

Feis tigh Chonáin

The feast at Conán's house: Extracts

Fionn's Knowledge (ll. 1331-1376)

Section 20 (ll. 1331-1376)

“Beir buaidh agus b[e]an[n]achtain, a rí-fhéinidh,” ar Conán,

“is binne ná céol crot bheith ag éisteacht re bind-c[h]omhrádh do bheoil;

ocus ar grádh h'einigh innis damh anois, a rí-fhéinidh,

cionnus fuarais an fios forbhartach fíor-eólach atá agad;

ocus ní hé fios an bradáin nó fios thoighe Cuanna atáim d'iarraidh ort.”

“Inneósat-sa sin” ar Fionn.

“Beir bua agus beannacht, a Rífhéinní,” arsa Conán.

“Is binne ná ceol cruite a bheith ag éisteacht le binn-chomhrá do bhéil.

Agus ar ghrá d'oinigh inis dom anois, a Rífhéinní,

cé mar a fuairis an fios forbarthach fíor-eólach atá agat,

agus ní hé ‘Fios an Bhradáin’ ná ‘Fios Tigh Chuanna’ atáim ag iarraidh ort.”

“Inseodsa sin,” arsa Fionn.

“Take victory and blessing, oh royal *fian*-warrior,” said Conán.

“Listening to your sweet mouth is more melodious than the music of harps;

and for the sake of your honour, tell me now, oh royal *fian*-warrior,

how did you acquire the truly-learned, fully-developed wisdom that you have;

and it is not the wisdom of the ‘Salmon [of Knowledge]’, nor the wisdom of ‘Cuanna’s House’ that I am inquiring of you.”

“I will tell you that,” said Fionn.

“Tiobraid atá ag Bec mac Buain agus is do Thuathaibh Dé Danann an fear sin,	“Tobar atá ag Beag mac Buain — agus is de Thuatha Dé Danann an fear sin —	“Beag mac Buain has a well, and that man is of the Tuatha Dé Danann,
ocus gach duine ibhus deoch eisdi,	agus gach duine a ólfas deoch as	and every person who drinks a draught from it,
bídh fios forbartach aige dá éis	beidh fios forbarthach aige dá éis	possesses fully-developed wisdom;
ocus budh fáidh é go bás re fírinne;	agus is fáidh é go bás le fírinne.	and, in truth, he will be a prophet until death.
ocus síad bhíos ag coimhead na tiobraide sin	Agus is iad a bhíos ag faire an tobair sin	And those who keep that well:
.i. trí hingeaná an Bheic [Bhaic <i>MS.</i>] .i. Céibhfionn agus Teacht agus Arbach [Teisinn Techéd (Techedh F) agus Arbhach (Armhach FL) MFL ; <i>om.</i> KN]	triúr iníonacha an Bhig, *i.* Céibhfionn, *agus* Teacht agus Arbach.	i.e. the three daughters of Beag, i.e. Céibhfionn, and Teacht and Arbhach,
ocus as í Céibfiond as sine dhíobh	Is í Céibhfionn is sine díobh	and it is Céibhfionn who is the eldest of them,
ocus as í dháilius an tiobraid ar gach duine c[h]eandaighius hí;	agus is í a dháileann <u>uisce</u> an tobair ar gach duine a cheannaíonn í	and it is she who dispenses the <u>[draught from the]</u> well to every person who purchases it;
ocus dobeirthe trí céad uinge do dearg-ór	agus a bhéarfaidh trí chéad uinge dearg-óir	and three hundred ounces of red gold used to be given
ar lán gach éan-eascra don tiobraid sin.	ar lán gach *aon* eascra den tobar sin.	for every single full vessel from that well.
Agus tarla misí aon do ló ag seilg na feagh-sa [<i>leg.</i> (feadh-sa)] mur a raibhe iomat fiadhaig[h],	Tharla mé aon de laethanta ag seilg na háite sin mar a raibh iomad fianna	And I happened one day to be hunting in these rushes/ woods (?) where there was an abundance of deer/ wildlife,

ocus tánac ar mhullach Cairn bhFearadhaigh	nuair a thángas ar mhullach Chairn Fhearaígh	and I came to the summit of Carn Fearaígh
ocus ní raibhe fariom annsin acht Díorraing mac Doghair agus Mac Reithe;	agus gan i mo chuideachta ach Diorraing mac Doghair agus Mac Reithe.	and only Diorraing mac Dochair and Mac Reithe were with me then;
ocus ní cían do bhámur ann	Ní cian a bhíomar ann	and we were not long there
an tan do c[h]oncamur doras an tshíodha osluicthe romhain[n]	an t-am a chonaiceamar doras an tsí oscailte romhainn	when we saw that the door to the <i>Síodh</i> was open before us,
ocus do ionnsaighmur é gan fhuireac[h].	agus chuamar chuige gan mhoill.	and we approached it without delay.
Arna fhaicsin sin do trí hingean[ibh] Bheic mic Buain,	Arna fheiceáil sin do thriúr iníonacha Bhig mhic Bhuain,	Upon the three daughters of Beag mac Buan seeing this,
do éirghedur go hat[h]lamh do dhúnadh an doruis,	d'éiríodar go héasca ag dúnadh an dorais.	they rose with haste to shut the door,
ocus tugadur a lámh[a] uile a n-aoinfheacht do thao[i]ph [astigh]	Thugadar a lámha uile in éineacht don taobh istigh	and they simultaneously placed all their hands on the inside,
ag dúnadh an doruis romhain[n]	ag dúnadh an dorais romhainn,	closing the door in front of us
ocus tucamur-ne ar nguailne agus ar lámha a n-aoinfheacht	agus thugamar-na ár nguailí is ár lámha in éineacht	and together we placed our shoulders and our hands
don taoibh amuidh dá fhoslacadh orra-san;	don taobh amuigh dá oscailt orthusan.	on the outside to open it upon them;

ocus is amhlaidh tarla do Céibh-fionn a bheith an uair sin	Is amhlaidh a tharla do Chéibhionn a bheith an uair sin	and it so happened that Ceibhfionn was at that time
ocus lán an eascra don tiobraid ina láimh;	agus lán *an* eascra <u>d'uisce</u> an tobair ina láimh,	[<u>with</u>] the full of the vessel from the well in her hand;
ocus ag iadhadh na comhladh oruin[n] dí,	agus ag dúnadh na comhla orainn di	and in closing the door on us,
do dhort taosc mór don digh innar mbéil-ne,	*do* dhoirt sí taosc mór den deoch inár mbéalna,	she spilled a large splash of the draught into our mouths,
gur fhan fios fíor-eólach aguinn ó sin a leith,” ar Fionn.	gur fhan fios fíor-eolach againn ó shin i leith,” arsa Fionn.	so that true-learned wisdom remained with us from then onwards,” said Fionn.
“Agus as í[ad] sin fuasladh na gceist do chuiris orum, a Cannáin,” ar Fionn;	“Agus is iad sin fuascailt na gceist a chuiris orm, a Chonáin,” *arsa Fionn*.	“And these are the answers to the questions that you put to me, oh Conán,” said Fionn.
ocus itbert in láoi:	Agus thug an laoi:	And he sang the lay:
“Trí hingine Beic mic Buain, is acu ibhid na sluaigh; is uatha sin atá thall fios dearbhtha Tuath Dé Danann.	“Trí iníon Bhig mhic Bhuain; is acu a ólaid an slua; is uathu sin atá thall fios dearfa Thuatha Dé Danann.	“Three daughters of Beag mac Buain; it is with them that the hosts drink; it is from them yonder that there is the assured wisdom of the Tuatha Dé Danann.
Tobur atá thall ’sa lios is ann dogeibhthur gach fios; is dearbh do gach aon ros blais gurab í sin an t[s]eaghais.	Tobar atá thall sa lios is ann a fhaightear gach fios; is dearbh do gach aon a bhlaís gurb í sin an tSeaghais.	There is a well yonder in the enclosure, it is there that every wisdom is found; it is certain for every one who has tasted it that it is <i>Seaghais</i> .

Gé do fuarus in t-eó fis,
neimhthní co ránac an t[s]eaghais;
as é in fios fo[r]burtach damh
ó ránac an triur inghean.”

Cé go bhfuaras an t-eo fis,
neamhnaí go rugas an tSeaghais,
is é an fios forbarthach dom
ó ráinig an triúr iníon.”

Even though I caught the ‘Salmon of Knowledge’,
it was nothing until I reached *Seaghais*;
I have fully-developed wisdom
since I reached the three daughters.”