

“(from previous page) O king and counts, trust one who knows how much

(1) he lifts his shield, with what whirlwind he turns his spear.”

But while Gunther, burdened with a badly sane mind, could not in any way be turned, they neared to the camp. But Hildegund watching from afar from the top of the mount, by means of the raised dust, sensed men coming, [and] warned Walter himself to wake with a gentle touch.

(7) She tells him that a certain force speeds around in the distance. Wiping his eyes clean from the film of sleep, a little at a time he dressed his stiff limbs with iron.

(10) And while they hastened very little, the woman when she saw the flashing spears, excessively stunned she says, “We have the Huns here.” Falling on the earth at that very spot she says such things in sadness, “I beg you my lord, let my throat be slit, that I, who was not entitled to be joined with you in the bedchamber, might endure the use of the flesh with no other man.” To which Walter said:

(15) “May what you ask not be, put away fear from your mind. The Lord himself, who often led me out from many dangers, here he has strength, I believe, to rout our enemies.” He said this, and lifting up his eyes, he spoke to her: “These are not Avars here at hand, but Frankish Nibelungs, the local inhabitants.”

(21) He saw it and recognizing it he adds such words laughing: “lo, the helm of Hagan, my old friend and comrade.” Here the hero approached the entrance of the stronghold, addressing thus the woman standing behind. Before this gate I now declare these proud words.

(26) “there will be no Frank returning from here, who might have strength to announce to his wife, (difficult syntax) who dared to take any treasure.” And before he finished his speech, behold he fell to the ground, and sought forgiveness, for such things as he had said. After which however he arose, cautiously thinking over everyone he said, “I fear none of these whom I see except Hagan ...