I, Margareta Drauttenweilerin from Würzburg, acknowledge and make known publicly with this document before one and all that I was held in the jail of the illustrious high-born prince and lord, Lord Casimir, Margrave of Brandenburg, etc., my gracious lord, in Kitzingen and spent several days there because of the dispute I had been having with Wolfgang Entenlor, my landlord, who had been unable to secure payment from me by legal means, etc. but when an amicable agreement was reached in this matter between the said Wolfgang Entenlor and me such that I shall give and pay him the eighteen Rhenish Guilder, that he had lawfully paid off for me before, by the following due dates: presently eight guilder on today’s date, thus immediately, further on next Christmas two and a half guilder, after that two and a half guilder on St Kilian’s in the twenty-seventh year, again on Christmas of the twenty-eighth year another two and a half guilder and the remaining two and a half guilder after that on St Kilian’s of the same year. On each and every due date the payment shall be made in coin directly and personally to Wolfgang Entenlor without charges or costs to him. With this amicable agreement each of us for our part, together with our families, is fully reconciled, settled, and content, and any disagreement between us set aside, such that each of us for our part may carry out our trade and visit the markets in towns and villages unencumbered by the other, which amicable
agreement, described above, I have thus freely accepted
and, along with upholding my following promise not to seek vengeance,
have faithfully vowed and sworn to. Therefore with
good will I vow, pledge, and promise for myself
and all my heirs and beneficiaries herewith

(P 2) by power of this document to refrain4 from retaliating, contesting,
or seeking vengeance for my above-mentioned confinement and the proceedings
and whatever happened to me there against my above-named gracious lord, the Margrave,
his princely grace’s lands and peoples, subjects
and relatives and those who owe allegiance to
his grace, clerical or secular, whatever rank,
eminence or status they may be and in particular against
his princely grace’s current and future officials,
the Mayor and the Council in Kitzingen,
all residents, burghers, and the community
itself and all others who had a hand or took part in my
confinement and what happened to me there, providing
aid, support, supplies or services, privately or
publicly, knowingly or unknowingly,
including those who were or might have been related to
or involved with it, from now on and forever, whether within
or outside the law
with words or deeds, thoughts or actions
or in no other way or means, nor
from making or causing anything to happen neither
by myself nor anyone else, as one
could or might conceive or plan,
rather5 I shall and will seek for any one of his princely
graces’ subjects and relatives an orderly,

friendly resolution of any matter and not to try them or contest
or proceed with matters elsewhere
in any way and by any means, on my honor.6
To provide greater assurance of things described above
And especially of the fulfillment of the above-mentioned agreement,

I, the named Margareta Drauttenweilerin,
herewith by power of this document have thus selected
as a lawful, credible guarantor, my dear brother-in-law,
(P 3) by name, the honorable Hans Bauer7 from Bergtheim,8 such that
if I broke my word and did not uphold one or more parts here
in the fulfillment of the agreement or the promise not to seek
vengeance, as contained and shown in this document,
something that shall not occur, so then shall
my named guarantor, as soon as he is reminded
and notified of this, faithfully pursue and search
for me, bring me back to this jail,
or to present himself in my place
and on my account make payment, amends, and
restitution. And I, the previous-mentioned Margareta Drautenweilerin,
pledge and promise with my sworn
oath for myself and all my heirs and
beneficiaries herewith by power of this document to uphold
everything written about me therein in good faith and
in true, firm, steadfast, and unwavering fashion and
to excuse my guarantor named therein and hold him fully
harmless, as such therefore I, the previously named guarantor,
Hans Bauer, acknowledge my service as guarantor. I
also pledge and promise by the obligations in my following
oath and in truth to faithfully fulfill, uphold, and perform
my service as guarantor,
as described above, as expected of a faithful guarantor,
in each and every point without dispute and argument, exception
and excuse, as then I, the often mentioned
Margareta Drauttenweilerin, and I, the guarantor,
just named, have vowed to faithfully uphold
each and every point, as described above, and have
raised our fingers and sworn an oath to God and on Holy
Scripture and to certify all this have made a
fervent request of the honorable Thoma Hueble and
Hieronymus Kumpf, both from Kitzingen, such that they
affixed their own seals to the end of this document,
which action, we, the two notaries,
just named, attest to have performed upon request
(P 4) without harm coming to us or our heirs. Given
on the Tuesday after Exaudi Sunday, in the fifteen hundred
and twenty-sixth year after the birth of Christ,
our dear lord. 9 (seal + mark where a seal would have been)
“hauswirt” can refer to a husband or a landlord. Here, it appears that Wolfgang Entenlor is Margareta’s landlord. A husband would have control over and access to his wife’s resources. In addition, Margareta and Wolfgang appear to be pursuing separate trades, unlikely if they were married. Her guarantor is her brother-in-law Hans Bauer, most likely the husband of a sister. In other documents, “hausfrau” is preceded by “ehelichen” which in those instances clarifies the meaning of the relationship as a marital one. Also in MS 1261 Hans Gochsheim’s wife is identified as Margareta Gochsheim, having taken the husband’s last name.


The Feast of St Kilian is July 8.

These verbs don’t appear until ll. 52-53 in the original.

Compared with other manuscripts a section seems missing here, was perhaps not copied, that deals with any future grievance one might have with any of these individuals or towns. See, however, this formulation in MS 1263—perhaps copied from there.

Literally, “without malice.”

The adjective honorable would indicate than Bauer was a citizen of Bergtheim.


Exaudi Sunday is the 6th Sunday after Easter, the Sunday before Pentecost. In 1526 this fell on May 13; thus the following Tuesday was May 15, 1526.