

Riddle 27

(*Mitchell & Robinson, riddle f.*)

Anonymous

Exeter Book

Ic eom weorðwerum, wide funden,
brungen of bearwum ond of burghleoþum,
of denum ond of dunum. Dæges mec wægun
feþre on lifte, feredon mid liste
under hrofes hleo. Hæleðmec siþban
baþedan in bydene. Nu ic eom bindere
ond swingere, sona weorpe
esne to eorþan, hwilum ealdne ceorl.
Sona þæt onfindeð, se þe mec fehðongean,
ond wiðmægenþisan minre genæsteð,
þæt he hrycge sceal hrusan secan,

5

10

gif he unrædes ær ne geswiceð,
strengo bistolen, strong on spræce,
mægene binumen; nah his modes geweald,
fota ne folma. Frige hwæt ic hatte,
ðe on eorþan swa esnas binda,
dole æfter dyntum be dæges leohte.

15