

DYMPHNA, THE VIRGIN SAINT

WORKING DRAFT 09

A PHOTOPLAY

BY inky

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FADE IN:

EXT. FULL SHOT - AFTERNOON

What would be considered today a suburb, a small town. But it is only six hundred or so years after the death and resurrection of the Jewish prophet that is known by the name Jesus. It is Ireland and Ireland is beautiful. There is a gathering and although they are many, it seems uncrowded for the spaciousness is evident and marked by rolling hills and blue skies that stretch into infinity. There are men, rugged and young. There are women, lovely and learned. There are children, restless and carefree. Near the center of this celebration, sits a bearded man. He is the chieftain, the ruler of this clan. The king of this part of the emerald. The monarch that defeated all rivals and took for his wife the only woman with eyes that did not reflect the moonlight in the evening when he looked into her eyes. She is next to him. Nan and Damon. Beauty and brute strength. His might seems more regal as we notice how perfectly she overshadows the other women.

CUT TO:

EXT. MEDIUM SHOT - CONTINUOUS

NAN

My dear husband. I do
believe I feel our second
child is astir within me.

DAMON

(placing a
hand on
her
shoulder)

It will make you even more
beautiful than the first
one.

NAN

(placing a
hand upon
her belly)

May Jesus hear your
prayer, my love.

DAMON

(removing
his hand
from her
shoulder)

You forget that I am the
ruler and this religion is
no better than our ancient
path, Befinde and Boanne
will birth you right.

BACK TO SCENE

SIMPLE CELT MUSIC RISES AS DOES DAMON LIFTING HIS
GOBLET AND SAYING A FEW INAUDIBLE WORDS WHICH
CAUSES THE PEOPLE TO REJOICE.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GEREBERN'S SANCTUARY - EVENING

A priest in monk's cloth. A silver cross accents his garments. Its color a near match of his hair's shade. He is speaking with a pretty young girl. She is perhaps twelve or thirteen.

GEREBERN

My dear child.

DYMPHNA

Master, I am far from being a child.

GEREBERN

Dymphna, you will always be a yearling in my eyes.

DYMPHNA

Oh, master Gerebern, that is a pleasant thought, but parents have I already.

GEREBERN

They are flesh as I, remember to ever proclaim your true guardian in our Lord and Savior.

DYMPHNA

But you know that I do. My heart is only at home under the freedom of the cross.

GEREBERN

That is as it should always be, my dear child.

DYMPHNA

(she
pauses
with a
smile
nearly
changing
the
seriousness
of her
expression
)

DYMPHNA (CONT'D)

I want us to pray for our
Nan. She is not the same
after the baby was born
cold and still.

GEREBERN

I know this well. I have
dedicated many hours with
her in prayers and alone
in mine orisons. I know
this well. However, I
fear that it is not our
faith that has failed to
bring her back into
herself healed and
beautiful as she was meant
to be -

DYMPHNA

What could it be, master?

GEREBERN

It feels to me as if the
pagan ways which Damon
keeps have made for this
suffering. He scorns the
belief that we hold sacred

and I fear it will bring
him sorrow beyond his
imagination.

DYMPHNA

I cannot bear the thought.
I know that he believes
not in Jesus, but he is
good and he adores Nan. I
know it. And sometimes
when he looks at me, I am
certain there is love in
his eyes.

GEREBERN

Even good men, Dymphna,
are brought low by the
steely resolve of demons
which they cannot see for
the lack of light that
covers them as they
breathe the pagan air.

DYMPHNA

Will I ever be as wise as
you?

GEREBERN

I am sure of it, but I
will never be as beautiful
as you. Look at you, my
dear Dymphna, you are
becoming more lovely than
our gracious lady Nan.

DYMPHNA

(she

pauses
again,
this time
the smile
entirely
covers the
seriousness
of her
nature)

DYMPHNA (CONT'D)

Gerebern, you are handsome
in a special way.

GEREBERN

If your grace is so
inclined to agree. Now
let us tell our Lord the
evening prayers before the
moonlight is free of those
low wandering clouds.

CUT TO:

INT. MORNING - NAN'S CHAMBERS - LATER

Medium sized room with a wooden window that is
partly open to the start of day. There is a
crucifix similar to Gerebern's adorning the wall.

Damon stands watch near Nan. She is upon her bed.
Her countenance is pale. The weakness is evident
in her eyes.

DAMON

Even in sickness, you are
still the fairest of these

lands.

(pause)

It hurts me so to
contemplate a life without
our love. More than any
scar from battle or bygone
days.

He walks a bit, slowly nearer to the window.

DAMON (CONT'D)

I see the new day
starting, but what warmth
can the sun bring to me if
I cannot hold your hand.

He walks back, slowly nearer to Nan's bedside.

DAMON (CONT'D)

If only I could believe in
your god, I would curse
him with my uncorrupted
honor for bringing you low
during the season when we
should be teaching our
second child the ways of
the world.

NAN

Speak not such words,
think a moment upon my
faith and your respect for
me which should ever be
entwined with your love.
He has wisdom beyond our
brains and if He has
decided -

DAMON

No spirit can decide the

affairs of a King.

NAN

Jesus may be spirit, but
there is more than that,
there was flesh and his
blood will give me life
undying, even when if I
leave this world.

DAMON

I have heard this talk too
many days and it has
poisoned you and it has
poisoned our dearest
Dymphna. Imagine a beauty
that is only rivaled by
your own, with a head -
as empty as the caves of
my vanquished enemies -
that holds only reason for
religion.

NAN

The girl is angelic.
Gerebern has taught her
well. Do not be upset,
give thanks for what we
had and have and hear my
prayer that Jesus might
hold you in His favor. I

am grateful for Gereben.

DAMON

I should remove his head
and see how many maggots
have already moved in from
the south of his body
where obviously they did
destroy his plow - by my
name, I am sick of faggots
- and let us have no more
talk of religion. I blame
it for taking you, for
tempting my Dymphna, for
taking my unborn - oh that
we had had the ceremony as
we did in the old days,
tell me woman, when was a
mother made to suffer in
such way in those days and
when was a chieftain ever
said to have lost a child.
In the womb! In the womb,
a thing nearly made. No -
you said, no. No
sacrifice, no offering,
nothing. Prayer, just
prayer. The Druids would
all lay down dead to hear
such things.

NAN

Let us not argue over
things we cannot change
now, my love. Nothing, no
one is at fault. I am
happy to have had such as
you at my side and to know
that you will protect our
Dymphna and find a
stronger bride to have all
the children you could
desire.

DAMON

If your god is there, he
is at fault though he give
you life after this. And
my cherished passion, I am
at fault for how could I
betray my own good sense
and listen to your request
that we make no ceremony
for our unborn. I swear
it is your beauty that
distracts my strength and
here we are and all I will
have left is Dymphna.

NAN

Come nearer to your wife,
dear husband and hold me
again without words that I
may pass on with the
memory of your love inside
me.

DAMON

As it was since I first

fell under your spell,
your wish is mine own
desire.

Damon saunters over to the window one last time,
pushing it closed. He turns and starts to undo
his garments, returning to her side and joining
her in bed.

They make love, quietly, quickly...

NAN

My dear love, oh that
Jesus would take me now.

DAMON

All I will have left is
Dymphna - woman do not
leave - it will be - it
will be nothing without
you - All I will have left
is Dymphna. Oh, my
Dymphna.

CUT TO:

EXT. AFTERNOON - FIELD OF LILIES NEAR A POND -
LATER

A young man is juggling three small skulls, they
are polished and painted in three different
colors. A young lady sits nearby. She is nearly
identical to him, save for her hair and the
obvious curves of her body. The young man is the

entertainer for the Chieftain and those near to him. Nolan and Shelag, both in their twenties.

Approaching them is Dymphna.

NOLAN

I hear the steps of one
perhaps tired from all the
poetry of those prayers.

SHELAG

Do not push her away with
unkind words, Nolan. What
type of a court jester
would do such a thing to
one he serves?

NOLAN

I serve her not, for I
serve her father. I say
it as a friend.

SHELAG

What type of friend would
find joy in mockery?

NOLAN

A friend that also does
pray the same poetry and
knows how eyes might

become weary for the
natural prose of casual
life.

SHELAG

Sense. It makes it, but
be careful for I have much
admiration invested with
the fair princess and if
you go too far I won't
make any more little
skulls for tricks.

NOLAN

A threat?

SHELAG

A truth.

NOLAN

A throaty truth with
teeth.

SHELAG

Save the wit for Damon and
the like or for after our
love is detailed in the
sleeping room of our kiss.

NOLAN

And it bites.

Nolan stops juggling, tossing each skull expertly
to Shelag by wrapping his left arm behind himself
and making them disappear into her hands which
vanish them into a large leather satchel sitting
in dark contrast to the bright afternoon.

DYMPHNA

My dearest friends.

SHELAG

Oh fair one, we may be
dogs, but our ears are not
so keen, speak when you
are nearer or shout that
we may seduce the meaning.

NOLAN

Your constant judgments
have left you deaf. It
was a simple greeting and
speak of yourself when
using the noun of common
canine to adjective.

SHELAG

For all you know, you may
be a dog.

NOLAN

I may bark and wag some
kind of tail, but it is
all show, you know, I am
all cat. Lion on the
better days, in fact.

SHELAG

Shall I call you my pussy?

NOLAN

Only if you are well
positioned to stroke my
fur.

DYMPHNA

I say, my dearest friends.

SHELAG

None of this you heard,
dear one.

DYMPHNA

None at all, I giggle at
the beauty that graces us
this goodly day.

NOLAN

Such goodness will forgive
the crude words that we
have formed if heard and
if unheard such goodness
will find patience while
we cook up other phrases
to free the joyous
laughter from yes our
dearest friend.

SHELAG

Indeed, our dearest
friend.

NOLAN

How may we make you smile
this fine day, lovely
Dymphna?

SHELAG

Indeed, how may we take
you sailing into the

freedom of joy, gracious
Dymphna?

DYMPHNA

Nothing would please me
more than to simply stay
here awhile among these
flowers, by this lake,
with you my good and
faithful friends.

NOLAN

I think she means to make
me perform with cards.

SHELAG

(reaching
into the
satchel)

SHELAG (CONT'D)

It would seem the case
since she said she would
be pleased by staying here
a while and only a
performance with cards
would take that long for
all his other tricks are
of cheap stock and as such
they take no time to try.

(flings a
deck of
cards at
Nolan)

NOLAN

What slander, if there
were not truth in it I
might be tempted to slay
her.

(pretends
to try and
catch the
cards, but
allows
them to
tumble
down
seconds
away from
where he
stands)

NOLAN (CONT'D)

I am truly rattled now,
perhaps all skill is gone
from my reservoir.

SHELAG

I was thinking the same
thing, last time we
kissed.

NOLAN

For that, I will not kiss
you ever again while the
sun is green.

SHELAG

How about while the moon
is black?

NOLAN

I am tempted to agree.

SHELAG

If only you were tempted
to learn some new tricks.

NOLAN

My nose is running and if
I should sniff another dog
joke -

SHELAG

Wait, let me go chase
after it, Damon would have
you in chains if a nose
were running about his
land.

NOLAN

Damon already has me in
chains and added insult to
injury by pairing me with
you.

SHELAG

I might be settled but I

am far from paired, for
where is our child.

NOLAN

You forget that we have a
child right here.

SHELAG

Our dearest friend.

DYMPHNA

Really, you don't have to
go through the display
with words or the cards,
really, I am pleased to
simply be here at your
side, upon this garden.
And Nolan, I am not a
child even if I am ever at
your funny nest.

NOLAN

I can see by the blossom
of your chest that you are
not a child, but to us -
if we are still us?

SHELAG

We are, pending an apology
or two.

NOLAN

To us, you are the better
part of ourselves. You
are as we would hope our
child to be. Take no
injury from my words.

SHELAG

It is that season when we girls want not to be girls but something greater. Fear not the thoughtless opinion, Dymphna, some will say "child" to thee even after the grave has risen to cover what was life. And, indeed, you are as we would hope our own offspring would be - I hope you will know a time when to hear the word child will remind you of the easiest days of your life and from those future wrinkles you will grin and perhaps also remember us.

DYMPHNA

I will remember and I will try to keep in mind the wisdom of your words, my Nolan and Shelag. You have taught me near as much as Gerebern with your wit and magic.

CUT TO:

INT. GEREBERN'S SANCTUARY - LATER

DAMON

I fear that tonight will be her last.

GEREBERN

The force of prayer is at work, Damon, and a miracle is nothing for Jesus if He is moved to grant us our desire.

DAMON

You call me by my name as if there were equality between us, preacher.

GEREBERN

I apologize, my king, I meant not to disrespect your position as I meant not to carry myself beyond mine own rank.

DAMON

You speak of desire and yet you pretend to have none. Tell me, holy man, what desire led me to you tonight?

GEREBERN

My dear king, I cannot read your heart's mind. I believe that perhaps you

wish the comfort of our
Lord's grace in this hour
of turmoil.

DAMON

See hear, preacher, I
desire not your
superstition for I've mine
own belief.

GEREBERN

In that case, I cannot
imagine what has brought
you into my door.

DAMON

It is not your door, it is
my door and you'd do well
for yourself to remember
that.

GEREBERN

I do apologize indeed once
more.

DAMON

No need to excuse your
arrogance. Now, be silent

and I will explain the
reason for my visit.

DAMON (CONT'D)

I came here tonight, as my
most precious beloved and
your queen struggles for
her life, to end your
pathetic existence and
send you first into the
underworld where Aengus
might hang you himself
from the barren tree of
celibacy for refusing to
plant here in this green
garden your seed.

GEREBERN

You mean not these unkind
words, it is your sorrow
that speaks through your
mouth with violence.

DAMON

Save your foul sermon for
the stupid. We both know
that you have not met with
swords and thus you cannot
know how sweet it is to
slay. I would kill you now
just to have that
victorious feeling in my
hand once more.

GEREBERN

Oh, my Lord, let not my
king make me a dead man
before I have said one

last prayer.

DAMON

Ha, here is my steel and
here is my saber, say your
words to the air you fill
with that idiotic doctrine
which has tried to
position itself above the
laws and knowledge of our
ancestors.

GEREBERN

Help, someone help me, the
king has gone mad, the
king has gone mad!

DAMON

You are coward and though
I have not vanquished you,
you are as good as dead to
my eyes.

GEREBERN

I am bleeding, I am
bleeding, oh let not my
darling Dymphna encounter
me in this state.

DAMON

No one will see you, my
PYTHIUS is at the entrance
and this I swear,
Gerebern, I will not allow
you near the Princess
after the Queen has taken
her place in the heavens.
Your bed has most likely
blossomed lovely dreams
with my Dymphna and if I
were you - ha, there is an
insufferable idea - if I
were you I would do well
to walk far away from the
kingdom of this King.

CUT TO:

INT. MIDNIGHT - NAN'S CHAMBERS - LATER

NAN

Dearest Dymphna, dry the
tears from your eyes with
the faith that nears you
to all that is good and
holy in this passing
world.

DYMPHNA

Mother, I cannot help but
cry. Your example has led
my life and I know my
faith will be divided of
its greater portion when
you are gone.

NAN

Think, my child. There are
many that love you and
will concern their
thoughts for your safety.
Do not let sorrow destroy
that affection. Do not let
my death make a dream of
your greatness.

DYMPHNA

I have not importance, not
even wisdom, mother. I
tell you, when I lay upon
my bed and turn my eyes to
slumber there is often a
sound that will not let me
breathe easy.

NAN

A sound?

DYMPHNA

The sound, yes, the purr
and rattle of a feeling.

NAN

A sentiment that your own
self holds or an emotion
from another?

DYMPHNA

I cannot say, but it seems
to speak of a voyage. A
journey into a far away
land.

NAN

I remember when I was a
girl. I dreamed always of
travels. To visit far away
lands.

DYMPHNA

Do not rise, mother, you
need to rest.

NAN

No. I want to whisper
these words into your ear
and embrace you at least
one last time.

DYMPHNA

What reason held you here?

NAN

My child, in those days a woman could not simply pick and choose. I was picked instead I was chosen by the King your father to be his uxor, to be Queen.

NAN (CONT'D)

The only choice I've ever held truly as mine was to bow my head low before the love of the Cross.

DYMPHNA

I am afraid that my eyes will always water at the remembrance of your devotion.

NAN

Forget not that you are the Princess and forget not that death cannot bury faith. Believe in our savior as I and Gerebern have always lectured into your lovely heart. Follow not the pagan ways of King Damon.

DYMPHNA

I believe I hear him
charge upon the grounds.

NAN

Help me back upon my
pillow, dear child and let
us pray before his
arrival.

CUT TO:

EXT. MIDNIGHT -FIELD OF LILIES NEAR A POND-
CONTINUOUS

GEREBERN, Wounded, makes haste away from the lands
of DAMON.

He is carrying a leather satchel and murmuring
words and phrases which alternate between curses
and prayers.

CUT TO:

INT. MIDNIGHT - NOLAN AND SHELAG'S HUT -
CONTINUOUS

NOLAN is removing his garments while trying to
convince SHELAG to make love to him before going
to sleep.

SHELAG

Have I missed something
between our earlier
conversation and this
talking?

NOLAN

How are we ever going to
grow into three when the
two of us do not attempt
to make love?

SHELAG

Oh, Nolan. How dare you
dance into such words not
to mention ignore my
question.

NOLAN

I have not ignored your
query, I have simply tried
to make better sense of
our situation and
therefore the question
might need no response
save for the physical
words of fornication.

SHELAG

I do remember with the
sharpest clarity your vow
not to kiss me while the
sun was green or was I
daydreaming?

NOLAN

Shelag, the sun is at rest

and the heavens are as
dark as jealousy.

SHELAG

Would you say then that
the moon is black?

NOLAN

It may well be and -

SHELAG

And so I see you are not a
man of your word.

NOLAN

I often entertain with
tongue and wit and it's no
dishonor to delve into the
devil's brush to canvas
some picture for a laugh.

SHELAG

Is your love for me a
laughing business?

NOLAN

No my Shelag and it's not
a fair question to put to
your Nolan for I have been
nothing but true to you in
time if not always in
speaking.

SHELAG

And now you wish to
explore my Rhine and my
Rhine with your gondola.

NOLAN

If you insist on making
the navigation a sail, let
me gather the anchor and
hook it under the hammock.

SHELAG

Perhaps we might not swim
at all for you well know I
would hate to drown.
Perhaps, I should turn
your plea into patronage
and sell you that portion
which you are trying to
pursue.

NOLAN

Nay, a husband cannot
offer a reward to his own
wife for tenderness.

SHELAG

For tender I would attend
you twice.

NOLAN

Let us say, I gave you
punt. Would that suffice?

SHELAG

For a punt I would be hard
pressed to hunt much.

NOLAN

For a punt and a pint?

SHELAG

Hmm. For that I might
rummage, some.

NOLAN

Then you will have a punt
and a pint, now let us
tickle each other with
passion. Begin your
rummaging.

SHELAG

Whoa. When shall this
tender be rendered true?

NOLAN

Soon. All too soon.

SHELAG

Then soon you will have
that rummaging passion.

NOLAN

What about at present?

SHELAG

At present, you have the memory of our wedding, of our vows, and just last week I did hold your hand for a while after we kissed.

NOLAN

We kissed not last week at all.

SHELAG

Ah yes you were fast asleep, well, here at present receive this peck from my feeding gap before your mind escapes into the land of dreams.

NOLAN

Shelag, this can't go on. I am a man and have the needs of a man.

SHELAG

Nolan, I know you too well, you are but a witty boy and your impatience proves this beyond doubt.

NOLAN

I cannot make sense of what is senseless. I will stay in my hovel by the

river. Come not to my side
with sly kissing as I
rest.

SHELAG

I will make a man of you
yet, Nolan.

NOLAN

Aye, a desperate man!

CUT TO:

EXT. MIDNIGHT - DAMON AND PYTHIUS - CONTINUOUS

DAMON

Look there, my trusted
Pythius, the sermonizer
has fled across the field.

PYTHIUS

Did your steel slash for
death, I heard the man
give voice for assistance.

DAMON

PYTHIUS, we are men. Do
not refer to an insect as
a man. He is a bug and I

should have made his
insides spill out under
the pressure of my toes.

PYTHIUS

My good King and great
commander, I will not give
the name of man to his
kind evermore. And, if it
pleases you, allow me to
walk across the field and
remove that backswimmer
from the waters of your
kingdom.

DAMON

You serve me well my good
PYTHIUS, but I did provoke
enough of his blood from
its course for now and
perhaps when the time
comes I will call upon you
to render him forever gone
but I cannot destroy the
preacher entirely while
your Queen my wife is
breathing the quick air of
life.

PYTHIUS

It is not my place to say,
but I do hope our fair and
gentle Queen Nan should
endure for a sure and
extended spell.

DAMON

PYTHIUS, your words sound
poetic, have you been
burning the words off the
old runic books with those
bloody eyes?

PYTHIUS

My good King and Great
Commander, it has been a
while since we went to war
or faced the invading
battle of pillage, our
enemies are all under the
greatest fear even from
our cattle and what can
cows do?

PYTHIUS (CONT'D)

Indeed, it is a matter for
us to rejoice in and our
descendants to find pride
from. You are wise or you
have gained the ability to
glint into the glen of
secret thoughts. I have
for lack of love and lack
of campaigns given my free
hour to the those texts.

DAMON

Are not the days of
soldierly instruction,
marching, and the nights
of keeping guard enough to
fill your hands.

PYTHIUS

I am the active sort of
fellow and I like a lot of
activity as in the bygone
days when we first learned
to capture and to kill.
For others, I am certain
all the formations and the
watch are enough to make
them foolish with desire
for sleep.

DAMON

My good soldier, that is
good to know and yet I do
recall you also spoke of
love and having none. I
will myself find a fair
maiden for you to espouse
and you will name your
children after the true
gods of this our bright
emerald.

PYTHIUS

If it so please you my
good king and great
commander.

DAMON

I sense a tone of worry
along with your
appreciation.

PYTHIUS

There is - I - well, I -

DAMON

Speak the thought as well
you can, I have not all
night to ear and tongue.

PYTHIUS

I do engage - when coin
and cock have purse and
pulse - with the whores.

DAMON

With the whores, you say?

PYTHIUS

I meant not to offend with
- with -

DAMON

No no I wanted to make
sure you said not horse.
Fret not kinsman, for
indeed we are related by
the school of scars. I too
have indulged with a trull
when afar where only the
trollop was available. I
will find you a fair
maiden who will mind not
if you fall into the arms
of some wench.

PYTHIUS

I dare not shout for we
are near your entrance,
but I do say with a loud
heart by Lug, there can be
no better king in all the
lusty world.

DAMON

Stand a while, good
PYTHIUS and see that the
bug does not crawl from
there to here to try to
avenge himself or to make
the Queen suffer any more
from the pansy infection
of his talk.

PYTHIUS

Is your order to slay,
should he approach.

DAMON

Slaying's for soldiers, no
need to employ your good
blade, my trusted PYTHIUS,
simply step on the
shirtlifter as you would
stomp the starving wood
ant which tries to feed on
your fare. Your foot and
the pain I have already
inflicted should serve
enough to make the insect
expire.

PYTHIUS

My good king and great
commander, I will stand
through the night and I
will stand through the day
if needed.

Consider Name for PYTHIUS, pythius...

CUT TO:

EXT - FIELD OF LILIES PAST THE POND - CONTINUOUS

GEREBERN paces back and forth as if unable to
decide on what to do or where to go.

The rustling sound of someone nearing sends him
into words.

GEREBERN

Sweet heavens, protect me,
who's there?

NOLAN (O.S.)

Fear not, stranger. It is
only a married man with a
wife as mean and
unbearable as a mule that
will not serve for burden.

GEREBERN

Nolan, I am no stranger to
you. Although my voice
suffers the sadness and my
back is bent low from the
rage of blows, it is still
Gerebern.

NOLAN

I am rather unhappy to
hear of your troubles, but
being a man of the cloth
you cannot imagine mine.
How strange the times are
when one seeks only
isolation or an easy lass
to linger with yet
encounters an injured
clergy.

GEREBERN

Forgive me for me for
breathing, would it please
you to finish me off? Look
here, jester, the blood
still flows from his cuts.

NOLAN

Perfect. Now I am nothing
but a midnight nurse.

Here, here, good Gerebern,
let us sit and see how we
may mend your flesh and
perhaps if you survive
you'll be kind enough to
give my mule a speech so
that I may unburden my
load of lust as a man must
and should with his wife.

GEREBERN

Agreed, there under the
elm.

NOLAN

I have not seen blood
since the last battles.
Our King the majestic
Damon was magical in
strategy and mighty in
strength. Do you recall
when they -

GEREBERN

I recall the battles,
Jester, but mind you that
not all of us wish to
seduce flattery for the
monarch. It was the king
himself who hurt me.

NOLAN

So you have you a bone to
pick with the king as I
have a boner that pines
for Shelag's kettle hole?

GEREBERN

You forget that I serve
the sacred order of Jesus.

NOLAN

I forget not and I perhaps
more than your followers
respect your vows, save
for Dymphna and her regal
mother, to these new
notions, yet it is late
and my tongue leans
straight into honesty. Say
now why have you taken
offense with Damon.

GEREBERN

He wants me to perish, he
wants me gone. He would
have cut deeper if it were
not that our saintly Queen
is still among us.

NOLAN

Look, the cuts are now in
a band and given that you
create a bit of rest for
yourself, they will heal.

GEREBERN

I thank you, Nolan. If it
weren't for you -

NOLAN

If it weren't for me you
would perhaps have fled to
a dismal death and left
the lovely Dymphna who so
regards you as another

father to fend alone with
the very faith you have
helped to fashion within
her heart.

GEREBERN

I really -

NOLAN

You really should rest and
when you are feeling
strong and hungry at the
dawn you will deliver
yourself to my Shelag and
tell her how my hands
trembled when they helped
to heal these black and
red bruises and how all I
spoke of was how much I
did long to be at her
side.

GEREBERN

Oh Jester, you have a
quick mouth and a wicked
brain.

NOLAN

I have actually slowed
since some in the crowd
complained that I did

Speak too quick and indeed
they argued mumbled yet my
only wickedness has ever
been this love for Shelag,
for Shelag I would to hell
with the world.

GEREBERN

Tempt not fate, already
the night has brought me
violence and fear.

NOLAN

Is that an indication that
some of our ways are still
beside your new ways of
worship.

GEREBERN

No. that is simply a
stolen thought from the
holy book.
It is not that which
enters the mouth -

NOLAN

The conjecture is very
similar to some
composition which was
sometimes told me in the
earlier years of my life
when I knew not want of
woman and all was without
complication.

GEREBERN

Wise thoughts have a way

of passing through the
ages.

NOLAN

What wisdom could now be
greater than leaving you
here to linger at repose
while I retire to my
little room in the plain
without hammock or her and
see what dreams will
deliver themselves into
the decorations of my as
you have wrongly judged
wicked brain.

GEREBERN

Take not insult from my
injured state, we are
friends and friends we
shall remain as far as
ships may the fortune of
waters span which is to
say into the farthestmost
distance. May the grace of
faith make it so and as it
will please you I will
entreat at the dawn your
lovely and kind Shelag to

be gentle and giving to
your -

NOLAN

Yeah, to my command and
conduction!

GEREBERN

Sometimes, you say so
much, too much.

NOLAN

Perhaps, but I am glad we
have met as this for I was
certain somehow that you
were taller.

GEREBERN

Taller?

NOLAN

Yes. In the rhetorical
sense. I like it that we
are both simple at heart
and have found a common

ground to further our
ties.

CUT TO:

INT - MORNING - NAN'S CHAMBERS -

NAN has passed away and her body rests upon the
bed.

DYMPHNA and DAMON are in the room grieving for the
gone wife and mother.

DAMON

Do not linger over our
beloved Nan with your
tears, my child.

DYMPHNA

Father, the sadness
overwhelms me so that I
cannot breathe as I
should.

DAMON

Here, my child, let us
embrace and share our
sorrow.

DYMPHNA

I cannot hold you, I have
only the strength to weep
and pray that mother has
already found heaven in
her afterlife.

DAMON

Dymphna, I meant not that
you should hold me but
rather that I should
comfort your weary heart,
fear not for Nan's
afterlife for a queen is
monarch in the celestial
spaces just as here on our
earthly grounds.

DAMON (CONT'D)

It will be the same for
you, if I marry not then
you shall be empress of my
empire.

DYMPHNA

I do not - I wish only to
find all the goodness that
my confused heart hides. I
do not - I do not want to
be the queen. Look upon
her now as she sleeps into
the dream of eternity.
None can replace Nan.

DAMON

That is true, my tender
young one, yet you are
also irreplaceable.

DYMPHNA

Look upon me truly. I am
clumsy and small and
still so unlearned even
with Gerebern's precepts.

DAMON

I see only that you are
becoming a woman and I say
I to you on this sad day
that I will hear no more
of that charlatan and
neither will you have to
suffer his foolishness.

DYMPHNA

Oh, father, if I am to
become a woman as mother
did intend and I do desire
then I must continue with
my learning and embrace
our faith with stronger
arms. Promise me you'll
preserve my mother's trust
and not send the good
Gerebern away.

DAMON

My dearest Dymphna, let us

not face each other with
fences at this hour.
Please, take my hand and
let me hold you nearer to
my own heart

DAMON (CONT'D)

Which has been made heavy
by this most hurtful
death.

DYMPHNA

It is a true consolation
to embrace when sadness
surrounds the soul.

DAMON

With this kiss, I say to
you that today no longer
are you an infant and with
this kiss, I say to you
that today you are matured
by the passing of your
mother, and with this
kiss, I say to you my
darling Dymphna that no
longer is any woman above
you in this our kingdom.

DYMPHNA

I feel a flutter in my
belly which does not mix
well with my heartbreak -
my intention is to be
pious - kiss me not
anymore.

DAMON

Indeed. Let us mourn as we should and lionize your matureness upon some kinder moment.

DYMPHNA

That would be well and good.

DAMON

Wait. Be not so swift to leave my arms. Hold your king and father for a minute more.

DYMPHNA

I will for I trust it will please her spirit and perhaps tempt a better understanding between

DYMPHNA (CONT'D)

Us so that maybe my dear father will be reconciled with the faith he is still uncertain about and yet was the moving force in her life and is the very magic which makes me feel nearer to who I should be.

DAMON

The mind may ponder many possibilities yet ever be mindful that we are cast by providence and fastened by fate upon this fiery earth of blood and water. My sacrifices and victories have paid your way and paved a road smooth as a daydream. You may garden or you may garment, you may practice arts or you may pray. All as it may please your powers, but I need neither reconciliation nor recourse to superstition having known the power of our own true cult and holding witness to the cowardly ways of this new religion.

DYMPHNA

Let not such words your mouth speak my father for they do blaspheme and moreover hurt my ears as sharply as any pain.

DAMON

Very well then, let me

make the proper
preparations and let us go
and greet this day with
reverence for her that
loved us more than
herself. Perhaps, tonight
you will be willing to
explain your faith and
reasoning, to elaborate on
this martyr which moves
your mind to allegiance
and in so doing perhaps
then I might join along
and even build you a
proper tabernacle for us
to taste together the joy
my lost Queen and yourself
have tried to make
explicit to my
understanding.

DYMPHNA

I will come to your
dwelling before the
sleeping hour has arrived
that we may hold this
conversation and hopefully
this conversion. I should
tell Gerebern for he would
be most pleased.

DAMON

Do not say anything to
anyone until we have in
private met and my
perturbed mind is far from
the present sorrows and

made perfect by the
religious information only
you will proffer to me in
secret for I need not have
my pride suffer with
uncertain declarations
until my decision is set.

DYMPHNA

It shall be our secret
until you feel certain of
a change and I am certain
you will.

CUT TO:

INT - MORNING - SHELAG'S PLACE- CONTINUOUS

GEREBERN has arrived, in keeping his promise to
Nolan, to hold a conversation with SHELAG and to
remove the hunger which -along with the violence
and upheaval- has made him edgy.

SHELAG

Pardon me, Priest, for
taking so long.

GEREBERN

The wait was not long,
Shelag. Actually, I could
have stayed under the sun
a while longer.

SHELAG

You are bandaged in a

hasty and horrid manner.

GEREBERN

There was only haste in the wound but none in the healing. I have your good man to thank for helping me through the night.

SHELAG

Nolan, you mean.

GEREBERN

Yes, your husband.

SHELAG

The child, you mean, I am training to be my man.

GEREBERN

Be that is it might, I've had not nourishment all the long hours of the darkness into this new dawn.

SHELAG

Well, lean into the chair and I will bring you some breakfast and wine?

GEREBERN

Wine. Perhaps only a chalice.

SHELAG

Recount to me this
encounter with the
unusually aggressive Nolan
last night while I serve
your early supper.

GEREBERN

He was far from anger, in
fact he was all angel. I
must say it would be a sin
for such a lovely pair to
linger long inside the
confines of argument.

SHELAG

There is no sparring, he
simply has to wait upon my
kisses or bring me a punt
and a pint as we have
agreed.

GEREBERN

A punt and a pint?

SHELAG

Indeed. Here, here is the
chalice. Give the bread
another moment.

GEREBERN

I know not what dealings
you two have agreed to
within your marriage
contract, but lend me a
listen with your patience.
The intoxicant is untamed.

SHELAG

It is the strongest we
have, you'll not remember
your bandages after a sip
or two. Say what you must
while I fetch the food.

GEREBERN

The matter is a simple one
truly.

SHELAG

Here is your nourishment,
with anticipation I would
have meat to strengthen
your constitution.

GEREBERN

Think not of anything
better but this bread,
fruit, and wine for I
would have chosen it
before any other grub.

SHELAG

Resolve my curiosity then
if the matter is a simple
one truly as you say why
not state it without
hesitation.

GEREBERN

Although it is in the
aspect of simplicity, I

fear it is a matter for
much delicacy.

SHELAG

I can see by your blush
that the sly fox of
Nolan's hunt escaped into
the shadows of your pity.

GEREBERN

I know not what you mean,
I intend only to entreat
your compassion so that
his heart is made to feel
the passion he desires.

SHELAG

Men desire many things in
this devious world,
Gerebern.

GEREBERN

There is truth in your
words, Shelag, yet as a
wife you must respect your
husband and if not then at
least you must pay heed to
your vows and consummate
your union.

SHELAG

Perhaps, you came here to
have a practice session in
his stead?

GEREBERN

Child, I am a man with a
covenant.

SHELAG

Sir, you are a man.

GEREBERN

I am aware, but I am not a
man as you would like to
imply.

SHELAG

Are you implying that your
third leg serves only the
limp service of making
salty waters?

GEREBERN

I realize your wits serve
to entertain yet I am not
amused by these
implications and
especially that question.

SHELAG

I am making a point and
your pointed response
tells me there is some
poetry in your pen still.

GEREBERN

Shelag, just please
consider giving Nolan some
affection.

SHELAG

It has been taken under
consideration, now should
we have our first
rehearsal so that you may
report back to Nolan how
well I will perform for
him?

GEREBERN

Let us not engage further
in this line of talk.

SHELAG

Quite right, let us to
action.

NOLAN

You are seducing my Shelag
after I shaved the hair of
pain from your bloody
beard!

GEREBERN

It is not what you think,
my dear friend.

NOLAN

What other thought should
I find when she is-

SHELAG

I am as you wanted, my
husband. Of course for two
there should be more than
a punt and a pint.

GEREBERN

Sweet Jesus, how have you

led your poor servant to
such distress.

SHELAG

There is no distress now
undress along with me so
that we may start our
practicing as Nolan has
requested.

NOLAN

What a day is this that
our great Queen Nan has
gone to the other world
and now I must slay her
confessor for placing the
cruellest horn upon my head
behind my back after I
have - Oh I should have
let you perish under the
oak's wood.

GEREBERN

You have lost your mind.
Tell him, Shelag, Tell him
we have only shared words
and that you did but jest.

SHELAG

Our Queen has died and you

worry over a beating from
a jester, Gerebern you are
a worm.

NOLAN

Prepare to travel unto the
far away western lands
where no man returns from!

SHELAG

I do believe we will have
another head for the
shrunk collection.

CUT TO:

EX - MORNING - BURIAL GROUND-

DAMON stands alone overlooking the final resting
place of Queen NAN.

PYTHIUS the PYTHIUS stands in the distance.

The day is bright under the hot sunlight.

DAMON

Dear Queen and beloved
wife. I place here your
necklace and your
treasured mirror. May
these belongings remind

you of me in the other world. Surely, now you have seen the error of placing your faith in superstition and that damned Gerebern. Hear me oh greatest Dagda, there flies my own heart with that woman. Forgive her for being weak of mind, for following the sign of the Christian's Cross. Dagda she is a Queen but even a queen is only a woman at the core and womanhood was never good at understanding or at being understood. I have sent many a spirit through war and battle to serve in your great kingdom as you would have them slave or simple and have asked nothing yet - yet now I do implore you holy overlord to see her not as flawed or frail from religion or sex but as you would see my own self in truth and time. Hear me oh grand Dagda, there cries my own spirit at her departure from my world.

CUT TO:

INT - MORNING - SHELAG'S PLACE- CONTINUOUS

SHELAG

You could have not hurt
him as much as he was
already well bruised.

NOLAN

You could save your
tongue's lecture and kiss
me now that I am aroused
from having seen once more
the peach pink exclamation
points of your excellent
chest and my breath is
heavy from the hurt I have
rightfully given
Gerebern's head.

SHELAG

You might be excited and
yet you are mostly
mistaken, my still young
husband. For you shall see
that these nipples you
proclaim as peach pink are
really a salmon carnation
for they shall wisdom our
infants - that is - if you
happen to someday mature
truly and I must confess
that Gerebern's head
deserved not that hurt.

NOLAN

One day it is maturity and
another it is a punt and a
pint and what do you mean
that the priest did not
merit the aching pain I
did with pleasure provide?

SHELAG

It was my aim to entertain
my day with your jealousy
and I knew in my heart
that you would not slay
him for you are not the
homicidal sort.

NOLAN

Yet Gerebern is not a bad

man, now how shall I look
into his eyes.

SHELAG

Surely you will see his
glance again and when you
do my eager husband,
remember to not urge his
mouth to music for your
serenade which petitions
my patience for
consummation.

NOLAN

You speak of your patience
and what of mine?

SHELAG

That is what I am trying
to teach you, my love,
patience.

NOLAN

I cannot struggle with
these matters any longer.
Nan is gone and we must
make our way to help the
fair Dymphna with her
sorrow.

SHELAG

All well and good yet what
if the King does summon us
to serve for amusement,
for his sorrow's
distraction?

NOLAN

That is the service which
defines our place here and
if Damon bids our frolic
for diversion then
we shall romp.

SHELAG

I believe I would not be
capable of masking the
sadness of this passing
after speaking with
Dymphna.

NOLAN

Your spirits did not seem
suffered when you lit the
fuse of my rage against
Gerebern for the sake of a
frivolity.

SHELAG

I knew not of our Lady's
demise until most
recently.

NOLAN

Well, let us to her
daughter and if you desire
we shall make practice of

our sport along the way,
in case, our King does
decide to recreate his
court with our devilish
wit.

SHELAG

Yes, let us to Dymphna yet
say not that our wit is
devilish for you are the
only imp between us or
should I say your limping
leg's the dibbuk?

NOLAN

I know many a word, yet
have not eared that
phrase.

SHELAG

The word did near my
understanding when I was a
wee colleen and some
Israelite did goss of such
unholy ghosts called
dibbuk.

NOLAN

Anyhow, the book's closed
for now but perhaps you
will be kind enough to

have a read tonight.

SHELAG

Enough. Let us prepare and
perhaps, perhaps I shall
allow your leprechaun to
lightning my skies.

INT - THE CHAPEL - CONTINUOUS

The Chantry is simple with a large table with an
unadorned cross at the center.

Surrounding the sides, there are tall vigils
burning gently.

Within the glow of the candle light, Dymphna is
meditating upon a prayer to G-d for the departed
spirit of her mother.

A few moments pass as she stands from the kneeling
position which she has taken on the carved stone
floor and starts or continues another adjuration.

DYMPHNA

Holy Spirit, Heavenly
Father, Divine Healer of

the Faithful my only Love
Lord Jesus Christ I trust
you have heard my prayer.
I trust you hold my sweet
and constant mother in the
high kingdoms that are
your Heavens even now as I
grieve, as I observe her
memory in the sanctuary
that is mine own heart.

I know there can be no
response from your mouth
that I could hear and yet
I hear your affection in
my blood, I see your
answer in the vision of
sacred lights before my
reddened eyes, I feel the
tingle of your powerful
truth at the tip of my
tongue, and I know that
she is among your angels
indeed she is among Ye.

Yea. May it be so even if
I cannot be there when
mine own hour has claimed
itself consumed. Dear
Lord, I am only now
becoming a woman in a
world I fear will be torn
between Gerebern's
teaching of your
Conception, Incarnation,
and Resurrection and
Damon's pagan ways.

Indeed, I am to meet my
earthly father tonight and
I should here and now
implore Your Grace and
Wisdom that these should
carry themselves instead
of my words to his
intellect and incite faith
in his hard, battle-weary,
and suffered soul.

The change I wish for him
will only challenge his
arrogance and pride with a
conquering force tonight
under the spell of your
benevolence for he mourns
as I do the eternal sleep
of his consort.

INT - DAMON'S PRIVATE ROOM -EVENING

DAMON

You have not been here
since the day I had good
pythius bring out my
finest steel, each tuck
and each dirk. I would say
you were six or seven,
then.

DYMPHNA

I was nine.

DAMON

It seems a much longer

time. How sad I was to
hear that you held no
interest in holding the
sword you chose.

DYMPHNA

I learned well how to deal
and turn for defending and
perhaps for triumph.

DAMON

Let us not squabble.

DYMPHNA

Let us not.

DAMON

We are here to give
comfort and companionship
to each other after such
grief has given us the
burden which would bend
our backs with more weight
than any overloaded sack.

DYMPHNA

Forget not father, that we
are here especially to
speak of matters of faith.

DAMON

I do not forget and I will
fail not to listen.

DYMPHNA

Truly an excellent combination. I did pray that it would be so.

DAMON

Would it not be wise for us to sit and rest upon the sleeping tier.

DYMPHNA

Yes. It has been a day of sorrow and exhaustion has extended its weariness upon my shoulders.

DAMON

Here let me soothe your ache some as you tell me about your belief.

DYMPHNA

It is not my belief alone father, it is a faith that many share. As far south as the Egyptian lands. It is not something new, the Church of Christ is vast and surely its reach will only widen.

DAMON

This I know well, for there are reports from my stags that some of these followers of that superstition have changed the names of some of our very own sacred divinities. How are my

hands upon your pain?

DYMPHNA

Palliated yet it scathes
my brain to hear you call
my religion a
superstition.

DAMON

Was it not some errant Jew
that did upon an ass find
his mount and was it not
this Jew that claimed to
give life upon death.

DYMPHNA

Yes and for his sacrifice
we who believe find life
eternal in his blood.

DAMON

And so, my lovely and
learned daughter, you
would have your own kind
and caring father partake
in the ways of vampires?
By Camulus and Teranis, I
have built a kingdom here
and now for you and for me
to enjoy as long as the
days will allow and if my

soldiers and servants
instruct well enough to
bring their sons and
grandsons into service
then here shall this very
kingdom be eternal for
your offspring and their
hatchlings. Know you of
any person dead that has
returned and delivered a
sermon for this Vampire of
souls?

DYMPHNA

He did raise the dead. He
Himself overcame the cross
and He walks yet among his
followers.

DAMON

I have slain crowds of
men with my right arm and
dozens more with my left.
My steadfast Pythius, he

has murdered many more
than I and neither of us
could say that any ghost
did walk in or after any
bloodshed. I am a
reasonable man and I have
great love for you and so
I give you ear and listen
but in my bones there is
no bend as you should
already well comprehend.
Now, I want nearness
between us and if somehow
you could translate your
faith for my understanding
then I would erect a house
of worship which we could
visit together.

DYMPHNA

What may I say to sate
your hostility and alter
your inclination?

DAMON

You may say that indeed it
is only superstition, that
there was belief before
this Christ you proclaim
and that there is not one
path to salvation as there
is not one path to death
and you may explain as
well why should I follow a
cowardly martyr that did
not follow his own
tradition?

DYMPHNA

For love. For His Love you
may live evermore with
peace and tranquility. For
He was not simply as you
or I, Jesus was the
awaited savior, the
messiah born immaculate
and risen to heaven
through the same air we
now breathe. Father, as
your skeleton is strong so
is my sense of this truth
and so was mother's and
for love of us should you
respect and accept our
faith as your very own.

DAMON

What of my polemic?

DYMPHNA

He did follow his own
tradition, but in a new
way. In a manner that more

could imitate and we that
are moved by His holy
example see that he was
not a cowardly martyr as
you have verbalized. He
suffered condemnation and
a criminal's death that we
might swim into the
pleasant waters of free
salvation. Believe me,
father, I would not say
untrue words and well you
know that mother also did
trust the Nazarene.

DAMON

If it is for love of mine
own kin and tribe I do
promise to give the matter
exploration. Now, rest
with me a while for the
thought of my Nan has
weakened me.

DYMPHNA

I will not stay long, for
I wish to have another

hour of prayer.

DAMON

You may pray beside me
that I may learn the song.

DYMPHNA

Yes. Perhaps, that is only
fair.

DAMON

You are so lovely in
nearness.

DYMPHNA

I do not think I am
exquisite.

DAMON

My hand is blind and yet I
can feel at the stroke of
your body the beauty that
curves and expands in
breathing.

DYMPHNA

Wait. No. You should not
handle me in such - I must
go and I must with prayer
amend this error.

DAMON

You cannot go, I cover you
with my body and I covet

you now. Give me your love
my daughter as your mother
did before.

DYMPHNA

My breathing is fast and I
cannot think yet I cannot
- this cannot be.

DAMON

Forget your virginity here
and now and become my
woman. Take my manhood
between your gentle
thighs.

DYMPHNA

I will not - I shall not -
Oh, Jesus unbind me from
this quandary.

DAMON

Daughter, save your prayer
for after penetration.

DYMPHNA

There will be no
defloration. You will not

deflower my chastity. By
my virtue.

DAMON

Your refusal will turn my
hair fainter than Finn
Maccool my Dymphna ah
look how your chest does
make the saliva in my
mouth flame. It is the
spitting image of your
mother's breast yet I see
now that your pyramids are
more pointed.

DYMPHNA

Better pointed now is the
blade you yourself
recently set alongside our
bodies and surely you feel
it at your throat as I
feel your phallus stir
back to a friendlier
style.

DAMON

You have neither the fire
nor the fortitude to
thrill for a kill.

DYMPHNA

As you have not the
audacity to test my
capacity.

DAMON

Away. Away. Go to your prayer, but I will have you
for my wife.

EXT - DAMON'S BOTANY - CONTINUOUS

NOLAN and SHELAG are still entangled in
conversation as they make their way through the
path.

DYMPHNA is hurrying from the Royal houses,
possibly to seek Gerebern.

NOLAN

There, there. Let us be
gentle now for I do see
our friend and master.

SHELAG

She must be starved for
affection.

NOLAN

Sadly we may only provide
the vitamins which
although kind are not kin.

SHELAG

Hush now for she seems
troubled.

NOLAN

Dear good friend, Dymphna.
How may we ease your
sorrow this evening.

DYMPHNA

My broken heart has been
made heavier by actions
which I cannot bear to
uncover with words.

SHELAG

Our sympathy lies with
you, if there is a
clandestine matter you
wish to leave within the
sanctuary of our
friendship then, fair
Dymphna, know that we
shall loiter and listen
without lettering what you
have shared upon other
shoulders.

NOLAN

I would let you two alone
if it were a female issue.

DYMPHNA

It is nothing, perhaps it
is simply the shock of

having buried one so dear
to me, to us -

SHELAG

Aye, dear as none other to
us.

NOLAN

Affirmative. The Queen was
the best of us.

DYMPHNA

Dear Nolan and dear
Shelag, I do desire your
society and yet I know it
as sure as the hour is
late that I must pray, I
must meditate upon the
imminent days and if there
were a subject for our
secluded space it would
only be that you would
both make yourselves
available if He that
guides and brings
merriment into this
growing home that is the
body you see before your

eyes leads me into to
travel away from the lands
of our King Damon.

SHELAG

Think not to trouble
yourself with such a
worry.

NOLAN

Nay. We will follow if
your need is to float
afar.

DYMPHNA

I thank you and I will
keep you both within my
prayers, now I should find
the comfort of Gerebern to
hear how he might
illuminate the confused
music which holds me
unable to dance clearly.

NOLAN

I - I - Hate to -

SHELAG

His tongue's a tied for he
has been terribly tough in
roughing up the preacher.

NOLAN

I - My - She was the one
that - I saved his skin,
my tongue's untied as it
ever was, well, let me not
now exaggerate, it has
been wedded to words since
before I came to serve in
this kingdom and if there
is woe or ache upon the
priest - well, look to the
one with the longer hair.

DYMPHNA

Gerebern is harmed, is
hurt, how?

SHELAG

It is true and it is
partly I to blame yet hear
me Dymphna even at your
age you must know how
foolish and unfair the
stronger sex was ever and
in these unfortunate times
is.

DYMPHNA

I know not what to say,
where might I encounter
him and his pain and join
upon his peace.

NOLAN

We know not yet you should
know that it was your own
father our Righteous King
Damon which did neglect

all temper and trample his
well-being. After that, I
did expel some of his
sting by stabilizing the
stab and did bid him hurry
to my home in the hope
that he would help
instigate my wife into her
womanly ways within our
wedlock. It was then when
he should have been
enticing for my sake that
I found him provoking
infidelity for his own.

SHELAG

The day is not so long
that should have already
forgot my explanation and
your own sense of chagrin
for having pounded on the
very passion you had
availed with near precise
remedy.

NOLAN

The day is now evening and
that is among the parts
which have been memorized
yet I was endeavoring
toward an explanation of

the how so that here
Dymphna should well
translate and not
contemplate me as malefic.

SHELAG

Nolan, you are, as I
proclaim and complain, yet
a child. The young lady
our fair Dymphna already
surely knows all men
though they be gentle or
laureled are by nature
malefic.

NOLAN

I would argue that none
here is and our Right King
is not.

SHELAG

You know not yourself and
if you heed not my call
for patience you never
will and I dare not speak
against our monarch yet he
is a man.

DYMPHNA

I would say the monarch is
a man and I say it with
rue upon the ripcord that
has unfolded my regret at
not having had more time
with her that saw my
insertion into the world.

NOLAN

Portion me at least the
part which will press
ahead the search for
Gerebern.

DYMPHNA

Yes. Yes, let us to my
spiritual governor and do
lead the way as I would
holding hands with Shelag
succeed.

SHELAG

My child you are cold,
take my cloak and indeed
let us hold hands and
shuffle behind the stagger
of Nolan as he searches
for the usher.

NOLAN

I won't stagger, although
malevolent by nature, I
have mastered the stride.

EXT - DAMON'S BOTANY - CONTINUOUS

DAMON

Pythius, Pythius, where is
that sentry.

The King paces back and forth.

PYTHIUS

King Damon, I am here, I
was spying that deviant
couple, your court
jesters, they went yonder
with the young Dymphna.

DAMON

You say they are gone with
the Princess.

PYTHIUS

Gone it seemed to me in
search of Gerebern.

DAMON

Say not such impairing
words if you know not in
certainty for they make me

harp on anger and I am all
in the rage.

PYTHIUS

I may follow the trail if
it be your desire.

DAMON

Not by the rhyming
hangman's patty.

PYTHIUS

Is that from the Filid's
book of Gwyn?

DAMON

My Sentry you have most
likely read more than my
eyes have paged. I know
not nor recall where the
phrase became familiar to
me.

PYTHIUS

It matters not, yet not
have ye said the reason
for airing my name.

DAMON

In confidence you did
reveal one of your
pastimes as being held by
the pleasure minx.

PYTHIUS

As I said, when a coin is
redundant.

DAMON

And when the cock has
purpose.

PYTHIUS

Indeed.

DAMON

Indeed tonight my hammer
is enticed to bang and I
trust that these nails and
pegs you pound are good
and round, I say bring
them all, I would like one
tall and I would like one
small and fear not for
yourself for you will be
purchasing with the
medallion of the kingdom.

PYTHIUS

The hour nears lateness. I
cannot say if they are all
uncommitted.

DAMON

Bring as many as the hour
might procure. Make haste
and in returning from your
hurry give word to our
troops that we shall pick
apart and plunder the

bordering tribe at first
light.

PYTHIUS

My good King, is there
cause?

DAMON

There is not ever a reason
for war nor is there ever
a reasonable war. Tomorrow
we shall say that our Holy
Queen Nan was vexed by the
evil henry of their stream
which when overflowed
salts our crops with their
slack.

PYTHIUS

Carnality and carnage. May
you reign forever.

EXT - OUTSKIRTS OF THE VILLAGE -

NOLAN

I believe that the priest
is there.

SHELAG

I see not a figure in the
darkness.

NOLAN

There, by the that thick
tree to the left.

DYMPHNA

There is something that
seems to stir slowly.

SHELAG

If you both do perceive
the man then let us not
argue the point. Nolan and
I will stand here in wait
while Dymphna delivers
herself unto her Christian
Druid.

DYMPHNA

If it is Gerebern, I will
stay a while within his
company and if it is not -

SHELAG

And if it is not, then you
shall shout or beckon us
to rush to your side.

NOLAN

Indeed, we shall be at the
ready and when you
exchange words with the
clergyman please do say
how with a humble heart I
do hope for his

forgiveness.

SHELAG

Say not the same for me, I
do not seek his pardon at
least not until he agrees
to let me tame my mate in
my own manner.

NOLAN

Need we transgress further
against Dymphna's
tranquility with your
stubbornness?

SHELAG

For once, perhaps, you are
right and yes go easy to
him and we shall be here
at your bidding.

INT - DAMON'S PARLOR - CONTINUOUS

PYTHIUS

I have brought from the
harem all that were
willing.

DAMON

Mine eyes they count more
than enough cunts to cut
my craving considerably
well.

PYTHIUS

Are they too many?

DAMON

Nay. Take the ones those
that you are accustomed to
and any other you wish.

Pythius motions for some whores and they three
gather to his side.

PYTHIUS

My good king, I will take
these and leave you now
with the long dozen to
satisfy your desires.

DAMON

Be here before the day
breaks with the garrison
and we shall go and break
the sounds of peace.

Pythius exits along with his selection. Damon breezes a touch among the thirteen remaining prostitutes and leads them seductively into his bed chambers.

INT - DAMON'S BED - CONTINUOUS

NORA

Our good king and master,
how would we best please
your desires?

DAMON

Encircle this sleeping cot
with yourselves, except
for you - you are -

SHEELA

I am she that is called
Sheela and I am entirely
at your disposition.

Sheela just like Sheela Na Gig, well, unrobe and lay there that I may behold your body and your love gadgets before I start to give suck to my lust.

SHEELA unrobes and places herself on his bed. The others surround her as King DAMON climbs upon his orgy against sorrow and loss.

EXT - OUTSKIRTS OF THE VILLAGE - Continuous

NOLAN and SHELAG are standing idle as DYMPHNA approaches the figure by the tree.

DYMPHNA

Gerebern, Gerebern, is it
you there in the darkness.

GEREBERN

It is not and yet it is,
young Dymphna.

DYMPHNA

Are you hurt, master.

GEREBERN

I am only afflicted by the
dumbfounding blows that
your father and his court
jester did bestow on my
person and I stand here
with the uncertainty of
why as I search my heart
for the reason that our
Lord and Savior would
allow me to suffer in such
ways as I could not have
imagined.

DYMPHNA

It has been a terrible day
and a horrid night. I must
get you attended to before

you lose yourself in this
miserable condition.

GEREBERN

Here is the day I wanted
to see, where you took the
reign of our friendship
and became yourself a
master of compassion as
you proclaim me to be and
yet in all prayers I could
not have expected the hour
to be so otherwise filled
with pain.

DYMPHNA

Speak no more and we shall
get you well and show
ourselves away from
madness of my father the
King which in its wrath
did try to wrap me into
unholy rapture.

GEREBERN

Speak into my listening
that I may know what did
betide and then we'll to
prayers try to amend this
wrong.

DYMPHNA

It was no more than a
threat I turned away with
hurry as we must now for
your health. Let us to the
hop clover and the healing
hands.

INT – PYTHIUS'S PLACE – CONTINUOUS

PYTHIUS

Minerva, you were as
magical as ever.

MINERVA

We are so near it is as if
being with a husband.

PYTHIUS

I would agree and it might
be that soon our good king
will adorn me with the
garment of marriage.

MINERVA

Will I still have your
companionship once in a
while?

PYTHIUS

It is most likely,
particularly, if it is
you I wed.

MINERVA

Let us make love once more
before the dawn rises and

these other girls awake.

PYTHIUS

I cannot please you or
pursue my own pleasure as
the minute approaches to
engage in battle.

MINERVA

You will yourself to war
without your forty winks?

PYTHIUS

I have no need for rest or
sleep as the fight will
free me of distraction or
longing for dreams.

MINERVA

Shall I remain here to
wait upon your return?

PYTHIUS

Do as you will, if you are
not here then I shall
search for you when desire
embraces my reality.

PYTHIUS puts on his battle clothes and carries
himself to the King's door. Along the way, other
soldiers gather and march to await DAMON'S word.

He motions to the infantry and watches them as

they head out to plunder. The cavalry follows, himself mounted.

The force of his troops overwhelm the nearby village and although they offer resistance and some of the infantry fall wounded or dead, his victory is overwhelming.

They return carrying their spoils and new slaves.

INT - GEREBERN'S STUDY- CONTINUOUS

DYMPHNA overlooks and is possibly in prayer as an attendant seeks to heal the priest.

ATTENDANT

Dymphna, it does no good
to have you lurking as I
try to heal the
ministrant.

DYMPHNA

It is only that I worry so
yet if it should be best

then I will find myself
another place to pray for
The health of the good
Gerebern.

ATTENDANT

Yes. I will do everything
possible and although I
have not said it, you must
know that the passing of
our great Queen has
brought no peace into my
heart which was made sad
by the news.

DYMPHNA

Sadness seems to succeed
in more than sufficient
amounts when it decides to
arrive.

ATTENDANT

Sometimes, it is the
unfortunate truth.

DYMPHNA

Well, then I shall leave
you to heal this man and
seek consolation with my
good friends Shelag and
Nolan.

ATTENDANT

I will send for your when
he is well enough to make
conversation.

EXT- BURIAL GROUNDS- LATER IN THE DAY

DAMON

They fled alike flames
under the heavy waterfall.

PYTHIUS

Aye, they fell like hollow
branches.

DAMON

Have you information for
me, trusted Pythius.

PYTHIUS

Only that Gerebern is upon
his bed with a nurse that
attempts to make him
better.

DAMON

Are you too tired to join
me as I confront the worm
once more?

PYTHIUS

I am renewed by the war
and rather prepared to
breathe awake long into
the evening.

EXT - LOCATIONS NEED TO BE RE-SET, SAY THIS MIGHT
BE THE BOTANY ONCE MORE - CONTINUOUS

NOLAN

After such a long and
nearly unpleasant day, it
would be fine and gentle
of you to give your love
to me tonight.

SHELAG

I will give you something
but I doubt that it will
be the touch you so seem
to desire.

NOLAN

If not touch then surely
something that will save
me from complete despair,
is there a gift which you
have saved inside some
corner where my searching
eyes have overlooked
inside our home.

SHELAG

You might say it is one of
the more appropriate gifts
that could be conferred
upon your self.

NOLAN

You have got my curiosity,
I know not if I will be
able to handle the wait.

SHELAG

Your words are cute and

they bring me a smile for
you yourself shall see how
they do rhyme with my
purpose.

NOLAN

I must then make a few
minutes to pour refreshing
waters upon this identity
which has grown verdant
with sweat and dingy from
the dust of the nearby
battle.

SHELAG

If that is your pleasure,
but you need not perfume
your body for my pleasure.

NOLAN

For our pleasure, dearest
yet unkind wife.

SHELAG

There comes the good
Dymphna. Let us have no
further talk of your
Leprechaun making light
upon my skies.

NOLAN

Lightning, dear love.

DYMPHNA

Dear friends, how good it
is to find you again. It
seems that my Gerebern
needs a longer while to
heal and I have perhaps a
while to wait.

SHELAG

Perhaps then we should
entertain you with some
rendition from our wits.

NOLAN

Bits, ladies, I am only up
for bits.

DYMPHNA

I need only your kind
companionship.

SHELAG

Bit, whole, or some
beguiling sensation, you
shall presently have at
hand.

NOLAN

Let us then perform the
paeon of hangmen's
spirits.

SHELAG

It will not amuse as a
bit.

NOLAN

We shall hem, hair, and
hen and see how much of
the whole our hype will
deliver.

SHELAG

Behold, fair and kind
Dymphna!

NOLAN

Starved was the
executioner when he
himself got home after a
long day of rope and
crucifixion.

SHELAG

He? Nay, the slayer was a
she?

NOLAN

Only a woman would pump
such a doubt into a
phrasing already in
motion.

SHELAG

Skillful raconteur, I am
not a woman now, I am one
of the them which that
woman did remove from her
existence.

NOLAN

I dare say she was no
woman, I have read the
history and she was a man.

SHELAG

How can your tongue's
logic be so twisted to say
that she was a man, being
that it was a she then
surely it was a woman and
I was there.

NOLAN

And how could you have
been there and be now
here. It is a terrible
contradiction to logic.

SHELAG

I am here in spirit, in
spite of logic, you will
agree.

NOLAN

I do see yet I know not if
I agree.

SHELAG

Touch me and your hand
will know that the flesh
you see is harvested from
your imagination.

NOLAN

Although nearly a beauty
and pretty as a pink peach
you truly are as slippery
as a salmon yet that is
not proof enough for me to
agree that you were there
and under the slayer's
departing spear.

SHELAG

Dear raconteur, I would
take offense at your
judgment if I was not so
certain that I am not
nearly a beauty but
beautiful for it was my
comeliness that did cause
my death at the hand of
the executioner whose own
demise you are trying to
recite under the dying
light of this day.

NOLAN

I nearly had disremembered
the intention of my talk
to divulge his most ironic
destiny.

SHELAG

Her, her. It is always the
same with you men.

Distractions blind you to
your own purpose.

NOLAN

Starved was the
executioner when she
himself got home after a
long day of rope and
crucifixion.

♦ Finding neither meat nor
soup he or as the
reasonably bonny yet
slithery and frigid ghost
of one victim here does
bemoan she did graze on
corn grits cold with such
distraction from hunger
that the assassinating
entity overlooked the very
venom which those lynching
paws had themselves
positioned for the
intention of some devious
slaughter planned as a
side project for it is
said that the decapitator
had grown much too
restless with only the
required removal of life
yet the chain-smoke
chewing prevented that
murder and so also ended
for a while the capital

punishment in that land.

SHELAG

I had wondered how it was
that she did disappear
into the land of
perdition.

NOLAN

As I wonder how you have
appeared in this land of
trick and trump.

SHELAG

Only women know such ways
and I will not say to a
man that doubts my grace
although talented in
story.

NOLAN

Your fineness is not the
question, it is the matter
of your corporal self
which trounces me.

SHELAG

For that I have this.

NOLAN

Ah, a shriveled caput!

SHELAG

That one is my own, see
how divine I was before my
death.

NOLAN

Yes, lovely and light.

SHELAG

If your intention's to
juggle, there should be
more than one.

NOLAN

Have you more?

SHELAG

I have.

NOLAN

Heads in the air, your own
once fair.

SHELAG

Skull under sky, aren't
we? all I say.

DYMPHNA

I say, splendid, your
sparing stage with
hangman, spirit, and
deathtrap did delight me
so that I did for a time
not recount the trouble
which tempts my tears. Get
yourselves to your own
pleasures as I make my
return to Gerebern's side.

NOLAN

It is our pleasure to
please, especially-

DYMPHNA

Especially, when it is
you, our good friend
Dymphna.

INT- GEREBERN'S STUDY - CONTINUOUS

PYTHIUS

Stand aside healer, your
king wants exchange with
the priest.

ATTENDANT

Gerebern is not well
enough to make responses.

DAMON

I need not hear his talk
for my intention is not
conversation.

PYTHIUS

Stand aside, I say, or
these will be the last
words your servant ears
will hear resounding.

DAMON

You look as if death would
be a pleasing state
instead of this dreary
suffering.

GEREBERN

There is more to me than
the flesh you behold.

DAMON

Produce this more and it
shall presently expire
under my vengeance.

GEREBERN

It is my soul. The soul's
invisible and mine has
been saved by the holy
blood of Jesus.

DAMON

Then you are well prepared
to make your departure as
my sword is already
devised and well disposed
to stamp out your
existence.

GEREBERN

I shall pray for you.

DAMON

Pray not for me, I have
power and no need for any

plea to some erratic Jew
that awaits the souls of
the feeble, the delicate,
and the frail.

GEREBERN

At least let me say one
orison before striking me
down.

DAMON

Have you not already made
your god's ear crimson
with the trifle of your
petitions, enough, say
nothing and I too shall be
concise with my cut.

PYTHIUS

You cannot enter, your
father, the king,
entertains the preacher.

DYMPHNA

You are bound by custom to
obey my command and I say
let me through.

ATTENDANT

He will not allow it,
Gerebern may already be
murdered.

DYMPHNA

Father, Father, let my

guide be free and you
shall have me as you have
requested.

PYTHIUS

I am bound to obey and yet
I cannot heed the order
which stems from pity
instead of logic and
allegiance to the king.

GEREBERN

Even now, the grace of the
Lord protects me.

DYMPHNA

It is not your place to
say from where my
instructions are inspired,
soldier. Father.

DAMON

Pythius, how is it that
this deed is now crowded
with distraction?

PYTHIUS

King Damon, I have not
words to explain such
confusion, being torn
between by respect to your
daughter and honor to
yourself.

DAMON

What says she that only
loves me in moderation?

PYTHIUS

She screams to spare the
life of that worm and does

wager that your request
will be executed.

DAMON

Let her come near.

GEREBERN

My Dymphna, make no
bargain with this
Beelzebub.

DAMON

Silence, maggot. Or the
ants will feast upon your
other hand.

DYMPHNA

No. Father, no. Hurt not
further the gentle
Gerebern. I have - I will
this very night please you
as you desire.

DAMON

Break your word and I
shall most displeased.

DYMPHNA

Sentry, let the attendant
pass.

DAMON

Pythius, comply and let us
impart ourselves away from
this compassion. Dymphna,
bring yourself to me
tonight.

DYMPHNA

I will be there.

INT - SHELAG'S PLACE - LATER

NOLAN

I dare say, that now that
you've agreed to act with
wifely comportment, I find
there are butterflies
making my nerves flutter.

SHELAG

Flummoxed by fear at the
reality of a nearing
satisfaction.

NOLAN

I said not fear. Tis
excitement, it is natural.

SHELAG

I expect, after all your

supplications, it will be something a bit beyond the mere natural.

NOLAN

Let us to the dark and there we shall make with spontaneous lust some sweet miracle for our own pleasures, my beloved Shelag.

SHELAG

I hear someone's approach.

NOLAN

Say no more, say not another delay.

SHELAG

I speak not against the lay, yet listen.

NOLAN

There is only irony in life.

SHELAG

Dymphna, what is the matter?

DYMPHNA

Oh, Shelag, I hate to destroy your peace, to disturb your patience, but I have no one else to turn to.

SHELAG

How is it that I might
help?

NOLAN

She may board here while
we resume our romance.

SHELAG

Quiet, Nolan, or we shall
not ever continue that
conversation.

DYMPHNA

Gerebern has been further
injured by my father and I
must take him and myself
away from here for he will
slay him when he finally
understands that I will
not be his wife.

SHELAG

His wife?

DYMPHNA

I ask that you help me
bring myself and Gerebern
far away where my father
cannot follow.

SHELAG

I will need a few moments
to ready and Nolan -

NOLAN

I know where a boat might
take us into the safety of
distance.

EXT - THE SHORE - DAWN -

NOLAN

Setanta. Setanta, how good
it is to see you my
Setanta.

SETANTA

Nolan, you are in a
hurried herd and yet you
look as handsome as ever.

NOLAN

One of us is hurt and all
of us are escaped from the
confines of King Damon
never to return, I pray to
Mac Og that your boats are
set for sail.

SETANTA

Only two are left and only

one is set for voyage. I
say you may have it, yet
there must be coin for the
couple that will carry my
vessel home.

NOLAN

Dymphna, now is the time
to bargain, I would say it
would be wise to let
Shelag argue over price
yet it is best to make
haste and I am certain
that my old friend will be
fair.

SETANTA

I am already being kind in
not exacting a tax for my
own purse.

DYMPHNA

I have not coin, yet I
have these rings which are
each a treasure be they
traded or worn.

SETANTA

Natosveta, Sirona, make
your choice of one of
these, take the third to

swop for supplies, and
prepare the longboat to
take these four across the
water whichever way the
waves are best.

INT - PYTHIUS' s- MORNING

DAMON

Pythius, for breakfast I
have made the attendant
into a corpse and I want
you to ride and find me
information or location
about my daughter.

PYTHIUS

I am on my way.

DAMON

Take the entire cavalry,
if you are so moved and
send messengers along the
way.

PYTHIUS

Great King, I know that
some of these events bring
your mind trouble, but I
must say how thrilling it
is to have more
exhilaration and in
particular your
confidence. I shall not
let you down.

EXT- THE SEAS- LATER THAT DAY-

SIRONA

I thought our life was hard, Nantosvetta, but one look at these four and I feel as if I were on top of the world. That priest looks as if he won't make it across.

NANTOSVETTA

Sirona, you are always making judgments. Make something else, we have many knots yet to sail.

SIRONA

Hearing your words, I gather the meaning, yet could it not be also jealousy since I mitched your invitation last night and bunked with Setanta.

NANTOSVETTA

Not ever would I be in envy of the likes of you

since you are much like
myself and as far as
Setanta, well, she is our
overlord and I have had
you both enough to amuse
my memory for months
besides there is more
music in the world than
coition.

SIRONA

That might be so, but
without those notes the
playing's all tedium and
travail. Look at the
girl's countenance, it
seems a luminosity without
the brightness of love's
bliss.

NANTOSVETTA

Obviously, my words reach
not your psyche, if you
are to contaminate my
serenity with conjectural
adjudication then I shall
catapult into the ocean
where the talk bubbles
voiceless.

INT - DAMON'S - THE NEXT DAY-

MESSENGER

King Damon, I have word
from Pythius for your ear.

DAMON

Tell me only if the hour
has arrived for me ride.

MESSENGER

It is so. He holds a
captive and awaits your
response.

DAMON

Lead me to them.

EXT- THE SEAS- EVENING

NOLAN

Shelag, at last I hold
within my arms.

SHELAG

Quiet, you'll awaken the
others.

NOLAN

They are all fast asleep
save for the two sailors,
lift your hedge that my
harmonizer might at long
last hum the chord of
copulation.

SHELAG

I will lift not now nor
will I while we defend the
good and fair Dymphna, you
will have to wait and
learn the patience that is
appropriate for a husband.

NOLAN

Then I shall employ my
grip and smatter your side
with my unwanted matter.

SHELAG

Husband, I know you are
starved for my affection
yet hold on to your
enthusiasm and you shall
be rewarded, listen not to
lust's nag for we are in
the nearness of one that
is a paragon of perfection
and moreover she is our
friend.

NOLAN

All my days and nights are
the word delay indeed
delay with accentuation
upon the prefix while the
suffix goes unseasoned.
De, De, De. Removing or
reducing by land or by
water all I know is delay.

EXT - THE SHORE - CONTINUOUS

DAMON

What is the situation,
Pythius.

PYTHIUS

This here is Setanta and
she is one of those
Sapphic monsters that
lives by fish and voyage.
I have introduced her to
the sweet horror of
penetrations and I removed
her forefinger when she
did attempt to raise it
before my eye. It now
adorns her hair.

DAMON

What of the information,
my loyal and overzealous
sentry.

PYTHIUS

She will not speak of it,
she says only her friend
your Jester did for Spain

set course in mourning
after an argument with his
spouse subsequent to the
Queen's passing.

DAMON

Lesbo, I am certain my
soldier has hurt you and I
see it in your eyes,
before I ask him if he
would like another pass at
your pussy or another
finger to better decorate
your salted head, let me
warn you that his
wrestling against your
tranquility was and will
be nothing in contrast to
the wrenching pain you
will suffer under my
attack if I am not
satisfied that you have
said all there is that I
wish to know.

EXT- BELGIUM -

DYMPHNA

I thought no land could be
as beautiful as my Emerald
Isle.

SHELAG

None is as exquisite as
our Erin, yet there is
exceptional poetry here in
this port of call that
shall give us haven from
the hell we eloped.

NOLAN

I thank you both for
leading us here and bid
you a safe journey back.

SIRONA

All in a day's work and
anything for a comrade of
our Setenta.

NANTOSVETTA

Perhaps on some other
occasion you and your
lovely pretty will visit
and we too shall be better
friends.

NOLAN

Most likely, I will make
it a point to insist on
that jaunt when we are
settled. Give my regards
to her that awaits your
return.

DYMPHNA

It was not hell only the
horror that man himself
might create with his
self-serving malignancy.

SHELAG

We are a world away from
woe, my dear Dymphna.

DYMPHNA

I always knew I would
somewhere travel and yet I
knew not it would be this
way. Let us find shelter
for as surely as the light
grows dark in evening
Gerebern's still grizzled
from wound and wend.

EXT - THE SEAS- EVENING

DAMON

Pythius, upon our return,
you shall have the gentle
maiden for a wife that I
did oath.

PYTHIUS

I thank you my good King
and I hope that when we

are free of this quest you
shall have all that is
quintessential to your
inclinations.

DAMON

Awake me when our
improvised pirate
expedition has gained the
ground to where they that
would deign to mutineer
against myself have
absconded.

EXT - BELGIUM - DAY

NOLAN

Shelag, Shelag.

SHELAG

We have already made love
and there is no need for
such exuberance, my good
husband and now practiced
bowman.

NOLAN

I squall not for the
aching joy around my
squirter, darling Shelag
but for having spied the
King himself with at least
a sixer of soldiers at his
side.

SHELAG

Hurry, we must make haste.

INT - The Cottage - Continuous

GEREBERN

You three should thunder
away as a flying storm and
I will detain or derail
their path as best as I
can.

DYMPHNA

We all came not this far
and away to have one
sacrificed for uncertain
anxiety.

NOLAN

Dymphna is right, we must
make our stand together
and observe what our king
intends for in your yet
unfit condition there is
not much resistance you
could offer.

GEREBERN

I have the power of Jesus
in my heart.

NOLAN

That is well and good and
take no insult from me for
it was I that lead us to
safety yet a Jesus in the
heart is no stronghold
against a bastion of blows
that seeks to deck the
cloth as I myself have
proved against your
health.

SHELAG

I say, sex has made you
surrender the logic of
your tongue.

NOLAN

The logic's perfect -

SHELAG

Perhaps, yet above all
things do employ tact for
the sake of our princess.

NOLAN

There is no time for tact,
there's hardly time for
talk.

DYMPHNA

Shelag, Nolan is although
misguided by lack of faith
correct yet he himself
shall witness the true
strength which belief in
Christ does confer upon
his followers and worry
neither for tact nor time.
Both of you have been
sweetly delicate to me.

EXT- THE COTTAGE- CONTINUOUS

DAMON

Daughter, you have broken
your word, you have run
away instead of honoring
your vow. I am here in
person to return you to
your place.

GEREBERN

You shall have to empty
the blood from me cruel
pig.

DAMON

The only pigsty is the
spaying order to which you
belong, you giant louse.

GEREBERN

You will rot in the fire
of eternal damnation.

DAMON

I did not think the day
would bring me laughter,
Pythius.

PYTHIUS

At your command.

DAMON

Remove the part of the

worm's body that produces
words and let us see if
this blood it speaks of
having is ruby or jade.

PYTHIUS

Should I decapitate or
simply circumcise the
tongue?

DAMON

The thing might bite your
hand and infect you with
faith, cut off the head.

PYTHIUS

Gerebern, I will make it
quick.

GEREBERN

In the Holy name of Jesus,
harm not my Dymphna.

PYTHIUS

King Damon, how good it is
to still carry a sword
made by the Spaniard that
once was among your
slaves.

DAMON

They are such a yearning
and artsy race and yet
indeed those were good
swords, perhaps when this
is done we shall find
others for such tasks.
Our own kinsmen have been
too watered down by the
wine of barley and that of

murphies to make such a
shrewd weapon of murder.

DAMON

Yes. Yet no others are as
willed as we.

No. None. Now, hold the
head a while at hand that
horror might overcome the
others and bring my
daughter to her senses.

PYTHIUS

I am here to serve.

DAMON

Dymphna, produce yourself
that you may take your
mother's place at my side.

NOLAN

King Damon, it is I your
own servant the court
jester.

DAMON

I have no want for

amusement now, retainer.

NOLAN

I am not here to volunteer
entertainment, but to
entreat your highness to
kindness.

DAMON

Have I not always been
charitable to yourself and
to your Shelag, Nolan?

NOLAN

I cannot say the contrary
was ever true and yet if
nothing ever more your
goodness grant us
forgiveness and let her
find her own way in the
world.

DAMON

For your years of service
and respect I grant your
forgiveness as well as
your wife yet the girl is
mine and her way in the
world will only be under
my command until she
herself rules my kingdom.

PYTHIUS

Be gone lest ye find your
top hanging alongside this
one that was recently
toppled.

DAMON

Daughter, unshadow
yourself and stand by the
shade of your father the
king.

DYMPHNA

You have slain a holy man
and you mock his spirit
with your sentry.

DAMON

I meant no more than to
have you near.

DYMPHNA

We were once near and yet
I cannot know the intimate
nearness of your wicked
design for my only love
was destined me by Nan my
mother and your once loved
Queen and wife to serve
beneath the blessings of
Christ.

DAMON

Christ. See how your
Christ has delivered
Gerebern. Speak no more to
me of Church or destiny.

DYMPHNA

Then we shall not speak,
father.

DAMON

Pythius, throw the head
aside and shave the child
of her freedom.

PYTHIUS

Come with me, Dymphna. I
should not want to beat
upon a beauty.

DYMPHNA

You have already crushed a
goodly crown and you will
not gain the ground that
holds me now.

PYTHIUS

Damon, she is an imp, I
cannot stir myself to
invade.

DAMON

Nonsense, she is radiant
yet it is your own
phantasy which has you
stagnated.

DYMPHNA

It is the divine, the
strong yet steady pattern
of my religion that makes
your soldier snared with
insane attire.

DAMON

I would agree that
religion disarms men of

their wits yet Pythius
surely is simply overcome
by mercy.

DYMPHNA

It would do you a world of
well to let your wisdom
wander within belief
instead of doubt.

DAMON

I believe I have always
been good and just - and
just now I have given my
clemency to Nolan and his
Shelag. I believe you
should now be good and
lead me not to further
anger. I believe it is
time you became my queen
as Nan was before.

DYMPHNA

Your reign shall be
without me.

DAMON

It is my heart's inviting,
Dymphna.

DYMPHNA

Your heart is a nightmare

that would bring me shame.

DAMON

Shame, you divest me of
the greater portion of my
dignity by leaving as I
started to make a stand
against the painted air of
grief and still you would
have my affection starved.

DYMPHNA

You want only to thief me
from divinity for your own
pleasure.

DAMON

I am so hurt that now I
wish only to harvest your
grave.

PYTHIUS

Do not slay Dymphna, she
is your daughter.

DAMON

Silence, Pythius.

DYMPHNA

Father, I will supplicate
the Savior for your
salvation that someday we
shall be as we were truly
meant to be.

FADE OUT

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