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**Course Name: Major Authors in English**

**Date: February 25th 2016**

**Assignment: Essay Outline**

**Topic: Dorigen’s marriage to Arveragus**

**Title:**

Dorigen and Arveragus’ Imperfect Marriage

**Thesis Statement:**

Dorigen’s marriage to Arveragus is not perfect because, while Dorigen is wholly devoted to him, Arveragus is not to her.

**Topic Sentence One:**

They treat each other as equals between themselves, but portray Arveragus as more powerful in front of others.

**Supporting Idea 1.A:**

To others, the couple do not portray themselves as equals

**Quotation 1.A (complete with line numbers):**

*“Though for appearance’ sake, master in name.”*

Line: 294.23

**Supporting Idea 1.B:**

Arveragus is embarrassed to publicly consider Dorigen his equal

**Quotation 1.B (complete with line numbers):**

“*Lest, as a husband, he be put to shame.”*

Line: 294.24

**Topic Sentence Two:**

Arveragus’ values shift away from his romantic love with Dorigen.

**Supporting Idea 2.A:**

Arveragus leaves Dorigen in search of fame.

**Quotation 2.A (complete with line numbers):**

*“Arveragus of Caerrud was his name –*

*Began to make preparations to live*

*In England which was also called Britain,*

*A year or two, and seek renown in arms,*

*For his whole heart was set upon such things;”*

Line: 296.3-7

**Supporting Idea 2.B:**

When returning from England, Arveragus still prioritizes his honour

**Quotation 2.B (complete with line numbers):**

*“Now wife […] let sleeping dogs lie still,*

*For perhaps all may yet be well today.*

*Bur you shall keep your word, I swear you shall!*

*As I pray God have mercy upon me,*

*The love that I bear to you is so great*

*I’d rather stick a dagger through my heart*

*Than have you fail your promise or break faith.”*

Line 312.28-34

**Topic Sentence Three:**

Arveragus comes to value his own nobility over Dorigen.

**Supporting Idea 3.A:**

Arveragus forces Dorigen to be with Aurelius.

**Quotation 3.A (complete with line numbers):**

*“Straight to the garden, as my husband bade,*

*To keep my promise there, alas, alas! […]*

*And for that noble night Arveragus,*

*Who had commanded her to keep her promise,*

*So loath was he his wife should break her faith;”*

Line 313.26-33

**Supporting Idea 3.B:**

Arveragus attempts to keep everything going on with Aurelius a secret. He is ashamed of his wife.

**Quotation 3.B (complete with line numbers):**

*“I forbid you, on pain of death,*

*Ever at all, while you have life and breath,*

*To speak to anyone of this affair.”*

Line 312.37-39

Chaucer, Geoffrey.  "The Franklin’s Tale."  The Canterbury Tales.  Ed. and trans. David Wright. Oxford:  Oxford UP, 2011.  325-341.  Print.