

## Noínden Ulad agus Emuin Macha

### The Debility of the Ulstermen

#### Section 1

‘NOinden Ulad’ cid dia tá?	‘Noinden Ulad’, cén bunús atá leis sin?	‘ <i>Noinden Ulad</i> ,’ whence is it?
Ni handsa.	Ní hannsa.	Not difficult.
Crunniuc mac Agnomain di Ultaib briuga cetach atacomnaic.	Brughaidh saibhir de mhuintir Uladh, darbh ainm Crunniuc Mac Agnomhain,	Crunniuc, son of Agnoman, was a rich farmer *of Ulster*.
Baí i ndithrub agus i rroilbib ocus meic imda leis.	a bhí ag maireachtaint i ndíthreabh na sléibhte agus clann mhac líonmhar fairis.	He lived in solitude and on the mountains, and many sons were by him.
Ba marb iarum a ben.	Bhí a bhean marbh *, áfach*.	His wife, however, died.
Tan buí lathe and ina thig a oínur. co n-accai in mnai chuce ina thech.	Lá dá raibh sé ina aonar ina thigh chonaic sé chuige an bhean *isteach ina thig*.	One day, as he was in his house alone, he saw a woman coming towards him into his house.
Ba cuchtach leis innas na mná.	B’álainn leis cruth na mná.	The appearance of the woman seemed to him magnificent.

Fecaid in ben fo chetóir. o dofessid for ergnam do denam.	D'umhlaigh an bhean a chéadair. Chrom sí ar fhreastal a dhéanamh	She began at once as soon as she had sat down, to make preparations for eating,
amal bid is taig no beth riam.	amhail is dá mba sa tigh sin a bhí sí riamh.	as if she ever had been wont to be in the house.
O thanic co aithchi	Nuair a tháinig an oíche,	When night came on
donairbir in muntir	rinne sí cúram de mhuintir an tí,	she gave directions to the household
cen athchomarc.	cé nár iarradh san uirthi.	without asking any questions.
Foaid la Cruinniuc isind aidchi.	Luigh sí le Cruinniuc an oíche sin.	She slept with Cruinniuc at night.
Baí oca amser már iar sin	Bhí sí tamall mór leis ina dhiaidh sin	Thereupon she was a long time with him,
ocus ní buí ní ba terc dóib leesi di cach thorud	agus ní dóibh ba thearc mar gheall uirthi mar le gach dea-rud	and, thanks to her, they had no scarcity of any product,
eter biad ocus etach ocus indbass.	idir bhia agus éadach agus ionnús.	whether of food or drink or good things.

## Section 2

Nibá cian iar sin ferthair oenach la Ultu.	Níorbh fada ina dhiaidh sin gur reáchtáil muintir Uladh aonach.	Not long thereafter a fair was to be holden by the Ultonians,
No thegtis Ulaid dond oenuch. fiur mnai mac ingin.	Théadh na hUltaigh <u>go léir</u> ar an aonach, <u>gach</u> fear <u>agus</u> bean díobh, mac <u>agus</u> iníon.	and they were wont to go to the fair <u>with</u> man, wife son ( <u>and</u> ) daughter.
Farruma dano Cruinniuc la cach dond oenuch.	Chuaigh Cruinniuc go dtí an t-aonach chomh maith le cách	Crunniuc also betook himself with the others to the fair;
Etach maith immi. bláth maith fair.	— éadach maith uime agus cuma bhreá air.	he was well got-up and well-looking.
“Is tacair duit trá” ol a ben friss	“D’oirfeadh duit *, go deimhin*,” arsa a bhean leis,	“It behoves thee *, indeed*,” said his wife to him,
“ni fhorbara anfót do rád.”	“gan aon rud místuama a rá.”	“not to be [ <u>so</u> ] unguarded” ( <u>puffed-up</u> ) [ <u>as</u> ] “to say an imprudent thing.”
“Is decmaing ón” ol seseom.	“Ní móide dhom,” ar seisean.	“Impossible,” said he.

### Section 3

Cuirthir a n-oenach.

Cuireadh an t-aonach ar siúl.

The fair comes off,

doberar carpat ind rí g forsín mblai deod laí.

Tugadh carbad an rí amach ar an bhfaiche i ndeireadh an lae.

and at the day's end the King's chariot comes [first] to the terminus.

DoBERT búaid in carpat cona echaib.

Rug an carbad agus na heacha sin an bua leo.

His chariot and horses scored a victory.

Asbert in sluag “ní fuil ní as lúathiu andáit na eichseo.”

Dúirt an slua: “níl ní ar bith is tapúla ná na heacha so.”

The people said, “There is nothing to match these horses for swiftness.”

Asbert Crunniuc “is luathiu mo bensa” ol seseom.

Labhair Crunniuc: “is tapúla mo bheansa,” ar seisean.

“My wife is swifter,” said Crunniuc.

Airgaibthersom lasin rí g fo chetóir.

Gabhadh eisean a chéaduaire ar ordú an rí.

He was forthwith seized by the King.

Adfiadar don mnai anísín.

Insíodh sin don mnaoi.

This was told to Crunniuc's wife.

“Is turbaid ém damsá” ol sí “dul dia fhuaslucudsom ocus mé alacht.”

“Is mór an cheataí dhom ámh,” ar síse, “dul dá fhuascailt agus mé ag iompar clainne.”

“It is a real affliction for me \*, however,\* that I should have to go to set him free,” said she, “and me heavy.”

“Cid turbaid” ol in tectaire

“Más ea féin,” arsa an teachtaire,

“What affliction,” exclaimed the messenger;

“mairfithirsium meni risiu.”

“marófar é muna dtiocfair.”

“he will be killed if thou comest not.”

#### Section 4

Tolluidsi dond oenuch iarum.

et ros gabat idain.

“Tomforidse” ol si risin sluag

“or is máthair ruc cách uaib.

Anaid frim coró lamnar.”

Ro fhémid uadib.

“Maith tra” ol si

“biaid olc bas mó de.

ocus biaid for Ultaib uile re mór.”

“Cia th’ainmsiu?” ol in rí.

“Iss ed mo ainmse” ol si

“ocus ainm mo gene bias arin oenuchsa co bráth.

Macha ingen Sainrith meic Imbaith  
m’ainmse” ol si.

Chuaigh sí go dtí an t-aonach ansin

agus bhuaíl íona í.

“Fóirig orm,” ar sise leis an slua,

“óir is máthair a rug gach duine agaibh.

Fanaig liom go lámhnfad.”

Ach theip uirthi iad a bhogadh.

“Tá go maith,” ar sise,

“is móide seo an dochar a thiocfaidh

agus leanfaidh san d’Ultaib \*uile\* go ceann i bhfad”.

“Cad é t’ainmse?” arsa an rí.

“Is é m’ainmse,” ar sí,

“agus ainm mo chlainne a bheidh ar an aonach so go bráth.

Macha iníon Shainrith mhic Imbaith  
m’ainmse,” ar sise.

Thereupon she went to the race-course (fair),

and the pains of child-birth gat hold of her.

“Help me,” said she to the people;

“for of a mother has each of you been born.

Wait for me till I am delivered.”

She could not obtain that [request] of them.

“Good, then,” she answered;

“thence will come the greatest of ills,

and long will it endure for all the Ultonians.”

“What is thy name?” said the king.

“My name,” she made answer,

“and the name of my progeny will for ever be associated with the fair (race-course).

Macha, daughter of Sainreth, son of Imbath, is my name.”

Comluid iarum frisin carpat.	Rith sí rás ansan in aghaidh an charbaid	Thereupon off she went with the chariot;
ocus in tan roanic in carpat cend na blae	agus faoin am gur shroich an carbad ceann cúrsa	and as the chariot arrived at the terminus,
ro scáich a asaiti ara chind.	bhí clann á saolú di os a chomhair:	her delivery forestalled its arrival,
co mbert emun .i. mac agus ingen.	rugadh cúpla di — mac agus iníon.	for she gave birth to twins — a boy and a girl.
Is de atá Emuin Machae in sin.	As san a tháinig <u>an t-ainm</u> Eamhain Mhacha.	From that comes <i>Emuin Macha</i> (lit., twins of Macha).
Iactaidsi dano lia hasait.	Scread sí *, áfach,* agus an tinneas clainne uirthi.	At her delivery *, however,* she gave such a cry
nach duine rodachúala son foscerded i cess.	Nach aon duine a chuala í tháinig ceas air	that it set every one who heard it into a condition of debility
cóic laa agus cethri aidche.	— <u>tinneas</u> cúig lá agus ceithre oíche.	for five days and four nights.
Fir Ulad uili ro batar and	Gach uile dhuine d’fhir Uladh a bhí ann,	All the men of the Ultonians who had been there,
dosniced uili do grés ind ellsin. fri saegul nónbair o cach fhiur ro baí and.	ba ghnáthach go dtagadh an tinneas sin orthu *uile* agus ar a sliocht ina ndiaidh go ceann naoi nglúine:	they all fell into the same condition unto the ninth generation.
Cóic laa agus cethri aidche. nó coic aidche agus cethri laa.	cúig lá agus ceithre oíche nó cúig oíche agus ceithre lá	Five days and four nights, or five nights and four days,

iss ed sin ro boí noinden Ulad.

— sin í an fhaid a mhaireadh noinden Ulad.

that was the [duration of (?)] *Noinden Ulad*.

Nert mna siúil

Neart mná seoil

The strength of a woman in travail,

ba hed no bíd le cech fer di Ultaib fri saegul nonbair. isind noe[n]den.

a bhíodh i ngach duine d’fhir Uladh agus an noinden orthu ar feadh naoi nglúine.

that was the strength each man of the Ultonians had in the *Noinden* until the ninth generation.

## Section 5

Treide forna bíd noenden di Ultaib

Trí haicme de na hUltaibh nach mbíodh an noinden orthu:

Three classes there were on which the *Noinden Ulad* did not lie,

.i. meic agus mnaa Ulad agus Cu Chulaind.

buachaillí agus mná Uladh agus Cú Chulainn.

viz., the youths and the women of the Ultonians and Cuchulainn.

Iss ed heret ro mbaí for Ultaib. ó aimsir Cruincon

Is é an t-achar a lean sé d’Ultaibh ná ó aimsir Chruiniuc

The period during which it weighed on the Ultonians was from the time of Cruincon,

meic Agnomain meic Curir Ulad

mhic Agnomhain, mhic Churir Uladh

son of Agnoman, son of Curirulad,

meic Fhiatach meic Urmí.

mhic Fhiadach mhic Urmí

son of Fiatach, son of Urmí,

conice amsir Fhorco meic Dalláin meic Mainich meic Lugdach. et cetera.

go dtí aimsir Fhorga mhic Dalláin mhic Mhainich mhic Lugdach agus aruile.

until the time of Forco, son of Dallan maic Mainich, maic Lugdach, &c.

Curir Ulad is de dogairter Ulaid.

Is ó Churir Uladh a ainmníodh na hUltaigh.

Curir Ulad, it is from him the Ultonians are named.

Is desin tra atá ‘Noenden Ulad ocus Emuin  
Macha’.

Sin é anois scéal ‘Noinden Ulad agus Eamhain  
Mhacha’.

Thence then comes ‘*Noinden Ulad* and *Emuin  
Macha*’.