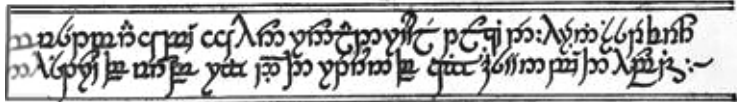




quidnunc's limerick

The Lord of The Rings

by
ELECTED #1
QUIDNUNC KID





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A FAIR USE SATIRE IN LIMERICKS

(with apologies to

J. R. R. TOLKIEN

and everyone)

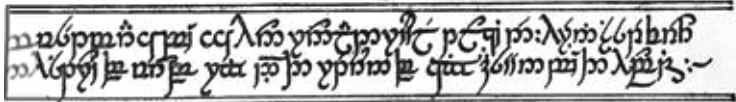
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THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

BOOK I

1 An Unexpected Party

Bilbo's practical jokes are the worst!
On his birthday (eleventy-first)
It was rude, crass and queer
That he should disappear
Before all of his guests had dispersed.

2 The Shadow of the Past

Now Frodo's just mindin' his biz
When visited by a grey Wiz:
"Must destroy Bilbo's ring
'Tis an evil old thing!
And Sauron be thinkin' it's his."

3 Three is Company

Black Riders approach, and they're
seedy,
It's time to depart - let's be speedy!
Frodo's off on his trip
With brave comrade Pip!
And with Sam (who's all whiny and
needy).

4 A Short-Cut to Mushrooms

Farmer Maggot is really polite
Tho' you pilfered his mushrooms one
 night
'Twas all done long ago
So chillax, Fro-bro.
Oh Hi, Merry! - You gave us a fright!

5 A Conspiracy Unmasked

“So, guys, there’s a thing you should
 know,”
Says our hero, “I’m planning to go...”
His buddies just smile
'Cos they knew all the while
“Yeah, we’re all coming with you too,
 Fro”.

6 The Old Forest

In the forest, a branch for a pillow,
Means waking up inside a willow.
We need an old timer,
A magical rhymer -
Thank Manwë, here’s Tom Bombadillo!

7 In the House of Tom Bombadil

The “oldest and fatherless” Tommy
Tells tales and makes jokes with
aplomb! He
Don't want rings of power,
He loves trees and flowers!
I think he's some kind of weird commie?

8 Fog on the Barrow-Downs

Evil wights almost capture and kill
Our brave hobbits; but Tom Bombadil
(Once again) saves the day
Soon they're on their way
With Fro stylin' himself “Underhill”¹.

9 At the Sign of the Prancing Pony

At the “Pony,” the Hobbits are singin',
And downin' the ale that they're
bringin'!
Fro's finger gets stuck
In the ring! Awful luck,
But one shouldn't be drinkin' and
ringin'.

10 Strider

The boys gets an offer from Strider
To act as a helper and guider.
Taking Gandalf's advice
(sent by post) that he's nice
They avoid getting caught by Black
Riders.

11 A Knife in the Dark

On Weathertop, things turned out sour:
Missed Gandalf; the weather was dour.
The Nazgûl were grabby
And at Frodo, stabby!
His wound's looking worse by the hour.

12 Flight to the Ford

Poor Frodo comes-to, with a sliver
Of Morgul-blade in him. His liver
Can't help him de-tox -
He's got Nazgûl pox!
Better wash them away in a river.

Book II

1 Many Meetings

Poor Frodo should feel better soon
In Riverdell, Elrond's commune.
Here's a dwarf, there's an elf,
And here's Gandalf himself!
Come on Bilbo, now give us a tune^{2!}

2 The Council of Elrond

So many new faces need greeting,
So Elrond says: "Schedule a meeting!"
After much talking
They settle on walking
To Mordor (to fly would be cheating).

3 The Ring Goes South

Say, Frodo - who's going with you
Into Mordor? "A man, maybe two -
Plus Gandalf (of course),
An elf and a dwarf,
And all of my mad Hobbit crew".

4 A Journey in the Dark

Now Gandalf can see friendly signs:
"Let's try Khazad-dûm - no, it's fine!"
Then they read up on Balin³
Who wrote (with hope failin')
"May be Moria, but it ain't mine."

5 The Bridge of Khazad-dûm

Walking through Khazad-dûm is
insane:
Orcs are scary, and so's Durin's-Bane.
Gandalf says, "None shall pass!"
Then gets kicked in the ass:
"Fly you fools!" (does he mean - take a
plane?)

6 Lothlórien

Gandalf gone? It's so sad! Our tears
stream -
Seems we're now minus one from our
team.
And Elves who think dimly
Of people like Gimli
Lead us on in some kind of a dream...

7 The Mirror of Galadriel

Check Galadriel out - she's so fair!
Wise and ancient, with really nice hair.
In her mirror, you'll see
Stuff that may come to be.
All should love her, but all might
despair.

8 Farewell to Lórien

A Gal can be trusted, who delves
Into minds, to show people themselves.
And all moods are lifted
When presents are gifted
But let's go, I'm sick of these Elves!

9 The Great River

A river - so we can go boating!
On Anduin's waves we'll be floating.
There's statues of kings
(Seems like Boromir's thing,
'Cos for Gondor he's always emoting).

10 The Breaking of the Fellowship

Two groups of Orcs are a wake-up -
To battle! Our arms we should take-up!
Then an envious leer
From our friend Boromir
T'ward the ring means it's time that we
break-up.

THE TWO TOWERS

BOOK III

1 The Departure of Boromir

Foul deeds interrupted the walk
Into Mordor. Let Aragorn talk:
“Boromir’s dead,
And Frodo has fled -
But fuck that shit. Let’s hunt some
Orc!”

2 THE RIDERS OF ROHAN

This plan to hunt down Orcish forces
Is one that Eomer endorses!
His men are quite grave -
They’re bold and they’re brave,
And suspiciously fond of their horses.

3 The Uruk-Hai

But what about Merry and Pip?
Why, they're held in the enemy's grip!
But two types of Goblin
Will always start squabblin'
So it's easy to give 'em the slip.

4 Treebeard

To throw all those Orcs off their scent
Pip and Merry go visit an Ent!
He's a bearded old coot
Who loves a long moot
But can't recall where his wife went.

5 The White Rider

The mixed team of dwarf, elf and
fighter
(Whose diversity makes 'em much
brighter)
Find Gandalf returned
But are slightly concerned
That his power's consid'rably whiter.

6 The King of the Golden Hall

Théoden King's feeling germy -
Some illness has made his brain
 squirmy!
But Gandalf will cure him
If he can lure him
Off his dependence on Wormy.

7 Helm's Deep

Helm's Deep - and, yeah, Helm is quite
 wide.
There's lots of room in which to hide:
But Orcs want a fight
So we battle all night
Until Gandalf turns up for our side.

8 The Road to Isengard

Now we're off on the road to Orthanc!
It's impregnable (much like a bank).
But wait, it's been sacked
By an Entish attack!
Seems Saruman's threat was just wank.

9 Flotsam and Jetsam

So, Merry and Pip, tell your tale -
What forces made Isengard fail?
“Well, the Ents got quite mad
Wrecked the place. It’s too bad!
But we’ve got some pipe-weed to
inhale!”

10 The Voice of Saruman

“Hey, Saruman!” (our Gandalf calls)
“Someone smashed up your citadel’s
halls!”
Although he’s no quitter,
Ol’ S-man is bitter!
And drops one of his glassy balls.

11 The Palantír

In a Palantír, one shouldn’t look -
Sauron can read you like a book!
But Pippin is naughty
And makes Gandalf haughty -
He’s one fucking fool of a Took.

Book IV

1 The Taming of Smeagol

Frodo and Sam mustn't mope -
They're stuck on a dangerous slope!
And Gollum's applied
To act as their guide
As long as he's tied up with rope.

2 The Passage of the Marshes

Our travellers go for a romp
Through a creepy and dangerous
swamp!
There's no time for cooking
The Nazgûl are looking
And they've hardly a mouthful to
chomp.

3 The Black Gate is Closed

The Black Gate is closed - what a pity!
No way in to Sauron's dark city.
But Gollum is sure
There's one other door -
Hope his back entrance isn't too shitty⁴.

4 Of Herbs and Stewed Rabbit

Quick stop for a meal, let's have stew!
Better make some for Faramir's crew:
They're wary of strangers,
And troubled by dangers:
Orcs, Southrons and elephants, too.

5 The Window on the West

Frodo Baggins, who's under arrest,
Is grilled by a man of the west:
"So tell me why, Fro,
You hated my bro?
I thought he was one of the best!"

6 The Forbidden Pool

Gollum's fishing in off-limits pools
Thus breaking all Faramir's rules!
Frodo gives an excuse:
"He's a child of abuse!
Blame the ring, or his parents, or
schools!"

7 Journey to the Cross-Roads

The journey to Mordor's a killer -
But this part ain't much of a thriller.
There's statues, graffiti,
But nothing too "meaty"
... this chapter is basically filler.

8 The Stairs of Cirith Ungol

To sneak into Mordor, we'll stumble
Upstairs to get to Cirith Ungol!
There's such a big drop
When you get to the top
And the path is quite manky and
fungal.

9 Shelob's Lair

Gol knows the way like an insider:
But he's not such an innocent guider!
This tunnel's a fright
And it doesn't feel right -
Holy Shit! Did you see that huge
spider!?

10 The Choices of Master Samwise

Now Sam has a big choice to make:
His master got bit and won't wake,
Before the Orcs come
Sam, get off your bum,
And quick - take the ring, for fuck's
sake!

THE RETURN OF THE KING

BOOK V

1 Minas Tirith

Gandalf and Pippin go riding
To Gondor, where Denny's⁵ presiding:
He gives Pip a job
But thinks Gandalf's a nob -
He's famous for snarking and chiding.

2 The Passing of the Grey Company

Now Aragorn's got in his head
To go down the Paths of the Dead!
Can he lead the hosts
Of these old-fashioned ghosts?
I should think so - he's very well bred.

3 The Muster of Ronan

King Théoden doesn't prefer
Eowyn enlisting. Still, her
Plan is to go
(With Merry in tow)
Disguised as one "Dernhelm", a sir.

4 The Siege of Gondor

It's quite dark in here - is the power on?
Or is a siege of the White Tower on?
Now Faramir's dying
Hope Rohan is flying
To Gondor to help us fight Saur-on⁶.

5 The Ride of the Rohirrim

"Wake up now, you Riders of Ro!
There's fell deeds and fire - let's go!
A sword day, a red day,
A get-out-of-bed day,
Let's ride to help friend and fight foe!"

6 The Battle of the Pelennor Fields

King Théo's unseated quite early -
The Witch-King is vicious and surly!
No man can oppose
Him, he'll kill all the bros -
Good thing that our Dernhelm's a girly!

7 The Pyre of Denethor

Denethor thinks it's all dire:
One son dead, one about to expire!
Gandalf says: "Dope!
No need to lose hope!"
Oops - too late, he's jumped on the
pyre.

8 The Houses of Healing

Poor Merry is found lying prone
By Pippin, who hears his sad groan.
In Houses of Healing
Much better he's feeling
When seen by one Dr. Elfstone⁷.

9 The Last Debate

It's time for the ultimate jaw-jaw:
Should we all get ready for war-war?
Yes, let's cast the dice
'Cos it's Gandalf's advice
To march ourselves right up to Mordor.

10 The Black Gate Opens

Sauron's dark plans are a-brewing
His Orcs, at the Black Gate, are quee-
ing!
His mouth gives offense
So let battle commence!
...I wonder how Frodo is doing?

Book VI

1 The Tower of Cirith Ungol

Brave Samwise then rescues the quest -
Saves Frodo from Orcs - he's the best!
"But Fro, here's the thing,
Should I just keep this ring?"
"No, our friendship might not pass that
test."

2 The Land of Shadow

To go further on, Frodo tries
A cunning and Orcish disguise!
So Sam and he walk
Unmolested by Orc
And safe from the enemy's eye(s).

3 Mount Doom

“The One Ring” cries Sam, “Frodo,
slings ‘er
In Mount Doom’s deep fire - don’t
linger!”
“But Gollum’s a pest,”
Frodo says, “Thus this quest
Must pause ‘til I give him the finger.”

4 The Field of Cormallen

Sic transit gloria Smeagol
And Sauron, who’s plans were illegal
Must also disperse -
They’ve broken his curse!
So let’s leave this foul place (by eagle).

5 The Steward and the King

Well, everyone’s back! Let’s get ready
To party, we’re feeling light-heady!
Let’s all laugh and sing
Because Aragorn’s King
And Arwen and he can go steady!

6 Many Partings

The fourth age (of men) is prevailing
So all of our friends now start bailing.
Elrond says, “Frodo,
Because Arwen won’t go,
Soon Bilbo and we should go sailing.”

7 Homeward Bound

Gandalf says, “Frodo, I’m dryin’ -
A pint at the The Pony? - I’m buyin’!”
The good news they mutter
Makes Barliman splutter!
But all of it’s true - they’re not lyin’.

8 The Scouring of the Shire

The Hobbits are feeling quite snarky
On hearing about the malarkey
That’s rife in the Shire -
This new Chief, they’ll fire.
Then Wormtongue will terminate
“Sharkey”.

9 The Grey Havens

To the undying lands the ships flow:
With Gandalf, plus Bilb- and Frod-o.
And Sam, in his shack,
Just sighs, “Well, I’m back.”

Says Rosie: “Oh? Where did you go?”

* * * **ENDNOTES** * * *

1 As per Gandalf's instructions to Fro:
"Dude, when to Bree you all go
Don't use your real name
It's a dangerous game
Unless you're all incognit-o".

2 The song in question being one about
famous (half)elf Eärendel, i.e.:

Let's sing of the downfall of Gondolin!
Where many poor Elf boys, so blonde-
of-chin,
Had their beards (and heads) severed
'Til Eärendel endeavored
To save them. That's why they're so
fond-of-him.

3 Ok, fine - I realise that "Balin"
Might rhyme not with "failin", but
"Allen".
I had to use license
Poetic. I'll try hence
To use the right soundings (and
spallin').

Err... "spelling". Sorry.

4 I know what you're thinking - you're
right.

This limerick's not so polite.

It started off well

But then all went to hell

And do I feel ashamed of it? Quite.

5 Denethor's really his name.

For shortening it, I'm to blame.

But if Benjamin's "Benny"

And Leonard is "Lenny"

Ain't Denethor "Denny", the same?

6 "Sour-On" - that's how we pronounce
it.

His army's ~~is~~ amassing. We'll trounce
it!

Elves did it before

But this time, make sure

If you find a gold ring, please renounce
it.

7 A.K.A., our heroic ranger

Aragorn. Who's not a stranger

To Gondor: the thing

is, he will be King

of the place, once it's out of all danger.

For further background information on Bilbo Baggins, please see "The Hobbit", summarised below:

I

In a hole in the ground lived a Hobbit -
Then Gandalf and his dwarvish mob
hit!

"Bilbo, jump on our wagon:
We're meeting a dragon,
And need your assistance to rob it!"

II

Met Goblins and wolves and whatever,
And some trolls (who weren't too
clever)

In the dark, thanks to Sting,
Made off with a ring! -
Bet Gollum now hates us forever.

III

Made a dragon upset, stole from
Thorin,
Accidentally set five armies warrin' ...
Should I really aspire
To life outside the Shire?
Oh well. At least my life ain't borin'.