

= Sumarr and Vetr =

In Norse mythology , Sumarr (Old Norse " Summer ") and Vetr (Old Norse " Winter ") are personified seasons . Sumarr and Vetr , personified , are attested in the Poetic Edda , compiled in the 13th century from earlier traditional sources , and the Prose Edda , written in the 13th century by Snorri Sturluson . In both , the two are given genealogies , while in the Prose Edda the two figure into a number of kennings used by various skalds .

= = Attestations = =

= = = Poetic Edda = = =

In the stanza 26 of the Poetic Edda poem Vafþrúðnismál , the god Odin (disguised as " Gagnráðr ") asks the jötunn Vafþrúðnir from where warm Sumarr and Vetr come from , stating that they arrived " first among the Wise powers " . In stanza 27 , Vafþrúðnir responds :

Wind @-@ cool [Vindsvalr] he is called , Winter 's [Vetr 's] father ,
and Mild @-@ One [Svásuðr] , the father of Summer [Sumarr] .

The second half of this stanza is missing from early manuscripts , but some later manuscripts feature the addition of :

And both of these shall ever be
Till the gods to destruction go .

= = = Prose Edda = = =

In chapter 19 of the Prose Edda book Gylfaginning , Gangleri (king Gylfi in disguise) asks why there 's an evident difference between summer and winter . The enthroned figure of High responds , and (after scolding him for asking a question everyone knows the answer to) states that the father of Sumarr is Svásuðr , who is quite pleasant , while the father of Vetr is referred to as Vindsvalr or , alternately , Vindljóni , and that Vetr derives his countenance from his ancestors , as they are " cruel and cold @-@ hearted kinsmen " .

Sumarr and Vetr are additionally personified in the Prose Edda book Skáldskaparmál , where they are referred to in kennings . Kennings for Sumarr are given in chapter 30 , including " son of Svásuðr " , " comfort of the snakes " , " growth of men " , exemplified in an excerpt given from a work by the skald Egill Skallagrímsson where " Valley @-@ fish 's mercy " points to " Snake 's mercy " , which signifies " Summer " . Kennings are given for Vetr in chapter 26 ; " Son of Vindsvalr " , " snake 's death " , and " storm season " . Excerpts of works by the skalds Ormr Steinþórsson (who uses the kenning " Vindsvalr 's son ") and Ásgrímr (who employs the kenning " snake woe ") are then given as examples . Both Sumarr and Vetr are given as terms for " times " in chapter 63 .