

# Tóruigheacht Dhiarmada agus Ghráinne

## The Pursuit of Diarmaid and Gráinne: Extracts

### Note to the reader:

Ní Shéaghda's edition and translation are based on the oldest copy of the saga in MS 24 P 9 in the Royal Irish Adademy. The manuscripts used by O'Grady for his edition and translation are no longer available. This presentation of extracts uses Ní Shéaghda's edition of the text and O'Grady's translation. The section numbers appear in O'Grady's two-volume edition published in 1880-1881. [The Modern Irish version is based on O'Grady's edition of the text with Modern Irish spelling. While this is not an ideal solution, considerations of copyright rule out other options.]

### Fionn wants a wife; Diorraing suggests Gráinne (ll. 1-12, 20-26), §1.1

#### Section 1.1

Lá d'ár éirigh Fionn mac Cúmháill maidion  
mhoch  
  
a nAlmhuin leathan-mhór Laighion,  
  
agus do shuigh amuich ar an bhfaighche  
  
gan ghiolla gan óglach iona fhochair,  
  
agus do lean dias dá mhuinnitir é,

Lá n-aon dár éirigh Fionn mac Chumhaill  
le moch na maidine  
  
i nAlmhain leathan-mhór Laighean,  
  
agus do shuigh ar an bhfaiche féar-uaine  
amuigh,  
  
gan ghiolla gan óglach ina fhochair,  
  
agus do lean dís dá mhuintir é,

On a certain day that Fionn Mac Cumhaill rose  
at early morn  
  
in Almhuin the broad and great of Laighean,  
  
and sat upon the grass-green plain without,  
  
having neither servant nor attendant by him,  
  
there followed him two of his people:

.i. Oisín mac Finn

agus Diorraing mac Dobhuir Dhámhaigh í Bhaoisgne.

Do labhair Oisín agus as é do rá[i]dh:

“Créad é ádhbar na moch-éirghe so ort, a Fhinn?” ar sé.

“Ní gan ádhbar do-rineas an mhoch-éirghe so, a Oisín,” ar Fionn,

“óir atáim lé bliadhuin gan mhnaoi gan bhainchéile

ó theasdaigh Maghnais inghion Gharaidh Ghlúnduibh mhic Mhórna,

óir ní gnáth suan ná sádhail dá dhéanamh don tí

theangmhas gan mhnaoi a dhiongmhála aige.

Agus as é sin ádhbar na moch-éirghe so, a Oisín,” ar Fionn.

...

eadhon, Oisín mac Fhinn

agus Diorraing mac Dobhair Uí Bhaoiscne.

Do labhair Oisín agus is é do rá:

“Créad ábhar an mhoich-éirí sin ort, a Fhinn?” ar sé.

“Ní gan ábhar a rinne mé an moich-éirí seo,” arsa Fionn,

“óir atáim gan bhean gan bhean chéile

ó d’éag Maighnís iníon Gharaidh Ghlúnduibh mhic Mhorna;

óir ní ghnáth suan ná sámh-chodladh do dhéanamh don té

a theagmháionn gan bhean a dhiongbhála aige,

agus is é sin ábhar mo mhoich-éirí féin, a Oisín.”

...

that is to say, Oisin the son of Fionn,

and Diorruing the son of Dobhar O’Baoisgne.

Oisin spoke, and what he said was:

“What is the cause of this early rising of thine, O Fionn?” quoth he.

“Not without cause have I made this early rising,” said Fionn;

“for I am without a wife without a mate

since Maighneis the daughter of Garadh Glundubh mac Moirne died;

for he is not wont to have slumber nor sweet sleep

who happens to be without a fitting wife,

and that is the cause of my early rising O Oisin.”

...

An sin do labhair Diorraing agus adubhaint:

“Do bhraithfinn féin do dhiongmhála do mhnaoi  
agus do bhainchéile dhuit, a Fhinn,  
dá madh áil leat dul dá hiarraidh.”

“Cia hí féin?” do rá[i]dh Fionn.

“Gráinne inghion Chormaic mhic Airt mhic Cuinn  
Chéadchathaigh,” ara Diorraing,

“i. an bhean is feárr dealbh agus déanamh agus  
úrlabhra  
do mhnáibh na cruinne go cóimhiomlán.”

Agus ansin do labhair Diorraing, agus is é  
do rá:

“Do bhraithfinn féin do dhiongháil do  
bhean chéile duit.”

“Cé hí féin?” arsa Fionn.

“Sí Gráinne iníon Chormaic mhic Airt  
mhic Coinn Chéadchathaigh,” arsa  
Diorraing,

“eadhon, an bhean is fearr dealbh agus  
déanamh agus urlabhra  
de mhná na cruinne go comhiomlán.”

And then spoke Diorruing, and what he said  
was:

“I myself could discover for thee a wife and a  
mate befitting thee.”

“Who is she?” said Fionn.

“She is Grainne the daughter of Cormac the son  
of Art the son of Conn of the hundred battles,”  
quoth Diorruing,

“that is, the woman that is fairest of feature and  
form and speech  
of the women of the globe together.”

## Cormac asks Gráinne (ll. 54-61), §1.3

### Section 1.3

...

agus do shuigh Cormac ar cholbha na  
hiomdhadh ag Gráinne

agus do labhair ria agus adubhaint:

“A Ghráinne” ar sé, “ag sin

dias do mhuinnitir Fhinn mhic Cúmhail

ag teacht dod h’iarra-sa mar mhnaoi dhó,

agus créad an freagra dob áil leat do thabhairt  
ortha?”

D’fhreagair Gráinne dhó agus adubhaint:

“Má atá do dhíol-sa do chliamhuin ann sin,

atá mo dhíol-sa d’fhear agus d’fhír-chéile ann.”

agus do shuigh Cormac ar cholbha na  
hiomdhadh agus na haird-leapa i bhfochair  
Gráinne,

agus do labhair agus is é do rá:

“Ag seo, a Ghráinne,” ar sé,

“díš de mhuinnitir Fhinn mhic Chumhaill

ag teacht dod’ iarraidhse mar bhean agus  
mar bhean chéile dó,

agus cén freagra ab áil leat do thabhairt  
ortha?”

D’fhreagair Gráinne agus is é do rá:

“Má tá do dhíolsa de chliamhain ann,

créad nach mbeadh mo dhíolsa d’fhear  
agus d’fhear chéile ann?”

and Cormac sat him upon the side of the couch  
and of the high bed by Grainne;

and he spoke, and what he said was:

“Here are, O Grainne,” quoth he,

“two of the people of Fionn Mac Cumhaill

coming to ask thee as wife and as mate for him,

and what answer wouldst thou give them?”

Grainne answered, and what she said was:

“If he be a fitting son-in-law for thee,

why should he not be a fitting husband and mate  
for me?”

## Description of Diarmaid (ll. 110-115), §1.5

### Section 1.5

...

“Cia hé an fear buileach binn-bhriathrach úd,” ar sí [Gráinne],

“ar a bhfuil an folt cas ciar-dhubh

agus an dá ghruaidh chorcra choimhdhearga

ar láimh chlí Oisín mhic Fhinn?”

“Diarmaid déad-bhán dreach-sholas ó Duibhne an fear úd,” ar an draoi,

“i. an t-aon-leannán ban agus inghean is fearr

atá a nÉirinn go hiomlán.”

...

“Cé hé an fear ballach binnbhriathrach úd,” ar sí [Gráinne],

“ar a bhfuil an folt cas ciardhubh

agus an dá ghrua chorcra chaordhearga

ar láimh chlé Oisín mhic Fhinn?

“Diarmaid déad-bhán dreachsholais Ó Duibhne an fear úd,” arsa an draoi,

“eadhon, an t-aon leannán ban agus iníonacha is fearr

dá bhfuil san domhan go comhiomlán.”

...

\*Grainne asked: \* “Who is that freckled sweet-worded man,

upon whom is the curling dusky-black hair,

and [who has] the two red ruddy cheeks,

upon the left hand of Oisin the son of Fionn?”

\*Said the druid: \* “That man is Diarmuid the grandson of Duibhne, the white-toothed, of the lightsome countenance;

that is, the best lover of women and of maidens

that is in the whole world.”

## Gráinne asks Diarmaid to elope (ll. 155-167), §1.7

### Section 1.7

...

Tug Gráinne a haghaidh ar Diarmaid ó Duibhne,

agus aseadh ro ráidh:

“An ngébhair-si suirghe uaim-si, a mhic uí Dhuibhne,” ar sí,

“an uair nach gabhann Oisín uaim hí?”

“Ní ghébh,” ar Diarmaid, “ór gidh bé bean do luathfidhe re hOisín

ní cubhaidh ream-sa bheith ria dá mbeith nach luathfidhe re Fionn hí.”

“Máseadh,” ar Gráinne,

“cuirim-si fá gheasuibh áigh agus aighmillte thusa, a Dhíarmaid uí Dhuibhne

...

Thug Gráinne a haghaidh ar Dhíarmaid Ó Duibhne ansin

agus adúirt:

“An nglacfaidh tú suirí uaimse, a mhic Uí Dhuibhne,

an uair nach nglacann Oisín uaim é?”

“Ní ghlaicfaidh mé,” arsa Dhíarmaid, “óir cibé bean atá luaite le hOisín,

ní chuí liomsa í a bheith agam, dá mba nach luaite le Fionn í.”

“Más ea,” arsa Gráinne,

“cuirimse faoi gheasa adha agus adhmillte thú, a Dhíarmaid,

...

Then Grainne turned her face to Diarmuid O’Duibhne,

and what she said to him was:

“Wilt thou receive courtship from me, O son of O’Duibhne,

since Oisin receives it not from me?”

“I will not,” said Diarmuid, “for whatever woman is betrothed to Oisin

I may not take her, even were she not betrothed to Fionn.”

“Then,” said Grainne,

“I put thee under bonds of danger and of destruction, O Diarmuid,

.i. troigh mná troghain agus nél mhairbh ós uisge agus saoghal Neóill Chaille arna chronughadh agad,

muna mbeirir mé féin leat as an tigh so anocht

sul éirgheas Fionn agus rí Éireann as an ecodladh úd ina bhfuil siad.”

eadhon, faoi gheasa droma draíochta,

muna mbéarfaidh tú mé féin leat as an teaghlaigh seo anocht

sula n-éireoidh Fionn agus rí Éireann as an suan ina bhfuil siad.”

that is, under the bonds of Dromdraoidheachta,

if thou take me not with thee out of this household to-night,

ere Fionn and the king of Erin arise out of that sleep?”

## Diarmaid and Gráinne plan to elope (ll. 189-202), §1.10

### Section 1.10

“Is iongnadh-duit-si an grá sin do thabhairt damh-sa,” ar Diarmaid, “tar ceann Fhinn,

agus nach bhfuil a nÉirinn fear is mó inmhe mná ná é.

Agus an fful a fhios agad-sa, a Ghráinne,” ar Diarmaid,

“an oidhche bhíos Fionn a tTeamh[raigh]

gurab aige féin bhíd eochracha na Teamhrach,

“Is ionadh dhuitse an grá sin do thabhairt domsa tar cheann Fhinn,” ar Diarmaid,

“nuair nach bhfuil in Éirinn fear is mó grá do bhean ná é;

agus an bhfuil a fhios agat, a Ghráinne,

an oíche a bhíonn Fionn i dTeamhair,

gurab aige a bhíonn eochracha na Teamhrach,

“It is a wonder that thou shouldst give me that love instead of Fionn,” said Diarmuid,

“seeing that there is not in Erin a man that is fonder of a woman than he;

and knowest thou, O Grainne,

on the night that Fionn is in Teamhair

that he it is that has the keys of Teamhair,

agus nach éidir linne an baile so d'fhágbháil mar sin."

"Ní fior sin," ar Gráinne, "atá doras élaighthe ar mo ghrianán-sa amach,

agus gébham-ne ann."

"As geis damh-sa

gabháil tré dhorus élaighthe ar bith."

"Máseadh," ar Gráinne, "do-chluinim-si

go dtéid gach curaigh agus gach cathmhilidh

d'urlannuibh a sleatha agus do chrannuibh a gcraoiseach

tar sonnach gach dúnaidh agus gach deaghbhaile asteach nó amach,

agus gébhád-sa an dorus élaighthe agus lean-sa mar sin mé."

agus mar sin nach féidir linn an baile d'fhágáil?"

"Tá doras éalaithe ar mo ghrianánsa," arsa Gráinne,

"agus rachaidh muid amach tríd."

"Is geas domsa

gabháil tré dhoras éalaithe ar bith," ar Diarmaid.

"Más ea, cluinimse," arsa Gráinne,

"go dtéann gach curadh agus gach cathmhile

le sáfacha a sleáanna agus le cranna a gcraoiseach

thar mhúr gacha dún agus gacha deabháile isteach nó amach

agus rachaidh mé tríd an doras éalaithe amach agus leansa mar sin mé."

and that so we cannot leave the town?"

"There is a wicket-gate to my Grianan," said Grainne,

"and we will pass out through it."

"It is a prohibited thing for me

to pass through any wicket-gate whatsoever," said Diarmuid.

"Howbeit, I hear," said Grainne,

"that every warrior and battle-champion can pass

by the shafts of his javelins and by the staves of his spears,

in or out over the rampart of every fort and of every town,

and I will pass out by the wicket-gate, and do thou follow me so."

## **Diarmuid and Gráinne elope (ll. 229-237), §1.12**

### **Section 1.12**

Éirghis Diarmaid ina sheasamh iar sin

agus tug lámh thapaidh laochdha ar a leathan-armaibh

agus do thiomain cead agus ceileabhradh

ag Oisín agus ag maithibh na Féine,

agus níor mhó mónann mín-chorcra

ná gach deór dá leigeadh Diarmaid as a dheircibh

ar scarthoin rena mhuinntir dhó.

Agus do chuaidh ar barr an dúnaidh

agus do chuir urrlanna a dhá chraoiseach faoi

agus do éirigh do bhaoith-léim édtrom i n-urard

nó gur ghabh lán a dhá bhonn

Iar sin d'éirigh Diarmaid ina sheasamh,

agus thug lámh thapa laochetha thar a leathan-airm,

agus d'fhág sé cead agus céiliúradh

do Oisín agus do cheannasaithe na Féinne;

agus níor mhó mónog mín-chorcra

ná gach deoir dá sileadh Diarmaid as a dhearca

ag scaradh lena mhuintir dó.

Do chuaigh Diarmaid ar bharr an dúna,

agus do chuir sáfacha a dhá sleá faoi,

agus d'éirigh le baothléim éadrom urard éanúil

gur ghabh leithead a dhá bhonn

After that Diarmuid arose and stood,

and stretched forth his active warrior hand over his broad weapons,

and took leave and farewell

of Oisin and of the chiefs of the Fenians;

and not bigger is a smooth-crimson whortleberry

than was each tear that Diarmuid shed from his eyes

at parting from his people.

Diarmuid went to the top of the fort,

and put the shafts of his two javelins under him,

and rose with an airy, very light, exceeding high, bird-like leap,

until he attained the breadth of his two soles

don fearann álúinn féar-uaine amuigh ar in  
bhfhaithche,  
agus tarla Gráinne fair.

don fhearrann álúinn féar-uaine amuigh ar  
an bhfaiche,  
agus do bhualt Gráinne leis.

of the beautiful grass-green earth on the plain  
without,  
and Grainne met him.

## Summary of §§1.13 – 2.34

After their escape from Tara, Diarmaid and Gráinne crossed the River Shannon at Athlone and came to an oak-grove in a plain near Loughrea, Co. Galway. In the middle of the oak-grove, Diarmaid built a stockade with seven doors. Fionn's trackers followed them as far as Athlone and Fionn guessed that they were in the oak-grove. Fionn and the Fianna assembled there. Unseen by Fionn and the Fianna, Aonghus an Bhrogha of the Tuatha Dé Danann (Diarmaid's foster-father) came and took Gráinne away with him to Limerick. Diarmaid escaped by leaping over the stockade and joined Gráinne and Aonghus at Limerick. Then Diarmaid and Gráinne travelled South-West until they came to a cave near Rossbehy overlooking Dingle Bay. When emissaries sent by Fionn discovered where they were, they left the cave and retraced their steps to Limerick and then travelled over Slieve Aughtry into South Co. Galway. There in a forest was a magic rowan-tree that had grown from a berry dropped by the Tuatha Dé Danann. Berries from this tree had healing and rejuvenating properties. This tree was guarded by a giant. Gráinne, who was pregnant, asked for some of the berries. Diarmaid killed the giant and then Diarmaid and Gráinne slept in the giant's bed at the top of the tree. Fionn sent emissaries to get berries from the tree. Diarmaid gave them some of the berries, which they brought back to Fionn, claiming that it was they who had killed the giant. Fionn guessed that it was Diarmaid who had given them the berries, so he and the Fianna came and surrounded the tree. Unseen by Fionn and the Fianna, Aonghus an Bhrogha came and took Gráinne away to Brugh na Bóinne. Diarmaid leaped down from the top of the tree over the heads of Fionn and the Fianna, and joined Gráinne in Brugh na Bóinne.

## Aonghus makes peace (ll. 1353-1382), §2.35

### Section 2.35

Agus do éirigh Aonghus go moch an lá sin

agus do chuaidh a cceann Finn agus na Féine

agus do fhiadfraigh d'Fhionn a' ndénadh sé  
síodh re Diarmaid ó Duibhne.

Adubhairt Fionn nach fful ar bith cruth ar a n-  
iarrfadhbh Diarmaid síth nach ttiubhradh sé féin  
dó hí.

Is ann sin do chuaidh Aonghus a cceann  
Chormaic mhic Airt d'iarraidh síodha do  
Dhiarmaid ó Duibhne air,

agus adubhairt Cormac go ttiubhradh sé síth  
dhó.

Agus do chuaidh Aonghus a cceann Diarmada

agus do fhiadfraigh dhe a' ndénadh sé síodh ré  
Cormac agus re Fionn.

D'éirigh Diarmaid go moch ar na mhárach,  
agus d'éirigh Aonghas

agus do chuaigh mar a raibh Fionn,

agus d'fhiadfraigh dhe an ndéanfadhbh sé síth le  
Dhiarmaid.

Dúirt Fionn go ndéanfadhbh, cibé nós ina  
ndéanfadhbh Dhiarmaid í.

Ansin do chuaigh Aonghas mar a raibh rí  
Éireann d'iarraidh síth do Dhiarmaid,

agus dúirt Cormac go dtabharfadhbh sé sin dó.

Do chuaigh Aonghas arís mar a raibh  
Dhiarmaid agus Gráinne,

agus d'fhiadfraigh sé de Dhiarmaid an  
ndéanfadhbh sé síth le Cormac agus le Fionn.

Diarmuid rose early on the morrow, and  
Aonghus rose

and went where Fionn was,

and asked him whether he would make peace  
with Diarmuid.

Fionn said that he would, in whatever way  
Diarmuid would make peace.

Then Aonghus went where the king of Erin  
was to ask peace for Diarmuid,

and Cormac said that he would grant him that.

Again Aonghus went where Diarmuid and  
Grainne were,

and asked Diarmuid whether he would make  
peace with Cormac and with Fionn.

Adubhairt Diarmaid go ndénadh sé síth  
dá ffaghadh sé na comhadha do iarrfadhbh sé  
orra.

“Cá comha sin?” ar Aonghus.

“Tríocha céad Chorca Dhuibhne do bhí ag  
mh’athair,  
gan seilg ná fiadhach do dhénamh innte  
d’Fhionn  
agus gan cíos ná cáin do rígh Éireann ann,  
agus tríocha céad Bheinn[e] Damhuis Dubh-  
chairrge a Laignibh  
mar chumhaigh dam féin ó Fhionn,  
ór as é tríocha céad is fearr atá a nÉirinn é,  
agus tríocha céad Chéisi Coruinn ó rígh  
Éireann  
mar spré rena inghin damh.

Agus ag sin na comhadha rena ndénuinn-si  
síth re rígh Éireann agus re Fionn,” ar  
Diarmaid.

Dúirt Diarmaid go ndéanfadh  
dá bhfaigheadh sé na comhaí a d’iarrfadhbh sé  
orthu.

“Cad iad na comhaí?” arsa Aonghas.

“An tríocha céad,” arsa Diarmaid, “do bhí ag  
m’athair, eodhan, tríocha céad Uí Dhuibhne,  
gan sealg gan fiach do dhénamh ag Fionn  
ann;  
agus gan chíos ná cháin do rí Éireann ann;  
agus tríocha céad Binne Damhais, eadhon,  
Dubhcharn Laighean  
mar chomhaí dhom féin ó Fhionn,  
óir is iad na tríochaidí céad is fearr in Éirinn;  
agus tríocha céad Ceise Chorainn ó rí Éireann  
mar spré lena iníon,

agus is iad na comhaí lena ndéanfainn síth  
leo.”

Diarmuid said that he would  
if he obtained the conditions which he should  
ask of them.

“What be those conditions?” quoth Aonghus.

“The cantred,” said Diarmuid, “which my  
father had, that is, the cantred of O’Duibhne,  
and that Fionn shall not hunt nor chase therein,  
and without rent or tribute to the king of Erin;  
also the cantred of Beann Damhuis, that is,  
Dubhcharn in Laighean  
as gifts for myself from Fionn,  
for they are the best cantreds in Erin:  
and the cantred of Ceis Corainn from the king  
of Erin

as dowry with his daughter;  
and those are the conditions upon which I  
would make peace with them.”

“An mbeir síodhach ris na comhadhuibh sin dá bhfaghair iad?” ar Aonghus.

“Do badh usaide leam síth do dhénamh iad súd d’fhagháil,” ar Diarmaid.

Is ann sin do chuaidh Aonghus leis na sgéaluibh sin  
a cceann rígh Éireann agus do chuaidh a cceann Finn,  
agus fuair sé na comhtha uile uatha,

agus do mhaithear darbh sé a ndearna sé orra an feadh do uí sé fá choill.

Agus do-rinni Aonghus síth eatarra go ceann shé mbliadhan déag.

Agus is é ionad inar thogh Diarmaid agus Gráinne ionadh agus áit chaithmhe

“An mbeifeá sítheach leis na comhaí sin dá bhfaighfeá iad?” arsa Aonghas.

“Do ba fusaide liom síth do dhéanamh iad siúd d’fháil,” arsa Diarmaid.

Do ghluais Aonghas leis na scéalta sin mar a raibh rí Éireann agus Fionn,  
agus fuair sé na comhaí sin uatha go huile,  
agus do mhaithear darbh sé a ndearna sé orra an feadh do uí sé fá choill

ar feadh sé bliain déag,  
agus do rinneadar síocháin eatarthu amhlaidh sin;  
agus is é ionad inar shuigh Diarmaid agus Gráinne,

“Wouldst thou be peaceable on those conditions if thou wert to get them?” asked Aonghus.

“I could better bear to make peace by getting those conditions,” said Diarmuid.

Aonghus went with those tidings where the king of Erin and Fionn were, and he got those conditions from him everyone, and they forgave him all he had done as long as he had been outlawed,

[namely] for the space of sixteen years; and so they made peace with each other; and the place that Diarmuid and Grainne settled in

a Ráith Ghráinne a ttríocha chéd Chéisi  
Coruinn  
  
ar a fhad ó Fhionn agus ó rígh Éireann.

i Ráith Ghráinne i dtríocha céad Cheise  
Chorainn  
  
i bhfad ó Fhionn agus ó Chormac.

was Rath Ghrainne in the cantred of Ceis  
Corainn,  
  
far from Fionn and from Cormac.

## **Diarmaid goes to Beann Gulban (ll. 1433-1449), §2.38**

### **Section 2.38**

Do ghluais Diarmaid roimhe amach ó Ráith  
Ghráinne,

agus ní dearnadh oiriseamh ná comhnaidhe  
lais

nó go ráinic go mullach Bheinne Gulban,

agus fuair Fionn roimhe ann

gan aon-nduine 'na fhochair.

Agus níor bheannaigh Diarmaid dó

agus do fhiabraigh dhe an é do bhí ag dénamh  
na sealga.

Ansin do ghluais Diarmaid ó Ráith Ghráinne  
amach,

agus ní dhearna sé stad ná cónaí

go ráinig go mullach Bhinne Ghulbain,

agus do fuair Fionn roimhe ann

gan aon duine ina fharradh ná ina chuideachta.

Ní dhearna Diarmaid beannú ar bith dhó,

ach d'fhiabraigh dhe an é do bhí ag déanamh  
na sealge sin.

Then Diarmuid went forth from Rath  
Ghrainne,

and made no halt nor stopping

until he reached to the summit of Beann  
Gulbain,

and he found Fionn before him there

without any one by him or in his company.

Diarmuid gave him no greeting,

but asked him whether it was he that was  
holding that chase.

Adubhairt Fionn nacharbh é féin do bhí agá dénamh,

“acht buidhean shluaigh do éirgheas amach ó chianuibh

agus tarla lorg muice allaidh ar ghadhar do ar ngadhruibh

agus é sgaoilte renar gcois,

agus níor fédadh a ghabháil;

agus as é torc Bheinne Golban tarla roimhe.

Agus is díomhaoin don Fhéin bheith agá leanmhain

óir is minic roimhe so do chuaidh uatha,

agus do mharbh caoga óglach don Fhéin ar maidin aniu.

Agus atá sí a n-aghaidh na Beinne anís chuguinn

Dúirt Fionn nár bh é,

ach buíon-tslua d'éirigh amach tar éis meán oíche,

“agus tharla lorg muice allta ar ghadhar dár ngadhar,

agus é scaiolte lenár gcois,

go nár fhéadadar a ghabháil ó shin i leith.

Is é torc Bhinne Ghulbain, iomorra, tharla roimh an ngadhar,

agus is díomhaoin toisc na Féinne dá leanúint;

óir is minic roimhe seo do chuaigh sé uathu,

agus do maraíodh caoga óglach den Fhiann leis ar mhaidin inniu.

Tá sé in aghaidh na Binneanois chugainn,

Fionn said that it was not he,

but that a company had risen out after midnight,

“and one of our hounds came across the track of a wild pig,

being loose by our side,

so that they have not hitherto been able to retake him.

Now it is the wild boar of Beann Gulbain that the hound has met,

and the Fenians do but idly in following him;

for oftentimes ere now he has escaped them,

and thirty warriors of the Fenians were slain by him this morning.

He is even now [coming] up against the mountain towards us,

agus an Fhian ag teitheadh roimpe, agus fágbam-ne an tulach so dhi.”

Adubhairt Diarmaid nach ffúigfeadh an tulach roimhe.

“Ní cóir dhuit-si sin,” ar Fionn,

“ór is dot gheasuibh sealg muice do dhéanamh.”

agus an Fhiann ar teitheadh roimhe, agus fágadh muidne an tulach seo dhó.”

Dúirt Diarmaid nach rachadh sé ón tulach le heagla roimhe.

“Ní cóir duitse sin do dhéanamh, a Dhiarmaid,” arsa Fionn,

“óir ataoi faoi gheasa gan sealg muice do dhéanamh.”

with the Fenians fleeing before him, and let us leave this tulach to him.”

Diarmuid said that he would not leave the tulach through fear of him.

“It is not meet for thee to do thus,” said Fionn,

“for thou art under restrictions never to hunt a pig.”

## **Diarmaid is wounded by the boar (ll. 1532-1562), §2.41**

### **Section 2.41**

’Na dhiaidh sin táinic an torc a n-aghaidh na Beinne aníos

agus an Fhian ina diaigh,

agus do sgaoil Diarmaid Mac an Chuill dá héill ina cuinne,

agus ní dhearnaidh sin tarbha dhó

Ansin tháinig an torc in aghaidh na Binne aníos

agus an Fhiann ina dhiaidh.

Do scaoil Diarmaid Mac an Chuill dá héill ina choinne,

agus ní dhearna sin tairbhe dhó,

The wild boar then came up the face of the mountain

with the Fenians after him.

Diarmuid slipped Mac an Chuill from his leash against him,

and that profiteth him nothing,

ór níor an sí risin torc acht do theith roimpe.

Adubhairt Diarmaid: “Is maирg nach déن comhairle dheagh-mhná,

ór adubhairt Gráinne ream a mochrach

an Móraltach agus an Ga Dearg do thabhairt leam.”

Rena chois sin do chuir méar

a suaichneamh síoda an Gha Buidhe an Lámhaigh do uhí ’na láimh

agus tug rogha n-áitheasach n-urchair ar amus na muice dhe

gur bhual a gceart-lár a haithche agus a héadain hí,

agus níor ghearr aon-ruibe innte,

agus níor mhó dhearg fuirre.

óir níor fhan sí leis an torc ach d’imigh roimhe.

Dúirt Diarmaid: “Is maирg nach ndéanann comhairle dea-mhná,

óir dúirt Gráinne liom i mochdháil na maidine inniu

an Móralltach agus an Ga Dearg do thabhairt liom.”

Iar sin, do chuir Diarmaid a bheag-mhéar dath-gheal donn-ionga

i suaithne shíoda an Gha Bhui,

agus thug rogha an urchair don mhuc,

gur bhual i gceartlár a haghaidhe agus a héadain í;

mar sin féin, níor ghearr sé aon ribe inti,

agus ní dhearna fuiliú ná fordheargadh uirthi.

for he did not await the wild boar but fled before him.

Diarmuid said, “woe to him that doeth not the counsel of a good wife,

for Grainne bade me at early morn to-day

take with me the Moralltach and the Ga Dearg.”

Then Diarmuid put his small white-coloured ruddy-nailed finger

into the silken string of the Ga Buidhe,

and made a careful cast at the pig,

so that he smote him in the fair middle of his face and of his forehead;

nevertheless he cut not a single bristle upon him,

nor did he give him wound or scratch.

Réna chois sin ro bhean a chloidheamh amach  
.i. an Beacaltach,

agus do bhual ina druim hí

agus níor ghearr aon-ruibe ann, agus do-rinne  
dá chuid dá chloidheamh.

Rena chois sin tuc an torc sidhe nemhneach  
neimh-eglach ar Diarmaid

agus do bhean sí an fód do uhí fána chosuibh,  
agus tarla mullach a chinn faoi.

Agus ar éirghe dó

tarla cos ar gach taobh don torc aige,

agus a aghaidh roimhe siar,

agus do gluais sí re fánaigh an chnuic síos

agus níor fhéad sí Diarmaid do chur dhi.

Agus do ghabh roimpe as sin

Iar sin, do tharraing sé an Beagalltach as a  
thruaill taisce,

agus do bhual lán-bhuile dhe i ndroim an toirc

ach níor ghearr aon ribe ann, agus do rinne dhá  
chuid den chláiomh.

Ansin thug an torc léim neamheaghach ar  
Dhiarmaid

gur bhain an fód a bhí faoina chosa agus tharla  
mullach a chinn faoi,

agus ar n-éirí dhó

tharla cos ar gach taobh den torc de,

agus a aghaidh siar ar dheireadh an toirc.

Do gluais an torc le fána an chnoic síos,

agus níor fhéad sí Diarmaid do chur di i rith an  
ré sin.

As a aithle sin do gluais roimpi

Thereupon he drew the Beag-altach from the  
sheath in which it was kept,

and struck a heavy stroke thereof upon the  
wild boar's back

yet he cut not a single bristle upon him, but  
made two pieces of his sword.

Then the wild boar made a fearless spring  
upon Diarmuid,

so that he tripped him and made him fall  
headlong,

and when he was risen up again

it happened that one of his legs was on either  
side of the wild boar,

and his face [looking] backward toward the  
hinder part of the wild boar.

The wild boar fled down the fall of the hill

and was unable to put off Diarmuid during that  
space.

After that he fled away

nó go ráinic Eas Ruaidh mhic Bhadhoirn,

agus mar do ráinic an t-eas

ruc trí léimeanna lúith tar an eas anonn agus  
anall

agus níor fhéad sí Diarmaid do chur dhi risin  
bhfeadh sin.

Táinic roimpe a ffrithing na conaire céadna

agus a n-aghaidh aird na Beinne suas arís,

agus ar tteacht ar mullach an chnuic aníos di  
do chuir sí Diarmaid di,

agus ag tuitim dochum láir dhó

tuc sí sidhe neimhneach neimh-eglach air

gur leig sí a abach agus a ionathar ris.

Agus ag fágbháil na tulcha dhi

nó go ráinig EasRua mhic Bhadhairn,

agus mar ráinig an sruth rua

thug sí trí léimeanna lúfara thar an eas anonn  
agus anall,

ach níor fhéad sí Diarmaid do chur dá droim i  
rith an ré sin;

agus tháinig i bhfrithing na conaire céanna

go ráinig go hard na Binne suas arís.

Agus ar dteacht go mullach an chnoic di do  
chuir Diarmaid dá droim,

agus ar dtuitim go lár dó,

do thug an torc léim santach sár-láidir air,

gur lig a abach agus a ionathar lena chosa.

Ach cheana, ar bhfágáil na tulaí di,

until he reached Eas Ruaidh mhic Bhadhairn,

and having reached the red stream

he gave three nimble leaps across the fall  
hither and thither,

yet he could not put off Diarmuid during that  
space;

and he came back by the same path

until he reached up to the height of the  
mountain again.

And when he had reached the top of the hill,  
he put Diarmuid from its back;

and when he was fallen to the earth

the wild boar made an eager exceeding mighty  
spring upon him,

and ripped out his bowels and his entrails [so  
that they fell] about his legs.

Howbeit, as he [the boar] was leaving the  
tulach,

tuc Diarmaid urchar áitheasach do chobhail an chloïdhimh

do uhí 'na láimh dhi

gur bhual a n-oghar a himlinne hí, gur leig sé a habach agus a hionathar ria,

gur fháguibh marbh gan anmain hí.

thug Diarmaid urchar áitheasach di de chúl an chlaímh

do tharla ina láimh aige,

gur lig a hinchinn leis

gur fhág marbh gan anam í.

Diarmuid made a triumphant cast of the hilt of the sword

that chanced to be [still] in his hand,

so that he dashed out his brains

and left him dead without life.

## Fionn's power to heal (ll. 1565-1579), §2.42

### Section 2.42

Rena chois [s]in táinig Fionn agus Fiana Éireann do láthair,

agus do bhádar arrgheana báis agus buan-éga ag teacht do Dhiarmaid.

Is ann sin adubhairt Fionn: “Is maith team t’fheicsin mar sin, a Dhiarmaid,” ar sé,

“agus is truagh leam nach ffuliid mná Éireann uile dot fhéachain anois,

Níor chian as a aithle sin go dtáinig Fionn agus Fianna Éireann do láthair,

agus do bhíodar airónna báis agus buan-éaga ag teacht ar Dhiarmaid an tan sin.

“Is maith liom tú d’fheiscint san riocht sin, a Dhiarmaid,” arsa Fionn,

“agus is trua liom gan mná Éireann dod fhéacaint anois:

It was not long after that when Fionn and the Fenians of Erin came up,

and the agonies of death and of instant dissolution were then coming upon Diarmuid.

“It likes me well to see thee in that plight, O Diarmuid,” quoth Fionn;

“and I grieve that [all] the women of Erin are not now gazing upon thee:

ór tucais maisi ar mhí-mhaisi,

agus dealbh mhaith ar droch-dheilbh.”

“Atá ar cumus duit-si misi do leigheas uatha sin,” ar Diarmaid,

“madh áil leat féin hé.”

“Cionnus do leigheósainn-si thú?” ar Fionn.

“Co maith,” ar Diarmaid,

“ór do ghlacais an t-eó fis do uí for Bóinn,

agus gidh bé dá ttiubharthá deoch dot bhasuibh

do bhiadh sé óghshlán ón uile ghalar dá éis.”

“Níor thuillis-[s]i uaim-si an deoch sin do thabhairt duit,” ar Fionn.

óir tá an mhaise maith a bhí ort athraithe go droch-mhaise

agus an rogha deilbhe go droch-dheilbh.”

“Más ea, tá ar do chumas mise do leigheas, a Fhinn,” arsa Diarmaid,

“dá mb’áil leat féin é.”

“Conas do leigheasfainn thú?” arsa Fionn.

“Go héasca,” arsa Diarmaid,

“óir an tan do ghlac tú an tseoid uasal fise um Bhóinn,

cibé neach dá dtabharfá deoch dod bhosa dhó,

do bhéadh sé ógh slán ón uile ghalar dá éis sin.”

“Níor thuill tú uaim an deoch sin do thabhairt duit,” arsa Fionn.

for thy excellent beauty is turned to ugliness,

and thy choice form to deformity.”

“Nevertheless it is in thy power to heal me, O Fionn,” said Diarmuid,

“if it were thine own pleasure to do so.”

“How should I heal thee?” said Fionn.

“Easily,” quoth Diarmuid;

“for when thou didst get the noble precious gift of divining at the Boinn,

[it was given thee that] to whomsoever thou shouldst give a drink from the palms of thy hands

he should after that be young [i.e. fresh] and sound from any sickness [he might have at the time.”]

“Thou hast not deserved of me that I should give thee that drink,” quoth Fionn.

## The death of Diarmaid (ll. 1656-1672), §§2.46 – 2.47

### Section 2.46

“Ní haithne damh-sa tobar ar an mBeinn si,”  
ar Fionn.

“Ní fior sin,” ar Diarmaid,

“ór ní fhuil acht naoi spáis uait tobar fior-  
áluinn fior-uisge is fearr ar bith.”

“Ní haithnid domsa tobar ar bith ar an mbeann  
seo,” arsa Fionn.

“Ní fior sin,” arsa Diarmaid,

“óir ní bhfuil ach naoi gcéimeanna uait tobar is  
fearr fioruisce ar bith.”

“I know no well whatever upon this  
mountain,” said Fionn.

“That is not true,” said Diarmuid;

“for but nine paces from thee is the best well  
of pure water in the world.”

### Section 2.47

Ina dhiaidh sin téid Fionn d’ionnsaighe an  
tobair

agus do thógaibh lán a dhá bhas leis,

agus ní mó ná leath sligheadh táinic

an uair do leig sé an t-uisge trína bhasuibh  
síos,

Iar sin chuaigh Fionn d’ionsáí an tobair,

agus do thóg sé lán a dhá bhos leis den uisce;

ach ní mó ná leath slí do ráinig

an uair do lig sé an t-uisce trína bhosa síos,

After that Fionn went to the well,

and raised the full of his two hands of the  
water;

but he had not reached more than half way [to  
Diarmuid]

when he let the water run down through his  
hands,

agus do innis nachar fhéad sé an t-uisge do thabhairt leis.

“Do-bheirim-si mo bhriathar,” ar Diarmaid,  
“gurab dot dheóin féin do-ní tú sin.”

Téid Fionn ar ceann an uisce arís,  
agus ní mó ná an fad céadna tuc leis é  
an uair do leig tréna bhasuibh síos é.

“Dar mo bhréithir a bhfiaghnuisi m’arm,” ar  
Osgar,  
“muna ttuair an t-uisge leat go luath, a Fhinn,  
ní racha don láthair so dhínn ’nar ndís acht an  
tí bhus treisi.”

Do thill Fionn an treas feacht ar ceann in uisce  
leis in ccomhrádh sin go Diarmaid, agus tuc  
lán a dhá bhos don uisce leis.

agus d’inis sé nár fhéad sé an t-uisce do thabhairt leis.

“Do bheirim mo bhriathar,” arsa Diarmaid,  
“gur dod dheoin féin do lig tú uait é.”

Do chuaigh Fionn ar cheann an uisce an athuair,  
agus ní mó ná an fad céanna tháinig  
an tan do lig trína bhosa é, ar smaoineamh dhó  
ar Ghráinne.

“Do bheirimse mo bhriathar i bhfianaise  
m’arm,” arsa Oscar,  
“muna dtabharfá ar luas an t-uisce leat, a  
Fhinn,  
nach bhfághfaidh an tulach seo ach tusa nó  
mise.”

D’hill Fionn an treas feacht ar an tobar  
ar bhíthin an chomhrá do rinne Oscar leis,  
agus thug an t-uisce leis go Diarmaid,

and he said he could not bring the water.

“I swear,” said Diarmuid,  
“that of thine own will thou didst let it from  
thee.”

Fionn went for the water the second  
time,  
and he had not come more than the same  
distance

when he let it through his hands, having  
thought upon Grainne.

“I swear before my arms,” said Oscar,

“that if thou bring not the water speedily, O  
Fionn,  
there shall not leave this tulach but [either]  
thou or I.”

Fionn returned to the well the third time  
because of that speech which Oscar had made  
to him, and brought the water to Diarmuid,

Agus ag teacht do láthair dó do sgar a anam  
rena chorp ag Diarmaid.

agus ag teacht do láthair dó, do scar an t-anam  
le colainn Dhiarmada.

and as he came up the life parted from the  
body of Diarmuid.