Tibers, qui trop l'anguissa,

But Tibert who too-much him-pressed

775

780

785

l'a si feru del bras senestre

him-has so struck with-the arm left

790 que Renars ciet enz del pie destre,

that Reynard falls in with-the foot right

si que la cles en est saillie.

so that the catch thereof is sprung

Et li engins ne refaut mie,

And the device not fails-again at-all

si serrent li huisset andui

so close the jaws both

que Renart firent grant anui:

which (to-)Reynard did great trouble

795 le pie li ont tres bien sere.

the foot to-him they-have very well gripped

Molt l'a Tibers bien honore,

Much him-has Tibert well honored

quant el braion l'a enbatu

since into-the gin him-he-has driven

ou il aura le col batu.

where he will-have the neck beaten

Ci a meveise compaignie,

Here is wicked company

800 car vers lui a sa foi mentie.

for toward him he-has his faith broken

Renars remeint. Tibers s'en toce.

Reynard remains Tibert himself-thence departs

Si li escrie a pleine boche

So to-him cries at full mouth

"Renart, Renart, vos remaindrez,

Reynard Reynard you will-remain

mes jei m'en vois toz esfreez.

but I myself-thence go all frightened

Sire Renart, vielz est li chaz:

Lord Reynard old is the cat

petit vos vaut vostre porchaz.

little to-you avails your pursuit

Ci vos herbergeroiz, ce cuit.

Here you will-lodge this I-think

Encontre vezie recuit.”

Against a-cunning-one twice-crafty

Or est Renars en male trape,

Now is Reynard in evil trap

car li chen le tient en frape.

for the dogs him hold in press

Et li vileinz qui vint apres,

And the villain who came after

leva sa hace, s'ala pres.

raised his axe so-he-went near

A poi Renars n'est estestez.

By little Reynard is beheaded

Mais li cous est jus avalez

But the blow is down come-down

sor le braion qu'il a fendu.

on the gin that-he has split

Et cil a son pie estendu:

And he has his foot stretched

a soi le tret, molt fu blechiez.

to himself it draws much he-was hurt

Fuiant s'en vet dolans et liez:

Fleeing himself-thence he-goes grieving and glad

805

810

815

dolenz de ce qu'il fu quassiez,

grieving of this that-he was crushed

820 liez qu'il n'i a le pie laissie.

glad that-he not-there has the foot left

Quant il senti qu'il fu delivres,

When he felt that-he was free

ne fu pas estordi ne ivres,

not he-was at-all dazed nor drunk

aincois s'est tost mis a la fuie.

rather himself-he-is quickly put to the flight

Et li vileins l'escrie et huie,

And the villein him-cries-at and boots

825 qui molt se tient a engignie.

who much himself holds for tricked

Li chien ont lor cours engrenie,

The dogs have their course strengthened

si reconmencent a glatir.

so they-begin-again to bay

Onc Renars ne s'osa quatir

Ever Reynard not himself-dared to-crouch

tresqu'il ot tot le bois passe.

until-that-he had all the wood passed

830 Iloc furent li chen lasse,

There were the dogs wearied

recraant s'en tornent arere.

giving-up themselves-thence they-turn back

Renars tote une grant charrere

Reynard all a great highway

s'en vait fuiant, car molt s'esmaie.

himself-thence goes fleeing for much himself-he-dismays

Forment li cuit et dout la plaie.

Greatly to-him smarts and aches the wound

Ne set li laz que fere puisse:

Not knows the wretch what to-do he-may

a pou qu'il n'a perdu la cuisse

by little that-he has lost the thigh

qui en la piege fu cougniee.

which in the trap was wedged

Si rot poor de la cogniee

So he-had-in-turn fear of the axe

dont li vileins le vout ocirre.

with-which the villain him wished to-kill

Que d'un que de l'autre martire

Both of-one and of the-other torment

s'en est tornes a molt grant peine

himself-thence he-is turned with very great pain

si comme aventure le meine. —

so as fortune him leads

835

840

Tiecelin the Crow, and the Cheese

Tiecelin the crow steals one of a thousand cheeses an old woman has set out to dry in the sun, and settles on a beech above Reynard, who is lying hungry underneath. Reynard praises the singing of the crow's father and asks for a song; at the third cry the cheese falls. He then claims the cheese sickens him and is bad for his wounded leg, and begs Tiecelin to come down, snatching four feathers as he lands. The crow escapes, and Reynard eats the cheese.

Entre deus monz en une pleigne

Between two hills in a plain

tot droit au pie d'une monteigne

all straight at-the foot of-a mountain

845 dessus une riviere a destre

above a river on right

la vit Renart un molt bel estre

there saw Reynard a very fair place

que la gent n'ont geres hante.

that the folk not-have much frequented

La vit Renart un fou plante.

There saw Reynard a beech planted

[L'eve passe outre et vint la droit

The-water he-passes over and came there straight

850 la ou li fouz plantez estoit.]

there where the beech planted was

Entor le fust a fet sa tresche,

Around the trunk he-has made his round-dance

puis s'est cochez sor l'erbe fresce.

then himself-he-is lain on the-grass fresh

Voutres s'i est et estenduz:

Rolled himself-there he-is and stretched

a bon ostel est descenduz.

at good lodging he-is alighted

Ne li estuet ostel changier

855

Not to-him it-behooves lodging to-change

por qu'oüst auques a mangier.

provided that-he-had somewhat to eat

Li sojourners li est or baus.

The staying to-him is now pleasant

Mes dan Tiecelins li corbeas

But sir Tiecelin the crow

qui molt ot jeüne le jor

who much had fasted the day

n'ot ore cure de sejour.

860

not-had now care of stay

Par besoiing a le bois laissie

By need he-has the wood left

et vint fendant a un plaissie

and came cleaving to an enclosure

priveement et en destor

privately and in secret

toz abreviez de fere estor.

all hastened of to-make foray

De formages vit un millier

865

Of cheeses he-saw a thousand

qu'en avoit mis a sollellier.

which-one had put to sun

Cele qui garder les devoit

She who to-guard them was-to

en sa meson entree estoit.

into her house entered was

Entree estoit en sa maison.

Entered she-was into her house

870 Tieceleins voit qu'or est seson

Tieceleins sees that-now is season

de gaengnier, si laisse corre.

of to-gain so he-lets to-run

Un en a pris: por le rescorre

One thereof he-has taken for it to-rescue

sailli la vielle en mi la rue.

leapt the old-woman in amid the street

Tieceleins voit, apres li rue

Tieceleins she-sees after him she-throws

875 challox et pieres, si l'escrie

pebbles and stones so him-she-cries-at

"Vassal, vos n'en porterois mie."

Vassal you not-thereof will-carry at-all

Tieceleins la voit auques fole.

Tieceleins her sees somewhat mad

"Vielle" fet il, "s'en en parole,

Old-woman says he if-one thereof speaks

ce porroiz dire, jei l'en port,

this you-will-be-able to-say I it-thereof carry

880 ou soit a droit ou soit a tort.

either be-it at right or be-it at wrong

De lui prendre ai eü bon leu.

Of him to-take I-have bad good place

La male garde pest le leu.

The evil watch feeds the wolf

[Le remanant gardes plus pres.

The remainder guard more closely

Cestui ne raurez vos hui mes,

This-one not will-have-again you today more

ains en ferai mes barbes rere

rather thereof I-will-make my beard to-shave

molt leement a bele chere.

very gladly with fair countenance

En aventure de lui prendre

In chance of him to-take

me mis por ce que gel vi tendre,

myself I-put for this that I-it saw tender

jaunet et de bone savor.

yellow and of good savor

Tant ai del vostre par amor.

So-much I-have of-the yours by love

Sel puis porter jusqu'a mon ni,

If-it I-can to-carry as-far-as my nest

de cuit en eve et de rosti

of cooked in water and of roast

en mangerai tot a mon cois.

thereof I-will-eat all at my choice

Ralez vos en: car je m'en vois."]

Go-back you thence for I myself-thence go

atant s'en torne et vient tot droit

thereupon himself-thence he-turns and comes all straight

au leu ou danz Renarz estoit.

to-the place where sir Reynard was

Ajorne furent a cel ore

Appointed they-were at that hour

Renarz desos et cil desoure.

Reynard below and he above

885

890

895

Mes tant i out de dessevraille

But so-much there was of difference

900 que cil manjue et cil baelle.

that the-one eats and the-other gapes

Li formaches est auques mous,

The cheese is somewhat soft

et Tiecelins i fiert granz cous

and Tiecelin there strikes great blows

au chef du bec tant qu'il l'entame.

at-the tip of-the beak so-much that-he it-broaches

Mangie en a maugre la dame

Eaten thereof he-has despite the lady

905 et del plus jaune et del plus tendre,

both of-the most yellow and of-the most tender

qui tel anui li fist au prendre.

who such trouble to-him made at-the taking

Grans cols i fert a une hie.

Great blows there he-strikes at a hammering

Onc n'en sot mot, quant une mie

Ever not-thereof he-knew word when a crumb

li est a la terre choüe

to-him is on the ground fallen

910 devant Renart qui l'a veüe.

before Reynard who it-has seen

Il conoist bien si fete beste,

He knows well such made beast

puis si en a crolle la teste.

then so thereof he-has shaken the head

Il leve sus por mels veoir:

He rises up for better to-see

Tiecelin voit lasus soir,

Tiecelin he-sees up-there to-sit

qui ses comperes ert de viez,

who his godfather-in-law was of old

le bon formache entre ses piez.

the good cheese between his feet

Priveement l'en apela

Privately him-thereupon he-called

“Por les seins deu, que voi ge la?

By the saints (of-)God what see I there

Estes vos ce, sire conpere?

Are you this lord godfather-in-law

Bien ait hui l'ame vostre pere

Well have today the-soul (of-)your father

dant Rohart qui si sot chanter!

sir Rohart who so knew to-sing

Meinte fois l'en oï vanter

Many-a time him-thereof I-heard to-boast

qu'il en avoit le pris en France.

that-he thereof had the prize in France

Vos meïsmes en vostre enfance

You yourself in your childhood

vos en solieez molt pener.

you thereof were-wont much to-trouble

Saves vos mes point orguener?

Know you more at-all to-descant

Chantes moi une rotruenge!”

Sing to-me a rotruenge

Tiecelin entent la losenge,

Tiecelin hears the flattery

915

920

925

euvre le bec, si jete un bret.

opens the beak so throws a cry

930 Et dist Renars "ce fu bien fet.

And said Reynard this was well done

Mielz chantez que ne solieez.

Better you-sing than — you-were-wont

Encore se vos voliees,

Still if you would-wish

irieez plus haut une jointe."

you-would-go more high a note

Cil qui se fet de chanter cointe,

He who himself makes of to-sing proud

935 comence de rechef a brere.

begins of anew to cry

"Dex" dist Renars, "con ore esclaire,

God said Reynard how now brightens

con ore espurge vostre vois!

how now clears your voice

Se vos vos gardees de nois,

If you yourself guarded from nuts

au miels du secle chantisois.

at-the best of-the world you-would-sing

940 Cantes encor la tierce fois!"

Sing still the third time

Cil crie a hautime aleine.

He cries at highest breath

Onc ne sot mot, que qu'il se peine,

Ever not he-knew word while that-he himself strains

que li pies destres li desserre

that the foot right to-him loosens

et li formages ciet a terre

and the cheese falls to ground

tot droit devant les piez Renart.

all straight before the feet (of-)Reynard

Li lecheres, qui trestoz art

The rogue who all burns

et se defrit de lecherie,

and himself frets with lechery

n'en atoca onc une mie.

not-thereof touched ever a crumb

Car encor, s'il puet avenir,

For still if-it can to-happen

voldra il Tiecelein tenir.

will-wish he Tiecelein to-hold

Li formaches li gist devant.

The cheese to-him lies before

Il leve sus cheant levant:

He rises up falling rising

le pie trait avant, dont il cloce,

the foot he-draws forward with-which he limps

et la pel, qui encor li loce,

and the skin which still to-him hangs-loose

[et la gambe et le pie mamis

and the leg and the foot maimed

qui el braion fu entrepris.]

which in-the gin was caught

Bien vout que Tieceleins le voie.

Well he-wished that Tiecelein it see

945

950

955

“Ha dex!” fait il “con poi de joie

Ha God says he how little of joy

m’a dex done en ceste vie!

to-me-has God given in this life

960 Que fera ge, seinte Marie!

What shall-do I holy Mary

Cist formages me put si fort

This cheese to-me stinks so strong

et flere qu’il ja m’aura mort.

and reeks that-it already me-will-have killed

Tel chose i a qui molt m’esmaie,

Such thing there is which much me-dismays

que formages n’est prous a plaie.

for cheese not-is good for wound

965 [Ne de lui talent ne me prent,

Nor of it desire not me takes

car fisicle le me defent.]

for medicine it to-me forbids

Ha Tiecelin, car descendes!

Ha Tiecelin now come-down

De cest mal si me defendes!

From this ill so me defend

Certes ja ne vos en priasse:

Certainly ever not you thereof I-would-beg

970 mes j’oi l’autrer la jambe qasse

but I-had the-other-day the leg broken

en un braion par mesceance.

in a gin by mischance

La m’avint ceste mesestance:

There to-me-befell this mishap

[onques ne m'en poi destorner.

ever not myself-thereof I-could to-turn-away

Or me covient a sejourner,

Now to-me it-bebooves to rest

enplastre metre et enloer

plaster to-put and to-bind

tant que je puisse renoer.”]

until that I may to-knit-again

Tiecelins cuide que voir die

Tiecelin thinks that truth he-says

por ce que en plorant li prie.

for this that in weeping to-him he-prays

Il descent jus, que ert en haut:

He descends down who was on high

mes mar i acointa le saut,

but ill there he-undertook the leap

se danz Renars le puet tenir.

if sir Reynard him can to-hold

Tiecelin n'ose pres venir.

Tiecelin not-dares near to-come

Renars le vit acoarder,

Reynard him saw to-turn-coward

sel conmenca aseürer.

so-him he-began to-assure

“Por deu” fait il, “ca vos traies!

For God says he here yourself draw

Quel mal vos puet fere un plaies?”

What harm to-you can to-do a wounded-one

Renars devers lui se torna.

Reynard toward him himself turned

975

980

985

Li fous qui trop s'abandona,

The fool who too-much himself-abandoned

ne sot ains mot, quant il sailli.

not knew ever word when he leapt

990 Prendre le cuida, si failli.

To-take him he-thought so he-failed

Et neporquant qatre des penes

And nevertheless four of-the feathers

li remeintrent entre les canes.

to-him remained between the teeth

[Tiecelin saut tos esmaies,

Tiecelin leaps all dismayed

qui dut estre molt mal paies.

who was-to to-be very ill paid

995 Detrers et devant se regarde.

Behind and before himself he-looks

“He dex” dist il, “si male garde

Ah God said he such evil watch

ai hui prise de moi meïсме.

I-have today taken of me myself

Ja ne cuide que feïst esme

Ever not I-think that he-might-make aim

cil fel, cist ros et cist contres,

that felon this red and this cripple

1000 qui qatre des tuiax m'a trez

who four of-the quills to-me-has drawn

de la destre ele et de la queue.

from the right wing and from the tail

Li siens cors aille a male veue!

The his body go to evil sight

Faus et traîtres est por voir.

False and traitor he-is for truth

Or m'en puis bien apercevoir.】

Now myself-thereof I-can well to-perceive

or est Tiecelins molt pleins d'ire.

1005

now is Tiecelin very full of-anger

Et Renars s'en volt escondire

And Reynard himself-thereof wishes to-clear

mais dan Tiecelins l'entrelet,

but sir Tiecelin it-leaves-off

n'est ore pas haities de plet.

not-he-is now at-all eager of suit

Si dist “li formages soit vostre!

So he-said the cheese be yours

Plus n'aurois vos hui mais del nostre.

1010

More not-will-have you today henceforth of-the ours

Je fis que fous que vos creioie

I did as fool that you I-believed

puis que escacier vos veioie.”

since that limping you I-saw

Tiecelins parla et grondi:

Tiecelin spoke and grumbled

Renars un mot ne respondi.

Reynard a word not answered

Soef en a le dol vengie.

1015

Softly thereof he-has the grief avenged

Car le formache a tot mangie,

For the cheese he-has all eaten

n'en pleint que la male foison:

not-thereof he-complains but the poor plenty

car tant li vaut une poison.

for so-much to-him is-worth a drink

Quant il s'en fu desjeünez,

When he himself-thereof was breakfasted

1020 si dist, des l'oure qu'il fu nez

so he-said from the-hour that-he was born

ne manja il de tel formache

not ate he of such cheese

en nule terre que il sache.

in any land that he know

Onques sa plaie n'en fu pire.

Ever his wound not-thereof was worse

Atant s'en vet, ne volt plus dire. —

Thereupon himself-thence he-goes not he-wished more to-say

1025 Cilz plaiz fu ainsi affinez

This suit was thus concluded

et Renars s'est acheminez.

and Reynard himself-is set-on-his-way

Hersent in the Burrow

Reynard goes down into a dark hollow and finds Hersent lying in with her four cubs. She scolds him for never visiting his gossip; he answers that her husband watches every path and that he has never sought her shame. Angry at Isengrim's public complaints, she tells Reynard to love her, and he kisses her. Then he pisses on the cubs, eats their meat, beats them, and calls them bastards. Their mother begs them to keep silent, but they refuse. Isengrim comes home, hears their grievance, and rages at his wife. She offers to clear herself by oath or ordeal; his anger passes, and he makes her swear never to spare Reynard.

Renars vint par un bois fendant

Reynard came through a wood cleaving

par une broche en un pendant.

by a thicket on a slope

Onc ne fina, que qu'il s'esgaie,

Ever not he-stopped while that-he himself-amuses

tant que il vint en une haie

until that he came into a hedge

par dessus une fosse obscure.

by above a pit dark

La li avint une aventure,

There to-him befell an adventure

de quoi li anuia et poise.

of which to-him it-vexed and it-grieves

Car par ce commenca la noise

For by this began the quarrel

par mal pechie et par dyable

by evil sin and by devil

vers Ysengrin le connestable.

against Isengrim the constable

1030

1035

Quant il vit la chevee roche,

When he saw the hollowed rock

ne sot que faire: avant s'aproehe

not he-knew what to-do forward he-approaches

pour enquerre et pour savoir,

for to-inquire and for to-know

1040 c'on n'i eüst repost avoir.

that-one there had bidden wealth

Onc n'en sot mot, quant il avale,

Ever not-thereof he-knew word when he goes-down

qu'il se trouva enmi la sale

that-he himself found amid the hall

dant Ysengrin son anemi.

(of-)sir Isengrim his enemy

Quatre louviaus gisent enmi

Four wolf-cubs lie amid

1045 et madame Hersent la louve

and my-lady Hersent the she-wolf

qui ses louviax norrist et couve:

who her wolf-cubs nourishes and broods

a chascun donnoit sa bouchie.

to each she-gave her mouthful

Nouvelement ert acouchie.

Newly she-was brought-to-bed

Mais n'avoit pas son chief couvert:

But not-she-had at-all her head covered

1050 garda, si vit l'uis entrouvert.

she-looked so she-saw the-door half-open

Pour la clarte qui trop la grieve

For the brightness which too-much her grieves

pour esgarder sa teste lieve,

for to-look her head she-raises

savoir qui leens fu venuz.

to-know who in-there was come

Renars fu grelles et menuz

Reynard was slender and small

et fu repost derrier la porte.

and was hidden behind the door

Et Hersent qui se reconforte,

And Hersent who herself comforts

le connut bien a la pel rousse.

him knew well by the skin red

Ne puet muer que ne s'escousse.

Not she-can to-help that — herself-she-shake

Si li a dit tout en riant

So to-him has said all in laughing

“Renart, qu'alez vous espiant?”

Reynard what-go you spying

Adonques fu touz desconfis,

Then he-was all discomfited

de honte avoir fu il bien fis.

of shame to-have was he well sure

N'ose mot dire, tant se doute:

Not-he-dares word to-say so-much himself he-fears

car Ysengrin ne l'aime goute.

for Isengrim not him-loves a-drop

Hersent saut sus, lieve le chef,

Hersent leaps up raises the head

1055

1060

1065

si le rappelle de rechief

so him she-calls-back of anew

et asenne a son grelle doit.

and points with her slender finger

“Renart, Renart, li poilz le doit

Reynard Reynard the hair it says

que soiez felz et deputaire.

that you-be felon and base

1070 Ainc ne me vousistes bien faire

Ever not me you-wished good to-do

ne ne venistes la ou j’ere.

nor not you-came there where I-was

Je ne sai rien de tel compere

I not know anything of such godfather-in-law

qui sa conmere ne revide.”

who his godmother-in-law not revisits

Cilz a tel paour et tel hide,

He has such fear and such dread

1075 ne puet muer qu’il ne responde.

not he-can to-help that-be — answer

“Dame” fait il, “dex me confonde,

Lady says he God me confound

s’onques pour mal ne pour haïne

if-ever for evil or for hatred

ai eschive ceste gesine:

I-have shunned this childbed

ainz i venisse volentiers.

rather there I-would-come willingly

1080 Mais quant je vois par ces sentiers,

But when I go through these paths

si m'espie dant Ysengrins

so me-spies sir Isengrim

et en voies et en chemins.

both in ways and in roads

Ne je ne sai que je i face,

Nor I not know what I there do

tant con vostre sire me hace.

as-long as your lord me hates

Moult fait grant pechie qu'il me het.

Much he-does great sin that-he me hates

Mais li mien cors ait cent deshet,

But the my body have a-hundred ills

se onc li fis chose nezune,

if ever to-him I-did thing any

dont me deüst porter rancune.

whereof me he-ought to-bear rancor

Je vous ains, ce dist, par amors.

I you love this he-said with love

Il en a fait maintes clamours

He thereof has made many complaints

par ceste terre a ses amis,

through this land to his friends

et si leur a avoir promis

and so to-them has wealth promised

pour moi faire laidure et honte.

for me to-do injury and shame

Mais dites moi de ce que monte

But tell to-me of this what matters

de vous requerre de folie?

of you to-ask of folly

1085

1090

1095

Certes je nel feroie mie,

Certainly I not-it would-do at-all

ne tel parole n'est pas belle."

nor such word not-is at-all fair

Quant Hersent entent la nouvelle,

When Hersent hears the news

de maltalant tressue et art.

with ill-will she-sweats and burns

1100 "Comment?" fet ele "dant Renart,

How says she sir Reynard

en est donc parole tenue?

thereof is then word held

Certes mar en fui mescreüe.

Certainly ill thereof I-was disbelieved

Tel cuide sa honte venger,

Such-a-one thinks his shame to-avenge

qui pourchace son encombrier.

who pursues his ill-luck

1105 Ne m'est or pas honte nel die:

Not to-me-is now at-all shame it I-say

onc mais n'i pensai vilanie,

ever before not-there I-thought villainy

mais pour ce qu'il s'en est clamez,

but for this that-he himself-thereof is complained

veil je des or que vous m'amez.

wish I from now that you me-love

Si revenez souvent a mi

So come-back often to me

1110 et je vous tenrai pour ami.

and I you will-bold for friend

Acolez moi, si me baisiez!

Embrace me so me kiss

Or en estes bien aiesiez:

Now thereof you-are well at-ease

ci n'a qui encuser nous doie."

here not-is who to-accuse us ought

Renars en demaine grant joie

Reynard thereof makes great joy

et vient avant, si l'a baisiee.

and comes forward so her-has kissed

Hersens a la cuisse hauciee,

Hersent has the thigh raised

qui moult plaisoit itel atour.

to-whom much pleased such fashion

Puis s'est Renars mis ou retour

Then himself-is Reynard put in-the return

qui crient que Ysengrins ne viengne,

who fears that Isengrim — come

que moult doubte qu'il ne seurviengne.

for much he-fears that-he — come-upon-them

Et ne pourquant ainz qu'il s'en isse,

And not for-that before that-he himself-thence go

vient aus louviaus, si les conpisse,

he-comes to-the wolf-cubs so them he-pisses-on

si conme il erent arrengie.

so as they were ranged

Si a tout pris et tout mengie

So he-has all taken and all eaten

et hors gete ce qu'il y trueve,

and out thrown that which-he there finds

1115

1120

1125

toute la viez char et la nueve.

all the old flesh and the new

Ses a de leur liz abatuz

So-them be-has from their beds cast-down

et laidengiez et bien batuz

and insulted and well beaten

autressi con s'il fust leur mestres.

just-as as if-be were their master

1130 Ses a clamez avoutres questres

So-them be-has called bastards vagabonds

priveement conme celui

privately like he

qui ne se doute de nului

who not himself fears of anyone

fors de dame Hersent s'amie,

save of lady Hersent his-friend

qui ne l'en discoverra mie.

who not him-thereof will-uncover at-all

1135 Les louviaus a laissie plorant.

The wolf-cubs he-has left weeping

Ez vos Hersent qui vint avant,

Behold you Hersent who came forward

si les a blandiz et proiez.

so them has coaxed and entreated

"Enfans" fait elle, "ne soiez

Children says she not be

en vostre foi felon ne sot

in your faith felon nor foolish

1140 que vo pere n'en sache mot,

that your father not-thereof know word

ne ja ne li soit congneü

nor ever not to-him be-it known

qu'aiez ceenz Renart veü."

that-you-have in-here Reynard seen

"Quoi, diables? nous noierons

What devils we will-deny

Renart le rous que tant heons

Reynard the red whom so-much we-hate

de mort, qu'avez ci receü

of death that-you-have here received

et nostre pere deceü,

and our father deceived

qui en vous avoit sa fiance?

who in you had his trust

Ja se diex plaist, tele viltance,

Ever if God pleases such vileness

que nous sonmes si laidengiez,

that we are so insulted

ne remaindra, ne soit vengiez."

not will-remain (that-)not it-be avenged

Renart les a oï groignier

Reynard them has heard to-grumble

et vers leur mere couroucier.

and against their mother to-rage

Moult tost se rest mis a la voie

Very quickly himself is-again put on the way

le col baissie que nulz nel voie.

the neck lowered that anyone not-him see

Si repourchace son affere.

So he-pursues-again his business

1145

1150

1155

Atant estez vous que repaire

Thereupon behold you that returns

dant Ysengrin a sa maisniee

sir Isengrim to his household

qui souz la roche est entesniee.

which under the rock is denned

Tant a couru, tant a tracie

So-much he-has run so-much he-has tracked

1160 et tant pourquis et pourchacie

and so-much sought-after and pursued

que touz est charchie de vitaille.

that all he-is laden with victuals

D'autrui damage ne li chaille.

Of-another's harm not to-him let-it-matter

Conme il a trouue sa mesniee,

When he has found his household

que Renars a si atiriee,

which Reynard has so handled

1165 si fil se sont a lui clame

his sons themselves are to him complained

que batu sont et afame

that beaten they-are and starved

et conpissie et chaalle

and pissed-on and driven-about

et laidengie et puis clame

and insulted and then called

fil a putein, batart avoutre.

son of whore bastard adulterine

1170 "Encore desist il tot outre,

Still would-say he all outright

que il dist que vous estes cous”.

that he said that you are cuckold

Lors s'est Ysengrins d'ire escous,

Then himself-is Isengrim with-anger shaken

quant de sa fame oï le blasme.

when of his wife he-heard the blame

A bien petit qu'il ne se pasme.

By very little that-he — himself swoons

Il urle et brait conme maufe

He howls and bellows like devil

“Hersent, or sui je malmene,

Hersent now am I ill-used

pute orde vilz, pute mauvese.

whore filthy vile whore wicked

Je vous ai nourrie a grant aise

I you have nourished in great ease

et bien gardee et bien peüe

and well kept and well fed

et uns autres vous a foutue.

and an other you has fucked

Moult est tes corages muanz,

Very is thy heart changeable

quant Renars, cilz rous, cilz puanz,

since Reynard this red this stinking-one

cilz vilz lechieres, cilz garcons

this vile lecher this knave

vous monta onques es arcons.

you mounted ever in-the saddle-bows

Par le cuer be, mar i fu cous.

By the heart bab ill there was cuckold

1175

1180

1185

Honni m'avez tout a estrous.

Shamed me-you-have all at outright

Jamais ne gerrez a ma coste,

Ever not you-will-lie at my side

quant receü avez tel oste,

since received you-have such guest

se ne faites tout mon vouloir.”

if not you-do all my will

1190 Ja se peüst Hersent doloir,

Already himself might Hersent to-grieve

s'ele n'eüst acreante

if-she not-bad granted

tout son bon et sa volente.

all his pleasure and his will

“Sire” fait elle, “vous diroiz:

Lord says she you will-say

courouciez estez, n'est pas droiz

angered you-are not-is at-all right

1195 que vous moustrez ici vostre ire.

that you show here your wrath

Que se me lessiez escondire

For if me you-let to-clear

par serement ne par joïse,

by oath or by ordeal

jel feroie par tel devise,

I-it would-do by such arrangement

c'on me feïst ardoir ou pendre,

that-one me might-make to-burn or to-hang

1200 se ne m'en pooie desfendre.

if not myself-thereof I-could to-defend

Si vous affi enseurquetout

So to-you I-pledge above-all

que mon pooir ferai de tout

that my power I-will-do of all

de ce que voudrez conmander.”

of this that you-will-wish to-command

Cilz ne set plus que demander.

He not knows more what to-ask

Il ot que elle dit assez.

He hears that she says enough

Ses mautalens fu trespassez,

His ill-will was passed

mais que il li a fait jurer

except that he to-her has made to-swear

que jamais ne laira durer

that ever not she-will-let to-last

Renart, s'elle em puet aise avoir.

Reynard if-she thereof can ease to-have

Or s'en gart, si fera savoir.

Now himself-thereof let-him-guard so he-will-do wisely

1205

1210

The Chase, and Hersent Caught at Valcrues

Isengrim and Hersent chase Reynard across the fields, and when Isengrim takes the straighter way and loses him, Hersent hurls herself after him into the mouth of his den and sticks fast at the belly. Reynard takes her there, and is at it again when Isengrim rides up. He swears he was only trying to free her; Isengrim calls him a proven traitor; then digs and heaves until his wife comes loose, her tail all but torn away. Reynard is already in his burrow when Isengrim goes home.

Ysengrins iert baus et haitiez

Isengrim was merry and hale

et dist que Renars ert gaitiez

and said that Reynard will-be watched

souvent ainz que la guerre esparde:

often before that the war spread

que fous fera, s'il ne se garde.

as a-fool be-will-do if-he not himself guards

1215 De lui gaitier sont ore en paine.

Of him to-watch are now in trouble

Mais ainz que passast la semaine,

But before that passed the week

li avint aventure estrange.

to-him befell adventure strange

Ainsi conme la voie change

Just as the way turns

lez un vergier d'un essart clos,

beside an orchard of-a clearing closed

1220 la dut estre Renars enclos.

there was-to to-be Reynard shut-in

L'en avoit ja les poiz soiez

One had already the peas reaped

et li pesaz estoit loiez

and the pea-straw was bound

et amassez et trait en voie.

and heaped and drawn into way

La savoit bien Renars la voie.

There knew well Reynard the way

Venus i estoit por forgier

Come there he-was for to-forage

et pour enquerre et porcachier,

and for to-inquire and to-pursue

dont il peüst avoir viande.

whence he might to-have food

Ysengrins qui el ne demande

Isengrim who other not asks

mais que il tenir le peüst,

but that he to-hold him might

baisse la teste, sel connust:

lowers the head so-him he-knew

geta un brait, si s'escria.

he-threw a bellow so himself-he-cried

Renars qui point ne s'i fia

Reynard who at-all not himself-there trusted

l'a bien oï et entendu:

it-has well heard and understood

si s'en fuit a col estendu

so himself-thence flees at neck stretched

1225

1230

1235 apres se mettent ou chemin
 after themselves put on-the road

entre Hersent et Ysengrin.

both Hersent and Isengrim

Il se painent de lui chacier.

They themselves trouble of him to-chase

Mais ne le puent devancier.

But not him they-can to-overtake

Renars courut la voie estroite

Reynard ran the way narrow

1240 et Ysengrins court la plus droite.

and Isengrim runs the most straight

Hersent a enforcie son poindre,

Hersent has strengthened her spurring

qui a Renart se voudra joindre.

who to Reynard herself will-wish to-join

Vit Ysengrin qui l'a failli,

She-saw Isengrim who him-has missed

que Renars d'autre part sailli.

for Reynard on-other side leapt

1245 Apres Renart s'est adrecie.

After Reynard herself-she-is made-her-way

Renars la vit si couroucie

Reynard her saw so angered

ne s'ose a lui abandonner.

not himself-he-dares to her to-abandon

Onc ne fina d'esperonner

Ever not he-ceased of-to-spur

jusques au recept de Valcrues.

as-far-as to-the refuge of Valcrues

Quant il i vint, si entra lues,

1250

When he there came so he-entered at-once

quant vit dame Hersent s'amie

when he-saw lady Hersent his-friend

qui vers lui vint si esgramie:

who toward him came so enraged

et de lui n'a il huimaie garde.

and of her not-has he henceforth fear

La fist Hersent trop que musarde.

There did Hersent too-much as a-fool

Après Renart en la fosse entre

1255

After Reynard into the pit she-enters

de plein ellais de ci au ventre.

at full career from here to-the belly

Li chastiaus estoit granz et fors:

The castle was great and strong

et Hersent par si grant esfors

and Hersent with so great force

se feri dedenz la tesniere

herself struck within the den

que ne se pot retraire arriere.

1260

that not herself she-could to-draw back

Quant Renars vit qu'elle fu prise,

When Reynard saw that-she was caught

ne vult lessier en nule guise

not he-wished to-leave in any wise

que il ne aille a lui gesir

that he — go with her to-lie

et faire de lui son plaisir.

and to-do of her his pleasure

- 1265 Par un pou que Hersent ne crieve.
By a little that Hersent — bursts
 Car la fosse et Renars la grieve:
For the pit and Reynard her burdens
 la fosse qui dedenz l'estraint
the pit which within her-squeezes
 et Renars qui dessus l'enpait.
and Reynard who above her-thrusts
 Il n'est ileuc qui la resqueue
It not-is there who her may-rescue
- 1270 fors que seulement de sa queue,
save that only of her tail
 que ele estraint si vers les rains
which she squeezes so toward the loins
 que des deus pertuis deerains
that of-the two openings bindmost
 ne pert un dehors ne dedens.
not appears one outside nor within
 Et Renars prist la queue aus dens
And Reynard took the tail with-the teeth
- 1275 et li reverse sor la croupe
and to-her turns-it-back on the rump
 et les deus pertuis li destoupe:
and the two openings to-her unstops
 puis li saut sus liez et joianz.
then to-her leaps up glad and joyful
 Si li a fait ses iex voianz,
So to-her has done his eyes seeing
 ou bien li poist ou mal li plaise,
whether well to-her it-grieve or ill to-her it-please

tout a loisir et a grant aise.

1280

all at leisure and at great ease

Elle dist, que qu'il li fesoit,

She said while that-he to-her was-doing

"Renart, c'est force et force soit."

Reynard this-is force and force be-it

Sire Renars tel li redonne

Lord Reynard such to-her gives-again

que toute la fosse en ressonne.

that all the pit thereof resounds

Ainz que la chose fust fenie,

1285

Before that the thing were finished

li dist Renars par felonnie

to-her said Reynard in felony

"Dame Hersent, vous disiez

Lady Hersent you said

que ja ne me proieries

that ever not me you-would-entreat

et que james nel vos feroie

and that ever not-it to-you I-would-do

por seul itant que m'en vantoie.

1290

for only so-much that I-thereof boasted

Ja voir ne m'en escondirai:

Ever truly not myself-thereof I-will-deny

se gel fiz, encor le ferai.

if I-it did still it I-will-do

Fis et ferai, dis et redis,

I-did and I-will-do I-said and I-say-again

plus de set foiz, voire de dis."

more than seven times indeed than ten

1295 Et l'afaire ont recommencie

And the-business they-have begun-again

ainz qu'il eüssent partencie.

before that-they had parted

Ez vous poignant par mi les broces

Behold you spurring through amid the thickets

Ysengrin qui s'embat es noces.

Isengrim who himself-thrusts into-the wedding

Ne se puet mie tant tenir

Not himself he-can at-all so-much to-bold

1300 que il peüst a eus venir:

that he might to them to-come

ainz s'escrie moult hautement

rather himself-he-cries very loudly

“Haï, Renart, or bellement!

Ha Reynard now gently

Par les sainz dieu mar m'i honnistes.”

By the saints (of-)God ill me-there you-shamed

Renars fu remuanz et vistes.

Reynard was nimble and quick

1305 Si li a dit tot en alant

So to-him has said all in going

“Sire Ysengrin, cest mautalent

Lord Isengrim this ill-will

ai je conquis par bel servise.

have I earned by fair service

Veez con Hersent est ci prise!

See how Hersent is here caught

Se je l'aïde a delivrer

If I her-help to free

de cest pertuis et a oster,

from this opening and to to-take-out

pour ce si estes effreez.

for this so you-are frightened

Pour dieu, biau sire, ne creez

For God fair lord not believe

que nulle rien i aie faite,

that any thing there I-have done

ne draps levez ne braie traite.

neither clothes raised nor breeches drawn

Onc par cest corps ne par ceste ame

Ever by this body nor by this soul

ne mesfis rien a vostre fame.

not I-did-wrong anything to your wife

Et pour moi et pour lui desfendre

And for me and for her to-defend

partot la ou le voudrez prendre

everywhere there where it you-will-wish to-take

un serement vous aramis

an oath to-you I-pledge

au los de vos meillors amis.”

at-the counsel of your best friends

“Serement? traîtres prouvez,

Oath traitor proved

voir pour noient i conterez.

truly for nothing there you-will-count

1310

1315

1320

N'i controverez ja menconge

Not-there you-will-invent ever lie

ne vaine parole ne songe.

nor vain word nor dream

1325 N'i convient nulle couverture:

Not-there is-needed any covering

toute est aperte l'aventure."

all is open the-adventure

"Avoi" ce dist Renars, "biau sire,

Fie this said Reynard fair lord

vous pourriez assez miex dire.

you could much better to-say

Ice maintenir ne devez."

This to-maintain not you-ought

1330 "Conment, ai je les iex crevez?

How have I the eyes put-out

Cudez vous que ne voie goute?

Think you that not I-see a-drop

En quel terre empaint on et boute

In what land thrusts one and shoves

chose que on doit a soi traire,

a-thing that one ought to oneself to-draw

con je vous vi a Hersent faire?"

as I you saw to Hersent to-do

1335 "Par dieu, sire" ce dist Renart,

By God lord this said Reynard

“vous savez bien, enging et art

you know well device and art

si vaut a chose mainbournir

so it-avails for a-thing to-manage

c'on ne puet par force fournir.

that-one not can by force to-accomplish

Madame ert prise en ceste fosse,

My-lady was caught in this pit

et elle est moult espesse et grosse.

and she is very thick and stout

En nul sens traire ne l'en puis

In any way to-draw not her-thence I-can

a reculons par ce pertuis.

at backward through this opening

Elle i est jusqu'au ventre entree.

She there is as-far-as-to-the belly entered

Et la fosse a estreote entree:

And the pit has narrow entry

mais elle est de lonc auques graindre.

but it is of length somewhat greater

Pour ce la vouloie enz enpaindre.

For this her I-wished within to-thrust

Pour noient a moi la sachasse

For nothing to me her I-would-pull

que j'oi l'autrier la jambe quasse.

for I-had the-other-day the leg broken

Or en avez oï la voire:

Now thereof you-have heard the truth

si m'en devez bien atant croire,

so me-thereof you-ought well at-that to-believe

1340

1345

1350

se vous controuver ne voulez

if you to-invent not wish

achoisn, si con vous soulez.

occasion so as you are-wont

Et quant la dame iert de ci traite,

And when the lady will-be from here drawn

ja ne cuit clamour en soit faite

ever not I-think complaint thereof be made

1355 ne ja, s'elle n'en veult mentir,

nor ever if-she not-thereof wishes to-lie

ne l'en orrez un mot tentir."

not her-thereof you-will-bear a word to-sound

A icest mot s'est entesniez,

At this word himself-be-is denned

quant se fu assez desresniez.

when himself he-was enough argued

Ysengrins est de l'autre part

Isengrim is on the-other side

1360 et voit Renart qui prent et part,

and sees Reynard who takes and shares

qui l'a honni ses iex voiant,

who him-has shamed his eyes seeing

puis si le gabe et vait moquant.

then so him mocks and goes jeering

Mais n'a ore soing de plaidier,

But not-he-has now care of to-plead

ainz se redresce pour aidier

rather himself he-raises-again for to-help

1365 sa fame qui va male veue.

his wife who goes evil sight [in-a-bad-way]

Il l'a saisie par la queue:

He her-has seized by the tail

de tel air a soi la tire

with such fury to himself her be-pulls

que Hersens est en tel martire

that Hersent is in such torment

que il li convint par angoisse

that it to-her it-behooved by anguish

que li pertuis derrier s'esloisse.

that the opening behind itself-widen

1370

Ysengrins voit qu'elle se vuide:

Isengrim sees that-she herself empties

or l'aura il si conme il cuide.

now her-will-have he so as he thinks

Un petitet s'est trait arriere.

A little-bit himself-he-is drawn back

Or voit bien que se la charriere

Now he-sees well that if the passage

n'estoit un petit alachie,

not-were a little loosened

1375

Hersens n'en puet estre sachie.

Hersent not-thereof can to-be pulled

S'il ne l'en trait, il est dolens.

If-he not her-thence draws he is grieving

Il n'est pas pereceus ne lens.

He not-is at-all lazy nor slow

Aus ongles s'est pris et si grate,

With-the claws himself-he-is taken so he scratches

trait la terre fors a la pate:

he-draws the earth out with the paw

1380

garde de ca et puis de la.

he-looks from here and then from there

Deables la tient, s'il ne l'a.

(The-)devil her holds if-he not her-has

Con il en a assez oste

When he thereof has enough taken-out

et sus et jus et en coste,

both up and down and at side

1385 vint a Hersent, si la souffache.

he-came to Hersent so her he-beaves

Si l'a un poi trouvee lasche.

So her-he-has a little found loose

Empaint et sache et tire et boute:

He-thrusts and pulls and tugs and shoves

a poi la queue ne ront toute.

by little the tail — breaks all

Mais moult estoit bien atachie.

But very it-was well fastened

1390 Tant l'a empainte et souffachie

So-much her-he-has thrust and beaved

que traite l'en a a grant paine:

that drawn her-thence he-has with great pain

mais a poi ne li faut l'alaine.

but by little — to-her fails the-breath

Ysengrins voit, Renars n'a doute,

Isengrim sees Reynard not-has fear

que il s'est mis dedens sa croute.

for he himself-is put within his crypt

Arriere vient a sa maisniee

Back he-comes to his household

qui souz la roche iert entesniee.

which under the rock was denned

The Eels on the Cart

Winter comes and Reynard's stores fail. Hunger drives him to the road, where he plays dead; two fish merchants find him, price his hide at three or four shillings, and throw him onto their cart. Lying on the baskets he eats more than thirty herrings, then draws out three strings of eels and loops them over his neck. He leaps down and calls back that the eels he carries are his and the rest theirs. The merchants beat their palms and chase him as far as his enclosure, where his household comes out to meet him with the eels around his neck.

Seigneurs, ce fu en cel termine

Lords this was in that season

que li douz temps d'este decline

when the sweet time of-summer declines

et yver revient en saison,

and winter comes-back in season

et Renars fu en sa maison.

and Reynard was in his house

Mais sa garison a perdue:

But his provision he-has lost

ce fu mortel desconvenue.

that was mortal mishap

N'a que donner ne qu'achater,

Not-he-has what to-give nor what-to-buy

ne s'a de quoi reconforter.

nor himself-has of what to-comfort

Par besoing s'est mis a la voie.

By need himself-be-is put on the way

10 Tot coient que l'en nel voie

All quietly that one not-him see

s'en vet parmi une jonchere

himself-thence goes through a rush-bed

entre le bois et la rivere.

between the wood and the river

Si a tant fait et tant erre

So he-bas so-much done and so-much wandered

qu'il vint en un cemin ferre.

that-he came into a road paved

15 El cemin se cropi Renarz.

On-the road himself crouched Reynard

Molt coloie de totes parz.

Much he-cranes on all sides

Ne set sa garison ou querre:

Not he-knows his provision where to-see

car la fein li fait molt grant guerre.

for the hunger to-him makes very great war

Ne set que fere: si s'esmaie.

Not he-knows what to-do so himself-be-dismays

20 Lors s'est couchiez lez une haie:

Then himself-be-is lain beside a hedge

iloc atendra aventure.

there he-will-await adventure

Atant ez vos grant aleüre

Thereupon behold you at-great speed

marcheant qui poisson menoient

merchants who fish brought

et qui devers la mer venoient.

and who from-toward the sea came

Herens fres orent a plente:

Herrings fresh they-had in plenty

car bise avoit auques vente

for north-wind had somewhat blown

trestote la semeine entere.

all the week entire

Et bons poissons d'autre manere

And good fish of-other kind

orent ases granz et petiz,

they-had plenty great and small

dont lor paniers sont bien enpliz.

with-which their baskets are well filled

Que de lamproies que d'anguilles,

Both of lampreys and of-eels

qu'il orent acate as viles,

which-they had bought at-the towns

fu bien chargie la charete.

was well loaded the cart

Et Renars qui tot siecle abeite

And Reynard who all world entraps

fu bien loins d'aus une arcie.

was well far from-them a bow-shot

25

30

35

Quant vit la carete cargie

When he-saw the cart loaded

des anguiles et des lanproies,

of-the eels and of-the lampreys

mucant fuiant parmi ces voies

hiding fleeing through these ways

court au devant por aus decoivre,

he-runs to-the front for them to-deceive

40 qu'il ne s'en puissent aperceivre.

that-they not themselves-thereof may to-perceive

Lors s'est coches enmi la voie.

Then himself-be-is lain amid the way

Or oiez con il les desvoie!

Now hear how he them leads-astray

En un gason s'est voutrilliez

In a grass-patch himself-be-is rolled

et come mors aparelliez.

and like dead made-ready

45 Renars qui tant d'onmes engingne

Reynard who so-many of-men tricks

les iex cligne, les dens rechigne,

the eyes he-shuts the teeth he-bares

et tenoit s'alaine en prison.

and held his-breath in prison

Oïstes mais tel traïson?

Heard-you ever such treason

Ilecques est remes gisans.

There he-is remained lying

50 Atant es vous les marcheans:

Thereupon behold you the merchants

de ce ne se prenoient garde.

of this not themselves they-took heed

Li premiers le vit, si l'esgarde,

The first him saw so him-he-watches

si apela son compaignon

so he-called his companion

"Vez la ou gorpil ou gaignon!"

See there either fox or cur

Quant cilz le voit, si li cria

When he him sees so to-him he-cried

"C'est li gorpilz: va sel pren, va!"

This-is the fox go so-him take go

Filz a putain, gart ne t'eschat!

Son of whore take-care not thee-he-escape

Or saura il trop de barat,

Now will-know he too-much of trickery

Renars, s'il ne nous let l'escorce."

Reynard if-he not to-us leaves the-bide

Li marcheans d'aler s'esforce

The merchant of-to-go himself-strains

et ses compains venoit apres

and his companion came after

tant qu'il furent de Renart pres.

until that-they were of Reynard near

Le gorpil trovent enverse.

The fox they-find overturned

De toutes pars l'ont renverse,

On all sides him-they-have turned-over

n'ont ore garde qu'il les morde.

not-they-have now fear that-he them bite

55

60

65

Present le dos et puis la gorge.

They-appraised the back and then the throat

Li uns a dit que troi sols vaut,

The one has said that three shillings it-is-worth

li autres dist "se diex me saut,

the other said if God me save

ainz vaut bien quatre a bon marchie.

rather it-is-worth well four at good bargain

70 Ne sommes mie trop chargie:

Not we-are at-all too loaded

getons le sus nostre charrete.

let-us-throw him on our cart

Vez con la gorge est blanche et nete!"

See how the throat is white and clean

A icest mot sont avancie,

At this word they-are advanced

si l'ont ou charretel lancie

so him-they-have into-the cart thrown

75 et puis se sont mis a la voie.

and then themselves they-are put on the way

Li uns a l'autre fait grant joie

The one to the-other makes great joy

et dient "n'en ferons ore el,

and they-say not-thereof we-will-do now anything-else

mais anquenuit en nostre hostel

but tonight in our lodging

li reverserons la gonnele."

to-him we-will-turn-over the tunic

80 Or leur plaist auques la favele.

Now to-them pleases somewhat the prattle

Mais Renars ne s'en fait fors rire,
But Reynard not himself-thereof does but to-laugh

que moult a entre faire et dire.
for much there-is between to-do and to-say

Sur les paniers se jut adens,
On the baskets himself he-lay face-down
 si en a un ouvert aus dens
so thereof he-has one opened with-the teeth

et si en a (bien le sachiez)
and so thereof he-has well it know

85

plus de trente harans sachiez.
more than thirty herrings drawn

Auques fu vuidiez li paniers.
Somewhat was emptied the basket

Moult par en menja volentiers,
Very much thereof he-ate willingly
 onques n'i quist ne sel ne sauge.
ever not-there he-sought neither salt nor sage

Encore aincois que il s'en auge
Still before that he himself-thence go

90

getera il son amecon,
will-throw he his fish-book

je n'en sui mie en souspecon.
I not-thereof am at-all in doubt

L'autre panier a assailli.
The-other basket he-has assailed

Son groing i mist, n'a pas failli,
His snout there he-put not-he-has at-all failed
 qu'il n'en traïst trois res d'anguilles.
that-he thereof drew three strings of-eels

95

Renars qui sot de maintes guiles,

Reynard who knew of many guiles

son col et sa teste passe oultre

his neck and his head he-passes over

les hardillons, puis les acoutre

the withies then them he-arranges

dessus son dos que tout s'en cueuvre.

above his back so-that all himself-thereof he-covers

100 Des or pourra bien laisser oeuvre.

From now he-will-be-able well to-leave work

Or li estuet enging pourquerre,

Now to-him it-behooves device to-seek-out

comment il s'en vendra a terre.

how he himself-thence will-come to ground

Ne trueve planche ne degre.

Not he-finds plank nor step

Agenoille s'est tout de gre

Knelt himself-he-is all of will

105 por veoir et por esgarder,

for to-see and for to-look

con son saut pourra miex garder.

how his leap he-will-be-able better to-aim

Puis s'est un petit avanciez:

Then himself-he-is a little advanced

des piez devant s'est tost lanciez

with-the feet in-front himself-he-is quickly hurled

de la charrete enmi la voie.

from the cart amid the way

110 Entour son col porte sa proie.

Around his neck he-carries his prey

Et puis quant il a fait son saut,
And then when he has made his leap

aus marcheans dist "diex vous saut!
to-the merchants he-said God you save

Cilz tantes d'anguiles est nostres
This so-many of-eels is ours

et li remanans si soit vostres!"
and the remainder so be-it yours

Li marcheans quant il l'oïrent,
The merchants when they it-heard

a merveilles s'en esbahirent.
at marvels themselves-thereat they-astonished

Si s'escrient "voiz le gourpil!"
So themselves-they-cry see the fox

Si saillirent ou charretel,
So they-leapt into-the cart

ou il cuderent Renart prendre.
where they thought Reynard to-take

Mais il nes voult pas tant atendre.
But he not-them wished at-all so-much to-await

Li uns des marcheans esgarde,
The one of-the merchants looks

a l'autre dist "mauvaise garde
to the-other said evil watch

en avons prise, ce me semble."
thereof we-have taken this to-me seems

Tuit fierent lor paumes ensemble.
All they-strike their palms together

115

120

125 “Las” dist li uns, “con grant damage

Alas said the one how great harm

avons eü par nostre outrage.

we-have had by our outrage

Moult estion fol et musart

Very we-were mad and foolish

andui qui creïon Renart.

both-two who believed Reynard

Les paniers a bien alachez

The baskets he-has well loosened

130 et ses a auques souffachiez.

and so-them he-has somewhat heaved

Car deus rez d’anguiles enporte.

For two strings of-eels he-carries-off

La male passion le torde!”

The evil passion him twist

“Ha” font li marcheant “Renart,

Ha say the merchants Reynard

tant par estes de male part.

so much you-are of evil sort

135 Mal bien vous puissent elles faire!”

Ill good you may they to-do

“Seigneur, n’ai soing de noise faire.

Lords not-I-have care of noise to-make

Or direz ce que vous plaira:

Now you-will-say that which to-you will-please

je sui Renart qui se taira.”

I am Reynard who himself will-be-silent

Li marcheant vont apres lui.

The merchants go after him

Mais il nel bailleront mais hui:

140

But they not-him will-seize more today

car il a tant isnel cheval.

for he has so swift horse

Onc ne fina parmi un val

Ever not he-stopped through a valley

dusques il vint a son plessie.

until-that he came to his enclosure

Lors l'ont li marcheant lessie

Then him-have the merchants left

qui pour mauves musart se tiennent.

145

who for wicked fool themselves hold

Recreant sont, arriere viennent.

Giving-up they-are back they-come

Et cilz s'en vait plus que le pas

And he himself-thence goes more than the pace

qui ot passe maint mauvais pas.

who had passed many-a bad pass

Si vint a son chastel tout droit

So he-came to his castle all straight

ou sa maisnie l'atendoit

150

where his household him-awaited

qui assez avoit grant mesese.

which quite bad great want

Renars i entre par la hese.

Reynard there enters by the gate

Encontre lui sailli s'espouse,

To-meet him leapt his-spouse

Hermeline la jone touse,

Hermeline the young girl

155 qui moult estoit courtoise et franche.

who very was courteous and noble

Et Percehaie et Malebranche

And Percehaie and Malebranche

qui estoient ambedui frere,

who were both-two brothers

cil saillirent contre leur pere

those leapt toward their father

qui s'en venoit les menus saus

who himself-thence came at-the little bounds

160 gros et saoulz, joieus et baus,

fat and sated joyful and merry

les anguilles entour son col.

the eels around his neck

Mais qui que le tiegne pour fol,

But who that him bold for fool

apres lui a close sa porte

after him he-has closed his gate

pour les anguilles qu'il aporte.

for the eels that-he brings

Isengrim Made a Monk

Reynard's sons skin the eels and roast them on hazel spits. Isengrim smells the smoke, comes to the window, and begs a share. Reynard tells him the house holds canons of the order of Tiron who eat only soft cheese and fish, and refuses him lodging, since no one but a monk or a hermit may sleep there. He hands one piece out at the gate. The wolf, tasting it, asks to be made a monk of the order, and agrees to be shaved and tonsured as soon as the water is heated.

Or est Renart dedenz sa tour.

165

Now is Reynard within his tower

Si fil li font moult bel atour.

His sons to-him make very fair entertainment

Bien li ont ses jambes torchiees

Well to-him they-have his legs wiped

et les anguilles escorchees.

and the eels skinned

Puis les couperent par troncons

Then them they-cut in pieces

et les espois font de plancons

170

and the spits they-make of shoots

de codre et ens les ont boutez.

of hazel and within them they-have thrust

Et li feus fu tost alumez

And the fire was soon lighted

que buche i ot a grant plente.

for firewood there was in great plenty

Lors ont de toutes pars vente.

Then they-have on all sides blown

175 Si les ont mises sus la brese

So them they-have put on the embers

qui des tisons i fu remeze.

which of-the brands there was left

Endementres que il cuisoient

Meanwhile that they cooked

les anguiles et rostissoient,

the eels and roasted

ez vous monseigneur Ysengrin

behold you my-lord Isengrim

180 qui ot erre des le matin

who had wandered since the morning

jusqu'a celle heure en mainte terre,

until that hour in many-a land

mais onques riens n'y pot conquerre.

but ever anything not-there he-could to-get

De jeüner estoit estans,

From to-fast he-was exhausted

que molt avoit eü mal tens.

for much he-had had bad weather

Lors s'en tourna en un essart

Then himself-thence he-turned into a clearing

tout droit vers le chastel Renart

all straight toward the castle (of-)Reynard

et vit la cuisine fumer

and saw the kitchen to-smoke

ou il ot fait feu alumer

where he had made fire to-be-lit

et les anguilles rotissoient

and the eels roasted

que si fil es espois tournoient.

whicb his sons on-the spits turned

Ysengrin en sent la fumee

Isengrim thereof smells the smoke

qu'il n'avoit mie acoustumee.

whicb-be not-had at-all accustomed

Du nez commenca a fronchier

With-the nose he-began to sniff

et ses guernons a delechier.

and his whiskers to lick

Volentiers les alast servir,

Willingly them he-would-go to-serve

s'il li vousissent l'uis ouvrir.

if-they to-him would-wish the-door to-open

Il se traist vers une fenestre

He himself drew toward a window

pour esgarder que ce puet estre.

for to-look what this can to-be

Il se commence a pourpenser,

He himself begins to consider

185

190

195

- 200 comment il pourra ens entrer
how he will-be-able within to-enter
 ou par priere ou par amour.
either by prayer or by love
 Mais il n'i puet avoir honour:
But he not-there can to-have honor
 que Renart est de tel maniere
for Reynard is of such manner
 qu'il ne fera rien pour priere.
that-he not will-do anything for prayer
- 205 Acroupiz s'est sus une souche.
Crouched himself-be-is on a stump
 De baailler li deult la bouche.
From to-gape to-him aches the mouth
 Court et recourt, garde et regarde.
He-runs and runs-again he-looks and looks-again
 Mais tant ne se sot donner garde
But so-much not himself he-knew to-give heed
 que dedenz puisse le pie mettre
that within he-may the foot to-put
- 210 ne pour donner ne pour promettre.
neither for to-give nor for to-promise
 Mais a la fin se pourpensa
But at the end himself he-bethought
 que son compere priera
that his godfather-in-law he-will-entreat
 que pour dieu li doint, s'il conmande,
that for God to-him he-give if-he commands
 ou poi ou grant de sa viande.
either little or great of his food

Lors l'apela par un pertuis

Then him-be-called through a hole

"Sire compere, ouvrez moi l'uis!

Lord godfather-in-law open to-me the-door

Je vous aport belles nouvelles:

I to-you bring fair news

pour bones les tendrez et belles."

for good them you-will-hold and fair

Renart l'oï, sil congnut bien:

Reynard it-heard so-him he-knew well

mais de tout ce ne li fist rien,

but of all this not to-him he-did anything

aincoiz li a fait sourde oreille.

rather to-him has made deaf ear

Et Ysengrin molt s'en merveille,

And Isengrim much himself-thereat marvels

qui dehors fu moult souffroiteus

who outside was very needy

et des anguiles envieus.

and of-the eels envious

Si li a dit "ouvrez, biau sire!"

So to-him has said open fair lord

Et Renars commenca a rire,

And Reynard began to laugh

si demanda "qui estes vous?"

so he-asked who are you

Et il respont "ce somes nous."

And he answers this are we

"Qui vous?" "Ce est vostre comperes."

Who you This is your godfather-in-law

215

220

225

- 230 "Nous cuidions que fussiez leres."
We thought that you-were a-thief
 "Non sui" dist Ysengrins, "ouvrez!"
Not I-am said Isengrim open
 Renars respont "or vous souffrez
Reynard answers now yourself suffer
 tant que li moine aient mengie
until that the monks have eaten
 qui au mengier sont arrengeie."
who at-the meal are ranged
- 235 "Comment dont?" fait il "sont ce moine?"
How then says he are these monks
 "Nanil" dist il: "ainz sont chanoine.
Nay said he rather they-are canons
 Si sont de l'ordre de Tiron:
So they-are of the-order of Tiron
 (ja se diex plaist, n'en mentiron)
ever if God pleases not-thereof we-will-lie
 et je me sui rendu a eus."
and I myself am rendered to them
- 240 "Nomini dame" dist li leus,
In-name Lord said the wolf
 "avez me vous dit verite?"
have to-me you said truth
 "Ouïl par sainte charite."
Yes by holy charity
 "Donques me faites herbregier!"
Then me make to-be-lodged
 "Ja n'auriez vous que mengier."
Ever not-would-have you what to-eat

“Dites moi dont, n’avez vous quoi?”

245

Tell to-me then not-have you wherewithal

Renart respont “oïl por foi.

Reynard answers yes by faith

Or me lessiez donc demander,

Now me let then to-ask

venistes vous pour truander?”

came you for to-beg

“Nanil, ainz woeil veïr vostre estre.”

Nay rather I-wish to-see your place

Renart respont “ce ne puet estre.”

250

Reynard answers this not can to-be

“Et pourquoi donc?” ce dit li leus.

And why then this says the wolf

Ce dist Renart “il n’est pas leus.”

This said Reynard it not-is at-all place

“Or me dites, mangiez vous char?”

Now to-me tell eat you flesh

Et dist Renart “ce est eschar.”

And said Reynard this is mockery

“Que menjuent donc vostre moine?”

255

What eat then your monks

“Jel vous dirai sanz nule essoine.

I-it to-you will-say without any excuse

Il menjuent fourmages mous

They eat cheeses soft

et poissons qui ont les gros cous.

and fish which have the thick necks

Saint Beneoit le nous commande

Saint Benedict it to-us commands

260 que ja n'aions peior viande."

that ever not-we-have worse food

Dist Ysengrin "ne m'en gardoie

Said Isengrim not myself-thereof I-guarded

ne de tout ce rien ne savoie.

nor of all this anything not I-knew

Mais car me faites osteler!

But now me make to-be-lodged

Mais hui ne sauroie ou aler."

But today not I-would-know where to-go

265 "Osteler?" dit Renart "nel dites!

To-lodge says Reynard not-it say

Nulz s'il n'est moines ou hermites

Anyone if-he not-is monk or hermit

ne puet ceens avoir hostel.

not can in-bere to-have lodging

Mes alez outre: il n'i a el."

But go beyond it not-there is other

Ysengrin ot et entent bien

Isengrim hears and understands well

270 qu'en la meson Renart pour rien

that-in the house (of-)Reynard for anything

qu'il puisse faire n'enterra.

that-he may to-do not-he-will-enter

Que voulez vous? si soufferra.

What wish you so he-will-suffer

Et nepourquant si li demande

And nevertheless so to-him he-asks

“Poisson, est ce bonne viande?

Fish is this good food

Car m'en donnez viaus un troncon!

275

Now to-me-thereof give at-least one piece

Nel fais se pour essayer non.

Not-it I-do except for to-try not

Mais buer fussent elles peschiees

But in-good-hour were they fished

les anguiles et escorchiees,

the eels and skinned

se vous en deingnies mengier.”

if you thereof deigned to-eat

Renart qui bien sot losengier

280

Reynard who well knew to-flatter

prist des anguiles troi troncons

took of-the eels three pieces

qui rotissent sus les charbons.

which roast on the coals

Tant furent cuit, toute s'esmie

So-much they-were cooked all itself-crumbles

et dessoivre toute la mie.

and separates all the crumb

Un en menja, l'autre en aporte

285

One thereof he-ate the-other thereof he-brings

celui qui atant a la porte.

(to-)him who waits at the gate

Lors dist "compere, ca venez

Then he-said godfather-in-law here come

un poi avant et si tenez

a little forward and so take

par charite de la pitance

by charity of the pittance

290 a ceuls qui sont bien a fiance

to those who are well in trust

que vous serez moines encore."

that you will-be monk yet

Dist Ysengrin "je ne sai ore,

Said Isengrim I not know now

quix je serai: bien pourra estre.

what I shall-be well it-will-be-able to-be

Mais la pitance, biaux douz mestre,

But the pittance fair sweet master

295 car me bailliez isnelement!"

now to-me hand swiftly

Cilz li bailla et il la prent

He to-bim handed and he it takes

qui molt tost s'en fu delivrez.

who very soon himself-thereof was rid

Encore en mengast il assez.

Still thereof would-eat be plenty

Ce dist Renart "que vous en semble?"

This said Reynard what to-you thereof seems

300 Li lechierres fremist et tremble,

The lecher shudders and trembles

de lecherie esprent et art.

with lechery he-kindles and burns

“Certes” fait il, “sire Renart,

Certainly says he lord Reynard

il vous iert bien guerredonnez.

it to-you will-be well repaid

Encore un seul car me donnez,

Still a single now to-me give

biaus douz comperes, pour amordre,

fair sweet godfather-in-law for to-taste

tant que je fusse de vostre ordre.”

until that I were of your order

“Par vos botes” ce dist Renart

By your boots this said Reynard

qui molt estoit de male part,

who very was of evil sort

“Se vous moines vouliez estre,

If you monk wished to-be

je feroie de vous mon mestre.

I would-make of you my master

Que je sai bien que li seigneur

For I know well that the lords

vous elliroient a prieur

you would-elect for prior

ainz penthecouste ou a abe.”

before Pentecost or for abbot

“Avez me vous ore gabe?”

Have me you now mocked

Ce dist Renart “nanil, biau sire.

This said Reynard nay fair lord

Par mon chief bien le vous os dire,

By my head well it to-you I-dare to-say

305

310

315

foi que doi le corps saint Felise,

faith that I-owe (to-)the body (of-)saint Felise

n'auroit si bel moine en l'eglise."

not-there-would-be so fair monk in the-church

"Auroie je poisson assez

Would-have I fish enough

320 tant que je fusse respassez

until that I were recovered

de ce mal qui m'a confondu?"

from this ill which me-has confounded

Et Renart li a respondu

And Reynard to-him has answered

"Mais tant con vous pourrez mengier.

But as-much as you will-be-able to-eat

Ha car vous fetes rooignier

Ab now yourself make to-be-shorn

325 et vostre barbe rere et tondre."

and your beard to-shave and to-clip

Ysengrin commenca a grondre,

Isengrim began to grumble

quant il oï parler de rere.

when he heard to-speak of to-shave

"N'i aura plus" fait il, "compere:

Not-there will-be more says he godfather-in-law

mais reez moi hastivement!"

but shave me hastily

Renart respont “isnelement

330

Reynard answers swiftly

aurez couronne et grant et lee,

you-will-have tonsure both great and wide

ne mais que l’eve soit chaufee.”

not more than the-water be heated

Fishing through the Ice

Reynard scalds Isengrim’s crown with boiling water for a tonsure, and leads his new monk to a frozen pond where a bucket stands by a hole. He ties it to the wolf’s tail as the gear they will fish with, and tells him to keep still. The water freezes about the tail. At dawn Constant des Granches comes with his household and hounds; Isengrim is set upon on the ice, and escapes only when a sword-stroke cuts his tail off at the root. He fights the dogs off as far as a hillock, and reaches the wood swearing he will be avenged on Reynard.

Oïr poez ici biau jeu.

To-bear you-can here fair game

Renart mist l’eve sus le feu

Reynard put the-water on the fire

et la fist trestoute boillant.

and it made all boiling

Puis li est revenus devant

Then to-him he-is come-again before

et sa teste encoste de l’uis

and his head beside of the-door

li fist metre par un pertuis:

to-him he-made to-put through a hole

et Ysengrin estent le col.

and Isengrim stretches the neck

335

- 340 Renart qui bien le tint pour fol
Reynard who well him held for fool
 l'eve boillant li a getee
the-water boiling to-him he-has thrown
 et sus le hasterel versee:
and on the nape poured
 molt par a fait que pute beste.
very much he-has done as foul beast
 Et Ysengrin escout la teste,
And Isengrim shakes the head
- 345 rechigne et fait moult laide chiere.
he-grimaces and makes very ugly countenance
 A reculons se trait arriere.
At backward himself he-draws back
 Si s'escria "Renart, mors sui.
So himself-he-cried Reynard dead I-am
 Male aventure aiez vous hui!
Evil fortune have you today
 Trop grant coronne m'avez faite."
Too great tonsure to-me-you-have made
- 350 Et Renars a la langue traite
And Reynard has the tongue drawn
 grant demi pie hors de la gueule.
a-good half foot out of the throat
 "Sire, ne l'avez mie seule,
Lord not it-you-have at-all alone
 qu'autresi grant l'a li couvens."
for-just-as great it-has the convent
 Fait Ysengrin "je cuit, tu mens."
Says Isengrim I think thou liest

“Non fas, sire: ne vous anuit.

355

Not I-do lord not to-you let-it-vex

Iceste premeraine nuit

This first night

vous convient estre en espreuve:

you it-behooves to-be in trial

que li sains ordres le nous rueve.”

for the holy order it to-us enjoins

Dist Ysengrins “molt bonnement

Said Isengrim very readily

ferai tout quantqu’a l’ordre apent.

360

I-will-do all whatever-to the-order belongs

Ja mar en serez en doutance.”

Never ill thereof you-will-be in doubt

Et Renart em prist la fiance

And Reynard thereof took the pledge

que par lui mal ne li vendra

that by him harm not to-him will-come

et a son los se contendra.

and at his counsel himself he-will-conduct

Or a tant fait et tant ovre

365

Now he-has so-much done and so-much worked

Renart que bien l’a assote.

Reynard that well him-he-has befooled

Puis s'en issi par une fraite

Then himself-thence he-went-out by a breach

qu'il ot derrier la porte faite

which-he had behind the gate made

et vint a Ysengrin tout droit

and he-came to Isengrim all straight

370 qui durement se complaignoit

who greatly himself lamented

de ce qu'il estoit si pres rez.

of this that-he was so close shaved

Ne cuir ne poil n'i est remez.

Neither hide nor hair not-there is left

N'i ot plus dit ne sejourne:

Not-there was more said nor tarried

andui se sont d'ilec tourne,

both themselves are from-there turned

375 Renart devant et cil apres

Reynard before and he after

tant qu'il vindrent d'un vivier pres.

until that-they came of-a fish-pond near

Ce fu un pou devant noel

This was a little before Christmas

que l'en mettoit bacons en sel.

when one put fitches in salt

Li ciex fu clers et estelez

The sky was clear and starred

380 et li viviers fu si gelez

and the fish-pond was so frozen

ou Ysengrin devoit peschier,

where Isengrim was-to to-fish

qu'en poïst par desus treschier:

that-one might over above to-dance

fors tant c'un pertuis i avoit

save so-much that-a bole there was

qui de vilains fait i estoit

which by villeins made there was

ou il menoient leur atovre

where they led their cattle

chascune nuit joer et boire.

each night to-play and to-drink

Un seel y orent laissie.

A bucket there they-had left

La vint Renart tout eslessie

There came Reynard all at-full-speed

et son compere regarda.

and his godfather-in-law he-looked-at

“Sire” fait il, “traiez vous ca!

Lord says he draw yourself here

Ca est la plente des poissons

Here is the plenty of-the fish

et li engin dont nous peschons

and the device with-which we fish

les anguiles et les barbiaus

the eels and the barbels

et autres poissons bons et biaux.”

and other fish good and fair

Dist Ysengrin “frere Renart,

Said Isengrim brother Reynard

or le prenez de l'une part,

now it take of the-one side

385

390

395

si me laciez bien a la queue!"

so me tie well at the tail

Renart le prent et si li nueue

Reynard it takes and so to-him knots

entour la queue au miex qu'il puet.

around the tail at-the best that-he can

400 "Frere" fait il, "or vous esteut

Brother says he now you it-bebooves

moult sagement a contenir

very wisely to conduct-yourself

pour les poissons faire venir."

for the fish to-make to-come

Lors s'est lez un buisson fchiez,

Then himself-be-is beside a bush planted

si mist son groing entre ses piez

so he-put his snout between his feet

405 tant que il voie que il face.

until that he see what he do

Et Ysengrin est sus la glace.

And Isengrim is on the ice

Li seaus est en la fontaine

The bucket is in the spring

plain de glacons a bonne estraine.

full of ice-lumps at good luck

L'eve commence a englacier

The-water begins to freeze

410 et li seaus a enlacier

and the bucket to be-bound

qui a la queue fu noez.

which at the tail was knotted

De la glace fu seurondez.

With the ice it-was overflowed

La queue est en l'eve gelee

The tail is in the-water frozen

et a la glace seellee.

and to the ice sealed

Cilz se cuida bien souffachier

He himself thought well to-beave

et le seel a soi sachier.

and the bucket to himself to-pull

En mainte guise s'i essaie,

In many-a wise himself-there he-tries

ne set que faire: si s'esmaie.

not he-knows what to-do so himself-be-dismays

Renart commence a appeler

Reynard he-begins to call

comme il plus ne se puet celer:

as he more not himself can to-hide

que ja estoit l'aube crevee.

for already was the-dawn broken

Renart a la teste levee:

Reynard has the head raised

il se regarde, les iex oeuvre.

he himself looks-round the eyes he-opens

"Frere" fait il, "car lessiez oeuvre!

Brother says he now leave work

Alons nous en, biaux dous amis!

Let-us-go ourselves hence fair sweet friend

Assez avons de poissons pris."

Enough we-have of fish taken

415

420

425

Et Ysengrin li escria

And Isengrim to-him cried

“Renart” fait il, “trop en i a.

Reynard says he too-much thereof there is

Tant en ai pris, ne sai que dire.”

So-many thereof I-have taken not I-know what to-say

430 Et Renart commenca a rire.

And Reynard began to laugh

Si li a dit tout en appert

So to-him he-has said all in open

“Cil qui tot convoite, tot pert.”

He who all covets all loses

La nuit trespasse, l'aube crieve:

The night passes the-dawn breaks

li solaus par matin se lieve.

the sun in morning himself rises

435 De noif furent les voies blanches.

With snow were the ways white

Et missire Constant des Granches,

And my-lord Constant of-the Granches

un vavassour bien aaisiez,

a vavasour well at-ease

qui sus l'estanc fu herbergiez,

who above the-pond was lodged

levez estoit et sa mesnie

risen he-was and his household

440 qui moult estoit joieuse et lie.

which very was joyful and glad

Un cor a pris, ses chiens appelle,

A horn he-has taken his dogs he-calls

si commande a mettre sa selle,

so he-commands to put his saddle

et sa mesniee crie et huie.

and his household cries and boots

Et Renart l'ot, si tourne en fuie

And Reynard it-bears so turns to flight

tant qu'en sa taisniere se fiche.

until that-in his den himself he-plants

Et Ysengrin remest en briche

And Isengrim remained in trap

qui moult s'esforce et sache et tire:

who much himself-strains and pulls and tugs

a poi sa pel ne li descire.

by little his skin — to-him tears

Se d'ilec se veult departir,

If from-there himself he-wishes to-depart

la queue li convient guerpir.

the tail to-him it-behooves to-abandon

Conme Ysengrin se va frotant,

As Isengrim himself goes rubbing

estes vous un garçon trotant:

behold you a lad trotting

deus levriers tint en une lesse.

two greyhounds he-held in a leash

Ysengrin vit (vers lui s'eslesse)

Isengrim he-saw toward him himself-he-burls

sus la glace tot engele

on the ice all frozen

a tot son haterel pele.

with all his nape peeled

445

450

455

Cil l'esgarde, puis li escrie

He him-looks-at then to-him cries

"Ha ha, le leu! aïe aïe!"

Ha ha the wolf help help

Li veneor quant il l'oïrent,

The huntsmen when they it-heard

460 lors de la meson fors saillirent

then from the house out they-leapt

a tos les chens par une hese.

with all the dogs by a gate

Or est Ysengrins en malese.

Now is Isengrim in distress

Que dant Constanz venoit apres

For sir Constant came after

sor un cheval a grant esles

on a horse at great speed

465 qui molt s'escrie a l'avaller

who much himself-cries at the-coming-down

"Lai va, lai va lez chens aler!"

There go there go the dogs (let-)to-go

Li braconer les chenz decouplent

The boundsmen the dogs uncouple

et li bracet au lou s'acoplent

and the bounds to-the wolf themselves-couple

et Ysengrins molt se herice.

and Isengrim much himself bristles

470 Li veneors les chens entice

The huntsman the dogs urges-on

et amoneste durement.

and exborts hard

Et Ysengrins bien se desfent,

And Isengrim well himself defends

aus denz les mort: qu'en pot il mez?

with-the teeth them he-bites what-thereof could he more

Il amast mels ases la pez.

He would-love better quite the peace

Dant Constans a l'espee traite

Sir Constant has the-sword drawn

por bien ferir a lui s'atrete.

for well to-strike to him himself-be-draws

A pie descent enmi la place

On foot he-dismounts amid the place

et vint au lou devers la glace.

and he-came to-the wolf from-toward the ice

Par deriere l'a asailli:

From behind him-be-has assailed

ferir le volt, mes il failli.

to-strike him he-wished but he failed

Li colp li cola en travers,

The blow to-him glided in across

et dant Constans chaï envers

and sir Constant fell backward

si que li hatereax li seinne.

so that the nape to-him bleeds

Il se leva a molt grant peine.

He himself rose with very great pain

Par grant aïr le va requerre:

With great fury him he-goes to-attack

or poez oïr fiere guerre.

now you-can to-bear fierce war

475

480

485

Ferir le cuida en la teste:

To-strike him he-thought in the head

mes d'autre part li cous s'aresté.

but of-other side the blow itself-stops

Vers la coe descent l'espee,

Toward the tail comes-down the-sword

490 tot res a res li a coupee

all close at close to-him it-has cut

pres de l'anel: n'a pas failli.

near of the-ring not-he-has at-all failed

Et Ysengrins qui l'a senti

And Isengrim who it-has felt

saut en travers, puis si s'en torne

he-leaps in across then so himself-thence he-turns

les chens mordant trestot a orne

the dogs biting all in order

495 qui molt sovent li vont as naces.

who very often to-him go at-the buttocks

Mes la coe remest en gages:

But the tail remained in pledge

et molt li poise et molt li greve,

and much to-him it-grieves and much to-him it-burdens

a poi son cuer de dol ne creve.

by little his heart of grief — bursts

N'en pot plus fere, torne en fuie

Not-thereof he-could more to-do he-turns to flight

500 tant que a un tertre s'apuie.

until that at a hillock himself-he-props

Li chen le vont sovent mordant

The dogs him go often biting

et il s'en va bien defendant.

and he himself-thence goes well defending

Con il furent el tertre amont,

When they were on-the hillock above

li chen sont las, recreü sont.

the dogs are weary given-up they-are

Et Ysengrins point ne se tarde,

And Isengrim at-all not himself delays

fuiant s'en va, si se regarde,

fleeing himself-thence he-goes so himself he-looks-round

droit vers le bois grant aleüre.

straight toward the wood at-great speed

Iloc rala et dit et jure

There he-went-again and says and swears

que de Renart se vengera

that of Reynard himself he-will-avenge

ne james jor ne l'amera.

nor ever day not him-be-will-love

505

510

Reynard in the Abbey Close

The poet promises a branch to laugh at rather than a sermon. Reynard, starving, finds a white monks' grange behind a ditch, stocked with hens and year-old capons. Seeing no way over, he spots a half-open wicket and slips through, only to lose his nerve and go out again. Hunger drives him back in by the rear. He climbs a heap of straw, the three hens bolt from their beam into a corner, and he strangles them there, eats two, and leaves with the third. His thirst takes him to the well in the yard.

Or me convient tel chose dire

Now me it-behooves such thing to-say

dont je vos puisse fere rire.

whereof I you may to-make to-laugh

Qar je sai bien, ce est la pure,

For I know well this is the plain-(truth)

que de sarmon n'aves vos cure

that of sermon not-have you care

5 ne de cors seint oïr la vie.

nor of body holy to-hear the life

De ce ne vos prent nule envie,

Of this not you takes any desire

mes de tel chose qui vos plese.

but of such thing which to-you may-please

Or gart chascun que il se tесе:

Now let-take-care each that he himself be-silent

que de bien dire sui en voie

for of well to-say I-am in way

10 et bien garniz, se dex me voie.

and well furnished so God me see

Se vos me volieez entendre,

If you me would-wish to-hear

tel chosse porrieiez aprendre

such thing you-might to-learn

que bien feroit a retenir.

that well it-would-be to retain

Si me selt em por fol tenir.

So me is-wont one for fool to-bold

Mes j'ai oï dire en escole:

But I-have heard to-say in school

de fol ome sage parole.

of mad man wise word

Lonc prologue n'est preuz a fere.

Long prologue not-is profit to make

Or dirai, ne me voil plus tere,

Now I-will-say not me I-wish more to-be-silent

une branche et un sol gabet

a branch and a single jest

de celui qui tant set d'abet:

of him who so-much knows of-trickery

c'est de Renart, bien le savez,

that-is of Reynard well it you-know

et bien oï dire l'avez.

and well heard to-say it-you-have

De Renart ne va nus a destre.

Of Reynard not goes anyone at right

Renars fet tot le monde pestre:

Reynard makes all the world to-graze

Renars atret, Renars acole,

Reynard attracts Reynard embraces

Renars est molt de male escole.

Reynard is very of evil school

15

20

25

De lui ne va corioies ointes,

From him not go straps greased

ja tant ne sera ses acointes.

ever so-much not will-be his acquaintance

Molt par est sajes et voisous

Very much is wise and cunning

30 Renars, et si n'est pas noisous.

Reynard and so not-he-is at-all quarrelsome

Mes en cest monde n'a si sage,

But in this world not-there-is so wise

au chef de foiz n'aut a folage.

at-the end of times (that-)not-he-go to folly

Or vos dirai quel mesestance

Now to-you I-will-say what mishap

avint Renart et quel pesance.

befell (to-)Reynard and what grief

35 L'autrer estoit alez porquerre

The-other-day he-was gone to-see

sa garison en autre terre.

his provision in other land

Conme cil qui avoit souffrete

Like he who had want

et grant fein qui molt le dehete,

and great hunger which much him afflicts

s'en est tornez vers une pree.

himself-thence is turned toward a meadow

40 Si con il vint en une aree,

So as he came into a plowed-field

s'en va Renars par une broce
himself-thence goes Reynard through a thicket
 molt dolanz, et molt se coroce
very grieving and much himself be-angers
 que il ne puet chose trover
that he not can thing to-find
 qu'il puist manger a son soper.
which-he may to-eat at his supper
 Mes n'i voit rien de sa pasture.
But not-there he-sees anything of his pasture
 Lors se remet en l'anbleüre
Then himself he-puts-again in the-amble
 fors del bois, et vint en l'oreille.
out of-the wood and came into the-edge
 Arestez est, de fain baaille,
Stopped he-is with hunger he-gapes
 grelles megres e esbahis.
slender lean and dismayed
 Molt a grant fein en son païs.
Much he-has great hunger in his country
 D'oures en autres s'estendeille.
From-hours to others himself-he-stretches
 Et ses ventres si se merveille
And his belly so itself marvels
 et si boel qui sont dedenz
and his bowels which are within
 que font ses poes et ses denz.
what do his paws and his teeth

45

50

- 55 D'angoisse gient et de destrece
With-anguish he-groans and with distress
 et de la fein qui molt le blece.
and with the hunger which much him wounds
 Lors dist qu'il fait maveis atendre
Then he-said that-it is bad to-wait
 en leu ou l'en ne puet rien prendre.
in place where one not can anything to-take
 A icest mot par un sentier
At this word by a path
- 60 s'en corut un arpent entier.
himself-thence he-ran an acre entire
 Onques ne volt entrer el pas
Ever not he-wished to-enter into-the pace
 tant que il vint a un trespas.
until that he came to a crossing
 Si con il ot le col baissie,
So as he had the neck lowered
 si a choisi en un plessie
so he-has espied in an enclosure
- 65 par encoste d'unes avoines
by beside of-some oats
 une abeïe de blans moines
an abbey of white monks
 et une grange par dejoste,
and a grange by beside
 ou Renars velt fere une joste.
where Reynard wishes to-make a joust
 La granche fu molt bien asise.
The grange was very well set

Li mur furent de roce bise

The walls were of rock gray

molt fort, ne vos en mentiron,

very strong not to-you thereof we-will-lie

et furent clos tot environ

and were closed all around

d'un fosse dont haute est la rive,

with-a ditch of-which high is the bank

si que ne lor puet riens qui vive

so that not to-them can anything which lives

tolir par force nule chose,

to-take by force any thing

puis que la granche est ferme et close.

since that the grange is shut and closed

Plentive est de norreture,

Plentiful it-is of livestock

qu'il erent en bone pasture.

for-they were in good pasture

Moult par estoit bonne la grange,

Very much was good the grange

mais a pluseurs estoit estrange.

but to many it-was strange

Assez i a de tel viande

Plenty there is of such food

con Renars li gourpils demande:

as Reynard the fox asks

gelines, chapons surannez.

hens capons a-year-old

Renars est celle part tourne,

Reynard is that way turned

70

75

80

- 85 parmi la voie a fait un saut
through the way he-has made a leap
 touz abrivez de faire assaut.
all hastened of to-make assault
 Onques ne fu ses frains tenus
Ever not was his bridle held
 tant qu'il est aus chapons venus.
until that-he is to-the capons come
 Sur le fosse s'est arrestez
On the ditch himself-he-is stopped
- 90 de gaaignier touz aprestez
of to-gain all made-ready
 et des gelines assaillir.
and of-the hens to-assail
 Mais il n'i pooit avenir.
But he not-there could to-reach
 Court et racourt entor la granche,
He-runs and runs-again around the grange
 mais n'i treuve ne pont ne planche
but not-there he-finds neither bridge nor plank
- 95 ne pertuis: moult se desconforte.
nor hole much himself he-despairs
 Lors s'acroupi devant la porte
Then himself-be-crouched before the gate
 et vit le guichet entrouvert
and saw the wicket half-open
 et le pertuis tout desouvert:
and the hole all uncovered
 celle part vint, outre se lance.
that way he-came over himself he-burls

Or est Renars en grant balance:

100

Now is Reynard in great balance

que s'il puent appercevoir

for if-they can to-perceive

que il les veille decevoir,

that he them wishes to-deceive

li moine retendront son gage

the monks will-keep his pledge

o lui meismes en ostage:

with him himself in hostage

car felon sont a desmesure.

105

for felon they-are beyond measure

Qui chaut? tout est en avanture.

What matters all is in chance

Or va Renart par le pourpris,

Now goes Reynard through the enclosure

grant paour a d'estre surpris.

great fear he-has of-to-be surprised

Vint as gelines, si escoute:

He-came to-the hens so he-listens

c'est verite que moult se doute,

110

it-is truth that much himself he-fears

que bien set qu'il fait musardie.

for well he-knows that-be does folly

Retournez est par couardie,

Turned-back he-is by cowardice

grant paour a c'on ne le voie.

great fear he-has that-one not him see

Ist de la court, entre en la voie

He-goes-out of the yard he-enters into the way

115 et se commence a pourpenser.

and himself begins to consider

Mais besoning fait vielle trotter,

But need makes old-woman to-trot

et la fain tant le par tourmente,

and the hunger so him much torments

ou bel li soit ou se repente,

whether fair to-him be-it or himself be-repent

le refait arriere fichier

him makes-again back to-plant

120 por les gelines acrochier.

for the hens to-hook

Or est Renars venuz arriere,

Now is Reynard come back

en la granche entre par deriere

into the grange he-enters by behind

si coiemement que ne se murent

so quietly that not themselves stirred

les gelines, ne n'aparcurent.

the hens nor not-perceived

125 Sus un tref en ot trois juchiees

On a beam thereof there-were three roosted

qui estoient a mort jugiees.

who were to death judged

Et cilz qui ert alez en fuerre,

And he who was gone into foraging

s'en monta sus un tas de fuerre

himself-thence climbed on a heap of straw

pour les gelines acrochier.

for the hens to-hook

Les gelines sentent hochier

The hens feel to-shake

le fuerre, si en tresaillirent

the straw so thereof they-started

et en un angle se tapirent.

and in a corner themselves hid

Et Renars celle part s'en tourne,

And Reynard that way himself-thence turns

si les a prises tout a ourne

so them he-has taken all in order

la ou il les vit enanglees:

there where he them saw cornered

si les a toutes estrangleeps.

so them he-has all strangled

Des deus en fait ses grenons bruire,

Of-the two thereof he-makes his whiskers to-crackle

la tierce en voudra porter cuire.

the third thereof he-will-wish to-carry to-cook

Quant ot mengie, si fu aaise.

When he-had eaten so he-was at-ease

De la granche ist par une hese

From the grange he-goes-out by a hurdle-gate

et la tierce geline emporte.

and the third hen he-carries-off

Mais si conme il vint a la porte,

But so as he came to the gate

130

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140

si ot moult grant talent de boivre

so he-had very great desire of to-drink

cilz qui bien sot la gent decoivre.

he who well knew the folk to-deceive

145 Un puis avoit enmi la cort:

A well there-was amid the yard

Renars le vit, celle part court

Reynard it saw that way he-runs

pour sa soif que il volt estaindre,

for his thirst which he wished to-quench

mais il ne pot a l'eve ataindre.

but he not could to the-water to-reach

The Two Buckets

Reynard finds a well with two buckets, one rising as the other falls. Leaning over it he takes his own shadow for his wife Hermeline, calls down, and hears the echo answer; then he steps into a bucket and rides it into the water. Isengrim comes to the same well that night and takes his own shadow for Hersent lying there with Reynard. Reynard calls up that he is dead and in paradise, where the woods, meadows, and herds are, while the wolf is still on earth — and he swears he never wronged Hersent.

Or a Renart le puis trouve:

Now has Reynard the well found

150 moult par le vit parfont et le.

very much it he-saw deep and wide

Seigneurs, or escoutez merveilles!

Lords now listen-to marvels

En ce puis si avoit deus seilles:

In this well so there-were two buckets

quant l'une vient, et l'autre vait.

when the-one comes and the-other goes

Et Renars qui tant a mal fait,

And Reynard who so-much has ill done

dessus le puis s'est acoutez

above the well himself-he-is leaned

grainz et marris et trespensez.

vexed and sorry and dismayed

Dedens commence a regarder

Within he-begins to look

et son ombre a aboeter:

and his shadow to peer-at

cuida que ce fust Hermeline

he-thought that this were Hermeline

sa femme qu'aime d'amor fine,

his wife whom-he-loves with-love true

qui herbergie fust leens.

who lodged were in-there

Renars fu pensis et dolens:

Reynard was pensive and grieving

il li demande par vertu

he to-her asks with force

“Di moi, la dedens que fais tu?”

Say to-me there within what doest thou

La vois du puis vint contremont:

The voice of-the well came upward

Renars l'oï, drece le front.

Reynard it-heard he-raises the brow

Il la rapelle une autre fois:

He her calls-again an other time

155

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165

contremont resorti la vois.

upward sprang-back the voice

Renars l'oï, moult se merueille:

Reynard it-beard much himself he-marvels

170 si met ses piez en une seille,

so he-puts his feet in a bucket

onc n'en sot mot, quant il avale.

ever not-thereof he-knew word when he goes-down

Ja i aura encontre male.

Already there he-will-have meeting evil

Quant il fu en l'eve cheüs,

When he was into the-water fallen

si sot bien qu'il fu deceüs.

so he-knew well that-he was deceived

175 Or est Renart en male frape,

Now is Reynard in evil plight

maufez l'ont mis en celle trape.

devils him-have put in that trap

Acoutez s'est a une pierre,

Leaned himself-he-is on a stone

bien vousist estre mors en biere.

well he-would-wish to-be dead in bier

Li chaitis sueffre grant hachiee:

The wretch suffers great torment

180 moult a souvent la pel moilliee.

much he-has often the skin wetted

Or est a aise de peschier.

Now he-is at ease of to-fish

Nulz nel pourroit esleeschier:

Anyone not-him could to-gladden

ne prise deus boutons son sens.

not he-prizes two buttons his sense

Seigneurs, il avint en cel tens,

Lords it befell in that time

en celle nuit et en celle heure,

in that night and in that hour

que Ysengrins tout sanz demeure

that Isengrim all without delay

s'en est issus d'une grant lande:

himself-thence is gone-out from-a great heath

que querre li couvint viande,

for to-seek to-him it-behooved food

que la fain le grieve forment.

for the hunger him burdens greatly

Tournez s'en est irement

Turned himself-thence he-is angrily

devant la meson aus rendus,

before the house of-the lay-brothers

les granz galos i est venuz.

the great gallops there he-is come

Le païs trouva moult gaste.

The country he-found very waste

“Ci conversent” dit il “malfe,

Here dwell says he devils

qant l'en n'i puet trouver viande

when one not-there can to-find food

ne rien de ce que on demande.”

nor anything of that which one asks

Tournez s'en est tout le passet.

Turned himself-thence he-is all the little-pace

185

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195

Courant s'en vint vers le guichet:

Running himself-thence he-came toward the wicket

par devant la rendation

by before the lay-house

200 s'en est venuz le grant troton.

himself-thence be-is come the great trot

Le puis trouva enmi sa voie

The well he-found amid his way

ou Renars le rous s'esbanoie.

where Reynard the red himself-disports

Dessus le puis s'est aclinez

Above the well himself-be-is bent

grainz et marriz et trespensez.

vexed and sorry and dismayed

205 Dedens commence a regarder

Within be-begins to look

et son ombre a aboeter.

and his shadow to peer-at

Con plus i vit, plus esgarda,

The more there he-saw more he-looked

tout ensi con Renars ouvra:

all thus as Reynard did

cuida que fust dame Hersens

he-thought that it-were lady Hersent

210 qui herbergiee fust leens

who lodged were in-there

et que Renars fust avec li.

and that Reynard were with her

Sachiez pas ne li embeli,

Know at-all not to-him it-pleased

et dist “moult par sui maubailiz,

and he-said very much I-am ill-handled

de ma fame vilz et honniz

of my wife vile and shamed

que Renars li rous m’a fortraite

whom Reynard the red from-me-has carried-off

et ceens avec soi a traite.

and in-here with himself has drawn

Moult est ore traître lere,

Much is now traitor thief

quant il decoit si sa conmere.

when he deceives so his godmother-in-law

Si ne me puis de lui garder.

So not myself I-can from him to-guard

Mes se jel pooie atraper,

But if I-it could to-trap

si faitement m’en vengeroie

so in-this-manner myself-thereof I-would-avenge

que james crieme n’en auroie.”

that ever fear not-thereof I-would-have

Puis a usle par grant vertu:

Then he-has bowled with great force

a son ombre dist “qui es tu?

to his shadow he-said who art thou

Pute orde vilz, pute prouee,

Whore filthy vile whore proved

qant o Renart t’ai ci trovee!”

when with Reynard thee-I-have here found

215

220

225

Si a ulle une autre foiz,

So he-has howled an other time

contremont resorti la voiz.

upward sprang-back the voice

Que qu'Isengrins se dementoit

While that-Isengrim himself lamented

230 et Renars trestoz coiz estoit,

and Reynard all quiet was

et le laissa assez usler,

and him left plenty to-bowl

puis si le prist a apeler.

then so him he-began to call

“Qui est ce, diex, qui m'aparole?

Who is this God who me-addresses

Ja tiens ge ca dedenz m'escole.”

Indeed hold I here within my-school

235 “Qui es tu, va?” dist Ysengrin.

Who art thou hey said Isengrim

“Ja sui je vostre bon voisin

Indeed am I your good neighbor

qui fui jadiz vostre compere,

who was formerly your godfather-in-law

plus m'amiez que vostre frere.

more me-you-loved than your brother

Mais l'en m'apelle feu Renart

But one me-calls the-late Reynard

240 qui tant savoit d'engin et d'art.”

who so-much knew of-device and of-art

Dist Ysengrins “c'est mes confors:

Said Isengrim this-is my comfort

des quant es tu, Renart, donc mors?"

since when art thou Reynard then dead

Et il li respont "des l'autrier.

And he to-him answers since the-other-day

Nulz hons ne s'en doit merveiller,

Any man not himself-thereof ought to-marvel

se je sui mors: aussi mourront

if I am dead likewise will-die

tretuit cil qui en vie sont.

all those who in life are

Parmi la mort les convendra

Through the death them it-will-behoove

passer au jor que diex plaira.

to-pass at-the day when (to-)God it-will-please

Or atent m'ame nostre sire

Now awaits my-soul our lord

qui m'a gete de cest martire.

who me-has drawn from this torment

Je vos pri, biau compere dous,

I you pray fair godfather-in-law sweet

que me pardonnez les courrous

that to-me you-pardon the wraths

que l'autrier eüstes vers moi."

that the-other-day you-had toward me

Dist Ysengrins "et je l'otroi.

Said Isengrim and I it-grant

Or vous soient tout pardone,

Now to-you be all pardoned

compere, ci et devant de.

godfather-in-law here and before God

245

250

255

Mes de vostre mort sui dolens.”

But of your death I-am grieving

Dist Renars “et j’en sui joians.”

Said Reynard and I-thereof am joyful

“Joians en es?” “Voire, par foi.”

Joyful thereof art-thou Indeed by faith

260 “Biau compere, di moi pourquoi.”

Fair godfather-in-law say to-me why

“Que li miens corps gist en la biere

For the my body lies in the bier

chiez Hermeline en la tesniere,

at Hermeline's in the den

et m’ame est en paradis mise,

and my-soul is in paradise put

devant les piez Jhesu assise:

before the feet (of-)Jesus seated

265 comperes, j’ai quanque je veil.

godfather-in-law I-have whatever I wish

Je n’oi onques cure d’orgueil.

I not-had ever care of-pride

Se tu es ou regne terrestre,

If thou art in-the realm earthly

je sui en paradis celestre.

I am in paradise heavenly

Ceens sont les gaaignerries,

In-here are the farmsteads

270 les bois, les plains, les prairies:

the woods the plains the meadows

ceens a riche pecunaille,

in-here there-is rich cattle-wealth

ceens puez veoir mainte aumaille

in-here thou-canst to-see many-a beast

et mainte oelle et mainte chievre,

and many-a ewe and many-a goat

ceens puez tu veoir maint lievre

in-here canst thou to-see many-a hare

et bues et vaches et moutons,

and oxen and cows and sheep

espreviers, ostors et faucons.”

sparrow-hawks goshawks and falcons

Ysengrins jure saint Sevestre

Isengrim swears (by-)saint Sylvester

que il voudroit la dedens estre.

that he would-wish there within to-be

Dist Renars “lessiez ce ester,

Said Reynard let this to-be

ceens ne poez vous entrer:

in-here not can you to-enter

paradis est celestiaus,

paradise is heavenly

mais n'est mie a touz comunaus.

but not-is at-all to all common

Moult as este touz jors trichierres,

Much thou-hast been all days cheat

fel et traîtres et boisierrres.

felon and traitor and deceiveer

De ta famme m'as mescreü:

Of thy wife me-thou-hast disbelieved

par dieu et par sa grant vertu,

by God and by his great power

275

280

285

onc ne li fis desconvenue,

ever not to-her I-did misdeed

n'onques par moi ne fu foutue.

nor-ever by me not she-was mounted

Tu dis que tes filz avoutrai,

Thou sayest that thy sons I-bastardized

290 onques certes nel me pensai.

ever certainly not-it to-myself I-thought

Par cel seigneur qui me fist ne,

By that lord who me made born

or t'en ai dit la verite."

now thee-thereof I-have said the truth

Isengrim in the Monks' Hands

Reynard explains the two buckets as the scales of good and evil, and Isengrim, having confessed and prayed with his head to the west, leaps into the upper one. The heavier wolf goes down, and as they pass it is Isengrim who hails him; Reynard answers that one goes to paradise and the other to hell. In the morning the lay-brothers haul the bucket up with an ass and beat Isengrim nearly to death, until the abbot stops the prior from taking his skin. His son swears vengeance, and Isengrim is healed by his physicians.

Dist Ysengrins "je vous en croi,

Said Isengrim I you thereof believe

jel vos pardoing en bonne foi.

I-it to-you pardon in good faith

295 Mais faites moi leens entrer."

But make me in-there to-enter

Ce dist Renars "lessiez ester.

This said Reynard let to-be

N'avons cure ceens de noise.

Not-we-have care in-here of noise

La poez veoir celle poise.”

There you-can to-see that weight

Seigneur, or escoutez merveille!

Lords now listen-to marvel

A son doi li moustre la seille.

With his finger to-him he-shows the bucket

Renars set bien son sens espandre:

Reynard knows well his sense to-spread

que pour voir li a fet entendre,

for for truth to-him he-has made to-understand

poises sont de bien et de mal.

weights are of good and of evil

“Par dieu le pere esperital,

By God the father spiritual

diex si par est ainsi poissanz,

God so much is thus powerful

que quant li biens est si pesanz,

that when the good is so heavy

si s'en devale ca de jus,

so itself-thence goes-down here of below

et touz li maus remaint lassus.

and all the evil remains up-there

Mais hons, s'il n'a confesse prise,

But a-man if-he not-has confession taken

ne pourroit ja en nule guise

not could ever in any wise

ci avaler, je le te di.

here to-come-down I it to-thee say

300

305

310

As tu tes peschiez regehi?"

Hast thou thy sins confessed

"Oïl" fait il, "a un viel levre

Yes says he to an old hare

et a dame H.... la chievre

and to lady H the goat

315 moult bien et moult tres saintement.

very well and very right holily

Compere, plus hastivement

Godfather-in-law more hastily

me faites la dedens entrer!"

me make there within to-enter

Renars commence a regarder

Reynard begins to look

"Or vous estuet dont dieu proier

Now you it-behooves then (to-)God to-pray

320 et moult saintement gracier

and very holily to-thank

que il vous face vrai pardon

that he to-you make true pardon

de voz pechiez remission:

of your sins remission

ainsi i pourries entrer."

thus there you-might to-enter

Ysengrins n'i volt plus ester:

Isengrim not-there wished more to-stand

325 son cul tourna vers orient

his rump he-turned toward east

et sa teste vers occident,

and his head toward west

et conmenca a orguener

and he-began to descant

et tres durement a usler.

and very loudly to howl

Renars qui fait mainte merveille,

Reynard who does many-a marvel

estoit aval en l'autre seille

was down in the-other bucket

qui ou puis estoit avalee.

which into-the well was come-down

Ce fu par pute destinee

This was by foul destiny

que Renars s'est dedens couchiez.

that Reynard himself-is within lain

Par temps iert Ysengrins iriez.

In time will-be Isengrim angered

Dist Ysengrins "j'ai dieu proie."

Said Isengrim I-have (to-)God prayed

"Et je" dist Renars "gracie.

And I said Reynard (have-)thanked

Ysengrin, vois tu ces merveilles,

Isengrim seest thou these marvels

que devant moi ardent chandeilles?

that before me burn candles

Jhesu te fera vrai pardon

Jesus thee will-make true pardon

et moult gente remission."

and very noble remission

330

335

340

Ysengrins l'ot: adont estrive

Isengrim it-beard then he-strives

au seel abatre de rive,

at-the bucket to-cast-off from brink

il joint les piez, si sailli ens.

he joins the feet so he-leapt in

Ysengrins fu li plus pesans,

Isengrim was the most heavy

345 si s'en avale contreval.

so himself-thence goes-down downward

Or escoutez le bautestal!

Now listen-to the uproar

Ou puis se sont entre encontre,

In-the well themselves they-are each-other met

Ysengrins l'a araisonne

Isengrim him-has addressed

"Compere, pourquoi t'en viens tu?"

Godfather-in-law why thyself-thence comest thou

350 Et Renars li a respondu

And Reynard to-him has answered

"N'en faites ja chiere ne frume,

Not-thereof make ever face nor grimace

bien vous en dirai la coustume:

well to-you thereof I-will-say the custom

quant li uns va, li autres vient,

when the one goes the other comes

c'est la coustume qui avient.

this-is the custom which befalls

355 Je vois en paradis la sus,

I go into paradise there up

et tu vas en enfer la jus.

and thou goest into hell there below

Du diable sui eschapez

From-the devil I-am escaped

et tu t'en revas as maufez.

and thou thyself-thence goest-again to-the devils

Moult es en granz viltés cheois

Much thou-art into great disgraces fallen

et j'en sui hors, bien le sachoïs.

and I-thereof am out well it know

Par dieu le pere esperitable,

By God the father spiritual

la jus conversent li diable."

there below dwell the devils

Des que Renars vint a la terre,

As-soon as Reynard came to the ground

moult s'esbaudi de faire guerre.

much himself-be-rejoiced of to-make war

Ysengrins est en male trape:

Isengrim is in evil trap

se il fust pris devant Halape,

if he were taken before Aleppo

ne fust il pas si adoulez,

not were he at-all so grieved

que quant ou puis fu avalez.

as when into-the well he-was come-down

Seigneurs, or oiez des renduz

Lords now hear of-the lay-brothers

comme il perdirent leur vertuz.

how they lost their strength

360

365

370

Leur feves furent trop salees

Their beans were too salted

que il orent mengie gravees.

which they had eaten boiled

Li sergent furent pareceus,

The servants were lazy

que d'eve furent souffreteus.

for of-water they-were needy

375 Mais il avint del cuisinier,

But it befell of-the cook

celui qui gardoit le mengier,

him who guarded the meal

qu'il ot sa force recouvree.

that-he had his strength recovered

Au puis s'en vint la matinee,

To-the well himself-thence came (in-)the morning

si menoit un asne Espanois

so he-led an ass Spanish

380 et compaignons de ci a trois:

and companions from here to three [three-in-all]

au puis en viennent le troton

to-the well thereof come the trot

trestuit li qatre compaignon.

all the four companions

L'arne acouplent a la poulie

The-ass they-couple to the pulley

qui de traire pas ne s'oublie:

which of to-pull at-all not itself-forgets

li rendu le vont menacant

the lay-brothers it go threatening

et l'arnes va forment traiaint.

and the-ass goes greatly pulling

Li leus a sa grant mesestance

The wolf to his great distress

estoit la aval en balance:

was there below in balance

dedenz le seel s'est coulez.

within the bucket himself-be-is slipped

Et l'arne fu si adolez

And the-ass was so grieved

que il ne pot n'avant n'arriere,

that he not could neither-forward nor-backward

ne por force que l'en le fiere:

nor for force that one him strike

quant uns renduz s'est apoiez,

when a lay-brother himself-is leaned

qui est desus le puis couchiez:

who is above the well lain

si prent dedenz a regarder

so he-begins within to look

et Ysengrin a aviser.

and Isengrim to perceive

Dist aus autres "que faites vous?"

He-said to-the others what do you

Par dieu le pere glorious,

By God the father glorious

ce est un leu que vous traiez."

this is a wolf that you pull

385

390

395

- 400 Estes les vous touz esmaiez,
Behold them you all dismayed
 si s'en courent tuit vers maison
so themselves-thence run all toward house
 grant aleüre le troton.
great speed the trot
 Mais la poulie ont atachie.
But the pulley they-have fastened
 Ysengrins sueffre grant haschie.
Isengrim suffers great torment
- 405 Li frere apellent les serjanz,
The brothers call the servants
 par temps iert Ysengrins dolenz.
in time will-be Isengrim grieving
 Li abbes prent une macue
The abbot takes a club
 qui moult estoit grant et cornue,
which very was great and knotted
 et li priours un chandelier.
and the prior a candlestick
- 410 Il n'i remest moine ou moustier
There not-there remained monk in-the minster
 qui ne portast baston ou pel:
who not carried staff or stake
 tuit sont issu de leur hostel.
all are gone-out from their dwelling
 Au puis en prennent a venir
To-the well thereof they-begin to come
 et s'aprestent de bien ferir.
and themselves-make-ready of well to-strike

L'arne font traire qui la fu,

The-ass they-make to-pull who there was

si li aïdent par vertu

so to-him they-help with force

tant que li seaus vint a rive.

until that the bucket came to brink

Ysengrins n'atent mie trive,

Isengrim not-awaits at-all truce

un saut a fet moult avenant.

a leap he-has made very fitting

Et li gaignon le vont sivant,

And the curs him go following

qui descirent son pelicon:

who tear his pelt

amont en volent li flocon.

upward thereof fly the tufts

Et li rendu l'ont atrape

And the lay-brothers him-have trapped

qui moult durement l'ont frape.

who very hard him-have struck

Li uns le fiert parmi les rains,

The one him strikes across the loins

Ysengrins est en males mains.

Isengrim is in evil hands

Illec s'est qatre foiz pasmez,

There himself-he-is four times swooned

moult par est grainz et adolez,

very much he-is vexed and grieved

415

420

425

tant qu'il s'est couchiez sur le bort:

until that-he himself-is lain on the edge

430 illecques fait semblant de mort.

there he-makes show of death

Atant estes vous le priour

Thereupon behold you the prior

cui diex otroit grant deshonnour.

to-whom God grant great dishonor

Il mist la main a son coutel,

He put the hand to his knife

si en vouloit prendre la pel.

so thereof he-wished to-take the skin

435 Toz estoit prez de l'acourer,

All he-was ready of him-to-slaughter

quant l'abe dist "lessiez ester!"

when the-abbot said let to-be

Assez a sa pel despecie

Enough he-has his skin torn

et sofferte mortel hachie:

and suffered mortal torment

il ne fera mais point de guerre,

he not will-make more a-while of war

440 apesiee en est la terre.

pacified thereof is the land

Tornons nos en, lessiez ester!"

Let-us-turn ourselves hence let to-be

Ysengrins n'a talent d'aler.

Isengrim not-has desire of-to-go

Chascuns rendu a pris son pel,

Each lay-brother has taken his stake

si retournerent a ostel.

so they-returned to lodging

Ysengrins voit n'i a nullui,

445

Isengrim sees not-there is anyone

qui a souffert si grant anui.

who has suffered so great trouble

Fuiant s'en va a grant hachie

Fleeing himself-thence he-goes with great torment

que il a la croupe brisie.

for he has the rump broken

A un grant buisson est venus.

To a great bush he-is come

Mais tant est ses crepons batus

450

But so-much is his rump beaten

qu'il ne se puet resvertuer.

that-he not himself can to-recover

Devant lui vit son filz aler

Before him he-saw his son to-go

qui li demanda entresait

who to-him asked at-once

“Biau pere, qui vous a ce fait?”

Fair father who to-you has this done

“Biaus filz, Renars qui m'a traï.

455

Fair son Reynard who me-has betrayed

Par dieu le voir qui ne menti,

By God the true who not lied

en un puis me fist trebuschier,

into a well me made to-tumble

jamais ne me pourrai aidier.”

ever not myself I-will-be-able to-help

Quant cilz l'oï, moult s'en aïre,
When he it-heard much himself-thereat he-angers

460 dieu jure qui souffri martire,
God he-swears who suffered martyrdom

se il as mains le puet tenir,
if he in-the hands him can to-hold

il li fera ses jeux puis.
he to-him will-make his games to-stink

"Sel puis tenir, jel vos plevis,
If-him I-can to-hold I-it to-you pledge

il ne m'estordra mie vis:
he not from-me-will-escape at-all alive

465 que devant moi fouti ma mere,
for before me he-mounted my mother

si compissa moi et mon frere.
so he-pissed-on me and my brother

Si l'en rendrai le guerredon,
So to-him-thereof I-will-render the reward

ja n'en aura se la mort non."
ever not-thereof he-will-have except the death not

Atant s'en va en sa taisniere

Thereupon himself-thence he-goes into his den

et fait mires mander et querre

470

and makes physicians to-be-summoned and to-be-sought

qui de lui sont tant entremis

who of him are so-much busied

et tant li ont vitaille quis

and so-much to-him have victuals sought

que pourchacie ont et trouvee

that pursued they-have and found

qu'il a sa force recouvree.

that-be has his strength recovered

Ysengrins est garis et forz:

475

Isengrim is bealed and strong

se dant Renars passe les porz,

if sir Reynard crosses the passes

s'Ysengrins le truisse en sa marche,

if-Isengrim him finds in his march

sachiez, il li fera damage.

know he to-him will-do harm

The Ham, and the Cricket

Isengrim catches Reynard on a hillside and peels his hide until he lies still, taken for dead. Then Reynard spies a villain carrying a flitch and proposes a partnership: he plays the cripple, draws the man off, and makes him drop it. Isengrim eats the flitch alone and shows Reynard the halter for his share. Reynard takes leave as a pilgrim and tries to swallow a cricket, which promises him plenty: hounds and huntsmen run him onto an oven, lose him, and fall on Isengrim, whom Reynard taunts until the wolf breaks free.

Un jour issi hors de la lande

One day went-out out of the heath

Ysengrins pour querre viande

Isengrim for to-seek food

et dant Renars tout ensement.

and sir Reynard all likewise

Par temps feront acointement.

In time they-will-make meeting

5 Renars prent dieu a reclamer

Reynard begins God to invoke

que cel jour le puisse garder

that that day him he-may to-keep

des mains son compere Ysengrin.

from-the hands (of-)his godfather-in-law Isengrim

“J’ai” fait il “tant mauvais voisin,

I-have says he so-many wicked neighbors

que ne me sai en qui fier.”

that not myself I-know in whom to-trust

A un grant tertre devaler

10

At a great hill to-come-down

li vint Ysengrins devant lui

to-him came Isengrim before him

qui par temps li fera anui.

who in time to-him will-do trouble

Renars voit bien, ne puet guenchir,

Reynard sees well not can to-dodge

ne nulle part ne puet fuïr.

nor any side not be-can to-flee

Si li a dit tout a estrous

15

So to-him has said all at once

“Biaus comperes, bien veigniez vous,

Fair godfather-in-law well come you

et damedieux vous envoit joie!”

and lord-God to-you send joy

Et cilz li dist “se diex me voi,

And he to-him said so God me see

joie aurai je, quant je vous voi.

joy shall-have I when I you see

Par dieu le pere en qui je croi,

20

By God the father in whom I believe

quant je te voi, ne quier autrui.

when I thee see not I-seek another

Du corps te ferai grant anui.

Of-the body thee I-will-do great trouble

En mon ventre prendras hostel,

In my belly thou-wilt-take lodging

tu ne t'en puez partir par el.

thou not thyself-thence canst to-part by other

- 25 Moul't auroies isnel cheval,
Much thou-wouldst-have swift horse
 se ne te fais livrer estal.
if not thee I-make to-render stand
 De vous me leveront li flanc,
Of you to-me will-rise the flanks
 aguiser weil de vous mon sanc:
to-sharpen I-wish with you my blood
 par sanc aquerrai hardement,
by blood I-will-acquire boldness
- 30 plus en serai doubte de gent.
more thereof I-will-be feared of folk
 Que faites vous? viaz entrez
What do you quickly enter
 en ma geule! que demourez?"
into my throat why delay-you
 Ysengrins aguise sa dent,
Isengrim sharpens his tooth
 a Renart donne assaillement.
to Reynard he-gives assault
- 35 Onques nulz hons, si fust chetis
Ever any man however were wretched
 n'en terre de Sarrazins pris,
nor-in land of Saracens taken
 ne fu si bien houcepigniez
not was so well shaken
 con Renars fu et desachiez.
as Reynard was and torn

Or est Renars en mal troton.

Now is Reynard in evil trot

De son dos volent li flocon

40

From his back fly the tufts

aussi con de coute de plume.

just as from quilt of feather

Tel doulour a que tous escume.

Such pain he-has that all he-foams

Ysengrins ot fait son revel,

Isengrim had made his sport

Renars a pelee la pel.

(to-)Reynard he-has peeled the skin

Si fu pelez, pas ne se faint:

45

So he-was peeled at-all not himself he-holds-back

ne se remue ne se plaint.

nor himself stirs nor himself complains

Ysengrins est sus acropiz

Isengrim is up crouched

et dist "ahi, je sui traïz.

and said ah I am betrayed

Mes mautalens m'a sourporte,

My ill-will me-has carried-away

trop ai vilainement ouvre.

50

too-much I-have basely wrought

Je n'ai mes cure de deport,

I not-have more care of pleasure

quant je mon conseiller ai mort."

since I my counselor have killed

Renars l'oï, un poi s'estent.

Reynard it-heard a little himself-stretches

Dist Ysengrins “qu’est ce que sent?

Said Isengrim what-is this that I-feel

55 Encor li bat ci une veine.

Still to-him beats here a vein

Mais je n’i sent feu ne aleine.”

But I not-there feel fire nor breath

Renars se dresce sus ses piez

Reynard himself raises on his feet

et dist “sire, ce est pechiez.

and said lord this is sin

Vostre niez sui, ce est la somme,

Your nephew I-am this is the sum

60 ja mar tendrez vil petit homme.”

never ill you-will-bold vile little man

Renars regarde par un plain:

Reynard looks through a plain

delez le bois vit un vilain.

beside the wood he-saw a villain

En sa main portoit un bacon:

In his hand he-carried a flitch

venus estoit de sa maison.

come he-was from his house

65 Renars le vit, si s’est sourris:

Reynard him saw so himself-is smiled

“Oncles, moult estes mes amis:”

Uncle much you-are my friend

(il garra ja par sa favele)

he will-be-saved now by his prattle

“Oncles, oiez bone nouvelle!

Uncle hear good news

Un bacon porte cilz vilains:

A flitch carries this villain

car le metons entre noz mains.

now it let-us-put between our hands

Si devenommes marchant.

So let-us-become merchants

Qu'alons nous ici demourant?

Why-go we here staying

Courons li sus! or n'i ait plus.

Let-us-run him upon now not-there be more

Bien sai vendre char sanz refus.

Well I-know to-sell flesh without refusal

Or faisonsmes ci vostre esgart:

Now let-us-make here your judgment

je en aurai la tierce part

I thereof shall-have the third part

et vous les deus, qui estes grans.

and you the two who are big

C'est coustume de marcheans

This-is custom of merchants

que se deduient liement."

that themselves disport gladly

Ysengrins li moustra la dent,

Isengrim to-him showed the tooth

si li respondi "par saint Cler,

so to-him answered by saint Clair

vers vilain n'ai cure d'aler.

toward villain not-I-have care of-to-go

Je passai ier par une rue.

I passed yesterday through a street

70

75

80

Un m'en feri d'une macue

One me-thereof struck with-a club

85 que il m'abati tretout plat.

that he me-felled all flat

Grant honte me fait qui me bat."

Great shame to-me does who me beats

Dist Renars "lessiez ce ester!

Said Reynard let this to-be

Or m'estuet mon sens esprouver.

Now me-it-behooves my sense to-prove

Se le bacon ne vous puis rendre,

If the flitch not to-you I-can to-render

90 a une hart me faites pendre.

by a halter me make to-hang

Oncle" fait il, "or demourez!

Uncle says he now stay

J' irai avant: ci vous estez!"

I will-go forward here you stand

"Je l'ottroi" ce dist Ysengrin.

I it-grant this said Isengrim

Et Renars aqueult son chemin.

And Reynard takes-up his road

95 Par devant le vilain se trait

By before the villain himself he-draws

autresi con s'il fust contrait.

just as if-he were crippled

Si vint parmi une charriere.

So he-came through a highway

Li vilains fist moult lie chiere,

The villain made very glad countenance

quant il apercut le gourpil.

when he perceived the fox

Or est li bacons en peril.

Now is the flitch in peril

Renars vint traïnant ses rains

Reynard came dragging his loins

et cilz le cuda prendre as mains.

and he him thought to-take with-the hands

Renars li fist un petit saut.

Reynard to-him made a little leap

Dist li vilains "rien ne vous vaut.

Said the villain anything not to-you avails

Ta gorge iert mise en mon mantel."

Thy throat will-be put in my cloak

Renars l'oi, moult li fu bel:

Reynard it-heard much to-him it-was fair

que moult a entre dire et faire.

for much there-is between to-say and to-do

S'il puet, il li fera contraire.

If-he can be to-him will-do harm

Tot temps enforce s'ambleüre

All time he-strengthens his-amble

et cilz engraigne s'aleüre.

and he increases his-pace

Li vilains sueffre moult grant paine:

The villain suffers very great pain

ne puet aler, faut li l'aleine.

not he-can to-go fails to-him the-breath

Si a gete le bacon jus.

So he-has thrown the flitch down

100

105

110

Dist Ysengrins "or n'i a plus!"

Said Isengrim now not-there is more

115 Renars s'en va touz les galos

Reynard himself-thence goes all the gallops

et Ysengrins suit les esclos.

and Isengrim follows the tracks

Ysengrins n'ot cure d'enchaus,

Isengrim not-had care of-pursuit

au bacon est venuz les saus.

to-the fitch he-is come at-the bounds

Sel gete sus son chaaignon,

So-it he-throws on his neck

120 fuit s'en o tout en un buisson.

he-flees himself-thence with all into a bush

La le menga sanz demoree,

There it he-ate without delay

a Renart a la hart gardee.

for Reynard he-has the halter kept

Li vilains retourna arriere

The villain returned back

qui moult faisoit dolante chiere,

who very made grieving countenance

125 quant il ot perdu son bacon:

when he had lost his fitch

onc mais tel duel ne fist nulz hon.

ever before such grief not made any man

Renars n'ot cure du vilain,

Reynard not-had care of-the villain

lessa le courre par le plain.

he-left him to-run through the plain

Si s'en est venus au buisson,

So himself-thence is come to-the bush

ou cuida partir son bacon.

where he-thought to-divide his fitch

Mes Ysengrins qui prent et part

But Isengrim who takes and shares

en a moustre Renart la hart.

thereof has shown (to-)Reynard the halter

Renars ne vult bataille faire,

Reynard not wished battle to-make

ancois li conmanche a retraire

rather to-him begins to relate

“La hart ait qui l'a desservie,

The halter have who it-has deserved

que je ne la deservi mie.

for I not it deserved at-all

Mauvaise est vostre compaignie,

Wicked is your company

par Jhesu Crist le filz Marie.

by Jesus Christ the son (of-)Mary

Ne puis ci longuement durer,

Not I-can here long to-last

vostre congie weil demander.

your leave I-wish to-ask

Onques ne finai de pechier:

Ever not I-ceased of to-sin

biaus oncles douz, je vous requier

fair uncle sweet I you request

congie de saint Jaque requerre,

leave of saint James to-seek

130

135

140

pelerin serai par la terre.”

pilgrim I-will-be through the land

145 Dist Ysengrins “et ge l’otroi.”

Said Isengrim and I it-grant

Renars fu molt en grant efroi,

Reynard was very in great dismay

quinze jors va a grant baudor.

fifteen days he-goes with great gladness

Onques Renars ne fist sejour.

Ever Reynard not made stay

Va s’ent Renars tot son chemin.

Goes himself-thence Reynard all his road

150 Or velt engignier Ysengrin:

Now he-wishes to-trick Isengrim

bien li cuide le bacon vendre

well to-him he-thinks the flitch to-sell

dont il ne li volt sa part rendre.

whereof he not to-him wished his part to-render

Bien a la costume au gorpil.

Well he-has the custom of-the fox

Devant lui garda un mesnil:

Before him he-espied a homestead

155 la s’en torna, ce est la voire,

there himself-thence he-turned this is the truth

et vint au cortil le provoire:

and came to-the garden of-the priest

raz i trova a grant plente.

rats there he-found in great plenty

“Dex!” dist Renars “bien ai erre.”

God said Reynard well I-have wandered

Mes d'aus engigner molt se peine.

But of-them to-trick much himself he-troubles

Aretez s'est a molt grant peine,

Stopped himself-he-is with very great pain

si apercut un gresillon.

so he-perceived a cricket

Renars en fu en grant fricon.

Reynard thereof was in great shiver

Escote a le chanteor

He-listens to the singer

qui illoc chantoit pres del for.

who there sang near to-the oven

Le gresellons le cunut bien,

The cricket him knew well

tot coi se tint ne ne dit rien.

all quiet himself he-held nor not says anything

Renars en tint le chef enclin:

Reynard thereof held the head bowed

“Clerc sevent bien chanter latin.

Clerks know well to-sing Latin

Je te donroie bon loier,

I thee would-give good reward

dan clers, dites vostre sauter!”

sir clerk say your psalter

Li gresillons dist grant orgoil:

The cricket said great pride

“Par saint Denis, enquerre voil

By saint Denis to-inquire I-wish

de quel pie” fet il “vos clochez.”

of what foot says he you limp

160

165

170

Envers Renart s'est aprochiez.

Toward Reynard himself-he-is approached

175 De son brac une manche tret.

From his arm a sleeve he-draws

Li gresillons jeta un bret.

The cricket threw a cry

Renars jeta la manche jus,

Reynard threw the sleeve down

si li a dit "or n'i a plus."

so to-him has said now not-there is more

Bee la goule, muet lez denz,

He-gapes the throat he-moves the teeth

180 qu'il le cuida enclore enz.

for-he it thought to-shut-in within

Li grisellons li dist "Renart,

The cricket to-him said Reynard

tant par estes de male part,

so much you-are of evil sort

or a diable un pelerin

now has devil a pilgrim

qui la gent mordra en la fin,

who the folk will-bite in the end

185 molt fui ore pres de morir,

much I-was now near of to-die

dex me gari par son plaisir."

God me saved by his pleasure

Renars respont "vos estes ivres.

Reynard answers you are drunk

Je cuidois ce fust tes livres.

I thought this were thy book

Certes se je manje l'ouïsse,

Certainly if I eaten it-I-had

trestotes tes chancons souïsse.

all thy songs I-would-know

Molt sui sopris de grant malage,

Much I-am seized with great sickness

que j'ai fet meint pelerinnage.

for I-have made many-a pilgrimage

Or voi bien ne puis plus durer:

Now I-see well not I-can more to-last

un malx fait moult mon cors grever.

an evil makes much my body to-suffer

Certes je sui uns chatis hon,

Certainly I am a wretched man

mes fai moi or confession,

but make to-me now confession

car il n'a ci entor nul prestre:

for there not-has here around any priest

ja savez vos tres bien cest estre."

indeed know you very well this place

Li gresillon connut Renart,

The cricket recognized Reynard

si li a dit "se dex me gart,

so to-him has said so God me keep

ja en auroiz a grant plente."

already thereof you-will-have in great plenty

Sept gaignon viennent descople:

Seven curs come uncoupled

en apres viennent chasceors,

in after come hunters

190

195

200

arbalestiers et veneors.

crossbowmen and huntsmen

205 Li veneors hue et crie:

The huntsman hoots and cries

Renars entent la taborie,

Reynard hears the drumming

ne set qu'il puisse devenir,

not he-knows what-he may to-become

si s'apareille de foïr.

so himself-be-prepares of to-flee

Et li veneors vint apres,

And the huntsman came after

210 si descouple les ciens engres.

so he-uncouples the dogs eager

“Or Tribole! or Clarenbaut!

Now Tribole now Clarenbaut

Par ci fuit li gorpil, Rigaut.

By here flees the fox Rigaut

Or ci Plesence, apres d'aler!”

Now here Plesence after of-to-go

Ses levrers va toz descopler.

His greybounds he-goes all to-uncouple

215 Renars s'en va grant aleüre,

Reynard himself-thence goes at-great speed

li levrer viennent a droiture.

the greybounds come in straight-course

Renars ne mist mie a sejour,

Reynard not put at-all to stay

einz saut sor la creste del for.

rather he-leaps on the crest of-the oven

La se quati, li chen l'outrèrent:

There himself crouched the dogs him-passed

Renart perdirent, sil pasèrent.

Reynard they-lost so-him they-passed

Tant ont coru tot le chemin

So-much they-have run all the road

qu'il encontrèrent Ysengrin.

that-they met Isengrim

Onques nel voudrent defier,

Ever not-him they-wished to-defy

sa pel comencent a peler.

his skin they-begin to peel

Et il durement se desfent:

And he hard himself defends

qui il consiut, as denz le fent.

whom he reaches with-the teeth him he-splits

De bataille est en grant fricon,

Of battle he-is in great shiver

d'Ysengrin volent li flocon.

from-Isengrim fly the tufts

Renars fu sor le for muchez,

Reynard was on the oven bidden

qui en fu molt joianz et liez.

who thereof was very joyful and glad

La bataille prent a garder,

The battle he-begins to watch

et Ysengrin a ranpronner

and Isengrim to taunt

“Or en avez le guerredon:

Now thereof you-have the reward

220

225

230

mar i manjastes le bacon.”

ill there you-ate the flitch

235 Ysengrins est en mal deport.

Isengrim is in evil plight

Iloc avoit un gaignon fort:

There was a cur strong

Ysengrin asailli au braz.

Isengrim he-assailed at-the arm

Or est il choüz en mal laz,

Now is he fallen into evil snare

que cil li presente les denz

for he to-him presents the teeth

240 et li bote en la pel dedenz:

and to-him thrusts into the skin within

et il le blece malement.

and he him wounds badly

Maint en ocist d'eforcement.

Many thereof he-kills with-force

Li chen nel pourent endurer,

The dogs not-it could to-endure

Ysengrin lasserent aler:

Isengrim they-let to-go

245 tornez s'en est grant aleüre

turned himself-thence he-is at-great speed

et vet aillors querre pasture.

and goes elsewhere to-seek pasture

Hersent's Counsel, and the Complaint at Court

Isengrim beats Hersent for what Reynard did to her, and she tells him the whole of it and advises him to take the case to Noble's court. There he charges Reynard with breaking the king's ban on marriage, with fouling his cubs, and with forcing Hersent, who testifies that she never sought him and that her husband saw the deed. The king asks why she went to Reynard's house alone, and Isengrim insists that a charge of force must be heard; the king, unwilling to punish love, is ready to let it drop.

Adont se pensa d'une chose

Then himself he-bethought of-a thing

dont il sa feme en son cuer chose,

whereof he his wife in his heart chides

de ce que il ferue l'a,

of this that he struck her-has

Renars, molt par s'en abaissa.

Reynard very much himself-thereof lowered

Tele ire a au cuer eü

Such anger he-has at-the heart had

de ce qu'il a a lui jeü.

of this that-he has with her lain

Si se remet molt tost arere

So himself he-puts-again very quickly back

et vint molt tost a la qarrere

and came very quickly to the highway

o sa feme trova seant.

where his wife he-found sitting

Maintenant la va ledenjant:

At-once her he-goes abusing

del pie la fiert con s'il fust ivre.

with-the foot her he-strikes as if-be were drunk

250

255

“Haïr” fait il, “pute chaitive,

Ha says he whore wretched

pute vix orde et chaude d’ovre,

whore vile filthy and hot of-work

260 bien ai veüe tote l’ovre,

well I-have seen all the-work

bien me set Renars acopir.

well me knows Reynard to-cuckold

Jei le vis sor voz braz cropir:

I him saw on your arms to-crouch

ne vos en poez escondire.”

not you thereof can to-deny

A poi Hersent n’enrage d’ire

By little Hersent rages with-anger

265 por Ysengrin qui si la chose.

for Isengrim who so her chides

Mes neporquant tote la chose

But nevertheless all the thing

de chef en chef tote li conte.

from end in end all to-him she-tells

“Sire, voirs est, il m’a fet honte.

Lord true it-is he to-me-has done shame

Mes n’i ai mie tant mesfet

But not-there I-have at-all so-much done-wrong

270 endroit ce que force m’a fet.

regarding this that force to-me-he-has done

Laissiez ester tot cest contrere:

Let to-be all this contention

ce qui est fet n’est mie a fere.

that which is done not-is at-all to do

A autre cose entendes:

To other thing bear

ja cist meffez n'iert amendez

ever this misdeed not-will-be amended

por cose que nos en dion.

for thing that we thereof say

En la cort Noble le lion

In the court (of-)Noble the lion

tient on les plez et lez oiances

holds one the suits and the hearings

des mortex gueres et des tences:

of-the mortal wars and of-the quarrels

la nos alons de lui clamer.

there ourselves let-us-go of him to-complain

Bien le porra tost amender,

Well it be-will-be-able soon to-amend

se ce puet estre champete.”

if this can to-be a-pitched-fight

Cist mos a tot reconforte

This word has all comforted

dant Ysengrin le corocie.

sir Isengrim the angered

“Ahi” fet il, “trop ai groce.

Ah says he too-much I-have grumbled

Trop fu fox et petit savoie.

Too-much I-was mad and little I-knew

Mes cist consels m'a mis en voie.

But this counsel me-has put in way

275

280

285

Mar vit Renars son grant desroi,

Ill saw Reynard his great outrage

sel puis tenir a cort de roi.”

if-him I-can to-hold at court of king

A ces paroles cheminerent.

At these words they-journeyed

290 Onques ne cessent ne finerent

Ever not they-cease nor stopped

tant que il vindrent a la cort.

until that they came to the court

Or cuit, Ysengrins tendra cort

Now I-think Isengrim he-will-hold short

Renart le ros, se tant puet fere

Reynard the red if so-much he-can to-do

qu'a la cort le puisse atrere:

that-to the court him he-may to-draw

295 que molt ert voizie et sages,

for very he-was cunning and wise

et si savoit plussors languages,

and so he-knew several languages

et li rois l'a fait conestable

and the king him-has made constable

de sa meson et de sa table.

of his house and of his table

Parvenu furent el palez

Arrived they-were into-the palace

300 la ou li rois tenoit ses plez.

there where the king held his suits

La cors estoit granz et plenere.

The court was great and full

Bestes i ot de grant manere,

Beasts there were of great manner

feibles et fors, de totes guises,

weak and strong of all kinds

qui totes sont au roi susmises.

who all are to-the king subject

Li rois sist sor un faudestuet

The king sat on a faldstool

si riche conme a roi estuet.

as rich as to king it-bebooves

Tot entor lui siet a corone

All around him sits in circle

sa mesnie qui l'avirone:

his household which him-surrounds

n'i a un sol qui noise face.

not-there is a single who noise make

Atant es vos venu en place

Thereupon behold you come into place

dant Ysengrin, il et s'amie

sir Isengrim he and his-friend

qui la parole ont aramie.

who the speech have undertaken

Trestuit li autre font silence.

All the others make silence

Et mesire Ysengrin commence

And my-lord Isengrim begins

devant le roi en sozpirant

before the king in sighing

“Rois, justise va enpirant:

King justice goes worsening

305

310

315

verites est torneë a fable,

truth is turned to fable

nule parole n'est estable.

any word not-is steadfast

Vos feïstes le ban roial

You made the ban royal

320 que ja mariage par mal

that ever marriage by ill

n'osast en freindre ne brisier:

not-dared one to-infringe nor to-break

Renars ne vos velt tant prisier

Reynard not you wishes so-much to-prize

n'onques ne tint por contredit

nor-ever not held for prohibition

ne vostre ban ne vostre dit.

neither your ban nor your word

325 Renars est cil qui toz mals seme,

Reynard is he who all evils sows

que il m'a honi de ma feme.

for he me-has shamed of my wife

Renars ne dote mariage

Reynard not fears marriage

ne parente ne cosinnage:

nor kindred nor cousinship

il est pire que ne puis dire.

he is worse than — I-can to-say

330 Ne cuidiez mie, baux doz sire,

Not think at-all fair sweet lord

que jel die por li reter

that I-it say for him to-accuse

ne por blame sor li jeter!

nor for blame on him to-cast

Rien que je die n'est mençoigne:

Anything that I say not-is a-lie

veis ci Hersent qui tot temoigne."

see here Hersent who all witnesses

"Oil, sire, il dit voir" fet ele.

Yes lord he says truth says she

"Puis cele ore que fui pucele

Since that hour that I-was maiden

m'ama Renars et porsivi:

me-loved Reynard and pursued

et je li ai toz jors fôï,

and I to-him have all days fled

onques ne me veil apaier

ever not myself I-wished to-content

a rien qu'il me vousist proier.

at anything that-he me might-wish to-entreat

Et puis que j'oi pris mon segnor,

And since that I-had taken my lord

me refist il enchaiz gregnor.

me did-again he pursued greater

Mes je nel voil onques atendre.

But I not-it wished ever to-await

Ne ainz mes ne me pot sorprendre

Nor ever before not me he-could to-surprise

des q'a l'autrer en une fosse:

until that-at the-other-day in a pit

335

340

345

que j'estoie et crasse et grosse.

where I-was both fat and stout

Tant qu'il me vit en cel pertuis,

Until that-he me saw in that opening

il sailli fors tres parmi l'uis,

he leapt out right through the-door

et vint derers, si me honi

and came behind so me shamed

350 tant que li jeus li enbeli.

so-much that the game to-him pleased

Ce vit Ysengrins mes maris

This saw Isengrim my husband

qui dolanz en iert et maris,

who grieving thereof was and sorry

et je sui ci qui oi la honte."

and I am here who had the shame

Et con ele out feni son conte,

And as she had finished her tale

355 et Ysengrins si a repris

and Isengrim so has taken-up-again

"Voire voir, sire, je le pris,

Indeed truly lord I him accuse

seignor Renart, de cest mesfet.

lord Reynard of this misdeed

Que vos en senble? a il forfeit

What to-you thereof seems has he done-wrong

bien ne raison en cest endroit?

well or reason in this place

A vos m'en clein, fetes m'en droit

360

To you myself-thereof I-complain do to-me-thereof right

par devant trestoz vos barons

by before all your barons

de ce dont nos rete l'avons!

of this whereof we accused him-have

Por ce m'en cleim au conmenchier

For this myself-thereof I-complain at-the beginning

que dant Renars ala tencher

that sir Reynard went to-quarrel

a mes loveax en la tesniere,

365

with my wolf-cubs in the den

et si pissa sor ma loviere,

and so he-pissed on my wolf-den

si les bati et chevela,

so them he-beat and pulled-the-hair

et avoutres les apela,

and bastards them he-called

et dist que cox estoit lor pere,

and said that cuckold was their father

qu'il avoit foutue lor mere.

370

for-he had mounted their mother

Tot ce dist il, mes il menti.

All this said he but he lied

Onques por ce ne s'alenti

Ever for this not himself-be-slackened

de ma grant honte porchacher.

of my great shame to-pursue

L'autrer estoie alez chacer,

The-other-day I-was gone to-hunt

- 375 Hersens estoit o moi venue.
Hersent was with me come
- La fu ceste descovenue
There was this mishap
- que je vos ai ci acontee.
which I to-you have here recounted
- Je les surpris a la montee,
I them surprised at the climb
- et le blamai de cest afere,
and him I-blamed of this business
- 380 et il m'en ofri droit a fere
and he to-me-thereof offered right to do
- un serement por lui desfendre
an oath for himself to-defend
- tot la o jel voudroie prendre.
all there where I-it would-wish to-take
- Sor ce me fetes jugement
On this to-me do judgment
- et amender delivrement
and to-amend promptly
- 385 cest mesfet et ceste descorde,
this misdeed and this discord
- q'autre musart ne s'i amorde.”
that-another fool not himself-there take-a-bite
- Ysengrins a son cleim fine,
Isengrim has his complaint finished
- li rois en a son chef leve,
the king thereof has his head raised
- si commence un poi a sozrire.
so he-begins a little to smile

“Avez vos” fet il “plus que dire?”

390

Have you says he more that to-say

“Sire, naie: de tant me poise

Lord nay of so-much to-me it-grieves

c'onques en fu meüe noise,

that-ever thereof was stirred quarrel

et que j'en sui si vergondez.”

and that I-thereof am so shamed

“Hersent” dist li rois, “respondez

Hersent said the king answer

qui vos estes ici clamee

395

who you are here complained-of

que dant Renars vos a amee:

that sir Reynard you has loved

et vos, amastes le vos onques?”

and you loved him you ever

“Je non, sire.” “Or me dites donques

I not lord Now to-me tell then

por qei estiez vos si fole

for what were you so mad

qu'en sa meson aleez sole

400

that-in his house you-went alone

puis que vos n'estiez s'amie?”

since that you not-were his-friend

“Merci, sire! ce n'i est mie.

Mercy lord this not-there is at-all

S'il vos plest, mielz dire poez

If-it to-you pleases better to-say you-can

selonc le cleim que vos oez:

according-to the complaint that you hear

- 405 que je vos di, li conestable
that I to-you say the constable
 mes sires qui bien est estables,
my lord who well is steadfast
 que il ensamble o moi la vint
that he together with me there came
 ou ceste vergoigne m'avint."
where this disgrace to-me-befell
 "Ere il o vos?" "Oïl sanz faille."
Was he with you Yes without fail
- 410 "Qui cuidast ce, que diex i vaille,
Who would-have-thought this may God there avail
 que il esforcer vos doüst
that he to-force you should
 la ou vostre mari soüst?"
there where your husband might-know
 Lores s'est Ysengrins levez.
Then himself-is Isengrim risen
 "Sire" dist il, "vos ne devez,
Lord said he you not ought
- 415 se vos plest, moi ne lui desfendre.
if to-you pleases me nor him to-defend
 Ainz devez pleinement entendre
Rather you-ought fully to-bear
 a la clamor, que que nus die,
to the complaint what that anyone say
 que il la meut o l'escondie.
whether he it move or the-denial

Que je vos di bien a fiance

For I to-you say well in trust

con cil qui vos a fet liance

as he who to-you has done fealty

que se Renars ert ci presenz,

that if Reynard were here present

ge mosteroie qu'a Hersenz

I would-show that-with Hersent

jut il a force, que jel vi,

lay he by force for I-it saw

par la foi que je vos plevi."

by the faith that I to-you pledged

Et li rois par sa grant franchise

And the king by his great nobility

ne velt sofrir en nule guise,

not wishes to-suffer in any wise

hon fust en sa cort mal mene

a-man were in his court ill treated

qui d'amors fust achoisonne:

who of-love were accused

et si quida que non feïst.

and so he-thought that not he-did-it

Sachez, volentiers le guerpist

Know willingly it he-abandons

envers Renart de sa querele

toward Reynard of his quarrel

dont mesire Ysengrins l'apele.

whereof my-lord Isengrim him-accuses

420

425

430

The Barons' Counsel

The king rules that Reynard's love partly excuses him but that he will still be tried by the court, and asks the camel — the pope's legate, come from Lombardy — what the law says. The camel answers in a macaronic Italianate Latin: examine Reynard, and if he cannot clear himself, stone him or burn him. The king then sends his greater beasts aside to judge. Brichemer holds that a wife's word cannot make the third hand a charge needs, Bruin that Isengrim's name is warrant enough, and Baucent that neither beast is the better man. Plateau the buck raises Isengrim's second charge, the food Reynard took and the cubs he fouled, and Bruin begins the tale of his own wrong.

Et con il vit qu'il volt tencher,

And as he saw that-be wished to-quarrel

si conmenca a agencier.

so he-began to arrange

435 Si li respondi mot a mot:

So to-him answered word for word

“Ce” fait il “que Renars l’amot,

This says he that Reynard her-loved

le quitte auques de son pechie.

him acquits somewhat of his sin

Se par amor vos a trechie,

If by love you has cheated

certes prouz est et afaitiez.

certainly worthy he-is and accomplished

440 Et neporquant il ert traitiez

And nevertheless he will-be treated

selonc l'esgart de ma meson.

according-to the-judgment of my house

Par jugement et par reson

By judgment and by reason

bien en faites prendre conroi.”

well thereof make to-take order

Li camels sist joste le roi,

The camel sat beside the king

molt fu en la cort cher tenuz.

much he-was in the court dear held

De Lombardie estoit venuz

From Lombardy he-was come

por apoter mon segnor Noble

for to-bring (to-)my lord Noble

treü devers Costentinoble.

tribute from-toward Constantinople

La pape li avoit tramis,

The pope him had sent

ses legas ert et ses amis:

his legate he-was and his friend

molt fu sages et bon legistres.

much he-was wise and good jurist

“Mestre” fet li rois, “s’onc oïstes

Master says the king if-ever you-heard

en nule terre tel conpleinte

in any land such complaint

con a ma cort a l’en fet meinte,

as at my court has one made many-a

or volons nos de vos aprendre

now wish we of you to-learn

quel jugement en en doit rendre.”

what judgment thereof one ought to-render

445

450

455

“Quare, mesire, me audite!

Wherefore my-lord me hear

Nos trobat en decrez escrite

We find in decrees written

en la rebrice publicate

in the rubric published

460 de matrimoine violate:

of matrimony violated

primes le doiz examiner

first him thou-must to-examine

et s'il ne se puet espurgar,

and if-be not himself can to-clear

grevar le puez si con te place,

to-punish him thou-canst so as thee pleases

que il a grant cose mesface.

for he has great thing done-amiss

465 Hec est en la mie sentence:

This is in the my sentence

s'estar ne velt en amendance,

if-to-stand not he-wishes in amendment

dissique par mane commune

until by hand common

uneverse soe pecune:

entire his money

o lapidar lo cors o ardre

or to-stone the body or to-burn

470 de l'aversion de la Renarde!

of the-adversary of the Reynard-kind

Et vos si mostre si bon rege:

And you so show so good king

se est qui destrüie la lege

if is who destroys the law

et qui la voil vituperar,

and who it wishes to-vituperate

il le doive fort conperar.

he it must dearly to-pay-for

Messire, par la corpe seinte,

My-lord by the body holy

se la jugement si aseinte,

if the judgment so attains

et tu nos sies bon seignor,

and thou to-us be good lord

fai droit jugar par toe anor,

do right to-judge by thy honor

par la seinte croise de de!

by the holy cross of God

Que tu ne soies bonne re,

For thou not be good king

se reison ne droit ne vos far

if reason nor right not you do

ausi con fist Julius Cesar

just as did Julius Caesar

et en cause voille droit dir.

and in case wish right to-say

Se tu veoil estre bonne sir,

If thou wishest to-be good lord

vide ti bonne favelar!

see thee well to-speak

Par la foi toe tiegn le car!

By the faith thine hold it dear

475

480

485

Se ne tiens car ta baronnie

If not thou-holdest dear thy baronage

Rendar por amendar lor vie,

To-render for to-amend their life

n'aies cure de reiautat!

not-have care of royalty

490 Se tu ne juches par bontat,

If thou not judgest by goodness

et se tu ne faces droitor,

and if thou not doest justice

tu non sies bonne segnor.

thou not art good lord

Favalar ce que bon te fache!

To-speak this that good thee do

Plus ne t'en di ne plus ne sache."

More not to-thee-thereof I-say nor more not I-know

495 Quant li baron l'ourent oï,

When the barons it-had heard

tex i a se sont esjohi,

such [some] there are themselves are rejoiced

et tex i a molt corocie.

and such [some] there are much angered

Li lions a le chef drecie.

The lion has the head raised

"Ales" fait il, "vos qui ci estes

Go says he you who here are

500 li plus vaillant, les granor bestes!

the most worthy the greatest beasts

Si jugiez de ceste clamor,

So judge of this complaint

se cil qui est sopris d'amor

if he who is seized with-love

doit estre de ce encopez

ought to-be of this accused

dont ses conpainz est escopez."

whereof his companion is spat-upon

A ces paroles lievent sus,

At these words they-rise up

del tref roial en vont en sus

from-the tent royal thence they-go in away

a une part por droit jugier.

at one side for right to-judge

Plus en i ala d'un millier.

More thereof there went of-a thousand

Dant Bricemers li cers i va

Sir Bricemer the stag there goes

qui de mautalent s'aïra

who of ill-will himself-angered

por Ysengrin qui est triciez,

for Isengrim who is cheated

et Brun li ors s'est aficiez,

and Bruin the bear himself-is resolved

dist qu'il voudra Renart grever.

said that-he will-wish Reynard to-harm

Avec aus deus ont fet lever

With them two they-have made to-rise

Baucen le sengler qui de droit

Baucent the boar who of right

en nul sen guencir ne voudroit.

in any sense to-swerve not would-wish

505

510

515

Asemble sont au parlement.

Gathered they-are at-the parley

Li cers parla premerement

The stag spoke first

qui sor Baucent fu acoutez.

who on Baucent was leaning

520 “Seignor” dist il, “ore escotez!

Lords said he now listen

Vos avez oï d’Ysengrin,

You have heard of-Isengrim

nostre ami et nostre cosin,

our friend and our cousin

con il a Renart encuse.

how he has Reynard accused

Mes nos avons en cort huse,

But we have in court practiced

525 quant en se pleint de forfeiture

when one himself complains of wrongdoing

et l’en velt en avoir droiture,

and one wishes thereof to-have justice

mostrer l’estuet par tierce mein:

to-show it-behooves by third hand

que tel porroit d’ui a demein

for such could from-today to tomorrow

fere clamor a son vouloir

to-make complaint at his will

530 dont autre se porroit doloir.

whereof another himself could to-grieve

De sa feme vos di reson:

Of his wife to-you I-say reason

celui a il en sa prison,

her has he in his prison

quantqu'il velt dire ou tesir,

whatever-he wishes to-say or to-be-silent

tot li puet fere a son plesir

all to-her he-can to-make at his pleasure

et bien mentir a escient.

and well to-lie at knowledge

Ne sont mie soficient

Not are at-all sufficient

itex teimoins a recevoir:

such witnesses to receive

autres lor convendra avoir."

others to-them it-will-behoove to-have

"Par deu, segnor" ce a dit Bruns,

By God lords this has said Bruin

"des jugeors sui je li uns.

of-the judges am I the one

Puisque nos somes ci ensenble,

Since-that we are here together

si en dirai ce que me senble.

so thereof I-will-say that which to-me seems

Dant Ysengrin est connestables

Sir Isengrim is constable

et de la cort bien est creables.

and of the court well he-is credible

Mes se il fust uns bareteres

But if he were a cheat

o faus o traïtres o leres,

or false or traitor or thief

535

540

545

sa feme ne li poïst mie

his wife not to-him could at-all

porter teimoing ne garantie.

to-bear witness nor warranty

Mes Ysengrins est de tel non

But Isengrim is of such name

550 que s'il n'i oüst se li non,

that if-he not-there had-been except him not

si l'en poïst l'en tres bien croire."

so him-thereof might one very well to-believe

"Par foi" fait Baucen, "sire, voire.

By faith says Baucent lord true

Mes une cose i a encore:

But one thing there is still

en vostre foi car dites ore,

in your faith pray say now

555 qui est li pires ne li meudre?

who is the worse or the better

Chascun se velt au suen aqeudre.

Each himself wishes to-the his to-cling

Se vos dites que Isengrins

If you say that Isengrim

est li meudres de ses voisins,

is the best of his neighbors

Renars le voudra contredire

Reynard it will-wish to-gainsay

560 que n'est ne meins loiaus ne pire.

for not-he-is neither less loyal nor worse

Chascun si se tient por prodome.

Each so himself holds for worthy-man

Por ce vos di a la parsome:

For this to-you I-say at the last

ce ne puet estre que vos dites.

this not can to-be that you say

Donc n'i a plus coses eslites.

Then not-there is more things chosen

Chascun porroit tel clamor fere

Each could such complaint to-make

por sa feme a teimong traire,

for his wife to witness to-draw

et dire 'cent sols me devez,'

and to-say a-hundred shillings to-me you-owe

dont meint home seroit grevez.

whereof many-a man would-be burdened

Ce n'iert ja fet la u je soie.

This not-will-be ever done there where I be

Oissuz estes hors de la voie.

Gone-out you-are out of the way

A vos me tieng, dan Bricemer:

To you myself I-hold sir Brichemer

il n'a home jusq'a la mer

there not-is man as-far-as-to the sea

qui en deïst plus sagement

who thereof would-say more wisely

ne loiaute ne jugement."

neither loyalty nor judgment

"Seignor" ce dist Plateax li deins,

Lords this said Plateau the buck

"d'autre cose est ore li cleins:

of-other thing is now the complaint

565

570

575

que messire Ysengrins demande

that my-lord Isengrim demands

restowment de sa viande

restitution of his food

que Renars prist en sa meson

which Reynard took in his house

580 a force par male reson,

by force by evil reason

et qu'il pissa par mal respit

and that-he pissed by evil scorn

sor ses enfanz en son despit,

on his children in his contempt

si les bati et chevela

so them he-beat and pulled-the-hair

et avoltres les apela.

and bastards them he-called

585 Et a ce aiert grant amende.

And to this belongs great amends

Se dant Renars ne li amende

If sir Reynard not to-him amends

et s'il s'en puet ainsi estordre,

and if-be himself-thence can thus to-escape

encor s'i voldra il amordre."

still himself-there will-wish he to-take-a-bite

Et dist dan Brun "c'est verite.

And said sir Bruin this-is truth

Honi soit et deshonore

590

Shamed be-be and dishonored

qui ja Renart consentira

who ever (to-)Reynard will-consent

que un prodome honira,

that a worthy-man be-will-shame

et si li toudra son avoir,

and so to-him be-will-take-away his goods

si n'en porra nul droit avoir:

and not-thereof be-will-be-able any right to-have

donc auroit il borse trovee.

595

then would-have he purse found

Ce seroit folie provee,

This would-be folly proved

se li rois son baron ne venge

if the king his baron not avenges

que Renars honist et ledenge.

whom Reynard shames and abuses

Mes a tel morsel itel tece,

But at such morsel such stain

chaz set bien qui barbes il leche.

600

cat knows well whose beards he licks

Et ne quit pas, sauve sa grace,

And not I-think at-all saving his grace

que noz sire s'ennor i face,

that our lord his-honor there do

qui s'en aloit ore riant

who himself-thence went now laughing

et Ysengrin contraliant

and Isengrim contradicting

605 por un garçon, un losenger.

for a serving-lad a flatterer

Dex me laist de son cors venger!

God me let of his body to-avenge

Por deu vos pri, ne vos soit gref

For God you I-pray not to-you be-it grievous

se je vos fas un conte bref

if I to-you make a tale brief

del traïtor felon encrime,

of-the traitor felon accused

610 con il concia moi meïme.

how he befouled me myself

Bruin's Tale, and the Court's Delay

Bruin tells the court how Reynard, barred from a villein's hens by traps, lured him to Constant's honey, could not keep from the poultry himself, and left him to the roused villeins, mocking him as he ran; he shows what the dogs and the clubs did to him, and asks that an example be made of him. Baucent the boar answers that one tale is not a judgment: the other side has not been heard, and Rome was not built in a day. Isengrim's complaint will be received when Reynard comes to court, and only then will the amends be settled by judgment.

Renars qui molt par est haïz,

Reynard who very much is hated

avoit dejoste un plasseïz

had beside an enclosure

une riche vile espiee

a rich village spied

novelement edifiee.

newly built

Les le bois avoit un manoir

Beside the wood there-was a manor

o un vilein soloit manoir

where a villein was-wont to-dwell

qui molt avoit cos et jelines.

who much had cocks and hens

Renars en fist grant dechiplines

Reynard thereof made great havoc

que bien en manja plus de trente.

for well thereof he-ate more than thirty

Tote i a tornee s'entente.

All there he-has turned bis-intent

615

620

Li vileins fet Renart guetier,

The villein makes Reynard to-be-watched

ses chens avoit fet afetier:

bis dogs be-had made to-be-trained

el bois n'ot ne sente ne triege

in-the wood not-was neither path nor track

ou il n'öüst cepel o piege

where there not-were snare or trap

625 o trebucet u laz tendu

or deadfall or noose set

o rois ou roisel estendu.

or net or little-net stretched

Renart greva, qant il le sot,

(to-)Reynard it-grieved when he it knew

quant a la vile aler ne pot.

when to the village to-go not be-could

Dont porpensa li vis diables

Then bethought the living devil

630 que j'ere grans et bien voiables,

that I-was big and well visible

et il ert petis et menuz:

and he was small and slight

si seroie einz retenuz,

so I-would-be first caught

o fust a bois o fust a plein,

whether it-were at wood or it-were at plain

plus tost meist on a moi mein,

more quickly would-put one on me hand

635 o que nos fussion ambedui:

or if we were both-two

ainz tendist en a moi qu'a lui,

rather would-reach one at me than-at him

et je meulz i fusse atrapez

and I better there were trapped

et il plus tost fust escapez.

and he more quickly were escaped

Il savoit que j'amoie miel

He knew that I-loved honey

plus que chose qui soit sos ciel.

more than thing which be under heaven

640

A moi vint en este oen

To me he-came in summer this-year

devant la feste seint Johen:

before the feast (of-)saint John

'Ahi' fist il, 'messire Brun,

Ab said he my-lord Bruin

quel vassel de miel je sai un!'

what vessel of honey I know one

'Et o est?' 'Ches Costant des Noes.'

And where is At Constant's of-the Noes

645

'Porroie i ge metre les poes?'

Could there I to-put the paws

'Oïl, je l'ai tot espie.'

Yes I it-have all spied

Li ble estoient espie,

The corn was in-ear

le ble trovames tot covert,

the corn we-found all covered

s'entrames par un uis overt.

so-we-entered by a door open

650

Les une granche en un verger,

Beside a grange in an orchard

la nos doümes herbergier

there ourselves we-had-to to-lodge

et jesir trestot a repos

and to-lie all at rest

de si au vespre entre les chox.

from here to-the evening among the cabbages

655 Cele nuit al eserisier

That night at-the dusk

deveion le vesel brisier,

we-were-to the vessel to-break

le miel manger et retenir.

the honey to-eat and to-keep

Mes li glos ne se pot tenir:

But the glutton not himself could to-hold

vit les jelines el pailler,

he-saw the hens in-the straw-yard

660 si conmenca a baellier.

so he-began to gape

A l'une saut, celes crierent.

At the-one he-leaps those cried

Li vilein qui de laiienz erent,

The villeins who from in-there were

lievent la noise par la vile,

raise the noise through the village

tost en i out plus de deus mile:

soon thereof there were more than two thousand

vers le cortil vindrent corant

toward the garden they-came running

et Renart durement huiaint,

and (at-)Reynard loudly hooting

plus de quarante en une rote.

more than forty in a rout

Ne fu merveille s'en ou dote,

Not was marvel if-one had fear

les granz galoz m'en sui tornez.

the great gallops myself-thence I-am turned

Renars s'en fu tost detornez

Reynard himself-thence was quickly turned-aside

qui sot les pas et les destorz,

who knew the passes and the turnings

sor moi verssa tot li estorz.

on me fell all the assault

Quant jel vi trere a une part,

When I-him saw to-draw at one side

'Conment' dis je, 'sire Renart,

How said I lord Reynard

voles me vos laisser en place?'

wish me you to-leave in place

'Qui mielz porra fere, si face,

Who better will-be-able to-do so let-him-do

bau sire Brun: or del troter,

fair lord Bruin now of-the trotting

que besoing fet vielle troter.

for need makes old-woman to-trot

Fetes del meulz que vos porrez,

Do of-the best that you will-be-able

665

670

675

- 680 se trenchanz esperons avez
if cutting spurs you-have
 o bon cheval por tost aler.
or good horse for quickly to-go
 Cil vilein vos voudront saler.
Those villeins you will-wish to-salt
 Or oiez con il font grant noise.
Now hear how they make great noise
 Se vos pelicon trop vos poise,
If your pelisse too-much to-you weighs
 685 ja n'en soiez desconfortez:
ever not-thereof be discomforted
 il vos sera par tans portez.
it to-you will-be in time carried
 G'irai avant a la cuisine,
I-will-go forward to the kitchen
 s'i porterai ceste jeline.
so-there I-will-carry this hen
 Si la vos aparelleraï:
So it to-you I-will-make-ready
 690 dites quel savor i ferai.'
say what sauce there I-will-make
 Li traïtres atant s'eslese,
The traitor thereupon himself-hurls
 si me lascia en cele presse.
so me left in that press
 La noisse ala si engrennant.
The noise went so growing
 Li chen me vindrent au devant:
The dogs to-me came to-the front

a moi se lient pelle melle,

to me themselves bind pell mell

et pilet volent conme grelle,

and darts fly like hail

si cornent li vilein et huient

so sound-horns the villeins and boot

que li champ environ en bruient.

that the fields around thereof roar

Quant oï les vileins corner,

When I-heard the villeins to-sound-horns

qui lors me veïst trestorner

who then me might-have-seen to-turn-about

vers les mastins tot abandon,

toward the mastiffs all at-abandon

fouler et mordre environ,

to-trample and to-bite around

hurter et batre et desconfire,

to-butt and to-beat and to-rout

bien poïst por verite dire

well he-might for truth to-say

que onc ne fu veüe beste

that ever not was seen beast

qui de chens feïst tel tempeste.

who of dogs made such tempest

Molt me pensoie d'els desfendre,

Much myself I-thought of-them to-defend

695

700

705

quant je vi les piles descendre

when I saw the darts to-come-down

et les sajetes barbelees

and the arrows barbed

710 chaoir entor moi granz et lees,

to-fall around me great and broad

et vileins venir: si m'en part,

and villeins to-come so myself-thence I-part

les chens guerpi de l'autre part,

the dogs I-abandoned on the-other side

vers les vileins ving eslessiez.

toward the villeins I-came at-full-speed

Atant me fu li chans lessiez.

Thereupon to-me was the field left

715 N'i ot si hardi ne si cointe,

Not-there was so bold nor so clever

tres que je vers eus fis ma pointe,

from-when that I toward them made my charge

qui lors ne s'en tornast fuiant.

who then not himself-thence turned fleeing

Et je ving un d'aux consuiant,

And I came one of-them overtaking

a terre a mes piez le cravant.

to ground at my feet him I-strike-down

720 Un autre s'en fuï avant

An other himself-thence fled forward

qui portoit une grant macue:

who carried a great club

cil que je ting si crie et hue,

he whom I hold so cries and boots

et il retorne, si me greve.

and he turns-back so me burdens

A deus poinz la macue leve,

With two hands the club he-raises

tel cop me dona les l'oreille,

such blow to-me he-gave beside the-ear

que je chaï, voille o ne voille.

that I fell wish or not wish

Quant je me senti si qasse,

When I myself felt so crushed

son compaignon li ai lessie.

his companion to-him I-have left

Je sailli sus et il s'escrient,

I leapt up and they themselves-cry

et li chen a moi se ralient,

and the dogs to me themselves rally

si me sacent et me decirent.

so me they-pull and me tear

Quant li vilein entre elz le virent,

When the villeins among them it saw

estes les vos toz apoignant.

behold them you all spurring

De lor glaives me vont poignant,

With their spears me they-go pricking

Pierres jetent, sajetes traient.

Stones they-throw arrows they-draw

Li mastin crient et abaient.

The mastiffs cry and bark

La ou j'en pooie un ateindre,

There where I-thereof could one to-reach

725

730

735

si le faisoie a force geindre.

so him I-made by force to-groan

Mes durement m'i ont plaie,

But grievously me-there they-have wounded

740 et li vilein m'ont esmaie.

and the villeins me-have dismayed

Vers le bois conmencai a tendre

Toward the wood I-began to make

la ou je vi la presse mendre.

there where I saw the press smaller

Si m'en estors le melz que poi.

So myself-thence I-extricate the best that I-could

Retenuz i fui a bien poi.

Kept there I-was at very little

745 Mes que fuiant que desfendant

But both fleeing and defending

par une broce en un pendant

by a thicket on a slope

maugre trestoz mes enemis

despite all my enemies

fis je tant que el bois me mis.

did I so-much that in-the wood myself I-put

Renars li ros m'a si bailli

Reynard the red me-has so handled

750 por la jeline q'asailli.

for the hen that-be-assailed

Ge nel di pas por clamor fere,

I not-it say at-all for complaint to-make

mes por essample de lui trere:

but for example of him to-draw

que s'est clame sire Ysengrins,

for himself-is complained lord Isengrim

l'autrier se repleint Tiececlins

the-other-day himself complains-again Tiececlin

qu'il le pluma en traïson.

that-be him plucked in treason

Or voloit il metre en prison

Now wished he to-put in prison

Tybert le chat a un copel,

Tibert the cat at a block [?]

ou il redut laisser la pel:

where he was-again-to to-leave the skin

et puis refist il bien que lere

and then did-again he well as thief

de la mesenge sa conmere,

of the titmouse his godmother-in-law

quant il au baissier l'asailli

when he at-the kissing her-assailed

conme Judas qui deu traï.

like Judas who God betrayed

Or en doit conseil estre pris,

Now thereof ought counsel to-be taken

con il est si sovent repris.

as he is so often blamed

Nos i avon molt grant pecie,

We there have very great sin

quant tant li avon aluchie."

when so-much to-him we-have allowed

755

760

765

Li ors a parle longement.

The bear has spoken long

Li senglers li a dit brement

The boar to-him has said briefly

“Mesire Brun” fet il, “cist ples

My-lord Bruin says he this suit

770 n’iert pas fines as premiers trez.

not-will-be at-all finished at-the first shots

Encore n’est aconseüe

Still not-is reached

la clamor qui ci est venue.

the complaint which here is come

Molt seroit sages qui sauroit

Very would-be wise who would-know

juger d’un conte, et il n’auroit

to-judge of-one tale and he not-would-have

775 l’autre partie encore ateinte.

the-other party still heard

Nos avon oï la conpleinte:

We have heard the complaint

Renart devon le conpleint tendre,

(to-)Reynard we-ought the complaint to-hold-out

et l’un droit apres l’autre rendre

and the-one right after the-other to-render

tant que l’en viengne a la parsomme.

until that one come to the conclusion

780 En un jor ne fist l’en pas Romme.

In one day not made one at-all Rome

Nel di pas por Renart tensor,

Not-it I-say at-all for Reynard to-defend

mes nus ne doit a ce penser

but anyone not ought to this to-think

que nos les melomes en cort:

that we them mix in court

que pechiez seroit et grant tort.

for sin it-would-be and great wrong

Je ne sai que dire en doions

I not know what to-say thereof we-ought

tant que ensemble les oions.

until that together them we-bear

Quant Renars ert a cort venus,

When Reynard will-be to court come

icist cleinz sera retenus

this complaint will-be received

que Ysengrins a ci mene.

that Isengrim has here brought

Lors a primes ert ordene

Then at first will-be ordained

conment sera de l'amendise:

how it-will-be of the-amends

par jugement i aura mise."

by judgment there will-be settlement

785

790

The Judgment, and the Oath

Bruin the bear accuses Cointereau the ape of siding with Reynard, and demands that Reynard be seized at once, bound hand and foot, and thrown in prison, with only flogging and gelding to follow. Baucent asks mercy for a sinner. Brichemer proposes an oath instead: Reynard shall swear before Roonel the mastiff after Sunday mass, and Isengrim shall hold him quit. The king, glad to be rid of the case, grants the day and sends Grimbert to summon Reynard, who answers that he will do whatever the court adjudges.

Ce dist li singes Cointereax

This said the ape Cointereau

“Mal dahez ait cis hatereax

Ill curse have this nape

795 se vos ne dites que i a.”

if you not say what there is

Et li ors respundu li a

And the bear answered to-him has

“N’estes mie trop forsenez

Not-you-are at-all too mad

quant devers Renart vos tenez.

when toward Reynard yourself you-hold

Entre vos deus savez asez:

Between you two you-know plenty

800 meins maveis ples a il pasez,

less bad suits has he passed

si fera il molt bien cestui,

so will-do he very well this-one

si l’en velt croire vos et lui.”

if one wishes to-believe you and him

Le singes dist qui s'en coroce,

The ape said who himself-thereat angers

(petit li est de ce qu'il groce,

little to-him is of this that-be grumbles

moe li fet por plus irestre)

grimace to-him he-makes for more to-anger

"Et dex vos saut" fet il, "bau mestre!

And God you save says he fair master

Or me dites a vostre endroit,

Now to-me tell for your part

que en dirieez vos par droit?"

what thereof would-say you by right

"Sos ciel n'a cort, par saint Richier,

Under heaven not-there-is court by saint Riquier

que je n'ossasse aficher,

where I not-would-dare to-affirm

se j'en devoie estre creüs,

if I-thereof ought to-be believed

que trestot cist max est moüs

that all this evil is stirred

par dant Renart et par sa cope,

by sir Reynard and by his fault

et Ysengrins a droit l'encope.

and Isengrim by right him-accuses

805

810

- 815 Et qu'alon nos plus atendant
And what-go we more waiting
 quant la cose est venue avant
when the thing is come forward
 que il est pris a avoutere
that he is taken at adultery
 nomeement a sa conmere?
namely with his godmother-in-law
 Et ice derennent vers lui
And this maintain against him
- 820 Ysengrins et Hersens andui:
Isengrim and Hersent both
 por droit fust il ore avenant
by right were it now fitting
 que Renars fust pris meintenat,
that Reynard were taken at-once
 si li liast en meins et piez,
so to-him bound one hands and feet
 et fust jetez ainsi liez
and were thrown thus bound
- 825 en la cartre tot sanz prologue.
into the prison all without prologue
 Ja n'i oüst autre parole
Ever not-there would-be other word
 que de fuster et d'escoillier.
but of to-flog and of-to-geld
 Puis qu'il enforce autrui moiller,
Since that-he forces another's wife
 ne feme cumune ne el,
neither woman common nor other

neïs se c'estoit un jael:

even if this-were a trull

l'en en doit ja justice prendre

one thereof ought indeed justice to-take

que autre fois n'i ost mein tendre.

that another time not-there be-dare hand to-stretch

Et qu'est donc d'une feme espose

And what-is then of-a woman wedded

qui dolente en est et hontose

who grieving thereof is and asbamed

de ce que ses maris le sot?

of this that her husband it knew

Et qui cuide Ysengrin si sot

And who thinks Isengrim so foolish

qu'il oüst plet de ce meü

that-be had suit of this stirred

s'il ne l'oüst as elz veü?

if-be not it-had with-the eyes seen

De tant est il plus vergondez,

Of so-much is he more shamed

se cist mesfet n'est amendez,

if this misdeed not-is amended

des que Hersens garant li porte.

since that Hersent warrant to-him bears

Dont sai je bien, justice est morte."

Then know I well justice is dead

Dist li senglers "ci a descorde:

Said the boar here is discord

de pecheor misericorde!

of a-sinner mercy

830

835

840

- 845 D'un prodome por tel forfeit.
Of-a worthy-man for such misdeed
 Por deu, se Renars a mesfet,
For God if Reynard has done-wrong
 si en fetes aucune acorde!
so thereof make some accord
 De grant guerre vient grant acorde.
Of great war comes great accord
 Li lous est mendres c'on ne crie,
The wolf is less than-one not cries
- 850 par petit vent ciet il grant pluie.
by little wind falls it great rain
 Renars n'est conveincuz encore,
Reynard not-is convicted yet
 ancois vendra une autre ore.
rather will-come an other hour
 Dit en avez vostre plaisir,
Said thereof you-have your pleasure
 s'avez perdu un bon taisir."
so-you-have lost a good silence
- 855 Dant Brichemer fu molt voiseus,
Sir Brichemer was very cunning
 ne fu jangleres ne noiseus
not was a-jangler nor quarrelsome
 conme li autre compaignon.
like the other companions
 "Segnors" fet il, "ore pernon
Lords says he now let-us-take
 un jor de cest acordement.
a day of this reconciling

Renars face le serement

860

Reynard let-him-make the oath

et l'amende par tel devise,

and the-amends by such setting-out

con il a Ysengrin promise.

as he to Isengrim promised

Car si conme li singes dit,

For so as the ape says

ne por mesfet ne por mesdit

neither for misdeed nor for slander

qui n'est aperz ne coneüz

865

which not-is open nor known

ne doit ja estre plet tenuz

not ought ever to-be suit held

d'ome afiner ne de desfere:

of-a-man to-destroy nor of to-undo

ainz i afiert la pes a fere.

rather there belongs the peace to make

Et primes gardons par mesure

And first let-us-take-care by measure

qu'il n'i ait point de mespresure.

870

that not-there be a-ubit of transgression

Une cose a qui molt me serre,

One thing there-is which much me presses

se li rois n'est en ceste terre,

if the king not-is in this land

devant qui cist ples soit tretiez?

before whom this suit be treated

Mes se Roïnaux fust haitiez,

But if Roonel were hale

875 li chens Frobert de la Fontaine,
the dog (of-)Frobert of the Fountain
 cil nos en metroit hors de peine.
he us thereof would-put out of trouble
 En li a bon home et vrai,
In him there-is good man and true
 ne ja home ne troverai
nor ever man not I-will-find
 qui ne die 'tu as bien fet.'
who not say thou hast well done

880 Devant li soit ice retret."
Before him be this recounted
 A ce se sont tuit asenti,
To this themselves are all assented
 nesun d'ax ne s'en repenti.
anyone of-them not himself-thereof repented
 Cil consalz ne fu plus tenuz.
That counsel not was more held

Estes les vos avant venuz
Behold them you forward come
 885 a grant joie et a grant baudor
with great joy and with great gladness
 devant le roi el consitor.
before the king into-the consistory
 Tuit li autre vont arestant
All the others go halting
 et Bricemer fu en estant.
and Bricemer was in standing
 Sa parole a commenciee:
His speech he-has begun

bien l'a dite et agenciee

well it-be-has said and arranged

si conme bons rectoriens.

so as good rhetorician

"Sire" fet il, "nos estiens

Lord says he we were

ale le jugement enquerre

gone the judgment to-see-out

selonc la guise de la terre.

according-to the fashion of the land

Trove l'avon: s'il n'est quil die,

Found it-we-have if not-there-is who-it say

jel' dirai, puis que l'on m'en prie,

I-it will-say since that one me-thereof prays

volentiers, sauve vostre grace."

willingly saving your grace

Li lions li torne la face,

The lion to-him turns the face

del otroier li a fet signe,

of-the granting to-him has made sign

et dant Brichemer li encline.

and sir Brichemer to-him bows

"Segnors" fet il, "or m'entendez:

Lords says he now me-bear

se je i fail, si m'amendez.

if I there fail so me-amend

Ce m'est avis que nos veïmes

This to-me-is opinion that we saw

d'Ysengrin qui se clama primes,

of-Isengrim who himself complained first

890

895

900

- 905 que tote sa droiture auroit
that all his right he-would-have
 de ce que demander sauroit:
of this that to-demand he-would-know
 mes il li covendrait mostrer,
but it to-him would-behoove to-show
 se la cose voloit prover,
if the thing he-wished to-prove
 soi tierz por desriennier son droit
himself third for to-maintain his right
 910 a jor nome o orendroit.
at day named or right-now
 Puis fëimes por droit ester
Then we-made for right to-stand
 qu'il ne pooit riens conquerer,
that-he not could anything to-gain
 ne tort ne droit dont riens preïst,
neither wrong nor right whereof anything he-took
 de ce que sa feme deïst.
of this that his wife might-say
 915 Brun et Baucent en desputerent,
Bruin and Baucent thereof disputed
 mes cil qui avoc els alerent,
but those who with them went
 se tindrent plus a ma partie.
themselves beld more to my party
 Or est la cose si partie
Now is the thing so divided
 que chascun aura sa droiture.
that each will-have his right

Puis gardames en quel mesure

920

Then we-considered in what measure

et quant en sera la loi dite

and when thereof will-be the law said

que Ysengrin cleint Renart quite.

that Isengrim declare Reynard quit

Ch'ert diemenche par matin

This-will-be Sunday by morning

devant Roenel le mastin.

before Roenel the mastiff

La manderon Renart qu'il veingne

925

There we-will-summon Reynard that-be come

et en tel guise se contiegne

and in such wise himself he-conduct

que sa pes face de par de

that his peace he-make from by God

si con nos l'avons esgarde."

so as we it-have adjudged

Li lions respont en riant

The lion answers in laughing

"Ja par les seinz de Bauliant,

930

Ever by the saints of Betlehem

ne fusse si liez por mil livres

not I-would-be so glad for a-thousand pounds

con de ce que j'en sui delivres.

as of this that I-thereof am delivered

Or ne m'en veoil plus entremetre,

Now not myself-thereof I-wish more to-meddle

ainz lor donrai jor de pes metre

rather to-them I-will-give day of peace to-put

935 devant Roenel le gaignon,

before Roenel the cur

en qui il a bon conpaignon,

in whom there is good companion

le chen Frobert de la Fonteinne

the dog (of-)Frobert of the Fountain

apres la messe diemeine.

after the mass Sunday

Renart covient donc qu'il responde,

(to-)Reynard it-behooves then that-be answer

940 mes avant le covient semondre.

but first him it-behooves to-summon

Grinbers li tessons i ira

Grimbert the badger there will-go

qui de nostre part li dira

who from our part to-him will-say

que apres la prosession

that after the procession

li face satisfacion,

to-him he-make satisfaction

945 et gart que riens ne contredie

and let-him-take-care that anything not he-gainsay

de ce que Roenel en die."

of this that Roenel thereof say

A cest mot se sont tuit teü,

At this word themselves are all silent

et li plus jounne et li chenu.

both the most young and the hoary

A son repere va chascuns,

To his lair goes each-one

Brichemer et Baucens et Bruns,

Brichemer and Baucent and Bruin

et des autres une partie.

and of-the others a part

Et quant la cort fu departie,

And when the court was parted

Grimbers va son message fere.

Grimbert goes his message to-do

Droit a Malpertuis son repere

Straight to Malpertuis his lair

trova Renart, et puis li conte

he-found Reynard and then to-him he-tells

conment li baron et li conte

how the barons and the counts

l'ont atorne por la pes fere:

it-have arranged for the peace to-make

del plet sera Roonel mere,

of-the suit will-be Roonel chief

gart qu'il i soit, li rois li mande.

let-him-take-care that-he there be the king to-him sends

Renars dist que plus ne demande:

Reynard said that more not he-asks

a tans i ert et bien fera

in time there he-will-be and well he-will-do

ce que la cors esgardera.

that which the court will-adjudge

950

955

960

The Ambush at the Relics

Isengrim arranges with Roonel that the dog shall lie in a ditch playing dead, his teeth bared to serve as the relic, with more than a hundred hounds hidden in the orchard. He then musters the court, though many of the beasts hold with Reynard. Brichemer calls Reynard to the oath; Reynard sees the flank working and the breath drawn, and Grimbert asks that the barons be drawn back so that he can approach. Then Reynard turns and runs, and the whole kennel, named dog by dog, hunts him home into Malpertuis, torn in more than thirteen places.

Grimbers s'en va, Renars remeint.

Grimbert himself-thence goes Reynard remains

Or li convient qu'il se demeint

Now to-him it-bebooves that-be himself conduct

965 plus sagement que il ne seult.

more wisely than he — is-wont

Mes ne lessa qu'il ne s'orguel:

But not be-left that-be — himself-prides

ne li chaut gueres qui le hace,

nor to-him matters much who him may-bate

ne se porquiert ne se porchace,

nor himself seeks-out nor himself pursues

comment pregne li siens aferes.

how may-take the his affairs

970 Mes Ysengrins ses averseres

But Isengrim his adversary

n'a mie sa boche en despit.

not-has at-all his mouth in contempt

A un jor devant le respit

At one day before the respite

vint droit a Roenel errant

he-came straight to Roenel straightway

qui se deduit en esbatant,

who himself disports in frolicking

et gist es pailles a grant aise

and lies in-the straw at great ease

devant l'ostel delez la haise.

before the-dwelling beside the gate

Ysengrin vit, si s'en eschive:

Isengrim he-saw so himself-thence he-avoids

mes il le rapela par trive.

but he him called-back by truce

Ysengrins li dist doucement

Isengrim to-him said gently

“Roone!” fait il, “or m’entent!”

Roone! says he now me-bear

Conseil sui venus a vos querre.

Counsel I-am come to you to-see

Entre moi et Renart a guerre,

Between me and Reynard there-is war

que il a molt vers moi mespris.

for he has much toward me done-wrong

Clames m’en sui, jor en ai pris

Complained myself-thereof I-am day thereof I-have taken

apres la messe diemenche,

after the mass Sunday

de celui qui tant set de guenche.

of him who so-much knows of dodging

975

980

985

Renars i ert par tel devise,

Reynard there will-be by such setting-out

et vos seres del plet justise.

and you will-be of-the suit justice

Et l'en m'a dit del jugement

And one to-me-has said of-the judgment

990 que Renars par un serement

that Reynard by an oath

se doit devers moi escondire

himself ought toward me to-clear

de ce que je li saurai dire.

of this that I to-him shall-know to-say

Or si vos pri con mon ami

Now so you I-pray as my friend

que vos soies del plet a mi

that you be of-the suit with me

995 tant que il l'ait reconeü.

so-much that he it-have acknowledged

Tot est clame et respondu.

All is complained and answered

N'i a mes autre chose a fere

Not-there is more other thing to do

fors porcascier le seintuere:

save to-obtain the relic

mes de ce sui je esgarez.”

but of this am I perplexed

1000 Dist Roenel “ases auez

Said Roenel plenty you-will-have

en ceste vile seinz et seintes,

in this town saints and saintesses

ja mar en ferois tex compleintes.

never ill thereof you-will-make such complaints

Tres bien en seres conseiliez:

Very well thereof you-will-be counseled

que je serai aparelliez

for I shall-be made-ready

fors de la vile en un fosse.

outside of the town in a ditch

Si me tendrez por enosse,

So me you-will-hold for choked

dites que je sui meenniez:

say that I am maimed

je me jerrai denz recigniez,

I myself shall-lie teeth bared

le col ploie, la langue traite.

the neck bent the tongue drawn

La soit vostre asenblee fete,

There be your assembly made

Renars i ert et vos li dites

Reynard there will-be and you to-him say

qu'il sera bien envers vos quites,

that-be will-be well toward you quit

s'il puet jurer desor ma dent

if-be can to-swear upon my tooth

qu'il n'ait mespris envers Hersent.

that-be not-have done-wrong toward Hersent

Se tant s'aproche de mon groing

If so-much he-approaches of my snout

que le puisse tenir au poing,

that him I-may to-hold at-the hand

1005

1010

1015

bien porra dire ainz qu'il m'estorde,

well he-will-be-able to-say before that-he me-escape

ains mes ne vit seint qui si morde.

ever before not he-saw saint who so bite

Et se de ce se velt retrere

And if of this himself he-wishes to-draw-back

1020 que il ne vegne au seintuere,

that he not come to-the relic

n'en porra torner, bien s'i gart:

not-thereof he-will-be-able to-turn well himself-there let-him-guard

que je aure mis en esgart

for I shall-have put in watch

de tos mes meillors conpaignons

of all my best companions

bien plus de quarante gaignons

well more than forty curs

1025 des plus viaus et des plus felons.

of-the most base and of-the most felon

Donques sera Renars trop bons,

Then will-be Reynard exceedingly good

se par reliques o par chiens

if by relics or by dogs

ne puet chaoir en mes liens.

not he-can to-fall into my bonds

Dex vos saut, pensez de bien fere!"

God you save think of well to-do

1030 Ez vos Ysengrins qui repere

Behold you Isengrim who returns

vers la forest de Joenemande.

toward the forest of Joenemande

Molt se porquiert et molt demande

Much himself he-seeks-out and much he-asks

la ou a nul de ses amis.

there where is any of his friends

N'i a nul messagier tramis,

Not-there is any messenger sent

mes il meïsmes les va querre

but he himself them goes to-see

et en bois et en pleine terre:

both in wood and in open land

n'i remeist cevelus ne cax.

not-there remained hairy nor bald

Dant Brichemer li senescax

Sir Brichemer the seneschal

i est venuz la teste droite,

there is come the head straight

et dan Bruns l'ors molt tost s'exploite:

and sir Bruin the-bear very quickly himself-bestirs

Baucent le senglers vint a cort,

Baucent the boar came to court

musarz li camels i acort.

foolish the camel there runs

Li lions mande le lipart

The lion summons the leopard

qu'il viegne de la soue part.

that-he come from the his part

Li tigres vint et la pantere,

The tiger came and the panther

et Cointeraus li enchantere,

and Cointereau the enchanter

1035

1040

1045

un singe qui fu nez d'Espaigne,

an ape who was born of-Spain

cil refu avoc la conpaigne.

he was-in-turn with the company

Tant fet li leus qu'il les asenble.

So-much does the wolf that-he them assembles

1050 Quant il furent venu ensenble,

When they were come together

molt les a semons et proiez.

much them he-has summoned and entreated

"Bauz seignor" dist il, "ore oiez!

Fair lords said he now hear

A mon plet vos ai amenez:

To my suit you I-have brought

or vos pri que le meintenez,

now you I-pray that it you-maintain

1055 puis que ci estes aüne."

since that here you-are gathered

Et li estrange et li prive

Both the strangers and the intimates

et tuit cil de son parente

and all those of his kindred

li ont plevi et craante

to-him have pledged and granted

que ja ne seront recraant

that ever not they-will-be giving-up

1060 des que il ait tot son creant.

until that he have all his desire

Ice jurent a tot le moins.

This they-swear at all the least

Bien les a tos entre ses meins.

Well them he-has all between his hands

Einsi a sa gent atiree

Thus he-has his folk arrayed

et trestoz cels de sa mesnee.

and all those of his household

Quantqu'en pot avoir par priere

Whatever-one could to-have by prayer

sont aüne a sa banere.

are gathered at his banner

Cel jor porta son gonfalon

That day carried his gonfalon

li putois qui Foinez ot non,

the polecat who Foinet had name

et Tybers li chaz vint avoc

and Tibert the cat came with

qui Renart het: et ne por oc

who Reynard hates and not for that

molt en i ot de par Renart

many thereof there were from by Reynard

qui tuit se tienent de sa part.

who all themselves hold of his part

Mesire Grinberz en fu uns,

My-lord Grimbert thereof was one

c'onques ne pot amer dan Bruns:

who-ever not could to-love sir Bruin

cosins estoit Renart germeins.

cousin he-was (of-)Reynard german

Cil ne li pot faillir au meins.

He not to-him could to-fail at-the least

1065

1070

1075

Ne Rosselez li escuirous

Nor Rosselet the squirrel

qui n'estoit mie perecous,

who not-was at-all lazy

ne va pas corant, eins i trote:

not goes at-all running rather there he-trots

1080 et dame More la marmote,

and lady More the marmot

corte la taupe et dan Pelez

short the mole and sir Pele

li raz qui fu bien apelez.

the rat who was well named

Dant Galopin i vint li levres,

Sir Galopin there came the hare

la loirre, la martre et li bievres,

the dormouse the marten and the beaver

1085 li hiricons et la mostele,

the hedgehog and the weasel

et li fures pas ne s'i ceille

and the ferret at-all not himself-there hides

que il n'i viegne fierement,

that he there come fiercely

quar il voudra hardiement

for he will-wish boldly

Renart aidier a son besoing:

Reynard to-help at his need

1090 a lui vint il et sanz resoing.

to him came he and without fear

A l'assembler ot molt grant presse.

At the-assembling there-was very great press

Renars ne fine ne ne cesse,

Reynard not stops nor not ceases

ne cil qui avec lui alerent.

nor those who with him went

Desq'a la vile s'avalèrent

Until-to the town themselves-they-came-down

o li plez doit estre tenuz.

where the suit ought to-be held

Ysengrins i est ja venuz.

Isengrim there is already come

Il et Renars ont departies

He and Reynard have divided

lor compaignes en trois parties.

their companies in three parts

Sire Ysengrins fu en la pleigne

Lord Isengrim was on the plain

et Renars devers la monteigne:

and Reynard toward the mountain

et Roenel qui Renart guete

and Roenel who Reynard watches

le col ploie, la langue trete,

the neck bent the tongue drawn

contrefet si la morte beste

counterfeits so the dead beast

que il ne muet ne pie ne teste.

that he not stirs neither foot nor head

Sor le fosse s'est arestez.

On the ditch himself-be-is stopped

1095

1100

1105

Toz li aguais fu porpensez

All the ambush was contrived

en un verger delez la soi

in an orchard beside the hedge

de cels qu'il ot mande o soi,

of those whom-he had summoned with himself

bien qu'entre lisses et gaignons

well that-between bitches and curs

1110 plus de cent de ses compaignons,

more than a-hundred of his companions

proisiez et esleüs par non,

prized and chosen by name

qui ne heent se Renart non.

who not hate except Reynard not

Brichemers fu ches de la rote:

Brichemer was head of the company

a lui s'acline la cort tote,

to him himself-bows the court all

1115 que par comun asentement

for by common assent

fu enparles au parlement.

he-was spokesman at-the parley

Tot premer s'en estoit levez.

All first himself-thence was risen

"Renart" fait il, "vos qui devez

Reynard says he you who ought

a Ysengrin fere escondit

to Isengrim to-make denial

1120 einsi con li baron l'ont dit,

thus as the barons it-have said

aprochez vos au serement,

approach you to-the oath

si le fetes delivrement.

so it do promptly

Nos savon bien, se li ploüst,

We know well if to-him it-pleased

ases croire vos en doüst

quite to-believe you thereof be-ought

sanz le jurer: et nequedent

without it to-swear and nevertheless

vos jurerez desor la dent

you will-swear upon the tooth

seint Roenau le rechingnie

(of-)saint Roenel the snarling

qu' Ysengrin n'avez engignie

that Isengrim not-you-have tricked

n'en tel manere decoü:

nor-in such manner deceived

a tort en estes mescreü."

at wrong thereof you-are disbelieved

A cest mot salt Renars en place.

At this word leaps Reynard into place

Si se recorce et se rebrace,

So himself he-tucks-up and himself he-bares-arms

molt s'apareille vistement

much himself-be-prepares briskly

come de fere serement.

as of to-make oath

Toz jors sot molt Renart de guiche,

All days knew much Reynard of trickery

1125

1130

1135

onc n'en sout tant ne chert ne biche.

ever not-thereof knew so-much neither stag nor hind

Bien apercut qu'il iert guetiez

Well he-perceived that-he was watched

et que Roenel est haitiez,

and that Roenel is lively

au flanc qu'il debat et demeine

at-the flank which-he beats and works

1140 et au reprendre de s'aleine.

and at-the taking-again of his-breath

Arrier se tret, si le resoingne.

Back himself he-draws so him he-dreads

Qant Brichemer vit qu'il s'esloingne,

When Brichemer saw that-he himself-distances

"Renart" fait il, "ce que puet estre?"

Reynard says he this what can to-be

Metre vos covient la mein destre

To-put you it-behooves the hand right

1145 sor la dent Roenel tot droit".

on the tooth (of-)Roenel all straight

"Sire" fait il "o tort o droit

Lord says he either wrong or right

me covient sivre veirement

me it-behooves to-follow truly

et tenir vostre atirement

and to-keep your arrangement

comme cil qui muer ne l'ose.

like he who to-change not-it dares

Mes je voi ci une autre cose

1150

But I see here an other thing

espoir que vos n'i veez mie.

perhaps that you not-there see at-all

Talant ai que je le vos die:

Desire I-have that I it to-you say

mes ne puet estre, or le leron.

but not it-can to-be now it we-will-leave

Dant Grinberz ses nies li tesson.

Sir Grimbert his nephew the badger

apercut bien la traïson,

1155

perceived well the treason

si li a tret autre acoïson.

so to-him has drawn other pretext

“Sire, car entendez a moi!

Lord now hear to me

Je cuit que je bien vos dirai

I think that I well to-you shall-say

raison et droit au mien espoir.

reason and right at-the mine opinion

Dant Renars ne doit mie avoir

1160

Sir Reynard not ought at-all to-have

presse de tote cele gent.

press of all that folk

Ne seroit mie bel ne gent

Not it-would-be at-all fair nor seemly

a tel baron n'a si vaillant

to such baron nor-to so worthy

qu'en li voist sor le col saillant.

that-one on-him go on the neck leaping

- 1165 **Faites vos barons esloingner**
Make your barons to-withdraw
tant que il se puist aprocher
so-much that he himself may to-approach
au meins devers le seintuere,
at-the least toward the relic
tant que il puist l'escondit fere."
so-much that he may the-denial to-make
Dist Brichemer "ne m'en gardoie.
Said Brichemer not myself-thereof I-guarded
- 1170 **Or li ferai vidier la voie**
Now to-him I-will-make to-clear the way
tant qu'il puist venir et aler."
so-much that-he may to-come and to-go
Ses homes a fait avaler
His men he-has made to-go-down
et trere arere plus qu'aincois.
and to-draw back more than-before
Renars a fet le tor gueincois
Reynard has made the turn dodging
- 1175 **qui n'a cure de sejourner.**
who not-has care of to-stay
Qant au reliques dut torner,
When to-the relics he-was-to to-turn
d'autre part a torne sa chere:
of-other side he-has turned his face
foï s'en est li mau trechere.
fled himself-thence is the evil cheat

Renars s'en fuit teste levee

Reynard himself-thence flees head raised

par une viels voie chevee.

by an old way hollowed

Si enemli escrierent:

His enemies to-him cried-out

et li chien qui en aguēt erent,

and the dogs who in ambush were

il saillent apres et corurent.

they leap after and ran

Ja m'orrez dire qui il furent.

Now me-you-will-hear to-say who they were

Primes i cort ainz que li autre,

First there runs before that the others

lance levee sor le fautre,

lance raised on the saddle-pad

Roonel le chien dant Frobert

Roonel the dog (of-)sir Frobert

et Espillars le chien Robert,

and Espillart the dog (of-)Robert

le riche vilein del plessie:

the rich villein of-the enclosure

icil l'ont premer encauchie.

these him-have first pursued

Après revint a grant esles

After came-in-turn at great speed

Harpin et Moranz et Bruies,

Harpin and Morant and Bruies

Espinars et Hurtevillein,

Espinart and Hurtevillein

1180

1185

1190

et Rechignie le chien Gilein,

and Rechignie the dog (of-)Gilein

1195 la feme Erart le drapier.

the wife (of-)Erart the draper

Après se metent el frapier

After themselves put into-the chase

Afaitie. Gorfaut et Tirant,

Afaitie Gorfaut and Tirant

Foillet, Lovel et Amirant

Foillet Lovel and Amirant

Clermont i fu et Oliviers,

Clermont there was and Olivier

1200 le chien Macare Deriviers.

the dog (of-)Macaire Deriviers

Après i cort Cornebrias

After there runs Cornebrias

et Herbouz, Ferin et Frias,

and Herbout Ferin and Frias

Brisebois, Fricans et Voisie,

Brisebois Fricant and Voisiez

Liepart, Tisons et Escoilliez.

Liepart Tison and Escoilliez

1205 Cortin i cort apres Rigaut,

Cortin there runs after Rigaut

et Passeleve et Gringaut,

and Passeleve and Gringaut

Loiher, Passe-oultre et Fillart,

Loiber Passe-oultre and Fillart

et Estormi et Vaculart,

and Estormi and Vaculart

li chiens sire Tibert del Fresne:

the dog (of-)lord Tibert of-the Fresne

c'est celui qui miels se desresne,

this-is he who best himself acquits

qui plus tost va et miels le chace.

who more quickly goes and better it hunts

Après se metent en la trace

After themselves put on the track

Pilez, Chapez et Rechigniez,

Pilez Chapez and Rechigniez

Pastor, Estor et Engigniez,

Pastor Estor and Engigniez

Escorchelande li barbez

Escorchelande the bearded

et Violez li malflorenz,

and Violet the ill-flowered

et Oiselez et Gresillons,

and Oiselet and Gresillon

Eclariax et Esmerillons,

Eclariax and Esmerillon

Chanus et Morganz et Vergers,

Chanu and Morgant and Verger

et Passe-avant, Outrelevriers.

and Passe-avant Outrelevrier

Après i est corus Bolez,

After there is run Bolet

Porchaz et Poignant et Malez,

Porchaz and Poignant and Malet

et le chien Rainbaut le bocher:

and the dog (of-)Rainbaut the butcher

1210

1215

1220

se cil puet Renart aprocher

if he can Reynard to-approach

1225 que il le puisse as denz aerdre,

so-that he him may with-the teeth to-seize

toz soit soïrs de la pel perdre.

all let-him-be sure of the skin to-lose

Après i sont poignant venu

After there are spurring come

Hopitax et Trotemenu,

Hopitax and Trotemenu

et Folejus et Passemer

and Folejus and Passemer

1230 qui vint devers Pont Audemer.

who came from-toward Pont Audemer

Tuit icil furent compaignon.

All these were companions

Bien s'aroterent li gaignon:

Well themselves-ranged the curs

n'i a un sol qui ne s'en isse,

not-there is a single who not himself-thence go-out

et apres els ne remeint lisse

and after them not remains bitch

1235 qui ne crit et ne face noise.

who not cries and not makes noise

Si i acort Baude et Foloise,

So there runs Baude and Foloise

Coqillie, Briart et Seville,

Coqillie Briart and Seville

et la lisse desoz la vile.

and the bitch below the town

Après i cort Fauve et Bloete,

After there runs Fauve and Bloete

Cloete, Brechine, Morete,

1240

Cloete Brechine Morete

et Malignouse et Malparliere,

and Malignouse and Malparliere

qui fu Robert de la Marlere

who was (of-)Robert of the Marlere

et Genterose et Primevoire

and Genterose and Primevoire

la lisse qui fu au provoire,

the bitch who was to-the priest

Pinconete qui si se peine

1245

Pinconete who so herself troubles

de Renart tenir en demeine.

of Reynard to-hold in mastery

Renart ne lesse retorner,

Reynard not she-lets to-return

qui meint tor li a fet torner

who many-a turn to-him has made to-turn

ainz que poüst au crues venir:

before that he-might to-the hollow to-come

molt se peine del retenir.

1250

much herself she-troubles of-the holding-back

Ysengrin va les chiens huiant:

Isengrim goes the dogs hooting

et se Renars s'en va fuiant,

and if Reynard himself-thence goes fleeing

ja n'i doit l'en nul mal noter,

ever not-there ought one any ill to-note

que besoing fet vielle troter.

for need makes old-woman to-trot

1255 A l'oralle du bois menu

At the-edge of-the wood thick

li en sont qatre avant venu,

to-him thereof are four forward come

Trenchant, Bruamont et Faïz:

Trenchant Bruamont and Faiz

Renars qui molt estoit haïz

Reynard who much was hated

ot ici grant peor de mort,

had here great fear of death

1260 n'avoit en soi nul reconfort.

not-be-had in himself any comfort

Toz jors est bien Renart choü,

All days is well (to-)Reynard fallen

mes or li est si mescoü:

but now to-him is so gone-ill

ne li ourent mestier ses bordes,

not to-him had use his jests

que n'en volassent les palordes.

that not-thereof flew the shreds

1265 Tant ont li chien Renart pele

So-much have the dogs Reynard peeled

et desachie et detire,

and torn and pulled

que en bien plus de treize leus

that in well more than thirteen places

li est aparissanz li jeux.

to-him is apparent the game

A la parfin l'ont tant mene,

At the end him-they-have so-much driven

tant travellie et tant pene:

so-much tormented and so-much pained

tant l'ont fole et debatu,

so-much him-they-have trampled and beaten

qu'en Malpertuis l'ont enbatu.

that-into Malpertuis him-they-have driven

1270

