

Hans Sachs. Ein Vatter-English

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[61]

A comedy, to perform with three personae, that¹
are a father, his son and a jester.

The father enters and says:

Good evening, your honorable people!
The master of the house, he invited me today,
(saying) he would be hosting
Honorable people, young and old,
He would also let in many lads,
Now, I came here as well,
To also eat my penny today,
And I will value that
Because, I heard from someone,
That my son will be here as well,
I want to watch him secretly,
(to see) how virtuous he keeps
With other people, and above that,
What company he keeps.
Therefore, don't be afraid of me!

Don't ruin it for me! I beg you.
The jester and the son enter together. The jester says:
Frantz, here we find the joyful² people,
That I told you about earlier today!
Here, we find dancing and games,
(and) much other entertainment like that,
What else can make the bloody young³ happy,
Even though it hurts the wallet.

Your father gives you enough.⁴
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Son:

Alas, if he would know that about me,
I would not take a single gulden from him.
He would be upset⁵ for eight days.
He thinks, I am at home and asleep.

Jester:

Ay, you are a foolish sheep.
You fear your old (man) way too much.

¹ Translated by Sophie Kriegel, and published with her permission.

² fröling: probably an alternative spelling of fröhlich, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry fröhlich (<https://bit.ly/2MXgE1e>).

³ jungs blut: alternative spelling of blutjung, literally meaning blood young, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry blutjung (<https://bit.ly/2BseAtK>).

⁴ gewinnen: literally to win. It makes not entirely sense in this phrase, was probably chosen for the rhyme with the following line.

⁵ gremen: different spelling of grämen, compare for the change of meaning from being angry to being sorrow and Hans Sachs' use Grimm Wörterbuch, entry grämen (<https://bit.ly/2N11Y3E>).

Follow me! I will teach you a lesson.
 Your old (man) is very⁶ rich and powerful.
 So, keep yourself generous⁷ and splendid⁸
 Amongst good company, my dear Frantz!
 Look there! I will bring you some dice,⁹
 So that today one will pay for the other's feast.¹⁰

Son:

I can't; even though,
 What's the harm, if I dare an attack?¹¹
 I can't see anyone, who would tell my father.
 Throw! (who will have) the lesser will be the servant.
 You have one, that is alright.

Jester:

And you have three, my dear Frantz!
 I am servant, that is your chance.¹²
 Place it, your chance is good.
 Look, what my six is doing!
 A few thalers were lost.

Son:

Throw here! I don't want to give up hope.¹³

The jester throws while singing:

Six and seven
 Got me out
 Of my cloths.
 That hurts¹⁴ me.
 One, three, by the devil!¹⁵ Two out!

[63]

Wait, look! It makes one fourth.
 Yes, six, that there is my chance.¹⁶
 The chance is won, my dear Frantz!

The jester says:

⁶ fast: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry fast, nr. 4 (<https://bit.ly/2si727O>).

⁷ kostfrey: different spelling of kostenfrei, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry kostenfrei (<https://bit.ly/2SG0a2Y>).

⁸ prechtig: different spelling of prächtig, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry prächtig (<https://bit.ly/2N0qQ9h>).

⁹ mummenschantz: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Mummenschanz, nr. 1 (<https://bit.ly/2UMXKNe>).

¹⁰ gloch: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry, gloch (<https://bit.ly/2UVBP6T>).

¹¹ Dücklein: diminutive to duck, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Tuck, nr. 2 (<https://bit.ly/2BYArJs>).

¹² Schantz: as in chance but also the original meaning of the moment when the dice are thrown and any number is possible, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Schanz, nr. 2 (<https://bit.ly/2ByoFoX>).

¹³ zagn: different and contracted spelling of zagnis (dispair, giving up hope), compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Zagnis (<https://bit.ly/2SHHmQN>).

¹⁴ andt: different spelling of and, compare Grimm Wörterbuch entry and (<https://bit.ly/2UWsv2C>).

¹⁵ potz velta: Potz is a different spelling of botz and a curseword derived from the German word for God (Gott), see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Botz (<https://bit.ly/2NCxKBW>). Velta might be a contracted form of Valentin, the name of the saint was used as a curse word referring to the devil, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Valentin (<https://bit.ly/2SzhcM8>). Both words were often used together in a curse phrase.

¹⁶ compare to footnote 10.

Do you want more?

The son says:

One more.

The father tiptoes closer and says:

Listen, young gentleman,¹⁷ who taught you to play?
I would not have believed many,
If I hadn't seen it myself.

Jester:

what a bother,¹⁸ who wants to intrude¹⁹ here?
Frantz, seriously, it is your old man.
Why did he come here, the cheap housekeeper?
Did the devil lead him in?
How did he find out about you?
An old lynx turned grey by cunning.²⁰

The son stands up abruptly and says:

What? What? What? Is my father here?
By the Devil, what shall I say?²¹
I will escape through the door,²²
Tomorrow, I will come up with an excuse.

Jester:

Stay, my Frantz, and don't be scared!
You have outgrown the rod already.
If the old man treats you rudely,²³
So, curse him and grumble
And attack him with words
And talk defiantly towards him!
Next time, he will not bother you.

Father:

Listen, young gentleman, who taught you to play?
Did I not provide well for you,
You should walk free of gambling,

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because so much bad comes out of it
like blasphemy and scolding,

¹⁷ juncker: different spelling of Junker, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Junker (<https://bit.ly/2SoXoQe>).

¹⁸ Botz marter: curse phrase, botz see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Botz (<https://bit.ly/2NCxKBW>) and marter meaning torture.

¹⁹ aufdrehen: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry aufdrehen, nr. 2 (<https://bit.ly/2N2HDIT>).

²⁰ Proverb.

²¹ jehen: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry jehen (<https://bit.ly/2TJvivF>).

²² auß-drehen: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry ausdrehen (<https://bit.ly/2SJ6k29>).

²³ ungelachsen: rude, rough, bad mannered, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry ungelachsen (<https://bit.ly/2GpPMqa>).

struggle, zoren,²⁴ arguing and murder?

Son:

Ay, father, I am not the only one.
The game is now and in general
(popular) with old and young alike
with the poor and the rich,
with the clergy, the worldly, women and men.

Father:

This is of no concern to me.
Will you promise²⁵ me, my son,
that you won't gamble anymore
for money; will you promise this?

Son:

Father, forgive me!
I will not gamble anymore,²⁶
I have played tonight.
The company made me do it.
I did not at all desire to gamble.

Jester:

Ay, don't let yourself be caught so soon!
Do you want to sit with good people,
for entertainment only small and useless work,²⁷
like a one-year old child?

Son:

Yes, father, that is still true.
Should I have no entertainment at all?

Father:

Read at home! There, you have many books;
Or learn to play a string instrument,
like entertaining skills,²⁸ fencing or singing,
Italian²⁹ dances or dancing!³⁰

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²⁴ zoren: different spelling of Zorn (anger), compare to "Der Wortschatz des Hans Sachs" by Walter Tauber, p. 110 (<https://bit.ly/2GUHhUt>).

²⁵ geheissen: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry geheizsen (<https://bit.ly/2SuRDk5>).

²⁶ fürbaß: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry fürbazs, nr. 2 (<https://bit.ly/2TK98te>).

²⁷ linsen spitzen: proverb, literally to sharpen lentils, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Linse, nr. 1 (<https://bit.ly/2SwwjuJ>).

²⁸ ghradigkeyt: different spelling of geradigkeit, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Geradigkeit (<https://bit.ly/2ILyUwo>), wide meaning but can refer to knightly games like fencing, popular entertainment like singing, dancing and also the arts of entertainment by travelling people.

²⁹ welsche: can reference different Romanic cultures like the French, the Italian, etc., can also be a reference for Wales in Britain or in general anything foreign; comparing to Grimm Wörterbuch entry wälsch, nr. 10.c (<https://bit.ly/2SwwjuJ>), it lists Sachs as using it in the sense of Italian.

³⁰ springen: literally jumping, but often used in combination with dancing. It then takes on the meaning of artful dancing, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry, springen, nr. 1. δ (<https://bit.ly/2UVBgdi>).

Such entertainment brings you honor.

Son:

Well, it is true after all; but I beg you:
Please allow me to play
with honorable people,³¹ not for much,
since I am in an inn!

Father:

A pound or two may be alright.
I never refused³² you that.

Jester:

Alright! What is there to do here for us?
You stand there, still scared.
Alright! I know of a better party,³³
where we will spend³⁴ the coming³⁵ night
There, we will find a good rabbit roast,
good trout and also good grayling,³⁶
and other good treats³⁷ as well,
Reinval³⁸, Pinol³⁹ and Malvasier,⁴⁰
Vernetsch, Welsh wine⁴¹ and Rumenier.⁴²
There, we will drink together,
until we lie under the bench.⁴³
Why should we stand for the sermon?

Son:

I am sorry! I will go with you right away.
Good-bye,⁴⁴ father! I will leave you (now).

³¹ biderlewtten: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Bidermann (<https://bit.ly/2NcWv7r>).

³² gewehret: the word can mean to allow or to refuse, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry gewehren (<https://bit.ly/2BJeWMF>). The negative meaning seems to be more common, however the context does not allow for a clear interpretation of the word.

³³ gloch: compare to footnote 9.

³⁴ wasen: I am very unsure of the meaning, the Grimm Wörterbuch (<https://bit.ly/2SGbacN>) gives two options one has to do with grass/lawn the other with smoke/vapor. It is possible that there is a proverb, that I am not aware of, which goes along the lines of smoking the night meaning to have a great time and become wasted or maybe it is simply a different spelling of waren (were), I found one play where Hans Sachs used the word like this (<https://bit.ly/2EtiwLg>).

³⁵ fordern: different spelling of fordere, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry fordere (<https://bit.ly/2NB3SGf>).

³⁶ forhen ...esch: two kinds of fish, often mentioned together, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Forhe (<https://bit.ly/2SJfIJF>).

³⁷ genesch: different spelling of Genäsch.

³⁸ Reinfal: different spelling of Reinval a sweet wine common in the middle ages in Germany, compare to Wein-Plus Glossary (<https://bit.ly/2S9aWu5>).

³⁹ Pinol: perhaps a different spelling of the wine Pinot (which was also called pineau, making the last letter less pronounced and vulnerable to possible change).

⁴⁰ Malvasier: Greek wine, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Malvasier, nr. 1 (<https://bit.ly/2TTjYgL>).

⁴¹ welsch: often refers to Italian wines, but can mean any foreign wine, see Wein-Plus Glossary (<https://bit.ly/2BGttsr>).

⁴² Rumenier: a type of wine, described as Welsh wine, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Rumenier (<https://bit.ly/2GPybaz>).

⁴³ still common German proverb: to drink yourself under the bench, meaning to become extremely drunk.

⁴⁴ Alde: different spelling of ade from Frenhc adieu.

Father:

Where do you want to go? stay with me
and drink and eat⁴⁵ with the honorable people here!
Don't listen to what your lad tells you!
I think, your lad is a drunkard.⁴⁶
Don't follow in the shoes of these people!
Gluttony weakens the body and property,
(it) brings illness, death and poverty.
Therefore, beware of gluttony!

[66]

Son:

Father, what do you think, it is,
if I go now for a nightcap?

Father:

Ay, you have enough to drink here.
Therefore, stay here! That is my will.

Son:

Alright, so I will stay.
Like you wish, I will not go out.

Jester:

Ay, so lock yourself in a bird cage⁴⁷
and suck for a while on it!
Drink cider,⁴⁸ wheat beer and bleak,⁴⁹
So that you won't learn or get to know anything,
Although, you wouldn't be the first,
Who can't do anything but save (money).
(Who) doesn't drink with good lads.
Justifiably, he will be despised by them.

Son:

Father, I thought about that, too.
They will call me a cheap miser.⁵⁰

Father:

Ay by the devil,⁵¹
I won't deny you lads

⁴⁵ zech: to share a meal with people in a pub, see further Grimm Wörterbuch entry zechen, nr. 3 (<https://bit.ly/2V3hdK0>).

⁴⁶ Zapf: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Zapfen (<https://bit.ly/2DLLw0G>).

⁴⁷ vogelhauß: literally birdhouse.

⁴⁸ öpffel.wein: different spelling of Apfelwein.

⁴⁹ laugen: Grimm Wörterbuch lists under laugen (<https://bit.ly/2SE0jtt>) a kind of fish (beak), but I think it could also refer to baked goods like pretzels, which are commonly eaten with beer, perhaps it was shortened here for the rhyme.

⁵⁰ Filtz: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Filz, nr. 5 (<https://bit.ly/2SYZJ3U>).

⁵¹ potz körß und botz miltz: Grimm Wörterbuch entry milz, nr. 3 (<https://bit.ly/2XuRYII>) lists this line as curse but without a literal translation, it seems to be connected to the spleen and its effect on moods.

That are upbringing and in status⁵² like you.
 I just won't allow you the loose lads
 That just want to devour everything.⁵³
 And will lead you to shame and loss
 And eventually let you bath in it
 And show you the fig.⁵⁴

Jester:

Alright, my Frantz, I will show you

[67]

The yard with the most beautiful maidens,
 Within which stands the golden oven.
 There, we want to take of⁵⁵ the skirts
 Of the beautiful dolls⁵⁶
 And will celebrate with Venus.

Son:

Father, I will go for a walk,
 I will return home soon.

Father:

Stay here! Where do you want to go?
 Yes, to the whorehouse⁵⁷ and the corner of the street prostitutes,
 To the stinkers⁵⁸ und hussies,⁵⁹
 So that they steal your wallet.
 Stay here! The fever shall hit you!⁶⁰
 You know: they will pay you badly,
 One carries away shame and loss,
 Like you hear during the day.

Son:

My dear father, I cannot and want not

⁵² ebern: perhaps a contracted spelling of erben (inheritances).

⁵³ die alle gfreß außludern wollen: literally that all want to savour/exploit/take food (gfreß is a term for unmannerly eating). For außludern see Grimm Wörterbuch entry außludern (<https://bit.ly/2EIEWcY>), but ludern in general is a word with a bad connotation of lazy, untidy, and also connected to prostitution.

⁵⁴ zeygen ... die feygen: different spelling for die Feige zeigen, a vulgar and insulting gesture from Italy, that became popular in Germany during the middle ages. It describes a hand formed to a fist, with a thumb stretched out between digit and middle finger symbolizing a vulva thus the name imago vulvae, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Feige, nr. 2 (<https://bit.ly/2TRNzXK>) and Philipp Dietz "Wörterbuch zu Dr. Martin Luthers deutschen Schriften", p. 645 (<https://bit.ly/2SaBNGi>).

⁵⁵ agen: see Grimm Wörterbuch Agen (<https://bit.ly/2Uiu7n8>), translates to awn in English and it appears as if similar shaped things were used to keep clothing together, so the simple meaning of this line is to undress the women.

⁵⁶ docken: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Docke (<https://bit.ly/2HazcdG>), meaning a doll and referring to a young, pretty girl.

⁵⁷ Tayber: different spelling of Taiber, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Taiber (<https://bit.ly/2BGbUJb>), it more precisely means the house of a bawd.

⁵⁸ ildtes-begln: different spelling of Iltis balg, see Grimm Wörterbuch, entry Iltisbalg (<https://bit.ly/2tMcb92>), Referring to the skin of a polecat and its extreme smell, commonly used as a curseword.

⁵⁹ schlepsecken: different spelling of Schleppe sack, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Schleppe sack (<https://bit.ly/2SFEhwG>), though not exclusively used for women.

⁶⁰ ritt: different spelling of rite, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry rite, nr. 2 (<https://bit.ly/2NCKSag>), used as a curse.

To (live) according to heaven.

Father:

Ay, that must be the fever⁶¹ talking!
So then take a wife in marriage!
Love that one and no other!
This kind of love is honorable.

Jester:

I wonder why your father,
The moral coward, teaches you
To become a Carthusian,
You will be forced into the order,
Where they wear the patched-up trousers,⁶²
There you won't have any joy nor pleasure,
(you) will suffocate from your young blood.
Don't do it! Enjoy your youth fully!

[68]

Keep carnival according to the existing rites!
Tomorrow, we shall both go
To buy new cloths
And also will walk in the masked procession.⁶³

The son:

You said something about buying cloths.
If I only knew how to get some money!

The jester:

Ay, the old mother does her best
To have a beautiful son.

Son:

Well, she did it a year ago.
But I came back too often,
So then she cut off the good-for-nothing,⁶⁴
And calls me a lost boy.

Jester:

So, go to an office!

⁶¹ jar-rit: probably a different spelling of Jahritte, a fever that lasts all year, only used in cursing, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Jahritte (<https://bit.ly/2NcFAlN>).

⁶² gflickt hosen: literally patched up trousers, Grimm Wörterbuch lists the phrase as a proverb referring to the state of marriage, however, it is only listed as existing from the 17th century on, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Hose; nr 5.a. (<https://bit.ly/2TPcKdz>).

⁶³ schömpart: different spelling of schönbart, see Grimm Wörterbuch schönbart, nr. 3 (<https://bit.ly/2NBBd3T>), referring to the common masked processions of carnival season.

⁶⁴ kessel-sider: Grimm Wörterbuch under entry kessel, nr.2.f. (<https://bit.ly/2NEymXZ>) associates the kessel (boiler) and the fireplace with the right of having one's own household. This line in particular is referenced and interpreted as describing the son as having finished all his own wealth.

There embezzle⁶⁵ a number of rolls of coins,⁶⁶
 (one feels it little⁶⁷ with great quantities)
 Or collect a number of debts!⁶⁸
 And if that is not a good way,
 Borrow a mark⁶⁹ or two,
 Until the old man closes his eyes!
 Because if it stays written on the wall.
 Such cunning,⁷⁰ I did plenty.
 Do it too, so that you can get money,
 To spend the carnival with good lads!
 My Frantz, follow my loyal advice!

Son:

Yes, of course; you are way too late.
 I had to help myself with it for a very long time.
 People avoid⁷¹ me like ravens and wolfs,
 so, I can't catch⁷² any loot⁷³ anymore.

[69]

Father:

Oh, my son, don't follow the rag,
 those that keep loose company
 and cheat⁷⁴ their parents secretly,
 And (then) often ruin⁷⁵ them completely!
 And, at the time, when they are supposed to inherit,
 Then there is nothing but Miss Poverty.
 But from me, you received honor and goods
 To await after my death,
 So that you can stay safe from all
 Need and be a master alright.

Son:

Oh, you my dearest father,
 forgive me, what I did to you!
 I will do like a devout son.
 Here is my loyalty as a pledge!

⁶⁵ verteummel: different spelling of vertäumeln, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry vertaumeln, nr. 2 (<https://bit.ly/2SJsgvb>).

⁶⁶ scharnützel, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Scharnützel (<https://bit.ly/2TRDNop>).

⁶⁷ lützel: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry lützel, nr. 7 (<https://bit.ly/2InMPZb>).

⁶⁸ gelt-schuld: literally a debt in money in comparison to debt in goods or services, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Geldschuld (<https://bit.ly/2XaM1KA>).

⁶⁹ Marck: type of currency.

⁷⁰ dück: probably a different spelling of Tücke in the use of Tuck, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Tücke (<https://bit.ly/2Gvsnnr>).

⁷¹ raumbt: different spelling of raumen, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry raumen (<https://bit.ly/2NevfFY>).

⁷² erdapn: different spelling of ertappen.

⁷³ peut: probably different spelling of Beute.

⁷⁴ abtragen: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry abtragen (<https://bit.ly/2ttH5Ts>).

⁷⁵ in den grund verderben: sounds similar to a still common German proverb "jemanden in Grund und Boden ruinieren" to ruin someone into the ground, meaning to destroy them completely.

Father:

My son, here, onto your hand
twenty gulden!⁷⁶ There, cloth yourself
and keep yourself honorable and pious
and let go of such loose lads,
that seduce you in young age
to vain, bad childish tricks!

Jester:

What shall one say about this bad luck!
Well, even if the bird escaped me,
didn't I take from it for a long time,
much good money, cloths and presents
by (using) pandering, gambling, cunning and cheating?
I would have trained him well.

Father:

Listen, my son, what your lad says there!

Son:

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My lad, is none of my business anymore.

Jester:

Dear gentlemen and friends look here!
The son is like the father.
You hypocrite⁷⁷ and coward,⁷⁸
I will tell all good lads that
you let yourself be imprisoned at
your young age like a squirrel,
(that you let) the old man bicker⁷⁹
and let yourself be turned into a nun.

Son:

Ay, father, advise me in these things,
So that I won't be disdained like that!
I am also a young servant,
who also belongs to this world.
Ay, you don't lack money;
What is bad about it? Let me do the carnival, too!

Father:

Yes, if it only went about like it used to with the elders.
Back then there was much nicer entertainment
And chivalrous tournaments

⁷⁶ gülding: different spelling of Gulden (currency).

⁷⁷ finsinger: hypocrite, see "Hans Sachs: Eine Auswahl für Freunde der ältern vaterländischen Dichtkunst" by Goetz, p. 177 (<https://bit.ly/2SHI6Bm>).

⁷⁸ biren-brater: compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry Birenbrater (<https://bit.ly/2NdZMDB>).

⁷⁹ kernn: different spelling of kerren, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry kerren (<https://bit.ly/2DTpXLB>).

With races, tourneys, and fencing,
 At night, carnival plays and speeches.
 Back then the youth could learn something.
 The supply with food and drink⁸⁰ was also honored,
 with little⁸¹ board and great splendor.⁸²
 The cloths were fine, honorable and simple.⁸³
 If it was still as it was back then,
 I would gladly grant you
 To do the carnival.

Jester:

By the Devil, what the old man screams.⁸⁴
 He only wants to tell us about the elders
 And doesn't know that we must keep
 To what is customary in the here and now.

[71]

Father:

My dear jester, I do complain
 About the great cost and exuberance.
 That secretly makes me cross,
 The poor aspire to be like the rich,
 So that often the horse jumps him into the hay rack.
 I will keep quiet about how many times
 A day I have seen
 Different parties of people
 (playing) drinking games⁸⁵ and (committing) other villainy,⁸⁶
 That did truly not happen in my time.

Jester:

Ay, what conduct the old man has,
 He quasi⁸⁷ never did anything wrong,⁸⁸
 How much foolishness did he do
 Until he chased away the days of his youth!
 If it was written on your forehead,
 It would not fit on it.⁸⁹

⁸⁰ Gastung: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Gastung, nr. 1 (<https://bit.ly/2BHOZNz>).

⁸¹ ringer: perhaps from the verb ringern meaning less or little, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry ringern (<https://bit.ly/2Tx2lGI>).

⁸² gebrecht: Grimm Wörterbuch gives two meanings under gebrecht (<https://bit.ly/2IKtjGj>): noise and splendor, given the general consonant shift of Hans Sachs' work and the content of the line, I would prefer entry gebrecht, nr. 2 referring to splendor.

⁸³ schlecht: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry schlecht, nr. 6-8 (<https://bit.ly/2DOhQzY>).

⁸⁴ kreisten: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry kreisten (<https://bit.ly/2SFAXBv>).

⁸⁵ zu-trinckens: act of drinking in company where it becomes compulsory to drink in turns, see further Grimm Wörterbuch entry Zutrincken, nr. 1 (<https://bit.ly/2DSHCbe>).

⁸⁶ püberey: different spelling of Büberei, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Büberei (<https://bit.ly/2SdqqgK>).

⁸⁷ sam: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry sam (<https://bit.ly/2DR2kU2>).

⁸⁸ kein wasser betrübt: still a common proverb in German "Jemand kann kein Wässerchen trüben" meaning literally one cannot muddy any water, meaning metaphorically that one is innocent, often used sarcastically.

⁸⁹ gieng auff eine kwe-haut kaum: referencing the still common prover "das geht auf keine Kuhhaut" literally meaning, it doesn't fit on a cow's skin, metaphorically meaning it is simply not possible.

My Frantz, he is leading you now at the bridle
 And wants to imprison you.
 Alright, you shouldn't be a monk,
 We shall have a good time.⁹⁰

Father:

Hang yourself from the gallows, you squanderer,⁹¹
 You scrounger and gallows bird!
 You want to seduce my son,
 To catch him with tricks,
 So that he will not do me any good?
 Leave and may you be unfortunate
 Or I will hit you across your back
 With my stick that you will get the devil!⁹²

Son:

Ay father, you are a rude guest
 To a stranger in his house.
 I will escort my lad outside,

[72]

So, there won't come trouble out of it.

Father:

Ay, let him go and sit still!
 You have to go home with me now,
 so that you can get up early tomorrow.
 You know well, what we have to do.

Jester:

By the devil, Frantz, did you turn into a priest?
 You will have to read early mess tomorrow.
 I will go to a fun place,
 Because I still know about an evening dance.
 You want to go? Alright, my dear Frantz!

Son:

Father, I will accompany my lad.

Father:

Stay with me! It matters to me.
 Your lad is a night owl,
 flies one alley up, another down
 And for half the night flirts around.
 He freezes in snow, wind, rain,
 Does much foolishness and breaks his sleep.

⁹⁰ müdtlein: different spelling of Mütlein, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Mütlein, nr. 1 (<https://bit.ly/2DSbUpN>).

⁹¹ streus-gütlein: different spelling of streu-das-gütlein, literally meaning scatter the goods, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry streu-das-gütlein (<https://bit.ly/2Gz76JH>).

⁹² ritten: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Ritten (<https://bit.ly/2SbWGRI>).

In the morning he walks around like an unconscious⁹³ sheep
Or sleeps until noon.
Do you also want to be such a loser?⁹⁴

Son:

What about it, I will be back soon.

Father:

Stay here! Did you not listen
That the night is no-one's friend?
Stay with me tonight, in God's name!⁹⁵
Someone might hurt you.

Jester:

[72]

Ay, he needs to put so much effort into it.
But we are not two old women!
I am about to forget me, because my body will
dare anyone, who dares us both.⁹⁶

Father:

Oh, you lad is also a brawler,⁹⁷
Run! You are really lost.

Jester:

Ay, what is the old man blabbering!
Go, my Frantz, and let the old man babble!

Father:

Stay here and let the fever⁹⁸ fool him!
Frantz, Frantz, stay here, my dear Frantz!
Ay, go and get Saint Vitus' dance!⁹⁹

The jester and the son run out of the inn, the jester
says:

Good night! We won't come back again
So, leave and lie down (to bed)!

The father stands up and finishes:

⁹³ dols: different spelling of toll, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry toll (<https://bit.ly/2trSJxY>).

⁹⁴ schlüffel: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Schlüssel (<https://bit.ly/2SXXApj>).

⁹⁵ Ritten: refers to a fever, was commonly used as part of different curse phases, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry ritten (<https://bit.ly/2SbWGRI>).

⁹⁶ Ich werd mich, weil nur werdt mein leib, drutz einem, der uns bede dratz: It seems to me as the two lines miss some grammatic points of reference, therefore, I could only translate it very loosely. For drutz and dratz see Grimm Wörterbuch entry dratzen (<https://bit.ly/2EtxCkd>).

⁹⁷ hader-katz: see Grimm Wörterbuch Haderkatze (http://woerterbuchnetz.de/cgi-bin/WBNetz/wbgui_py?sigle=DWB&mode=Vernetzung&lemid=GH00534#XGH00534).

⁹⁸ trüs: refers to gland and was associated with a fever of the glands, commonly used in curses, see Grimm Wörterbuch entry Trüs (<https://bit.ly/2SEuF5d>).

⁹⁹ sanct Veitz tautz: probably a different spelling of Sankt Veits Tanz, referring to St Vitus dance associated with epilepsy, see further Grimm Wörterbuch entry Veitstanz (<https://bit.ly/2BJA4ST>).

Look, you honorable people!
 My heart suffered¹⁰⁰ much today.
 My son keeps bad company.
 Since I have known it,
 My heart has hurt.
 Who would want children now?
 (Even) if one, from a young age on,
 Raises them to fear God and be virtuous,
 They are seduced in adolescence
 Through bad company, like one has seen,¹⁰¹
 Soon they will get used to bad company
 No punishment or warning from their
 Pious parents will help anymore.
 And when they enter marriage,

[74]

They then fall back¹⁰² into their previous manner
 (What one is used to, one doesn't give up easily)¹⁰³
 And they turn into libertines,
 Like I, unfortunately, have one in my house.
 If a son is about to come off age
 One needs to diligently safeguard them
 From vicious company, wherever one can,
 like we were taught by the wise Salomon.
 So that he grows up with the right discipline,
 that and a good night wishes you Hans Sachs.

¹⁰⁰ gandet: past form of anden, compare to Grimm Wörterbuch entry ahnden (<https://bit.ly/2TdfghD>).

¹⁰¹ wie man spürt: literally like one feels, seems to only be there to keep the rhyme intact, does not really fit contentwise.

¹⁰² koppen: see Grimm Wörterbuch entry koppen, nr. 3 (<https://bit.ly/2VbDxRL>).

¹⁰³ Was man gewondt ist, das lest man hart: proverb.