

Tochmarc Emire

The Wooing of Emer: Extracts

Forgall comes to Emain to persuade Cuchulainn to go to Scáthach (§§56-60)

Section 56

Luid Cú Chulainn reme ina érim agus fes i nEmain Macha in n-aidchi sin.	D'imigh Cú Chulainn roimhe agus chaith sé an oíche sin in Eamhain Mhacha.	Cuchulainn went driving on his way, and slept that night in Emain Macha.
Adfiadat dano a n-ingena dona briugadaib in n-ócláech dodáinic ina charput sainemail	D'inis a n-iníonacha do na tiarnaí faoin óglaoch a tháinig chucu ina charbad iontach	Then their daughters told the lords of land of the youth that had come in his splendid chariot,
ocus in n-imacallaim dorigénsat etarru agus Emer,	agus faoin gcomhrá a tharla idir é agus Eimhear.	and of the conversation which he and Emer had held;
ocus nad fetatar són cid forcansat etarru,	Dúradar nár thuigeadar an chaint a dheineadarsan le chéile,	that they did not know what they had said to one another,
ocus a impúd fodén tar Mag mBreg fothúaid úaidib.	agus d'insíodar mar a d'imigh Cú Chulainn ó thuaidh uathu thar Mhá Bhré.	and that he had turned from them across the plain of Bray northward.
Atfiadat dano na briugaid do Forgall Monach aní sin,	D'inis na tiarnaí an méid sin d'Fhorgall Monach	Then the lords of land tell Forgall the Wily that,
ocus cechid epert ind ingen friss.	chomh maith le gach rud a dúirt an ógbhean le Cú Chulainn.	and that the girl had spoken to him.

“Is fir sin,” ol Forgall Monach,

“in riastairthe ó Emain Macha táinic and do
acallaim Emire

ocus ro carastar in ingen éseom,

ocus is aire sin cotnacalt cách alaile díb.

Níba cobair dóibseom,” ol sé.

“Dororbiusa (.i. tairmesced sa), coná
'manaircéba dóib aní is accobor leo.”

“Go firinneach,” arsa Forgall Monach,

“is é fear an riastartha ó Eamhain Mhacha a
tháinig chun cainte le hEimhear

agus thug an ógbhean grá dósan

agus sin é an fáth a raibh comhrá eatarthu.

Ach ní haon mhaith dóibh é,” ar seisean.

“Déanfadsa é a thoirmeasc sa tslí nach
dtarlóidh mar is mian leo.”

“It is true,” said Forgall the Wily.

“The madman from Emain Macha has been
here to converse with Emer,

and the girl has fallen in love with him,

and that is why they talked to one another.

But it shall avail them nothing.

I shall hinder them from getting what they
wish.”

Section 57

Is de íarom doluid Forgall Monach dochum na
hEmna Macha

isna gallécoscaib,

amal bitis techta rí Gall

do acallaim Conchobuir

co n-imchomarc dó di órdúisib Finn-Gall

Is mar gheall air sin a chuaigh Forgall Monach
go hEamhain Mhacha

agus é gléasta i bhfeisteas gallda,

ar nós teachtaí rí Gall a bhíodh

ag triall ar Chonchubhar

chun plé a dhéanamh ar an gcíos a bheadh
lena íoc ag na Fionnghaill

Thereupon Forgall the Wily went towards
Emain Macha

in the garb of a foreigner,

as if it were an embassy from the King of the
Foreigners

that came to confer with Conchobor,

with an offering to him of golden treasures of
the White Foreigners

ocus cacha maithiusa olchenae.	i bhfoirm óir agus earraí luachmhara de gach saghas.	and all sorts of good things besides.
Triar ba hed a llín. Ferthar fáilte móir friss íarom.	Triúr acu a bhí ann. Fearadh fáilte mhór roimh Fhorgall.	Their number was three. Great welcome was made to him then.
Ó ro lá íarom a muinterus dia in tres laí,	Tar éis dó bheith trí lá ina gcomhlúadar,	When he had sent away his men on the third day,
molaighther Cú Chulainn agus Conall agus errid Ulad olchenae fiada.	thosaigh sé ar Chú Chulainn agus Conall agus laochra eile Uladh a mholadh ina fhianaise.	Cuchulaind and Conall and other chariot-chiefs of the men of Ulster were praised before him.
Asbertsom dano ba fir agus ba hamrae conclissed na herrid.	Dúirt gurbh iontach go fíor mar a dhéanadh na cairbthigh cleasa gaiscíoch.	He said that it was true, and that the chariot-chiefs performed marvellously,
Acht nammá chena, dia rised Cú Chulainn Domnall Míldemail ar Ailpi,	Ach, mar sin féin, a dúirt sé, dá dtéadh Cú Chulainn go dtí Domhnall Míleata ar na hAlpa	but that were Cuchulaind to go to Domnall the Soldierly in Alba;
robaid amraide a chliss,	gurbh iontaí fós a bheadh a chuid cleas,	his skill would be the more marvellous,
ocus dia rised Scáthach do foglaim in millti,	agus dá dtéadh sé go dtí Scáthach ag foghlaim scileanna míleata uaithi siúd,	and if he went to Scathach to learn soldierly feats,
ro derscaigfed curu Eorpa uile.	go sáródh sé gaiscígh uile na hEorpa.	he would excel the warriors of all Europe.
Acht chena, ba dó fachaird seom aní sin for Coin Culainn,	Ach is é cúis ar áitigh sé ar Chú Chulainn é sin a dhéanamh	But it was for this that he proposed it to Cuchulaind,
fo déig ar nácon tised ina fritheng doridisi.	ná chun nach dtiocfadh sé ar ais arís.	that he might not come back again.

Ar ba dóig leis, dia mbeth Cú Chulainn ina charatrad,	Mar cheap sé, dá mbeadh Cú Chulainn i bpáirt leis (le Domhnall Míleata)	For he thought that if Cuchulaind was in her friendship,
combad tremit fogébad bás	gur tríd sin a gheobhadh sé bás	he would get death thereby,
ar anserci agus luindi ind erred ucut	mar gheall ar fhraoch agus ar fhorrántacht an laoich sin,	through the wildness and fierceness of the warrior yonder,
ocus ane is ed boi dósom ón.	agus go deimhin, sin é a bhí uaidh.	and

Section 58

Fóemais Cú Chulainn techt fris sin	Leis sin, d'aontaigh Cú Chulainn dul	Cuchulaind consented to go,
ocus fonaiscis Forgall fair áraige fora téigtis isind aimsir sin.	agus bhain Forgall geallúint sollúnta as go gcuirfidís díobh gan mhoill.	and Forgall bound himself that were he to go in that time,
Cotsela iarom Forgall, ó áraill for Coin Culainn aní ba haccobor les.	D'fhág Forgall slán acu ansin, ón uair go raibh ceangal curtha aige ar Chú Chulainn déanamh mar a theastaigh uaidh.	he would give to Cuchulaind whatever he wished.
Luid Forgall dia thigh	Chuaigh Forgall go dtí a thigh féin.	Forgall went home,
ocus atregat ind láith gaile arabáruch	D'éirigh na laochra lá arna mhárach	and the warriors arose in the morning
ocus dobertatar dia n-óid techt frisna gnímu ro gellsat.	agus níorbh é a ndearmad beart a dhéanamh mar a ghealladar.	and set themselves to do what they had vowed.

Luidset co mboí Cú Chulainn íarom agus Lóegaire Búadach	D'imíodar leo: Cú Chulainn agus Laoghaire Buach	They went, namely Cuchulaind and Loegaire the Victorious
ocus Conchobur, ocus áirmit foirenn Conall Cernach do thecht aróen friu.	agus Conchubhar agus, dar le daoine áirithe, Conall Cearnach, i dteannta a chéile.	and Conchobor, and Conall Cernach, say some, went with them.

Section 59

Is ed luid Cú Chulainn íarom tar Brega ar adall na hingine.	Sea, ina dhiaidh sin, d'imigh Cú Chulainn roimhe thar Bhré chun bualadh leis an ógbhean.	Cuchulaind then went across Bray to visit the maiden.
Adgláastarsom íarom Emir ria techt ina noí.	Labhair sé le hEimhear sarar chuaigh sé ar bord a loinge.	He spoke with Emer before he went in his ship.
Ro ráid in ingen fris	Dúirt an ógbhean leis	The maiden told him
ba hé Forgall dorat ind ailgis fairseom i nEmain do thecht do foghlaim in míliti	gurbh é Forgall, nuair a bhíodar in Eamhain, a chuir iachall air dul ag foghlaim scileanna míleata	that it was Forgall who had desired him in Emain to go to learn soldierly feats,
ar dáig ná comrístais Emer ocus éseom.	i dtreo is nach bhféadfadh sé féin agus Eimhear bheith le chéile.	in order that Emer and he might not meet.
Ocus asbertsi ara mbíad ina fochill,	Agus dúirt sí le Cú Chulainn bheith ag faire amach,	And she told him to be on his guard
		wherever he went,

ar no bíad oc admilliud Con Culainn	mar go mbeadh Forgall ag iarraidh é a bhaint dá bhonnaibh	lest he should destroy him.
cach conair conricefad.	pé áit a raghadh sé.	
Tingellais cách díb dia chéili coméit a ngenais,	Ghealladar beirt bheith geannmaí	Each of them promised the other to keep their chastity
	go dtí go mbeidís le chéile arís,	until they met again,
acht mani fagbadh nechtar díb bás foí,	ach amháin dá bhfaigheadh duine acu bás idir an dá linn.	unless either of them should get death thereby.
co comrístais doridisi.		
Timnais cách díb celebrad di araili ocus imdasóat co hAilpi.	D'fhágadar slán ag a chéile agus thug seisean aghaidh ar na hAlpa.	They bade farewell to each other, and he turned towards Alba.

Section 60

Ó ráncatar iarom Domnall, forcéta less	Nuair a tháingadar mar a raibh Domhnall, thugadar tamall ag foghlaim uaidh:	When they had arrived at Domnall's, they were taught by him
aill (.i. fecht): for liic dercáin ocus foséted cetharbolc foithi.	chuirte iad ina seasamh ar leac the dhearg agus shéideadh seisean an tine fúithi le boilg.	to blow a leathern bellows under the flagstone of the small hole.
No clistis fuirri co nábtar duba ná glassa a fonna.	Dhéanaidís cleasa uirthi go dtí go mbíodh boinn a gcos dubh nó liath.	They would perform on it till their soles were black or livid.
Aill (.i. fecht) for sleig frisndringtis, co clistis fora rind	Uaireanta eile, théidís in airde ar shleá agus dheánaidís cleas ar a rinn	They were taught another thing on a spear, on which they would jump and perform on its point,
(.i. fonaidm niad for rindib sleg)	– snaidhm an ghaiscígh ar rinnibh sleá –	viz., the champion's coiling round the points of spears,
ná ferad fora fonnaib.	agus ní thagadh fuil le boinn a gcos.	or dropping on its head.
Carais iarom Coin Culainn ingen Domnaill, Dornoll a hainm, oildornae.	Thug iníon Dhomhnaill grá do Chú Chulainn; Dornoll a hainm siúd – bean na ndorn mór.	Then the daughter of Domnall, Dornolla by name, *having large fists,* fell in love with Cuchulaind.
Ba forgrándaie a delb.	B'fhíorghrána a deilbh:	Her form was very gruesome,

Batir móra a glúine, a sála rempi, a traigthe ina diaidh.	glúine móra, a sála roimpi agus a troithe ina diaidh.	her knees were large, her heels turned before her, her feet behind her,
Súili dublíatha móra ina cind. Duibithir cúach cera a gnúis. Tul fortrén fuirri. Folt forgarb forrúad ina gibnib foa cend.	Súile móra dubhliatha ina ceann agus a gnúis chomh dubh le pic i gcanna. Clár éadain tréan leathan uirthi agus folt fíor-rua fíorgharbh go gioblach ar a ceann.	big dark-grey eyes in her head, her face as black as a bowl of jet. She had a very strong forehead, her rough bright-red hair in threads round her head.
Opais Cú Chulainn a comlepaid. Tingellaissi didiu a degdígailsi fair sin.	Dhiúltaigh Cú Chulainn luí léi. Mhóidigh sise go n-imreodh sí díoltas crua air.	Cuchulaind refused to lie with her. Then she swore to be revenged on him for this.
Asbert Domnall nád boí fóisitiu (.i. forus) forcetail Con Culainn co rised Scáthaig baí fri hAilpi anair.	Dúirt Domhnall nach mbeadh oiliúint Chú Chulainn foirfe go dtí go raghadh sé go dtí Scáthach ar an taobh thoir de na hAlpa.	Domnall said Cuchulaind would not have true knowledge of what was taught until he went to Scathach, who lived eastward of Alba.
Nod lotar dano a cethrar	D'imigh an ceathrar acu	So the four went across Alba,

.i. Cú Chulainn agus Conchobur rí Ulad	– Cú Chulainn, Conchubhar, rí Uladh,	viz., Cuchulaind, and Conchobor, the King of Ulster,
agus Conall Cernach agus Lóegaire Búadach	Conall Cearnach agus Laoghaire Buach	and Conall Cernach, and Loegaire the Victorious.
tar Ailpi.	– thar Alpa.	
Is and doadbas dóib Emain Macha ara súilib.	Is ansin a taispeánadh Eamhain Mhacha dóibh os comhair a súl.	Then before their eyes appeared unto them Emain Macha.
Ní ro fétat iarom Conchobur agus Conall agus Lóegaire secha sin.	Níor fhéad Conchubhar ná Conall ná Laoghaire dul níos faide.	Now Conchobor and Conall and Loegaire were not able to go past it.
Ingen Domnaill dosfuc in taidbsin	Iníon Dhomhnaill a thug an fhís sin os a gcomhair,	The daughter of Domnall had raised that vision
fo déiga scartha Con Culainn fria muintir ar dáig a admillte.	d'fhonn Cú Chulainn a scarúint óna mhuintir agus díobháil mhór a thabhairt air.	in order to sever Cuchulaind from his companions to his ruin.