



The Wino | Der Weinschweg

Text Information

Author | Der Stricker

Language | German

Period | 13th Century

Genre | Narrative poetry

Source | Der Stricker. *Fünfzehn kleine Verserzählungen mit einem Anhang: Der Weinschweg*. Edited by Hanns Fischer.

Tübingen: Max Niemeyer, 1960.

Collection | Prank or Be Pranked: Comedy, Wit and Satire

URL | <http://sourcebook.stanford.edu/text/wino/>

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Introduction to the Text

This poem is a humorous ode to drinking alcohol which parodies medieval courtly poetry and the values of medieval court society (such as virtue, skill, loyalty and honor) by appropriating them to describe a less-than-respectable activity: drinking to excess. It was composed in the thirteenth century CE and is an example of the wave of satirical literature in German which rose to meet the previous half-century's idealising love songs and stories of romantic heroism. While Middle High German is often still thought of today as the language of the *Minnesänger* - highly-accomplished singers and composers whose best known subject was romantic love - poems like *The Wino* show that medieval audiences were not only interested in skilfully-crafted romance but indeed had a taste for biting satire.



The Wino | Der Weinschwelg

Swaz ich trinkens hân gesehen,
daz ist gar von kinden geschehen:
ich hân einen swelch gesehen,
dem wil ich meisterscheffe jehen.
den dûhten becher gar enwiht,
er wolde nâpfe noch kopfe niht,
er tranc ûz grôzen können.
er ist vor allen mannen
ein vorlouf aller swelhen.
von ûren und von elhen
wart solher slûnde nie niht getân.
ez muose alle zît vor im stân
ein grôziu kanel wînes vol.
er sprach: "wîn, ich erkenne dich wol!
ich weiz wol, daz du guot bist.
die wîle dîn in dem vazze iht ist,
sô wil ich bûwen dise banc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc von zweinzec slûnden.
er sprach: "nu wil ich künden,
waz tugent du hâst, vil lieber wîn.
wie möhtestu tugenthafter sîn?
du hâst schœne und grôze gûete,
du gîst uns hôchgemûete,
du machest küene den zagen.
swer dîn wâfen wil tragen,
der wirt wîse unde karc,
er wirt snel unde starc,
er fürhtet niemens drô.
du machest die trûrigen frô,
du gîst dem alten jungen muot,
du rîchest den armen âne guot,
du machest die liute wolgevar.
du bist ouch selbe schœne gar,
du bist lûter unde blanc."

Any drinking I have seen
Is child's play indeed:
I've seen a drunkard
Whose mastery I want to proclaim.
5 He considered cups inadequate,
He wanted neither bowls nor pots,
But drank from large pitchers.
Of all men he is the
Forerunner of all drunkards.
10 Neither aurochs nor elks
Ever swallowed so much.
There always had to be a
Large pitcher full of wine in front of him.
He said, "Wine, I know you well!
15 I know that you are good.
As long as there is any of you left in this vessel,
I will sit here."
Then he raised his glass and drank:
A drink of twenty swallows
20 He said: "Now I want to proclaim
your virtue, oh dear wine
How could you be more virtuous?
You've got beauty and great goodness,
You lend us high spirits,
25 You make the coward brave.
Whoever wants to bear your arms
Becomes wise and cunning,
He becomes fast and strong,
He fears no threat.
30 You make the sad happy,
You give young spirit to the old,
You make the poor rich without any goods,
And you make people attractive.
You are quite attractive yourself,
35 You are pure and clear."



dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc, der für die andern gie.
er sprach: "war umbe oder wie
solde ich den wîn vermîden?
ich mac in wol erfîden,
sît er allen mînen willen tuot.
er dunket mich bezzer denne guot;
ich geniete mich sîn nimmer.
ich will in loben immer
für bûhurdieren und für tanz.
krône, tschapel unde kranz,
pfelle, samît und scharlât,
swaz gezierde disiu werlt hât,
die næme ich niht für den wîn.
in hât in dem herzen mîn
mîn minne alsô behûset,
versigelt und verklûset:
wir mugen uns niht gescheiden.
swer mir in wolde leiden,
der müese immer haben mînen haz.
er kürzet mir die wîle baz
denne sagen, singen, seitenklanc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc noch græzer denne ê.
er sprach: "gras, bluomen unde klê
und aller krûte meisterschaft,
die wûrze und aller steine kraft,
der walt und elliû vogelîn
diu möhten dîn, vil lieber wîn,
die liute niht ergetzen.
si möhten dich niht ersetzen
mit allem dem, daz si kunnen.
ich wil dir gerne gunnen,
daz du mir kürzest die zît.
swaz fröuden mir diu werlt gît,

Then he raised his glass and drank:
A drink that was larger than the others before.
He said: "why and how
Should I avoid the wine?
40 I can handle it well,
Because it does whatever I want.
I consider it better than good;
I never do without it.
I always want to praise it
45 Above jousting and dancing
Crown, circlet, and wreath,
Silk, samite, and scarlet,
Whatever adornment this world has,
I would not take it over wine.
50 My love has given a home to it
In my heart,
Sealed it and enclosed it:
We can't part from each other.
I would hate anyone forever
55 Who wanted to make me dislike it.
It entertains me better
Than storytelling, singing, or the sound of strings."
Then he raised his glass and drank:
A drink even greater than before.
60 He said, "grass, flowers and clover
And the potency of all plants,
The herbs and the power of all stones,
The forest and all birds
They can't delight anybody
65 Better than you, dear wine.
They cannot replace you
With everything that they are able to do.
I will gladly allow you
To entertain me.
70 Whatever joys the world gives me,



diu kumt vil gar von dîner tugent;
dîn lop hât immer jugent,
dîn werdekeit wirt nimmer kranc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc alsô starc,
und solde er eine halbe marc
ze lône dâ mit verdienet hân,
ern dörft niht bezzers hân getân.
er sprach: "beidiu ich und der wîn
müezen immer ensamt sîn.
mir ist an im gelungen;
er hât mich des betwungen,
daz ich ie tet, swaz er mir gebôt.
der wîn ist guot für manige nôt.
künde er niht wan fröude geben,
diu werlt solde immer gein im streben.
sîn fröude ist vor allen dingen.
ich wil nâch fröuden ringen.
sît mir der wîn fröude gît,
nu wil ich trinken unz an die zît,
daz er mir sô vil fröuden gebe,
daz ich mit fröuden immer lebe.
wie kan ich denne verderben?
ich wil nâch fröuden werben.
des habe mîn lîp immer danc!"
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Daz man nie solhes niht vernam.
er sprach: "der herzoge Iram
der was gar âne wîsheit,
daz er einem wisent nâchreit,
er und sîn jäger Nordiân,
si solden den wîn gejaget hân,
sô wæren si wîse, als ich bin.
mir ist vil samfter denne in.
ich kan jagen unde vâhen,

They come from your virtues;
Your praise will prevail,
Your value will never fade."
Then he raised his glass and drank:
75 A drink so mighty
That if he had been rewarded
Half a mark for this
He couldn't have done better.
He said, "both me and the wine
80 Always have to be together.
I desire it,
And it has convinced me
That I always do what it bids me.
The wine is good for many a problem.
85 If it couldn't do anything but give joy,
The world should constantly strive for it.
Its joy is bigger than everything else.
I want to go after joy.
Since the wine gives me such a joy
90 I now want to drink to the moment
that it gives me so much joy
so that I can live joyfully forever.
How can I ever become depraved?
I want to seek out joy.
95 My life shall forever benefit from it!"
Then he raised his glass and drank:
Such has never been heard.
He said: "Count Iram,
He had no wisdom at all (devoid)
100 because he rode in pursuit of a bison
He and his huntsman Nordian;
They should have hunted wine
Then they would have been as wise as I am.
My life is more comfortable than his.
105 I can hunt and capture,



mich ermüedet niht mîn gâhen.
ich jage den vil lieben wîn;
des jäger wil ich immer sîn.
er hât mir ie sô wol getân.
swaz ich sîn her getrunken hân
und swaz ich sîn naht unde tac
in mînen lîp geswelhen mac,
daz ist wan ein anevanc."
alrêst huob er unde tranc:
Vil manigen ungefüegen slunt.
er sprach: "wîn, mir ist dîn tugent kunt.
ich erkenne wol dîne kraft,
dîn kunst und dîne meisterschaft.
du bist meister der sinne,
du liebest mir für die minne,
du machest stæte manigen kouf,
du machest manegen wettelouf,
du machest maniger hande spil,
mit fröuden kurzewîle vil.
diu werlt ist gar mit dir erhaben.
du kanst die durstigen laben,
du machest die siechen gesunt.
sît du mir êrste wûrde kunt,
sô bin ich dir gewesen bî:
swie vil dîner diener sî,
daz mich doch niemen von dir dranc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Daz die slûnde lûte erklungen
und an ein ander drungen.
dâ wart von starken slûnden
ein sturm, daz von den ûnden
diu drozze wart ze enge,
daz sich von dem wâcgedrenge
diu gûsse begunde werren,
blôdern unde kerren

My pursuit does not wear me out.
I hunt the beloved wine
And forever want to be its huntsman.
It always did so well by me.
110 All I have drunk of it so far,
all that I may swill (guzzle) down
into my belly day and night,
That is but a beginning.
First, he raised his glass and drank:
115 Many enormous gulps.
He spoke: "Wine, your virtues are known to me
I well perceive your power
Your skill and your mastery.
You are master of the senses,
120 You love me beyond love,
You firm up many deals,
You create a lot of competition,
You make work for many hands,
With much merriment and joy.
125 The world is elevated by you
You can revive the thirsty
And cure the sick.
Since I first discovered you
I have always been with you
130 However many servants you have
None has come between the two of us."
Then he raised his glass and drank.
So that the gulps rang out loudly
And chased each other down the throat
135 Of strong swallows there was
a storm, because of the waves
his throat grew too narrow
So that from the pressure
The currents started to swirl,
140 To roar and moan



als ein windesprût ûf dem mere.
dâ wart mit hurteclicher were
versuochet maniges slundes kraft.
er sprach: "daz ist ein meisterschaft,
daz ich noch niht getrunken hân.
mîn kunst ist alsô getân,
daz ich mich niht vergâhe
und ez müezeclîche anevâhe,
durch daz ich ez lange trîben wil.
ich lebe wênic ode vil,
mir wirt trinkens nimmer buoz.
habe iemen einen ringen fuoz,
der bringe mir guoten aneganc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Als er nimmer wolde erwinden.
er sprach: "wâ sol man vinden,
swenne ich erstirbe, einen man
der trinke, als ich trinken kan?
mîn habent alle trinker êre.
man sol mir danken sêre,
daz ich ir leben sô ziere.
der besten trinker viere,
die volgent mir wan ein tac.
ich kan wol trinken unde mac;
ich hân künste unde kraft.
mîn herze ist sô tugenthaft,
daz ez an trinken nie gehanc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc, der die andern übersteic.
dô stuont er ûf unde neic.
er sprach: "wîn, dir sî genigen!
ich trûwe mit dir wol gesigen.
die wîle du bist mîn nâchgebûr,
mir enschadet der schîme noch der schûr;
ich kan deheiner sorgen pflegen:

Like a tempest at sea.
The strength of many a gulp
Was thus tested by a fierce resistance.
He said: "I have never drunk
145 with such mastery before.
My artistry is such
That I do not rush,
But I practice with leisure,
So that I can carry on for a long time.
150 No matter whether I live for a long or a short time
I never regret drinking.
If someone is quick on his feet
he could start me off well."
Then he raised his glass and drank
155 As if he would never want to stop.
He spoke: "Where could one find,
Were I to die, a man
who drinks as I can drink?
All drinkers gain honor through me.
160 I should be greatly thanked
for enriching their lives this way.
Four of the best drinkers
Can't keep up with me for even a day.
I can certainly drink and I will;
165 I have skills and stamina.
My heart is so virtuous
That it was never unsteadied by **drinking**.
Then he lifted his glass and drank.
A drink that surpassed all others.
170 Then he stood up and bowed.
He spoke: "Wine, I bow to you.
I am sure of winning with you.
As long as you are my companion
I am harmed by neither bright weather nor storm,
175 I can't nurse any worries



mir enschadet diu sunne noch der regen;
diu fröude bûwet mînen muot.
ich ensorge umbe êre noch umbe guot,
umbe friunde noch umbe mâge.
ichn urliuqe noch enbâqe
und enruoche, wie blôz der walt stê.
mir enschadet der wint noch der snê,
der rîfe noch der anehanc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc, der grôze gûsse truoc.
er sprach: "diu houwe und der pfluoc
diu müesen immer ledic sîn,
wessen die gebûren, daz der wîn
sô maniger êren wielte
und sô manic lob behielte.
erkanden si rehte sîn tugent,
si vertriben ir alter und ir jugent
bî dem wîne al gemeine.
nu erkennt si in vil kleine.
daz hân ich ze einem heile.
dâ von ist er wolveile.
daz machet mir mîn leben lanc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen hundertsclündigen trunc.
er sprach: "daz machet mich junc,
daz ich mîne trünke lenge
und den slünden des verhenqe,
daz si swellent unde grôzent
und sô hurticlichen stôzent,
daz die sleqe von den ünden
stürme heben in den slünden.
swer mir êrste gab den wîn,
des lop müeze immer sælic sîn.
er hât mich wol gelêret.
er ist sîn immer geêret,

I am harmed by neither sun nor rain,
Joy raises my spirits.
I worry about neither honor nor wealth
nor friends nor family.
180 I neither do battle nor do I quarrel
Or concern myself with how bare the forest is.
I am harmed by neither wind or snow,
Frost nor icicles."
Then he raised his glass and drank.
185 A torrential drink.
He spoke: "The how and the plough,
They would forever be abandoned
If the farmers knew
that the wine wielded such great honor
190 And held such praise.
If they recognized his true virtue
They would spend
both their old age and youth on wine.
Now they barely recognize it.
195 That's fortunate for me
because it's cheaply available.
That prolongs my life."
Then he raised his glass and drank
A drink of a hundred gulps.
200 He says: "it keeps me young
that I lengthen my drinks
and command my gulps
to swell and grow
and collide so rapidly
205 that the crashing waves
creates storms in my gullet.
He who first gave me wine
should always be blessed with praise.
He taught me well.
210 May he always be honored for this,



wan mir ie wol an ime gelanc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc langen und sô grôz,
daz sîn alle die liute bedrôz,
die ez hôrten unde sâhen.
er sprach: "ez wil im nâhen,
daz ich trinkens wil beginnen.
ich bin wol worden innen,
daz mir der wîn süezet
und mîn herze grüezet.
dâ wider bute ich mînen gruoz.
wîn, ich valle dir ze fuoz.
ich enphienge dich gerne, kunde ich, baz.
ich enphâhe dich immer âne haz,
du enphâhest mich, als tuon ich dich;
der anepfanc ist minneclich.
daz sô unser beider antfanc!"
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc, der begunde blôdern,
als daz wazzer ûf den flôdern
ûf allen kumpfmûln tuot.
er sprach: "daz ist ein süeziu fluot,
diu wâschet mir von dem herzen
unfröude unde smerzen.
er kan mich leides wol erjeten."
dô begunde er springen unde treten
manigen sprunc seltsænen.
er sprach: "niemen sol des wænen,
daz er sich mir geliche.
mîn herze ist sô vrôuden rîche.
der wîn, der mich dâ machet junc,
dem wil ich springen einen sprunc."
vrôlichen er drîstunt ûfspranc.
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Der trunc wart maniges trunkes wert.

because I always did well by him."
Then he raised his glass and drank
a drink so long and deep,
that all the people
215 who saw and heard it became annoyed.
He said: "The time is approaching
when I can start drinking.
I've come to **understood**
that wine refreshes me
220 and cheers my heart.
Again, I offer my greetings.
Wine, I fall at your feet.
I receive you well, and better if I could.
I always welcome you eagerly,
225 and you welcome me as I do you;
Our encounter is full of love;
May that be our beginning!"
He raised his glass and drank:
A drink that began to rush
230 Like water on the wheels
Of every watermill there is.
He said: "That is a sweet flood
That washes both sorrow and pain
from my heart.
235 It can weed out my misery."
Then he began to jump and dance
Many a strange leap.
He said: "No one shall claim
that he is my equal.
240 My heart is so rich with joy.
I want to dance for
the wine that makes me young **again**.
For three hours he joyfully danced.
Then he lifted his glass and drank.
245 The drink was worth many drinks



er sprach: "ich bin der trinkens gert,
ich bin ein trinkender man,
der alsô sêre trinken kan,
daz ich allen trinkern angesige
und allen trinkern obgelige.
ich wart nie trinkens sat.
ich kom noch nie an die stat,
dâ ich getrünke mir genuoc.
wol der muoter, diu mich truoc!
sælic sî si küniginne!
sælic sî diu süeze minne
und diu wîle, dô si mich erranc!"
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc, der wart swære.
swie grôz diu kanel wære
si was zeinem trunke niht volgrôz,
wan man ze einer nôt ingôz.
er hiez et vaste inegiezen
und lie daz in sich vliezen,
daz dâ noch solhes niht geschach.
dô saz er nider unde sprach:
"der wîn ist rehte ein gimme.
ich hœere eine süeze stimme
in mînem huobet singen;
die hœere ich gerne klingen.
er ist rehte, daz ich in krœne:
er singet mêre süezer dœne
denne aller slahte klingen
und aller vogeles singen.
mir wart solhes nie niht bekant.
er singet sô wol, daz Hôrant
daz dritte teil nie sô wol gesanc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Daz die banc begunde krachen.
er sprach: "dez muoz ich lachen,

He spoke: "I desire to **drink**
I am a drinking man
Who can drink so much that
I can defeat all drinkers
250 And surpass them all.
I was never sated by drinking.
I never reached a point
where I had had enough.
Bless the mother who bore me!
255 May she, the queen, be blessed!
Blessed be the sweet love
And the moment of my **conception!**
Then he raised his glass and drank
A heavy drink.
260 However large the vessel might have been
It was not big enough for his drink,
unless one continually refilled it.
He ordered it to be refilled quickly
and let it pour down into him,
265 As has never happened before.
Then he sat down and said:
"Wine is a true gem
I hear a sweet voice
sing in my head.
270 I enjoy hearing it chime.
It is right that I anoint **it**
It sings tones more sweetly
Than all kinds of sounds
And the singing of all birds.
275 I never heard such a thing.
It sings so well that Horant
Never sang a third as well."
He raised his glass and drank
So that the bench began to crack
280 He said: "I have to laugh about this



des ist ze lachen harte guot;
daz krachen fröuwet mir den muot.
ez machet des wînes güete.
ich hân allez mîn gemüete
in den fröuden wol getrenket;
dar in hân ich mich gesenket.
ich sanc ie sît der stunde,
daz ich êrste trinken kunde
und mir der wîn sô wol geviel.
ich weiz wol, daz dehein kiel
in daz mere sô tiefe nie gesanc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen vierschroetigen trunc.
er sprach: "ich bin worden junc
an lîbe und an muote.
wol mich", sô sprach der guote,
"daz ich sô gar ein meister bin
an trinken! seht, daz heize ich sin!
ich weiz wol: dâ ze Parîs,
ze Padouwe und ze Tervîs,
ze Rôme und ze Tuscân
vindet man deheinen man,
ich ensî sîn meister gewesen,
daz mir nie gein einer vesen
51r deheiner möhte gelîchen.
hal in allen diutschen rîchen
kom mir nie deheiner zuo,
der beidiu spâte unde fruo
sô wol an trinken dûre.
wînes nâchgebûre
wil ich hiute und immer wesen.
mîn sêle muoz mit ime genesen.
im ist mîn sêle immer holt,
swenne er schœne als ein golt
von dem zaphen schiuzet.

And it's well worth a laugh
The cracking raises my spirits.
It is done by virtue of the wine
I have completely drenched all my spirits
285 In joy.
I have plunged myself into it
And have been sinking since the hour
That I was first able to drink
And wine first appealed to me.
290 I know well that no keel
Ever sank so deep into the sea
Then he raised his glass and drank
A massive drink.
He said: "I have been rejuvenated
295 In body and spirit.
Good for me," the good man said,
"That I am such a masterful
Drinker! I pronounce it to be so!
I know well: in Paris
300 In Padua, in Treviso
In Rome, and in Tuscany
You can't find anyone
Whom I haven't surpassed
None of them can be compared
305 To me, not even a little bit.
Frankly, in no German lands
Can anyone come close to being
As steadfast a drinker
Both mornings and evenings.
310 I want to be wine's companion
Today and always.
My soul will always thrive with it.
My soul is always beholden to it
When it flows from the tap
315 As beautiful as gold.



vil wênic mich des verdriuzet,
swaz man sîn in mich giuzet;
vil wol mîn lîp des geniuzet.
man saget von turnieren.
vaste swelhen under vieren,
daz kan ich wol, des habe ich danc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc, der vil grôz was.
er sprach: "swaz man ie gelas
von den, die minne pflâgen
und tôt von minne lâgen,
die wâren mir niht gelîche wîs.
wie starp der künic Pârîs,
der durch Helenam wart erslagen!
des tumpheit sol man immer klagen.
er solde den wîn geminnet hân,
sô het im niemen niht getân.
vrou Dîdô lac von minne tôt,
Grâlanden sluoc man unde sôt
und gab in den frouwen ze ezzen,
want si sîn niht wolden vergezzen.
Piramus und Tispê,
den wart von minne sô wê
daz si sich rigen an ein swert.
mîn minne ist bezzers lônës wert,
denne ir aller minne wære.
mîn minne ist fröudebære.
ich bûwe der minne strâze,
mir ist baz denn Turâze,
der von minne in dem sê ertranc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Einen trunc mit grôzer île;
der werte unz and die wîle,
daz im diu gürtel zebrast.
er sprach: "daz bant ist niht ein bast,

It doesn't bother me at all
Which wine is poured into me.
I enjoy it very much.
People talk of tournaments.
320 I can easily be the
Best of four. I'm grateful for that."
Then he raised his glass and drank.
A drink that was very large.
He spoke: "Whatever anyone read ever
325 About those who practiced love
And died of love
They were never equal to me.
How king Paris died
Because of Helen!
330 His idiocy should ever be lamented
He should have courted wine,
Then no one would have done anything to him
Lady Dido lay dead from love,
Graland was killed and cooked
335 And given to the women to eat
Because they didn't want to forget him.
Piramus and Thisbe,
They suffered so much from love
That they threw themselves on a sword.
340 My love is worthy of a better reward
Than all their love.
My love is joyous
I pave the way for love
I am doing better than Turaze
345 Who, because of love, drowned in the lake."
He raised his glass and drank.
A drink with great haste
Which continued until his
Belt burst.
350 He said: "The rope with



dâ mit ich zallen stunden
ze dem wîne bin gebunden.
daz ist mîn sælde und mîn heil,
und sint ouch driu vil starkiu seil:
daz eine ist des wînes güete,
daz ander mîn stæte gemüete,
daz dritte is diu gewonheit.
er mac mir nimmer werden leit,
ich muoz in immer minnen.
ich mac im niht entrinnen.
wie zebræche ich einen sô starken stranc?"
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Sô sêre, daz si alle jâhen,
die sîn trinken rehte ersâhen,
swaz er getrunken het unz dar,
des solde man vergezzen gar:
der trunc behielte gar den prîs.
er sprach:"diu werlt ist unwîs,
daz si niht ze wîne gât,
sô si deheinen gebresten hât,
und trünke dâ für allez leit,
für angst und für arbeit,
für alter unde für den tût,
für siechtuom und für alle nôt,
für schaden und für schanden slac,
und für swaz der werlt gewerren mac,
für nebel und für böesen stanc."
dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
Sô sêre, daz sich diu kanel bouc.
er sprach: "swaz ie flôz ode flouc,
daz sol billîche erkennen mich.
die liute solten alle sich
ze mînem gebote neigen.
diu werlt ist gar mîn eigen.
ich hân gewaltes sô vil,

Which I am tied to the wine
at all hours is not a mere ribbon
It is my blessing and my salvation
And is comprised of three strong strands:
355 The first is wine's virtue
The second is my steadfast spirit
The third is my habit.
I'll never get tired of it,
I shall always love it.
360 I can't escape it.
How could I tear apart such a strong rope?"
Then he raised his glass and drank
He drank so much that all who saw him drink
agreed that
365 One should completely forget
What he had drunk until now.
This drink clearly won the prize.
He said, "The world is foolish,
Because it doesn't turn to wine,
370 If it suffers any sorrow
And drank away all suffering
Fear and toil
Old age and death
Illness and all perils.
375 All damage and shameful blows,
And whatever troubles the world
Fog and bad smells."
Then he raised his glass and drank
So much that the pitcher bent.
380 He said: "All things that swim or fly
Should rightfully pay respect to me.
People should all
Bow to my command.
I own the world.
385 I have so much power



daz ich tuon, daz ich wil.
 swaz ich wil, daz ist getân.
 daz ich allen mînen willen hân,
 dô von heize ich Ungenôz.
 mîne tugende sind sô grôz:
 wære der werlde sô vil mê,
 daz das merr und ieslich sê
 als guot wære als daz beste lant,
 daz müese stên ze mîner hant
 und müese mir dienen âne wanc."
 dô huob er ûf unde tranc:
 Sô lange und sô sêre,
 sô vil und dannoch mêre,
 sô vaste und sô harte,
 daz sich daz hemde zarte.
 er sprach:"des wirt guot rât.
 ich weiz wol, waz dar wider stât;
 ich kan wol wâfenen mich."
 er zôch einen hitzhals an sich
 (den hiez er vaste brîsen),
 dar zuo von quotem îsen
 ein vestez banzier enge.
 er sprach: "des wînes gedrenge
 lât mich nu ungezerret.
 ich hân mich sô versperret,
 er enmac mich niht entsliezen.
 des sol ich wol geniezen,
 daz ich ze fröuden mînen lîp
 getwungen hân, daz man noch wîp
 sînen lîp sô sêre nie getwanc."
 dô huob er ûf unde tranc.

That I can do what I want.
 Whatever I want is as good as done.
 Since I can do anything I want
 I am called Peerless.
 390 My virtues are so great
 That if the world were larger
 So that the ocean and lakes
 Were as fruit-bearing as the best land,
 Then it would have to be under my control
 395 And serve me without **hesitation**.
 Then he raised his glass and drank
 For so long and so deeply,
 So much and even more,
 So fast and so forcefully,
 400 That his shirt split.
 He said, "I have a good **idea**
 I know what the solution is;
 I can easily equip **myself**.
 He pulled on a leather doublet
 405 (He ordered it to be tightly laced)
 As well as a hard and tight
 Breastplate of good iron.
 He said, "the pressure of the
 Wine will now not tear me apart.
 410 I've encased myself in such a way
 That it cannot split me open.
 I shall benefit **from**,
 Having constrained my body
 as no man or woman has ever done before,
 415 for the **sake joy**.
 Then he raised his glass and drank.

Critical Notes

Transcription

Line 17 "Dise banc buwen" translates to **to farm, to plow, to settle**

Line 69 **note about the concept of kurzwile**

Line 95 **lîp** can mean either life or body