

RUNESTAFF

AS XLVI

November 2011

Welcome! The Barony of Mag Mor is the Lincoln, Nebraska branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), an international non-profit organization dedicated to recreating and researching pre-17th Century European history. Mag Mor is located in the Kingdom of Calontir, modernly Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, and parts of Nebraska and Arkansas.

Greetings Mag Mor!

Congratulations to Her Ladyship Gyda for taking her rightful place as our Barony's newest Arts and Sciences Champion. I hope that everyone enjoyed the fine event! Special thanks to Lord Carlos and Lady Saige for all of their hard work in organizing a fantastic event!

Winter is quickly approaching, at with it, WAR Maneuvers! Lady Ingeborg has plans well in hand, and it promises to be a fantastic day. Please mark your calendars for January 21, 2012 and come enjoy! Please answer the call for assistance as it comes. His Excellency Owain celebrates the 10th anniversary of his Pelican, and has graciously provided a location for Post Revel, at the WSI Hall in Lincoln. Let's all raise a glass with him!

Our Barony is still in need of a new Chatelaine. Please, if you are interested in stepping up to this position, contact myself and Their Excellencies Mag Mor.

With a sad heart, we recently heard of Their Excellencies' intention to step down from the Baronial seats. If you have an interest, or questions about becoming our next Baronage, please speak to them!

I hope the season does well by you all.

In service,

Seraphina Brugari
Seneschal, Mag Mor

Tenzone Project

by Lady Ingeborg bildsbriótr Ulfsdottir

I.U to Several Poets.

When our great God on His Adam was doting,
That first of men whom God regarded highly
In loneliness cried out, the Devil gloating,
And God thought hard, and then He laughed quite drily.

Of woman He conceived, from Heaven floating,
Divergent, strange, striding bravely or shyly,
an apple with sweet juice and sugared coating,
and laughter pure, innocent or wiley.

When she was pleased, the hot fires she was stoking
Aloe-gentle her touch, and just as numbing
To each desire, all, but her light stroking.

When she's displeased, Adam found himself choking
Stymied, he was, the answer not forthcoming.
Was woman a great gift, or was God joking?

This poem is in abab abab cdc cdc scheme, with feminine (ending STRESSEDunstressed) rhymes. I chose abab abab for the octave because that was the form usually used by Giacomo da Lentini, the creator of the earliest known sonnet, who flourished 1215-33, during the time specified for the A&S competition I entered this in.

The meter is an attempt at endecasillabo (primary and final stress on the tenth syllable, secondary stress on either the fourth or sixth syllable with a caesura after), which was the most popular Italian meter according to *The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, and “the most excellent of meters according to Dante and the one most appropriate for subjects in the high style.” (It still feels like loose iambic pentameter, but I think that’s a function of our upbringing and the English language.) With the important stresses underlined, the caesure tabbed, and the importantly unstressed syllable in italics, the poem looks like this:

When our great God on His Adam was doting,
That first of men whom God regarded highly
In loneliness cried out, the Devil gloating,
And God thought hard, and then He laughed quite drily.

Of woman He conceived, from Heaven floating,
Divergent, strange, striding bravely or shyly,
an apple with sweet juice and sugared coating,
and laughter pure, innocent or wiley.

When she was pleased, the hot fires she was stoking
Aloe-gentle her touch, and just as numbing
To each desire, all, but her light stroking.

When she's displeased, Adam found himself choking,
Stymied, he was, the answer not forthcoming..
Was woman a great gift, or was God joking?

As is common in *tenzones* (Italian poetic exchanges debating a certain topic, usually in sonnets) I wrote about love. I was inspired by the poetic exchanges between Dante da Maiano and Dante Alighieri, which I found at <http://www.italianstudies.org/poetry/cnindex.htm>. I began writing, as do two of the sets, on the sufferings of love, but the piece came out more light-hearted. And, to be honest, quite racy. (If you can't figure out why, I can't tell you in a family publication. Ask me in person.) Since love in formal poetry is a courtly-dominated subject, this is why the second poem reacts so strongly.

I then posted my first sonnet to the *pbardic* list, with a request for someone to play at *tenzone* with me. This might have worked better if I'd been able to give it more time. At any rate, no one answered, so I resolved to write the remainder myself. (In the Provençal tradition from which the *tenzone* was borrowed, both parts were sometimes written by the same person anyway.) I chose to use my initials because both poets are, as were most in this time and place, male.

C.S. to I.U.

With innuendo rife, and highly mocking,
You seem to think, milord, that you are witty.
The poetry you write, I'd prefer blocking
Or barricading out, far from the city.

Titillating, you think, to be thus shocking?
Unpalatable filth, debased and gritty.
Were it a man, I would pray death come knocking
To take it from this world, as God has pity.

A subject grave, love can't be treated lightly
Or it becomes naught but animals mating.
Take your loose pen and bind it close and tightly

So that your verse delivers itself rightly;
instead of leaking slime, truly creating
A work of art that will always shine brightly.

This poem has the same patterns as the first: endecasillabo, abab abab cdc cdc, feminine.

Baron & Baroness of Mag Mor

HE Nikola Sazhka Kolosov (Sashatec)
3700 S. 33rd St.
Lincoln, NE 68506
(402) 486 4870
baron@magmor.net

HE Catherine Anne Jourdayn
2920 Stephanos Dr.
Lincoln, NE 68516
(402) 430 9561
baroness@magmor.net

Mag Mor Officers and Deputies

Seneschal	Seraphina Brugari	seneschal@magmor.net
Chatelaine	Isabeau Jehanne	goldkey@magmor.net
Webminister	Sabi Constance	webmaster@magmor.net
Demo Coordinator	Vilhjalmr Half Troll	demos@magmor.net
Marshal	Vilhjalmr Half Troll	marshal@magmor.net
Archery	Owain ap Bleddyn y Llwyd	archery@magmor.net
Exchequer	Gyda Glora	exchequer@magmor.net
Gemshorn Pursuivant	William of Mag Mor	herald@magmor.net
Deputy	John Richard Beauchamp	
Arts and Sciences	Carlos Xavier de Cadiz	artsci@magmor.net
Chronicler	Chiara di Paxiti	chronicler@magmor.net

Arts & Sciences meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, and Moot (the business meeting) on the 2nd Wednesday. The 4th Wednesday will be a social gathering with treats. All begin at 6:30pm and are usually held at Walt Library, 5701 S. 14th Street, Lincoln – just north of Southwest High School.

This is the November 2011 issue of The Runestaff, a publication of the Barony of Mag Mor of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc. and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2011 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

The Runestaff
Barony of Mag Mor
 c/o Becca Townsend
 1625 E Street #12
 Lincoln, NE 68508

			November			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 A&S Archery	3	4	5
6	7	8 Fighter Practice	9 Moot Archery	10	11	12 Queen's Prize
13	14	15 Fighter Practice	16 A&S Archery	17	18	19 Toys for Tots
20	21	22 Fighter Practice	23 Baronial Social Archery	24	25	26
27	28	29 Fighter Practice	30	1	2	3