



<County: Leicestershire>

<Code: L0068>

<MS reference: London, BL Add. 34193>

<Text: Narration of a vision>

<Tranche 1>

<fol. 127ra>but hit semyd þ^e dawning of a morninge
in his springing first . And as sone as
J was browght w^t-in þ^t valay my good
angell þ^e foreseyd why3t thyng be-gan
to vanysch fro me sed sowle so þ^t hit was
left þ^{er} alon . And my sowle remembring
hit þ^{er} left alone havyng no sokur ne
wyste whedur to goo callyng~ to hys
remembrawns howe þ^t he whas
departyd & passyd from þ^o bode Turned
& lokid A-3en to the streyt þ^e place by þ^e
whyche he entryd first in-to þ^e seyde wa-
ley . to þ^e entent if hit myght haue sen
any oþ^{er} sawlis of whom he myght .
haue had any feleschype or comforth . þ^{en}
my sowle seing no socour carfully & mor-
nyngly as A thing w^t-out ony comforthe
turnyd in-to þ^e seyde valey a-3en . And sodenly
out of þ^e north syde of þ^e seid valey com-
deuelis out of nowmbir renneng A-3enst
my seyde saule crying roring & 3elling as
all þ^e world þ^{er} shuld haue fallid saying
in this wyse behold 3ondir commyth on
of vs & he ~~se~~ has done vs seruice . wher-for
he shall Abyd & dwell w^t vs . rennyng
on my saule in euer syde . And as A . fowle
is glad of spryngyng of the day or any

beest or fowle of his *prahe* so wer~ þey
 glad of my saule . & þey toke my sowle
 sume by the leggis *sum* by þ^e armes *sum*
 by þ^e hed *sum* drawing my sawle on way
 and *sum* An-*oþer* & glad was þ^t deuell þ^t onys
 myght towche hit to doo hit payn . And
 my seid saule was so carefull þ^t hit wist
 not what to doo . thinking hym-selfe in
 grett feer~ and dred to be lost for-euer Amonge
 þem . & þe seid orribill & innumerable *compa*
paney of deuellis wer *non* *oþerwise* arayd
 <fol. 127rb>to my apecing bur aftir þ^e aray þ^t þees ga
 lantes þes proud people now-ondayes
 vsune *transposing* þ^e *shapus* þ^t god fast mad
 them of And taking þ^e *pride* and <exp>tak</exp> þe
shapus of þ^e *maister* þ^e deuell of hell þ^e whych
pride & in-ordinate a-ray . J þ^e seyð wrechid
 & synfull creature Edmunde lyuersygge
 þ^t vnder þis forme write on-to 3^o vsid o
 cupid & wer be-for my seid seknes & vi
 citacion þ^e whych was so gret displea
 sur~ to my lord god . þ^t had not þ^e prayer~
 byn of þat most blessid modir~ & maydyn
our lady sent Marie . j had byn dampnyd
 & shuld haue byn in hell for-euer & for
 þ^e vsing of þ^e sayd Aray þ^e going of þ^e
 seyð deuyllys & as hit has pleasid
 my lord god þ^t þey shuld apere to me
 in suche wise . was in schort gownes
 & dowblettes close hosyn longe heer~
 vpon her~ browes pykes on þ^e shou
 of a foot in lenth & more hygh bo
 nettes as j my-selfe sume-tyme vsid
 & þes prowid peple þ^t callid þem-selfe
galantes 3it vsid wher-by þ^e deueles 3it
 claymyd apart in þem seyng & aleg
 ging for them at þ^e tyme of mannes
 dethe be-fore þ^e hyghinge þ^t suche cre
 aturis byn þ^eres by very reson of prid

þe abominable & multitude of deuelis
 was innumerable & so innumerable þt wen
 J was drawen & puld w^t þem my seyð
 soule coude ne myght se ne perseyue w^t
 sy3t ony ende of þem in lenth ne in
 brede as þey had byn a gret land ful
 standing as thykke as on of þem my3t
 stand by a-noþer pulling drawing tor
 mentyng & teryng my seid saule as þey
 wold haue rent on hym of hit fro A-noþer
 <fol. 127va>oþerwhylys keſting my saule A-bout þer heddes
 & oþerwhylyle draweing~ hit vpon þe ground
 of þe seid valey A-monge þer seyð feet~ þey
 seing~ þem of þis first torment temp
 ting my saule w^t synnys of pride ſaing to
 hit if hit wold a-byd & dwell w^t þem þer
 & goo w^t þem thydder as þey come fro þey
 wold make hit a lord a-mong þam &
 þey wold wýrschip & honour hym & be rew
 lid & gouernde be my seyð saule & if my seid
 saule wold not a-byd a-mong þem they
 seyð þey wold haue hit in-to þe fier~ of hell
 & þer-to bryn w^t any ende my seid ſayð saule
 being ſore a ferd & dred þe wordis & thre
 tingis of þe seyð deuelis 3it at þat tyme
 my seyð saule wold not triſt them ne þer
 wordis but by þe grace of god & his help
 & through þe w^tstanding of þer temptaci
 on my saule was departid fro þem & þe seid
 deuelis þt þus temptid my saule my saule
 had no power~ to A-byd but by þe w^t-stand
 ding of þer temptacion þey wer~ ſo ouercom
 eſcheuyd & fled a-way fro hit & thus larg
 ly J ſpake þat if hit myght be poſſible
 þt a dampnyd saule in hell had power~ þer
 of god euer to call þis name ihesu . J wot wil
 all þe deuelis þer ſhuld neuer haue power ouer
 hym to doo hym deſeſe . or payn . þis firſt
 temptacorn os hit is a-boue rehersið by

þ^e helpe of almyghty god J ouercome .
 Sodenly of þ^e seyð horrible company of
 deuellis þ^t stood besyd þ^e deuellis þ^t temptyd
 my saule first seing þ^t J had w^tstande
 þ^e first temptacyon & wold not agree
 vn-to þem & howe my seyð said saule
 was euer laburyng among þem & not
 Abydyng & how hit wold not be rewlyd
 ne Abyd for þ^e seyinges of þ^e first deuellis
 þen in A gret violence & wrath toke my
 seid saule & hit torment or trowblyd
 <fol. 127vb> & drew hit more cruellar paynfullar &
 byttirrar þen dyd þe first company of þ^e seid
 deuylis whose temptacyon j had w^t-stand
 w^t payn vpon payn & sorowe vpon so
 rowe & glad was þat deuyl of all þe
 innumerable & horryble company þ^t myght
 þ^t onys fest on my saule to doo hit woo &
 payn & þem w^tyn A certen space þey secyd
 þer tormentyng of my saule & temptid hit
 w^t þ^e synnes of couetyse & said if hit wold
 A-byd & dwell A-mong þem þey wold ma
 ke me þ^e richest þ^t euer was þey mad to my
 said saule promese þ^t hit schuld haue gold
 syluer~ & precyouse stones & þey to doo me
 obedyence & be rewlyd by me & if<exp>t</exp> J wold
 not concent to þem þey seid þey wold put
 me in+euerlasting fyer~ w^t-out any tari
 yng . my seid saule standing in gret feer
 of þ^e seid deuylis & of þer thretinges of þ^e fyer
 þ^t þey seid þey wold cast hit in . remembring
 þ^e paynes þ^t hit suffrid seyng þ^t hit had
 no helpe ne socour ne wyst not wyþer to go
 þought of þ^e fyer byhestys þ^t þ^e deuelys
 promyst hym stod in a disper~ thinkinge
 þat hit weer better to doo aftir þem þen to
 bryn in euerlastyng fyer or to suffre suche
 gret tribulacyon as hit had don . & as soon
 as my saule ~~pro~~ purposid to a+spokyn & incly

nyd to þer intent & to haf gon w^t þem or
 hit myght speke & gyuuue hys con-cent so
 denly my good angell þ^e foreseyd wyght
 thing wrappid in wyght þ^e whych toke
 my saule fro my body & brought hym first
 in-to þ^e foreseyd valey connide<?> in myddil
 Among þis cursid & innumerable company
 of deuēlis ayen to my saule aftir thes
 vexacyons and trowbles fro þ^e mydil of þem
 deliuerd & toke my saule & as f^[a] flokke of
 scheepe if A lyon wolfe or A dog schuld
 come among þem . wold depart seuer & flee
 <fol. 128ra>for feer on lyke wyse þ deuylis þ^t þ^t tyme
 had trowblid my saule departid & fled on euery
 sid as creaturis vturly ouer-com schamyd
 confusid & rebukid by þ^e brightnes & feer þ^t
 my good angel was comyn Amonge þem
 & left þer noyse & crying on^[&] my good angell
 toke my soule fro þem putting hit on his
 right hand halding me fast be þ^e lefte ar
 me of my saule leding me thorogh þis
 cursid & innumerable company of deuēls þ^e why
 che company fled for feer~ except . iiij or v . M^l .
 þ^e whych iiij or v . M^l . folowing my seid saule
 a-far fering to come nygh hit by-cause
 of þ^e seyde angell ne+durst onys profre to com
 nygh me & all þes iiij or . v . M^l deuēls folow
 id alway aftir~ my seid saule to tyme þat
 þ^t my good angell had brow3t me A high
 hill & browght me to þ^e top þer-of w^t-in þ^e sey
 ing of a *pater noster* how be hit þ^t þ^e seid hill was
 to my goostly perseyvyng as hygh in-to a ly
 till as fro þ^e erþe to þ^e skye & þ^e good angell
 had browght my soule þ^e top of þ^e seid hill
 my seid saule lookyd down & at þ^e foot of þ^e
 seid hill be-nethe stod þ^e seid . iiij or . v . M^l deuēls
 still non of þem hauyng power to ascende
 ne to negh þ^e hill and my seid saule lokyd by
 syd hym <exp>be-sid</exp> & þer aperid from þ^e top of þ^e

seid hill streching in-to þ^e sky as a laddir
 w^t flatt stanes broder~ þen A+mannes hand
 appering why3t as *cristall* vpon þ^e which
 laddir sodenly by my seid good angell J
 was put vp & when my saule was at þ^e
 hyghest of þ^e laddir~ þ^e firmament opynd
 & my saule was brow3t in-to a fair~ gret ly3t
 & ioy w^t-in was *cristen* people but from þ^t
 place J was sodenly lad by my seid good
 angell vp by *certen greces* in-to anoþer place
 of more grettur brightnes þ^e whych was

<Tranche 2>

<fol. 129va> towchid þ^e ground w^t his kne . & my saule seid þus to þ^t
 blessid lady . J canott he seid lyf in þ<?> Erth but J haue
 þ^t liberte of kysyng for he seid it was þ^e vse of his
 cuntre & long hit was or she wold graunt me
 to haue þ^t lyberte But þer was w^t her a gret com
 pany of þ^e whiche J had no power to see & þ^e seid
 company þ^t was þer w^t hir prayd for me & seid thes
 wordes þorowgh þ^e grace of god & of 3ores
 he may haue þ^t lyberte & keepe hym-self fro
 synne . And at þ^e last by þ^e prayour of þ^e seid com
 pany þ^t þer was w^t þ^t blissid lady she grantid me
 þ^e seid liberte condicionally in þis wise . In þ^t sho seid
 þ^t þ^u seyse þ^u cannot lyfe in þ^e erth w^t þ^t lyberte of
 kyssing For by-cause hit is þ^e vse of þⁱ contre & þ^u
 wer~ lykly to breeke my commaundment & be had
 in derision a-monge þ^e people wher~-foor J charge
 þ^e þ^t þ^u neuer kysse woman to þ^t entent to gif mene
 or stir~ by any mene þⁱ body vnto synn wher~-for~
 to eschewe þ^e moor~ perell of synn J dar+not profir~
 to kisse any woman & in such aray hit pleasid
 hir to shew hir-self to me vnworthy & wrechid
 kaytiff & in þis wise J sawe hir She is a woman
 of longe statur~ þ^e fayrest in fayrnes bewte &
 fauor in visage þ^t euer god mad . þ^e most mekest in
 cowntenaunce & speche & as þ^e snowe excedith

þ^e bewate of all women in whittnes *in* lyke
 wise excedith þ^t blissid woman & lady al oþer
 women þ^e applis of hit eyn byn of blake colour
 & not gray she hauyng on hir hed a fair~ why3t
 kerchef of þ^e whych kerchif . ij . endis com don
 a+lytil be-neþ^{le} hir schuldris . þ^t is to sei com+don~
 on owþer~ side an ende of þ^e seid kerchif . She al
 so hauyng vpon þ^e seid kerchif & hir most blessid
 hed a crown of gold þ^e moost oriyenst & richest
 þ^t euer J sawghen *in* þ^e mydil of þ^e of þ^e seid croune
 a+braunche was *in* þ^e toppe of þ^e wiche J cowde
 neuer behold hir blessid body was clopid *in* A+man
 tell of blake w^t a+standing . <mrg>colar</mrg> closid strayt till
 hir nek & þ^e seid mantell was reching down
 ouer hir feet *in* lenght & so closse þ^t fro þ^e ouer part of hir
 nek down to þ^e grownd þ^t she stod vpon all hir
 body was so couerd w^t þ^e seid mantell of blake
 þ^t my saule my3t not perseyue nor see of hir fot
 <fol. 129vb>ne hand . þ^e which mantell was myche+like vnto
 þes mantelles of þes ladyes þ^t haue takyn þe
 mantil & þ^e ring weren except þ^t þis mantel was
 lengar & þ^e colour higher þer was no blasing of
 kerchifes nor shewing of of hir brestis & many
 of þis wanton women & vndiscreet women vsyn
 & wer but al was closse as is aboue rehersid &
 no part vncouerd but hir blessid visage she had no
 tires to exalte vp hir hed but sche was & is con
 tent w^t on single kerchif . wher-of ij . endis wer
 pynnyd or ellis knytt vp . & ij oþer endis come down
 ouer hir shuldris as is aboue rehersid w^t þ^e seid
 crown vpon hir blessid hed & kerchif . This sight
 by my seid saule of þ^t blissid lady sene during
 þis on charg & commaundment of þ^e kissing as
 hit is a-boue rehersid & no lengar soudenly þ^e
 substaunce . [of þ^e hed] of my said saule was folden & put
 doun to his brest . as hit wat tyme she spake &
 com to my said saule first as hit <exp>was</exp> is more
 playnly be-fore rehersid . & aftir þ^t my said saule
 had neuer power more to se þ^t blissid lady . howe

be hit þ^t aftir þis sight of hir she gaue to me
 all þes *commandmentes* foloyng w^t mo not wry
 tyn . j charge þ^e she seid as sone as þ^u art res
 torid to hilþe þ^t þ^u take þⁱ way to þ^e vniuersite
 of oxforth . & þer j charge þ^e to abyd by þ^e space
 of viij 3ere & neuer com þ^u at home during þ^e
 seid 3eeris but aftir þ^e seid 3eris þ^u schalt ride
 home & how & in wat wise sho told me &
 aftir þ^t j shold resort to suche a place
 w^t oþer charges þ^e which at þis tyme j wil+not
 reherse but þ^e wil of almyghty god be fulfil
 lid in me most wrechid & synful *creature* & euer
 honourd & blessid my3t he be & also sche þ^t
 is modir & maid þ^e deliuerer~ of my saule fro
 all *perell* sche seid j charge þ^e þ^t þ^u gif þ^e to stody
 as in diuinite also j charge þ^e to offre A candill
 to suche a figur~ of our~ lady in suche a chapell
 & she shewid me þ^e chirche & þ^e chapell being
 w^t-in þ^e seid chirche & þ^e ymage of þ^e seyde figur~
 in þ^e north syd of þ^e chirche . sho shewid my saule
 also þ^e towne & wallis of Oxforth w^t þ^e ryuers
 & medeues *pertenig* þer-to . Also she seid J charg
 <fol. 130ra>þ^e þ^t þ^u go neuer to þⁱ lauender howse ne lett her com
 in þi chambir as long as þ^u art in Oxforthe .
 Moreouer J charge þ^e þ^t wat tyme þ^u felist þⁱ flesch
 rebell a3enst þⁱ saule vse þ^u to fast bred & watur
 & on+day in þ^e weeke J charg þ^e to fast watur þe
 wyche to my conceyuig was assined þ^e friday
 J charge þ^e she seyde þ^t þ^u call þ^e william wrech as
 longe as art w^t-in þ^e vniuersite of Oxforth . & when
 þ^u comyst whome a3en lett call þⁱ name Edmond
 Lyuersigge as þ^u hast byn euer callid byfore þis ty
 me Also J charge þ^e þ^t summe of xl s~ . þ^e which þ^t
 þ^u wer in purpos to ride to london w^t . þ^t þ^u take
 þ^t w^t þ^e & no more at þⁱ departing . Also J charge þ^e
 during þⁱ seid 3eris þ^t þ^u neuer wed wif ne be man
 of religion ne prest ne take 3ou no *maner* ordir
 vpon þ^e þen þ^u hast byfore þis tyme but contenen
 þⁱ life as a clarke . Also J charge þ^e þ^t þ^u labur to

þ^e means þ^t þ^u an to geet þ^e mercy of god . J charg<?>
 a *certen* thinge of myn awne she *commaundid* þ^t J
 shuld gif hit to oon of my kyn or J schuld depart
 fro home and truly sho told me of suche of my
 kynne þ^t shuld die as my moþer . And also þ^t al+my
 enmyes shuld be dedd or þ^t J come home in-to my
 contrey þat þe þerd part of þ^e people þ^t J left þer~
 shuld not be alyfe when J shall *com* whom .
 All þ^{es} *commaundmentes* in þis wise giuyn vnto
 my said saule all þ^t while hit neuer sawgh hir
 & sho was sodenly vanyschid & departid fro me so
 þat my seid saule neuer sawgh hir aftur . & sho be
 yng no radder departid fro my seid saule but my
 saule had as *perfite* syght & seyng as hit had
 wans he was Among þ^e innumerable company of
 deuils in þ^e seid valey & had power~ to lift vp
 his his his hed & to looke & see al about hym
 & how þ^t blyssid lady vanysshid fro me J can
 not sey . In so myche þat J had not *perfite* sight
 of hir at þat tyme of hir departing & she left
 theer~ w^t my saule my good angell standing
 bysyde me . to convey my saule to þ^e body a3en
 & kepe me fro þ^e fendes . And as my saule went
 w^t my good angell in þe way goyng hit sawe
 of þ^e seid deuilles *summe* rennyng on way &
 <fol. 130rb>*summe* an-noþer way as þey had byn wod here
 iiij here . x . þer~ ij by *parcellis* neuer sesyng & then
 my good angell speke vn-to me & told me howe
 þ^{ey} wer~ *spirites* þat god had gifin power & *com*
maundment to persecute & smyt þ^e people for þ^e
 synne þ^t dayly renyth a-mong þem w^t þ^e infir
 myte & plage of pestilence þ^e whych synne
 & people gretly displesith god . Also my good
 angell consaild my saule to *labur* all þ^e means þ^t
 he cowth whill he was in þ^e world to geet
 hym-self þ^e mercy of almyghty god . And bad
 me þ^t J shuld aske *consell* of clarkis & w^t þ^t my
 saule spek & seid to my god angell My curat
 þ^e vikar of þ^e towne wher~ J dwell & my body

lythe he can 3eue me sume consell . Nay seid
 my good angell he haþ^e no kunnyng þer-to
 ne is a clarke abill to kepe any cure . but
 many a saule is departid out from þer bodis
 þ^t stond in gret perell þorow his defaute for
 þ^e whiche he shall answer~ afore god . And
 god is gretly dispesid w^t hym in þ^t þat his
 cure has not dewe teching & Informacion
 as þey aught in þ^t he abydith not and dwell
 vpon þ^e same . Ther beth seid my saule to my
 god angell iij oþer preestis þ^e parisch preest & ij .
 oþer chapleyns . Nay seid my god angell þ^e lake
 kunnyng wherfore þ^e be w^unable to be prestes
 & god w^t þen is gretly displesid in þ^t þ^t þey
 haue not doen her diligence to haue kunnyng
 byfore þey were mad prestes . Then seid my saule
 to my good angell þer is a vicar her+by-sid at
 westbirry he can+gyf me good concell howe
 þ^t J shall lyue in þis world þan<?> seid my good
 angell to me of hym aske þ^u concell for h.^[e]+is
 a kunnyng clarke & þus miche þ^u maist gif hym
 for his labur & said me what summe . to pray
 for me . þen my good ange browght my
 saule in-to þ^e parishe kyrke of frome & smot
 iij gret strokes in þ^e mydil of y^e seid chirch in þ^e
 rofe & seid loo þ^e vicary is at wellis hit wer~
 bettur þ^t he wer~ here & kept his cure . Then
 my god angell brow3t my saule to þ^e door~