

# Sir Gawain And The Green Knight

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[Sir Gawain and the Green Knight](#) - Marie Borroff 2010  
Presents a scholarly translation, an essay on the metrical form, translator's notes, and explanatory annotations of the canonical Arthurian romance.  
*The Green Knight (Movie Tie-In)* - 2021-07-13  
The inspiration for the major motion picture *The Green*

*Knight* starring Dev Patel, an early English poem of magic, chivalry and seduction. Composed during the fourteenth century in the English Midlands, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* describes the events that follow when a mysterious green-coloured knight rides into King Arthur's Camelot in deep mid-winter. The mighty knight presents a

challenge to the court: he will allow himself to be struck by one blow, on the condition that he will be allowed to return the strike on the following New Year's Eve. Sir Gawain takes up the challenge, decapitating the stranger - only to see the Green Knight seize up his own severed head and ride away, leaving Gawain to seek him out and honour their pact.

Blending Celtic myth and Christian faith, Gawain is among the greatest Middle English poems: a tale of magic, chivalry and seduction.

### **A Reading of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** - J A.

BURROW 2020-12-31

Originally published in 1965, A Reading of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight is an interpretation of the most important poem in Middle English literature, the only fourteenth century work which can stand beside Chaucer. The book examines the poem's conventions and purposes in a critical analysis and provides a useful and insightful introduction to 'Sir Gawain'. It will be of interest to students

and academics studying the poem of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.

### **SIR GAWAIN AND THE GREEN KNIGHT** - 2021

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight vs. Sword of the Valiant.

The representation of the Green Knight in comparison -

Nicole Piontek 2022-01-24

Seminar paper from the year 2021 in the subject English

Language and Literature

Studies - Literature, grade: 2,0, University of Bonn (Institut für

Anglistik, Amerikanistik und Keltologie), course: English

Medieval Studies, language:

English, abstract: The Gawain-

Poet introduces a mysterious

and magical character in his

poem "Sir Gawain and the

Green Knight". The Green

Knight is a dangerous and

powerful character in the

beginning of the plot. He sets

the happenings in motion and

is the reason for Gawain's

journey. However, the Green

Knight is uncovered to not be

the main villain of the story.

Therefore, there must be hints

at his weakness and

vulnerability throughout the plot, just as the depiction of magical elements. The same applies to the movie adaptation *Sword of the Valiant* directed by Stephen Weeks. Although Weeks' adaptation shows clear alterations to the poem, the beginning and the ending of the plots can still be compared. As for the beginning, in both versions the Green Knight enters the Arthurian court and explains his errand. Towards the end, both versions of Gawain find themselves in the Green Chapel. Thus, these two scenes are comparable. This paper aims at answering the question whether the representation of the Green Knight in the original poem corresponds to the movie *Sword of the Valiant*. Moreover, this paper is going to focus on the aspect of vulnerability and magical elements. Thus, the following questions will be answered: How is vulnerability portrayed in contrast to each other, and in how far is magic emphasized through the depiction of the Green Knight?

## **Sir Gawain & the Green Knight** - William Stanley

Merwin 2003

*Sir Gawain & the Green Knight* is a classic Arthurian tale of enchantment, adventure and romance. This splendid new translation - by one of the world's leading poets - has already been acclaimed in America. Modern and Middle English parallel text edition.

## **Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** - John Gardner

2011-11-30

The classic tale of adventure, romance, and chivalry--now a major motion picture starring Dev Patel! The adventures and challenges of Sir Gawain, King Arthur's nephew and a knight at the Round Table, including his duel with the mysterious Green Knight, are among the oldest and best known of Arthurian stories. Here the distinguished author and poet John Gardner has captured the humor, elegance, and richness of the original Middle English in flowing modern verse translations of this literary masterpiece. Besides the tale of Sir Gawain and the Green

Knight, this edition includes two allegorical poems, "Purity" and "Patience"; the beautiful dream allegory "Pearl"; and the miracle story "Saint Erkenwald," all attributed to the same anonymous poet, a contemporary of Chaucer and an artist of the first rank. "Mr. Gardner has translated into modern English and edited a text of these five poems that could hardly be improved. . . . The entire work is preceded by a very fine and complete general introduction and a critical commentary on each poem."—Library Journal  
Sir Gawain and the Green Knight - M. T. A. Smith  
2018-07-26

It is New Year at Camelot and a mysterious green knight appears at King Arthur's court. Challenging the knights of the Round Table to a Christmas game, he offers his splendid axe as a prize to whoever is brave enough to behead him with just one strike. The condition is that his challenger must seek him out in a year and a day to have the deed returned. Sir Gawain accepts

and decapitates the stranger, only to see him pick up his head, walk out of the hall and ride away on his horse. Now Gawain must complete his part of the bargain, search for his foe and confront what seems his doom... Michael Smith's translation of this magnificent Arthurian romance draws on his intimate experience of the North West of England and his knowledge of mediaeval history, culture and architecture. He takes us back to the original poetic form of the manuscript and brings it alive for a modern audience, while revealing the poem's historic and literary context. The book is beautifully illustrated by throughout with detailed recreations of the illuminated lettering in the original manuscript and the author's own linocut prints, each meticulously researched for contemporary accuracy. This is an exciting new edition that will appeal both to students of the Gawain-poet and the general reader alike.

**The Adventures of Sir Gawain the True** - Gerald

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Morris 2011-04-18

“An ingeniously integrated retelling of Gawain and the Green Knight . . . Worthy reading for all budding squires and damsels.” —Kirkus Reviews(starred review) In the third installment in the Knights’ Tales series, Gerald Morris tells the laugh-out-loud tale of King Arthur’s most celebrated knight and nephew, Sir Gawain, and the Green Knight. With lively illustrations by Aaron Renier, Morris creates a captivating and comical medieval world that teems with humor and wonder. This chapter book is sure to set young readers on another rollicking and hilarious Arthurian adventure! “Broad humor, graced with lively language will have readers laughing along with this boisterous Arthurian adventure.” —Yellow Brick Road Praise for The Knights’ Tales series “With his quirky sense of myth and legend and tongue-in-cheek humor, [Morris] brings to life the court of King Arthur and his knights.” —Curled Up with a

Good Kid’s Book “The book’s brevity and humor make it accessible to reluctant readers, and it is a fantastic read-aloud.” —School Library Journal “This trim novel, with simple vocabulary and brief, witty chapters, is an ideal fit for early readers . . . but fans of the legendary characters may find particular delight in this irreverent and unabashedly silly exploration of Arthur’s court and his most influential knight.” —The Bulletin “This is often quite funny, and just exciting enough to capture the attention of budding young Arthur-philes.” —Booklist  
The Gawain Poet - Marie Borroff 2011

Of the five poems contained in this book, two are acknowledged masterpieces. The plot of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, an Arthurian romance, brilliantly interweaves elements of suspense and high comedy. Pearl, a dream vision, presents its poignant story of the education of a misguided Christian soul in metrically intricate and verbally ornate

stanzas that add up to an overarching numerical design. Together with these two, Patience, Cleanness, and Saint Erkenwald make up the complete works of their anonymous author. All exhibit the dramatizing powers and metrical virtuosity of a master-poet. But none became part of the established literary canon until the second half of the nineteenth century, when the single manuscript copies in which they survive were edited and printed. Taken together, these works offer us a wide-ranging portrait of life in the late Middle Ages from the point of view of an independent-minded, learned, and cosmopolitan Englishman, a man as conversant with the conduct of life in great households as with Christian tradition and doctrine. He knew, among other things, how to sail a medieval passenger ship from its mooring to open sea, how to dress the carcass of a deer or a boar at the end of a royal hunt, and how a knight might flatter a noble and beautiful lady in the most

intimate of situations while politely evading her seductive overtures.

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* - Gawain Poet  
2021-07-29

The legendary tale of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table is one of the most famous folk tales in history, with Merlin the Wizard and the virtuous Sir Lancelot being known and loved by young and old alike to this day. Slightly less celebrated, however, is The Green Knight, who first appeared in the 14th-century Arthurian poem "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight". One of Arthur's greatest champions, he is both a judge and tester of knights, looked upon by his peers as an amiable yet terrifying and mysterious personage. One of the best known Arthurian stories, it is a classic example of chivalric romance within which The Green Knight goes on a quest that tests his prowess, virtue, and determination in the face of great danger. The poem is written in stanzas of alliterative verse which all end

in a rhyming bob and wheel, and is attributed to the unidentified "Pearl Poet". This volume contains the original text together with an English translation by William Allan Neilson, making it a must-have for those with an interest in the famous Arthurian legend. Ragged Hand is proudly republishing this classic Arthurian poem now in a brand new edition complete with an introduction by K. G. T. Webster.

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Pearl, Sir Orfeo - J.R.R. Tolkien 1979-12-12

Three masterpieces of medieval poetry, translated by the author of *The Lord of the Rings*—including *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, the poem that inspired the major motion picture *The Green Knight* Comparable to the works of Chaucer, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, *Pearl*, and *Sir Orfeo* weave a bright tapestry of stories from a remote age of chivalry and wizards, knights and holy quests—but unlike *The Canterbury Tales*, the name of

the poet who wrote them is lost to time. Masterfully translated from the original Middle English by J.R.R. Tolkien, the language of these great poems comes to life for modern readers. At the center of this collection is *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, a tale as lush and dark as England's medieval forests. Mixing romance and adventure, *Sir Gawain* follows King Arthur's most noble knight on an adventure of epic enchantment, temptation, and destiny.

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight - 2004-03-30

A splendid new translation of the classic Arthurian tale of enchantment, adventure, and romance, presented alongside the original Middle English text. It is the height of Christmas and New Year's revelry when an enormous knight with brilliant green clothes and skin descends upon King Arthur's court. He presents a sinister challenge: he will endure a blow of the axe to his neck without offering any resistance, but whoever gives the blow must promise to

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take the same in exactly a year and a day's time. The young Sir Gawain quickly rises to the challenge, and the poem tells of the adventures he finds—an almost irresistible seduction, shockingly brutal hunts, and terrifyingly powerful villains—as he endeavors to fulfill his promise. Capturing the pace, impact, and richly alliterative language of the original text, W. S. Merwin has imparted a new immediacy to a spellbinding narrative, written centuries ago by a poet whose name is now unknown, lost to time. Of the Green Knight, Merwin notes in his foreword: “We seem to recognize him—his splendor, the awe that surrounds him, his menace and his grace—without being able to place him . . . We will never know who the Green Knight is except in our own response to him.”

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight - Elisabeth Brewer 1992  
This anthology of medieval writing provides a context for a deeper understanding of the Gawain-poet's originality and skill.

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight - Marie Borroff 2001  
Provides translations of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Pearl, and Patience.

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight - Rethinking Romance - Markus Widmer 2007-06  
Seminar paper from the year 1999 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1 (A), University of Zurich (English Seminar), course: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, 16 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: This paper discusses how the author of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight uses, explores and sometimes undermines the conventions of the Arthurian romance genre. As a basis for this investigation, a definition of the genre is sketched, using a structuralist model along with a set of typical motifs found in many romances. Having established the essential genre elements the paper then examines the way the Gawain-poet makes use of these in his text. After identifying the fundamentally

generic structure of the poem the author concentrates on incidents where the poet plays ironically with the reader's genre expectations.

### **Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** - Gawain-Poet

1967-01-25

Three epic poems from 14th century England speak of life during the age of chivalry.

Translated from medieval English. Copyright © Libri GmbH. All rights reserved.

*The Knight on His Quest* - Piotr Sadowski 1996

This book offers an integrated interpretative analysis of the major thematic aspects of the English fourteenth-century romance *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. The chief aim of author Piotr Sadowski is to look at the contents of the narrative in their entirety and to take full advantage of the poem's exceptional and widely praised harmony of structure and design. Within that design, Sadowski focuses on the poem's presentation of the main protagonist and his adventures, seen first of all as a generalized metaphor of the

human life understood as a spiritual quest, and, in a more historical sense, as an expression and critique of certain ideals, values, and anxieties that characterized the late medieval institutions of the court, chivalry, and the Church. Sadowski built the interpretive framework of *Sir Gawain* from an eclectic theoretical base that he believes is most valuable and useful in approaching medieval literature. The main focus of the study remains the literary text itself, created by an author who communicates his view of the world through the poem. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* - Barron 1998

### **Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Pearl, and Sir Orfeo**

- John Ronald Reuel Tolkien 1995

Three epic poems from 14th century England speak of life during the age of chivalry. Translated from medieval English.

### **Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** - Boria Sax 1996

REA's MAXnotes for The

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Gawain Poet's Sir Gawain and the Green Knight MAXnotes offer a fresh look at masterpieces of literature, presented in a lively and interesting fashion. Written by literary experts who currently teach the subject, MAXnotes will enhance your understanding and enjoyment of the work. MAXnotes are designed to stimulate independent thought about the literary work by raising various issues and thought-provoking ideas and questions. MAXnotes cover the essentials of what one should know about each work, including an overall summary, character lists, an explanation and discussion of the plot, the work's historical context, illustrations to convey the mood of the work, and a biography of the author. Each section of the work is individually summarized and analyzed, and has study questions and answers.

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* - Weston Ochse  
2021-07-30

A modernization of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

[Sir Gawain and the Green Knight](#) - 2013-11-07

'Tomorrow I must set off to receive that blow, to seek out that creature in green, God help me!' J.R.R. Tolkien spent much of his life studying, translating and teaching the great epic stories of northern Europe, filled with heroes, dragons, trolls, dwarves and magic. He was hugely influential for his advocacy of Beowulf as a great work of literature and, even if he had never written The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings, would be recognised today as a significant figure in the rediscovery of these extraordinary tales. Legends from the Ancient North brings together from Penguin Classics five of the key works behind Tolkien's fiction. They are startling, brutal, strange pieces of writing, with an elemental power brilliantly preserved in these translations. They plunge the reader into a world of treachery, quests, chivalry, trials of strength. They are the most ancient narratives that exist from northern Europe and

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bring us as near as we will ever get to the origins of the magical landscape of Middle-earth (Midgard) which Tolkien remade in the 20th century.

### **Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** - Laura L. Howes

2020-11

"This Norton Critical Edition of the anonymously written fourteenth-century Arthurian romance *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* is derived from a verse translation by Marie Borroff, first translated in 1967. The poem follows Gawain, a knight of King Arthur's court, as his honor is tested by the Green Knight. After succeeding in beheading the Green Knight, who survives the ordeal, Gawain must uphold his end of the bargain and, after a year's time, meet with the Green Knight again so that the knight may return the grim favor and behead Gawain. The "Contexts" in this Critical Edition provide readers with selections of the poem in its original Middle English, as well as other Arthurian stories that may have influenced the anonymous Gawain-poet.

"Criticism" includes a selection of essays on themes ranging from the poem's descriptive techniques, to its use of time and gender. A chronology and selected bibliography are also included"--

### **Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** - William Vantuono

1991-01

First Published in 1990.

Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

*The Green Knight (Movie Tie-In)* - 2021-07-13

The inspiration for the major motion picture *The Green Knight* starring Dev Patel, an early English poem of magic, chivalry and seduction.

Composed during the fourteenth century in the English Midlands, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* describes the events that follow when a mysterious green-coloured knight rides into King Arthur's Camelot in deep mid-winter. The mighty knight presents a challenge to the court: he will allow himself to be struck by one blow, on the condition that he will be allowed to return the

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strike on the following New Year's Eve. Sir Gawain takes up the challenge, decapitating the stranger - only to see the Green Knight seize up his own severed head and ride away, leaving Gawain to seek him out and honour their pact.

Blending Celtic myth and Christian faith, Gawain is among the greatest Middle English poems: a tale of magic, chivalry and seduction.

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight and French Arthurian Romance* - Ad Putter 1995

This is an innovative and original exploration of the connections between Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, one of the most well-known works of medieval English literature, and the tradition of French Arthurian romance, best-known through the works of Chretien de Troyes two centuries earlier. The book compares Gawain with a wide range of French Arthurian romances, exploring their recurrent structural patterns and motifs, their ethical orientation and the social context in which they were

produced. It presents a wealth of new sources and analogues, which reveal and illuminate the Gawain-poet's sophisticated literary and moral understanding of the conventions of Arthurian romance. Throughout, Ad Putter pays close attention to the ways in which the modes of representation in romance are related to social and historical contexts. Focusing on the importance of conscience, courtliness, and self-restraint in Arthurian romance, this book explores the ways in which literati such as Chretien de Troyes and the Gawain-poet adapted chivalric ideals to the changing times.

**Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** - Michael Morpurgo  
2015-02-10

The quest of Sir Gawain for the Green Knight teaches him a lesson in pride, humility, and honor.

The Works of the Gawain Poet -  
Ad Putter 2014-07-10

A new volume of the works of the Gawain poet, destined to become the definitive edition for students and scholars. This

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volume brings together four works of the unknown fourteenth-century poet famous for the Arthurian romance *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, in their original Middle English. In one of the great tales of medieval literature, Gawain, the noblest knight of King Arthur's court, must keep a deadly bargain with a monstrous knight and resist the advances of his host's beautiful wife. The dream vision of *Pearl* depicts a bereaved father whose lost child leads him to glimpse heaven. And in moral poems based on stories from the Bible, *Cleanness* warns against sins of the flesh and of desecration, while *Patience* encourages readers to endure suffering as God's will. Little is known about the so-called 'Gawain poet', who wrote during the late fourteenth century. It is believed that he came from south-east Cheshire, an important cultural and economic centre at the time, and he was clearly well-read in Latin, French and English. Although he is not named as

the author of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, *Pearl*, *Patience*, *Cleanness*, the four works have been attributed to him based on a careful comparison of their language, date and themes. Myra Stokes was formerly Senior Lecturer in the Department of English at Bristol University. Her books include *Justice and Mercy in Piers Plowman* and *The Language of Jane Austen*. Ad Putter teaches at the English Department and the Centre for Medieval Studies of the University of Bristol, where is Professor of Medieval English Literature. His monographs include *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight and French Arthurian Romance* and *An Introduction to the Gawain Poet*, and he is also co-editor of *The Cambridge Companion to the Arthurian Legend*.  
*Sir Gawain & the Green Knight* - John Ronald Reuel Tolkien  
1925

**Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** - Larry Dean Benson  
2012

*Sir Gawain and the Green*

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Knight is a late fourteenth-century Middle English alliterative romance outlining an adventure of Sir Gawain, a knight of King Arthur's Round Table. In this poem, Sir Gawain accepts a challenge from a mysterious green warrior. In a struggle to uphold his oath along this quest, Gawain demonstrates chivalry, loyalty, and honor. This new verse translation of the most popular and enduring fourteenth century romance to survive to the present offers students an accessible way of approaching the literature of medieval England without losing the flavor of the original writing. The language of Sir Gawain presents considerable problems to present-day readers as it is written in the West Midlands dialect before English became standardized. With a foreword by David Donoghue, the close verse translation includes facing pages of the original fourteenth-century text and its modern translation. Medieval European Studies Series, Volume 13

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight - Facing Page Translation - James Winny  
1995-05-31

The fourteenth-century poem Sir Gawain and the Green Knight is one of the greatest classics of English literature, but one of the least accessible to most twentieth-century readers. Written in an obscure dialect, it is far more difficult to digest in the original than are most other late medieval English works. Yet any translation is bound to lose much of the flavour of the original. This edition of the poem offers the original text together with a facing-page translation. With the alliterative Middle English before the reader, James Winny provides a non-alliterative and sensitively literal rendering in modern English. This edition also provides an introduction, explanatory and textual notes, a further note on some words that present particular difficulties, and, in the appendices, two contemporary stories, The Feast of Bricriu and The Knight of the Sword,

which provide insight on the poem.

**Sir Gawain and the Green**

**Knight** - Robert J. Blanch 1983

This book is a selective and thorough survey of Gawain scholarship from 1824 through 1978.

**Sir Gawain and the Green**

**Knight** - Jessie L. Weston

2021-06-23

"This prose rendering of a poem from the late fourteenth century (or earlier) recounts an adventure undertaken by King Arthur's famous nephew, Sir Gawain. Brave and chivalrous, faithful to his word and ever-mindful of his honor, as well as that of others, Gawain represents the model of knightly grace. When a gigantic stranger clad in green armor bursts in on the Round Table assembly to issue a challenge, the gallant Gawain volunteers to do battle for his king. This parable blends pagan elements and Christian ethics to celebrate the virtue of forgiveness, and it is frequently assigned to classes in literature and history because of its short length and its excellent

representation of chivalric tradition"--

**Sir Gawain and the Green**

**Knight** - Marie Borroff 1967

The classical medieval poem relating Sir Gawain's romances, his conflict with the Green Knight, and return to the Round Table

*Pearl and Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* - 1965

*Sir Gawain And The Green Knight, Pearl, And Sir Orfeo* - Christopher Tolkien

2021-07-27

SIR GAWAIN AND THE GREEN KNIGHT, PEARL, AND SIR ORFEO THREE MEDIEVAL ENGLISH POEMS, WITH TRANSLATION AND COMMENTARY BY J.R.R.

TOLKIEN It's Christmas at

Camelot and King Arthur won't

begin to feast until he has witnessed a marvel of chivalry.

A mysterious knight, green

from head to toe, rides in and

brings the court's wait to an

end with an implausible

challenge to the Round Table:

he will allow any of the knights

to strike him once, with a

battle-axe no less, on the

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condition that he is allowed to return the blow a year hence. Arthur's brave favorite for the challenge is Sir Gawain... Accompanying Sir Gawain and the Green Knight in this book are Sir Orfeo, a medieval version of the story of Orpheus and Euridice, a love so strong that it overcame death, and Pearl, the moving tale of a man in a graveyard mourning his baby daughter, lost like a pearl that slipped through his fingers. Worn out by grief, he falls asleep and dreams of meeting her in a bejewelled fantasy world. Interpreted in a form designed to appeal to the general reader, J.R.R. Tolkien's vivid translations of these classic poems represent the complete rhyme and alliterative schemes of the originals. This beautifully decorated text includes as a bonus the complete text of Tolkien's acclaimed lecture on Sir Gawain.

**Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** - 2018-07-18

While the knights of King Arthur's Round Table are toasting the new year, a

colossal stranger clad in green armor bursts in to deliver a formidable challenge: Any of them may strike off the intruder's head as long as he is prepared to receive a similar blow from the Green Knight in one year. Of all the gallant knights in the assembly, only Sir Gawain—brave, gallant, and true to his word—is willing to answer the dare. So begins this gem of medieval English literature, which traces Gawain's adventures as he endeavors to fulfill his pledge. Dating from the late fourteenth century or earlier, the story blends paganistic elements with Christian ethics to celebrate the virtue of forgiveness, thus forming a classic example of the chivalric tradition. This edition presents the legend in two forms: in prose and in verse, both translated by the distinguished scholar Jessie Weston.

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (A New Verse Translation)* - 2008-11-17

A poetic translation of the classic Arthurian story is an edition in alliterative language

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and rhyme of the epic confrontation between a young Round Table hero and a green-clad stranger who compels him to meet his destiny at the Green Chapel. Reprint. 20,000 first printing.

*Sir Gawain and the Green*

*Knight* - Keith Harrison 1998

'The finest translation in and for our time' (Kevin Crossley-Holland) *Sir Gawain and The Green Knight*, with its intricate plot of enchantment and betrayal is probably the most skilfully told story in the whole of the English Arthurian cycle. Originating from the north-west midlands of England, it is based on two separate and very ancient Celtic motifs of the

Beheading and the Exchange of Winnings, brought together by the anonymous 14th century poet. His telling comprehends a great variety of moods and modes - from the stark realism of the hunt-scenes to the delicious and dangerous bedroom encounters between Lady Bercilak and Gawain, from moments of pure lyric beauty when he evokes the English countryside in all its seasons, to authorial asides that are full of irony and puckish humour. This new verse translation uses a modern alliterative pattern which subtly echoes the music of the original at the same time as it strives for fidelity.