



NIELS WILHELM GADE

TRE DIGTE

OPUS 21B NR 1

Lyrics by Carsten Hauch

Knud Lavard¹

Herr Magnus han stirrer i Vinternatten ud:
„Christ give, jeg maa svale min Hævn
paa Hertug Knud!”

Et Lønbrev han skriver saa tankefuld med Sned:
„Du møde mig i Harrestad, der vil vi tales ved.”

Herr Magnus han spænder sit Glavind ved Lænd:
„Ham hilse Danmarks Piger,
mig følge Danmarks Mænd.”

Herr Magnus han rider med Kjæmper ved sin Side,
„Nu vil vi bede² Hjorten
og see hvor den mon lide³.”

Og da de kom til Harrestad,
hvor Skovens Fugle boe;
da møder dem Knud Hertug, saa listelig de loe.

„Nu skrifte du, Frænde⁴,
hvad ei du skrifted før,
hvo Guldkronen fanger, naar Dannerkongen dør.

Og hør, min Frænde, du synes mig saa bleg,
nu vil vi skifte Riget
ved Sværdenes Leg.”

De jærnklaedte Kæmper opløfted deres Spær,
saa vog de den Herre ved Fuldmaanens Skiær.

THREE POEMS

OPUS 21B NO 1

English translation by Eva Hess Thaysen

Knud Lavard¹

Master Magnus gazes into the winter night:
“Christ grant me that I may calm my revenge
on Duke Knud!”

Pensively and with cunning he writes a secret letter:
“Meet me at Harrestad, there we can talk.”

Master Magnus girds on his sword:
“He will be greeted by Denmark’s girls,
Denmark’s men will follow me.”

Master Magnus rides with warriors by his side:
“Now we will lure² the stag
and find out where it might be.”³

And when they arrived at Harrestad,
where the woodland birds live;
they were met by Duke Knud, and they laughed slyly.

“Now, my kinsman⁴, you confess
what you have not confessed before,
who gets the golden crown when the Danish king dies.

And listen, my kinsman, you look so pale to me,
now we will settle the command of the Kingdom
by a duel.”

The ironclad warriors raised their swords
and killed the Duke in the light of the full moon.

¹ C. Hauchs originaltitel: ‘Magnus og Knud Lavard’

² *bede* - gl.dansk: *lokke* (egl. med madding)

³ *lide* - gl.dansk: *befinde sig*.

⁴ *frænde* - gl.dansk: *mandlig slægtning*

¹ C. Hauch’s original title: ‘Magnus and Knud Lavard’

² *bede* – old Danish: *entice* (actually with bait)

³ *lide* – old Danish: *be*

⁴ *frænde* – old Danish: *male relative*



Da sprang der frem en Kilde, den sank igien i Hav,
det var de Danskes Taarer,
der flød ved Heltens Grav.

O, Danmark, paa Rænker du aldrig dig forstod,
det har du tit betalt med dit reneste Blod.

Then a spring welled up, it flowed into the ocean,
it was the tears of the Danes
that flowed at the grave of the hero.

O Denmark, you never understood intrigues,
for that you have often paid with your purest blood.