

In Search of the Medieval
Outlaw:
The Tales of Robin Hood

- ‘Over **60,000** biographies, **72 million** words, **11,000 portraits** of signify.’ *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*.
- ‘**Hood, Robin** (*supp. fl.* late 12th–13th cent.), legendary outlaw hero, is wellnigh impossible to identify, first because of the sparsity and peculiar nature of the evidence, and second because Robin quickly became a composite figure of an archetypal criminal, and then an outlaw hero. cant, influential or notorious figures who shaped British history.’ J.C. Holt, *ODNB*.



Betley Window,
courtesy of the Victoria
and Albert Museum, date
about 1621. Height: 71.5
cm, Width: 43.3 cm,
Depth: 3.2 cm

There begynneþ a lytell gesse of Mo-
byn hode

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Title page of
Wynkyn de
Worde edition,
probably 1506.
Worde was
Caxton's
apprentice and
took over the
business in 1492



A Gest of Robyn Hode, from the 1st Fytte

- Lythe and listin,
gentilmen,
That be of frebore
blode;
I shall you tel of a gode
yeman,
His name was Robyn
Hode.
- Robyn was a prude
outlaw,
Whyles he walked on
grounde:
So curteyse an outlawe
as he was one
Was never non founde.
- Robyn stode in
Bernesdale,
And lenyd hym to a
tre,
And bi hym stode
Litell Johnn,
A gode yeman was he.
- And alsoo dyd gode
Scarlok,
And Much, the millers
son:
There was none ynch
of his bodi
But it was worth a
grome.

A Gest
continued.

- And then spake Lytell
Johnn
All unto Robyn Hode:
'Maister, and ye wolde
dyne betyme
And wolde doo you
moche gode.'
- Than bespake hym gode
Robyn:
'To dyne have I noo lust,
Till that I have som
bolde baron,
Or some unketh gest.
- Till that I hve som
bolde baron,
That may pay for the
best,
Or som knyght, or
som squyer
That dwelleth bi west.

A Gest continued.

- A gode maner than had
Robyn;
In londe where that he were,
Every day or he wold dyne
Thre messis wolde he here.
- The one in the worship of the
Fader,
And another of the Holy Gost,
The thirde of Our dere Lady,
That he loved allther moste.
- Robyn loved Oure dere Lady:
For dout of dydly synne,
Wolde he never do compani
harme
That any woman was in.
- ‘Maistar,’ than sayde Lytil
Johnn,
‘And we our borde shal
sprede,
Tell us whedar that we shal
go
And what life we shall lede;
- Where we shall take, where
we shall leve,
Where we shall abide
behynde,
Where we shall robbe, and
where we shall reve,
Where we shal bete and
bynde.’

A Gest of Robyn Hode

The final stanza of the first fytte

- 'I shal the lend Litell John, my man,
For he shalbe they knave;
In a yeman's stede he may the
stande,
If though greate nede have.'

The fourth fytte: the cellarer of St Mary's brings Robin's pay.

- But as they loked in Bernysdale,
By the hye weye,
Than were they ware of two black
monks,
Ech on a good palferay.

Then bespake Lytell Johan,
To Much he gan say,
'I dare lay my lyffe to wedde,
That these monks have brought our
pay.

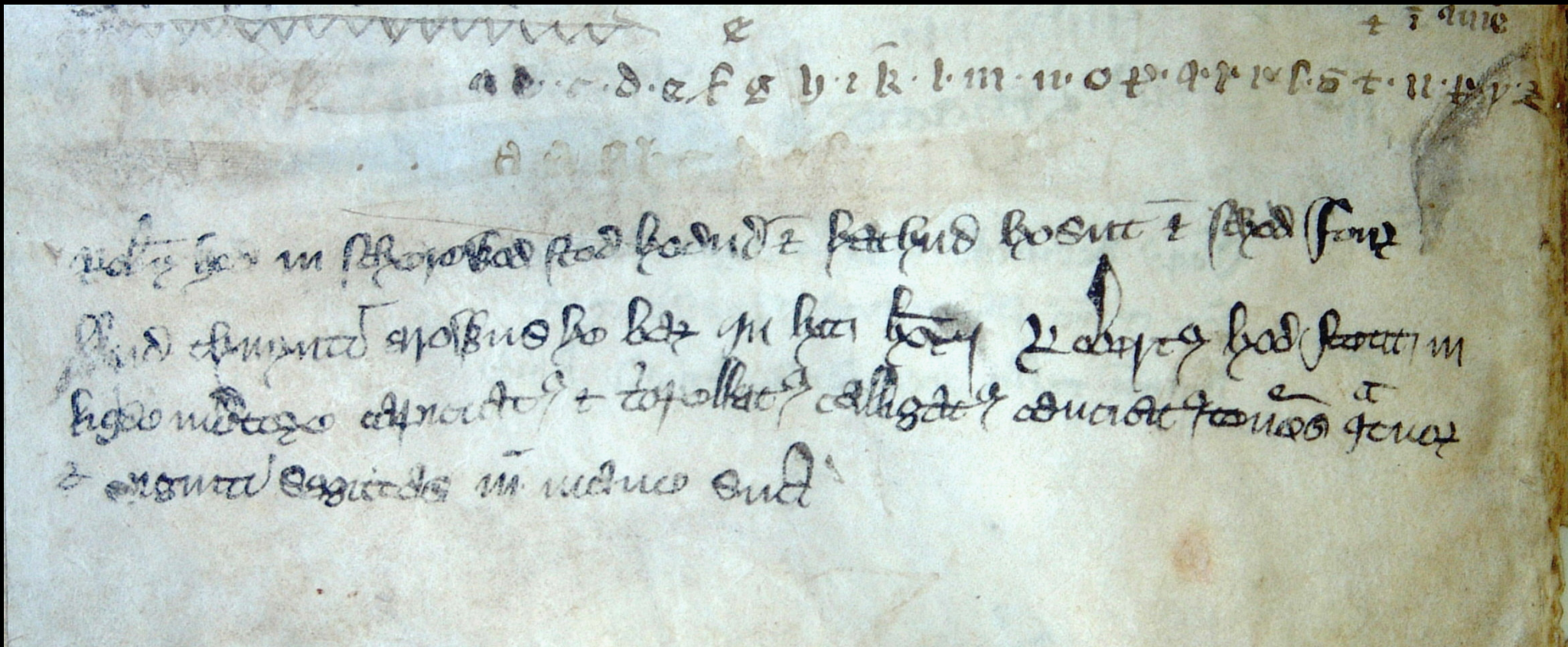
Robin Hood and the Monk

Stanzas 9 and 10

- 'Of all my mery men', seid Robyn,
'Be my feith I will none have,
But Litull John shall beyre my bow,
Til that me list to draw.
- 'Thou shall beyre thin own,' seid Litull
Jon,
'Maister, and I wyl beyre myne,
And we shall shete a peny,' seid Litul
John,
'Under the grene wode lyne.'

Robin Hood and the Monk and Sherwood Forest

- The scheref made to seke Notyngnam,
Both be stret and stye,
And Robyn was in mery Scherwode,
As light as lef on lynde.



Robin Hood in Sherwood stood, hooded, hatted, hosed, & shod, four and twenty arrows he held in his hand

Robin Hoods Pedigree.

Edward Earl of Northumberland temp. Edw. Conf.

Maud Countess of Huntington
 E. of Northumberland }
 Maud } David son of Malcolm III
 E. of Northampton & Huntington } E. of Huntington.
 Henry Earl of Northumberland & Huntington }
 Da. Da. of Wm. Warren E. of Warren & Surrey

Judith
 Robert of Newburgh son of Henry E. of Warwick }
 Goaulde }
 Simon St. Lus II E. of Northumberland & Huntington }
 Isabella Da. of Robert & Rosa E. of Chester

Malcom King of Scots E. of Northumberland & Huntington }
 William E. of Huntington }
 Ermengard Da. of Richard Beaumont

Robert Fitz. D. of Locksley - Warren's Paragon of the Forest beyond Trent }
 Joanna }
 Simon St. Lus III E. of Northampton & Huntington - obi. 5-p 1184 }
 Alice Da. & heir of Gilbert Fitz. of Lincoln }
 George = Da. of Hamwell }
 David E. of Carcest & Huntington }
 Maud Da. of Hugh Rivilliac E. of Chester & Lincoln }
 John Sirr. Scott E. of Huntington obi. 5-p 1284 }
 Helton Da. of Leoline Prince of north Wales

Robert Fitz. D. commonly called Robin hood the famous outlaw was forebinder E. of Huntington obi. 1247

Wm de Clynton created E. of Northumberland 1387

SAL MS
 264 fo. 15

A Society of Antiquaries of London
 Commonplace book presented to the Society 23 May 1721, by Rev William Stukeley.

The Rev William
Stukeley, courtesy of
the Society of
Antiquaries of London



George = Da:
Garnwell
Esq^r of
Garnwell hall
Hott.

David E. of
Careet & huntington

Maud Da^r of H
Rivilliac E. of
& Lincoln

John Sirn. Scott =
E. of huntington
ob. s. p. 1284.

Hellen Da^r of
Prince of nor

Robt Fitz. Pdo Commonly called
Robbin hood the famous out law
Jurebanded E. of huntington
ob 1247

Wm de Blynton created
E. of Northumberland 1337
Huntingdon

Robert = Joanna
Fitz Os of
Locksley -
Warw.
Ranger of the
Forest beyond
ment

George = Da:
Hamwell
Esq^r of
Hamwell hall
Hert.

William²
E. of hunting

Simon
E. of nor
hunting to
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David E.³ of
Carect & h

John Sir
E. of h
ob. s. p. 1

Robert







FRANK
SINATRA

DEAN
MARTIN

SAMMY
DAVIS JR.

AND BOB
CROSBY
AS ALLEN K. DAVE

ROBIN AND THE 7 HOODS

