

52: The Mountain Goats that Gave Milk to the Monks of Montserrat

*Right it is that animals should obey Holy Mary, the mother of God*

On this I will now tell you, if God gives me breath, of a very fine and great miracle which the glorious Virgin saw fit to perform: listen as I tell it, and be glad in it.

In Montserrat, that place I have already told of, there is a church which, as I heard tell, was built in honour of the mother of the King of heaven who gave his life for us on the cross

That place is beneath a mountain where there roam many wild goats, with which a wondrous miracle came to pass, for they all came straight down the mountain

right down to the church which lies in a valley, and they lined up in a row outside the door and all stood there quietly and at rest until the monks came and milked them.

And for four years, so it was said, the monks had all the milk they wanted as every night the goats came down to be milked,

until one day a foolish priest stole one of their kids and killed and ate it, and from then on it befell that the goats never came to them again

And in this way the mother of God sought to care for those monks of hers; and many of the faithful came in pilgrimage to hear of that miracle.