

CATHERINE, CALLED BIRDY, By Karen Cushman

Pages: 207-211, Author's Notes; 1-12, September

FAMILY:

Brother Edward

Catherine, Little Bird, Birdy

Father - Rollo -- The Beast, The Toad

Mother - Lady Aislinn

Bother Thomas

Brother Robert

Nurse Morwenna

Perkin, the goat boy / witch-boy / heart's brother / scholar

Perkin's granny

Others: Wat, Sym, Rhys, Cob the Smith, Beryl, John At-Wood,

William the Steward, Henry Newhouse, Thomas Baker, John Swann,

Walter Mustard, Thomas Colter, Joan Proud,

Uncle George (Lady Aislinn's brother)

Master Lack Wit (suitor)

"Clodpole" ("Blockhead")

noble relations

distant relations

royal ancestors

PEOPLE

Medieval people

Scholar

Individual noblemen

Barons, counts, dukes, churchmen, abbots, noblemen, great lords, landlord, landholder, lesser lord, knights, country knights, tenants, farmers, millers, blacksmith, villagers, craftsmen, apprentice, servants, kitchen boy, minstrel, wool merchant, mayor, prisoner

Elders

Allies

From bottom up: paid rent

From top down: gave protection and patronage

QUALITIES

Hard work

Cruelty, meanest

Dirt - dirty / dirtier / dirtiest

Fondness

Hard tedious life, boredom, barren (life is barren)

Yearning

Childish

Learned, accomplished, well spoken, polite, cleverest person, wise, kind

Foolish

Abominable, ugliness

Impudence - insolence, insolent

Dumb

Docile

Fashionably pale, thin, good-looking

A mile high -- a tall person

Bony -- a thin person

Greasy wool

Brave, honorable

Woolly-witted -- not very smart

Scorched

Sheepish, weakest

Unhurt

Greedy

Abundantly

Graceless

Ill-tempered

Doomed

Sandy

## EMOTIONS

To sulk - sulked

To tease

To endure scolding

To endure slapping

Complain / complaint

Black / miserable

Wonder

## BODY - BODY PARTS

Broken bones

Bloody cuts

Coughs

Fatal diseases

Ailments of the heart, ailments of the liver

No cures for illnesses, no treatment for diseases

Ale head

Liver     unbind his liver

Flat of his hand (palm of the hand) to my cheek or my rump

Breath - sweet or foul

Bowels, guts

Thumb prints

Gooseberry eyes   / blue eyes   / to wink   / black looks

Chin like a hatchet

Tufts of orange hair sprouting / golden hair

Nose was plugged

Trouble my stomach

Rubbed my nose

Blacked out front teeth

Dressed my hair with mouse bones

Gap tooth smile

Wiggle my ears

Sore afflicted with (very sick)

Wind in his bowels

Head bobbing

Arms swing

## MOUTH

Bellow - roar / sighs

Spoke a foreign tongue, spoke a cipher

Breathed, chewed, chattered, guzzles

Gloats (malicious satisfaction)

Languages: Norman, Latin, Saxon

FOODS -- Berries, gooseberries, cabbage, turnips, onions, goose grease

DRINKS -- ale,  
tonic

REMEDIES - (witch) spell

(actions to prepare remedies) -grow, pick, brew, bottle

(herbals, to prepare tonics) poppy flowers, cumin seeds, anise

## CLOTHINGS

Embroidery

Hemming, mending

Needle, sewing, stitches

Spindle

Silk, linen, altar cloth

To wrap

Glorious robes, velvet cap

boots

## PLACE

Community, village, abbey, manor, family, guild, family estate

Fixture of place

Castle, church, manor house, cottages, fields

Stonebridge village, Shire of Lincoln, Riverford, Great Yarmouth, Woodford

Alehouse

## PARTS OF A HOUSE

Privy

Barn

Hall

Solar

Chamber

Mother and father's big bed / silken bed

Yard

Stables

Cowshed

River

Gatehouse

Field, acres (measure)

Rushes

## ACTIONS

Bathe

See / saw

Link, connect

Parcel out

Rent / rented

Lining the road / line the road

Condemn

Slaughter

Tend animals

Apprenticed

To be fostered

To learn manners

Sew / sewing

To doctor

To fight / fought

oppose

bite / bit

plague

cracked

burst

tangle

spin / embroider

trap / escape

forgo

pick up

chase

to ruin

throw / threw

write / writ

gossip

conspire

aspire

conceal

go crusading

insists / demands

stir

rub

EVENTS

Passing of the seasons



Cycle of church festivals

Yearly village holidays

Merriment / dancing / crude jokes / boisterous games / riddles

The Maypole

Bonfires

Midsummer Nights

Christmas

An account (a story)

A hanging

A betrothal

Michaelmas

Soap making

IDEAS

How people saw themselves

Moving out of their place

Individual identity, accomplishments, rights, effort, success

Separate / independent

Relationship to the land

What people knew / What people did not know

Authority / power / land / riches

Alliances

Wealth / status

Full belly

Warm and safe

Fear and joy

## RELIGIOUS TERMS

The world to come / The afterlife / Eternity

Heaven and Hell

Heresy / Blasphemy / Sin

Worrship / worshipped

Heathens / Heretics / pagans

Corpus bones

Monk

Sweet Judas!

To pray

Feast - Archangel Michael

## IDIOMS / IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS

The difference runs deeper than

The Church had a say in who went where in the next life

I am delivered

To make a bargain

Something is astir

What is brewing here

The man stinks of gold

It put me in mind (made me remember)

To part with

## FARM TERMS

Sowed hay

Gathered apples

Pulled fish

Plough or plow

Ripe / ripened

Drop her kid (goat)

Apple tree

Haystack

Bucket / Vat

## ANIMALS

Fleas rats warhorse bull breeding hooves dogs

geese (goose) goats herring rooster horse droppings

chicken dung (excrement) birds chirping manure

(goats) eat the laundry off the line

(goats) eat the rushes off the floor

## NATURE

Dew      stars      gray day      drippy      slippery

Rain      starry skies      sky      weather

## WRITE

Skins (paper)      ink      holy books

## CLEANING

Broom      turn mattresses      took linen outside for airing

Chores      endless chores      soot      soap making      stinks

Goose fat

## TIME

Morning      forenoon      supper      the hour of vespers

Quarter-rent day

## MATERIALS

Thatch      wood      hay      cloth      samite      ermine

leather

## GAMES

tumble

wrestling

draughts or drafts (checkers)

## Class Summary of September, 1290.

So far in this summary, in the month of September, Birdy's brother -Edward- told her to start writing her feelings in a journal. So far she writes about her father -Country Knight Rollo of Stonebridge-and Perkin ---her best friend and the goat boy for the manor. Perkin lives with his granny.

Catherine likes Perkin very much because of his personality -he is noble, nice and very clever, his looks -he has golden hair and blue eyes, and because he is just trying to be himself and become a scholar by learning to read and write.

On the month of September Birdy was making cloth, she was making the cloth and she got the cloth tangled and had to untangle it. On the 18th day of September she was writing about how she learned to read and write. When she was only 14 years old, and has never seen as yet a hanging, she considers her life barren.

She is always mad or upset, and she is always saying "Corpus bones!"

VOCABULARY -- To be introduced BEFORE reading:

CATHERINE, CALLED BIRDY By Karen Cushman

Pages: Pages 13-42, October

### PEOPLE

(Father) Pinch fist, Miser

Clerk, serving maids, cook, guards, sewing woman

Meg from the dairy, Ralph Littlemouse, Rolf, Baron Ranulf, Lady Aelis, physician

Brother Anselm, Brother William

Jews, Christians, Abraham, Moses, Noah and his wife,

The righteous,

Children, magician, ribbon seller, stilt walker, puppeteer, prince, knights, juggler,  
tumbler, musicians,  
traveling spinner, artist, traitor, carrytale, shoemaker, cobbler's awls, wondering  
minstrel

The Scots, The Turks, Irish man, French King, French Court

Lady Ghislaine, Guillot of Lyon, Marie,

Eleanor, Henry II, Richard the Lionheart, John Softsword

Ghosts, fairies, witches, goblins, elves

## PARTS OF THE BODY

Under their arms, grab his arm

Morwenna's boils

Face, mouth (mouthful), mouth in a knot, cheeks, forehead, frown in his face, pits in her  
face

Eyes, mischief in his eyes; throat, music in his throat

Hair, horn combs, circlets to bind hair, golden hair

Womb

Clucking sounds

Naked

"Apples of my chest," bosom

shoulders, hand, rough had, handful, lap, back slooped

monthly courses,

knee-deep, toes

wits are lacking

Languages - Latin, Greek, Arabic, Jewish tongue

## RELIGIOUS TERMS

Devil, damnation; angels,

Bible; book of saints, their feast days, their great works

Procession, glorious spectacle, precious relics

All Saints, Saint Faith, Feast of: Saint Edward,

Saint Edwin-Christian King, Saint Callistus, Saint Euthymius-The Younger, Saint Helwig, Saints Ethelred, Elhelbricht, Ermenred, Ermenburga, Erconbert, Egbert, Saint Luke, Saint Frileswide, Saint Irene, Saint Ursula, Saint Donatus, Saint Cuthbert, Saint Maglorius, Saint George, Saints Crispin, Crispinian, Saints Eata and Bean, Saint Orlan, Saints Simon and Jude, Saint Colman, Saint Marcellus-The Centurion, Saint Erc

Plaster saints

Edward's saint's day

Slave, banker, convict, pope, martyr,

Huns

Miraculously, eternal torment, blasphemy,

Allhallows Eve (Halloween)

## PLACES

Belleford

(cottage walls made of) straw, cow hair, dung

carefully seeded furrows

stores, chapel, ale tent,

cesspit

the whereabouts

road, entry gate, guesthouse, dormitories (chest), chamber scriptorium, writing room  
(desk, desk tops,  
shelf / shelves), nunnery;

millpond, barn, dovecote, pig yard, puddle of mud, moat,

spit to the cooking fire

high meadow, pasture, shed in the yard

roof beams, roof timber,

cart, wagon, coaches,

ark, the ark, stage

Northumbria, York, Whitby, London, England, Flanders, Wooton-under-Wynwoode,  
Nottingham,  
Spinning & Sewing Manor, Highgate Manor, the French court, Venice, Damascus,  
Byzantium,  
Samarkand, Holy Land, Gravelly Sea (desert), Isle of Giants, Isle of Pytar

Wooton harvest fair, auction

Paradise

FOOD

Salt meat, jellied eel, potted lamb, bacon, swans, geese,

Bread, flour,

Onions, nuts, herbs, walnuts, garlic, mint, blackberries, turnips,

Ginger, cinamon, cloves, figs, dates, almonds, sloes for jelly,



vinegar, Rhenish wine, cider--from cider apples, orange (new fruit)

walnuts husks (for ink)

goose fat (for candles)

Herbs: Betony, Rosemary, Anise, Rue, mint, rose hips

Saint Faith's cake

Utensils: iron pots, wooden spoons, ladle, kettle, teaming kettle, copper banded barrels, knives, keg

Events: supper

Ropes, needles, a rat trap

REMEDIES: ointment, dung, nettle, wormwood, mint, wormwood cordials

ILLNESSES: inflammation, angry liver, turmoil of the liver,

“will set him afire”

## ANIMALS

Horse (bridle), mules, donkeys,

Mouse's turd

Bees: Beeswax

Goose gills, down (feathers)

Dragon. Wild beast, two headed goat (horns, tail), hairy beasts

Snails, squirrels, cow, a weakly calf, barnyard creatures, hogs,

BIRDS: Larks, goose / geese, sparrows, hawk, falcons, nightingales, swans, heron, nuthatch, popinjay,

linnets, skylarks, magpies, dove, cocks (for cock fights), baby chicks, buzzard, robin,  
chicken, turkey,  
feather fowl

Bugs, burrs, hawk moth, maggots

Lions, leopards, elephants, whales, bear

Hound, a load of puppies,

Actions: bark, howl, shrieking, slashing

## NATURE

Silver gilt rain, sea of blue-green satin (stage)

Willow sticks, thistle, buttercups, sneezeweed, moss, belberries

Lapis lazuli stone

Hollow in the ground

## OBJECTS

Capital letters, margins, painted scroll, golden string,

Books, scrolls, pen, wooden covers for books, vellum, powder

Music: Lute, bells, harps, timbrels, trumpets

Jewels, ruby ring,

Swords, bronze knives, sharp knife, terribly sharpened claws

Cage carved of ivory

Sweet-smelling wood, framework (cottage walls), slop (to cover walls), muck (mixture)

Shutter (window), curtain, pots, pail, baskets

trundle (bed under), bedstead, stool pulled up to sit

blankets, linen, napkins

candles, soap (made from goose fat)

## CLOTHINGS

Cloak, shoes, hat, sleeves, shirts, skirts, gown, tunic of gold and green velvet, ruby silk (mistake) tunic, leggings, purple tights, cap, wool cap, coat, linen tunics, scent-drench linen, a bolt of woven cloth, wool, veil, tight fitting hose, red leather boots to the knee with orange silk (mistake) lining, baggage

## COLORS

Shades of saffron, lavender

## TIME:

Suddenly, half a day's walk, autumn

## EVENTS

Mock battle

The march of the righteous into Paradise

Tournament

## CUSTOMS

Highborn manners, French table manners

Duties of a lady

## IDEAS

Pretext

Surprise, gaiety, wonder

Gospels

Jest

Praise

Lechery

## QUALITIES

Wet (clothes), tall (ships), billowing (sails), shine, reflected (light of the moon), feebly lit,  
flimsy (boat),  
jouncing cart,

Ragged children

Hell-born, wicked, dangerous, angrily (angry),

Scared, scrawny, confused, sad, rough, afeared / afraid,

flew into a terrible fright

Withered apple, wrinkled mouth, curled over, naked, shriveled, dry.

Shyly, peevish

Runny nose, smelly, rotten teeth, sour, bleak,

Boredom, silent, tired, loudly,

Curiously flat, puzzled, useful and notable talent, favorite, clever,

Full alive and lively, willingly, mostly willingly, delightful, precious, marvelous, fanciful  
designs, plentiful,  
iridescent, lovingly, softened, livelier, fancy, delicate, stately, wondrous, gaiety, wonder

Innocent, docile; cunning

stubborn

prickly, sticky

plump

swift

greedy, shortsighted, vain, swoony

plain gray, plain brown

**ACTIONS**

Spying, hide / hid / hidden, flee / fled,

Lady tasks: endless mindless sewing, hemming, brewing, doctoring, counting linen, walk  
with a lady's  
tiny steps, finish his chores,

Curtsy-ing and my lady-ing

sew / sewn, sit astride on magnificent white horses

Pick, climb trees, descend, throw stones, sweat

Seek / sought shelter

Perform evil deed, pretending to be drunk,

Drink / drank, sing / sang / sung, chanted, wear / wore / worn

wave / waved, stroking (my face),

Argue / argued, chatter / chattered

Snuffled

Whined, snoring, wailing (crying)

To shove, to stuff, pulling, slew a dragon

Giggle, spit, spitting, flutters

Fasten, bind (my chest)

wipe / wiping, shine, gleaming, glow, wiping nose

to spin (tell) stories, pulling strings, banging pots,

swaggered

spluttering,

scolded, doubt, who has kept the reckoning (the account or story)

unwind / unwound, load / loaded, ride out / rode out

prancing, wading, flutters, soiled (dirty) straw, flapped, trampling,

defeat

to shoe a horse, leapt onto the back of his horse, tear off / tore off

flirt, to wed,

to get away with (do what a person wants)

to pledge, resigned, to wager (to bet)

strutting, crowing,

to shape

to dream / dreamed, never dreamed of (thought about)

captured, stabbed, squawked, lay down,

gasp, charred (burned), grieved, sore grieved, besieging,

mourn, lost the child she carried,

to long, to cleanse, soothe

pondering aloud, to puzzle,

seduce the book from her

to escort, scratching out, punch holes, inscribes

scampers, tempting

stuff her bosom

purchase - buy

threaten, kick, fart (at will)

hang / hung

stomp, skidding,

tucking (skirt)

weaving

muching about

squishing, scooped, flung

stare, furrowed, mouth grew small,

twisted away,

## EXPRESSIONS

Mayhaps

Ready to go home

Danced on strings (puppets)

Cry mercy, I say!

Never! I say nay!

Deus! (¡Dios! God!)

To the Devil with spinning

With an eye to marrying his daughter

Is aught amiss with the lady? / (Is there something wrong with her?)

The cook boils and snarls

My mother stands firm

We hardly know him

By default alone

## Class Summary

October is about the Jews coming to Birdy's house. Birdy's whole family, except for the mother, is scared of the Jews because the Miser said the Jews were hell-born. She escaped with the Jews in an adventure, pretending to be a boy with her hair under a cap and Edward's tight leggings. She thought of stuffing the legging with straw to pretend she was a boy.

Then Uncle George came to town. He is telling Birdy about his adventure. Birdy's father was not in

town because he had to take his clerk -William the Steward-to a nurse because he had an inflammation in his eye. Catherine tried to prepare an ointment for him but it did not work.

She met Aelis, her old friend, again and Birdy caught her training for marriage.

Birdy left the house and went to a carnival. That is where she met the prince with golden hair, mounted on a white stallion, that was going to marry her. But she chased him off. Then she went back home.

VOCABULARY -- To be introduced BEFORE reading:

CATHERINE, CALLED BIRDY By Karen Cushman

Pages: Pages 43-77, November, December

## PEOPLE

The Saxons, (invading) Vikings,

A foundling, babies, ward

King Edward Longshanks; Arthur, King of Brittain, the baron,

Baron Fulk Longsword, princess / prince, Lady Margaret, daughter of the lord of Moreton Manor, stepbrother, Eleanor, kind and gentle queen

Turks -- Turkey; The Scots

Woodsman, soldiers in battle dress to war / warred

Father Huw, Gerd the miller's son, priest, sheriff,

Archbishop, monk, crusader, musicians, song maker

Tumbler, beggar, peddlers, privy cleaner

Wonder worker, namesake



Younger son with no land, no title; son-in-law, knight of no great fortune or renown

Prune-faced suitors

Heretics

Crowd - onlookers, villagers, strangers, guests, servers, cook, kitchen boys, army of girls

The uncle thief, two thieves

Thomas (brother), George (uncle), Aelis (best friend),

King and dead Queen, Children,

pawnbrokers, sailors, soldiers,

Jews, heathen Turks, followers, East Saxons,

hermit, lakeside hermit, orphan, judge, a relative,

Fire Eyes Suitor, a maiden, acrobats, magician,

Friend Ralph, mummers

Lord Misrule (Perkin), Master of the Christmas Revels

## PLACES

Anthill

Turkey, West, Brittany, Ireland, Alexandria, Finbury Castle, Greece, Poland, Scotland,  
Wessex.

Dorchester

Tree house, roof, bathing room, bathing tub, gatehouse door,

forest, lowlands, plot of woodland

new-made grave, gallows / platform

church square

locked cupboard

Nicomedia, Heliopolis, Tuscany, Rome, London, Milan, Norfolk, Kent, France

Manger in the church, Holly Manger

## FEASTS

Feast of All saints, All Souls, Saint Rumwald, Saint Bristan, Saint Zachary, Elizabeth, John the Baptist, Saint Illtud, Saint Willibrord -Crowned Matyrs, Saint Theodore, Aed Mac Bricc, Saint Martin of Tours, Moses in the Bible, Saint Cadwaladr, the Battle Shunner, Saint Abbo of Fleury, Saint Dyfrig, Saint Malo -psalms- Saint Hilda -Abbess of Whitby, Saint Mawes, Saint Ermenberga -daughter: Mildred, Saint Edmund The King, Saint Gelasius, Saint Cecilia - pagan gods-Saint of musicians, Saint Clement, Saint Minver, Saint Catherine, Saint Marcellus, Saint Fergus, Saint Juthwara, Saint Paramont, Sant Andrew.

Feast of Saint Bibiana, Saint Birinus,

Saint Barbara, Saint Crispina, Saint Nicholas, Saint Ambrose, Saint Budoc, Saint Wolfeius, Saint Eulalia, Saint Daniel, Saints Mercuria, Dionysia, Ammonaria, the other Ammonaria, Saint Judoc, Saint Hybald, Saint Offa, Saint Bean, Saint Lazarus, Saint Mawnan, Saint Nemesius, Saints Ammon, Zeno, Ptolemy, Ingenes, Theophilus, Saint Thomas the Apostle, Saint Chalremon, Ischyron, Egyptian Christians, Saint Victoria, Saint Mochua of Timahoe, Christmas Day, Saint Stephen - First Day of Christmas, Saint John's Day, Second Day of Christmas, Childermas, Holly Babes and Sucklings, King Herod, Third Day of Christmas, Saint Thomas of Canterbury's Day, Fourth Day of Christmas, Saint Egwin, Fifth Day of Christmas, Saint Sylvester, Emperor Constantine Sixth Day of Christmas.

## RELIGIOUS TERMS

Amen!

Idols -- pagan gods, pagan emperor

Roman soldiers, Persian stonemasons, heretics, sorcerers

Abbess, apostle, bishop

namesake

## ACTIONS

Pissing

Plagued

To beg, begging

To snuck

Fostering

Beaten, died, undone, to hang, snarling, growling, shrieked, laughing, shouting, bark, scratching, tied  
about (around), dragged, leaned off, slobbering, crying, eat / ate, vomited (losing), grew worse still, to  
slow, to muffle, to burst, screeching,

shrank back in fear, trembling with fear, to dampen spirits, to dampen shoes, tumbling, jumped up,

construct, buy / bought, refused, sacrifice, suffocated, sprinkled

I was so troubled, As if I were a child,

Turned out to celebrate, packed all around, cheering, celebrating, glee, cooed, comforted, moved and  
twisted, to parade, writhe and wiggle

To dress my hair, wink, seek / sought, to advice (advise = n.) to sail, sailed, sneaking, summoned,  
shaking, swearing in Saxon, fainted,

To pinch him, hacked to pieces, to notice, to throw / threw / thrown

To rip off / ripped off, leap / leapt, devour, banging, pounding,

To be flooded, to be washed out,

To doom their love, to be fooled,

HERBS: crushing, grinding, boiling, steeping, straining

Cheated, to challenge to a contest, martyring virgins, put an arrow through her, seized /  
hurled, to be  
confined, imprisoned, perishing, beheaded, spattered, it must suffice, cast away, locked  
up

When will the curse work?

To relish

Dipped, wiping her hand,

To martyr, vex, weep, grieve,

To shave bald, to humiliate, beheaded, to coach, whisper

To try a profanity, stir (move), huddled

The flame spits and sputters, spit / spat

Overturn the ink

Freeze to death, crack my knuckles, to truss me like a goose and dump me

Plaiting my hair, spare my thumbs,

Convince, to trim, cooped, embroider / embroidery

Fight / fought, behaving like a lady, to fast / fasting

To grin, dousing the fire, nuzzling, acquitted of theft, executed

Twitter, chatter, stabbed to death, bickering in high voices,

shamming a tournament of plants

to calm, to care: to anoint / anointed

to stone to death, to knight, making riddles, excessive wassailing

## QUALITIES

Muddle-mindedness, stubbornness, feigning innocence (pretending)

Roomy-hearted, smarter, beautifully tragic talent, two most favorite in the world, to be impressed, tall sad faced man

Dilly-dally river, gay occasion, wet ground

gray and drizzly day, undisturbed, dark circles about his eyes, dusty, sore vexed, skinny, frightened, dirty, scared stupid faces, grubby fists

Rough cloth, over warm, upright, jealous evil in my heart,

ill-tempered, drunk, wretched day, as dark as dusk, quiet

huge, hairy, cruel scarred faces, fearsome curses

clay-brained Gerd

measured tread, broken heart,

sodden, beslumbered with muck, overly vex him (bother too much)

face of stone, mothers of two boy bandits, very lordly

little soft-eyed girl who stayed at our hall

special profanity, perfect profanity

spare clothings, burned alive, in a sour temper, Morwenna's sight

pricked finger, soggy mess, stern lecture, strong feelings

being enchambered, trapped, friendly, good-tempered

lively, quite lively, talkative, bubbling with praise

eyes caught fire, my breath stinks, my gut grumbles, my liver is oppilated,

cheeks are dusky with unshaved whiskers

to be raised from the dead

I am grown full restless

Dull, dazzled, louder, childish games, games beneath him

Overstuffed, I am stirred

Bawling sheep, kicking sheep

Best goatherd voice, stink / pain,

Hilariously, fantastic fooling, unlucky

## ILLNESSES

Infested with boils, blotches

Humors out of balance

Ale head (drunk)

Headache, worms, snakebites

rash (cure: goose grease)

warts, sickness in sheep

potion of cinnamon and milk

tonic of anise and betony

paste of sow bugs, moss, and goose grease

## FOOD

Sausage, meat pies, apple pastry, glazed eggs, apple tarts

Soul cakes

Boiled mirling (fish) in sauce, minnows, eel, creamed herring

(drinks:) draft of wormwood and mint, spiced wine

almond cream, custard

whole pigeons, peacock in raisin sauce, red and white jellies, snipes

pig stomach stuffed with eggs and spices, potted beef with nutmeg, giant pastry,  
marzipan spikes, spun  
sugar soldiers (decorations)

boar's head, herring pie, fried milk, onion and mustard omelette, turnip soup, figs stuffed  
with cinnamon  
and hard boiled eggs, mulled pear cider, sticky figs

## NATURE

Hazel branches wet grass

Oil of bay

Storm, wind, banks of the river, fields, muddy fields, dirt

Peony root, thorn bush, agrimony, betony, feverfew, dill, yarrow

Moonlight

Mistletoe, holly, ivy frozen fields,

solitude, quiet

## ANIMALS

Ticks, toad, pig, weasel,

dragon (dung)

eyes like a raven's

barn owl

ants beasts of the forest

ram, pet ram, ox, ass, mare Blanchefleur

## PARTS

My rump, belly, humors, putrid stomach,

strong arms and shoulders, fistful

horses' hooves

## OBJECTS

Rugs (floor), glass (window), cradles, spindles, skeins of wools, unfinished tapestry

Music: lutes, gitterns, pipes, drums, lute string

Comb of gold and ivory

Sticks and branches

Bench, a litter, coffin, towering stone cross

Anchor

Hilt of his sword, spiked wheel

Whips, leaden whips, gallows, \$ penny, ladder

Spices

Wooden swords, wooden shields, beard, cow's teats, bushel of onions, chest of treasures,

Dowry

Mildew, soiled rushes

Yule log, platter, the torches, the gilt star on a long pole

Scepter, crown



Clothing: patterned hose, pointed shoes, kirtles, gowns, mantles, undertunic, stockings,  
trim hair with  
silver pins

## TIME

Ordinarily / usually

I do not mind (I accept)

Oftimes, an hour before noon, after dark, yestereve, yestermorn, midday, dusk,  
moonlight,

Shortest day, longest night

## AMOUNTS

Untold acres, countless servants, hoards of silver

To the brim

Brimming chamber pot

Almost mine, or near enough

## EVENTS

Famine, a spell to curse, a grievance,

The stench

A contest, amusement, irregular marriages,

turn-love-to-hate chant under my breath (silently)

Procession of musicians, birthday

Funeral procession

Drizzle

Such pomp, (sounds:) thud

Fighting games, screams of the dying, joyous shouts of the victors, furious whinnying of the boys domed to be horses

Deliverance

Lived atop a pillar

Punishment, torture, battle of the holly and ivy over who God loves best, parade of villagers, Christmas play

A great chase about the hall

Games: snapdragons, Hot cockles

## ESPRESSIONS

Would that it were so easy

The Devil take her

My belly is croaking with hunger

In disguise

To be flooded

All is ashes

I am sore stricken

Don't stretch your legs longer than your stockings or your toes will stick out

Why not cease your fearful pounding against the bars of your cage and be content?

Love abate / Disintegrate / Turn love to hate

Hi diddly, hey diddly, sing ho /

My mother's doing (My mother's fault, she is to blame)

What a ninny

Slight cold but well behaved

As if I were a child

Corpus bones!

Knocked the jolly right out of me (disgusted me)

By orders of the king

God help the Jews

Benedicite!

God's breath, teeth, feet, face, ears, knees, nails, chin, thumbs

What a time I have had in deciding

cooped up like chickens in a hen house

I am in disgrace today

Grown quite weary

Never let (their feelings) show

Love is like mildew . . . . (P. 70)

He sows turmoil everywhere

Every man needs a horse, a sword, and a woman, but he should love only the first two.

It was a treat

Waes hail!

Riddle (p.75)

Funeral procession

Drizzle

Such pomp

## Class summary

NOVEMBER, 1290

The first memory that Catherine had of this brother was his drowning ants by pissing on the anthill. Father Huw came for dinner after mass. He was infested with boils and blotches and sought the aid of her lady mother. Morwenna caught her sneaking back after supper and she has been made to do extra sewing. Her belly was croaking with hunger and she had seven ticks. Catherine said, "I cannot be a monk nor a crusader nor a tumbler," then she said "I must stay here and hem sheets until I die."

Father Huw said storms are the work of the Devil. Catherine said father Huw is ringing the bells to drive the storm away, but it seems that the Devil is winning. Perkin said babies in their cradles were washed out off the cottages and sailed away to lands unknown like Moses in the Bible.

ON THE 22nd day of November they were visited by a procession of the musicians for celebrating the feast of Cecilia, their special saint. Her favorite song was about Arthur and Guinevere. One of the musicians showed her a jest to do with lute strings.

Morwenna and Catherine spent more days crushing, grinding, boiling, steeping, and straining herbs.

Catherine's mother tells this story about Catherine's father:

One day appeared a young knight of no great fortune or renown, with great strong arms and shoulders, and eyes like a raven's. This young knight claimed the baron -in whose house Catherine's mother was staying-had cheated his father out of a plot of woodland, and the knight wanted it back.

Catherine's mother was most impressed with his strength and his stubbornness. She knew that strength and stubbornness would win her as they had the baron, whether she would or not. So then she went right upstairs and packed her clothes. In three days they were wedded and off to Stonebridge.

Class Summary

December, 1290

Birdy was happy on the second day of December because she and Gerd were going to see her first hanging. The people who were getting hung were two thieves. Catherine thought that the people that were getting hung were big and hairy bandits, but it was two twelve-year-old boys. The two boys were skinny twelve-year-old boys who were scared, totally frightened.

Little Birdy could not stand to see the boys get hung, so she ran away from the hanging because she was sad for the children. When she was almost out of the village she heard the crowd cheering.

Gerd caught up with Catherine. It was raining but the rain slowed down to a drizzle. They saw a funeral with lots of people going to London. Little Birdy thought that it was the king and she ran home crying and told her mother what she saw. She also heard that the king was dead. Morwenna corrected her: Queen Eleanor had died.

George did not say anything about Aelis so Birdy thought the curse was working. Next a person

from Kent came to the house looking for a wife. But Birdy chased him off.

Christmas arrived. Thomas coached the boys into fighting games, there was a feast and a play. After the play there was a game and Birdy won. She got a kiss from Perkin. She pretends not to like him but inside she likes him.

CATHERINE, CALLED BIRDY -- Vocabulary

January -- 1291

Saints: Abel the Patriarch, Adam, Cain, Genevieve, Aquilinus, Geminus, Eugenius, Marcianus, Quintus, Theodotus, Tryphon, Simeon, Stylites, George, Lucian, Nathalan, Paul of Thebes, Fillan, Hyginus, Benedict Biscop, Kentigern (Mungo), Felix of Nola, Ita --foster mother, Henry, Antony of Egypt, Ulfrid, Marius, Martha, Audifax, Abachum, Sebastian, Agnes, Vincent of Saragossa, Emerentiana, Timothy, Paula, John the Sage, Julian the Hospitaller – Patron saint, Maedoc of Ferns. King of the Vandals, Thor.

Characters:

Enemy, Attila the Hun, giant, Persians, heathens, fiend,

Usual residents, eternal guests, villagers, laundress, mummers,

The Lucianists,

Farmer, hermit, Perkin's granny, visiting friar, gardener, mat maker, shepherds, bishops, philosopher,

Ralf Emory, Walter of Pennington, Gerd the miller's son, Edgard the saddler's apprentice, Baron Ranulf, Brother Norbert, Brother Behrlwald, monks,

Cloth merchant, salt merchant, innkeepers, boatmen, travelers

Emperor, King, Aelis, seven-year-old duke of Warrington, Ethelfritha –fat Saxon widow, another suitor,

Parts of Body:

ale head, putrid stomach, putrid throat, chest, fists, lap, bones,

guts (grumbling) liver, heart, bladder (relieve his bladder)

spit

wig (wigged), mask (masked)

Actions:

skewer, tumble, laughing, blushing, acting, to dance, to fool around, to be gladdened,

fasting, praying, preaching, to renounce/renounced

nipping, swept of (sweep off)

smuggled, birth, rebirth, soothe, to be nursed, creep/crept out

to put to death, to be tortured, mounted, to club, clubbed, imprisoned, starved, racked,  
roasted, stabbed

to death,

stomping, clashing, poked (came out), to sneak back, dig/ dug out, digging, wrapped,  
trapped, to

snuggle down/snuggled

accuse, steal, complain, argued, thumped, stumbled, escape, spy/spied

bellowed, cried, begged, howls, moans

polish, fasten, glide (on ice), to thaw,

flashed, glow,

burping, farting, scratching, rubbing, to wet

search,

Events:

circumcision

flowery speech, pagan festival, amusements, adventure

drunken fights, joust, tournament, nightmare,

dream, mumming,

Epiphany. pilgrimage

Plough (plow) Monday, lambing

a freeze, snowstorm,

Qualities;

giddy, gay, smitten, flowery, to be fond (to like)

ache, grown angry (became angry), drunken, smelly, bad-tempered,

guilt and remorse, in remorse, the terrors of Hell. grief, gloomy, bare

wooden swords

enormous,

wondrous, fearsome, gruesome, frightened, bruised, cruelty,

convincingly, doomed romance,

freeze, frozen, drifting snow, sunburned,

sweet, soft,

Objects:

bells, a charm

staff, knife, axe, arrows, club



silver gilt, silver pennies, belt with jeweled buckle,

a wad of fake hair,

skeleton

quilt

Food:

Porridge, barley bread

beans, salted meat, dried herring, fresh fish,

eggs

wrinkled apples, peaches, plums, parsley, leeks,

Nature – Plants:

mustard seeds, dried mint, thyme, gillyflowers, oil of roses

dirt, peony root, tree bursting with fresh fruit dripping its juice,

lighting, bolt of lighting, freeze, frozen, fierce wind,

poisons: spurge, hemlock,

stream,

Animals:

creatures, puppies/pups, dropping

eels, snakes,

donkey, lions, pig, black stallion, sheep, ewes, newborn lamb

Brutus, Peppercorn

Clothing:

granny's other shift

shirts

cloak

Locations:

pen in our yard

barn, old shed, hen house

Paris, Antioch, Africa, Holy Land, Rome,

tub, chamber,

pillar

Idioms

Putting the manor to right again

Brutus made water

To make room (in the bed)

Marry whom they will

Sold at auction to the highest bidder

To let loose – the preacher had loosed the devil in them

Heart of winter

Weeks on end

To be possessed by the demon

Latin:

Pater meus animalus est.

Non amo Robertum.

Class Summary

January, 1291

First Day

Perkin wants Catherine to teach him to read. Perkin wants to be a goat boy that can read. Catherine needs help teaching Perkin how to read and talk Latin. Catherine would rather teach Perkin how to skewer an enemy on a sword or tumble a laundress in the barn.

Second Day

Everyone joined in a snowball fight because it was a new snowday.

Catherine's mother joined the snowball fight acting like a little girl. William Steward grew smitten and made flowery speeches to Catherine's mother, but they put snow down his pants to cool his passion.

Other days in January

Catherine, for once, is grateful to her father because at a feast his pig-like ways scared a suitor, and that was needed to chase the suitor away.

Also Uncle George came back but not with Aelis. She was wedded to a seven-year-old duke of

Warrington. And after the ceremony, the duke had an attack of putrid throat and went crying to his mother. Aelis has remained at the court.

Uncle George will marry a very rich Saxon widow, who has a vast fortune but no title. Thus, George will become a very rich man, and Ethelfritha will become a "lady." George loves Ethelfritha's money, her business and her good heart. And that is enough for him to be happy (so thinks he).

February, 1291

Saints: Brigid, Wigbert, Gilbert, Agatha, Quintinian, Dorothy, Cuthman, Apollonia, Scholastica, Gobnet, Modomnoc, Valentine, Juliana, Eudelme, Orlan, Patrick, Wulfric, Baradates the Admirable,

People:

Father Huw, Rhys from the stables, Richard, Gilbert, beloved friend

Fulk, Baron Fulk from Normandy, Lady Margaret, Roger Moreton, duchess of Warrington (lady Aelis),

Meg from the dairy, Wat's yellow-haired daughter, king, Madame Joanna, Robin Smallbone's sister

a messenger, furniture maker, founder, cooks, servers, hermit, beggar, crippled mother, nun,

beekeeper, escorts, laundresses, bakers, musicians, minstrels, masons, stable boy, chariot driver,

guards, puppeteers, strolling players, villagers

to crowd

Parts of the body:

flesh, cheeks, knees, belly, face, hair tied up in bunches, fingernail, teeth, eyes, hair, breath, mouth, chin

ale head, grumbling guts, toothache

cuts, gashes, scratches, burns, grievous injury, wound, raging fever,

Morwenna's wit

wings

Food:

bread: flour, salt, water, yeast, fresh bread,

lamb, pig's stomach stuffed with nuts, hedgehog in raisins and cream, bacon, gravy  
raisins, fruit tarts, candied figs, apples, almond cream,  
herring with parsnips, eels in quince jelly, porpoise and peas,  
peacock --stuffed, roasted, feathers stuck back on  
wine, ale, cider, perry, flagons of wine  
stew, boiled cabbage  
scraps of food, crumbs,  
spices, herbs, honey, spun sugar castles, boats, and dragons

Animals:

Peppercorn, new hounds, tiny dog

Cobwebs, whale's bone

chicken hawk, birds, ducks, hawk, birds to hunt and kill other birds.

snorting horses, goat,

weasels

fleas, hairy beetle,

Idioms:

By cock and pie

By the bones of Saint Wigbert

I knew it was coming

My mother is with child again

I have no appetite

As we drew near

No one dared chide her

To do exactly as we pleased

Actions:

swells, to straighten

sulked, frowned, scowled, smirks, whiffled, accusing, cursing, squawking, grunting,  
blustering,  
snickered, quivering, worst chores

rubbing, bouncing, pats, smoothed, tickled

to sneak out/sneaked out, sneaking peaks, giggles, clattering, watched closely, peer  
intently

to set fire, to douse, catch/caught, blamed, knocked off,

take advantage, to best, toasts to his son, duties

twine their arms, swinging/swung, overturned, hurled, stumbled, burst, stamped,  
doctoring, rescue

stepped in / stepped out, teemed (full), dance and frolic

splintered, chipped stones, mixed mortar,

heaved, milling around, wiggling, piled, ducked,

spilled, stir, splashing, slopping, clanking, boiling vats, brushed,

gossip, lisped, whistled, sniffed, licked,

concealed, faint, to waste, understand my limitations

relish (to like), to charm,

spin, weave, comb wool, flap wings

Qualities:

fat, flabby, soft, spongy, wet, soggy, muddy slop,

clever, intentional, shallow-brained, odd way to play,

funny, bellowing, merry spirits, giggling, excitement, festive, abustle

white, fresh bread, smell of crisping fat, gray,

uncomfortable, foul-smelling, sour smell of the sick, breath sour

poor, old

sticky, pricked

sore afraid, remorse, huddled, closely,

we grew quite rowdy, cool temper, unmuffled,

ablaze, billowing, burning, smoldering, stray sparks, hot, steamy, tattered, fiercely,

familiar, moderate, discreet, heavy, sharpened, unconscious,

sweet, milky, rotten sweet, smell of garbage, soiled rushes,

twice as long, twice as much, twice as tired, puny, round red, everlasting, glorious,

unfairly, disappointment, impressed,

live in luxury, beautiful as summer, seemed pleased,

wrinkled, crooked, stained, blushing, grinned

Locations / Places:



stables, pantry, buttery, main gate, moat bridge, castle yard, curtain wall, stone city,  
stone towers, slope,  
slope-roofed, storage shed, kitchen, chimney, church steeple, brew house, thatched barns,  
thatched  
stables, piggery, smithy, chapel oven, kennels,

Normandy, Flaminian Way, Castle Finbury, Little Sodbury, York, London, Haselbury,  
monastery, the court

up on the tables, on the benches, over the walls, amidst the ruins,

trail, milk trail

back and forth, beneath the bead covers

Clothes:

breeches, gown, sleeves, cloth of gold and sea-green velvet, best green gown, shoes

lavender,

linen,

surcoat, veil, wimple

Objects:

charm

a mound of hay, pail, vats, golden plate, serving bowls,

burning brands, smoldering ashes,

tortured by rods, rack, fire, swords, weapons,

tattered hanging, icicles

ladles, pothooks,

perch

Events:

A lecture on

- (1) courtesy to one's guests
- (2) obedience to one's father
- (3) lady like behavior

speech, laughter, brawling, brawl, merriment, commotion

dilemma, penance, mass, swipe

repairs

Speech:

lisped, whistled

told fortunes

talked in riddles and proverbs

soothsaying

to make sense, to make little sense

squealed

Time:

yestermorn, forenoon,

suddenly

mating season

frequently

From: February 22nd, 1291

Saints Baradates the Admirable, Mathias, Ethelbert, Alnorth, Shrove Tuesday, Ash  
Wednesday, First  
day of Lent.

People:

horse trainer, puppeteer, musicians, serf, cowherd

to be friends with a goat boy,

cannibals,

a hulk from the north / bearded pig

heiress of Foxbridge

Stephen: "Sir Priest," "the clerk," "the girl."

Places:

German country

Kent, Foxbridge

Animals:

Rosemary (the pup)

“Even the lowest of beast is not vile all of the time.”

Food:

boiled cabbage

bacon, maggoty meat

sour wine

Body Parts:

elbow, red and shiny nose, bones, skinny foot, rump

blew his nose, sneezed on the meat,

picked his teeth with his knife, horribly brown broken teeth

left wet greasy marks where he drank

Clothing:

veil, golden band, second-best gown

Weather – Nature:

mist

dawn

Plants: mint, heather

Omen

Time:

seldom

the day worn on

long enough

Objects:

rushlights, torches, iron brackets, candlesticks,

colored glass, streaks of red, green, yellow on the stone

gilt and silver goblets, spoons

Musical instruments: bladderpipe, bagpipe, crumhorn

Idioms:

“I flap my wings at times, choose my fights carefully, understand my limitations.”

they played us to the church

“ . . . . color light is like happiness: It is there or it is not, you cannot hold it or keep it.”

He proved himself near a murderer.

He made wind like a storm.

“We are but dust and to dust shall return.”

It bodes not well

We are now back on the old footing.

Qualities:

kind, glorious, superior, festive, prettily, thoughtful

fiercely, angry, sharp, to be ruined, dark, smoky, bravely,

gray, drizzly, paler, ugly, shaggy-bearded, redder,

hasty, smaller

slimy rim, soiled rushes, morbid

Events:

adventures, wedding feast, merriment, exchange vows

duties, chores, to be handfast

Lent

Actions:

prefers her dog, hawking, setting birds to hunt and kill other birds

dreaming, wandering, rollicks, playing (musical instruments) and tomfooling, waded in the river,

(bid) bade me sit, bade me ask you

squeaked, scratching, yawning, (the priest) droning, the candles hissing and flickering, snoring, jostled awake,

burrowed under the rushes,

nipped, mistook, howled, kicked, defended herself,

knock the knife away, growled

survive, blazed, gleamed, sold, locked up,

to bed, showering the bride with rose petals,

tables were laid out in our best linen cloth,

endured a dinner without wine

let the seams out, he affected my stomach

I was partnered, sought to honor, to be beholden

my father lusts after it, grinned, questioned

skip, burst, sweep

Class Summary

--February -- Summary

This chapter is about Catherine's father who cannot stand the howling and running and digging so he sent Peppercorn, the dog, to Rhys from the stables to be killed. Catherine convinced Rhys to let Perkin take the dog because dogs are like goats.

The charm did not help Peppercorn so Catherine went to see Father Huw.

Catherine is locked in her room during the third day of February for her rudeness to young Fulk, the fat and flabby son of the baron Fulk from Normandy. The baron and his son had come to Stonebridge manor to discuss further betrothal arrangements between the younger Fulk and Catherine.

Roger died from his unattended wound. He was lying unconsciously all night on the black soggy rushes near the buttery. He sustained a grievous injury on the fight the night before.

Young Fulk was coming to the privy. Catherine sneaked out without being seen and he took her place on the privy. Catherine set fire to the privy.

This chapter is also about Robert marrying a twelve-year-old heiress whom he has been engaged to for two years. She is carrying his child.

Also in this chapter the barnyard caught fire and William Steward's shoes were smoldering. Richard stepped on the strayed



sparks and the father, the genius, pulled down his breeches and pissed most of the fire out.

During Robert's wedding Catherine found out who she would marry: He was a shaggy-bearded old hulk from the north, he farted during dinner, he sneezed on the meat, he blew his nose on the linen tablecloth, he did not wipe his mouth before and after drinking from the goblet. Catherine had to eat from the old pig's plate and drink from his goblet.

The 27th day of February is about Shaggy pig –the father of Stephen, and Shaggy pig is disappointed in his son because he has manners, he takes a bath every day, and he thinks. He does not fart in Mass.

March, 1291

Saints: Dewi of Wales, Chad, Cunegund –wife of Emperor Henry--, Adrian (Irish/African), Jerome, Conon, Perpetua, Duthac, Bosa, Forty Martyrs of Sebaste, Oengus the Culdee, Mochoemoc

(MoChamhog, Kennock, Kevoca, Pulcherias, Vulcanius), Matilda, Longinus,

Weather:

warmed

Nature:

alder leaves, dew, raindrops

violet, oil of violets,

breeze, frozen lake

clay

farming: irrigation canals

Time:

ordinarily, oftentimes,

yestereve, morrow, yesternoon

Events:

infirmities, funeral procession

boredom, gossip, monstrous joke, fate

feast, fair, singing, dancing , amusement, mating season

no cheap rag-tag

hurry-up affair

attacks of melancholy, it is his habit

EASTER

LATIN

WELSH

Psalms

Illness: spotted fever

CLOTHING:

gown,

pockets // pocked –pocked with burn holes

PEOPLE:

bride, bridegroom, step mother

important guests from foreign lands with musical names, lepers

mother and her women, great-great-great-grand father,

my betrothed, Geoffrey. Kinsman of my mother,

musicians, sober and well shod, dog assassin, drummers

The Thundering Legion

Agnes of Wallingham (The Weasel), Thomas of Wallingham, niece,

Shaggy Beard, Murgaw, lord of Lithgow,

Elfa the laundress, Cuthman Cook, miller's daughter, Rhys from the stables, Gerd the miller's son,

William Steward's youngest son William, John Swann of the alehouse, Odd William,

messenger, a nut-brown maid

a mob, an outlaw

no ally to me against my father

Body parts:

little black eyes, pointed nose,

his arms ripple like the muscles on a horse's back

the rain plasters his shirt against his chest

body remains undecayed

pinching her mouth like a fish

a wart

covered her ears, feet, ankles

footprints (milky trail, floury footprints)

blood

ears, body balance

fingers, nose, spittle (saliva)

Objects:

silks (?), silken threads,

thin pieces of gold beaten into the shape of leaves and flowers

MUSIC – silver flutes and gitterns, timbrels, cymbals, lyres

Clothes:

gown of saffron silk (?)

red cloak, veils,

cloak of scarlet silk

purple leather shoes embroidered with gold and silver threads, belt with bells

plain robes with no silver gilt threads

covers (bed)

lance

invisible obstacle

cross, statues, holy book

kegs, barrels of flour

trap door

Emotions:

he fears

insulted

overcome by his title and his wealth and his land

It will sound like angels laughing and spring rain

Idiomatic Expressions:

not long ahead of her father

as beautiful as summer

The beauty of men and women is but the devil's work: A snare and a delusion. A trap for the innocent.

"A silent woman is always more admired than a noisy one."

"A woman's tongue is her sword and she does not let it rust."

"Maids should be mild and meek, swift to hear and slow to speak."

"Be she old or be she young, a woman's strength is in her tongue."

"One tongue is enough for two women."

raise the dead to life

there is a new boy for fostering as beautiful as an angel

She sees mine as marriage where my father wills.

Now I would that Lent would last forever.

Places:

Her own manor at Ashton, household, alehouse, Whitby

Church roof, abbot, Monastery of Swords

London, Worms

On the edge of my bed

Animals:

Cows, horses with flowers and ribbons woven into their manes, saddles draped with silk  
(?)

fleas, black soldiers, spotted horse, weasel, bears, goat's tail, dog, horses, worms, dung  
beetles,  
maggots, kittens

Qualities:

pale, puny, undressed, short, wicked stepmother

so far gone with child, new-wed couple, unsuitable suitor

frivolity, frivolous, melancholy, miraculous, angry heretics

fortunate, excited, lively colorful, nicely, fanciful, , beautiful

sad, bored, morose and holy mood, dull, proper, dreary, deadly,

hurtful, sharp as stones, offensive, deadly sin, mortal sin,

gluttony, greed, stare boldly, odious old man

innocent, well-mannered, pride, blindness, kindly pretends

accuracy, eloquent argument, leastwise, excessive

is comely enough from afar

outlawry, confounded

Actions:

to be wedded, to be bedded,

jouncing, bouncing over the fens, race across Britain

to cure, to restore to health, scratch, to heal, to pierce,

slapped, pounding, droning and stumbling  
trod on the Devil's head  
shun, welcome, perched, engage (talk to, draw into)  
contrive, outwit/outwitting  
snorts, chopping, sniffled  
push, sat hard (fell), quarrel, condemning, slain,  
to be stranded, genuflect, recited, lecture  
swooned  
pretend, overlook,  
unriddle, tangle, slammed  
my gut wamble  
almsgiving

### CATHERINE, CALLED BIRDY

March, 1291 – Summary

Prepared by Sergio Bañuelos

Robert and his wife are off for Ashton Manor not long ahead of her father, as Robert fears. Catherine's mother is worried that Robert's wife's father will keep them out of the manor, promised to the wife. So they race across Britain in the rain.

Catherine says her wedding will be no cheap rag-tag hurry-up affair, like Robert's. Catherine said hers will have silks, music, lights, important guests with musical names. She says her wedding will sound like angels laughing and spring rain.



On the second day she says the weather was warm and the fleas have come so she gathered alder leaves to fan them away. On the third day Catherine says her father doesn't talk about Shaggy Beard so maybe the trouble has passed. On the fourth day Catherine went to mass, she said the church was rather plain for Lent. And Edward sent three holy books for them to read during Lent. But when William Steward read, he was droning and stumbling over the Latin.

On the 6th day Catherine gathered violets to make oil of violets against attacks of melancholy. On the 7th day she says she hates Lent. On the 8th day of March Thomas of Wallingham and his family stopped for a visit. She talked to Agnes. Catherine suggested to go watch John Swan. Agnes says ". . . beauty is but the Devil's work." And Catherine tells Agnes the evil things she did.

On the 9th day Catherine spent the afternoon in the kitchen because it was raining. On the 10th day Thomas of Wallingham and his family left for London. On the 11th day Catherine wondered about holy things. Catherine says she hates to hear the bell of the leper hiding in the trees until they pass. And then she goes on wondering about holy things.

On the 13th day Catherine says she's been locked up in her chamber for two days because she held a spitting contest and the spit hit her mother's ladies. And she asks "Didn't God mix spittle with clay to heal a man of blindness?"

On the 14th day a new boy comes for fostering, and Catherine says she will ask him his name. On the 15th day he says his name is Geoffrey. On the 16th day Catherine tries to write to Geoffrey but she couldn't control her hands. She writes about how comely he is.

On the 17th day a kinsman of Catherine's mother arrived; he is called Odd William. Catherine says the back of his gown is all pocked with burn holes, like Sym's face after the spotted fever. On the 18th day of March she writes a song about Lent.

On the 19th day of March Catherine gets a message from Shaggy Beard. And her father suggests that she wed and bed with Shaggy Beard. On the 21th day Catherine's mother lectures her on marriage and how she should marry Shaggy Beard. On the 22nd day Catherine talks to Perkin and tells him the jobs she could try to get. Perkins denies all of them.

On the 23rd day, Catherine's father says that she will marry Shaggy Beard, and that she must grow to like him. On the 24th day Catherine looked for Geoffrey, but was caught by Walter Rufus who tried to kiss her and love her.

On the 25th day Catherine writes that it is the end of the year 1290 and that the new year, 1291, will begin at the end of the month. Her Uncle George is coming back for a visit after Easter.

On the 26th day Catherine stayed awake for the reading of the holy book which explained all the ways the martyrs have died. On the 27th day of March it rained so hard that she, Odd William and others sat by the fire and told stories. William Steward told the story of the nut-brown maid who fell in love with an outlaw and they lived in the forest. Catherine and Geoffrey could live like that.

On the 28th day Odd William explains to Catherine that Worms is a place, and that the bishop of Worms is not a bishop for some of God's creatures. On the 29th day it rained again and Catherine wrote a new song.

On the 30th day she asks "Why can villagers choose who they marry but I cannot?" On the last day of March Catherine was confounded. She asked what should she be doing? "Packing what she will need to live in the forest with Geoffrey? Or refuse to eat until Shaggy Beard gives her up?"

Vocabulary

Cognates-- Words in English and Spanish that: (1) are spelled the same or similar, (2) are pronounced similarly, and (3) have very similar or identical meanings.

dedicated	dedicado, dedicada	
imagination	imaginación	
tenacity	tenacidad	
September	septiembre	
days	días	
plagued	plaga	
commanded	comandante	
account	cuento / cuenta	
family	familia	
suffer	sufrir	
torture	tortura	
sun	sol	
Corpus -- body	cuerpo	Corpus Christi, TX
hour	hora	
mother	madre	
villager	villa (villano – false cognate)	
especially	/ specially	especialmente
escape	escapar	
abominable	abominable	
England	Inglaterra	

rat	rata
examine	examinar
question	cuestión / matter (false cognate)
beast	bestia
surprise	sorpresa
except	excepto
color	color
exactly	exactamente
prisoner	prisionero
service	servicio
conversation	conversación
solar	solar (sol - empty)
yard / patio	patio
yard = 3 feet	yarda = 3 pies
river	río
servant	sirviente
rich	rico \$\$\$\$\$
chain	cadena
altar	altar
miserable	miserable
docile	dócil
anxious	ansioso
objection	objeción

lessons	lecciones
ignorant	ignorancia / ignorante
disposition	disposición
attract / attractive	atraer / atractivo
significance	significado / importancia
merchant	(mercancía / mercante / mercado
plant	planta
privilege	privilegio
cross	cruz
aspire	aspirar, desear
mayor	==false cognate: mayor = oldest
relations	relaciones
involved	involucrado
determined	determinado / determinar
enemy	enemigo
vespers	vespertino
stables	establos
boots	botas
vegetable	vegetal
pleasures	placeres
annual	anual
secret	secreto
cipher	(cifra – descifrar / decipher)

crusading	crusada (crusade)
brave / valiant	bravo (valiente)
glorious	glorioso
chamber	recámara/cámara, (ship – camarote)
message	mensaje
visit / visitor	visita / visitante
unattractive	poco atractivo / no atractivo
stomach	estómago
demands	demanda
middle	medio
arrive	arrivar (llegar)
foreign	forastero (from another town)
prince	príncipe
design	diseño / diseñar
red	rojo L. rutilus, rufus, ruber
largest	largo -- más largo
honorable	honorable
experience	experiencia
adventure	aventura
nose	nariz L. nasus
imprisoned	prisionero
order	ordenar la orden el orden
prefer	preferir

Apostle	apóstol
insults	insultos
tenants	terrateniente (false cognate) tener=to have
acres	acres
rent	renta / rentar
records	records
quarter	cuarto (1/4)
insist	insistir
gray	gris
goose (?)	ganso (?)
regularly	regularmente
cottage (?)	cabaña (?)
my	mi
tonic	tónico
considerably	considerable
balance	balance
“evil” - malicious	mal / malicioso
devil	diablo
apple / F. pomme / L. malus / Sp. manzana	
goats / F. chevres / L. capri / Sp. Cabra	
October	octubre
November	noviembre
December	diciembre

May	mayo
inflammation	inflamación
cause	causa
necessary	necesario
doubt	duda
matter	materia
salt	sal
Christians	cristianos
no	no
“love” amorous	amor / amoroso
used	usado
doctor	doctor
ointment	
counting	contar
manner	manera
plan	plan / planear
Abraham	Abraham
recognize	reconocer
finally	finalmente
Moses	Moisés
desert	desierto
cook	cocinero / cocinar
direction	dirección



English	inglés
Jew	judío
name	nombre / nombrar
stupid	estúpido
decide	decidir
push	“puchar”
Bible	biblia
reflection	reflección
chanted	cantar / canto
magician	mago / mágica / mágico
Edward	Eduardo
stories	historias
except	excepción
George	Jorge
silent	silencio
mind	mente
tunic	túnica
Catherine	Catalina
fair	feria
curiously	curiosidad / curiosamente
confused	confusión
three	tres
finally	finalmente

examine	examinar
barrels	barriles
pretending	pretender
Noah	Noé
ark	arca
boat	bote
expecting	esperar
auction	
robes	ropas
lion	león
procession	procesión
grand	grande
animal	animal
apprentice	aprendiz
spectacle	espectáculo
dissent	disentir (?)
puppeteer	
leopards	leopardos
creature	criatura
saint	santo / santa
Deus	Dios
descend	descender
terrible	terrible

“freedom”	liberty	libertad
promise		promesa
passed		pasamos / pasar
innocent		inocente
escape		escapar
terrible		terrible
notable		notable
talent		talento
Saint Faith		Santa Fe
ruby		rubí
celebrate		celebrar
pork		puerco
recount		contar (otra vez – volver a contar)
favorite		favorito
curtains		cortinas
delight / delightful		delicioso
air		aire
scent		esencia
cover / covering		cubrir
idea		idea
repeat		repetir
fortune		fortuna
gentle		gentil -- Page 22

battle	batalla
three	tres
flower	flor
celebrate	celebrar
honor	honor
yard	(false cognate, meaning “jardín – yarda = 3 feet)
Saint Edward	San Eduardo
days	días
idea	idea
prison	prisión
save	salvar
precious	precioso
include	incluir
salted	salado
toast	(false cognate = tostar – to toast bread)
intended	intención
mine	mío/ mía/ míos, mías
mine / mines	mina / minas
carry	cargar
gallons	galones
Thomas	Tomás
candle	candela

Robert	Roberto
favorite	favorito
feast / feasting	fiesta
babe	bebé
vinegar	vinagre
music / musician	música / m / músico
sun / solar	sol
receive	recibir
attention	atención
pain	pena (dolor)
pay	pagar
ordinarily	ordinariamente
fantastic	fantástico
majestic	majestuoso
dormitory	dormitorio
office	oficina
exposed	expuesto
marvelous	maravilloso
gentle	gentil
sound	sonido
suggest	sugerir
poor	pobre
decorations	decoración

passion

pasión

glorious

glorioso