

Lord Randal

- ❖ Probably the most widespread ballad;
- ❖ It may have originated in Northern Italy from a song called "L'Avvelenato";
- ❖ It toured Europe thanks to merchants, soldiers, pilgrims, minstrels and common people.



Lord Randal in a Scottish Version:

- It belongs to the supernatural ballads: fairies, elves and ghosts play an important role in the story.
- Lord Randal challenges the inhabitants of the "greenwood".
- Symbolically = Nature revenges upon those who enter Her realm with violence.

Lord Randal in an American Version:

- greenwoods → wildwoods
- hounds but not hawks
- The father remembered in the testament

Henry my Son, an Irish Version:

- Henry was not a Lord and was not rich
- Poisoned by his wife (perhaps the report of a real event)