



Global Grey Ebooks

**SIR GAWAIN AND
THE GREEN KNIGHT**

UNKNOWN

SIR GAWAIN AND THE GREEN KNIGHT



Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.

This translation by Kenneth G. T. Webster and William Allan Neilson was first published in 1917.

This ebook edition was created and published by Global Grey on the 3rd October 2021.

The artwork used for the cover is '*The Green Knight Preparing to Battle Sir Beaumains*' painted by N. C. Wyeth.

This book can be found on the site here:

globalgreyebooks.com/sir-gawain-and-the-green-knight-ebook.html

©Global Grey 2021

globalgreyebooks.com

Contents

Fytte the First

Fytte the Second

Fytte the Third

Fytte the Fourth

and David thereafter was deceived by Bathsheba,
 who suffered much sorrow.
 Since these men were plagued by their wiles,
 it were a huge gain to love them well and believe them not —
 if a person but could;
 for these men were of old the best,
 and the most fortunate,
 excellent above all others under the heavens;
 and all they were beguiled by women whom they had to do with.⁹²
 If I be now deceived, meseems I might be excused.

19.

“But your girdle,” quoth Gawain,
 “God reward you for it!
 That will I keep with good will;
 not for the precious gold,
 nor the samite nor the silk,
 nor the wide pendants,
 for its wealth nor for its beauty
 nor for its fine work;
 but in sign of my fault I shall behold it oft;
 when I ride in renown I shall lament to myself
 the fault and the deceit of the crabbed flesh,
 how tender it is to catch stains of filth;
 and thus when pride shall prick me for prowess of arms,
 a look on this love-lace shall moderate my heart.
 But one thing I would pray you —
 may it displease you not —
 since ye are lord of the land yonder
 where I have stayed worshipfully with you —
 may the Being who upholds the heaven
 and sits on high repay you for it! —
 how name ye your right name? and then no more.”
 “That shall I tell thee truly,” quoth the other then.
 “Bernlak de Hautdesert I am called in this land,
 through the might of Morgen la Fay,
 who dwells in my house.
 She has acquired deep learning, hard-won skill,
 many of the masteries of Merlin;
 — for she has at times dealt in rare magic with that renowned clerk,
 who knows all your knights at home.
 Morgan the Goddess is therefore her name;
 no person is so haughty but she can tame him.

20.

“She sent me in this wise to your rich hall
 to assay its pride and try if it were true

⁹² This passage is none too clear.

