Mr. Valentine’s 10th Grade English – Unit III – Week 2 – French Arthuriana and Scandinavian / Germanic Epic

1. This week, we continue our examination of *The Lais of Marie de France* by reading, in full, the short story titled, “Bisclavret.” In this story, Bisclavret and Garwolf are both terms for which supernatural creature?

2. What happens to the knight protagonist of our story for three days of each week?

3. The knight’s condition shares a common trait with the Selkies of Irish folklore. What is that trait, and how does his wife use it against him?

4. What does the Bisclavret do when he sees his former wife and her lover? What do others make of this?

5. How does the Bisclavret become the knight once more?

6. What does King Siggier ask of King Volsung, great grandson of Odin? Does she want to?

7. What does Odin do with a tree that’s very reminiscent of Arthurian legends? Who pulls it out?

8. What does King Siggier do when Volsung and his family come to visit?

9. How do Sigmund and Signy outwit the werewolf?

10. Who was the werewolf?

11. Eventually, Odin turns against Sigmund, leading to his death at the hands of a rival king. This leaves his orphan son, Sigurd (aka Siegfried in Germanic versions of the tale) to be raised by whom?

12. Who / what does Regin send Sigurd to slay, and why?

13. What strategy does Regin recommend to Sigurd, and how does Odin intervene?

14. What does Fafnir foreshadow about Sigurd and the treasure?

15. What does eating Fafnir’s heart reveal to Sigurd

16. Who is Brynhild, and how did she come to be in her unique position?