

## The Boy and the Knight

Along the road I met a knight, a-traveled far was he \*  
A worthy man, of noble mien, and full of courtesy \*  
    "Why must ye be the dragon's bane? \* \*  
    Why took ye up the spurs and chain?" \* \*  
        "Not for wealth or power, or the promise of a rich reward \*  
        But to win my lady's favor, to defend my liege lord." \* \* \*

Together we the wayfare rode, and stopped beside a brook.\*  
A meal of bread and ripened cheese, a flask of ale he took.\*  
    "Why pledged are ye to honor's fight,\* \*  
    The sword of steel, the belt of white?" \* \*  
        "Not for gold nor silver, or the plunder of the dragon's hoard, \*  
        But to win my lady's favor, to defend my liege lord." \* \* \*

He took me for his page that day, a stripling lad of ten.\*  
But yesterday I knelt me down before a host of men.\*  
    His golden chain and spurs are mine \* \*  
    God grant me be a knight as fine! \* \*  
        "Not for fame nor glory will I wield my silver sword \*  
        But to win my lady's favor, to defend my liege lord." \* \* \*

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*Notes: this was a favorite of my mentor, Baroness Julitta . \* = beat*