An Outlands Herald

Words by Rhonwen y Llysieuyddes m.k.a. Julia Howarth (West)

To the tune of "I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major General," from "The Pirates of Penzance," music by Arthur Sullivan

C

I am an Outlands Herald; we have duties multitudinous $\ensuremath{\mathsf{G7}}$

But handle them with style in a manner fortitudinous. \mathcal{C}

Announcements that we give are always clear, concise and audible.

We blazon all devices with facility that's laudable.

We've memorized the precedence for peerage and nobility;
Bb7 Eb

Processionals we run are noted for their punctuality. C^{7}

We read the various scrolls aloud with obvious sincerity— $\mbox{Ab7}$

And manage to pronounce the wildest names with great dexterity! ${\tt C}$

And so, good lords and ladies, see how one with my capacity $\mathsf{G7}$

Must study hard and practice long with zeal and tenacity. C \qquad G7

For heraldry or ceremony, tourney or processional C F C G7

The heralds of the Outlands have a style that's most professional.

C F C G7 C

Yet I can think of no job more maligned in the Society
Because of one small practice that has gained us notoriety—
We ease the pressure cause by our heraldic duties numerous
By telling brilliant puns which to our own ears sound quite humorous.
And though these puns provide release to make our lives more liveable
It seems that those around us find the practice unforgivable.
And so they do forget the heralds' qualities most sensible
And fasten their attention on those they find reprehensible.
But even though the populace our humor can't appreciate
They couldn't get along without a herald to officiate.
And so, at court or ceremony, tourney or processional
The Outlands heralds tell their puns with style most professional.

Words copyright (c) 1979 by Julia Howarth (West)