The Penis Mightier than the Sword?
Grasping the Point of the Anglo-Saxon Riddle Tradition

Widely recognized double entendre riddles:

EXE 10 (‘ox’ [OXA])
EXE 18 (‘sword’ [SECG])
EXE 19 (‘plough’ [SULH])
EXE 23 (‘onion’ [CIPE])
EXE 35 (‘bellows’ [BLÆST-BELG])
EXE 40 (‘cock and hen’ [HANA OND HÆN])
EXE 42 (‘key’ [CÆG])
EXE 43 (‘dough’ [DAG])
EXE 44 (‘Lot and his children’ [LOT HOND HIS BEARN])
EXE 52 (‘churn’ [CYRN])
EXE 59 (‘shirt’, ‘garment’ [CYRTEL])
EXE 60 (‘borer’ [BOR])
EXE 61 (‘glass beaker’ [GLÆS-FÆT])
EXE 63 (‘onion’ [CIPE])
EXE 83 (‘bellows’ [BLÆST-BELG])
EXE 85 (‘bellows’ [BLÆST-BELG])
EXE 87 (‘key’ [CÆG])

key to mark-up:

bold italics = links between passages in the same language
double underlining = links between passages in different languages
Illustrative passages:

[1] **SYM 44 (CAEPA)**

Mordeo mordentes, ultro non mordeo quemquam; sed sunt mordentem multi mordere parati; nemo timet morsum, dentes quia non habet ullos.  
Cf. TAT 7.6: Mordeo mordentem labris mox dentibus absque.  
BER 37.5: Mordeo mordentem morsu nec vulnero dente  
BER 41.3–4: dente nec vulnero quemquam / mordeo sed cunctos

[2] **ALD 46 (URTICA)**

Torqueo torquentes, sed nullum torqueo sponte laedere nec quemquam volo, ni prius ipse reatum contrahat et viridem studeat decerpere caulem.  
Fervida mox hominis turgescunt membra nocentis: vindico sic noxam stimulisque ulciscor acutis.

[3] **EXE 63 (CIPE)**

Cwico wæs ic, ne cwæð ic wiht; cwele ic efne seþeah. Ær ic wæs, eft ic cwom; æghwa mec reafað, hafað mec on headre, ond min heafod scireþ, biteð mec on bær lic, briceð mine wisan.  
5 Monnan ic ne bite, nympþe he me bite; sindan para monige þe mec bitað.  
Cf. EXE 18.13a: healdeð mec on heaþore  
EXE 23.8: mec on reodne reafað min heafod

[4] **TAT 30 (ENSIS ET VAGINA)**

Armigeri dura cordis compagine fingoR, cuius et hirsuti extat circumstantia pepli; pangitur et secto cunctum de robore culmen, pellibus exterius strictum, quae tegmina tute  
offensam diris defendunt imbribus aulam.


Ic þa wiht geseah wæpned-cynnes, geoguð-myrþe grædig; him on gafol forlet [E geoguð myrwe]  
ferð–friðende feower wellan  
scire sceotan, on gesceap þeotan.
Illustrative passages:

[1] 
SYM 44 (‘onion’)

*I bite the biters*, yet of my own accord *I bite no one; but there are many* prepared to bite the biter.

No one fears the bite: it does not have any teeth.

Cf. TAT 7.6: I am toothless, but with my lips soon bite the one who bites me.

BER 37.5: *I bite the biter with a bite but I don’t wound with teeth*

BER 41.3–4: *and do not* harm anyone with teeth / though I bite everyone

[2] 
ALD 46 (‘nettle’)

I trouble those who trouble me, but I trouble no one of my own accord;
I don’t want to hurt anyone, unless he first takes the blame and tries to pluck the bright-green stalk.

Soon the hot limbs of the one who harms me swell; that’s how I repay injury and take revenge with sharp stings.

[3] 
EXE 63 (‘onion’)

I was alive, but I said naught; nevertheless I die.
I was before: back I came; everyone ravages me, keeps me in confinement and shears my head, bites me on the bare body, plucks my stalk.

I bite no man, unless he bites me; there are many of those who bite me.

Cf. EXE 18.13a: holds me in confinement

EXE 23.8: rubs me to redness, ravages my head

[4] 
TAT 30 (‘sword and sheath’)

I am created with the hard frame of a weapon-bearing heart, surrounded by the covering of a shaggy cloak;
the whole tip is driven in between split oaken strength, tight with hide outside, and those coverings safely shield the penetrated chamber from dread wetness.

[5] 
EXE 36 (‘bullock’)

I saw a creature of the weaponed kind, greedy with youth-glee; he took as tribute four life-giving streams, brightly spouting, spurting at his whim.
Mon mætelade, se þe me gesægde:
“Seo wiht, *gif* hio *gedygeð*, *duna briceð*;
*gif* he tobirsteð, *bindeð cwice*.”

[6] **EUS 37** (*VITULUS*)
Post genitrix me quam peperit mea saepe solesco
inter ab uno *fonte* rivos *bis* *bibere binos*
progreidentes, et *si vixero*, *rumpere colles*
incipiam; *vivos moriens* aut *alligo* multos.

[7] **ALD 83** (*JUVENCUS*)
Arida spumosis dissolvens faucibus ora,
*bis binis bibulus* *potum de* *fontibus* hausi.
*Vivens* nam terrae glebas cum stirpibus imis,
nisu virtutis validae *distrumpo* feraces;
at vero linquit dum spiritus algida membra,
nexibus horrendis homines *constringere* possum.

[8] **ps-BED 7** (*JUVENCUS*)
Vidi filium inter *quatuor fontes* nutritum; *si vivus fuit*, *disrupit montes*; *si mortuus* fuit, *alligavit vivos*.

[9] **EXE 70** (*OXA*)
Ic wæs lytel [. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .]
fo[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .]
[. . . . . . ]te geaf [ . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .]
. . . . . . ]pe þe unc gemæne [. . . . . . . . . . .]
5 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
fedde me[c fægre]
Oft ic *feower teah*
swæse broþor, þara on sundran gehwylc
dæg-tidum me *drincan sealde*
þurh þyrel þearle. Ic þah on lust,
10 þþæt ic wæs yldra ond þæt an forlet
sweartum hyrde, siþade widdor,
mearc-paþas [*walas*] træd, moras paðde,
bunden under beame, beag hæfde on healse,
wean on laste weorc þrowade,
15 earfoða dæl.
A man spoke, who said to me:
“That creature, if he survives, will break the fields; if he is torn apart, he will bind the living.’

[6] EUS 37 (‘bullock’)
After my mother bore me, I often used to drink four trickles streaming from the same spring; and if I should live, I shall begin to break the fields, or, dead, I bind many of the living.

[7] ALD 83 (‘bullock’)
I moisten my dry mouth with dripping jaws, when, drinking, I have taken a sip from four springs. When alive, by straining my mighty strength, I break up the fertile clods of earth with their roots below; but when the breath leaves my chilly limbs, I can bind men with terrible bonds.

[8] ps-BED 7 (‘bullock’)
I saw a son reared among four springs; if he was alive, he broke up mountains; if he was dead, he bound the living.

[9] EXE 70 (‘ox’)
I was little ..................
[............................]
..............] gave [..............
......] what we two together [.....
..............] my sister
brought me up [.....]

Often I rugged at four
beloved brothers, who each in turn
during the daytime gave me drink
briskly, through a hole. I drank with vigour,
until I was older, and left it all behind
to the swarthy herdsman, traveled more widely,
trod march-paths, trekked over the moors,
bound under a beam, with a ring around my neck,
on a trail of grief, suffered pain,
a share of sorrows.
Oft mec isern scod
sare on sidan; ic swigade,
næfre meldade monna ængum
gif me ord-stæpe egle wæron.

[10] **EXE 10 (OXA)**
Fotum ic fere, foldan slite,
grene wongas, þenden ic gæst bere.
Gif me feorh losað, ðæste binde
swearte *Wealas*, *hwilum* sellan men.
5 *Hwilum* ic deorum *drincan sella*
beorne of *bosme*, *hwilum* mec bryd triedeð
fela-wlone fotum, *hwilum* feorran broht
won-feax *Wale* *wegeð ond þyð,*
dol drunc-mennen deorcum nihtum,
10 wæteð in wætre, wyrmed *hwilum*
þægre to fyre; ðæ me on *féðme sticaþ*
hyge-galan hond, ðwyrfed geneahhe,
scliffe me geond sweartne.

Saga hwæt ic hatte,
þæ ic lifgende *lond reafige*
15 ond æfter deaþe dryhtum þeowige.

*Mater me genuit, eadem* mox *gignitur ex me.*

[12] **Palatine anthology XIV.41**
*Μητέρ’ ἐμὴν τίκω καὶ τίκτομαι εἳμι δὲ ταῦτης*
ἀλλοτε μὲν μεῖζων ἄλλοτε μειοτέρη.

[13] **EXE 31 (IS)**
Wiht cwom æfter wege wræclíc liðan,
cymlic from ceole cleopode to londe,
hlinsade hlude; hleahþor wæs gryrelic,
egesful on earde, ecge wæron scearpe.
5 Wæs hio hete-grim, hilde to sæne,
biter beado-weorca; bord-weallas grof,
heard-hiþende.
Often iron
struck me sorely in the side; I stayed silent,
ever uttered at all to anyone,
even if the jabbing blows were awful to me.

[10] **EXE 10 (‘ox’)**
I travel on foot, tear the earth,
green fields, while I carry my spirit.
If I lose my life, I bind fast
the swarthy Welsh, sometimes better men.
Sometimes I give a drink to a bold warrior
from my breast; sometimes, a bride treads me
proudly underfoot; sometimes, brought from afar,
a dark-haired Welsh girl grips and grasps me,
the dull drunk wench in the dark nights,
moists me in water, sometimes warms me,
favourably by the fire; thrusts me in the lap
a hand enflamed, writhes rather much,
strokes me through the dark.

Say what I am called,
who, living, plunders the ground,
and, after death, gives service to mankind.

My mother bore me, and the same is soon born through me.

[12] **Palatine anthology XIV.41**
I bear my mother, and am born from her;
Sometimes I’m bigger than her, sometimes smaller.

[13] **EXE 31 (‘ice’)**
A creature came sailing, wondrous, over the waves,
splendid from the vessel, called to the shore,
boomed loud; the laughter was terrible,
awesome on earth, the edges were sharp.
She was hate-grim, slow to strife,
bitter in battle-deeds; she dug into board-walls,
plundering hard.
Hete-rune bond,
sægde searo-craeftig ymb hyre sylfre gesceaf:
‘Is min modor mægða cynnes [E mæg da]
10 þæs deorestan, þæt is dohtor min
eacen upliden, swa þæt is ældum cuþ,
sfirum on folce, þæt seo on foldan sceal
on ealra londa gehwam lissum stondan.’

[14] EXE 23 (CIPE)
Ic eom wunderlicu wiht, wifum on hyhte,
neah-buendum nyt; nængum sceþþe
burg-sittenbra, nymþe bonan anum.
   Stapol min is steap-heah, stonde ic on bedde, [E stapol]
5 neoþan ruh nat-hwær.
   Néþeð hwilum
   ful cyrtenu ceorles dohtor,
   mod-wlone meowle, þæt heo on mec gripeð,
   ræseð mec on reodne, reafað min heafod,
   fegeð mec on fæsten.
   Feleþ sona
10 mines gemotes, seo þe mec nearwað, [E seþe]
wif wunden-locc. Watt bið þæt æge.
Cf. EXE 43.3b–4a: bryd gripode / hyge-wlone hondum
EXE 59.5–6b: Siþan me on hreþre heafod sticade / ... on nearo fege.
EXE 63.2b–4: æghwa mec reafað / hafað mec on headre, ond min heafod scireþ / biteð mec
 on bær lic

[15] SYM 73 (UTER FOLLIS)
Non ego continuo morior, dum spiritus exit:
   nam reedit adsidue, quamvis et saepe recedit;
et mihi nunc magna est animae nunc nulla facultas.

[16] EXE 35 (BLÆST-BELG)
Ic þa wihte gesæah; womb wæs on hindan
prifum a þrunten. Þegn folgæde,
mægen-rofæ man, ond micel hæfde
gefered þæt hit feld, fleah þurh his eage. [E þær]
She bound a hate-rune, spoke, cunning-crafty, about her own creation:

“My mother is, of all the maids there are, the dearest, and she is my daughter, grown up pregnant, as is well-known to men, to men among folk, when she has in the world, on every land to stand supreme.”

[14] **EXE 23 (‘onion’)**
I am a curious creature: what a woman wants, at the service of neighbours, and harmful to none of those at home except the one who hurts me.

My shaft is straight up, I stand in a bed, more or less hairy beneath.

Sometimes

the very lovely daughter of a churl takes a risk, haughty girl, so that she grasps me, rubs me to redness, ravages my head, stuffs me somewhere safe.

She soon feels it, her encounter with me, the one who confines me, the curly-locked lady: one eye will be wet.

Cf. **EXE 43.3b–4a**: a bride took a grip / proud, in her hands

**EXE 59.5–6**: Then he would stick his head in my midst / ... and fitted it in tight.

**EXE 63.2b–4**: everyone ravages me / keeps me in confinement and shears my head / bites me on the bare body

[15] **SYM 73 (‘bellows’)**
I do not die immediately when my breath departs; for it returns promptly, although it often goes away; at one point there is great deal of puff, and at another none at all.

[16] **EXE 35 (‘bellows’)**
I saw that creature: the belly was in the rear, massively swollen. A servant stood behind, a mighty powerful man, and he had in a big way brought forth what filled it; that flew through an eye.
Ne swylteð he symle, þonne syllan sceal
innad þam ðfrum, ac him eft cymerð
bot in bosme, bleð biþ aræred;
he sunu wyerceð, bið him sylfa fæder.

[17] EXE 83 (BLÆST-BELG)
Ic seah wundorlice wiht; wombe hæfde micle
þryþum ge þrungne. Þegn folgade
mægen-strong ond mund-rof; micel me þuhte
[E megenstrong] godlic gum-rinc, grap on sona
<*> heofones tobe
bleowe of eage; hio boncade,
[wancode willum. Hio wolde seþeah
niol[………………]]

[18] EXE 77 (WEDER-COCC)
Ic eom bylged-breost, belced-sweora,
[E by led breost] heafod hæbbe ond heane steort,
eagan ond earan ond ænne foot,
hrycg ond heard-nebb, hneccan steapne
ond sidan twa, sagol on middum,
[eard ofer ældum.]
Aglac dreoge,
þær mec weged se þe wudu hrereð,
ond mec stondende streamas beatað,
hægl se hearda, ond hrim þeceð,
[forð siþes from, frean unforcuð,
[on þyrel-wombne, ond ic þæt þol[ian
[………………] mæ[g] won-sceaf mine.
Cf. EXE 1.8: wæl-cwealm wera, þonne ic wudu hrere
EXE 1.21 [EXE 1b.6]: streamas stæþu beatað, stundum weorþaþ
EXE 1.37–8a [EXE 1c.7–8a]: of þam aglace, ac ic eþel-stol / hæleþa hrere

[19] EXE 60 (BOR)
Ic eom heard ond scearp, hin-gonges strong,
forð-siþes from, frean unforcuð,
[wade under wambe ond me weg sylfa
ryhtne geryme.

10
He does not keep on dying, when he has to give his innards to that other, but again there comes a restoration in the breast, breath is brought back; he makes sons, and is the father himself.

[17] EXE 83 (‘bellows’)
I saw an amazing creature: she had a big belly, massively swollen. A servant stood behind, strong in might and sturdy of hand: he seemed big to me, a good and manly man; he suddenly grabbed [her and ... ] with heaven’s tooth there blew from an eye-hole. She stamped, shuddered pleasurably; but she wanted nonetheless the depths [...]

[18] EXE 77 (‘weather-cock’)
I am bulging-breasted and swollen-throated, have a head and tail held high, eyes and ears and a single foot, back and hard beak, steep neck, and two sides, a stick in the middle, a domain above men.

I put up with an awful assault stirs up the woods, when there touches me what stirs up the woods, and as I stand streams beat me, the hard hail and rime covers and frost freezes me and snow falls on the one with a pierced belly, and I can endure my misery [..............]

Cf. EXE 1.8: grave slaughter of men, when I stir up the woods
EXE 1.21 [EXE 1b.6]: streams beat cliffs, at times cast up
EXE 1.37–8a [EXE 1c.7–8a]: from that awful assault, but instead stir up / men’s homes

[19] EXE 60 (‘borer’)
I am hard and sharp, strong going hence, firm heading forth, unafraid of my lord, I plunge under the belly, the path itself guides me right.
Rinc bið on ofeste,
se mec on hyð æftan-weardne,
hælð mid hрагle; hwilum ut tyð
de of hole hatne, hwilum eft fered
on nearo nat-hwar; nydeþ swiþe
suþerne secg.

Saga hwæt ic hatte.

[20] EXE 85 (BLÆST-BELG)
[.................................]
[. . . . . .] se wiht, wombe hæfde
[.................................]
[. . . . . .] tne leþre wæs beg[. . . .
[.................................] on hindan.

grette wea[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .]
listum worhte,
hwilum eft [. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .]
jygan, him þoncade,
siþþan [. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .]
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .]
swæsendum swylce þrange.

[21] ALD 80 (CALIX VITREUS)
De rimis lapidum profluxi flumine lento,
dum frangant flammae saxorum viscera dura,
et laxis ardor fornacis regnat habenis;
nunc mihi forma capax glacieque similima lucet.

Nempe volunt plures collum constringere dextra,
et pulchre digitis lubricum comprendere corpus;
sed mentes muto, dum labris oscula trado,
dulcia compressis impendens basia buccis,
ataque pedum gressus titubantes sterno ruina.

[22] LOR 5 (COPA VINARIA)
Lucidus et laetus quinis considere ramis
saepe solent pariter splendentes, laeta iubentes
aedibus in mediis fieri non tristia corda.

Dumque simul ludunt ramisque tenentur apertis,
dulcia quin bibulis tradunt et bassia buccis;
mulcifer egreditur tantumque remainet adhaerens
lucidus in ramis, quibus antea sedit uterque.
The guy is urgent
who **shoves** me in from *behind*,
a man working *undercover, sometimes* he tugs me out
hot from the *hole*, *sometimes* he puts me back in,
into *some* narrow place, really pushes,
the chap from down south.

Say what I am called.

---

**[20] EXE 85 ('bellows')**

[.] the creature had a *belly*
[.] was leather [.]
[.] *behind* greeted [.] skilfully wrought ...
again *at times* [.] *press*, thanked him afterwards [.] for deliciousness at such a time.

---

**[21] ALD 80 ('glass cup')**

I seeped out in a slow stream from cracks in the rock,
when flames split the hard innards of the stones,
and, with all restraint removed, the heat of the furnace takes control;
now my flexible form *shines* most like ice.

In truth, many want to enclose my neck with their *right hand*,
and *press* my beautifully smooth form with their *fingers*;
but I change their minds by giving contact to their lips,
pushing *sweet kisses on pressed-together mouths*,
as I trip up with disaster their faltering steps.

---

**[22] LOR 5 ('wine-cup')**

A *bright* one and a *joyful* one, equally resplendent,
are often used to *reclining in five branches*, bidding hearts be *joyful* and not gloomy in the middle of the hall.

And while they play together and are held in open *branches*
they exchange *sweet kisses* with *mOUThS* that *drink* them in;
the soothing one goes forth, and only one remains behind,
*bright* still among the *branches*, where they both *reclined* before.
[23] **XMS X4 (COPA VINARIA)**

*Lucidus* et placidus *sedebant* in *quinque ramis: lucidus sedit*, placidus pertransiit.

[24] **EXE 61 (GLÆS-FÆT)**

Oft ic secga *select-*dreame sceal
fægre onþeon, þonne ic eom forð boren
*gled* mid golde, þær guman *drincað.

_Hwilum_ mec on cofan *cysséð muþe*

tillic esne, þær wit tu beoþ,
*feðome* on folme *fingrum hyð,
wyrcþ *his willa[n* ...]ð lu[. . .
. . . . . . .] fulre, þonne ic forð cyme
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . .]

5

Ne mæg ic þy miþan, [. . . . . . . . . . . . .]
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
swylyc eac bǐð sona [. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .]
to]rhte getacnad, hwæt me to sohte
10

re]celeas rinc, þa unc geryde wæs.

[25] **EXE 52 (CYRN)**

_Hyse_ cwom gangan, þær he hie wisse
stondan in wincle, stop feorran to,
hror hægsteald-mon, hof his agen
hrægl hondum up, hrand *under gyrdels*

5

hyre stondendre stiþes nat-hwæt,
*worhtes his willan;* wagedan buta.

*_Peþn_ onnette, wæs þragum nyt
tillic esne, teorode hwæþre
æt stunda gehwam *strong* ær þon hio,

10

wergi þæs weorces. Hyre weaxan ongon
*under gyrdelse* þæt oft gode men
ferðþum freogað ond mid feo bicgað.
[23] **XMS X4 (‘wine-cup’)**
A **light** one and quiet one used to sit **in five branches:**
*the light one sat*, the quiet one disappeared.

[24] **EXE 61 (‘glass cup’)**
Often among the hall-joy of men I must
flourish fairly, when I am brought forth
bright with gold, where men drink.

*Sometimes a splendid servant* in a closed room,
kisses me **on the mouth**, where we are two together,
with **bosom** cupped in **hand**, **strokes me with fingers**, **works his will** [. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
. . . . . . . ] full, when I come forth
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .]

I cannot conceal in this way [. . . .
. . . . . . . ] then in the **light**
[. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .] so too it is straightaway [. . . .
clearly indicated, what he wanted from me
the reckless man, when the way was cleared for us two.

[25] **EXE 52 (‘churn’)**
A **young man** came striding, to where he knew
she was standing in a corner, stepped up from afar,
the strapping lad, raised his own
clothing up in his hands, shoved something stiff
**under her girdle** as she was standing,
**worked his will**; they both shuddered.

The **servant** hurried, his splendid slave
was useful at times, but then grew tired
after a while, who had been **stronger** than her,
grew weary of that work. *Under her girdle*
there began to grow, what often good folk
love in their hearts and pay for with their purse.
APPENDIX:
The distribution of riddle-types at the end of the Exeter Book

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAST GROUP</th>
<th>FIRST GROUP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>59 CURTEL (‘shirt’, ‘garment’)</td>
<td>!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 BOR (‘borer’)</td>
<td>!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 GLÆS-ÆT (‘glass beaker’)</td>
<td>9 WIN-ÆT (‘cup of wine’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62 BRIM-HENGEST (‘ship’)</td>
<td>17, 30, 34 SNAC (‘war-ship’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63 CIPE (‘onion’)</td>
<td>23 CIPE (‘onion’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64 GESCEAFT (‘creation’)</td>
<td>38 GESCEAFT (‘creation’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66 IS (‘iceberg’)</td>
<td>31 IS (‘iceberg’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67 BELLE (‘bell’)</td>
<td>2 BELLE (‘bell’)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[‘lacuna’ in the manuscript]

| 68 BEACEN-TORR (‘lighthouse’) | |
| 69 SECG (‘sword’) | 18 SECG (‘sword’) | ↑↓!! |
| 70 OXA (‘ox’) | 10, 36 OXA (‘ox’) | ↑↓!! |
| 71 AESC (‘ash’) | ↓ |
| 72 AC (‘oak’) | ↑↔ |
| 73 AC (‘oak’) | ↑↔ |
| 74 OSTRE (‘oyster’) | ↓ |
| 75 CRABBA (‘crab’) | ↓ |
| 76 HORN (‘horn’) | 12 HORN (‘horn’) | ↓ |
| 77 WEDER-COC (‘weather-cock’) | ↓ |
| 78 CRABBA (‘crab’) | ↓ |
| 79 GOLD (‘gold’) | ↓ |
| 80 WÆTER (‘water’) | 39 WÆTER (‘water’) | ↓ |
| 81 FISC OND EA (‘fish and river’) | ↓ |
| 82 ‘OÆ unclear (‘one-eyed garlic-seller’) | ↓ |
| 83 BLÆST-BELG (‘bellows’) | 35 BLÆST-BELG (‘bellows’) | ↔↑↓!! |
| 84 BLÆC-HORN (‘ink-horn’) | ↔ |
| 85 BLÆST-BELG (‘bellows’) | 35 BLÆST-BELG (‘bellows’) | ↔↑↓!! |
| 86 AGNUS DEI (‘lamb of god’) | |
| 87 CAEG (‘key’) | 42 CAEG (‘key’) | |
| 88 BOC (‘beech’, ‘book’) | |
| 89 BLEC-HORN (‘ink-horn’) | |
| 90 GESCEAFT (‘creation’) | 38 GESCEAFT (‘creation’) | ↔↑↓ |
| 91 BOC (‘beech’, ‘book’) | |

!! a double entendre riddle
↔ a riddle with a parallel in the same major grouping
↓ a riddle with a parallel in the other major grouping
≈ a riddle with a close Latin source or analogue
↑↓ riddles with a specific link either to the one preceding or following
{} a feature found in the first major grouping [EXE 1–57]
<> a feature not found in the first major grouping [EXE 1–57]