

Le branle du roi Renaud

How the great of this world send their liegemen to their doom by evoking the shimmering mirage of glory and public acclamation.....damn them all !

page 2 & 3 :

A valiant Turkish escort with their falchions held high, a glorious destiny awaits.

The castle o'erbrims with joy, its guardians salute the chivalric procession.

page 4 :

Pagen the bower, passion entwines the young lovers. The old servant, a furtive witness, yearns for a fruitful outcome.

page 6 :

The festivities are over, the marital bed is abandoned. The hour has come to leave for the Crusade. Renaud, the putative father, departs to fulfil his duty to defeat the infidel.

page 7 :

Religious exhortation has triumphed. Banners streaming in the breeze, they ride forth like metal windmills with memories of great harvests of other heathens ground down to good. Will they return rich ? Will their descendants be spared bloodshed ?

page 8 :

The great snake of supply wagons stirs into life driven by the unimportant. It carries the soothers of earthly pains and the assurers of heavenly salvation.

page 12 :

Victory will be swift, their renown confirmed, the zenith of their glory attained.

The castle, a cocoon of certainty is left behind for the uncertainty which adventure brings.

page 14 :

Renaud, son of Renaud, is born. Halleluia ! Chidbirth is the concern of women. They devote themselves to ensuring that the child is spared all discomfort within their world of cushioned nurseries and culinary delights. Renaud is their eternity.

page 15 & 16 :

Terrible battles have led to seas of blood and vast carnage.

Defeated, only a few return, embittered but convinced that their descendants will avenge them.

page 17 :

The funeral : Orgaz, Renaud's warhorse is cloaked in funereal hues. His master is no more. A squire dressed completely in black and white accompanies him to the ceremony. Will they depart again ? For the moment, it is the time for mourning.

page 19 :

Would utopia shun wrongdoing ?

page 22 :

History repeats itself. Strengthened by a new army, the sons will once again leave for the war to end all wars.