## The Turke and Sir Gawain - MnE Translation

- Based on Middle English text, and intro by: <u>Thomas Hahn</u> (Editor) from: <u>Sir Gawain: Eleven Romances and Tales</u>.
- http://d.lib.rochester.edu/teams/text/hahn-sir-gawain-turke-and-sir-gawain
- Translation: Dr. Brian Gastle (<u>bgastle@wcu.edu</u>)

Line #	Modern English Translation	Line #	Modern English Translation
5	Listen Lords, great and small, What adventures did befall In England, where there once had been The knights who held the Round Table Who were very strong and able, Warriors fierce and keen.	40	"This blow you have Well paid back And yet I will make you three times as afraid As ever man was on this here earth, Before you come again to this Court"
10	All of England, both East and West, The Lords and Ladies who were best, They all came and went. And when the King sat in his seat And Lords served him food and meat Then into the hall a man there came.	45	Then said Gawain, "I give my word, I'll go with you 'cross field and ford And from you never fly I'll never flee from any adventure Jousts, nor other tournament As long as I am alive."
15	He was not tall, but he was broad And like a Turk was he arrayed Both in leg and thigh; And he said, "Is there any who, as a brother. Will strike a blow and take another? Might there be any so hardy here?"	50	The Turk took leave of the crown king; Sir Gawain prepared and had servants bring His armor and his steed. They rode northwards two days and more. By then Sir Gawain hungered sorely; Of meat and drink he had great need. The Turk understood Gawain needed to eat
20	Then spoke Sir Kay, that sulky knight, And said, "Man, you don't seem so strong And you should be afraid. For there are knights in this hall Who with one stroke will make you fall And drop you to the ground.	55	And spoke to him with words great, Raising himself upon high; He said, "Gawain where is all your wealth? Yesterday you ate while in great health, And no part would you give me,
25	No matter how strong you are of hand I will bring you to the ground, That I dare to safely swear." Then spoke Sir Gawain, that worthy knight, Saying, "Cousin Kay, you speak not right —	60	"But with a blow you hurt me sore; Therefore you shall suffer more, And adventures you will see I wish I had King Arthur here, And many other knights who fear And tested deserve to be."
30	Rude is your answer!"  What if that man is deficient in his wits?  Then little honor would be allotted to you If you should destroy him."  Then spoke the Turk with angry words	70	He led Sir Gawain to a hill so plain. The earth opened and closed again - Then Gawain was afraid. The dark came on and the light is gone: Thunder, lightning, snow, and rain,
35	Saying, "Com on the better of you two, Though you be as fierce as a wild boar  [At this point about half a page of the story is missing; Gawain enters into a sworn agreement to trade blows (apparently without weapons) with the Turk. He strikes his blow, but the return blow by the Turk is postponed.]  N.B. comments regarding missing sections are taken from Hahn's edition.		Of those enough they had.  Then spoke Sir Gawain and sighed sorely: "Such weather I never saw before this In any place where I have stood."  [Again at this point a half page is missing. The storms seem a preliminary test. Gawain endures them, and accepts instruction from the Turk, and is then allowed to proceed to the mysterious castle.]

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1			
75	" made no answer to them		There rested a boat and
	But only unto me."		Sir Gawain left behind his horse
		115	There was nothing else he could do.
	To the castle they then rode.		
	Sir Gawain dismounted from his steed,		The Turke said to Sir Gawain,
	For the Turk had no horse.		"He will be here when you come here again –
80	There they found chambers, rooms, and halls,		I make promise to you –
	Richly arrayed with fabrics were the walls,		In about an hour, as men tell me."
	Handsome to look upon."	120	They were sailed over the sea:
	Trailasonic to look apon.	120	The Turk said, "Gawain make haste!
	A table was laid out in that place;		The Funk Suita, Survain make muste.
	All manner of meat and drink there was		"Here we are without any harm
85	For men who might find it.		But now begins the fulfillment of our contract,
0.5	Sir Gawain would have fallen to that food,		When we shall see adventures."
	The Turk told him to leave it out of caution;	125	He let Gawain see a castle fair;
		123	
	Then Gawain became unhappy.		Such as he never saw before that year,
	Govern said "Sir I wander		Not in any country for sure.
00	Gawain said, "Sir, I wonder		The Turk said to Sir Gawain
90	That you may none of these foods spare,		
	And there is such great plenty here.	120	"Yonder dwells the King of the Isle of Man
	Yet I wonder even more, truthfully,	130	A heathen sultan is he.
	That I do not see man or maiden,		
	Woman of child.		With him he has a hideous group
			Of giants strong and stout
95	I would rather of my own will		And ugly to look upon.
	Eat of this fair meat my fill		If one were to seek far and near
	Than have all the gold in Christendom."	135	As far as the ends of the earth
	The Turk went forth and did not tarry;		He would not find such a company.
	Meat and drink he brought forth		
100	And it was pleasant to see it come.		"Many marvels will you see there
			Such as you never saw before
	He said, "Eat, Gawain, & make yourself ready.		In all the world over.
	Truly, before you get any more food	140	You will see a tennis ball
	You will both work and sweat.		That no knight in Arthur's hall
	Eat, Gawain, and spare yourself nothing!"		Is able to strike a blow against.
105	Sir Gawain ate since he thought it well to do so		
	And well he liked his food.		"And other marvels there are more.
			We will be absolved before we go
	He drank ale, and wine after.	145	Do not doubt that.
	He said, "I will be ready at your request		
	Without need for boast or threat.		And if you take my advice
110	But one thing would I ask:		I will help you in time of need
	Give me my blow and let me go my way.		For anything I can see
	I would prefer to be here any longer.		There will be one else so strong in battle.
		150	But I will bring you again to
	[ Another half page is missing at this point. The Turk refuses		
	to allow Gawain to conclude the bargain by receiving his		[Another half page is missing here. After these
	return blow. Instead he asks that Gawain accompany him to the		reassurances, Gawain accompanies the Turk into the
	Isle of Man.]		Castle of the King of Man where he is met with verbal
			assaults.]
			'
	JL		JL

## The Turke and Sir Gawain

<b>-</b>	1	11	
	"Sir Gawain fierce and strong,		
	How fares your uncle King Arthur,		Then there stood amongst them all
	And all his company?		A free-standing fireplace in the King's hall
	And that Bishop, Sir Baldwin	200	With iron bars great in strength.
155	Who will not let my goods alone	200	
133			There was laid in that fireplace
	But spoils them every day?		Coals and wood that cost a lot
			That upon it did rest.
	"He preached much about a Crown of Thorns;		
	He will curse the day he was born		A giant asked Gawain to give it a try,
	If I ever catch him.	205	And said, "Gawain, begin the game -
1.60		203	
160	I anger more at the priests		You know how it should be!
	In England, not at the lords who feast;		And afterwards when you are done,
	They go around in their rich clothes.		I trust you will be matched soon
			Either with the Turk or with me.
	"And I intend with great anger		
		210	"A smart signt Tlanson
	To burn the clergy in a fire	210	"A great giant, I know,
165	And punish them as much as I want.		Could lift this fireplace with his hand
	Sit down, Sir Gawain, at the table."		And set it down easily again."
	Sir Gawain answered at that word,		
	Saying, "No, I will not do so,		Sire Gawain was never so afraid
	~~,,,		Since he was a mere mortal man,
	ST 1. mad divide an advantage of 1.14	215	
II c	"I do not think an adventurous knight	215	And cried out to God in his thoughts.
170	Should in a king's hall sit		Gawain unto the Turk did say
	Before you see some marvel."		"Lift this fireplace – if do so you may –
	The King said, "Gawain, may you have good fortune! Go fetch		That is so fineley wrought."
	me my tennis ball,		
	For I will play and see what happens."		Gawain's companion did to it leap
	For I will play and see what happens.	220	
		220	And grabbed it by the handles great
175	They brought it out without a doubt.		And about his head he threw it.
	With it there came a huge crowd		Three times around his head he swung it
	Of giants great and many;		So that the coals and the red brands
	All the giants were there then		
400	Taller by half than Sir Gawain,		
180	I tell you without a doubt.		[In a missing half page the Turk completes his victory in
			the second contest, twirling the hot fireplace above his
	There were seventeen giants bold of blood,		head. He then clothes himself in a garment of invisibility to
	Who of Gawain thought little that was good		accompany Gawain as the King of Man leads him to the
	When they thought with him to play.		final challenge. Here, a giant threatens Gawain.]
			Jinui chaitenge. Here, a giani intreatens Gawain.j
105	All the giants thought then		
185	To have dashed out Sir Gawain's brains.		" saw of great might
	May God help him as he may!	225	And were strong in battle.
			"I [Giant] have slain them through my skill,
	The ball of brass was made for a giant's hand		And now Gawain I will kill you,
	There was not a man in all of England		And then will I have killed all the flower of chivalry.
	III ==================================		There were none who ever returned
	Who was able to carry it		
			Any more than you will, though you are fierce,
		230	Nor none that belong any more to King Arthur."
	[In a missing section, Gawain defeats the giants at tennis with		
	the help of the Turk, who ends by pummeling one of the giants.]		The Turk was made invisible;
	y pulling one of the guilling		No man could see him without a doubt,
1.00			He was dressed in such a cloth.
190	and stabbed a giant in the hall		He heard their speech both less and more;
	So that he did groan gruesomely.	235	And he thought they would find him there
	The King said, "Bear away this tall staff		When they felt his presence.
	For such a man I have never seen.		
	Yet he will be assailed more before he goes		
	1 of the will be assailed more before the goes		
195	"I told you, so help me –		
	With the three adventures, and then no more		
	Before me at this time"		
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## The Turke and Sir Gawain

Where there was a cauldron of boiling lead, 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40	ļ			
And in from of it a giant did stand With an Iron pitchfork in his hand, That was hideous to see.  The giant that looked so fierce The giant that looked so fierce That Gawain had hever seen one as fierce Not anywhere in any country, The King to the giant them said. There is no one but us two Let us see your best?  250  When the giant saw that Gawain's companion Was there, he leapt and writhed, and shouted then, "Alas That he came in Gawain's place". Sir Gawain's companion leapt to him And with great strength pitched up him and cast him into the fead.  255  With an iron pitchfork made of steel He held him down a great while Until the Giant was scalded to death, Then Sir Gawain not which he is fixed did say. The King spit on Sir Gawain the king ht. With that the Turk picked with im gruph And into the fire did he fling.  260  The King spit on Sir Gawain the king ht. With an iron pitchfork made of steel He held him down a great while Until the Giant was scalded to death, Then Sir Gawain in the King did say. The King spit on Sir Gawain the king ht. With that the Turk picked with im gruph And into the fire did he fling.  260  The King spit on Sir Gawain the king ht. With that the Turk picked of steel He held him down a great while Don't worry Master, all the peril is past! But we should not tarry too long a " In a missing hall page, Gawain and the Turk apparently move quickly to another port of the Castle, where copitives have been mangically inpressmed. The Tark hem, instead of taking the person blow at Gawain to which he is entitled, requests that Gawain deliver a sword stroke that would be head him.] He brought forth a basin of gold Such as an Emporer oright tus to wash, As was beffriting his rank. He took a sword of mable metal Saving, He vert I did amyhing for you Do this for me in recompense: Take here this sword of steel He took a sword of mable metal Saving, He vert I did amyhing for you Do this for me in recompense: Take here this sword of steel He took a sword of mable metal Saving, He vert I did amyhi		Then Gawain to a spot by the king was led		
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And in front of it a glant did stand With an tron pickfork in his hand, That was hidenus to see.  The giant that looked so fierce That Gawain had never seen one as fierce Not anywhere in any country. The King to the giant saw that Gawain's companion When the giant saw that Gawain's companion Was there, he leapt and writhed, and shouted then. "Alas The Gawain's companion happing the leapt and writhed, and shouted then. "Alas The Gawain's companion happing the giant saw that Gawain's companion And with great strength picked up him and cast him into the lead.  With an iron pickfork made of steel the held him down a great while Until the Giant was scaled to death. Then Sir Gawain unto the King did say, "Unless you will agree to our lard! Jesus Who have repaid me well." The he took dawain by the hand And with great strength picked up him and cast him into the lead.  With that the Turk picked him upright And into the fire did he fling, And said to Sir Gawain at the last "Don't worry Master, all the peril is past! But we should not tarry to long"  If a mistarip helf page, Gowain and the Turk apparently move anakiy to a modern part of the Cardet, where captrives how here analytically inquirisoned. The Turk then, instead of toking the exerum blow at Gawain to which he is entitled requests that Gawain deliver a sword stroke that would behead him.]  He brought forth a basin of gold Such as an Emperor might use to wash, As was befitting his rank.  He took a word of noble netal Saying, If ever I did anything for you Do this for me in recompense: Take here this sword of steel That in battle bites so well, And with is trike off my head."  To reveal that strike off my head."  To reveal that there bleed. That besin that stands here in this place.  "And you will see a new turn of events. With the help of the Virgin Mary that mild maid, who saved us all from thead."  The tend that between the him.!  The stand that the help of the Virgin Mary that mild maid, who saved us all from thead."  The tend that the true helped. The deew	240		200	
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That was hidewas to see.  The faint that looked so fierce  The Gawain had never seen one as flerce Not anywhere in any country. The King to the giant the said, "Here is no one but is two I at us see your best."  When the glant saw that Gawain's companion Was there, he kept and writhed, and shouted then. "Alas That he came in Gawain's place" Should be came in Gawain's place" Should be came in Gawain's place.  With an iron pitchfork made of steel He held him down a great while Until the Giant was easted to death. Then Sir Gawain unto the king did away.  "Unless you will agree to our lard! Gawain 'S down heldly at your meal, strict one of you will go to your own dear In all haste that might be.  "If it would not tarry too long"  The King spit on Sir Gawain the king did away.  "The King spit on Sir Gawain the king did away.  "I he King spit on Sir Gawain the king did away.  "The King spit on Sir Gawain the king did away.  "I he King spit on Sir Gawain the king did say.  "The king spit on Sir Gawain the king did say.  "I he said or Sir Gawain the king did say.  "The will to King Arthur's hall, And onto the fire did he fling, And said to Sir Gawain at the last Dou't worry Master, all the peril is past!  But we should not tarry too long"  "In a mother missing section, the process of liberating the chivaline captives continues with the return to Arthur's court."  In a mother missing section, the process of liberating the chivaline captives continues with the return to Arthur's court.  In a mother missing section, the process of liberating the chivaline captives continues with the return to Arthur's court.  In a mother missing section, the process of liberating the chivaline captives continues with the return to Arthur's court.  In a mother missing section, the process of liberating the chivaline captives continues with the return to Arthur's court.  In a mother missing section, the process of liberating the chivaline captives continues with the return to Arthur's court.  In a mother missing section, the process				
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