

Bards of Sternfeld Praise Poetry Project

Crown Tournament, AS LII

10/1/2017

Sternfeld Rapier Bards: Baron Breddelwynn ap Taliesin, Lady Brigitta von Metten, Lord Dai Gerdwr, Khellian of Sternfeld, Lady Liadan Liathán, Maestra Lucia Elena Braganza, Sarah the Scholar, Master Tonis van Driele, and Lady Tualaith of Sternfeld

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Introduction

So....what's all this then?

Your Majesties, Your Highnesses, Lords, Ladies, Gentlefolk all – Greetings and fair tidings!

This was.....an experiment...and an adventure. We have a Bardic group that's been meeting in Sternfeld for a little over a year. We've been learning a tremendous amount, growing as both performers and writers, and getting into rather a bunch of shenanigans. What you hold in your hands is – appropriately - our first harvest.

At Known World Cooks and Bards in AS 49 (2014 CE), I took a class from Viscountess Wander Riordan called “Iron Bardic: writing poetry about an event, while AT the event.” She'd gone to several fighting events, including Crown Tournament, picked a fighter, observed them, and then wrote about them and presented it to them. And not only fighting events. There are amazing things – big and small - happening at every event. I wanted to do this for Midrealm Crown someday.

Our challenge to ourselves was to WRITE SOMETHING for each combatant/consort couple entering Crown List. It didn't have to be long. It didn't have to match the persona. It didn't even have to be a documentable form (but WOW did some of them raise the bar there...). Since several of us were not going to be able to attend, most of the pieces were written before the event. Several were composed on site (yay Iron Bard!) or had blanks filled in. There were – as always – combatants on Crown List who did not fight that day. We decided to include their pieces anyway, if they'd been pre-written. No sense in wasting good poetry!

If you're reading this, thank you. Thank you for your interest, and thank you for giving us venue. We hope you enjoy these first fruits of our labor. And in the weighty words of the First Tournament, “NEXT time, I'm going to ----“

In Service,

-- Maestra Lucia Elena Braganza

Bards of Sternfeld Praise Poetry Project Crown Tournament, AS LII 10/21/2017

Baron Breddelwynn ap Taliesin, Lady Brigitta Rosa von Metten, Lord Dai Gerdwr, Young Lad Khellian of Sternfeld, Lady Líadan Liathán, Sarah the Scholar, Master Tonis van Driele, Lady Tualaithe of Sternfeld and Maestra Lucia Elena Braganza

Sir Alric of the Mists, Fighting for Baroness Katherine Vivian

By Lady Brigitta Rosa von Metten

Guard of the fallen,
Shield of the weak,
Alric of the Mists
Strides on the field.

Fights for Katherine,
Strong Dragon's sword.
Noble yet humble.
Mighty yet kind.

Sarjeant Njall Tjorkilsson, Fighting for The Honorable Lady Elisif Leifsdottir

By Lady Liadan Liathán

Njall Tjarkilsson

Terror chaser

Fire's fighter

Able leader

Njall Tjarkilsson

Loves Leifsdottir

Patient mentor

Teacher, learner

Njall Tjarkilsson

Just as judger

Wise advisor

Life's assayer

Njall Tjarkilsson

Quiet speaker

Third son, younger

Honor's lover.

Poet's Note: This one is for a Danish raider, so I looked up a Danish poetic form to get the rhyme pattern.

*(Lady Liadan Liathán, mka Brenda Sutton, 368 W. Main Street, Danville, IN 46122-1622;
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Lady Adelais of Pferdestadt, Fighting for Lord Dimarus Of Dernehealde

By Maestra Lucia Elena Braganza

Fiercely fights this armored rose
Blocking Dyderic's raining blows
Thus to her lord, devotion shows

Matched pair to meet in tournament
Sun and moon shine resplendent
At once Consort and Combattant

an englyn milwr of 2 stanzas

Poets Note: Lady Adelais and Lord Dimarus fought for each other in the list. Dai wrote an englyn milwr for Dimarus, so I thought it would be appropriate if I wrote for Adelais in a matching style.

Sir A'kos of Roaring Wastes, Fighting for THL Bella Roisin O'Coilleain

By Sarah the Scholar

Crisp, the autumn air
Wisps of flowing long hair
Sir A'kos strikes his foe
Filling the opponent with woe

Bella the beauty so rare
Admiring her hero's dare
With love she doth glow
As A'kos deals another blow

The foe casts a vicious glare
But A'kos' nerve doth not wear
Bella's ardor he doth know
His confidence always doth show

Baron Brisi Thorgrimsson, Fighting for Lady Moda Afidottir

By Lady Brigitta Rosa von Metten

Brave Brisi Thorgrimsson
Stands proudly on the field.
For lovely Moda Afidottir
His mighty weapon does he yield.

Black diamond boldly shown
On gleaming field of white.
Baron Brisi meets Drust and Atzinger
In glorious, honorable fight.

Sir Cedric Adolphus, Fighting for Her Ladyship Honor von Atzinger

By Lord Dai Gerdwr

When that Autumn Crown should send their call
Comes Cedric, Captain, Knight to stand withal
To raise that arm that guides his brothers' heart,
And bring such truth as takes the wounded's part.

In steel and chivalry is virtue shown
While wood and paper make the spirit known -
So that same hand that deftly smooths the grain
May brandish sword and thus bid Honor reign.

Iambic Pentameter rhyming couplets as in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales

Dai Gerdwr http://middlewiki.midrealm.org/index.php/Dai_Gerdwr

Manu mea resurget

Duke Dag Thorgrimsson, Fighting for Duchess AnneMarie de Garmeaulx

By Lord Dai Gerdwr

Doom brings Dag Thorgrimsson!

Duke wields bane blade, slain scythes.

Seven he sat sov'reign,

Seeks now eight, for fate calls.

Inspiration reigning,

Rose fair question poses -

Clasp and wolf's head whispers,

"Win, and then begin it."

Dai Gerdwr http://middlewiki.midrealm.org/index.php/Dai_Gerdwr

Manu mea resurget

Lord Dimarus Of Dernehealde, Fighting for Lady Adelais of Pferdestadt

By Lord Dai Gerdwr

Fight for one whom you inspire
Her strength fans your battle fire
Both would Middle throne require.

Honor in the double deed,
Labor, duty, guaranteed
Hone the habit and succeed.

an englyn milwr of 2 stanzas

Dai Gerdwr http://middlewiki.midrealm.org/index.php/Dai_Gerdwr

Manu mea resurget

Sir Drust MacArlith, Fighting for Lady Rhiannan Blaiddwen

By Lady Brigitta Rosa von Metten

Swinging hammer or sword

Does Sir Drust MacArlith prevail.

Howling proudly, he enters the fray.

Artisan, happily willing to serve.

Fighting for Rhiannon's honor,

Lady of grace and talent well-known.

Captain Dyderic Wolfhart, Fighting for The Honorable Lady Odette D'Amboise

By young lad Khellian of Sternfeld

Captain Red, with loyal arm
Marshall field, strong in heart
Gracious teacher, fierce a friend
Son of wolf, Dragon guard

Odette – Lady – favor bear
Take the field, for honor seek
Adelais and Raymond win
Grim the fates so speak.

May this poem sing your glory
This day but one in your grand story

Ballad – 2 quatrains of tetrameter with a closing duplet abcb defe gg

written by young lad Khellian, with small assistance from his father Master Tonis van Driele

Duke Edmund of Hertford, Fighting for Duchess Kateryn Bronwyn of Gloucester

By Baron Breddelwynn ap Taliesin

Edmund of Hertford

Edmund the Great

Great is your stature

Great is your story

Great is your prowess

Great is your Wisdom

Great are you in the arts

Great is your Heart

Great is your love for Kateryn

Great is the Heart of Kateryn

Great is her smile

Great is she in beauty

Great is her knowledge

Great is she in the arts

Great is her love of Edmund

Great are they two together.

Irish litany, accompanied by harp

Sarjeant Gareth Bloodworth, Fighting for Dame Nicholaa Halden

By Lord Dai Gerdwr

Gareth Bloodworth,
Serjeant's war berth.

Skulls shout presence;
Fret signs essence.

Lifetime training -
Fame attaining.

- Cywydd Deuair Fyrion (four syllable couplets)

Dai Gerdwr http://middlewiki.midrealm.org/index.php/Dai_Gerdwr

Manu mea resurget

Baron Gintaras the Taurus, Fighting for Baroness Kristiana of Arden

By Lady Brigitta Rosa von Metten

Mighty Midland warrior

Marshall, Captain, offering counsel.

Bull with sword stands proud this day.

Fighting for Kristiana

Baroness, welcome of the newly come,

Helper of both stranger and friend.

Battle bravely on the green field.

Bathe your sword, let it drink

Of your combatants' blood.

Master Gunther von Stein, Fighting for Mistress Maria Teresa Ribeiro dos Santos

By Baron Breddelwynn ap Taliesin

We are our dreams

In our youth we have done this.

Your dreams have kept you young

The Dream in your heart has come

Alive for the privilege to fight for

Your most wonderful Lady

To fight for the honor

To call yourself

King

And your Lady

Queen

In and for you both

The Dream keeps

You Alive in your

Heart, and us also

Irish lines, accompanied by harp

Lord Haroun Ibn-Ditir, Fighting for Duchess Eanor of Amberhall

By Sarah the Scholar

Commander of Cellachstenics for the athletic

Esteemed Lord Haroun Ibn-Ditir

The foe's challenge begins here

Haroun's battle pace is frenetic

The mighty Duchess Eanor of Amberhall

Female fighters, a family affair

Eanor a warrior herself with no compare

The one Haroun looks to impress above all

Sir Ixtlixochitl de los Indios, Fighting for Lady Norelle of Scholairi

By Master Tonis van Driele

The Jaguar Stalks

Draw nigh and harken to the tale
Eager Aztec, so lithe and hale
Intrepid eyes, wage war with chance
Out held he forth, two swords to dance

Silent each step, this warrior walks
Ix the jaguar quick shifts and blocks
No yield within, expertly stalks
Doth leap the cat, his prey doth balk

In two long bouts, our hero fall
Oh snarl again – bold jaguar call
Scolairi Lady, bids rise again

Acrostic

Baron Jaime von Atzinger, Fighting for Baroness Eleanor von Atzinger

By Lady Liadan Liathán

Raise a hand for Sir Jaime von Atzinger.

Raise a hand if you know well this man.

Raise a hand should you count him your comrade.

Raise a hand if you've live where he stands.

Raise a hand if you've fought upon battlefields,

Surrounded by throngs of the foe,

Without any good kinsman to aid you,

With no route of true safety to go.

And when every known pathway seems dire,

When all hope of a victory is lost,

There appears smiling Jaime, full-fired,

And the enemy pays supreme cost.

Jaime lays on with fervor and vigor.

Jamie routs every blade in your way.

Jaime slays all, the smaller, the bigger,

And then disappears into the fray.

Stand ye now if you count Jaime worthy.

Stand ye now if you value his smile.

Stand ye now if you'd follow Sir Jaime

To the mouth of Hel's Gate and a mile.

For the price of a man is his measure.

The sense of a man is his truth.

So, we rise now, to praise him with pleasure,

And to stand for a man of great worth.

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Sarjeant Kari Garanhirson, Fighting for Lady Fritha Eikbandrsdottir

By Baron Breddelwynn ap Taliesin

Son of Gods
Word smith
Poet praised
Death wielder
Foe fiend
War warbler
Sword swinger
Sword singer

Alone against many,
Steadfast,
You sang death
To them and
Delivered

But they brought yours.
Foe leader,
Their King,
Angered, and
Scorns them,
Their deed done,
Silencing the
Sword singer

Poet's Note: In Celtic society, bards were a protected class, and the King wouldn't let you kill them!

Viscount Leif Gray Fox Haakonson, Fighting for Viscountess Astrid of the Yellow Rose

By Master Tonis van Driele

Viscount crown / doth glitter bright

Knight's chain glint / as sun doth fly

Haakonson / come Man of might

Gray fox strides / across azure sky

Sword he lifts / steel flashes fire

Otto slain / Valkyrie fly

Field thus won / list doth retire

Astrid fair / praise and honor

Yellow Rose / she doth inspire

Terza Rima (9 lines, aba bcb cdc; each line is tetrameter)

Sir Lothar Nachtshatten, Fighting for Mistress Gwyneth Banfhidhleir

By Maestra Lucia Elena Braganza

As servant, Lothar stood for many royals
Behind the scenes, efficient, wise and loyal.
Today he raises well-worn sword and shield
For chance to honor Gwyneth on crown field.

With Gareth Bloodaxe dance deadly pavane.
A pause, a flurry of blows, and then move on.
Our flower of chivalry may sometimes fall
But never fail – holding honor above all.

Iambic Pentameter rhyming couplets as in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales

Lord Marcus Ap Talymar, Fighting for Lady Brianna Deardeas

By Maestra Lucia Elena Braganza

Three swords Marcus holds willingly in his heart

- the sword of his father, who taught him the warrior's art
- the sword of his own, as familiar as his own arm
- the sword Oathbinder, blade of legend and honor

Three women Marcus holds gently in his heart

- Melisande, dearly held mother
- Vukasin, highly held queen
- Brianna, brightly held inspiration

Three stories strengthen Marcus' heart

- The legends of his opponents - and his courage to try them
- The history of his barony - and his faith to make them proud
- HIS tale, not fully writ – and his persestence to try again for greatness

Welsh triads

Lord Orn Harofari, Fighting for Lady Faoiltigherna ni Bhroin

By Sarah the Scholar

As Lord Orn steps onto the field of battle

The audience cheers with anticipation

His opponent's confidence begins to rattle

Orn charges and strikes with calculation

He battles for the trusted keeper of gold

She, who looks on with great delight

Lady Faoiltigherna of the Gale Winds bold

As for her, Orn bravely doth fight

Lord Otto von Baden, Fighting for Mistress Felice Debbage

By Lady Liadan Liathán

Drink to the health of Squire Otto von Baden,
Who fights for the Mistress Felice's hand.
This quiet and humble crusader engladdens
Us all with his beauty and keen self-command.

Good Otto fights bravely with bold inspiration.
Strong Otto strides boldly to enter the throng.
Young Otto swings fiercely with youth's exultation.
Wild Otto slays mightily with his sword arm strong.

Be glad that the Midrealm holds Otto von Baden.
Rejoice that this good man fights here on our side.
Be grateful the enemy's sight of him saddens
The fiercest of warriors when they must collide.

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Sir Raymond d'Anjou, Fighting for Mistress Hauviette d'Anjou

By Lady Brigitta Rosa von Metten

Comes now mighty Raymond d'Anjou
Bearing lily flower of sanguine hue
To fight with honor, fair and true
For loving and helpful Hauviette.

Mentor of children, player of games
“Welcome!” to newcomers does he proclaim.
Accepting Turkish food from his beloved Dame,
Beloved Chief Cook, Hauviette.

Sir Seto Gesshuko, Fighting for Her Ladyship Ynes de Jaen

By Lady Tualaith

Dragon's samurai

From land of rising pancake

Seeks the Midrealm throne

Bristling with sharp dragon's teeth

Unlike Cadmus, sows no ire

Winter's blade slays Lord Otto

Summer's blessing, Ynes smiles

Renga (Japanese form = 5 7 5, 7 7, 77)

Team effort, Tualaith and Lucia

Sor Ustad Hassan al Hajjii Sovalye, Fighting for Lady Rowen Hen Enaid

By Maestra Lucia Elena Braganza

One dragon dims, succession raises another always

A crown – perhaps – and renown always

Warriors gather, heed the call of our king “We seek heirs!”

A crown – perhaps – and chivalry always

Behold Ustad, the pilgrim, the traveller, marked in green

A crown – perhaps – and faith always

Dances with Dag, seven time king

A crown – perhaps – and honor always

Win or lose, his lady inspires. What is this day’s brightest treasure?

A crown – perhaps – and Rowen always

Gazel - 5 or more rhyming couplets, ending with the same word

Sir Wigthegn the Younger, Fighting for Lady Neassa O' Cathasaigh

By Maestra Lucia Elena Braganza

Hear and Harken / Honored people

Dragon throne calls / Crown for claiming

Wigthegn answers / Willing to honor

Neassa Fair / Evening star

Quarter finals / fights like the storm

Retire with honor / Another day prevail

Anglo-Saxon alliterative verse

*** did not attend***

Sir Logan MacCoinnich, Fighting for Mistress Zaynab Yasmine Binthasan

By Sarah the Scholar

Canton of Three Hills boasts of his skill

Sir Logan of great martial renown in the North

He, the warrior of insurmountable will

Mistress Zaynab spectates with great thrill

As her mighty combatant charges forth

Sir Logan on the field is never still

He moves and swings, going in for the kill

Logan's opponent feeling his own unworth

Dreading each blow, having more than his fill

*** did not attend***

Sir Lothair Von Drachenstein, Fighting for Baroness Ysadora Von Drachenstein

By Lady Brigitta Rosa von Metten

Though glory be found on the field of battle,
Braver still are those who stay behind
Fighting the battles of love and duty
Protecting the weak by disease maligned.

Take honor – good Lothair – in your deed
Sacrificing chance at the crown
To care for one in mortal need
To treasure family more than renown.

Poet's Note: A few days before Crown Tourney, Lothair sent word that he and his lady had withdrawn, for personal reasons relating to a family member's health.

*** did not attend***

Count Lucien Phillip De Bordeaux, Fighting for Countess Catarina DeBruyn

By Lady Liadan Liathán

Praise Lucien Philip de Bordeaux!

All shout a knight's anthem who know

When he faces his friends and his foes on the field,

This mountain immobile, this rock who won't yield,

With his sword and patience – both weapons he wields –

They are dealt the most accurate blow

From Count Lucien Philip de Bordeaux.

The light of Count Lucien's life?

Catarina DeBrun, his dear wife.

For her, and Three Hills in the Andlecran lands,

For his love of the populace, home, hearth, and clans,

For king, queen, and country, for chivalry grand,

He stands...and he waits...and he strikes

And he fights the most noble of fights.

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*** did not enter list***

Count William of Fairhaven, Fighting for Countess Isolde de la Ramee

By Maestra Lucia Elena Braganza

Don't scare your household.

We had fun, and we're taking

A well deserved break

Haiku