

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 111 (which corresponds to Litir 415). Ruairidh can be contacted at rodny.macleam@bbc.co.uk.

Tha mi a' dol a chur crìoch air an stòiridh "Diarmaid agus Gràinne". Mharbh Diarmaid an torc nimhe air Beinn Ghulbain ann an Gleann Sìdh. Ach bha fios aig Fionn gun robh aon laigse aig Diarmaid. Bha ball-dòbhrain aige air bonn a chois. Bha comas aig calg aig torc Diarmaid a mharbhadh – le bhith a' briseadh a' bhuill-dhòbhrain.

Dh'iarr Fionn air Diarmaid tilleadh gu closach an tuirc.

"A Dhiarmaid," thuir e, "tomhais an torc. Cia mheud troigh?"

Thomhais Diarmaid an torc le a chasan, agus iad rùisgte. Bha sin leis an fhionnadh. Tha sin a' ciallachadh *with the lie of the hair or bristles*. Leis an fhionnadh.

"Tha e sia troighean deug," thuir Diarmaid. Bha e gu math mòr!

"Tomhais an torc a-rithist," thuir Fionn. "An turas seo an aghaidh an fhionnadh." Tha sin a' ciallachadh *against the lie of the bristles*. An aghaidh an fhionnadh.

Rinn Diarmaid sin ach, an turas seo, bhris bior cuilg am ball-dòbhrain air bonn a chois. Thuit Diarmaid. Chaochail e.

Thill Fionn is a chompanaich don allt far an robh Diarmaid a' fuireach. Choisich iad suas ri taobh an uillt. Ràinig iad an taigh. Bha Gràinne ann. Chaidh na fir a-steach. Chunnaic iad gun robh dà leabaidh ann. Thuig iad gun robh leapannan air leth aig Diarmaid is Gràinne. Thuig iad gun robh Diarmaid neo-chiontach. Bha iad anabarrach duilich mu a bhàs.

Tha cuid ag ràdh gun do ghabh Gràinne làmh na beatha fhèin. Tha cuid eile ag ràdh gun robh Fionn is a chompanaich feargach le Gràinne. Thog iad teine agus chuir iad Gràinne ann.

Faisg air Beinn Ghulbain tha àite ann air a bheil *The Tomb*. A rèir beul-aithris, 's e seo làrach na h-uaghach aig Diarmaid. Chaidh ceithir tursachan a chur suas ann. Ma thèid thu gu ceann an ear nan tursachan, is ma choimheadas tu sìos an loidhne a tha iad a' dèanamh, tha iad a' comharrachadh an àite air Beinn Ghulbain far an do mharbh Diarmaid an torc nimhe.

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Faclan is abairtean: Tha mi a' dol a chur crìoch air an stòiridh: *I'm going to finish the story*; mharbh Diarmaid an torc nimhe air Beinn Ghulbain ann an Gleann Sidh: *Diarmaid killed the wild boar on Ben Gulabin in Glenshee*; aon laigse: *one weakness*; bha ball-dòbhrain aige air bonn a chois: *he had a mole on the sole of his foot*; bha comas aig calg aig torc Diarmaid a mharbhadh: *a boar's bristle had the ability to kill Diarmaid*; closach an tuirc: *the boar's carcass*; tomhais an torc: *measure the boar*; cia mheud troigh?: *how many feet?*; le a chasan, agus iad rùisgte: *with his feet, which were bare*; sia troighean deug: *sixteen feet*; bhris bior cuilg am ball-dòbhrain: *a bristle point broke the mole*; chaochail e: *he died*; don allt far an robh Diarmaid a' fuireach: *to the burn where Diarmaid [had been] living*; ri taobh an uillt: *beside the burn*; gun robh dà leabaidh ann: *that there were two beds there*; leapannan air leth: *separate beds*; thuig iad gun robh Diarmaid neo-chiontach: *they understood that Diarmaid was innocent*; bha iad anabarrach duilich mu a bhàs: *they were extremely sorry about his death*; gun do ghabh Gràinne làmh na beatha fhèin: *that Gràinne committed suicide*; feargach: *angry*; thog iad teine: *they built a fire*; aig bonn an tuim, air na mapaichean chun an latha an-diugh: *at the base of the hill, on the maps to this day*; làrach na h-uaghach: *the site of the grave*; chaidh ceithir tursachan a chur suas: *four standing stones were erected*; ma thèid thu gu ceann an ear: *if you go to the eastern end*; ma choimheadas tu sìos an loidhne: *if you look down [along] the line*; tha iad a' comharrachadh an àite far an do mharbh Diarmaid an torc: *they point to the place where Diarmaid killed the boar*.

ends