

*Judith*

Da, on þam feorðan dæge, feormode se ealdorman his  
heahþegnas on his getelde on micelre blisse, 7 bebead  
240 his burðegne þæt he gebringan sceolde into his [285]  
gebeorscipe þa foresædan Iudith, 7 he swa dyde. Heo  
com þa geglenged for nanre galnyse, 7 stod him  
ætforan swiðe fægres hiwes, 7 his mod sona swiðe  
wearð ontend on hire gewilnunge to his galnesse; 7 het  
245 hi beon bliðe on his gebeorscipe, 7 heo him behet þæt  
heo swa wolde.

Þa wearð Holofern is wundorlice bliðe ealne þone  
dæg, 7 fordræncte hine sylfne mid þam strangum wine  
ofer his gewunan, 7 ealle his þegnas eac wæron  
250 fordræncte; 7 hi efston on æfnunge to heora mane [297]  
swiðe, 7 þa burþegnas gebrohton þone ealdormann on  
anum bedde mid þære Iudith, 7 na swiðe ne gymdon  
syððan heora hlafordes.

Iudith geseah þa, þa þa he on slæpe wæs, þæt hire  
255 wæs gerymed to hire ræde wel forð; 7 het hire þinene  
healdan þa duru, 7 gelæhte his agen swurd 7 sloh to  
his hneccan, 7 mid twam slegum forsloh him þone  
swuran, 7 bewand þæt bodig mid ðam beddclaðum.  
Heo nam ða þæt heafod, 7 his hopscytan, 7 eode hire ut  
260 mid hire þinene swylce on gebedum, swa swa hyre [309]  
gewuna wæs, oþþæt hi buta becomon to þam burhgeate.

Iudith þa clypode 7 cwæð to þam weardmannum: 'Undoð  
þas burhgatu! God sylf is mid us, se þe mihte gefremode  
on Israhela þeode.' 7 hi þa ardlice undydon þa gatu, 7  
265 comon endemes mid leohte hire to, forþan þe hi wendon  
þæt heo ne com na ongean.