Elinoure and Juga

first published in 1768 in *Town and Country Magazine*, one of the only Rowley poems to be published during Chatterton's life. This version is recreated with original footnotes from Thomas Tyrwhitt's 1777 edition of the Rowleyan poems.

Onne Rudeborne[1] bank twa pynynge Maydens sate,

Theire teares faste dryppeynge to the waterre cleere;

Echone bementynge[2] for her absente mate,

Who atte Seyncte Albonns shouke the morthynge[3] speare.

The nottebrowne Elinoure to Juga fayre, (5)

Dydde speke acroole,[4] wythe languyshmente of eyne,

Lyche droppes of pearlie dew, lemed[5] the quyvryng brine.

ELINOURE

O gentle Juga! heare mie dernie[6] plainte,

To fyghte for Yorke mie love ys dyghte[7] in stele;

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[1] **Ruddeborne (in Saxon, red-water), a River near Saint Albans, famous for the battles there fought between the Houses of Lancaster and York.**

[2] **lamenting.** Bailey: BEME'NT, lamented, bemoaned, Old English.

[3] **murdering.** Bailey: MOR'TH, murder, Old English.

[4] **faintly.** Bailey: CROOL, growl, mutter, mumble, Old English.

[5] **glistened.** Bailey: LEMES, lights or flames, Old English.

[6] **sad complaint.** Bailey: DERN, sad, solitary, also barbarous or cruel, Old English.

[7] **arrayed, or cased.** Bailey: DIGHT, dressed, Old English.

O maie ne sanguen steine the whyte rose peyncte,

Maie good Seyncte Cuthberte watche Syrre Roberte wele.

Moke moe thann deathe in phantasie I feele;

See! see! upon the grounde he bleedynge lies

Inhild[8] some joice[9] if lyfe, or else mie deare love dies.

JUGA

Systers in sorrowe, on thys daise-ey'd banke,

Where melancholych broods, we wyll lamente;

Be wette wythe mornynge dewe and evene danke;

Lyche levynde[10] okes in eche the odher bente,

Or lyche forlettenn[11] halles of merriemente,

Whose gastlie mitches[12] holde the traine of fryghte,[13]

Where lethale[14] ravens barke, and owlets wake the nyghte.

ELINOURE

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[8] **infuse**. Bailey: to INHILD, to infuse, to inspire, Chaucer.
[9] **juice.** Variant spelling of "juice" (OED).
[10] **blasted.** Bailey: LEVIN, lightning from Spenser
[11] **forsaken.** Bailey: FORLETTEN, abandoned, Old English
[12] **ruins.** Bailey, MICH, to lie, hid, Latin
[13] **feare.**
[14] **deadly or deathboding.**

No moe the miskynette[15] shall wake the morne,

The minstrelle daunce, good cheere, and morryce plaie;

No moe the amblynge palfrie and the horne

Shall from the lessel[16] rouze the foxe awaie;

I'll seke the foreste alle the lyve-longe daie;

Alle nete amenge the gravde chyrche[17] glebe wyll goe,

And to the passante Spryghtes lecture[18] mie tales of woe.

JUGA

Whan mokie[19] cloudis do hange upon the leme

of leden[20] Moon, ynn sylver mantels dyghte;

The tryppeynge Faeries weve the golden dreme

Of Seyleyness,[21] whyche flyethe wythe the nyghte:

Thenne (botte the Seynctes forbydde!) gif to a spryte

Syrr Rychardes forme ys lyped, I'll hold dystraughte

Hys bledeynge claie-colde corse, and die eche daie ynn thoughte.

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[15] **a small bagpipe.** Bailey, MISKIN, A little bagpipe, Old English

[16] **in a confined sense, a bush or hedge, though sometimes used as a forest.** Bailey, a shady bush or a hovel, Old English

[17] **church-yard.**

[18] **relate.** Bailey, LECTURE, a reading, French.

[19] **black.** Bailey, MOKEY, cloudy, Old English

[20] **decreasing.** Bailey, to languish, Spenser.

[21] **happiness.** Bailey, UNSELINESS, Old English

Elinoure

Ah woe bementynge wordes; what wordes can shewe!

Thou limed[22] ryver, on thie linche[23] maie bleede

Champyons, whose bloude wylle wythe thie waterres flowe,

And Rudborne streeme be Rudborne streeme indeede!

Haste, gentle Juga, tryppe ytte oere the meade,

To knowe, or wheder we muste waile agayne,

Or wythe our fallen knygthes be menged onne the plain.

Soe Saying, lyke twa levyn-blasted trees,

Or twayne of cloudes that holdeth stormie rayne;

Theie moved gentle oere the dewie mees,[24]

To where Seyncte Albons holie shrynes remayne.

There dyd theye fynde that bothe their knyghtes were slayne,

Distraughte[25] theie wandered to sollen Rudbornes syde,

Yelled theyre leathalle knelle, sonke ynn the waves, and dyde.

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[22] **glassy.** Bailey, LIMED, polished, Old English
[23] **bank.** Kersey, a bank, wall, or causey, Saxon
[24] **meeds.** Bailey, MEES, Old French
[25] **distracted.**