

GOD THE FATHER

I am called the Father of Heaven,
Creator of everything that is made.
We are truly Three in One,
The Father, the Son and the Spirit,
And today I desire 5
By my power to start the world.
Heaven and earth, I say,
Let them be formed according to my judgment.

Now that Heaven is created for us
and filled with angels bright, 10
we will create the earth
inasmuch as we are Three and One,
the Father, the Son and the Spirit.
Surely, most royally
are these made 15
as we ourselves would have them.

On the second day I will
make the sky called heaven,
for all that has been made
the first day seems good to me. 20
Let sky be above everything
to overshadow all that is created,
to hold rain above
to be broadcast upon the earth.

On the third day I make a division 25
between the sea and the lands
and on land I command
trees and plants to grow.
Let every tree grow upright
bearing its fruit and leaves, 30
and let the plants bear seed
in sheltered places in time for summer.

On the fourth day
let bright lights for the whole world
be made to perfection
and their names shall be 35
the sun and the moon and the starlight.
Above the trees in the midst of the sky
above I set the moon by night and
the sun by day to give a shining light. 40

On the fifth day my will is
that beasts, fish and birds
be created by my power
to fill land and sea,
for the time will come 45
when it will be better because of them.
I command them -
let them increase and live long.

Here God comes down from the upper stage and God says: [Here Lucifer
acts from heaven]

Today is the sixth day
since I began work 50
in which I made heaven, sea, land and trees,

beasts, fish, lights.
Everything that is created in them
shall be obedient to me.
I intend mankind to be formed 55
from clay to perfection.

Here let him make Adam, and God says:-

As we are One and Three,
Father and Son in Trinity,
presently we shall make you, you man,
from clay, in appearance like us. 60
We shall breathe a spirit
into your body so that you can live,
and when you lose the life
you will return again to the earth.

Adam, stand up quietly 65
and turn to flesh and blood.
Bear in mind that I am making you
from earth like me from head to foot.
Receive power over all
that is on land or sea. 70
You will live on this earth
to bring forth offspring until you are grey.

Adam, as I am God of Grace,
I grant to you to be a warden.
I give you authority over paradise 75
over every fruit, plant and seed
which grows in it. Just do one thing for me. Only as regards the fruit
which is called the Tree of Knowledge
you will not have permission. 80

If you eat of this
which is called the Tree of Knowledge
you will go out of here
and death irrevocable shall be yours.

ADAM
O Father, Son and Holy Ghost, 85
eternal praise to your dear person.
By making me whole and unblemished
you have made me very like you.

In my judgment
there is enough to ordain my life. 90
I have a great desire to have
a female companion arranged for me.

[They go to paradise]

GOD THE FATHER
It is not good indeed that a man
should be alone without a mate or mistress.
Go and lie
on the clean earth and sleep.
Do not stand up at all
until a female companion is created.

And Adam will sleep. Here God makes Eve and will bring her to Adam and
he shall take her by the hand, and God the Father says:
Forthwith from one of your ribs

I make you a peer 100
to help you at all times.
Adam, here she is.
Give her a name
so as to take her for your equal.

EVE 105
Lord God of Heaven, Father,
inasmuch as you are full of grace
may you be for ever worshipped
as you have done much for me
by forming me like you.
You are one God and Three Persons. 110

[Eve goes out]

ADAM
O Father, you have given me
bone which was from my flesh and body
to be my partner.

I name her Virago.
May the Father God be worshipped 115
who has ordained her for me for my benefit.

GOD THE FATHER
Adam, behold the fish,
the birds of the air and the beasts
on both land and sea.
Give them their names. 120
They will come at your bidding
but do not oppress them in any way.

ADAM
I name cow and bull
and horse, which is a beast without equal
for the benefit of mankind; 125
goat, hind, stag,
sheep (in a few words) -
let her receive her good name.

Now I name goose and hen
which I esteem birds without equal 130
as food for mankind upon the earth;
duck, peacock, doves, partridges,
swan, buzzard, crows and the eagle.
More will be named by me.

I give names to the fish; 135
porpoise, salmon, eels;
all will be obedient to me,
ling and codfish.
No fish will escape me
if I worship God perfectly. 140

GOD THE FATHER
Because everything created in six days
is all complete and good,
we shall bless them
so that the seventh day may be hallowed,
that is as a day of rest 145
for every man who is saved.

As a demonstration of that,
we shall rest immediately.

Then God the Father shall go to heaven and afterwards the devil as a
serpent speaks to Eve in the Tree of Knowledge and speaks wickedly to
Eve.

SERPENT that is DEMON
Eve, why do you not come near
to chat and talk to me 150
I know one thing that would
delight you if you knew it.
You would laugh for ever
for joy and happiness.
You would rise up to heaven 155
just like a goddess.

EVE
What can that be?
Tell me straight away!

DEMON
Eve, I cannot say
for fear you would denounce me. 160

EVE
You can tell me
because I am a woman.
On no account would
I ever accuse you.

DEMON
I came down from heaven. 165
Be of good cheer, dear Eve.
Do not hesitate to eat fruit
from the Tree of Knowledge.

EVE
Hurry away at once!
Don't say another word to me. 170
I have no wish to eat its fruit
contrary to my dear Lord's ban.

DEMON
O woman, how silly you are
not to trust my words!
If only you and your husband were to eat
of the tree and its fruits
you would surely
now be like gods.
Eve, come close; take them,
for I do not tell you a lie. 180

EVE
He who made me and my husband
forbade us
to eat the fruit
or go near the tree.

DEMON
I know the reason why: 185

because it is a tree of grace.
Whoever eats of its fruit
will know the mind of the Father.
There won't be a thing in the country round
about that he will not be able to report.
It is great foolishness on his part
if he leaves this fruit.

- # EVE
I am bemused thinking
what I may do
by picking the apple 195
for fear that you are deceitful
- # DEVIL
Pick it at my risk.
Get it done quickly without hesitating,
and also make your husband
eat some of it. 200
- # EVE
Bend the tree towards the ground
so that I can reach them.
- # DEVIL
I will, but come quietly.
Pick it and get away.
- # Then (Eve) shall take the apple, and carry it to Adam, and Eve says:-
- # EVE
Adam, stretch out your hand to me. 205
Take this from me
quietly without making a fuss.
Eat it immediately.
[Adam shall go to paradise.]
- # ADAM
Tell me, woman,
where did you pick the fruit 210
in case it was that same kind
that was forbidden us?
- # EVE
When I was taking a walk
I heard an angel
beginning to sing 215
above me on one side of the tree.
He advised me
to pick fruit from it.
We would be greater than a god
so that we would never be troubled. 220
- # ADAM
Oh! out upon you, wicked woman,
since you trusted him
for it was a bird of ill omen
you heard singing
that will bring us to grief 225
unless we pull back.
Let everyone think about his end,
how he may finish.

EVE
 Quiet! The angel held forth
 about the tree and its power. 230
 Anyone who ate its fruit
 would be like a god.

ADAM
 I will not believe you
 or your treacherous words.
 Let us pray that we may be servants 235
 to our peerless Lord
 for he who made us from clay
 gave us a prohibition without exception
 that we should not eat the fruit
 of the tree. 240

EVE
 Since you will not believe
 you will lose my love.
 As long as you live
 you will never see me here again.

ADAM
 Eve, rather than your being angry, 245
 I will do all you wish.
 Bring it me immediately
 and I will eat it.

And then he eats some of the apple, and sees that he is naked, and
 # says with a groan:-
 Oh, woe, woe, I have sinned,
 and have broken the prohibition. 250
 O evil, impious woman,
 surely you have deceived me without cause.
 Our bodies have become naked.
 Let us cover ourselves with leaves.
 I know truly, God the Father
 # [woman.]
 has become angry through the deed of a
 # [Adam hides himself in paradise.]

Then God the Father shall come to Adam, and he says to him:-
 # GOD THE FATHER
 Adam, Adam, what are you doing?
 Why don't you come to welcome me?

ADAM
 Because I was naked, without covering,
 I went to hide from you. 260

GOD THE FATHER
 Who showed you
 that your body, feet and arms are naked
 but the fruit which you
 could not go and eat, except by sinning?

ADAM
 You gave me a wife. 265
 She is all to blame

who picked the beautiful apple
and brought it to me to taste.

GOD THE FATHER
Because you listened to her
and acted against my ban, 270
I will surely curse the earth
perpetually on account of your deed.

You will toil in your sweat to eat
until your dying day
with thorn and briars growing so as 275
to be troublesome as long as you exist.

Eve, why did you
deceive your husband without cause
by picking the apple
after I had forbidden you? 280
You have done evil indeed
and brought him to great sorrow
when you made him taste
and eat the fruit of the tree.

[Here let the Devil be present.]

EVE
O loving Father in your glory, 285
the serpent has deceived me.
I believed its falsehood.
Greed has ruined me.
It said that if he picked it,
he would be like a god. 290
If what I did was evil,
cut it down with your sword.

GOD THE FATHER
Because you have trusted it
and deceived your loyal spouse,
I ordain that woman be for ever 295
obedient to her husband
so that her affliction is increased
through the breaking of my command
so that indeed she will never
have a child without great labour. 300

[He speaks to the Serpent.]

Answer me, you devil.
Why did you deceive her without cause
by tempting her to pick the fruit
in defiance of my prohibition?

DEVIL
I will tell you the position: 305
because they had such great happiness,
and I was always burning.
For this I tempted them
to sin, so that "Alas" might be
their song like mine. 310

GOD THE FATHER

So you will be accursed,
very truly beyond all the beasts
which walk on the face of the earth
and there will always be enmity
everlasting between your offspring 315
and the offspring of the woman.

Here you will not remain.

He speaks to Adam and Eve. The Devil goes home. (This does not appear
in Norris)

Go outside immediately.
You will lose my joy
which I gave you in paradise. 320
It is useless to make the excuse
that it was picked by your wife.
Because you listened to her
a thousand mothers' sons will be condemned.

ADAM
O Father, God, in your glory, 325
grant to your creature, I pray you,
a little of the Oil of Mercy.

GOD THE FATHER
Adam, at the end of the world,
I will grant the Oil of Mercy to you,
and to Eve your wife. 330

And then God ascends to heaven, and says to the cherub:
Cherub, take a sword, hasten to paradise.

You will find two persons there.
Put them outside immediately.
It will be of great import to them 335
and to all who are created.
They will surely curse the time
when they did wrong.

CHERUB
I will go to paradise at once
to do just what you want.
If I find people there,
they will be put outside.

[Here the cherub goes down.]

Adam, go out of the country,
towards another land to live,
you yourself to dig, 345
your wife with you to spin,
for you have angered the Father.
Hurry to the door
so that you have full repentance,
for you will not stay here. 350