

## **Mediaeval Baebes, The "Undrentide"**

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Befell so in the comessing of May,  
It happened like this in early May,

When mirry and hot is the day  
When balmy and temperate is the day,

(And) oway beth winter shours  
And winter showers have gone away,

And every feld is full of flours  
And every field is full of flowers,

And blosme breme on evry bough  
And every branch is bright with blossom,

Overall wexeth mirry anough,  
And everything is growing merrily,

This ich quene Dame Heurodis  
This same queen, Dame Heurodis

Took two maidens of pris  
Took two virgins - highly prized -

And went in an undrentide  
And all went together in the noontide

To play by an orchard side,  
To play and sport by an orchard. s side;

To see the floures sprede and spring  
To see the flowers unfurl, and spring

(And) to here the fowles sing.  
Forth from the earth, and to hear the birds sing.

They set hem down all three  
They sat them down, all three,

Under a faire impe-tree,  
Under a grafted fairy-tree,

And wel sone this faire quene  
And soon the lovely Queen

Fell on slepe opon the grene.  
Fell asleep upon the green.

The maidens durst hir nought awake  
To wake her up, the maidens dared not do.

Bot lete hir ligge and rest take.  
They let her lie and take her rest

(So) she slepe till after none,  
And so she slept til noontide passed -

That undrentide was all ydone  
Until that midday was over at last.

(That undrentide was all ydone)  
Until that midday was over at last.

Ac as sone (as) she gan awake  
But as soon as she started awake

She cried and lothly bere gan make;  
She cried aloud with a

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