

## PLAY THREE- THE CREATION OF ADAM AND EVE

## (The Cardmakers)

DEUS

In heaven and earth duly bedene  
Of five days' work, even unto end,  
I have complete by courses clean.  
Methink the space of them well spend.

(\*completely, immediately)

In heaven are angels fair and bright,  
Stars and planets their courses to go,  
The moon serves unto the night,  
The sun to light the day also.

In earth is trees, and grass to spring,  
Beasts and fowls, both great and small,  
Fishes in flood, all other thing  
Thrive and have my blessing all.

For perfect work nay were it none  
\*But ought were made that might it \*\*yem  
For love made I this world alone;  
Therefore my love shall in it \*seem.

To keep this world both more and less

A skilful beast then will I make  
After my shape and my likeness,  
The which shall worship to me take.

Of the simplest part of earth that is here  
I shall make man, and for this skill  
For to abate his haughty cheer,  
Both his great pride and other ill,

And also for to have in mind  
How simple he is at his making,  
For as feeble I shall him find  
When he is dead at his ending.

For this reason and skill alone,  
I shall make man like unto me.  
Rise up, thou earth in blood and bone,  
In shape of man, I command thee.

A female shall thou have to \*fere: (\*company, friendship)  
Her shall I make of thy left rib  
Alone so shall thou not be here  
Without faithful friend and sib(ling).

Take now here the \*gast of life (\*gasp, ghost, breath)  
And receive both your souls of me;  
The female take thou to thy wife,  
Adam and Eve your names shall be.

**ADAM** A, Lord, full \*mickle is thy might, (\*much, great)

And that is seen in \*ilke a side, (\*each, every)  
For now is here a joyful sight  
To see this world so long and wide.

Many diverse things now here is  
Of beasts and fowls, both wild and tame,  
Yet is none made to thy likeness  
But we alone. A, loved be thy name.

### EVE

To such a Lord in all \*degree (\*station, rightful place)  
Be evermore lasting loving  
That to us such a dignity  
Has given before all other thing.

And \*selcouth things may we see here (\*miraculous, spectacular)  
Of this \*ilke world so long and broad (\*very, specific)  
With beasts and fowls so many and \*sere. (\*diverse)  
Blessed be he that us made.

### ADAM

Ah, blessed Lord, now at thy will  
Since we are wrought, vouchsafe to tell,  
And also say us two \*until, (\*unto)  
What we shall do and where to dwell?

### DEUS

For this skill made I you this day,  
My name to worship \*ay where. (\*every)  
Love me \*forthi, and love me \*\*ay (\*therefore) (\*\*ever)

For my making, I ask no more.

Both wise and witty shall thou be,  
As man that I have made of nought.  
Lordship in earth then grant I thee,  
All thing to serve thee that I have wrought.

In paradise shall ye same \*wone, (\*dwell)  
Of earthly thing get ye no need;  
Ill and good both shall ye \*ken, (\*know)  
I shall you learn your live to lead.

### **ADAM**

Ah, Lord, since we shall do nothing  
But love thee for thy great goodness,  
We shall \*ay (o)bey to thy bidding (\*ever)  
And fulfill it, both more and less.

### **EVE**

His sign since he has on us set  
Before all other thing certain  
Him for to love we shall not let  
And worship him with might and main.

### **DEUS**

At heaven and earth first I began,  
And six days wrought ere I would rest:  
My work is ended now at man.  
All likes me well, but this is best.

My blessing have they ever and \*ay. (\*ever)  
The seventh day shall my resting be:  
Thus will I cease, \*soothly to say, (\*truthfully)  
Of my doing in this degree.

To bliss I shall you bring:  
Come forth, ye two, with me.  
Ye shall live in liking.  
My blessing with you be.  
Amen.