

An Litir Bheag

le Ruairidh MacIlleathain

An Litir Bheag is a shortened and simplified version of Ruairidh's Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh (also available on the BBC website), designed for those who are at an earlier stage of learning Gaelic. The topic each week is the same as Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh so that, once the Litir Bheag is mastered, a student of the language might wish to try the full Litir. This is Litir Bheag 97 (which corresponds to Litir 401). Ruairidh can be contacted at roddy.maclean@bbc.co.uk.

Bha Fionn agus a laoch ann an Taigh a' Bhlàir Bhuidhe. Cha robh comas aca èirigh. Airson a bhith saor, bha iad feumach air fuil mic Rìgh Innis Tìle. Bha Oscar is Laoghaire a' feitheamh ris na mic. Bha iad a' feitheamh aig beul na h-abhainn aig dol fodha na grèine.

Thàinig sluagh mòr. Thug Oscar is Laoghaire ionnsaigh orra. Cha do dh'fhàg iad aon duine beò. Ach chan fhaca iad clann an Rìgh. Dh'iarr Fionn orra dhol air ais gu beul na h-abhainn air an oidhche sin. Ach roimhe sin, bha an t-acras air Fionn is a chompanaich. "Faigh biadh dhuinn an-dràsta," arsa Fionn.

Chaidh Oscar is Laoghaire don Taigh Mhòr. Chunnaic Oscar duine fuathasach mòr, agus ceithir làmhan air. Bha e a' togail feòil às a' choire. Rinn an iolaire air Oscar. Thog Oscar an coire. Thaom e air an eun e. Thug an iolaire sreuch aiste. Chaidh i tron bhalla. Chan fhacas a-rithist i. Dh'fhalbh Oscar is Laoghaire le biadh airson Fionn is a chompanaich.

Aig dol fodha na grèine bha Oscar is Laoghaire aig beul na h-abhainn. Chunnaic iad sluagh mòr a' tighinn. Thug Oscar is Laoghaire ionnsaigh orra. Cha do dh'fhàg iad aon duine beò. Thill iad gu Fionn. Dh'innis iad do Fhionn nach tàinig clann an Rìgh. Dh'iarr Fionn orra tilleadh gu beul na h-abhainn an ath oidhche. Ach roimhe sin, bha an t-acras air Fionn is a chompanaich. "Faigh biadh dhuinn," arsa Fionn.

Chaidh Oscar is Laoghaire don Taigh Mhòr. Chunnaic iad duine air an robh dà cheann agus ceithir làmhan. Bha e a' togail feòil às a' choire. Ach nuair a chaidh Oscar a-staigh, cha robh duine ann. Na àite bha Beithir Mhòr Sgiathach.

Tharraing Oscar sleagh. Chuir e an t-sleagh tron Bheithir. Nuair a tharraing e an t-sleagh a-mach, chaidh a' Bheithir à sealladh.

Chaidh Oscar is Laoghaire air ais gu Taigh a' Bhlàir Bhuidhe. Bha biadh aca do Fhionn is a dhaoine. Nuair a thàinig ciaradh an fheasgair, thuirt Fionn ri Oscar, "Bidh an fhuil agad a-nochd." Agus cluinnidh sibh deireadh na sgeulachd an ath-sheachdain.

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Faclan is abairtean: Bha Fionn agus a laoch ann an Taigh a' Bhlàir Bhuidhe: *Fionn and his heroes were in the House of Blàr-Buie (yellow field);* cha robh

comas aca èirigh: *they couldn't rise*; airson a bhith saor: *to be free*; bha iad feumach air fuil mic Rìgh Innis Tìle: *they needed the blood of the sons of the King of Iceland*; bha iad a' feitheamh aig beul na h-abhainn: *they were waiting at the mouth of the river*; dol fodha na grèine: *sunset*; sluagh mòr: *a great host*; thug X ionnsaigh orra: *X attacked them*; cha do dh'fhàg iad aon duine beò: *they didn't leave one man alive*; chan fhaca iad: *they didn't see*; roimhe sin, bha an t-acras air X: *before that, X was hungry*; faigh biadh dhuinn an-dràsta: *get us food just now*; duine fuathasach mòr, agus ceithir làmhan air: *a terribly large man with four hands*; iolaire: *eagle*; rinn an iolaire air Oscar: *the eagle made for Oscar*; thog Oscar an coire: *Oscar lifted the cauldron*; thaom e air an eun e: *he poured it on the bird*; thug an iolaire sgreuch aiste: *the eagle let out a screech*; chan fhacas a-rithist i: *it was never seen again*; thill iad gu Fionn: *they returned to Fionn*; dh'iarr Fionn orra tilleadh gu beul na h-abhainn an ath oidhche: *Fionn asked them to return to the river mouth on the next night*; Beithir Mhòr Sgiathach: *a large winged dragon*; tharraing Oscar sleagh: *Oscar drew a spear*; nuair a tharraing e an t-sleagh a-mach, chaidh a' Bheithir à sealladh: *when he pulled the spear out, the dragon disappeared*; ciaradh an fheasgair: *dusk*; bidh an fhuil agad a-nochd: *you'll get the blood tonight*; cluinnidh sibh deireadh na sgeulachd: *you can [will] hear the end of the story*.

ends