

Gael-Talk

Learning Gaelic
Year 1
Caibideil 29

Nas fheàrr a' Ghàidhlig bhriste n' a' Bheurla chliste!

Better Broken Gaelic than fluent English!

A little reminder -
We really should pay the piper
(*mòran taing* to those who have!)



Please send donations for the class to Paypal:
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the amount is up to you, but the suggested donation is \$5

Clàr na seachdain (schedule of the week)

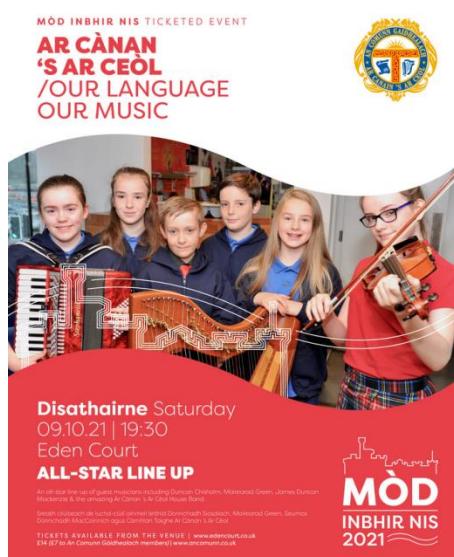
- Fàilte!
- Sean fhacal na seachdain
- The Mòd
- Gràmar na Seachdain –read the story!
- Sgeul na Seachdain –Na Trì Mucan Beaga
- Òran na seachdain – Cànan nan Gaidheil

Fàilte!



The Royal National Mòd is the annual celebration of Gaelic culture and language and takes place in various locations around Scotland. (As well, various Gaelic groups around the world hold regional Mòds.)

For those of you interested in such things – *mòd* (masc.) 1 assembly, meeting 2 court of justice 3 mòd (cultural festival)



Click on the links below:

[The Royal National Mod](#)

[Young people at the Mod](#)

[The Massed Choirs at the Mòd](#)

[Taigh Cèilidh a' Mhòid 2021](#) (about minute 0:58)

Sean fhacal na seachdaine

And keeping with the idea of great things achieved ...

Is tric a bheothaich srad bheag teinne mòr.



Often a small spark has kindled a great fire.

Special Section: *Am Mòd*

This week I have the honor and privilege of sharing with you the poems of mine which were chosen for distinction in this year's *Royal National Mòd* in Scotland.

Each competitor was to enter three poems for evaluation. The three poems I selected are part of a sonnet sequence of about 50 poems, entitled *Litrichean na Bana-Bheachlanair – The Letters of a Beekeeper*.

Following is a description of the complete sequence, which I am readying for publication.

It started off with a jolt out of the ethernet, a lodestone falling from on high, a coconut falling out of the tree, a brick tumbling off a construction site and knocking her on the noggin – a letter from an old love saying he still thought of her.

The unsought-for correspondence stirred up memories of joys and pains she thought she had long forgotten, emotions she thought she had long ago sealed up in a forget-me-not box, never to be felt again.

She wrote one response. And then another. And then many others. As she explored what had passed between them, relived their history, and finally worked herself back to a full understanding of what it was that had happened and what it meant.

Reminiscent of the ancient story of Abelard and Heloise meets #Me Too, in this sequence of sonnets – here presented in the original Scottish Gaelic (or a' Ghàidhlig, as purists would have it) and in English translation – we have a full reflection on love and loss, and we experience with the unnamed "beekeeper" of the title her reclamation of her self and her taking ownership of her identity and her history.

This collection contains three prize-winning poems from the 2021 Royal National Mòd in Scotland.

It might be of interest to note the particular form I followed in the composition of these poems. The structure was that of a "sonnet" – 14 lines, of 3 quadrains and finishing with a couplet. As well, I attempted to incorporate a particular "Gaelic" feature – regular internal rhymes:

Typical rhyme scheme

- Bha latha eile ann, 's sinne a' spaisreachd Comhardadh – end rhyme
- tro a' ghainmheach 's snàmh anns a' mhuir ←
- 's surfadh air na tuinn gus nach eil againn ← Aicheil – end/middle rhyme
- tuilleadh anail 's thàinig thu air mo mhuin, ←

Following are the three poems that I entered into the Mòd competition:

Oidhche mus tàinig thu

Oidhche mus tàinig thu, dh'fhalbhainn
an taigh m' athar le àil' anns an robh mi a' bàthadh
-- adhar malcte làn de smùid
gam mhùchadh - 's thàir mi às chun an dorais dhan ghàrradh.

'S mise leth-sgòdach –'s mo dheise-leapa
tollach 's seàla riabhach 's mar lòineag
feòir mo chròic-fhuilt – bha mo dhreach
mar gun teichinn fo choill mar dheòir.

Dh'fheuch mi làmh an dorais
ach cha do dh'fosgladh e – chuala mi cliog dhen għlas
's chrath clisgeadh-dealain tro mo chuirp,
's sheall mi air an uinneag-mhullach gu h-àrd.

'S ann shuas a dhanns a' ghealach bhoireann bhuidhe air bioran nan craobhan,
's mise a' dùr-amharc suas à toll-dubh coltach ri tràill damainte an taigh na
daorsa.

A night before you came

A night before you came, I wanted to leave
the house of my father – with its atmosphere in which I was drowning
--air humid full of smoke
Smothering me -- and I took off to the door to the garden,

half-dressed in my holey pajamas
and a stringy shawl & my matted crop of hair
like a tuft of grass- it was my intention
that I would flee to the bad lands like a fugitive.

I tried the handle of the door
but it didn't open -- I heard a click of the lock
and a bolt of electricity jolted through my body,
and I looked up through the sky window high above.

And it was there up above that danced the yellow horned moon on the tips of
the trees,
and I gazed hard up as if from a dungeon like a condemned slave in the house
of bondage.

Thachair mi air balach ag iasgach

Thachair mi air balach ag iasgach aig an abhainn
a bha a' sabaid ri bradan – 's ann cho foighidneach leis an driamlach
a chluich e an t-iasg a-null 's a-nall,
's a' bhiast nach smaoineachadh gur a dàn an cliabh,

's cho faicealach gus nach do tharraing e an dubhan
à bus a' bhèiste 's cho caomh ri leannan-gaoil
a bhràmair a' caoin-phògadh -- cha robh e sàsaichte
gus do shàth gob an dubhan a caolan.

Cha robh sgot aig' den cruadal 's pian a dh'fhuiling i,
nach shàbhaladh riamh 's gun dòchas 's gun dùil,
a h-uspagan deireannach a' slugadh air an tràigh,
's airson spòrs an amadain thràigheadh a fuil.

A' bhochdag! A bhith air bòrd bùidseir (a leabaidh a bhàis) air a leigeil sìos,
's air a righeadh air a druim dìreach 's a mionaich air an sracadh a-mach!
Shaoil mi: 's mi fhìn.

I happened upon a boy fishing

I happened on a boy fishing at the river
who was fighting with a salmon – and so patiently with the fishing line
he played the fish back and forth --
and the beast never thinking her fate was the basket,

and so careful was he not to pull the hook
from the mouth of the beast and as gentle as a lover
gently kissing his beloved. He wasn't satisfied
until the point of the hook pierced her guts.

He didn't have a reckoning of the cruelty and pain that she suffered,
never to be saved and without hope or expectation,
 gulping her gasps last on the beach --
drained of her blood for the fun of a fool.

Poor beast! To be laid down on a butcher's table (her bed of death),
and to be splayed on her back and her bowels torn out! I thought: me too.

'S ann sa choille a choisich mi

'S ann sa choille a choisich mi tràth sa mhadainn
far an robh ann ballachan a' chiad theampaill naoimh:
craobhan-giuthais 's beithean le duilleagan
uaine 's ruadh -- 's dlùth ora, darach aosmhor.

Os mo chionn san iarmailt a bha cnocan
neòil air an sgaoileadh – liath 's glasa
's geal-ghlasa 's bànn-ghorma --
's stiallan mòra bàna a' cur car air char.

Bha driùchd na laighe mar phlaide dheòir
air na feòirneanan 's air na gàrraidhean 's 's ann air a ciùineadh
a bha an ùpraid m' inntinn 's air a shàmhachadh
a bha mo chridhe 's racaid an t-saoghal air a mùcadh.

Tha fras fhàillidh mìn a tha a' droiftadh sìos a' glanadh an t-salachair bhon
chruinne-cè,
's ionnlaidear bhuam tùirse 's dubhachas 's duilichinn le mathanas ciùin a'
bhànn-dè.

It was in the forest

It was in the forest that I walked early in the morning
Where the walls of the first holy temple were:
Pine trees and birches with leaves
Green and ruddy-red -- and close to them, an ancient oak.

Over my head in the sky were mounds
Of clouds spread out - blue gray and gray
And white gray and light blue --
And great streaks of white tumbling.

A mist was lying like a blanket of tears
on the blades of grass and on the walls and calmed
was the hubbub of my mind and quietened
 was my heart, and the racket of the world was smothered.

A gentle fine shower that is drifting down cleans the filth from the world,
and sadness and regret will be washed from me by the gentle mercy of the
goddess.

Gràmar na Seachdaine

Good news! No grammar lesson tonight! Or,

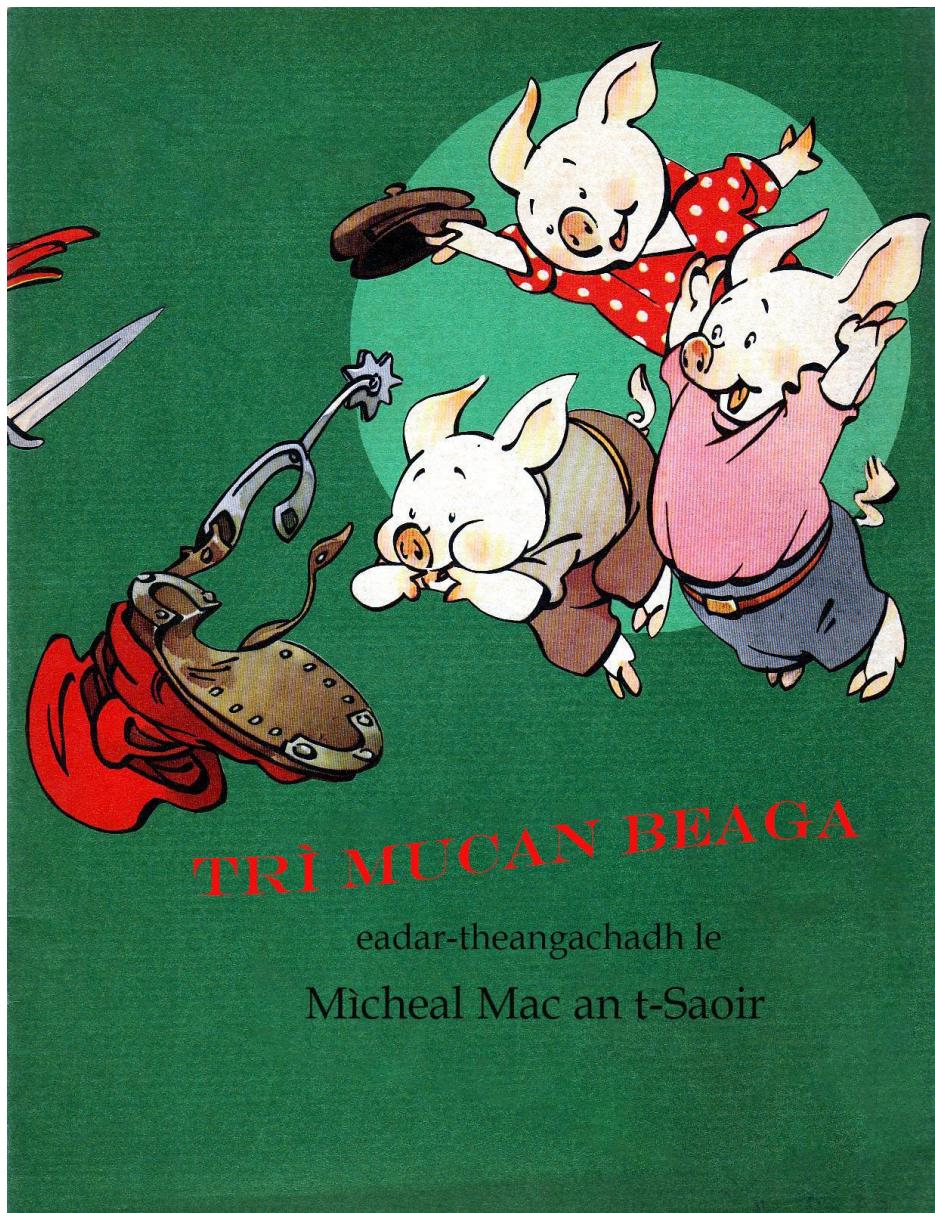
Chan eil gràmar na seachdaine ann a-nochd!



Instead, we're going to practice what we've learned ... by reading as closely as we can our story, Trì Mucan Beaga, with its concentration on the verbs we've learned over the past few lessons.

In the following story – which should be familiar to everyone – you'll find usages of the simple past tense. Consult the list in this chapter for translations if you need to. For your convenience, these usages have been highlighted.

I have attempted to transcribe this story using the forms we have studied so far in the class. The highlighted words appear in the list of verbs that we have studied. The underlined words appear in the New Vocabulary at the end of the story.





Latha bha trì mucan beaga ann. B' e na h-ainmean a bha orra: Srann, Srònag, 's Seasmhach.



Dh'fhuirich iad còmhla-ri am màthair, agus fad an t-samhraidh, chluich iad anns an fheur, agus bha iad na laighe air an achadh.

Às an t-fhoghair, cha robh e cho blàth, agus sgaoil neòil glasa anns an iarmailt.

"Smuain mi mun Gheamhradh," thuirt Seasmhach. "Tha mi fuar an-diugh. Sa mhadainn chrith mi leis an fhuachd. Tha mi ag iarraidh a bhith a' togail taigh ùr againn. Bidh sinn blàth 's cofhurtail sa Gheamhradh."

A few new words:

Còmhla-ri = with, along with

Fad an t-samhraidh = the whole summer

Feur = grass, anns an fheur = in the gràs

Sgaoil = spread

Neòil = clouds, sing = neul

Gheamhradh = winter

Cofhurtail = comfortable

Ach cha do dh'iarr an dithis aca a bhith a' togail taighe ùr.

Tha àine gu leòr ann, **thuirt** Srònag. Tha Geamhradh fad' air falbh. Bidh sinn a' gabhail mòran spòrs roimhe. Bidh mi a' togail taighe ùr an dèidh seo," agus **chuir** e car a' mhuitlein.

"Agus mise!" **thuirt** Srann.

"Mar a thogras sibh," **thuirt** Seasmhach. "Cha bhi mi a' fuireach oirbh. Bidh mi a' togail taigh agamsa fhèin.



A few new words:

Iarr = want; cha do dh'iarr = did not want

An dithis aca = the two of them

Thuirt (irregular verb, abair) = said

Chuir = put, past tense

car a' mhuitlein = somersault

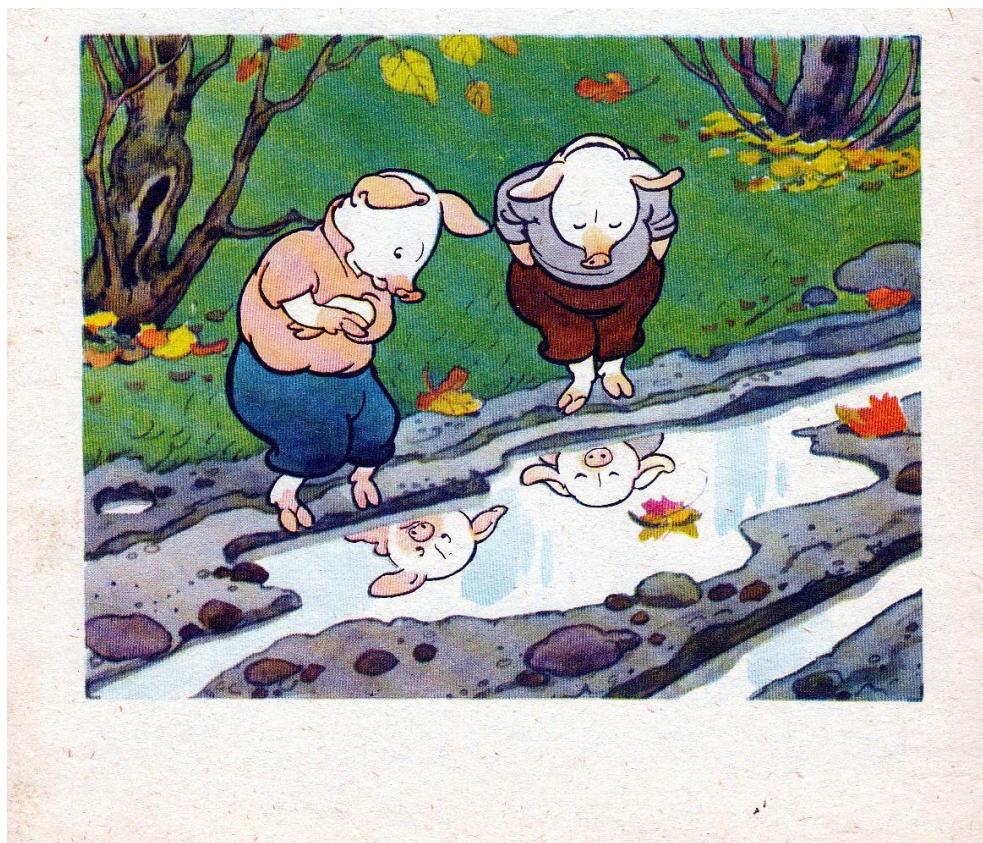
Mar a thogras sibh = as you like/wish/want

Gach latha **dh'fhàs** e fuar. Ach cha robh Srann 's Srònag ann an cabhaig. Cha robh iad ag iarraidh a bhith ag obair. Bha iad leisg. **Chluich** iad gach latha, a h-uile latha.

"Bidh sinn ag obair a-màireach," **dh'innis** iad **dhaibh** fhèin.

Ach "a-màireach" cha do **dh'oibrich** iad. **Thuirt** iad an aon rud 's chluich iad fad an latha sin cuideachd.

Ach nuair a **chòmhdaich** an deigh an abhainn, thòisich an dithis bhràthair leisg a bhith a' togail an taighe aca.



A few new words:

Dh'fhàs = grew, became; root = fàs

ann an cabhaig = in a hurry

dh'innis = told; root = innis

dh'oibrich = worked; root = oibrich; verbal noun = ag obair

chòmhdaich = covered

deigh = ice

thòisich = started, began

leisg = lazy



Smuainich Srann, "Chan eil mi ag iarraidh a bhith ag obair fad an latha," agus cho-dhùn e, "Bidh mi a' togail an taighe agam le connlaich, agus thog e an taigh aige ann an ùine ghoirid.

Agus bha Srann cho toilichte. Sheinn e:

Seo an taigh agamsa
Thog mi an taigh an aon latha
'S e taigh cho math a sheall thu
Cho snog riamh a mheal thu!

A few new words:

Smuainich = thought
Cho-dhùn = decide, past tense
Sheall = saw, seall = root, see
Mheal = enjoyed, root = meal



A' seinn an t-òran aige, **choisich** Srann far an robh Srònag.

Cha robh e fad air falbh. Bha Srònag a' togail an taighe aige cuideachd.

Mar a bhràthair, **dh'iarr** e a bhith deiseil ann an ùine ghoirid. An toiseach, **smuainich** e mun togail le connlach, ach **cho-dhùn** e, "Bidh taigh-chonnlach fuar. Bidh an taigh agamsa blàth agus làidir. Bidh mi a' togail an taighe agam le slatagan."

Thog e an taigh aige le slatan agus **chuir** e duilleagan 's slatan **air a' mhullach**, agus bha e deiseil ron fheasgair.

A few new words:

Choisich = walked, root = coisich

Mar a bhràthair = as his brother, like his brother

Mun = about

Taigh-chonnlach = house of straw; connlach = straw

Duilleagan = leaves

Slatan = sticks, sing = slat

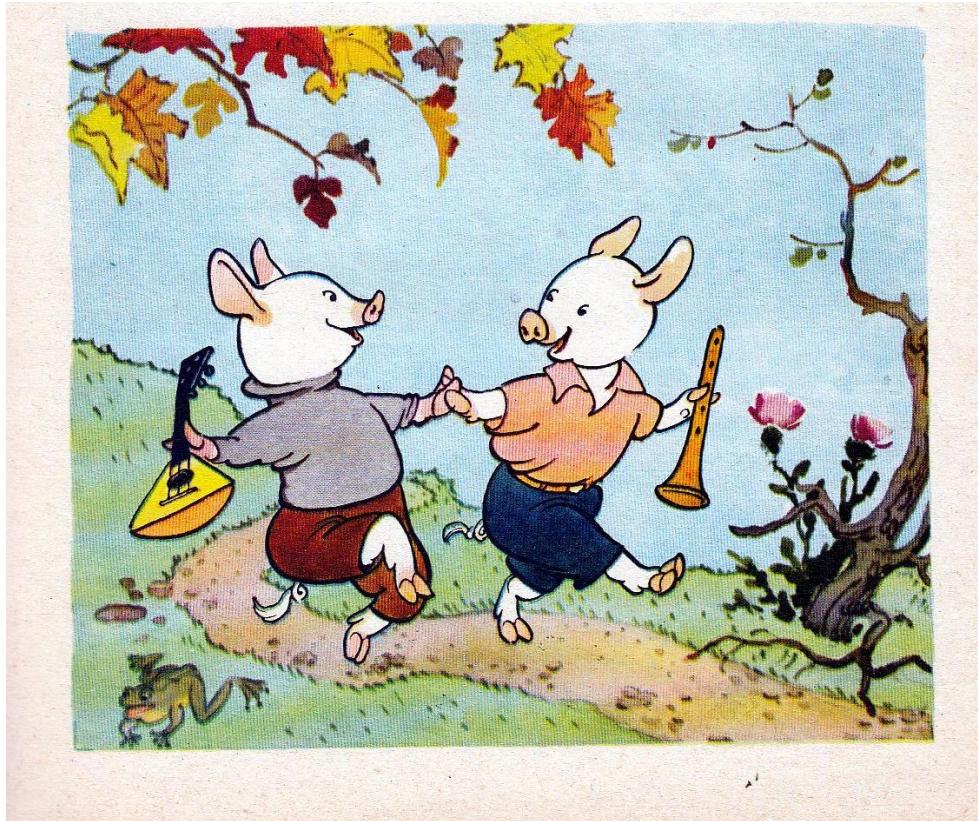
Deiseil ron fheasgair = ready, finished before the afternoon/evening

Choisich Srònag mun cuairt an taighe aige agus **thòisich** e an t-òran:

Thog mi taigh le slatagan 's duilleagan,
slatagan 's duilleagan, slatagan 's duilleagan.
Cha comma leam ma bhios uisge ann,
uisge ann, uisge ann.
Bidh mo thaughtioram 'scofhurtail 's blàth!

Ruith Srann thuige nuair a chrìoch a bhràthair an t-òran aige. "A bheil an taigh agad deiseil cuideachd?" **dh'fhaighnich** e. "**Dh'innis** mi dhut. Bha e deiseilann an cabhaig."

Bha iad toilichte. Agus leum iad, 's dhanns iad, 's ruith iad chun taigh Sheasmhaich. **Dh'iarr** iad a bhith a' faicinn an taighe aige.



A few new words:

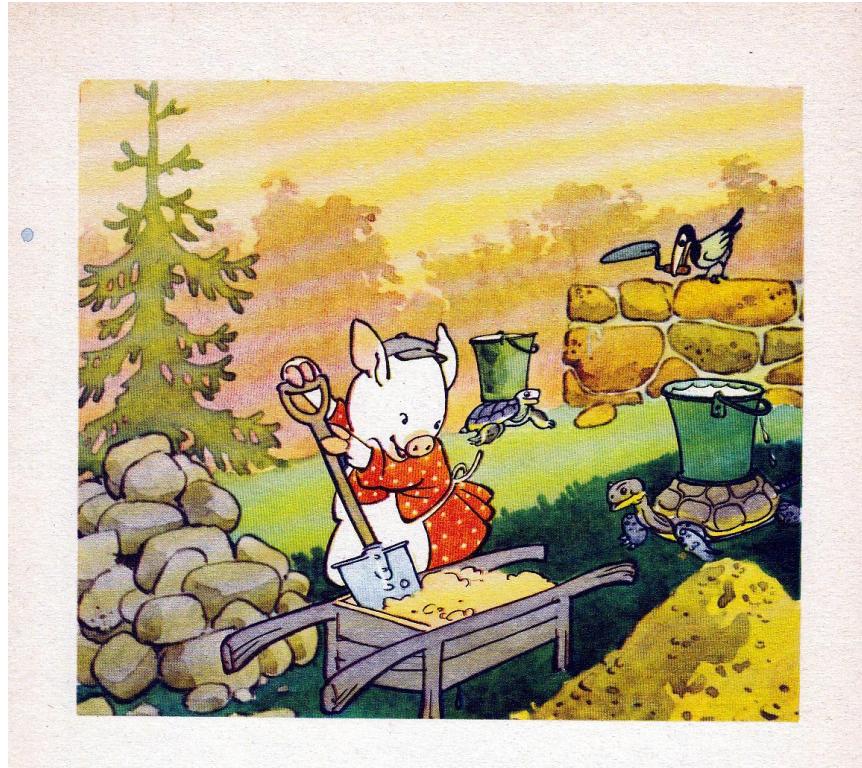
Cha coma leam = I don't care

Chrìoch = finish, root = crìoch

dh'fhaighnich = asked, root = faighnich

Dh'innis = told (root = innis); tell **to** = innis **do**

Leum = jumped, root = leum



Trì làithean bha Seasmhach trang a' togail an taigh aige. Ghiùlain e clachan agus mheasg e concrait, agus beag air bheag thog e taigh làidir. Dhòn an taigh aige bho ghaoth, uisge, 's shneachd.

Bha an doras fiodha 's glè throm agus bha glas aige làidir. Dh'fhuirich madadh-allaidh anns a' choille, ach cha bhi e a' briseadh a-steach.

A few new words:

Cha coma leam = I don't care

Ghiùlain = carried

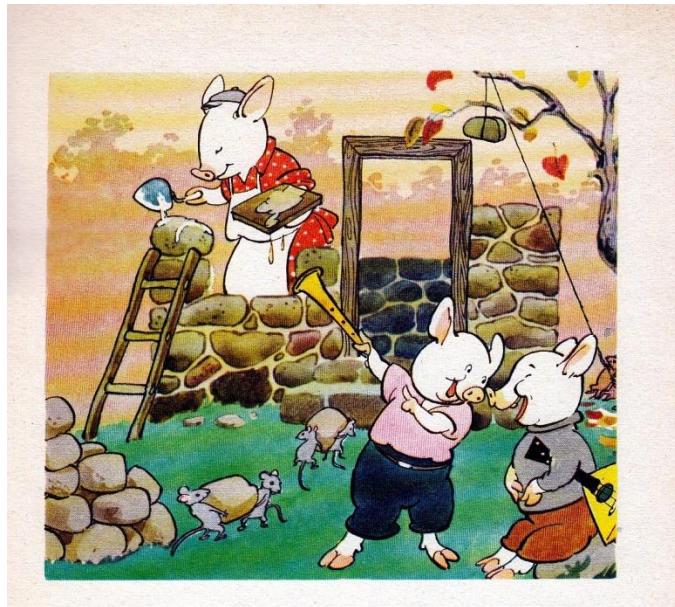
Mheasg = mixed;

Beag air bheag = little by little

Dhion = protected;

Sneachd = snow; bho shneachd = from snow (*bho* lenites)

Cha bhi e a' briseadh a-steach = he will not break in; root = bris



Lorg Srann 's Srònag am bràthair ag obair air an taigh aige.

“Dè tha thu a' togail?” dh’fhaighnich iad le iongnadh mòr. Tha e coltach ri caisteil!
Chan eil e coltach ri taigh aig muc bheag.

“Tha mise ag iarraidh taigh coltach ri caisteil,” thuirt Seasmhach, agus lean e air ag
obair. “Bidh mi sàbhailte ann an caisteil!”

“Gu cinnteach, nach eil thu a' dol dhan cogadh ri cuideigin!” dh’èigh Srann. Agus
ghàir an dithis aca gu mòr agus aig àirde an cinn.

Cha do chuir Seasmhach aire. Lean e air a' togail an taighe aige. 'S sheinn e an t-òran
seo:

'S mise muc ghlic, ghlic, ghlic
Thog mi taigh le clachan làidir
Cha bhi bèistfhiadhaich a' briseadh a-steach
Latha no oidhche, latha no oidhche

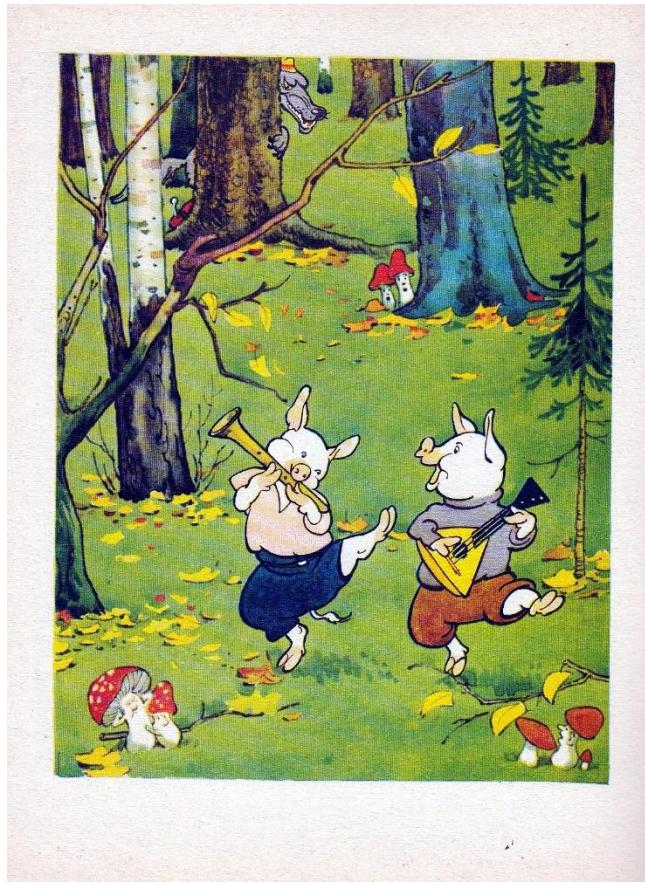
“Dè bèist fhiadhaich?” dh’fhaighnich Srann.

“Dè bèist fhiadhaich?” dh’fhaighnich Srònag.

“Am madadh-allaidh mòr” thuirt Seasmhach.

A few new words:

Lorg = found (can also be 'look for') Coltach ri = like, similar to Lean air = continued Dh’èigh = shouted, root = èigh	Ghàir = laugh aig àirde an cinn = at the top of their voices (lit., at the height of their heads) madadh-allaidh = wolf
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"Seall! Tha **eagal** air ron mhadadh-allaidh! Tha e **gòrach**! Chan eil madadh-allaidh ann an seo idir, idir, idir!"

"Cò **chuala** mum madadh-allaidh an seo?" thuirt Srann.

"Bidh sinn ga **bhreabadh** agus ga **bhualadh!**" thuirt Srònag.

Agus **ghàir** an dithis aca. "Thalla," thuirt Srann, agus **chaidh** iad air falbh a' seinn agus a' gàireachdainn:

Chan eil eagal orm ron mhadadh-allaidh

Madadh allaidh, madadh allaidh

Cò **chunnaic** am madadh-allaidh a-riamh?

A few new words:

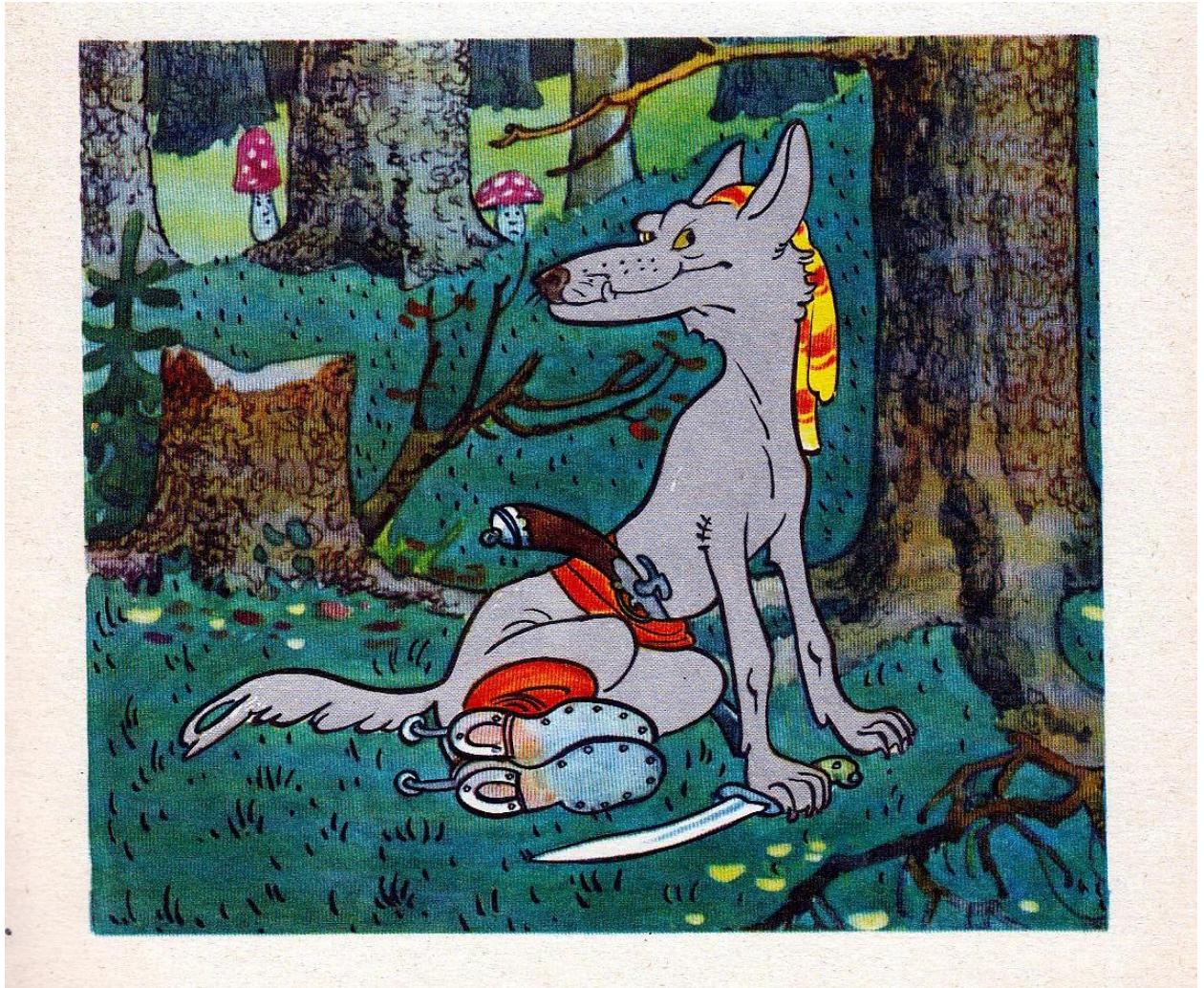
Chuala = heard, irreg. verb; root = cluinn; vn = a' cluinntinn

Ga bhreabadh = break it;

Ga bhualadh = hit it

Chaidh = went; irreg; root = rach; vn = a' dol

Chunnaic = saw; irreg; root = faic; vn = a' faicinn



Agus sheinn iad cho àrd. Dhùisg iad am madadh-allaidh. Bha e na chadal faisg air craobh.

"Dè an fhuaim sin?" Bha e feargach agus bha an t-acras air.

"S dòcha gu bheil an dìnnear agam a' tighinn!" smaoinich e, agus dh'imlich e na bilean aige.

A few new words:

na chadal = asleep, lit. in his sleeping

faisg air craobh = near a tree; faisg air = near

fuaim = noise

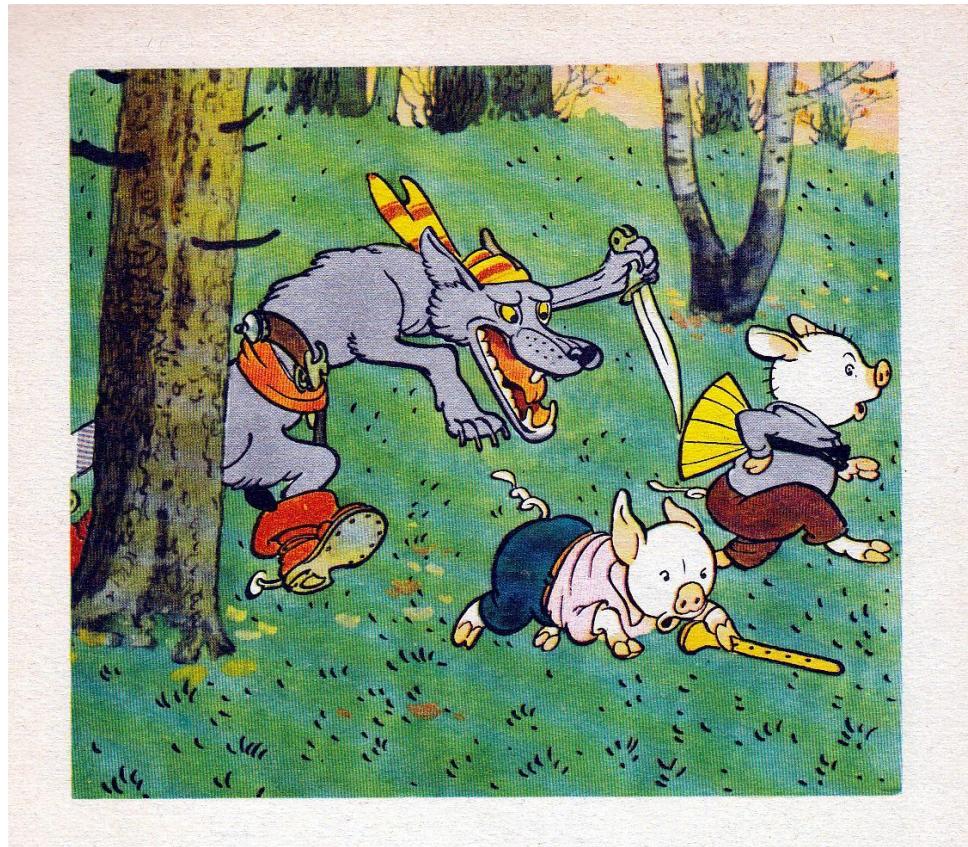
feargach = angry

acras = hunger; bha an t-acras air = he was hungry; hunger was on him

'S dòcha = perhaps

Dh'imlich = licked; root = imlich

Bilean = lips; sing = bile



'S gu dearbh, **thàinig** an dithis muc faisg air an craobh far an robh am madadh-allaidh, agus **leum** e a-mach!

'S sa bhad, chunnaic an dithis muc e. Madadh-allaidh mòr! Bha e cho **fiadhaich**! Bha sùilean **olca** aige agus **fiaclan** mòra **biorach**!

Dh'fhairich Srònag 's Srann fuar. **Chrith** iad le eagal. Bha **eagal am beatha** orra!

Sgiamhail an dithis muc agus ruith **càch** air falbh dhan taigh aige fhèin.

A few new words:

Thàinig = came, irreg; root = thig

Fiadhaich = fierce

Olc = evil

Fiaclan = teeth

Biorach = sharp

Chrith = trembled, shook

Eagal am beatha = scared to death

Sgiamhail = screamed

Càch = each (one)



Chaidh Srann a-steach anns an taigh connlaich aige, agus dhùin e an doras!

"Fosgail an doras seo am mionaid!" dh'èigh am madadh-allaidh, "no bidh mi ga bhriseadh!"

"Cha bhi mi ga **dhèanamh**," **sgiamhail** Srann. "Cha bhi mi a' **fosgladh** an dorais."

"Fosgail an doras no bidh mi a' sèideadh do thaigh sìos!"

Cha do **dh'fhaighnich** Srann rud sam bith. Bha e ro eagalach.

A few new words:

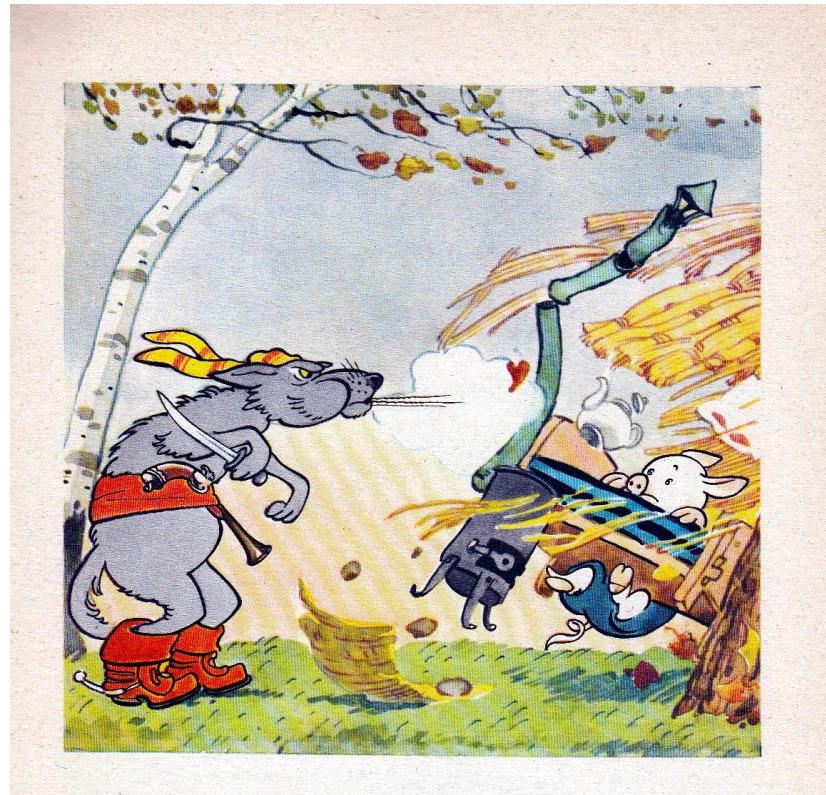
Fosgail = open, imperative form (the same as root); vn = fosgladh

Sèideadh = blowing; bidh mi a' sèideadh = I will blow; root = sèid

Sios = down

Bristeadh = break, root = bris

Dh'fhaighnich = answered



Shèid am madadh-allaidh.

Dh'itealaich connlach bhon mhullach agus chrith na ballachan.

Shèid e a-rithist.

Agus a-rithist.

Thuit na ballachan bochda sìos.

Bhid am madadh-allaidh Srann, ach ruith Srann air falbh.

A few new words:

Dh'itealaich = flew; root = itealaich

Connlach = straw

Ballachan = walls

Bochd = poor (both, 'pitiful & lacking money)

Bhid = bit;



Chaidh Srann dhan taigh Shrònaig.

Chunnaic iad am madadh-allaidh a' **tighinn!**

Dhùin an dithis muc bheag an doras sa bhad!

Chuala iad am madadh-allaidh. **Dh'èigh** e, "An dràsta bidh mi ag ithe an dithis agaibh!"

Ach an-dràsta **dh'fhairich** am madadh-allaidh sgìth. **Chuala** an dithis muc e a' **bruidhinn ris fhèin**. Thuirt e, "Chan eil mi ag iarraidh mucan beaga caol tana. Bidh mi a' dol dhachaigh."

"An **cuala** tu an sin?" thuirt Srann. "Chan eil e **gar** ithe. Tha sinn ro **chaol**."

"Tha sin uabhasach math!" thuirt Srònag.

A few new words:

Sa bhad = immediately

Dhùin = close, vn = a' dùnadhbh

Chuala = heard, irreg, vn = a' cluinctinn

Dh'fhairich = felt; root = fairich

bruidhinn ris fhèin = speaking with himself

Caol tana = two words that mean roughly the same, narrow, thin, slender, etc

An cuala tu = did you hear ... irreg verb cluinn
Gar ithe = 'at our eating' = eat us



Dh'fhàs an dithis bhràthair toilichte. Agus sheinn iad:

Chan eil eagal oirnn rom madadh-allaidh,
Am madadh-allaidh, rom madadh-allaidh.
Madadh-allaidh amaideach, amaideach, gòrach!

A few new words:

Dh'fhàs = grew, became; root = fàs

Amaideach = foolish, silly

Gòrach = foolish, silly



Ach cha **deach** am madadh-allaidh dhachaigh. Bha e air cùl craoibh. **Ghair** e ris fhèin.
“Tha mi cho **glic!** Bidh mi a' toirt car asta.”

Chuir am madadh-allaidh craiceann caorach air, agus chaidh e dhan taigh Shrònaig.
Ghnog e air an doras.

Bha eagal mòr air Srann 's Srònag.

“Cò sin?” **dh'fhaighnich** iad, agus **chrith** na h-earbaill beaga aca.

A few new words:

Cha deach = did not go, irreg. root = rach (question form = an deach? Past tense = chaidh)

A' toirt car asta = trick them; doesn't really translate, operate verb = thoir (vn = a' toirt) = take; car = a turn, trick, so a' toirt car asta = taking a turn/trick out of them

Craiceann caorach = sheep skin; craiceann = skin; caorach = of a sheep, caora = sheep

Chuir ... air = put on

Ghnog = knocked,

Cò sin? = who is that?

Na h-earbaill = the tails



”S mise, caora bheag,” thuirt am madadh-allaidh ann an guth àrd. “Leig mi fuireach a-nochd. Tha mi air chall agus tha mi glè sgìth ’s fuer.”

“Am bidh a’ chaora a’ fuireach còmhla-ruinn?” dh’fhaighnich Srann.

“Uill, gu dearbh,” thuirt Srònag. “S e caora bheag a th’ innte. Chan e madadh-allaidh a th’ ann.”

Dh’fhosgail iad an doras, agus chunnaic iad am madadh-allaidh fiadhaich.

’S sa bhad dhùin iad an doras le clab!

A few new words:

Caora = sheep

Guth = voice

Leig = let, allow

Clab = clap, bang



Bha am madadh-allaidh **feargach**. Bha fearg mhòr air.

Dh'èigh e, "Fuirich. Bidh mi ur taigh a' **sgriosadh!**"

Agus **shèid** e. **Chrith** an taigh beag.

Shèid am madadh-allaidh a-rithist, agus a-rithist, 's a-rithist.

Dh'itealaich **duilleagan** bhon **mhullach** agus **chrith** na ballachan, ach bha an taigh **na sheasamh** fhathast.

Ach **shèid** am madadh-allaidh a-rithist, agus **thuit** an taigh beag.

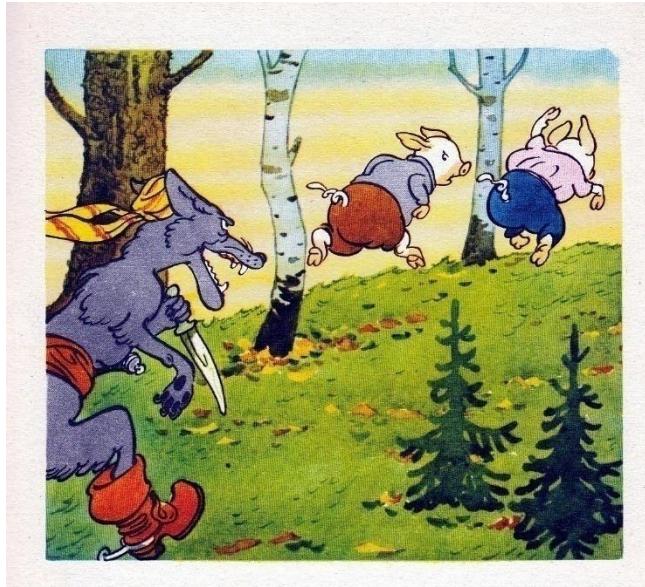
A few new words:

Feargach = angry, fearg = anger

Sgriosadh = ruined, destroyed

Na sheasamh = lit. "in its standing" - standing (still)

Thuit = past tense, tuit = fall



Bha an dithis muc eagalach-feagalach! Ruith iad air falbh dhan taigh Sheasmhaich.

Ruith am madadh-allaidh as an dèidh.

Ruith am madadh-allaidh cho luath, ach cha do ghlac e iad.

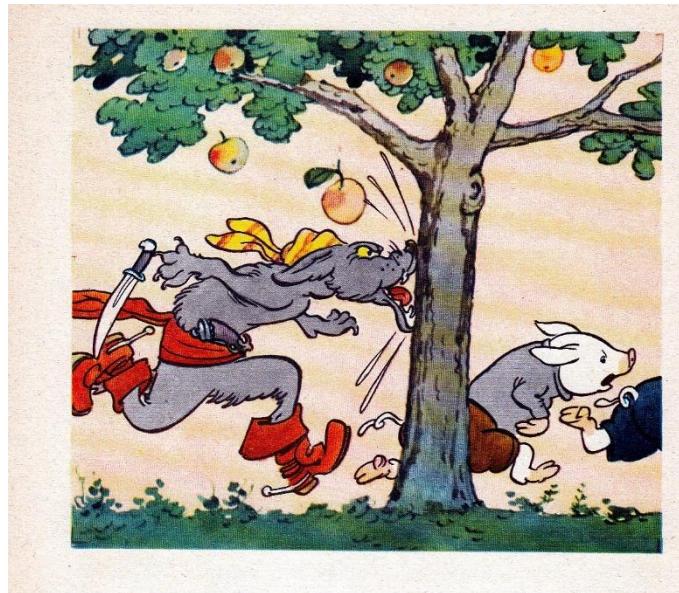
A few new words:

Eagalach-feagalach = a fun word, means what it sounds like, very much afraid!

As an dèidh = after them

Luath = fast, quick

Ghlac = past tense, glac = catch, seize, apprehend



Ach a-rithist bha am madadh-allaidh mi-fhortanach.

Chaidh na mucan beaga mun cuairt craoibh ubhal, ach **chan fhaca** am madadh-allaidh an craobh sin. **Bhuail** a cheann an craobh.

Thuit am madadh-allaidh chun an grunnda, agus ruith na mucan beaga chun an taighe Sheasmhaich, agus **chaidh** iad a-steach.

A few new words:

Chan fhaca = did not see; irreg. verb, root = faic = see; past tense = chunnaic; vn = a' faicinn

Bhuail = hit (past tense), reg verb root = buail. Vn = a' bualadh

Chun an grunnda = to the ground; grunnd = ground, foundation; also, grunnd na mara = the bottom/floor of the sea

Chaidh = went; irr. verb = rach; vn = a' dol



Bha na bràithrean cho eagalach. Cha tuirt iad rud sam bith! Dh'fhalaidh iad fhèin fon leabaidh.

Chunnaic Seasmhach am madadh-allaidh a' tighinn. Cha robh eagal air. Bha e cinnteach. Rinn esan taigh làidir. Bha iad sàbhailte.

Dhùin e an doras agus ghlas e e. Bha e na shuidhe air sèithear agus sheinn e:

Cha bhi am madadh-allaidh a' briseadh a-steach
a' briseadh a-steach, a' bristeadh a-steach
an taigh agam, an taigh agam, an taigh agam fhèin
Oidhch' no latha, oidhch' no latha,
Idir, idir, idir!

A few new words:

Cha tuirt = did not say; irg verb abair; past tense = thuirt; vn = ag ràdh
Dh'fhalaidh iad fhèin = they hid themselves; root = falaich; vn = a' falach

Fon leabaidh = under the bed; leabaidh = bed

Làidir = strong

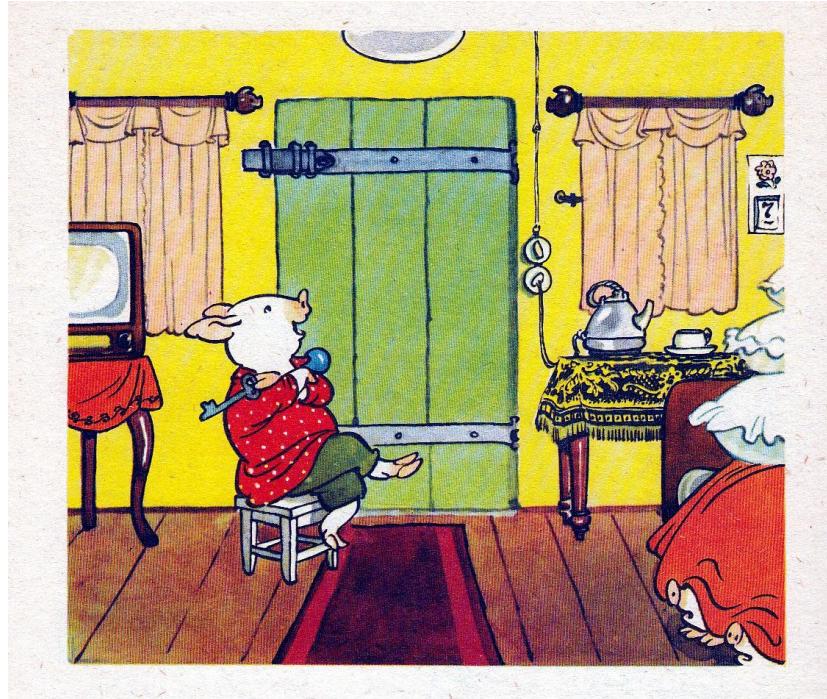
Sàbhailte = safe

Għlas = locked; root = glas

na shuidhe = sitting, already seated / not sitting down (in the act of sitting); lit. in his sitting

Sèithear = chair

Briseadh / bristeadh = break, breaking; root = bris



'S a bhad, bha gnog ann air an doras.

"Cò sin?" **dh'fhaighnich** Seasmhach ann an guth ciùin.

Fosgail an doras 's ann an cabhaig!" dh'èigh am madadh-allaidh gu fiadhaich.

"**Cha fosgail mi e!**" ars Seasmhach. "Chan eil air mo bheatha!"

"Gu dearbh? Bidh mi ag **ithe** an trì agaibh!"

"**Feuch!**" thuirt Seasmhach 's esan air cùlaibh an dorais agus fhathast na shuidhe air an t-sèithear aige. Cha robh eagal air. Ann an taigh-cloiche bha iad sàbhailte.

A few new words:

Gnog = knock

Cò sin = who (is) there

Dh'fhaighnich = asked; reg verb root = faighnich; vn = a' faighneachd

Ciùin = calm; guth ciùin = calm voice

Fosgail = open; imperative/command; reg. verb root = fosgail

Ann an cabhaig = in a hurry

Gu fiadhaich = fiercely; the "gu" changes the word *fiadhaich* / fierce to *fiercely*

Cha fosgail mi = I will not open

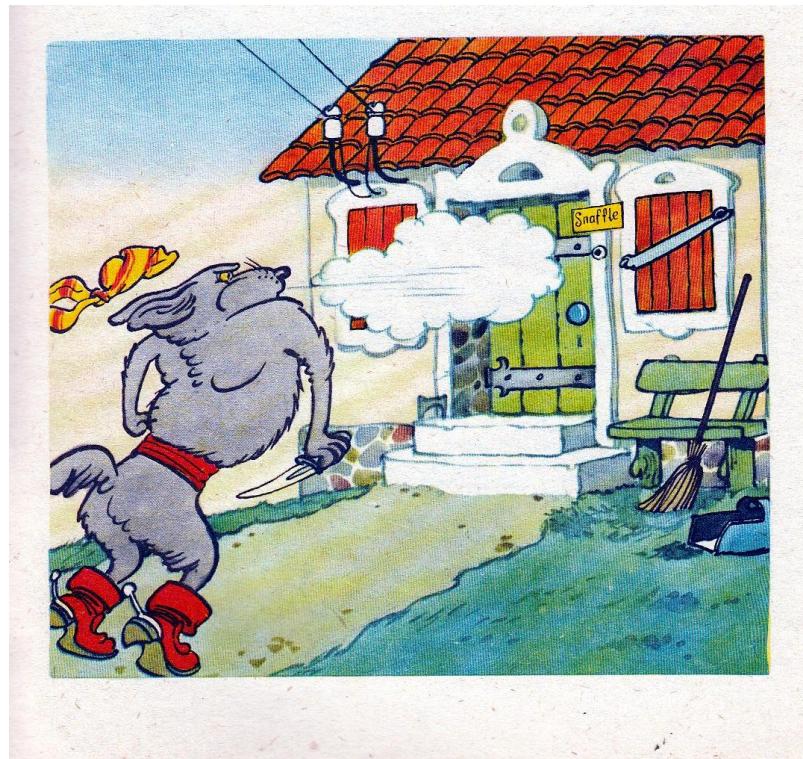
Air mo bheatha = on my life

An trì agaibh = the three of you

Feuch = try, command form of verb; root = feuch

's esan air cùlaibh = and he behind (the door)

taigh-cloiche = house of stone



Tharraing am madadh-allaidh anail domhainn, agus shèid e gu làidir. Ach cha do għluais aon clach. Cha do għluais eadhan clach beag.

Dh'fhàs aodann gorm.

Ach bha an taigh na sheasamh seasmhach 's daingeann. Bhuail am madadh-allaidh an doras. Ach cha do għluais e idir, idir, idir.

Air bhàinidh 's feargach bhuaile e na ballachan, ach bhris e ìnegan aige air a spògan agus bhris e fhiaclan.

A few new words:

Gnog = knock

Tharraing = drew, multiple uses as in English; reg verb, root = tarraing

Anail = breath

Domhainn = deep

Seasmhach 's daingeann = steadfastly & firmly

Għluais = moved; reg verb, root = gluais

Air bhàinidh = in a fury

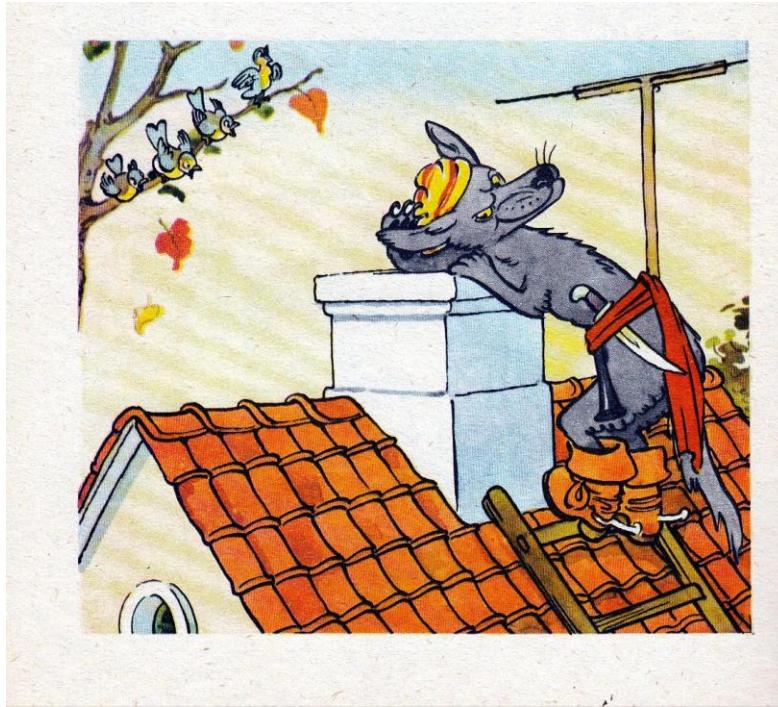
Bhris = broke, reg verb root = bris

Ìnear = nails, claws -- sing = ìne

Spògan = paws; sing = spòg

Fiaclan = teeth, sing = fiacail

Air bhàinidh = furious, madly



Ach **sheall** e suas 's chunnaic e an similear.

"Aha!" **dh'èigh** e gu toilichte. "Bidh mi a' faighean a-steach anns an taigh ann an dòigh sin."

Streap e suas gu mullach an taighe. **Dh'èist** e, ach bha a h-uile rud samhach anns an taigh.

"Bidh **mucfheòil** airson dìnneir agam a-nochd gu dearbh," ars e dha fhèin, agus ag imlich a bhile, chaidh e a-steach 's sìos anns an similear.

Ach aig a' mhòmaid sin, chuala na trì mucan beaga an fhuaim a rinn e.

A few new words:

Sheall = looked, reg verb = seall, can also be to show; vn = a' sealltainn

Dh'èigh = shouted, reg verb root = èigh; vn = ag èigheach

Faighean a-steach = get inside

Ann an dòigh sin = in that way

Streap = climb, reg verb root = streap, vn = a' streapadh

Dh'èist = listened; reg verb èist, vn = ag èisteachd

Mucfheòil = pork, lit. pig meat

Ars = said, only used in writing

Ag imlich = licking

An fhuaim = the sound; fuaim = sound



Thuit sùith 's luaithre air mullach a' phoit. Bha fios aig Seasmhach glic na bha a' tachairt.

Ruith e chun a' phoit. Bha an t-uisge a' goil air an teine. Thug e am mullach às a' phoit.

"Fàilte!" thuirt e.

Cha robh eagal air Srann 's Srònnag. Bha iad a' faireachdainn sàbhailte. Rinn iad fiamh-gàire air am bràthair gaisgeil 's glic.

Cha do dh'fhuirich iad fada. Co dubh ri sùith-bhalach, thuit am madadh-allaidh a-steach anns an uisge a' goil.

Cha do dh'fhairich e cho teth ann an a bheatha riamh!

A few new words:

Sùith = soot

Luaithre = ashes

And the phrase **na bha a' tachairt** = **that which** was happening

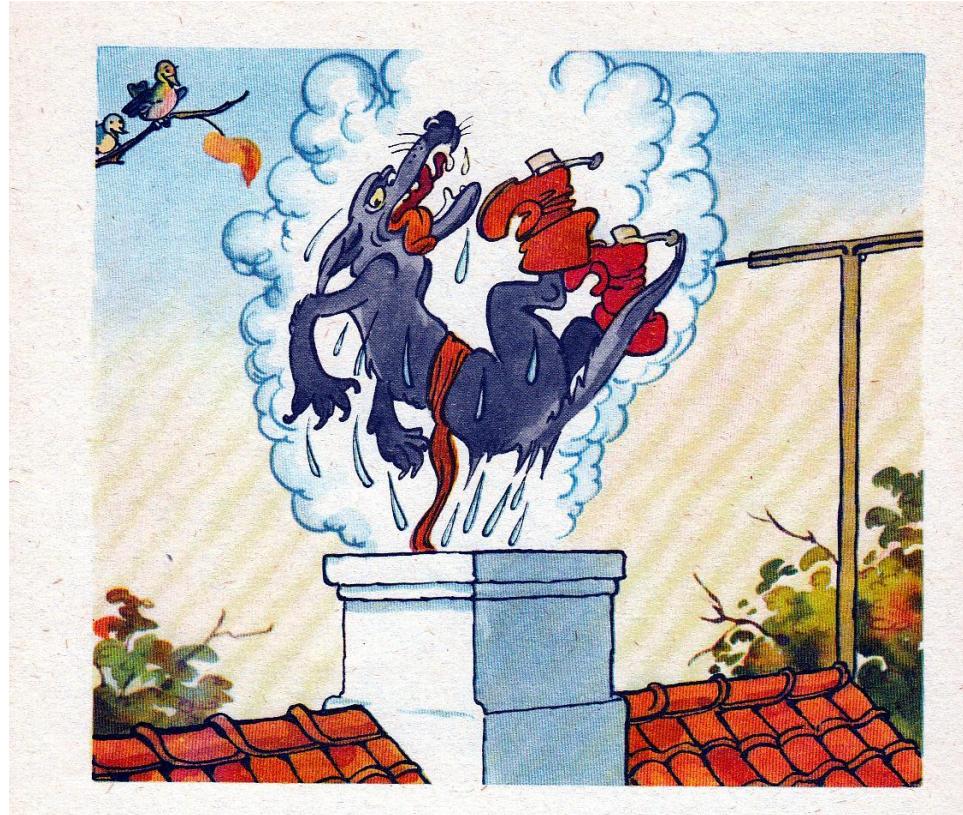
A' goil = boiling

Fiamh-gàire = smile

Gaisgeil = a very important word in Gaelic, heroic, from gaisgeach = 'hero'

Sùith-bhalach = chimney sweep (lit. soot-boy)

Fairich, = feel; cha do dh'fhairich = he did not feel (had not felt)



Dh'fhàs a shùilean mòr agus loisg gach falt air a dhruim.

Le sgreuch fiadhaich 's uabhasach agus ag èigheach nan creachan, leum am madadh-allaidh a-mach às an t-similear agus air mullach an taighe.

Here we encounter a few new words and phrases

Dh'fhàs = grew, reg verb root = fàs, vn = a' fàs

sgreuch = scream or screech

fiadhaich = wild, fierce

uabhasach = horrible, awful

ag èigheach nan creachan, a neat little phrase that means roughly, "screaming blue murder" (lit. screaming of the ruination)

falt = hair

druim = back, a dhruim = his back

loisg = burn, reg verb root = loisg, vn = a' loisgeadh

leum = jump, leap (can also be skip); reg vrb root = leum; vn = a' leum

similear = chimney

mullach = top, roof, mullach an taighe = roof of the house

Thuit e bhon mhullach sìos air an grunnd, thionndaidh e ceithir uairean, agus theich e aig astar dhan a' choille.



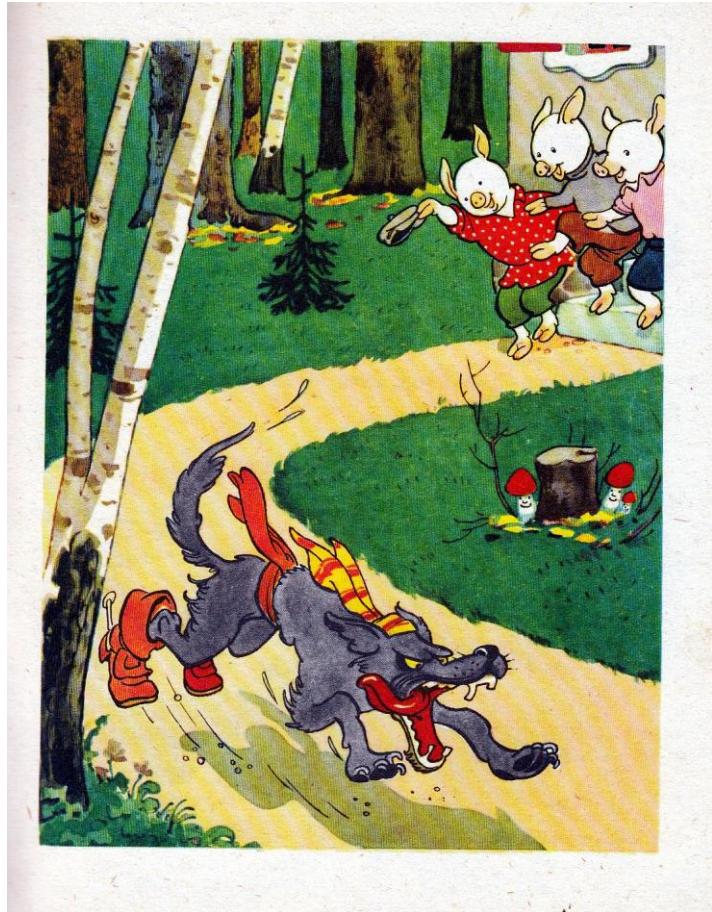
New words

Grunnd = ground (in this context; also, sometimes, foundation; *grunnd na mara* = the floor/bed of the sea)

Thionndaidh = turned, past tense of *tionndaidh*, turn; *vn* = a' *tionndadh*

Theich = fled; reg verb root = *teich*, flee; *vn* = a' *teicheadh*

Aig astar = at a high speed



Choimhead na trì bràithrean air, 's iad cho toilichte.

New words & phrases

's iad cho toilichte = and they so happy, a common idiom or way to phrase an idea in Gaelic
Bha am boireannach a' dèanamh dìnnear, agus esan na chadal = the woman was making dinner, and he asleep.

Bhruidhinn na pàrantan 's an nighean a' cluich = the parents were speaking, and the girl playing.



Agus sheinn iad an t-òran toilichte aca:

A h-uile taigh siar no ear
Siar no ear, siar no ear
Tha ar taigh fad' as fheàrr!
Fad' as fheàrr, fad' as fheàrr!

Cha bhi bèist fhiadhaich
Latha no oidhche, latha no oidhche
a-steach an ar taigh a' bristeadh!
a-steach an ar taigh a' bristeadh!

Agus am madadh-allaidh
tha a' fuireach anns a' choille
Tha air falbh a-nis 's gu siorraidh.
Cha till e a-chaoidh! Cha till e a-chaoidh!

New words & phrases

Siar no ear = west or east

as fheàrr = the best; fad' as fheàrr = far the best

bèist = beast

a-steach an ar taigh a' bristeadh = break into our house (the "an" is a contraction for ann an)

gu siorraidh = Forever (a great word! I just love the sound of it!)

cha till e = he will not return; reg vrb root = till; vn = a' tilleadh

a-chaoidh = ever, forever after



Agus an dèidh sin bha na trì mucan beaga a' fuireach gu toilichte còmhla ri chèile anns an aon taigh fad am beatha.

'S cha chuala no chunnaic iad sgeul aig a' mhadadh-allaidh riamh!

New words & phrases

an dèidh sin = after that

fad am beatha = their whole lives

cha chuala iad no chunnaic iad sgeul = didn't hear or see a sign; sgeul lit. means 'story,' but used in this sense

An crìoch

New vocabulary

Trì Mucan Beaga

Simple past tense words highlighted – consult list in grammar section.

Other vocabulary

's dòcha = perhaps

Acras = hunger; acras air = hungry (tha an t-acras orm = I am hungry)

aig àirde an cinn – at the top of their voices; lit. at the height of their head. The “an” is a possessive pronoun, so at the top of your voice would be aig àirde do chinn, etc.

Air a' mhullach = on the roof

air chall = lost

air cùl = behind

Amaideach = foolish, silly

an dèidh seo – later, after this

An toiseach = in the beginning, at first

Ann an cabhaig = in a hurry

As an dèidh = after them

Ballachan – walls, singular – balla

Beag air bheag = little by little

Bèist = beast

Bho = from (lenites);

Bho ghaoth, uisge, 's shneachd = from wind, rain, and snow

Bochd(a) – poor (figurative & literal)

Càch – each

Caol – thin, skinny, ro chaol – too skinny

caora = sheep

car a' mhultein – somersault; cuir car a' mhultein – do a somersault

cha b' urrainn dha bristeadh a-steach = he could not break in

Cha coma leam = I don't care

Cho luath, so fast

Clab / dùin doras le clab = slam a door

Clachan = stones (singular, clach)

Co-dhùn = decide

Cofhurtail – comfortable

Cogadh = war

Coille = forest; anns a' choille – in the forest

coltach ri caisteil = like a castle

còmhla ri – with

concreat = concrete

connlach – straw

craiceann caorach = skin of a sheep, sheepskin

Craobh / craoibh = tree
craobh ubhal = apple tree
cuideigin = someone
Dè tha thu a' togail = what are you building
deigh – ice
deiseil = ready, finished
deiseil ron fheasgair = finished/ready before afternoon/evening; ro = before
dh'innis iad dhaibh = they told to themselves; dhaibh, prepositional pronoun = do + iad
dithis = two (people); an dithis aca = the two of them
duilleag = leaf; duilleagan = leaves
Duilleagan = leaves
dùinte = closed
Eagal am beatha orra – fear of life on them / scared to death
eagalach-feagalach = really afraid!
earball / earbaill = tail, tails
Fad an t-shamhraidh – all the summer; samhradh = summer
Fad' air falbh = far away
Far an robh – where was; far an robh Srann – where Srann was; far = where
fearg = anger
feargach =angry,
Fiadhaich = fierce
Fiodha = wooden
fon leabaidh = under the bed
Fuaim = noise
Gaoth = wind
Geamhradh – winter
Glas = lock
glic = wise, smart
Gòrach = foolish, silly
guth = voice
Iarmailt = sky
làr / làir = ground (also, floor)
leisg – lazy
Luath = fast
Ma bhios – if is ...
Madadh-allaidh = wolf
Mar = as / like
Mar a bhràthair = as/like his brother
Mar a thogras sibh – as you like (plural 'you')
mi-fhortanach = unfortunate
Mullach = roof,
Mun = about

Mun cuairt = around

mun cuairt craoibh ubhal = around an apple tree

na sheasamh = standing, in his standing

Neòil = clouds

Nuair a – when

Riamh (a-riamh) – ever, never

Ron fheasgar = before evening; ron (contracted, ro an) = before the

Sàbhailte = safe (also, saved)

sàbhailte = safeabhainn – river

Slatagan – twigs (slatag = twig; slat = stick)

slatagan 's duilleagan = twigs and leaves

Smuain e mun togail = he thought about building

Sneachd = snow

Thuige = to him; prepositional pronoun for “gu + e”; thugam = to me; thugad = to you; thuige = to him; thuice = to her; thugainn = to us; thugaibh = to you, pl./form; thuca = to them

Thuirt – said

Tioram = dry

toirt car asta = trick them (lit. take a turn out of them)

Trom = heavy

ùine ghoirid = short time

Òran na seachdain

Cànan nan Gàidheal

Canan nan Gaidheal	The language of the Gaels
<p>Cha b'e sneachda 's an reothadh o thuath Cha b'e an crannadh geur fuar on ear Cha b'e an t-uisge 's na gaillinn on iar Ach an galar a bhlian on deas Blàth, duilleach, stoc agus freumh Cànan mo threubh is mo shluaidh</p>	<p>It was not the snow and the frost from the north. It was not the sharp, cold withering from the east, It was not the rain and the storms from the west But the plague that seduced from the south The bloom, foliage, stem and root Of the language of my people and of my race.</p>
<p>Thig thugainn, thig cò' ruim gu siar Gus an cluinn sinn ann cànan nam Fèinn Thig thugainn, thig cò' ruim gu siar Gus an cluinn sinn ann cànan nan Gàidheal</p>	<p>Come to us, come along with me to the west Until we hear the language of the Fein, Come to us, come along with me to the west until we hear the language of the Gaels.</p>
<p>Thoir a-nuas dhuinn na coinnleirean òir 'S annta càraibh na coinnlean geal, cèir Lasaibh suas iad an seòmar a' bhròin Taigh aire seann chànan a' Ghàidheil Se siud o chionn fhad' thuirt an àm Ach fhathast tha beò cànan a' Gàidheal</p>	<p>Pass down to us the golden candlesticks And into them put the white wax candles Light them up in the mourning room Of the wake house of the Gael's old language That's what the enemy has said since long ago But still the Language of the Gael is alive.</p>
<p>Ged a theich i le a beath' às na glinn Ged nach cluinnear a-nis mó i san Dùn O Dhùthaich Mhic Aoidh fada tuath Gu ruig thu Druim Uachdair nam bò 'G iathadh nan Eileanan Siar Si fhathast ann ciad chainnt an t-sluaigh</p>	<p>Although it has fled with its life from the valleys, Although it is heard no more in the towns From the McKay lands in the far north Right down to Drumochter, famous for cattle, Everywhere in the Western Isles It is still the first language of the people</p>
<p>Thig thugainn, thig cò' ruim gu siar Gus an cluinn sinn ann cànan nam Fèinn Thig thugainn, thig cò' ruim gu siar Gus an cluinn sinn ann cànan nan Gàidheal</p>	
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