

Rehabilitative Justice in *The Wife of Bath's Tale*

CONTENT/TRIGGER WARNING

Original

“Thou standest yet,” quod she, “in swich array

That of thy lyf yet hastow no suretee

I grante thee lyf is thou kanst tellen me

What thyng is it that wommen moost desiren

Bewar and keepe thy nekke boon from iren!

Translation

“Thou standest yet,” she said, “in such condition,

That of thy life yet thou hast no assurance

I grant thee life, if thou canst tell me

What thing it is that women most desire.

Beware, and keep thy neck-bone from iron (axe)!

Original

“He saugh a mayde walkyng hym biforn,
Of which mayde anon, maugree hir heed,
By verray force birafte hire maydenhe;
For which oppressioun was swich clamour”

Translation

“He saw a maiden walking before him,
Of which maiden straightway, despite all she could do,
By utter force, he took away her maidenhead;
For which wrong was such clamor”