

## Sir Cheddar's Challenge

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## CANTO I

The noble Knight, Sir Cheddar hight  
 Foule gyant Gorgonzola slays  
 In service to his Lady Faire  
 Daughter of our virtuous Queen Gruyère

## I

It chanced on a starry night  
 When Luna, lesser Phoebus, lit the sky  
 A noble knight, Sir Cheddar hight  
 Bethought he heard his Lady cry.  
 Oh! Noble sir, my mother Queen Gruyère  
 In thraldom lies in yonder Roquefort Square  
 The victim of foule Gorgonzolas' spite,  
 Of surety an undeservéd plight.  
 That gyant you must slay this very night.

## II

Sir Cheddar, mindful of his knightly state  
 Sans fear, approachéd Roquefort grim.  
 There Gorgonzola gorgéd full with hate

Belching fire and stone of brim  
 Chargéd Sir Cheddar in courtyard dim  
 With one fell sweep unhorséd him  
 And raising mighty arm on high  
 Aiméd a blow with vigorous vim  
 Determinéd this foolhardy knight must die.

## III

Ere dastardly death dealing blow was felt  
 Sir Cheddar swung his Excalibur high  
 Which struck that foule gyant neath the belt.  
 The magic sword bit deep within his thigh  
 A fatal wound; the fearsome Gorgonzola fell  
 His foule blood gushed forth as from a well  
 His sin soakéd soul sent swimming to Hell.  
 Sir Cheddar now with courtly air  
 Leads forth to freedom his Lady's mother, Queen Gruyére.

These several "cheesy" stanzas now completed  
 With apologies to our poet may be deleted  
 Yet—do not this poor substitute indite  
 For trying to prove once more that Right is Might.