



NIELS WILHELM GADE

ELVERSKUD

OPUS 30 DEL 1 NR 2

Lyrics after Danish Legends

Olufs Ballade

Saa tidt jeg rider mig under Ø¹,
ved Dag, naar det lyser i Lunden,
længes jeg efter min Fæstemø,
den trofaste Brud, jeg har funden.

Saa tidt jeg rider, hvor Blomster smaa
i gyldne Korn sig skjule,
tænker jeg paa hendes Øine blaa
og paa hendes Lokker gule.

Saa tidt jeg vandrer, hvor Ellene² staaer,
naar Stjerner lyse for oven,
tænker jeg paa et kulsort Haar,
og en Mund saa dristig, forvoven.

Den dybeste Vunde kan sammen groe,
som Sværdene hugged i Striden,
det er som mit Hjerte var deelt i to,
det voxer vel sammen med Tiden!

¹ "ride under Ø" er en fast vending som går igen i flere folkeviser. Det betyder at "ride afsted".

² "Ellene": Elletræer

THE ELF-KING'S DAUGHTER

OPUS 30 PART 1 NO 2

English translation by Eva Hess Thaysen

Oluf's Ballad

As often as I ride along the beach¹
by day, when it is bright in the grove,
I long for my betrothed
the faithful bride, I have found.

As often as I ride where little flowers
hide in the golden grain,
I think of her eyes of blue
and of her locks of gold.

As often as I wander where the alders² stand,
when the stars shine above,
I think of a jet-black hair
and a mouth so bold and daring.

The deepest wound can heal
what the swords cut in the fight,
it is as if my heart were split in two,
I suppose it will heal with time!

¹ "ride under Ø" is a standard expression from folk ballads meaning to "ride out".

² "Ellene": Alder trees