

The NORTHERN EPICS  
and other Old Germanic alliterative poetry  
*edited and translated by*  
KONRAD O.L. ROSENBERG

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*V*el keypts blutar • hef'k *v*el notit;  
fás es fróðum vant;  
því-at Óð-rörir • es nú *u*pp kominn  
á alda vés *j*aðar.  
(Háva mǫl 106)

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## **Abbreviations**

### **Languages**

- Eng. = Modern English
- Ger. = Modern German
- Got. = Gotnish (or Gothic)
- Lomb. = Lombardic
- MHG = Middle High German
- OE = Old English
- OF = Old Frisian
- OHG = Old High German
- ON = Old Norse
- OS = Old Saxon
- OSwe. = Old Swedish
- PGmc. = Proto-Germanic
- PN = Proto-Norse
- PNWGmc. = Proto-North-West Germanic

### **Grammar**

- 1st = first-person
- 2nd = second-person
- 3rd = third-person
- acc. = accusative case
- cpd = compound
- dat. = dative case
- gen. = genitive case
- imper. = imperative mood
- ind. = indicative mood
- instr. = instrumental case
- nom. = nominative case

- pl. = plural number
- sg. = singular number
- subj. = subjunctive mood

### Other abbreviations

- cert. = certainly
- c. = circa
- cf. = *confere*; compare
- corr. = corrected in the ms.
- e. = excerpt (not the whole stanza)
- ed. = edition, edited (by)
- e.g. = *exemplio gratia*; for instance
- emend. = emendation, emended (by)
- fol., foll. = folio, folios
- i.e. = *id est*; that is
- l., ll. = line, lines
- lit. = literally
- metr. emend. = emended based on (secure) metrical criteria
- ms., mss. = manuscript, manuscripts
- norm. = normalised from the ms. spelling
- om. = omitted by
- p., pp. = page, pages
- tr. = translation, translated (by)
- sens. emend. = emended based on sense
- st., sts. = stanza, stanzas
- viz. = *videlicet*; namely, to wit
- wo. = without
- wrt. = with regard to

## Manuscripts

- **A** = AM 748 I a 4° (<https://handrit.is/manuscript/view/da/AM04-0748-I-a>)
- **A<sub>b</sub>** = AM 748 I b 4° (<https://handrit.is/manuscript/view/is/AM04-0748-Ib>)
- **B** = AM 757 a 4° (<https://handrit.is/manuscript/view/is/AM04-0757a>)
- **F** = Flatseyjarbók, GKS 1005 fol. (<https://handrit.is/manuscript/view/is/GKS02-1005>)
- **G** = all manuscripts of *Yilv*; equivalent to **STUW**
- **H** = Hauksbók, AM 544 4° (<https://handrit.is/manuscript/view/en/AM04-0544>)
- **N** = NKS 1824 b 4° (<https://onp.ku.dk/onp/onp.php?m9641>)
- **R** = Codex Regius of the Poetic Edda, GKS 2365 4° (<https://eae.ku.dk/q.php?p=cr/poems>)
- **S** = Codex Regius of the Prose Edda, GKS 2367 4° (<https://handrit.is/manuscript/view/is/GKS04-2367>)
- **T** = Codex Trajectinus, Traj 1374\*
- **U** = Codex Upsaliensis, DG 11
- **W** = Codex Wormianus, AM 242 fol. (<https://clarino.uib.no/menota/text/menota/AM-242-fol>)



# Introduction (incomplete!)

The introduction is currently very incomplete. It only represents a sketch.

## The Old Germanic world

### Lifestyle and economy

Cattle-based; small farmsteads.

### Morals and Virtues

Honour, personal integrity Notes on the terms *argr* and *ergi*

### Religion

Keeping the Powers happy Cosmic cycles Reincarnation Analogies with other Indo-European traditions

## Germanic alliterative poetry

### Historical significance

The historical-literary significance of the Old Germanic poetry is twofold. On the one hand it forms the oldest extensive monuments in its respective languages, and indeed the earliest indigenous Germanic literature (the Gothic being wholly derivative and translational). It lays the ground for the *Nibelungenlied* and Chaucer, who in turn precede such famous writers as Shakespeare and Wagner. It forms the first and most important source of our knowledge about the ancient folk-life of Northern Europe.

On the other hand it is by no means an innovative or newly created genre. Already, and perhaps especially, in our oldest sources the language is rich with expressions and images, many of great antiquity: "sea-stallions" sail across the ocean; the sun is drawn across Heaven in her chariot; feasts are held in great chiefly halls. These motifs are mirrored by Homer and the Rigveda, and must go back as far as the Bronze Age.

The language likewise overflows with archaic poetic synonyms. Indo-European words otherwise extinct in all Germanic languages find their last refuge in the alliterative poetry. Such are the Old English *eoh*, Old Norse *jór*, corresponding to the Sanskrit *áśva*, Latin

*equus*, all meaning ‘god’; Old Norse *týr* ‘god’, corresponding to Sanskrit *dēvá*, Latin *deus*, all meaning ‘god’; Old English and Old Norse *fold* ‘earth, land’, corresponding to Sanskrit *prthivī* ‘id.’ The fact that many of these relate to the cult shows that the Germanic religion was not as innovative as is commonly supposed.

The organizing poetic principle of alliteration must also have been in effect for some time. Even the earliest *scalds* and *scops* have dozens of synonyms for words like man, sword, horse, and hall. Needless to say, many of them—like *jór* above—are very old, and only found in poetry.

### Meter(s)

All of the oldest Germanic poetry has as its primary structural elements *stress* and *alliteration*. The count of syllables is less important, and end-rhyme is only used as a sporadic flourish. The following outline is not meant to be exhaustive.

### Stress

When scanning alliterative meter each syllable is generally classed as having either primary stress (p), secondary stress (s), or no stress (x). Primary stress is reserved for the root syllable in a word, which is not always the same as the first syllable. Compare the English word *beginning*, where the stress pattern is xPx; the primary stress falls on the syllable *ginn-*. Secondary stress falls on the second element in a compound word.

Not all words have the same stress; the general rule is that nouns and adjectives have stronger stress than verbs, which in turn have stronger stress than prepositions and pronouns. Where exceptions occur this coincides with semantic stress, e.g. in a statement like “It was *you*!”

### Alliteration

Alliteration is the resonance between two stressed syllables beginning with the same sound, e.g. *sand* with *receive*, or *great* with *begin*. The following additional rules apply for all Germanic alliterative poetry:

1. Any vowel or diphthong can alliterate with any other vowel or diphthong;
2. *s* and the clusters *sk*, *sp* and *st* are counted as four distinct sounds.

Further, in West Germanic poetry,

- 3 *g* and *j* are treated as the same sound

In the present edition alliterating sounds are marked with red font.

## Lines

Most alliterative poetry is written in the same common meter, which in Old Icelandic poetics gets the name *fornyrðislag* ‘measure of ancient words’. The smallest metrical division is the *position*, a concept related but not identical to the syllable. For instance, two short syllables (that is, one where a short vowel is followed by a single consonant) can *resolve* into a single position.

Four positions—two stressed, two unstressed—make up the normal *half-line* or *verse*. Two half-lines separated by a short break or *cæsura* (here represented by the interpunct “.”) form a couplet or *long-line*. The first half-line (or *a-verse*) may have either one or two alliterations on the stressed positions, with preference for the first position over the second. The second half-line (or *b-verse*) must always have an alliteration on its first stressed position; never on its second.

In the present edition each long-line is printed on a new line. This is already standard for the publication of West Germanic poetry, whereas many editions of Scandinavian poetry print each half-line.

## Fits and stanzas

Bigger structures are *fits* and *stanzas*. The former are found in the Old Saxon and English traditions, the latter only in the Scandinavian.

A *fit* is a section or canto in a longer epic poem. It does not have a fixed length, but is generally around 70–85 lines long. Thus the 3182-line *Beow* is divided into 44 fits (for an average of 72 lines per fit); the surviving 5983 lines of *Healend* are divided into 71 (for an average of 84 lines per fit). It is probably not a coincidence that the length of the fit is similar to the length of shorter legendary poems like *Guth I* or *Hild*. In *Healend* a new fit can begin in the *cæsura*; this does not happen in *Beow*.

In Scandinavian poetry a *stanza* is a group of long-lines, typically (but far from always) four. The regularity of stanza-length varies from poem to poem.

## The age of the Eddic poems

Linguistic criteria Archeological evidence Comparison with known Christian texts (Sólarljóð, Hugsvinnsímál) Snorri thought they were old Saxo had access to them Many of them clearly describe non-Icelandic surroundings Especially Hávamál is clearly Norwegian

## The present corpus

The scope of the present corpus is large; when complete it will contain most alliterative poetry extant in Old Germanic languages. The poetry is grouped into the following categories:

1. **Norse Mythic poetry**, i.e., that which directly treats the Germanic mythology. This category is exclusively Norse for the simple reason that no West Germanic or Gothic mythic narrative poetry survive.

2. **Heroic poetry of the Codex Reginus.** Since the heroic portion of the Codex Reginus forms a coherent text, it is edited in full.
3. **Other Norse Heroic poetry** from sources other than the Codex Reginus.
4. **West Germanic Heroic Poetry** in Old English and Old High German.
5. **Galders**, i.e., alliterative spells and charms, both from runic inscriptions and latinate manuscripts.
6. **Poetry on Christian subjects.** This category includes explicitly Christian poems where the new religion or its stories are at the core of the work (Christian heroic poems depicting native legends, like *Beow* and *Hild*, are not included here).
7. **Runic poetry**, apart from that already edited under Galders above.

### Exclusions

The (non-mythological) Norse alliterative poetry found in the saws of Icelanders and of ancient ages (*forð-aldar-sögur*) is excluded. It has already been admirably rendered in the **SkP** series. It would also require a somewhat different structure in terms of how it is rendered; the underlying poetry is often impossible to take out of its prose context, and in some cases it is questionable whether it ever existed on its own, or whether it was simply composed on by the prose author. I think it would be more conscientious to edit the whole saws as *prosimetra*; this falls outside of the scope of the present edition, but I am not adverse to such an undertaking in the future.

### Manuscripts

#### Norse Eddic poetry

The by far most important manuscript is GKS 2365 4to, here **R**. It dates to the 1270s and has 45 surviving foll., containing TODO poems. The poems can be split into two groups; the first (on foll. 1–20) dealing mostly with mythology, the second (on foll. 20–45) with heroic legend. Scribal characteristics show that these two parts have been copied from separate source manuscripts.

**R** is not a mere anthology of poems, but shows substantial editorial input as well. Short prose sections tie a group of the mythological poems together into a loose narrative, though it is clear from their style and language that they have originally been separate works. When it comes to the heroic poems long prose segments occur both within and between them, creating a saw-like prosimetrical form where the prose sometimes comes to dominate the poetry. A manuscript closely related to the heroic half of **R** has clearly served as the main source for large swathes of the younger *WalsS*.

A large gap famously occurs in the heroic half; between foll. 32 and 33 one quire has gone missing. Its contents are mostly unknown, but it would have included the end of *Syed* and the beginning of the Fragmentary Lay of Siward (TODO). Some of the stanzas probably contained in it may be restored from the *WalsS*, and these are edited in *Fragments from the Saw of the Walsings* below. For further literature on **R** see TODO.



Second in importance stands is AM 748 I a 4to, here **A**. It dates to the C14th and is but a fragment, consisting of just 6 foll. It contains only poems found in the mythological part of **R**, but in a different order from that ms., nor is there any trace of a frame narrative. **R** and **A** do share a fair bit of prose, a fact which suggests that both stem from a common manuscript archetype, rather than being independent witnesses of oral tradition.

On the first two foll. are contained the final stanzas of *Hbl* (1r–v), the complete *Bldr* (1v–2r), and the first stanzas of *Shir* (2r–v). After this there is a gap; the next four foll. contain the second half of *Weibth* (3r–v), the complete *Grim* (3v–5v) and *Hyme* (5v–6v), and the beginning of the prose introduction to *Wayl* (6v). **A** is the only medieval attestation of *Bldr*, and the poems shared with **R** are clearly not directly copied thence. This makes it very valuable for textual criticism. For further literature on **A** see TODO.

We find quotations from several Eddic poems in *Yilv* and *Scold*, the first two sections of Snorre's Edda. Snorre reproduces stanzas from (TODO) *Wsp*, *Weibth*, and *Grim* in *Yilv*; *Grot* is attested in full in *Scold*. Apart from these, Snorre also reproduces a few otherwise unknown stanzas in Eddic meters, which are edited below under *Eddic fragments from Snorre's Edda*. The four main mss. for the Prose Edda are:

1. Codex Regius of the Prose Edda **S** (GKS 2367 4to; 1300–1350)
2. Codex Trajectinus **T** (Traj 1374; a c. 1595 paper copy of a ms. closely related to **S**.)
3. Codex Wormianus **W** (AM 242 fol.; 1340–70)
4. Codex Upsaliensis **U** (DG 11; 1300–25)

When all four mss. agree on a reading the abbreviation **G** is used synonymously with **STWU**. For discussion on their internal stemmatics and origins I refer to Haukur Þorgeirsson (2017).

A few other Eddic-style poems from various sources are also included in the present edition. The fragmentary *Righ* is found at the end of **W**. TODO (*Svipdagsmál* and *Growe*) are found only in post-reformation Icelandic paper mss., namely TODO. While I have not consulted such paper mss. for poems attested in medieval mss., I have had to rely on them for these poems. About these poems it must be said that their late *attestation* does not necessarily prove them to be late *compositions*. A good proof of this is *Bldr*, which is first attested in the fragmentary **A**, and then (with some interpolated stanzas) in much later paper mss. We cannot exclude that some of these poems would have existed in other lost medieval mss., perhaps even on the now-lost pages of **R** or **A**.

### Old English poetry

The edited Old English poetry primarily derives from a few manuscripts. Particularly important are the Exeter Book and *Lacning*.

### Old Saxon and High German poetry

There are no collections of alliterative poetry in these languages; instead the manuscript situation will be discussed in the Introduction to each individual text.

## The present edition

The present edition is divided into two equally large parts, presented side by side. Each stanza or group of verse lines is presented first in the original Old Germanic language, and then in English translation.

## The Old Germanic text

In the present edition are found texts in four Old Germanic languages: Old Norse, Old English, Old Saxon, and Old High German. All texts have been normalized according to my own standardised orthography for the respective languages. The orthographies are all designed to follow three core principles:

1. A faithfulness to the spoken language at the time when the texts were written, and the distinctions demonstrably found therein.
2. A respect for the etymological origin of words, and their distinctions.
3. A striving for a uniform orthography across the various languages, so that the same etymological sound should be written with the same character.

These choices often stand in conflict with the orthography of the original manuscripts and with most earlier philological tradition, whence there is some reason to justify them. My goal is to render the texts themselves in a manner that gives as much philological information to the reader as possible—not to present a facsimile edition for students of paleography. This follows the philological methods used for printing e.g. the *RV*, which is generally printed in an entirely scholarly latinized orthography, not the original *devanagari*. Regardless, such important traits of the original manuscript tradition as the long *ſ*, arbitrary punctuation, arbitrary spelling, and lack of line breaks, are seldom reproduced in modern editions of Old Germanic poetry.

## General orthographic conventions

The following orthographic conventions are followed for all Old Germanic languages:

1. The voiceless dental fricative is always written with the letter *þ*, never *th*.
2. Long vowels are marked with the acute accent, never the macron or circumflex, excepting
3. those which have their origin in earlier diphthongs, which are written with the circumflex.
4. In compounds where the first element has primary stress the elements are separated with a dash,
5. but where the first element is a preposition they are separated with an interpunct.

Below follow specifications for each specific language.

### Normalization of Old Norse

My Old Norse orthography is inspired by Finnur Jónsson (1932) in that it strives for a more archaic form than that of the surviving mss.; a form that instead represents the poetry as it may (in many cases, must) originally have looked. For this reason, it often has more in common with the proposed orthography of the First Grammatical Treatise than with the standard Old Icelandic orthography seen in most editions. The following list describes the differences from the standard Old Icelandic orthography:

1. I distinguish short *e* (from etymological short *e*) and short *ɛ* (from etymological short *a* + *i*-umlaut).
2. I distinguish long *á* and *ǫ*, as done by the First Grammatical Treatise.
3. I use *ó* and *é* rather than the traditional *œ* and *æ*, to represent the vowels descended from Proto-Norse *ō* and *ā* after *i*-umlaut (cf. the short *ø*, *ɛ* < *o*, *a* + *i*-umlaut).
4. I distinguish long nasal vowels *ā*, *ē*, *ī*, *ō*, *ū* from long oral *á*, *é*, *í*, *ó*, *ú*, as done in the First Grammatical Treatise.
5. I restore the old *s*—which in modern Scandinavian and even in most Old Norse manuscripts has become *r*, but which is found consistently in old manuscripts such as AM 237 a fol (c. 1150), and fossilized in forms like *þaz* (i.e. *þat's*) in **R**—in the words *es* ‘which, that, where, when’, and in inflections of *vesa* (later *vera*) such as *es* ‘is’ (3rd sg. pres. ind.) and *vas* (3rd sg. pret. ind.). The following forms retain the *r*, as it is there the result of Verner’s law, and not of this (much younger) sound change: the pl. pres. ind. (*erum* etc.), the pl. pret. ind. (*vorum* etc.), and the pl. pret. subj. (*vërim* etc.)
6. When metrically benefactory, I contract *ek* ‘I’, *eru* ‘are’, and *es* ‘which; is’ to *’k*, *’ru* and *’s*, respectively.
7. I use Finnur Jónsson (1932)’s way of distinguishing between the relative particle *es* and the verb *es*: the first is appended to the previous word with only an apostrophe (e.g. *hann’s* ‘he who’), while the second is separated by a space (e.g. *hann s* ‘he is’).

### Normalization of Old Swedish and Danish

I employ the same conventions as those described for Old Norse above, including the marking of *u*-mutated *a* > *ø* (that this was indeed found in the Eastern Nordic dialects is most clearly seen by the third-person personal pronoun, which shows *u*-mutation in such forms as Swedish *bonom* ‘him’ < *bōnum*, *bon* ‘she’ < *bōn*).

According to rule 3 in the general orthographic conventions above, I distinguish between *ø* (< *ō*) and *ô* (< *au*, *ey*); *é* (< *ē*) and *ê* (< *ei*).

Where unstressed vowels have been reduced into an schwa-like sound spelled *e*, this is written with *ɛ*.

### Normalization of Old English

I spell fronted or brightened etymological *a* and *á* with *æ* and *é*, for instance in *dæg* ‘day’ (< \**dagar*) and *réd* ‘advice, counsel’ (< *ráðar*). These are contrasted with *ē* and *ǣ*, which represent *i*-mutated *a* and *á*, for instance in *ellen* ‘zeal, courage’ (< \**aljanā*).

An assimilated *n* is marked with an overpoint, like in rule 3 of Old Norse above.

### Normalization of Old Saxon

### Normalization of Old High German

### The English translation

There is now a very large number of translations of the most popular alliterative poetic texts, namely *Beow* and the *Poetic Edda*. These generally fall into two camps:

1. *poetic* translations, which distort the precise meaning of the text for the sake of meter, often quite radically; and
2. *prose* translations, which nowise preserve the style or feeling of the original.

Almost all translations, of both types, also tend toward the following inadequacies: obscuring or glossing over difficult technical and cultural terminology; rendering identically repeated phrases and words (formulae) differently at various places; and simplifying or rewriting kennings and other poetic expressions. Even worse this is often done with little in the way of notes or commentary, to a point where the reader is sometimes left entirely oblivious to the sense of the original text.

What sets my translation apart from previous English translations is that it aims to follow the style and register of the original text, without sacrificing the literal sense of the words. This unfortunately means that literality and consistency at times must sometimes come at the cost of fluid idiomatic English, but it has the advantage of giving the reader an image of not just *what* the original text actually says, but *how* it says it. The reader should keep in mind that he is in a very foreign land, that he is reading words ancient and long forgotten—not the *New York Times*.

Maybe this is a pointless effort? One could argue that a translation always is a betrayal, and that those truly interested in the exact meaning of every word in the original text should study just the original (in the original language). While I do agree that the sufficiently interested reader should study the original texts in the languages in which they were written (something made much easier by the present edition with its notes and parallel edition), it is still a “hard ask” for those readers who are not philologically inclined, but instead students and scholars of history, comparative mythology and religion, anthropology, or literature; those who, for whatever reason, are interested in exploring the oldest poetic heritage of the Germanic peoples of northern Europe.

### English proper nouns

Perhaps the single most idiosyncratic part of the present translation will be its handling of proper nouns. I have opted to render all cultural and religious terms, names of places,

heroes, gods, and other entities by their English cognates (thus *Thunder* for Old Norse *Þórr*) and where such do not exist, their philologically expected English (*Anglish*) forms (e.g. *wallow* for Old Norse *vǫlva*).

There are two reasons for this. The first is ideological. I believe that the Old Germanic myths and poems, their gods and heroes, are a shared heritage of Northern Europe. When you translate texts from across Germany, England and Scandinavia you quickly come to notice how similar the diction is, how many names reappear. The Scandinavian *Vǫlundr* is the same character as the English *Wēlund*; likewise Norse *Óðinn* is the same as English *Wóden*. These are ultimately mere distinctions in pronunciation.

The second is aesthetic. Commonly accepted forms like *Odin* and *Thor* are debased. They do not even represent the Old Norse pronunciation as accurately as possible within the constraints of English orthography (for instance, *Odin* would be better anglicized as *Othin*). Many are also difficult for English speakers to pronounce, or lead to absurd confusions. I shudder at hearing the word *ǫsir* pronounced /aɪ'sɪːr/; even worse is when *ǫs-garðr* becomes “ass-guard”.



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## Heathen Mythic Poetry



# The Spae of the Wallow

## (*Vǫluspó*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.865)–early C11th (0.121)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

The **Spae of the Wallow** is the most comprehensive mythological text surviving from Heathen times.

The poem is attested in full in two independent recensions. The first is **R**, where it is the first poem, found on folios 1r–3r. The second is **H**, where it is found at 20r–21r in the middle of a large collection of saws and Catholics works. Many verses are also cited in *Ylvi*, large parts of which are directly based on the poem. Other verses are not attested directly, but are instead paraphrased. The paraphrases may still have critical value (so e.g. st. 19, where *sal* in the paraphrase corroborates **H**). For its constituent manuscripts see the General Introduction.

As seen from the title, the poem is a spae (*spá* ‘prophecy’) in the form of a monologue spoken by a **wallow** (*vǫlva* ‘seeress, sibyl, prophetess’), summoned by Woden in order to relate mythological knowledge. The motif of Woden journeying to ask beings (whether ettins or wallows) is also seen in other sources. Closest is *Bldr*, wherein Woden summons a wallow out of her grave in **Hell** in order to understand why the god **Balder** is having ominous nightmares. There is also *Webth*, wherein Woden challenges the wise ettin **Webthriðner** to a wisdom contest and defeats him. These journeys are also alluded to in *Hbl* 43–46.

In its being a mythic catalogue it also resembles the latter part of *Highb*, *Grim*, *Syed* and *Allw*, though it differs from them in a key way: it gives a (mostly?) complete chronological overview of the whole mythic timeline, from the creation to the end and rebirth of the world. That is not to say that the events are clearly described; they are related in a highly allusive fashion—certainly presupposing that the audience already be familiar with them. There may also be gaps and later inserts that make the poem more difficult.

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The poem begins with a bid for silence (1), and the wallow recalling her earliest memories (2). She then recounts the ordering of the world by the gods (3–6) and the golden age of peace and plenty (7–8), which is, however, interrupted by the intrusion of three unidentified ettin-maidens (8, and see note there). After this follow two verses

about the shaping of the dwarfs (9–10), and then several originally separate *dwarf-tallies* (11–15), which are without doubt later inserts. Returning to the main narrative thread is described the creation and endowment of the first man and woman (16–17), Ugdrassle’s Ash (18), and the three norns living under it (19).

This is where the two full recensions of the poem diverge. Because of its older age and larger count of verses I have here followed the order of **R**: the wallow recalls how a woman named Goldwey was sacrificed and reborn three times (20), and how she, under the name Heath, practiced sorcery and witchcraft (21). She then recalls the first war in the world, between the Eese and Wanes (22–23), and alludes to the slaying of the smith, who according to *Yilv* 42 was promised **Frow** and the sun and moon in exchange for building the wall of Osyard (24–25). This is followed by a cryptic verse describing Homedal’s hidden silence or hearing (26).

In **H** the structure is quite different. After the description of the norns (19), the Eese go to decide what action to take regarding the promising of Frow to the ettin (my 24–25), and Homedal’s hearing is described (26). Then follows the two verses about the old hag in Ironwood who raises the wolves that will swallow the sun and moon (40–41). After this come verses 20–23 in the same order as **R** (see above).

To illustrate the differences between mss., and which verses are attested in which, I have prepared the following table showing the order of stanzas by manuscript, compared to the present edition. As several stanzas in **G** are quoted on their own, with little relation to the order of the original poem, they are simply marked with plus signs. When stanzas are quoted in sequence, they are preceded by an alphabetically incrementing letter denoting which sequence they belong to. When a stanza found in a ms. differs majorly from the pres. ed. (e.g. st. 10 where **G** omits the first two half-lines), it is marked with a star. The stanzas beginning with *Þá gingu regin öll* ‘Then went the Reins all’ are represented by the half-line immediately following.

|       | <i>pres. ed.</i>        | <b>R</b> | <b>H</b> | <b>STW</b> | <b>U</b> |
|-------|-------------------------|----------|----------|------------|----------|
| 1     | Hljóðs bið’k allar      | 1        | 1        | –          | –        |
| 2     | Ek man jǫtna            | 2        | 2        | –          | –        |
| 3     | Ár vas alda             | 3        | 3        | +          | +        |
| 4     | áðr Burs synir          | 4        | 4        | –          | –        |
| 5     | Sól varp sunnan         | 5        | 5        | +*         | +*       |
| 6     | ... nótt ok niðjum      | 6        | 6        | –          | –        |
| 7     | Hittusk ęsir            | 7        | 7        | –          | –        |
| 8     | Tęflðu ĩ tųni           | 8        | 8        | –          | –        |
| 9     | ... hvęrr skyldi dverga | 9        | 9        | B1         | B1       |
| 10    | Þar vas Móðsognir       | 10       | 10       | B2*        | B2*      |
| 11–15 | <i>Dwarf-tallies</i>    | 11–15    | 11–16    | +          | +        |
| 16    | Unds þrír kvęmu         | 16       | 17       | –          | –        |
| 17    | Qnd þau né ętту         | 17       | 18       | –          | –        |
| 18    | Ask vęit’k standa       | 18       | 19       | +          | +        |
| 19    | Þaðan koma męjar        | 19–20    | 20–21    | –          | –        |
| 20    | Þat man hęn folk-víg    | 21–22    | 27       | –          | –        |
| 21    | Hęiði hétu              | 23       | 28       | –          | –        |

|            | <i>pres. ed.</i>         | R          | H                  | STW   | U   |
|------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------|-------|-----|
| 22         | ... hvárt skyldu ęsir    | 24         | 29                 | –     | –   |
| 23         | Fleygđi Óđinn            | 25         | 30                 | –     | –   |
| 24         | ... hveřr hefđi lopt alt | 26         | 22                 | C1    | C1  |
| 25         | Þórr ęinn þar vđ         | 27         | 23                 | C2*   | C2* |
| 26         | Veit hōn Heimdallar      | 28         | 24                 | –     | –   |
| 27         | Ęin sat hōn úti          | 29         | –                  | –     | –   |
| 28         | Alt veit'k, Óđinn        | 29         | –                  | +     | +   |
| 29         | Valđi hēnni Hęř-fęđr     | 30         | –                  | –     | –   |
| 30         | Sđ hōn val-kyrjur        | 31         | –                  | –     | –   |
| 31         | Ek sđ Baldri             | 32         | –                  | –     | –   |
| 32         | Varđ af međđi            | 33         | –                  | –     | –   |
| 33         | Þó hann ęva hęndr        | 34         | –                  | –     | –   |
| H1         | Þđ knđ Vđli              | –          | 31                 | –     | –   |
| 34a        | Hapt sđ hōn liggja       | 35a        | –                  | –     | –   |
| 34b        | þar sitr Sigyn           | 35b        | 32                 | –     | –   |
| 35         | Ó fęllr austan           | 36         | –                  | –     | –   |
| 36         | Stóđ fyr norđan          | 36         | –                  | –     | –   |
| 37         | Sal sđ hōn standa        | 37         | 36                 | E1    | E1  |
| 38         | Sęř hōn þar vađa         | 38         | 37                 | E2*   | E2* |
| 39         | Austr býř hin aldna      | 39         | 25                 | A1    | A1  |
| 40         | Fyllisk fjřvi            | 40         | 26                 | A2    | A2  |
| 41         | Sat þar đ haugi          | 41         | 34                 | –     | –   |
| 42         | Gól of ęsum              | 42         | 35                 | –     | –   |
| 43, 48, 56 | Gęyr (nú) Garmr mjęk     | 43, 46, 55 | 33, 38, 43, 48, 51 | –     | –   |
| 44         | Bręđr munu berjask       | 44         | 39                 | –     | –   |
| 45         | Leika Mims synir         | 45         | 40                 | D1*   | D1* |
| 46         | Skęlfr Ygg-drasils       | 45*        | 41                 | D1*   | D1* |
| 47         | Hvat 's međ ęsum?        | 49         | 42                 | D2    | D2* |
| 49         | Hrymr ękr austan         | 47         | 44                 | D3    | –   |
| 50         | Kjólł fęrr austan        | 48         | 45                 | D4    | –   |
| 51         | Surtr fęrr sunnan        | 50         | 46                 | +, D5 | +   |
| 52         | Þđ kęmr Hlınar           | 51         | 47                 | D6    | –   |
| 53         | Þđ kęmr hinn mikli       | 52         | –                  | D7    | –   |
| H2         | Ginn lopt yfir           | –          | 48                 | —     | –   |
| 54         | Þđ kęmr hinn męri        | 53*        | 49*                | C8    | –   |
| 55         | Sól tęř sortna           | 54         | 50                 | C9    | –   |
| 57         | Sęř hōn upp koma         | 56         | 52                 | –     | –   |
| 58         | Finnask ęsir             | 57*        | 53                 | –     | –   |
| 59         | Þar munu ęptir           | 58         | 54                 | –     | –   |
| 60         | Munu ó-sđnir             | 59         | 55                 | –     | –   |
| 61         | Þđ knđ Hōnir             | 60         | 56                 | –     | –   |
| 62         | Sal sęř hōn standa       | 61         | 57                 | +     | +   |
| H3         | Þđ kęmr hinn ríki        | –          | 58                 | –     | –   |
| 63         | Þar kęmr hinn đimmi      | 62         | 59                 | –     | –   |

- 1 „Hljóðs bið’k allar · hēlgar kindir, [R 1r/2, H 20r/1]  
 2 mēiri ok minni · mōgu Hēimdalar;  
 vilt at, Val-fǫðr, · vėl fram tēlja’k  
 4 forn spjǫll fira, · þau’s frēmt of man?

“For hearing I ask all holy kindreds,  
 greater and lesser lads of Homedal<sup>1</sup> [MEN].  
 Wilt thou, O Walfather (= Weden), that I well tell forth  
 the ancient tidings of men, those I foremost recall?<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> hēlgar | om. R

<sup>2</sup> mēiri ok minni ‘greater and lesser’ | The noun being modified is ambiguous. It may either be (a) ‘greater and lesser holy kindreds’, in which case it may be equivalent to the phrase *Eese and Elves* (both earthly and heavenly supernatural beings; see Encyclopedia for occurrences) or (b) ‘greater and lesser lads of Homedal [MEN]’. (b) is probably to be preferred for reasons of syntax, but should not most likely be seen as referring to varying social classes; it seems unlikely that there would be slaves present in the audience of a poem like this. In any case, the wallow seems to be asking all intelligent beings present for silence, with the expression being a merism of the type ‘gods and men’; see West (2007)[99-100].

<sup>1</sup>Cf. *Rígh*, wherein Rígh, identified by the prose as Homedal, sires three castes of men (namely earls, churls and thralls).

<sup>2</sup>Cf. *Webb* 34, 35 with very similar phrasing. The whole introductory formula is positively Indo-European, see West (2007)[63,92-93,312].

- 2 Ek man jǫtna · ár of borna, [R 1r/4, H 20r/2]  
 2 þá’s forðum mik · fǫdda hǫfðu;  
 níu man’k hēima, · níu iǵiðjur,  
 4 mjǫt-við mēran · fyr mold neðan.

I recall *Ettins* born of yore,  
 they who formerly had nourished me.  
 Nine *Homes* I recall; nine Inwithies;  
 the renowned Metwood beneath the soil.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> iǵiðjur | so RH. R has previously been as read *iviði*, but this was disproven by an x-ray scan undertaken by Stefan Karlsson (1979).

<sup>3</sup>Certainly Ugdrassle, “beneath the soil” likely referring to it still being a seed.

- 3 Ár vas alda · þar’s Ymir byggði, [R 1r/6, H 20r/4, G]  
 2 vas-a sandr né sér, · né svalar unnir;  
 jǫrð fannsk éva · né upp-himinn;  
 4 gap vas ginnunga, · en gras hvęrgi;



It was the dawn of ages where **Yimer** dwelled;  
 there was not sand nor sea, nor cool waves.  
 Earth was never found, nor **Up-heaven**;  
 there was the Gap of Ginnings, but grass nowhere.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> þar's Ymir byggði 'where Yimer dwelled' | þat's ekki vas 'that when nothing was' G <sup>4</sup> hvęrgi 'nowhere' | ekki 'not' H

<sup>3</sup> jörð ... né upp-himinn 'Earth ... nor Up-heaven' | A well-attested formulaic cosmological word-pair found in all four Old Germanic languages with poetic traditions (ON, OE, OS, OHG), especially in concern the creation and destruction of the world. See Earth and Upheaven.

<sup>4</sup> gap vas ginnunga 'there was the Gap of Ginnings' | See Index for suggested etymology.

<sup>4</sup> A more extensive creation narrative is found in *Ylvi* 4–5, according to which the world first consisted of two extremities: the frozen Nivelham in the north and scorching Muspellsham in the south. From Nivelham the freezing venom-rivers called the llewaves ran until they froze to ice, while burning lava flowed from Muspellsham. The ice and lava met in the Gap of Ginnings, "which was as calm as windless air", and there combined to form the first being, **Yimer**, who was the ancestor of the ettins.

2           4      áðr **Burs** synir · bjǫðum of ypðu, [R 1r/8, H 20r/5]  
                   þęir es **Mið-garð** · męran skópu;  
                   sól skęin sunnan · à salar stęina;  
                   þa vas **grund** gróin · grǫnum lauki.

before the Sons of Byre lifted up the flatlands,  
 they who shaped the renowned **Middenyard**.  
 Sun shone from the south on the stones of the hall;  
 then was the ground grown with green leek.

<sup>1</sup> Burs synir 'the Sons of Byre' | In *Ylvi* 6 identified as Weden, Will and Wigh, who sacrificed Yimer and shaped the cosmos out of his body. For this see also *Webb* 20–21 and *Grim* 41–42.

<sup>4</sup> grǫnum lauki 'green leek' | A sign of the golden age, since the leek was believed to be the noblest plant and had important cultural significance. This is seen from *Guth II* 2, where **Siward**'s superiority to the Yivickings is compared to a stag among wild beasts, gold among silver, and a green leek in grass. The leek was valued in folk magic, as seen already on gold bracteates from the C5th and C6th, where it appears as a charm word in the form 𐌺𐌹𐌿𐌺𐌹 *laukar*, in one inscription paired with 𐌺𐌹𐌿 *lína* 'linen'. Classical Norse attestations of magic use include *Syed* 7, where the leek is thrown into mead against poison; and the *WalsTh*, where a horse penis is said to be *lını gǫddr* · *en laukum studdr* 'endowed with linen and supported by leeks' in a poetic line. The leek was particularly associated with women and domestic life, as seen by its pairing with "linen". Kennings for women frequently have the leek as a determinant (TODO: Meissner reference?), and Anon *Sveinfl* 1 (*Skp* I TODO.) sarcastically states that a battle was not *sem manni* · *męr lauk eða ęl bęri* 'as if a maiden brought a man leek or ale'.

2           5a     Sól varp sunnan, · sinni Mána, [R 1r/11, H 20r/7]  
                   hęndi hinna hǫgri · of himin-jǫður;  
 Sun cast from the south—**Moon**'s companion—  
 her right hand over heaven's rim;<sup>5</sup>

2 of himin-jöður ‘over heaven’s rim’ | Composite reading; *of himin fiodyrf* ‘over the heaven-horse-deer(?)’ R is both nonsensical and unmetrical and must be rejected; *of iöður* ‘over the rim’ H is unmetrical, lacking alliteration and being too short.

1 sinni Måna ‘Moon’s companion’ | At times translated as ‘its moon’. This cannot be correct, as *māni* ‘moon’ is masculine, while *sinni*, dative singular of *sinn* ‘its (reflexive)’ is feminine.

<sup>5</sup>The sun heaved herself up over the horizon and rose for the first time.

5b Sól þat né vissi, · hvar hön sali átti; [R 1r/12, H 20r/7, G]  
 stjörnur þat né vissu, · hvar þér staði öttu;  
 Måni þat né vissi, · hvat hann mægins átti.

Sun knew not where halls she owned;  
 stars knew not where steads they owned;  
 Moon knew not what sort of might he owned.

4 stjörnur ... öttu | In G this line follows 5, so that the order is sun, moon, stars.

5 Måni ... átti ‘Moon ... owned’ | The moon was believed to have supernatural powers; see note to *Hígh* TODO (*Måna skal heiptum kveða*).

6 Þá gingu rēgin ǫll · à rōk-stóla, [R 1r/13, H 20r/9]  
 ginn-hēilōg gōð, · ok umb þat gēttusk.  
 Nōtt ok niðjum · nōfn of gōfu,  
 morgin hétu · ok miðjan dag,  
 undurn ok aptan, · órum at tēlja.

Then went the Reins all onto the rake-seats:  
 the Yin-holy Gods, and from each other took counsel of this.  
 To night and the moon-phases names they gave;  
 morning they named, and middle day,  
 afternoon and evening, the years for to tally.

1–2 Þá ... gēttusk ‘Then ... of this.’ | A formulaic expression for the convening of the **Thing of the Gods**, identically repeated below in sts. 9/1–2, 22/1–2, and 24/1–2. Cf. also the three lines shared between *Bldr* 1/1–3 and *Thrim* 14/1–3, which follow the structure of the present stanza(s) very closely: *Senn vōru ęsir · allir á þingi // ok ęsynjur · allar á máli, // ok umb þat rēðu · rīkīr tívar*: ‘Soon were the **Eese** all at the **Thing**, // and the **Ossens** all at speech, // and of this counseled the mighty **Tews**’. In all five occurrences other than the present stanza (three from *Wsp*, the present poem, one from *Bldr*, one from *Thrim*), the demonstrative pronoun *þat* ‘this’ clearly refers to the matter at hand, expressed with the verb in the subjunctive case (e.g. in *Thrim* 14/3–4: *ok umb þat rēðu · rīkīr tívar: // hvé þęir Hlórriða · hamar of sótti?* ‘and of this counseled the mighty **Tews**: How they Lorida’s (= Thunder’s) hammer would find?’). Following this pattern we would surely expect to find two lines after *umb þat gēttusk* ‘took counsel of this’ and before *nōtt* ‘night’ in the present stanza, and it seems most likely to presume that they have been lost in transmission.

1 rōk-stóla ‘rake-seats’ | Their seats of judgment at the **Thing of the Gods**.

3–5 Nött ... tēja ‘To night ... tally’ | Cf. *Webb* 23, where it is said that the sun and moon turn round in heaven *gldum at ár-tali* ‘for the year-tally of mankind’, and 25, where it is said that the Reins created the moon-phases for the same purpose.

- 7 Hittusk **ę**sir · à Iða-vęlli, [R 1r/16, H 20r/10]  
 2 þęir’s hęrg ok hof · hę-timbruðu;  
 afla lęđu, · auð smiðuðu,  
 4 tangir skópu · ok tól gęđu.

The Eese found each other on the Idewolds,  
 they who **harrow** and hove timbered on high;  
 hearths they laid, wealth they smithed,  
 tongs they shaped and tools they made.

2 þęir’s ... hę-timbruðu ‘they who ... timbered on high’ | *afls kostuðu* · *alls freistuðu* ‘[their] strength they tried; everything they tempted’ H

2 þęir’s ... hę-timbruðu ‘they who ... timbered on high’ | Two formulæ. *hęrg ok hof* ‘harrow and hove’, a merism, i.e. ritual structures made of stone and wood. Cf. *Webb* 38 and *HHarw* TODO, as well as in Norwegian Christian laws that impose ‘the burning of hoves and the breaking of harrows’ (*brenna hof ok brjóta hęrga*). — *hę-timbra* ‘high-timber, timber on high’ is a rare compound and only occurs twice in the ON corpus: in the present stanza and *Grim* 16 where it describes a harrow ruled by Nearth. — It is rather interesting that the Gods themselves build ritual structures.

- 8 Tęflðu i tųni, · tętir vęru, [R 1r/18, H 20r/12]  
 2 vas þęim vęttu-gis · vant ór gulli,  
 unds þrįar kvęmu · þursa męjar,  
 ám-átkar mjęk, · ór Jętun-ęęimum.

They played **Tables** in the yards; merry were they;  
 for them was nothing golden wanting—  
 until there came three maidens of **Thurses**,  
 very uncanny, from **Ettinham**.

1–4 ALL | The whole stanza is paraphrased in *Yilv* ch. 14:

*Ok því nęst smiðuðu þęir málms ok stein ok trę ok svá gnóg-liga þann málms, er gull beitir, at ęll bús-gogn ok ęll reiði-gogn hęfðu þęir af gulli, ok er sú ęld kęlluð gull-aldr, áðr en spilltist af til-kvámu kvinnanna; þęr kómu ór Jętun-beimum.*

‘And after this they smithed ore and stone and wood, and so abundantly [did they smith] that ore which is called gold, that all their house tools and riding tools were golden. And that age is called the golden age, before it was spoiled by the arrival of the women; they came from Ettinham.’

after which he describes the creation of the dwarfs (see next stanza)

2 vas þęim vęttu-gis · vant ór gulli ‘for them was nothing golden wanting’ | Indeed even the bricks they played with were of gold. See st. 59.

3 þrjár ... þursa meýjar ‘three maidens of Thurses’ | These three maidens are never mentioned again (unless they are taken to be the three norns in st. 19, but they would then be introduced twice). It is possible that an additional stanza giving further information about them has been lost. If it originally existed, it was already absent from the version employed by the author of *Yilv*, who gives no new information.

4 ám-átkar ‘uncanny’ | The word *ám-áttigr* has a clear association with supernatural beings; trolls and ettins. It occurs in four other places in **R**. In *Grim* 11, *Shir* 10 and *HHarw* 17 it modifies *jötunn* ‘ettin’ in a *Leeds-meter* c-line. In *HHarw* 14 it is used by the daughter of an ettin to refer to a human hero.

9 Þá gingu rēgin ǫll · á røk-stóla, [R 1r/20, H 20r/14, G]  
 2 ginn-heilög goð, · ok umb þat gétusk:  
 Hvęrr skyldi dverga · drótt of skępja  
 4 ór brimi blóðgu · ok ór blǫum lęggjum?

Then went the Reins all onto the rake-seats:  
 the Yin-holy Gods, and from each other took counsel of this:  
 Who would shape the retinue of **Dwarfs**,  
 out of the bloody surf and out of the blue-black legs?

3 Hvęrr skyldi dverga ‘Who would ... of dwarfs’ | so **RWU**; *at skyldi dverga* ‘That they would ... of dwarfs’ **ST**; *buerir skyldu dvergar* ‘Which dwarfs would [shape the retinues]’ **H** 3 drótt ‘the retinue’ | so **G**; *drotin* ‘the lord’ or ‘the retinue’ (with late clitic definite) **R**; *dróttir* ‘the retinues’ **H** 3 of skępja ‘shape’ | *spekja* ‘soothe’ **U**  
 4 brimi blóðgu ‘bloody surf’ | so **HSWU**; *Brimis blóði* ‘the blood of Brimmer’ **RT** 4 blǫum ‘blue-black’ | metr. emend. from *blám* **R**; *Bláins* ‘Blown’s’ **HW**; *Bláms* **STU** is prob. a corrupt form of *Bláins*

4 ór brimi ... lęggjum ‘out of the bloody ... legs’ | I think that the poem simply telling of “the bloody surf” and “the blue-black legs” fits better with its general allusive style, but the resulting composite reading may be somewhat controversial.

According to *Yilv* 14 the dwarfs first originated as maggots in the corpse of Yimer, whose bones are described in *Grim* TODO and *Weib* TODO as being used to make rocks. Dwarfs dwell in the rocks and earth; cf. for instance *IngT* 2, where the Swedish king Swayther (*Sveigðir*) disappears into a rock in pursuit of a dwarf. More difficult to explain is the creation of dwarfs out of Yimer’s blood (which according to *Grim* TODO and *Weib* TODO is the sea), since dwarfs are never said to dwell in water. — If one chooses the reading *Bláinn* ‘Blown’ (named in the **thules** as a dwarf) instead of *blǫum* ‘blue-black’, then following Gurevich (*Skp* 2017, p. 693) one may see a kenning “the legs of Blown (dwarf) [STONE]”. Blown has otherwise been read as a poetic name for Yimer, but that is never attested elsewhere.

10 Þar vas Móðsognir · mętstr of orðinn [R 1r/21, H 20r/15, G]  
 2 dverga allra, · en Durinn annarr;  
 þęir man-líkun · mǫrg of geřðu,  
 4 dvergar ĩ jǫrðu, · sęm Durinn sagði.

There was Moodsowner made the worthiest  
 of all dwarfs, but Dorn [was] second.  
 They man-likenesses many did make:  
 dwarfs in the earth, as Dorn said.

1 Þar vas **M**óðsognir | so H; *Þar f mótsognir vitnir* ‘there Mootsowner wolf(?)’ R. The prose of *Ylva* 14 agrees with H that the correct form of the name is *Móðsognir*, not *Mótsognir*. 3 þeir ... ggrðu ‘They ... did make’ | so RHU; *þar man-líkun · mrg of ggrðusk* ‘There man-likenesses many were made’ STW 4 i ‘in’ | so GH; *ór* ‘out of’ R 4 sgm **D**urinn sagði ‘as Dorn said’ | so RHSW; *sem f dur menn* ‘as door-men(?) said’ T; *sem f þeim dyrrinn kendit* ‘as the beasts(?) taught them’ U

1–2 Þar ... annarr ‘There ... second’ | om. G, but the author must have had the full verse, since he paraphrases these lines in the following way: *Móðsognir var elstr ok annarr Durinn*. ‘Moodsowner was the highest in rank, and Dorn the second.’ before citing

3–4 þeir ... sagði ‘They ... said.’ | There are two conflicting interpretations of the creation of the dwarfs. Either they arose on their own; this is supported by the prose of *Ylva* (see note to previous st.) and by the form of the stanza quoted there (but it may have been changed to correspond to the author’s vision). On the other hand, both R and H have the dwarfs Moodsowner and Dorn shaping “man-likenesses” out of soil. The present edition follows the second version.

Sts. 11–15 contain two originally separate lists of dwarfs. That they are separate is seen by the repetition of names (Oakenshield, Great-grandfather), and their having their own conclusions.

Sts. 11–13, having no repeated names, seem to belong together. If they do, st. 12, which contains the formulaic conclusion to the list, should probably switch places with 13.

Sts. 14–15 form the second group, having an introduction and a conclusion which both mention the dwarf Loffer.

- 11 **N**ýi ok **N**iði, · **N**orðri, Suðri,  
2 **A**ustri, Vestri, · **A**l-þjófr, Dvalinn,  
**B**ívurr, **B**ávurr, · **B**omburr, Nóri,  
4 **Á**nn ok **Á**narr, · **Á**i, Mjóð-vitnir.

[R 1r/23, H 20r/17, G]

New and Nithe, Norther and Souther,  
Easter and Wester, Allthief, Dwollen,  
Bewer, Bower, Bamber, Noor,  
Own and Owner, Great-grandfather, Meadwitner.

- 12 **V**eygr ok Gand-alf, · **V**ind-alf, Þráinn,  
2 **Þ**ekkr ok **Þ**orinn, · **Þ**rór, Vitr ok Lit, **N**ár ok **N**ý-ráðr— · **nú** hef’k dverga  
4 —**R**eginn ok **R**áð-sviðr— · **r**étt of talða.

[R 1r/25, H 20r/18, G]

Wey and Gandelf, Windelf, Thrown,  
Thetch and Thorn, Threw, Wit and Lit,  
Nee and Newred—now have I the dwarfs—  
Rain and Redswith—rightly tallied.

- 13 Fíli, Kíli, · Fundinn, Náli, [R 1r/28, H 20r/20, G]  
 2 Hępti, Víli, · Hannarr, Svíurr,  
 Frár, Horn-bori, · Frégr ok Lóni,  
 4 Aur-vangr, Jari, · Eikin-skjaldi.

Filer, Chiler, Found and Needler,  
 Hefter, Wiler, Hanner, Swigher,  
 Fraw, Hornborer, Fray and Looner,  
 Earwong, Earer, Oakenshield.

- 14 Mál es dverga · i Dvalins liði [R 1r/30, H 20r/22, G]  
 2 ljóna kindum · til Lofars tēlja,  
 þeir es sóttu · frá salar stēini  
 4 Aur-vanga sjot · til Jorru-valla.

'Tis time to tally the dwarfs in Dwollen's retinue  
 [back] to Loffer for the kindreds of men;<sup>6</sup>  
 they who sought, from the stone of the hall,  
 the abode of Earwongs to the Erwolds.<sup>7</sup>

3 þeir | þeim H

<sup>6</sup>A standard genealogical introduction (cf. *HalT* 1: *meðan hans étt ... til goða tēljum* 'while we tally his line ... [back] to the gods'). The (patrilineal) line of dwarfs is to be counted back to their progenitor, Loffer. This possibly disagrees with st. 10, where Moodsowner is said to be the foremost (and presumably the oldest) of the dwarfs, and Loffer is not mentioned.

<sup>7</sup>Cf. *Yilv* 14: "But these came from Swornshigh (*Svarinsbaugr*) to the Earwongs on the Erwolds, and thence Loffer is come; these are their names: Sherper (*Skirpir*), Werper (*Virpir*), Showfind, Great-grandfather, Elf and Ing (*Ingi*), Oakenshield, Fale (*Falr*), Frost, Finn, Ginner."

- 15 Þar vas Draupnir · ok Dolg-þrasir, [R 1r/32, H 20r/24, G]  
 2 Hár, Haug-spori, · Hlé-vangr, Glói,  
 Skirfir, Virfir, · Skáfíðr, Ái,  
 4 Alfr ok Yngvi, · Eikin-skjaldi,  
 Fjalarr ok Frosti, · Finnrr ok Ginnarr;  
 6 Þat mun é uppi, · meðan ǫld lifir,  
 lang-niðja-tal · til Lofars hafat.

There was Dreepner and Dollowthrasher,  
 High, Highspurer, Leewong, Glower,  
 Sherver, Werper, Showfind, Great-grandfather,  
 Elf and Ing, Oakenshield,

Feller and Frost, Finn and Ginner:  
That will ever be remembered while the eld lives,<sup>8</sup>  
the tally of descendants heaved to Lofer.<sup>9</sup>

6 **é** | om. R 7 til | om. H

<sup>8</sup>Two archaic formulæ. The first literally ‘that will ever [be] up above’, cf. *HarS* TODO: “We two are cursed, brother, thy bane am I become! That will ever be remembered (*þat mun é uppi*, but both mss. *þat mun enn uppi*), evil is the doom of the norms!” The second is found in a runic inscription, U 323 (980–1015): “Ever will lie—while the age lives (**meþ + altr + lifir** *með aldr lifir*)—the hard-hammered bridge, broad, after a good man.” An especially close parallel is found in Þstf *Stuttðr* (st. 5, Kari Ellen Gade ed. in *SkP* II): *Ey mun uppi · Eñdils, meðan stendr // sól-borgar salr, · svgr-gððis fgr*. ‘Always will be remembered—while the hall of the sun’s stronghold [SKY/HEAVEN > EARTH] stands—the journey of the fattener of Andle’s bird [RAVEN/EAGLE > WARRIOR].’

<sup>9</sup>i.e. ‘counted back to Lofer’

16 Unds þrír kvømu · ór því liði  
2 **q**flgir ok **ást**kir · **é**sir at húsi;  
fundu á landi · lítt meḡandi  
4 Ask ok Emblu · **ø**r-løḡ-lausa.

[R 1v/1, H 20r/26]

Until three came out of that host:  
strong and lovely Eese along the settlement;  
they found on land the little availing  
Ash and Emble, **or**lay-less.<sup>10</sup>

1 þrír | gramm. emend.; þrjár RH 1 ór því liði | þessa brúðir ‘brides of thurses’ H is probably corrupt due to the influence of st. 8; the adjectives in l. 2 are in the masculine. 2 **q**flgir ok **ást**kir ‘strong and lovely’ | *ástkir ok qflgir* (norm.) ‘lovely and strong’ H

1 Unds ‘Until’ | We seem to be missing a preceding sentence here which would have completed the semantics; it was probably contained in a now-lost stanza. What this st. would have contained is of course impossible to know, but it may have given a reason for why the gods needed to create men.

2 at húsi ‘along the settlement’ | An adverbial, lit. ‘along the house’; the gods were not walking in the wilderness.

<sup>10</sup>This verse is paraphrased in *Ylfr* 9: *Þá er þeir gengu með sévar-ströndu Bors synir, fundu þeir tré tvau ok tóku upp trén ok sköpuðu af menn. Gaf inn fyrsti qnd ok líf, annarr vit ok bréring, þriði á-sjónu, mál ok beyrn ok sjón, gáfu þeim klæði ok ngfn. Hét karl-maðrinn Ask, en konan Embla, ok ólst þaðan af mann-kindin, sú er byggðin var gefinn undir Mið-garði*. ‘When the sons of Byre (cf. st. 4) walked along the sea-shore they found two trees and they took up the trees and shaped men from them. The first one gave breath (*qnd*) and life, the second wit and movement, the third sight, speech, appearance and sight; they gave them clothes and names. The male was called Ash, and the woman Emble, and from them mankind was begotten, to whom were given the dwelling within Middenyard.’

The ON cognate of tree, *tré*, can also mean ‘pieces of wood’, and it is traditionally seen as referring to pieces of driftwood. Yet as pointed out by Hultgård (2006) the comparative evidence suggests that the two were in fact living, growing trees (they would thus be part of the foliage described in st. 4) and there is nothing in the sources that speaks against this.

While Ash is easily identified with the same-named wood species (*Fraxinus excelsior*), the etymology of Emble is much more difficult. The shaping of men from trees is used by poets in various kennings for men and women, especially in scoldic poetry (for a short discussion see SkP I, p. lxxv ff.). While this is rarer in the Eddic corpus it does occur, e.g. in *Syed* 4: *brynþings apaldr* ‘apple-tree of the byrnie-Thing [BATTLE > WARRIOR]’.

- 17      Ǫnd þau né ǫttu, · ǫð þau né hǫfðu, [R 1v/3, H 20r/27]  
          lǫ né lǣti · né litu góða;  
          ǫnd gaf Óðinn, · ǫð gaf Hǫnir,  
          lǫ gaf Lóðurr · ok litu góða.

Breath they owned not, wode they had not,  
 not craft nor sound nor good countenance.  
 Breath gave Woden, wode gave Heener,  
 craft gave Lothar, and good countenance.

- 18      Ask vǣit’k standa, · hǣtir Ygg-drasill, [R 1v/5, H 20r/29, G]  
          hǫr baðmr, ausinn · hvíta auri;  
          þaðan koma dǫggvar · þér’s i dala falla;  
          stęndr ę yfir grǫnn · Urðar brunni.

An ash I know standing, ’tis called Ugdrassle;  
 a high beam [TREE], poured with white mud.<sup>11</sup>  
 Thence come the dew-drops which fall in the dales;  
 it stands ever green over the Well of Weird.

1 standa ‘standing’ | so RHU; ausinn ‘poured, sprinkled’ STW 1 Ygg-drasill | Ygg-drasils S 2 baðmr ‘beam’ | borinn ‘born’ U is wo. doubt corrupt. 2 ausinn ‘poured’ | hǣilagr ‘holy’ G 3 þér’s | es ST 4 ę | om. U 4 grǫnn | ęgrvnnþ S; ęgreinþ U

<sup>11</sup>i.e. ‘white mud is (or has been) poured upon it.’ Possibly relevant is the Indian ritual pouring of beverages onto the phallic *lingam* (though the good Nikhil S. Dwibhashyam denies that this goes back to the Vedic period, and so it may be unrelated). For the whole passage cf. st. 26.

- 19      Þaðan koma męyjar · margs vitandi [R 1v/8, H 20r/31]  
          þríar ór þeim sal, · es und þolli stęndr;  
          Urð hétu ęina, · aðra Verðandi,  
          skǫru à skíði, · Skuld hina þriðju  
          þér lǫg lǫgðu, · þér líf kǫru,  
          alda bǫrnum, · ǫr-lǫg sęggja.

Thence come maidens, much knowing:  
 three out of that hall which stands under the fir [Ugdrassle’s Ash]:



Weird they called one, the other Werthing  
 —carved they on boards—Shild the third.  
 Laws they laid, lives they chose:  
 for the children of mortals, the orlay of youths.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>2</sup> sal ‘hall’ | so H, G (paraphrase); sé ‘lake’ R <sup>2</sup> und ‘under’ | á ‘on’ H <sup>6</sup> seggja ‘of youths’ | at seggja ‘to say’ H

<sup>2</sup> þolli ‘fir’ | Here simply meaning ‘tree’ and used only for the alliteration. Perhaps the same applies for *askr* ‘ash’ in the phrase *askr Ygg-drasils* ‘Ugdrassle’s Ash’, with its species not being as fixed to the ancients as it has now become?

<sup>12</sup>i.e. ‘they have carved on boards, they have laid laws, they have chosen lives’. It is well known that in Old Norse as in other old Germanic languages the simple past can have both perfective and imperfective sense. — This st. is paraphrased in *Ylvi* 15: *Þar stendr salr einn fagr undir askinum við brunninn, ok ór þeim sal koma þrjár meyjar, þær er svá heita: Urðr, Verðandi, Skuld. Þessar meyjar skapa mönnum aldr; þær kollum vér nornir.* ‘There is a single fair hall beneath the ash-tree by the well, and out of that hall come three maidens, who are called thus: Weird, Werthing, Shild. These maidens shape the ages of men (formulaic! TODO.); we call them norns.’

20 Þat man hōn folk-víg · fyrst i hēimi, [R 1v/11, H 20v/5]  
 2 es Gull-veigu · gęirum studdu  
 ok i hōll Hāars · hāna bręnndu,  
 4 þrysvar bręnndu · þrysvar borna,  
 opt ó-sjaldan, · þó hōn ęnn lifir.

That troop-conflict<sup>13</sup> [WAR] she recalls, the first in the Home,  
 as Goldwey with spears they goaded,  
 and in the hall of Higher (= Weden) [= Walhall] they burned her:  
 thrice they burned the thrice born,  
 often unseldom, though she yet lives.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>4</sup> þrysvar bręnndu | þþrysvar brendu þrysvar brendvþ H

<sup>13</sup>While reading *folk-víg* as ‘ethnic conflict’ (between the Eese and Wanes) is appealing, I more cautiously read the first element *folk* as carrying its earlier, more common sense of ‘troop, group of warriors’.

<sup>14</sup>Very cryptic. TODO: double check Snorri. Goldwey was apparently sacrificed, cremated and reborn three times (in short succession?) by the Eese.

21 Hęiði hētu, · hvar’s til hūsa kom, [R 1v/13, H 20v/7]  
 2 vōlu vęl-spāa, · vitti ganda;  
 sęið hvar’s kunni, · sęið hug lęikinn;  
 4 ę vas hōn angan · illrar brúðar.

Heath they called—where to houses she came—  
 the well-spaeing<sup>15</sup> **wallow**; she bewitched **gands**.  
 She soth<sup>16</sup> where she could, she soth deluded minds;  
 she was the love of any evil bride.

2 vǫlu | ok vǫlu H 3 hvar's kunni 'where she could' | *bon kunni* 'she could' R; *bon hvars þun kunni* 'she soth where she could' H 3 hug leikinn 'deluded minds' | *bon leikinn* R; *bon hugleikin* H

<sup>15</sup> Gifted with soothsaying.

<sup>16</sup> Past tense of *síthe* (ON *síða*) 'to enchant, bewitch'.

22 Þà gingu **rēgin** ǫll · à **røk**-stóla,  
 2 **ginn**-hēilōg goð, · ok umb þat **gét**tusk:  
 Hvárt skyldu **ęsir** · af-ráð gjalda,  
 4 eða skyldu **goðin** ǫll · **gildi** ęiga?  
 Then went the Reins all onto the rake-seats:  
 the Yin-holy Gods, and from each other took counsel of this:  
 whether the Eese should tribute yield,  
 or should all the gods a banquet hold?

[R 1v/16, H 20v/9]

23 **Fleygði** Óðinn · ok i **folk** of skaut;  
 2 þat vas ęnn **folk**-víg · **fýrr** i hęimi;  
**brotinn** vas **borð**-vęggr · **borgar** ása,  
 4 knóttu **vanir** **víg**-spó · **vǫllu** sporna.

[R 1v/17, H 20v/11]

Weden hurled, and into the opposing troop did shoot;<sup>17</sup>  
 that was yet a troop-conflict [WAR] earlier in the Home.  
 Broken was the board-wall<sup>18</sup> of the fortress of the Eese;  
 the Waness did by a conflict-spae tread the fields.<sup>19</sup>

2 **fýrr** 'earlier' | so H; *fýrst* 'first' R. The R reading cannot be correct as this st. is describing a different war, and thus not the first. It has probably arisen due to the similarity with st. 20/1.

<sup>17</sup> The object, a spear, is understood. This seems to reference a ritual, well-attested in the literature, wherein a war-chief would dedicate an opposing army as a human sacrifice to Weden by throwing a spear over them, typically with the incantation *Óðinn á yðr alla* 'Weden owns you all!'; he would then own the battle-slain in that they joined him as **Oneharriers** in **Walhall**. Weden is also described as "owning" dead men in *Hbl* 24 (namely slain nobles, contrasted with **Thunder** who is insultingly said to "own the kin of thralls") and in runic inscription *N B380* (edited below under Galders), a sort of greeting wherein the receiver is wished to be owned by Weden (and "received" by Thunder). For further literature see **PCRN HS** II:24, p. 560, II:25, p. 617, and especially III:42, p. 1166ff.

<sup>18</sup> Wall made of planks.

<sup>19</sup> The Waness used magic spells to win the battle.

- 24 Þà gingu rēgin ǫll · à røk-stóla, [R 1v/19, H 20r/34, G]  
 2 ginn-heilǫg goð, · ok umb þat gétusk:  
 Hvęrr hefði lopt alt · lēvi blandit  
 4 eða ét jǫtuns · Óðs meý gefna?

Then went the Reins all onto the rake-seats:  
 the Yin-holy Gods, and from each other took counsel of this:  
 Who might have blended all the air with deceit,  
 or to the ettin's lineage given Wode's maiden [= Frow]?<sup>20</sup>

<sup>20</sup>That is, promised Frow to the ettin NAME. TODO: relate with what Snorri writes about the building of the wall.

- 25 Þórr einn þar vá · þrunginn móði, [R 1v/20, H 20r/36, G]  
 2 hann sjaldan sitr, · es slíkt of fregn;  
 á gingsk eðar, · orð ok sóri,  
 4 mól ǫll megin-lig, · es á meðal fóru.

Thunder alone fought there, pressed by wrath;  
 he seldom sits, when of such a thing<sup>21</sup> he learns.  
 Trampled were oaths, speeches and vows;  
 the mighty treaties all, which between them had gone.

1 þar vá 'fought there' | so HTU; þar var 'was there' R; þat vann 'did, accomplished it' S; þat vá 'fought it' W  
 3-4 á ... fóru. | om. W 4 fóru 'had gone' | vóru 'had been' HT

1-4 Þórr ... fóru. | The order followed is that of RH; in G the two helmings (Þórr ... fregn; á ... fóru) come in reverse order.

<sup>21</sup>An ettin's threatening the gods.

- 26 Væt hōn Hēim-dallar · hljóð of folgit [R 1v/23, H 20v/1]  
 2 und heð-vōnum · helgum baðmi;  
 á sér hōn ausask · aurgum forsi  
 4 af veði Val-føðrs. · Vituð ér enn eða hvat?

Knows she Homedal's sound [= Horn of Yell?] hidden,  
 under a shady<sup>22</sup>, hallowed beam [= Ugdrassle's Ash].  
 On [it] she sees being poured a muddy torrent<sup>23</sup>,  
 from Walfather's <= Weden's> pledge<sup>24</sup> [= Mimer's well?].—Know ye yet, or what?<sup>25</sup>

<sup>22</sup> *hēiðvanr*, literally ‘clear-, bright-less’.

<sup>23</sup> Which should be the same mud as in st. 19. However, if ms. *á* is read as *ǿ* ‘river’, it would mean “A river she sees being fed by a muddy waterfall, ...”. TODO.

<sup>24</sup> Presumably referring to Weden’s sacrifice of an eye at Mimer’s well.

<sup>25</sup> “Do you (Weden) know enough now, or what?”—repeated in 28, 33, 34, 38, 40, 47, 60, 61.

- 27      *E*in sat hōn *ú*ti, · þa’s hinn *a*ldni kom      [R 1v/25]  
          *y*ggjungr *á*sa · ok *ī* *a*ugu lēit;  
          „hvęrs *f*regnið mik? · hví *f*reistið mīn?

Lone sat she outside, when the old one came:  
 the Terrifier of the Eese [= Weden], and looked into [her] eyes.  
 [The Wallow:] “Of what askest thou me? Why triest thou me?”<sup>26</sup>

<sup>26</sup> *fręista* has a sense of testing someone, especially intellectually. Cf. *High* 2, 26, *Webb* 3, 5.

- 28      *A*lt vęit’k, *Ó*ðinn, · hvar *a*uga falt      [R 1v/26, G]  
          *ī* hinum *m*ęra · *M*imis brunni;  
          drekk *m*jōð *M*imir · *m*orgin hvęrjan  
          af *v*eði *V*al-fōðrs.“ · *V*ituð ér ęnn eða hvat?

I know it all, Weden: where thy eye thou hidst  
 in the renowned Well of Mime;  
 [there] drinks Mime mead every morning,  
 from Walfather’s pledge<sup>27</sup>.—Know ye yet, or what?

<sup>2</sup> *ī* hinum *m*ęra ‘in the renowned’ | so *W*; *þitt* (corr.) *i enom męra* ‘id.’ *R*; *j þeim enom meira* ‘in the greater’ *T*; *i þeim envm męra* ‘in the renowned’ *U*; *vr þeim envm męra* ‘out of the renowned’ *S*    <sup>4</sup> *v*eði ‘pledge’ | *vęiði* ‘hunting, game’ *S*

<sup>27</sup> See note to st. 26.

- 29      *V*alði hęnni *H*ęr-fōðr · *h*ringa ok męn,      [R 1v/29]  
          fekk *s*þjōll *s*pak-lig · ok *s*pá-ganda;  
          sá *v*ítt ok umb *v*ítt · of *v*er-qld hvęrja.

Host-father (= Weden) chose for her rings and a necklace;  
 [he] received wise tidings and spae-gands;  
 she saw widely and more widely, o’er every world.

2 fekk *spjöll* *spak*-lig ‘received wise tidings’ | *fē*, *spjöll* *spaklig* ‘wealth, wise tidings’ *R* is metrically deficient, since alliteration would need to fall on the strongly stressed noun *fē*. The emended text also works better in context since it parallels st. 1, where the wallow likewise says that she will relate *spjöll* ‘tidings, sayings’ (cf. English *gospel* lit. ‘good news’ which originally translates the Greek εὐαγγέλιον). See Haukur Þorgeirsson (2020, pp. 51–53), Males (2023, p. 16) for discussion on this reading.

2 *spá*-ganda ‘spae-gands’ | Spirits sent out in order to secretly gather information. See relevant Encyclopedia entries.

30 Sá hōn *val*-kyrjur · *vítt* of komnar, [R 1v/30]  
 2 *gǫrvar* at ríða · til *gōð*-þjóðar:  
*Skuld* hélt *skildi*, · en *Skogul* ǫnnur,  
 4 *Gunnr*, *Hilðr*, *Gōndul* · ok *Gēir*-skogul;  
*nú* eru talðar · *Nōnnur* Hērjans,  
 6 *gǫrvar* at ríða · *grund* *val*-kyrjur.

She saw Walkirries, widely come,  
 ready to ride to Godthede:  
 Shild held a shield, but Shagle another,  
 Guth, Hild, Gandle and Goreshagle—  
 now are tallied the Nannies of Harn (= Weden),  
 ready to ride the ground, walkirries.

3–6 *Skuld* ... *val*-kyrjur *Shild* | Judging especially by the out-of-place phrase *nú eru talðar* ‘now are tallied’, these four lines seem to be a later insert from a *thule* counting the walkirries.

5 *Nōnnur* Hērjans ‘Nannies of Harn (= Weden) [WALKIRRIES]’ | *Nanna* ‘Nanny’ (the name itself is a nursing word) was the wife of *Balder*, but the word is here certainly being used to refer generically to ‘maidens, women’. A similar kenning is found in the *thule* listing female divinities (Þul *Asynja* in *SkP* III), where the walkirries are called *Óðins meyjar* ‘Weden’s maidens’.

Told allusively in *Wsp* 31–33 is the myth about the Balder’s death at the hands of his blind brother Hath, and the revenge killing of Hath by his half-brother Wonnell, who was specifically begotten for that purpose. The other important sources for this myth are *Bldr* 8–11, the detailed description in *Yilv* 49, and Grammaticus (2015)[3.4.1–8].

The account and language of *Bldr* 8–11 is strikingly similar to the present sts. (and *Bldr* 11/2–4 is near-identical to *Wsp* 32/4–33/2), and they give only one detail not found in the present sts., namely that Wonnell, the slayer of Hath, was born from a woman named Rind ‘in the western halls’.

*Yilv* 49 contains a much longer and more detailed narrative. It may be shortly summarised as follows: After Balder has terrible nightmares about dying, his mother Frie makes all sorts of things (fire, water, venom, metals, stones, trees, diseases, beasts, etc.) swear oaths not to harm him. Since Balder is now practically unharmable, the Eese make sport out of shooting and striking him. Lock is annoyed by this game, and in disguise as a woman, he finds out from Frie that a single thing did not swear the oath: the mistletoe, since it was thought too young. Lock grabs a mistletoe and gives it to the blind god Hath, telling him where to shoot. Hath does so, and Balder dies.

*Yilv* 49 continues with the rest of the narrative, namely the failed attempt by the Eese at “crying Balder out of hell” (for which see Eddic Fragments in the present volume) and Balder’s funeral (which is treated poetically in Wolf Ugson’s fragmentary *House-drape*, ÚlfirU *Húsdrip* in *SkP* III.) For the revenge taken by the Eese on Lock, treated in *Yilv* 50, see st. 34 below.

*Yilv* 49–50 omits the latter part of the myth, namely the revenge taken upon Hath. Weden seduced the woman Rind Weden (apparently through love-magic, cf. Cormac Awmundson’s TODO: *sęið Yęgr til rindar* ‘Ug won Rind through sorcery’), who gave birth to a son Wonnel. Being only one night old, he slew Hath, his half-brother. This part of the myth may have been left out for moral reasons, but was certainly known to the author, as shown by *Yilv* 30: *Áli eða Váli heitir einn, sonr Óðins ok Rindar. Hann er djarfr í orrostum ok mjök happ-skeytr* ‘Onnel or Wonnel one is called, the son of Weden and Rind. He is brave in battles and a very lucky shot’ and *Scold* 19, where we find the following relevant kennings for Wonnel (with case changed from the acc. to the nom. for clarity): *sonr Óðins ok Rindar* ‘son of Weden and Rind’ and *hefni-áss Baldrs, dólgr Haðar ok bani hans* ‘avenging os of Balder; the enemy of Hath and his bane’.

The revenge narrative is also dealt with by Grammaticus (2015)[3.4.1–8] in typical euhemerized form. In his retelling Hath and Balder are generals and rulers; in no way gods. It may be summarized as follows (for his latinized names see respective Encyclopedia entries): Weden takes counsel from warlocks and wallows; one of them, Horsethief the Finn, foretells that Rind, daughter of the Russian king, will bear him another son to avenge Balder. Weden soon enlists in the king’s army and leads it to great victories, but is continually spurned by the king’s daughter. He tries various other disguises but is still refused. At last he disguises himself as an old woman and becomes her handmaid and physician. When she turns sick, he binds her in order to give her a certain potion; while bound he rapes her, apparently with her father’s consent. Their son, Bo, grows up to become a fierce raider. One day Weden summons him and reminds him of his duty to avenge his brother, Balder. Bo slays Hath in a duel, but soon perishes from his wounds.

- 31 Ek sá Baldri, • blóðgum tífur,  
2 Óðins barni, • or-lög folgin;  
stóð of vaxinn • vllum héri  
4 mjór ok mjök fagr • mistil-tęinn.

[R 2r/2]

I saw Balder’s—the bloody victim’s,  
Weden’s child’s—*orlay* sealed;<sup>28</sup>  
grown did stand, higher than the plains,  
a slender and very fair mistletoe.

<sup>1</sup> tífur ‘victim’s’ | This word is rather difficult (and possibly corrupt). It may be connected with *týr* ‘tew, god’, but I see two problems with this. First, the dat. sg. of *týr* is *tívi* and the intrusive *r* is hard to explain. Second, although it must have been at some point used in the singular in the generic sense ‘god’, and this survives in compounds like *Sig-týr* ‘Victory-tew (= Weden)’ and in the plural *tívar* ‘tews; gods’, in the ON corpus the simplex form *týr* exclusively refers to the god ‘Tew’. I follow CV, who connect it with OE *tiber*, *tífer* ‘victim, hostage’, but this also has problems: *blóðgum* ‘bloody’ is the masc. dat. sg., but *tiber* is neuter. Assuming a nom. sg. *\*tífurr* with the same declension as *jǫfurr*, we would expect *\*tífri* in the dat. sg., not *tífur* (which would however be the expected acc. sg.).

<sup>28</sup>Or ‘hidden’. The verb *fela* ‘hide, conceal’ is used in poetry to describe burial in mounds, as in *IngT* 24 (“[...] And afterwards the victory-havers hid (*fǫlu*) the ruler on Borrey.”) or the C10th Karlevi stone (“Hidden (*fulkin fǫlginn*) in this mound lies he whom the greatest deeds followed; [...]”)

- 32 Varð af mēiði, · þeim's mēr sýndisk, [R 2r/4]  
 2 harm-flaug hēttlig, · Høðr nam skjóta.  
 Baldrs bróðir vas · of borinn snimma,  
 4 sá nam, Óðins sonr, · ęin-nēttr vega.

Of the wood which slender seemed  
 became a baneful harm-flier—Hath took to shoot.  
 Balder's brother [= Wonnell] was born early;  
 he took—Weden's son, one night old—to fight.

- 33 Þó ęva hęndr · né hęfuð ķembði, [R 2r/6]  
 2 áðr á bál of bar · Baldrs and-skota;  
 en Frigg of grét · í Fęn-solum  
 4 vę Val-hallar. · Vituð ér ęnn eða hvat?

He ne'er washed his hands, nor combed his head,  
 before onto the pyre he did bear Balder's opponent [= Hath],  
 and Frie lamented in the Fenhalls  
 the woe of Walhall.—Know ye yet, or what?

1 Þó ... ķembði 'washed ... combed' | A collocation, see note to *Highb* 61 for discussion and other examples.  
 Wonnell, being oathbound and on the mission to avenge his brother, could not engage in such acts of personal  
 vanity.

4 vę Val-hallar 'the woe of Walhall' | i.e. the deaths of Balder and Hath.

- H1 Þá kná Váli · vīg-bönd snúa [H 20v/12]  
 2 hęldr vęru harð-gęr · hępt ór þęrmum.

Then did Wonnell the war-bonds turn:  
 most sturdy fetters made from intestines.<sup>29</sup>

1 Váli 'Wonnell' | emend.; *Vála* H

1-2 Þá ... þęrmum. | Only attested in H, where it replaces 34a.

<sup>29</sup>This myth is retold both in *Yilv* and *From Lock* below. The basic story is that after Lock was caught after  
 Balder's death and bound with his son's intestines. A snake was then placed to drip venom over his face. His  
 wife, Syein, sat over him and caught the venom in a hand-washing basin. See introduction to *From Lock* for a  
 summary of the differences between the accounts.

- 34a Hapt sá hęn liggja · und Hvera-lundi [R 2r/8]  
 2 lę-gjarns líki · Loka á-þękkjan;

A prisoner [= Lock] she saw lying beneath Wharlund,  
 alike to Lock; a guile-eager man's form.

2 l̥-gjarns ‘guiler-eager’ | A formulaic epithet of Lock. See note to TODO for other examples and discussion.

- 2 **34b** þar sitr Sigyn · þęgi of sínum  
veri v̥l̥-glýjuð. · Vituð ér ęnn eða hvat?

[R 2r/9, H 20v/13]

There sits Syein not at all cheerful,  
o'er her husband.—Know ye yet, or what?

The follow sts. are paraphrased in *Yǫlv* ch. 52:

*Þá mēlti Gangleri: „Hvat verðr þá eptir, er brenndr er himinn ok jörð ok heimr allr, ok dauð goðin ęll ok allir Einherjar ok alt mann-folk, ok hafið ér áðr sagt, at hvern maðr skal lifa í nękvęprum heimi um allar aldir?“*

*Þá svarar Þriði: „Margar eru þá vistir góðar ok margar illar; batst er þá at vera á Gimléi á himni, ok all-gótt er til góðs drykkjar þeim, er þat þykkir gaman, í þeim sal, er Brimir heitir; hann stendr ok á himni. Sá er ok góðr salr, er stendr á Niða-fjollum, gęrr af rauðu gulli; sá heitir Sindri. Í þessum solum skulu byggja góðir menn ok sið-látir.*

*Á Ná-stręndum er mikill salr ok illr ok horfa norðr dyrr; hann er ok ofinn allr orma-bryggjum sem vanda-bús, en orma hęfuð ęll vitu inn í húsit ok blása eitri, svá at eptir salnum renna eittr-ár, ok vaða þęr ár eið-rofar ok morð-vargar, svá sem hęr segir:“*

‘Then spoke Gangler: “What will then be afterwards, when heaven and earth and all the world is burned, and dead are the gods and all Onecharriers and all man-kind—and ye have said earlier, that each man will live in some world for all ages?”

Then answers Third: “Many good dwellings are there then, and many bad: it is then best to be on Gimlee in heaven, and it is all-good with good drink, for those who find that pleasurable, in the hall which is called Brimmer; it also stands on heaven. That one is also a good hall which stands on the Nithfells, made of red gold; it is called Sinder. In these halls good and well-mannered men will dwell.

On Neestrاند is a great and bad hall, and the doors face north. It is all woven with the spines of serpents like a wicker-house, but the heads of the serpents all face into the house and blow venom, so that along the hall run venom-rivers, and in those rivers wade oath-breakers and murder-wargs, as is said here:”

after which are quoted sts. 37 and 38/1–2, followed by the prose: *En í Hver-gelmi er verst* ‘But in Wharyelmer is is worst’ and 38/4.

- 2 **35** Ǫ fęllr austan · of ęitr-dala  
sęxum ok sverðum, · Slíðr hętir sú.

[R 2r/10]

A river falls from the east, above the venom-dales;  
[a river] of saxes and swords, Slide is that one called.<sup>30</sup>



2 Slíðr ‘Slide’ | i.e. ‘very sharp’. Cf. *Attl* 23: *sax slíðr-bǣtt* ‘slide-biting sax’.

<sup>30</sup>TODO. There are other examples of such a river.

36 Stóð fyr norðan · à Niða-vøllum [R 2r/11]  
 2 salr ór gulli · Sindra ętta;  
 en annarr stóð · à Ókólni,  
 4 bjór-salr jötuns, · en sá Brimir heitir.

Stood to the north, on the Nithwolds,  
 a hall out of gold, of Sinder’s lineage [DWARFS];  
 but another one stood, on Uncolner,  
 the beer-hall of an ettin, and Brimmer is that one called.

1 Niða-vøllum ‘Nithwolds’ | *Niða-fjollum* ‘Nithfells’ RW (paraphrase); *fjellom nokkurum* ‘some certain fells’ T

4 en sá Brimir heitir ‘but Brimmer is that one called’ | It is not clear if this is the name of the ettin or the hall itself. The author of *Yilv* considered it the name of the hall.

37 Sal sá hön standa · sólu fjarri [R 2r/13, H 20v/19, G]  
 2 Ná-ströndu á, · norðr horfa dyrr;  
 falla ęitr-dropar · inn umb ljóra,  
 4 sá’s undinn salr · orma hryggjum.

A hall she saw standing, far from the sun,  
 on Neestrand; north face the doors;  
 fall venom-drops in through the smoke-vent;  
 that hall is wound by the spines of snakes.

1 sá hön ‘she saw’ | *vęit’k* ‘I know’ G. The same relationship is found in st. 62.

38 Sá hön þar vaða · þunga strauma [R 2r/15, H 20v/21, G]  
 2 męnn męin-svara · ok morð-varga  
 ok þann’s annars glepr · ęyra-rúnu.  
 4 Þar saug Nið-hęgggr · nái fram-gingna;  
 sleit vargr vera. · Vituð ér ęnn eða hvat?

There she saw wading through heavy streams  
 perjurious men and murder-wargs,  
 and the one who beguiles another’s ear-whisperer [WIFE].  
 There sucked Nithehewer from corpses passed-on;  
 the warg tore men asunder.—Know ye yet, or what?<sup>31</sup>

1 Sá hön ‘she saw’ | so R; *ser hon* ‘she sees’ H; *skulu* ‘shall [be]’ G 4 saug ‘sucked’ | so H; *řsúgř* R; *kvęlr* ‘torments’ G

<sup>31</sup>In this st. is clearly described watery punishment in the Heathen afterlife, also seen in *Rein* 3–4 and possibly in *Grim* 21. The crimes are what one might expect from the Germanic worldview: perjury, shameful murder, and adultery with a married woman. In Anglo-Saxon and Nordic laws the committer of such crimes gained the title of **nithing**, that is, one afflicted with **nithe** (severe shame). It is not surprising then that such nithings would be tortured by a creature named Nithehewer ‘Nithe-striker’. The practice of burying in bogs and flood-marks (or generally outside of settlements) is well attested in sources about Germanic culture from Taciti Germania onwards—I consider it likely that the heavy streams in this stanza and others represent such graves. This is further elaborated on in *GermanicGems2*<empty citation>.

39     **A**ustr býr hin **a**ldna · í **É**arn-viði  
        ok **f**öðir þar · **F**enris kindir;  
        verðr af þeim **q**llum · **ę**inna nøkkurr  
        **t**ungls **t**júgari · í **t**rolls hami.

[R 2r/17, H 20v/2, G]

In the east<sup>32</sup> dwells the old woman, in Ironwood,  
 and nourishes there the kindreds of Fenrer [WOLVES];  
 from them all comes one most particular:  
 a seizer of the Moon in a troll’s **hame**.<sup>33</sup>

1 býr ‘dwells’ | so HG; *sat* ‘sat/stayed’ R 1 **a**ldna ‘old’ | *arma* ‘wretched’ U 1 **É**arn-viði ‘Ironwood’ | metr. emend.; *Járnviði* RHWU; *Járn-viðjum* ‘Ironwoods’ T 2 **f**öðir ‘nourishes’ | so HG; *föddi* ‘nourished’ R 3 af | *ór* TS 4 **t**júgari ‘seizer’ | *ftuigan*† T; *tregari* ‘griever’ U. As the young agentive suffix *-ari* is found nowhere else in the poem it is possible that this word is corrupt. If it is, it must have occurred early in the transmission, as reflexes of *\*tjúgari* are found in all surviving mss.

<sup>32</sup>The cardinal direction associated with Ettinham, which is presumably where Ironwood is located.

<sup>33</sup>The old hag raises the cubs of the wolf Fenrer, of which a particularly fierce one will swallow the moon. According to *Grim* 40 the sun is chased by a wolf called Skoll, while another wolf, Hate Rothswitner’s son, runs in front of her. This is elaborated upon in *Yilv* 12, where it is said that Skoll swallows the moon, while Hate swallows the sun. High then explains that “A lone troll-woman (*gygr*) lives to the east of Middenyard in that forest called Ironwood”, and “feeds the sons of many ettins, all in the likenesses of wolves, and thereof these wolves (i.e. Skoll and Hate) come. And it is also said that from that lineage a single one becomes the mightiest, and he is called Moongarm. He fills himself with the life of all those men who die and he swallows the moon and stains heaven and all the air with blood. Thereof the sun loses its rays and the winds are violent and moan hither and thither, and thus it says in the Spae of the Wallow: [...]” after which this and the following st. are quoted. This seems very much like a composite from several sources—probably *Wsp* 40–41 and *Grim* 40—but becomes contradictory when it states that two wolves swallow the moon. Assuming that this is only a confusion on the part of the author of *Yilv*, this st. and the next must be describing Skoll, but it is of course not impossible that there was confusion about the exact details of these events among the Heathen poets. In favour of that seems to speak *Weibth* 46–47, where the sun is said to be swallowed by Fenrer (but see note there).

40     **F**yllisk fjörvi · **f**ęgra manna,  
        **r**ýðr **r**agna sjot · **r**auðum dreýra,  
        **s**vort verða **s**ól-skin · of **s**umur ęptir,  
        **v**eðr qll **v**á-lynd. · **V**ituð ér ęnn eða hvat?

[R 2r/19, H 20v/4, G]

[The wolf] fills himself with the life of **fey** men;  
 [he] reddens the abode of the **Reins** with red gore.  
 Black becomes the sunshine in the summers thereafter;  
 the winds all woeful.—Know ye yet, or what?

41      **S**at þar á haugi · ok **s**ló hǫrpu      [R 2r/21, H 20v/16]  
 2      **g**ýgjar hirðir, · **g**laðr Eggþér;  
          **g**ól of hǫnum · í **G**agl-viði  
 4      **f**agr-rauðr hani, · sá's **F**jalarr heitir.

Sat there on the mound<sup>34</sup> and struck the harp,  
 the go's herdsman, glad Edgethew.<sup>35</sup>  
 Above him crowed, in Galewood<sup>36</sup>,  
 a fair-red cock, he who is called Feller.

<sup>34</sup>Cf. *Thrim* 6, where the ettin Thrim is said to sit on a mound, and *Shir* P2, where a herdsman in Ettinham sits on a mound. The significance of this mound-sitting is uncertain, but it is clearly associated with ettins.

<sup>35</sup>Edgethew “herds” the flock of monstrous wolves for the old woman in st. 39.

<sup>36</sup>*gagl* ‘wild goose’, maybe here referring to carrion-eating ravens? Galewood is probably the same location as Ironwood.

42      **G**ól of ǫsum · **G**ullin-kambi,      [R 2r/23, H 20v/18]  
 2      sá veðr **h**ǫlða · at **H**erja-fǫðrs,  
          en **a**nnarr geðr · fyr **j**ǫrð neðan  
 4      **s**ót-rauðr hani · at **s**olum Heðjar.

Crowed over the Eese Goldencomb:  
 he wakes men at the Father of Hosts's (= Woden's) [hall]—  
 but another one crows beneath the earth:  
 a soot-red cock at the halls of Hell.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>37</sup>The crowing of the three cocks (the first in Ettinham, the second in Walhall and the third in Hell) presumably heralds the coming destruction.

43      **G**eyr **G**armr mjök · fyr **G**nipa-helli,      [R 2r/25]  
 2      feðr mun slitna, · en **F**reki rinna;  
          fǫlðr veit hǫn **f**róða, · **f**ramm sé'k lengra  
 4      of **r**agna **r**ök, · **r**ømm sig-tíva.

Garm barks much before the Gnip-halls;  
 the rope will tear and the Wolf [will] run.  
 She knows much wisdom, I foresee further  
 about the mighty Rakes of the Reins, of the victory-Tews [GODS].

- 44 Bróðr munu berjask · ok at bōnum verðask,  
 2 munu systrungar · sífjum spilla;  
 hart 's í hēimi, · hór-dómr mikill,  
 4 skęggj-ǫld, skalm-ǫld, · skildir klofnir,  
 vind-ǫld, varg-ǫld, · áðr ver-ǫld steypisk  
 6 mun ęngi maðr · ǫðrum þyrma.

[R 2r/28, H 20v/24, G]

Brothers will fight and become each other's slayers;  
 sister's sons will defile the relation.<sup>38</sup>  
 'Tis hard in the Home, whoredom great:  
 axe-eld, sword-eld—shields cloven—  
 wind-eld, warg-eld; before the world<sup>39</sup> tumbles down,  
 no man will another spare.

2 systrungar 'sister's sons' | *†stysstrungar†* T 3 í hēimi 'in the Home' | so RHU; *með hǫldum* 'among men'  
 STW 4 skildir 'shields' | *'ru* 'are' add. R 4 klofnir 'cloven' | *klofna* 'become cloven' U 5 áðr 'before' |  
*unz* (norm.) 'until' U 6 ęngi | *†enn†* U

5 vind-ǫld 'wind-eld' | In H the *v* is capitalized, marking the beginning of a new stanza.

5 steypisk 'tumbles down' | *grundir gjalla* · *gífr fljúgandi* (norm.) 'foundations shrill, fiends flying' add. after this l. H

6 mun ... þyrma 'before ... spare' | om. STW

<sup>38</sup>i.e. 'commit incest'. That this is the sense is clear from legal compounds containing the same root as *spilla* 'to spoil, defile' like *fręndsemis-spell* 'kinship-defilement' and especially *sifja-spell* 'relation-defilement' both referring to illicit sexual relationships.

Very notably this conception has a strong parallel in *RV* 10.10.10a–b (norm. and tr., Nikhil S. Dwibhashyam. (2023, oct. 28). *Vēda quote 6*. <https://nikhilsd.com/dvq/6/>): *Ā ghā tā gachān · úttarā yugāni, // yātra jāmayāḥ · kṛṇāvann ājāmi* 'There shall come indeed those later ages when relatives shall do (acts) not (fit for) relatives.'

<sup>39</sup>*ver-ǫld* 'world' is literally 'man-eld', 'the eld of man' and may be read as such, since "world (universe)" is usually expressed with *hęimr*, as here l. 3.

- 45 Lęika Míms synir, · en mjōtuðr kyndisk  
 2 at hinu galla · Gjallar-horni;  
 hōtt blęss Hęim-dallr, · horn 's á lopti;  
 4 męlir Óðinn · við Míms hōfuð.

[R 2r/32, H 20v/27, G]

Play the sons of Mime, and the Metted is kindled,  
 at [the sounding of] the shrill Horn of Yell.  
 High blows Homedal, the horn is aloft;  
 Weden speaks with the head of Mime.

4 męlir 'speaks' | *†mey†* S; *†nie†* T

1–4 Lęika ... hōfuð. | In G ll. 1–2 (*Lęika* ... *Gjallarhorni*; 'Play ... Horn of Yell.') are missing, and ll. 3–4 (*hōtt* ... *hōfuð*. 'High ... head [of Mime.]') are instead paired with the first two lines of the next st. (*Skęlfir* ... *losnar*);

- 46 Skelfr Yggdrasils · askr standandi, [R 2v/3, H 20v/28, G]  
 2 ymr it aldna tré, · en jötunn losnar;  
 hrēðask allir · à hæl-vegum  
 4 áðr Surtar þann · sefi of gleypir.

Quakes Ugdrassle's Ash, standing;  
 groans the old tree, and the ettin loosens.  
 All are frightened on the Hell-ways,  
 before Surt's kinsman does devour it.

1–2 Skelfr ... losnar 'Quakes ... loosens' | so HG; in R the two lines are reversed.

3–4 hrēðask allir ... gleypir 'All are frightened ... devour [it.]' | Only in H.

- 47 Hvat 's með øsum? · hvat 's með ølfum? [R 2v/8, H 20v/30, G]  
 2 gnýr allr Jötun-heimr, · ęsir 'ru à þingi,  
 stynja dvergar · fyr stęin-durum  
 4 vęgg-bergs vísir. · Vituð ér ęnn eða hvat?

What is with the Eese? What is with the Elves?  
 All Ettinham roars; the Eese are at the Thing.  
 Dwarfs groan before gates of stone,  
 the steep rock's princes.—Know ye yet, or what?

1 ølfum 'Elves' | ęsynjum 'Ossens' U 2 gnýr ... þingi | om. U 3 stęin-durum | stęins U; stęin-dyrum HWU

4 vęgg-bergs vísir | om. U 4 vęgg-bergs 'steep rock's' | vęg-bergs 'way-rock's' HTW

- 48 Gęyr nú Garmr mjøk · fyr Gnipa-hęlli, [R 2v/4, H 20v/32]  
 2 fęstr mun slitna, · en freki rinna;  
 fjølð vęit høn frøða, · framm sé'k lęngra  
 4 of ragna røk · rømm sig-tíva.

Now Garm barks much before the Gnip-halls;  
 the rope will tear and the Wolf [will] run.  
 She knows much wisdom, I foresee further  
 about the mighty Rakes of the Reins, of the victory-Tews [GODS].

- 49 Hrymr ękr austan, · hęfsk lind fyrir, [R 2v/4, H 20v/32, STW]  
 2 snýsk Jørmun-gandr · í jötun-móði,  
 ormr knýr unnir, · en ari hlakkar,  
 4 slítr náí nef-føl; · Nagl-far losnar.

Rim drives from the east, he holds his shield before himself;  
 Ermingand writhes about in ettin-wrath:  
 the Wýrm propels the waves; but the eagle screams:  
 the pale-beak tears corpses; Nailfare loosens.

3 en **ari** hlakkar ‘but the eagle screams’ | *ørn mun blakka* ‘the eagle will scream’ ST

- 50 **Kj**óll færr austan · **k**oma munu Múspell  
2 of **l**ög **l**ýðir, · en **L**oki stýrir;  
fara **f**ífl-mægir · með **f**reka allir,  
4 þeim es **b**róðir · **B**ýlęists í fōr.

[R 2v/6, H 20v/34, STW]

A ship fares from the east—come will Muspell’s  
subjects over the sea—but Lock steers it.  
Fare the devil-lads all with the Wolf;  
with them goes the brother of Bylest [= Lock] along.

- 51 **S**urtr færr **s**unnan · með **s**viga lęvi,  
2 skinn af **s**verði · **s**ól val-tíva;  
**g**rjót-bjōrg **g**nata, · en **g**ífr rata,  
4 troða **h**alir **h**ęl-veg, · en **h**iminn klofnar.

[R 2v/10, H 20v/36, G]

Surt comes from the south with the betrayer of the stick [FIRE];  
from the sword shines the sun of the slain-Tews.  
Boulders clash, but the fiends reel;  
men march on the Hell-ways, but heaven is cloven.

1 Surtr | *Svartr* U 3 gífr rata ‘fiends reel’ | *guðar brata* ‘[but] the gods stagger’ U is wo. doubt corrupt, the anachronistic masc. pl. ending *-ar* is proof enough, since *gōð -guð* ‘gods’ was always neuter in heathen times.

- 52 Þa kōmr **H**línar · **h**armr annarr fram,  
2 es **Ó**ðinn færr · við **u**lf vega,  
—en **b**ani **B**ęlja · **b**jartr at Surti—  
4 þa mun **F**riggjar · **f**alla angan.

[R 2v/13, H 20v/37, STW]

Then comes Line’s second sorrow to pass,<sup>40</sup>  
as Weden fares to strike against the wolf  
—but Bellow’s bane [= Free], bright, [goes] against Surt—  
then will Frie’s beloved [= Weden] fall.

4 angan | *angantyr* R

<sup>40</sup>That the first sorrow was the death of Balder (see sts. 31–33) is unanimously understood. Line is described in *Yilv* 35 as a minor goddess *sett til gęzlu yfir þeim mōnum, er Frigg vill forða við baska nokkurum* ‘placed to watch over those men which Frie wishes to protect against any particular danger’. In spite of this, almost all translators and commentators have understood Line as here referring to Frie, or questioned whether her existence as a separate goddess is not a misunderstanding on the part of the author of *Yilv*. Hopkins (2017) argues excellently that this need not be the case; as a subordinate goddess of Frie, Line’s two sorrows would be her failing to protect Balder and Weden (the son and husband of her mistress, respectively) from harm.

- 53 Þá kómr hinn mikli · mōgr Sig-fōður, [R 2v/15, STW]  
 2 Víðarr vega · at val-dýri;  
 léttr megi Hveðrungs · mund of standa  
 4 hjor til hjarta; · þá 's hefnt fōður.

Then comes the great lad of Syefather (= Weden):  
 Wider, to strike at the slaughter-beast [= the Wolf].  
 He lets his hand drive the sword into the heart  
 of Whethring's (= Lock) lad [= the Wolf]; then is the father [= Weden] avenged!

1 Þá kómr ... Sig-fōður 'Then comes ... Syefather' | *Gengr Óðins sonr* · við ulf vega 'Goes Weden's son against the wolf to fight' G 2 vega | of veg G

- H2 Ginn lopt yfir · lindi jarðar, [H 20v/39]  
 2 gapa ýgs kjaptar · orms í hēðum;  
 mun Óðins son · eitri móta  
 4 vargs at dauða · Víðars niðja.

Yawns over the air the girdle of the earth [= Middenyardswyrm],  
 gape the jaws of the fierce worm in the heights.  
 Weden's son [= Thunder] will meet the venom  
 of the outlaw after the deaths of Wider's kinsmen [= the Eese].

3 eitri 'venom' | emend.; *ormi* 'worm' H. It seems likely that the author of *Ylfr* had access to this verse. Cf. *Ylfr* 51: "Thunder bears the bane-word from the Middenyardswyrm and thence strides away nine paces. Then he falls dead to the earth due to the venom (*eiðri*) which the Wýrm blows on him." 4 dauða | da... H

1–4 Ginn ... niðja. | The final part of this verse is almost completely illegible. I have relied on the reading of Jón Helgason (1971, pp. 13, 44 ff.).

- 54 Þá kómr hinn méri · mōgr Hlōðynjar [R 2v/17, H 20v/41, STW]  
 2 gengr Óðins sonr · við orm vega.  
 Drepr af móði · Mið-garðs véurr;  
 4 munu halir allir · hēim-stōð ryðja;  
 gengr fet níu · Fjörgynjar burr  
 6 neppr frá naðri, · niðs ó-kvíðnum.

Then comes the renowned lad of Lathyn (= Earth) [= Thunder]:  
 goes Weden's son the worm to meet.  
 Middenyard's Wigh-ward strikes out of wrath;  
 all men will clear their homesteads.<sup>41</sup>  
 The son of Fjrgyn goes nine paces,  
 pained, away from the loathsome adder [= Middenyardswyrm].<sup>42</sup>

1 Þá kómr 'then comes' | *Gengr* 'goes' G 2 gengr ... vega | Only in R; TODO. 3–6 Drepr ... ó-kvíðnum 'Middenyard's ... adder' | *neppr af naðri* · *niðs ókviðnum* // *munu halir allir* · *hēim-stōð ryðja*, // *es af móði drepr*

· *Mið-garðs véurr* ‘[Goes the renowned lad of Lathyn,] pained, away from the loathsome adder. All men will clear their homesteads, when out of wrath Middenyard’s wigh-ward strikes.’ G

<sup>41</sup>It seems likely that the order found in *Yilv* is original. After Thunder (appropriately kenned ‘Middenyard’s wigh-ward’) is slain, the Ettins take over the lands and make farming impossible. Cf. *Thrim* 18: “Shortly the Ettins will settle Osyard, unless thou thy hammer for thyself dost fetch!”

<sup>42</sup>Thunder, mortally wounded, struggles nine steps away from the Wýrm before he falls. See note to previous verse.

55      Sól tér sortna, · søkkr fold í mar, [R 2v/20, H 21r/1, G]  
 2      hverfa af himni · heðar stjörnur;  
           geisar ęimi · við aldr-nara;  
 4      leikr hór hiti · við himin sjalfan.

The sun does blacken, sinks the fold [EARTH] into the sea;  
 disappear off heaven the clear stars.  
 Rages smoke from the life-nourisher [FIRE];  
 the high heat licks the very heaven.

1 sökkr ... mar ‘sinks ... the sea’ | This line is very similar to a line of st. 24 in Arnthur ‘earl-scold’ Thursthson’s Drape of Thurfinn (SKP: Arn Þorfdr 24<sup>11</sup>): *sökk fold í mar dökkvan* ‘sinks the fold into the dark sea’, for which reason *sökk* ‘sinks’ STW has been chosen over *sigr* ‘descends’ RHU.

56      Geyr nú Garmr mjök · fyr Gnipa-helli, [R 2v/22, H 21r/2]  
 2      festr mun slitna, · en freki rinna;  
           fjöld veit hön fróða, · framm sé’k lengra  
 4      of ragna rök, · rømm sig-tíva.

Now Garm barks much before the Gnip-halls;  
 the rope will tear and the Wolf [will] run.  
 She knows much wisdom, I foresee further  
 about the mighty Rakes of the Reins, of the victory-Tews [GODS].

The following stanzas are paraphrased in *Yilv* ch. 53:

*Þá mælti Gangleri: „Hvart lifa nokkur goðin þá, eða er þá nokkur jörð eða himinn?“  
 Hárr segir: „Upp skýtr jörðunni þá ór senum, ok er þá grón ok fęgr. Vaxa þá akrar  
 ó-sánir. Viðarr ok Váli lifa, svá at eigi hefir sęrinn ok Surta-logi grandat þeim, ok byggja  
 þeir á Iða-velli, þar sem fyrr var Ás-garðr, ok þar koma þá synir Þórs, Móði ok Magni,  
 ok hafa þar Mjöllni. Því nęst koma þar Baldr ok Hęðr frá Heljar, setjast þá allir samt,  
 ok talast við, ok minnast á rúnar sínar, ok róða of tíðendi þau, er fyrrum hęfðu verit, of  
 Mið-garðs-orm ok um Fenris-úlf. Þá finna þeir í grasinu gull-tęflur þęr, er ęsirnir hęfðu  
 átt. Svá er sagt:“*



‘Then spoke Gangler: “Do any of the gods survive then, or is there any earth or heaven?” High says: “Then shoots the earth up from the seas, and is then green and fair. Then acres grow unsown. Wider and Wonnell live, as the sea and Surt’s flame has not wounded them, and they settle Idewolds, where Osyrd once was, and there come the sons of Thunder, Mood and Main, and have there Millner. Thereafter come Balder and Hath from Hell, then all reconcile with each other and speak with each other and think back on their runes, and speak about the tidings which had once been: about the Middenyardswyrm and about the Fenrerswolf. Then they find in the grass those golden game-bricks which the Eese had owned. So it is said:”

after which is quoted *Weibh* TODO.

- 
- 57 Sér hōn upp koma · qǫru sinni [R 2v/23, H 21r/4]  
 2 jǫrð ór ęgi · iðja-grōna;  
 falla forsar, · flýgr qrn yfir,  
 4 sá’s à fjalli · fiska vęiðir.

Up she sees coming, a second time,  
 the earth out of the ocean, ever green anew.  
 Torrents fall; flies an eagle above,  
 he who on the fells fish does catch.

- 58 Finnask ęsir · à Iðja-vęlli [R 2v/24, H 21r/5]  
 2 ok umb mold-þinur · mǫtkan dōma,  
 ok minnask þar · à męgin-dōma  
 4 ok à Fimbul-týs · fornar rúnar.

The Eese find each other on Idewolds,  
 and of the mighty earth-strip [= the Middenyardswyrm] do speak,  
 and there think back on mighty verdicts,  
 and on Fimble-Tew’s (= Weden’s) ancient runes.

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<sup>1</sup> Finnask ‘find each other’ | *bittask* H provides closer parallelism with st. 7, but for the same reason it may also have replaced earlier *finnask*. <sup>3</sup> ok minnask þar · à męgin-dōma ‘and there think back on mighty verdicts’ | om. R

- 59 Þar munu ęptir · undr-samligar [R 2v/26, H 21r/7]  
 2 gullnar tǫflur · í grasi finnask,  
 þęr’s í ár-daga · áttar hǫfðu.

There will afterwards wondrous  
 golden game-bricks in the grass be found:  
 those which in days of yore they had owned.<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>43</sup>Cf. st. 9. The rediscovering of the golden board game pieces symbolizes a new golden age.

- 60 Munu ð-sánir · akrar vaxa; [R 2v/28, H 21r/9]  
 2 bqls mun alls batna · mun Baldr koma;  
 búa Hqðr ok Baldr · Hropts sig-toptir,  
 4 vql val-tívar. · Vituð ér enn eða hvat?

Unsown will acres grow;  
 the bale will all be bettered; Balder will come.  
 Hath and Balder bedwell Rof's (= Weden's) victory-plots  
 well, the slain-Tews.—Know ye yet, or what?<sup>44</sup>

<sup>44</sup>The evil of Hath's slaying Balder will be forgotten as the two peacefully live together.

- 61 Þa kná Hönir · hlaut-við kjósa [R 2v/30, H 21r/11]  
 2 ok burir byggva · bróðra tveggja  
 vind-heim víðan. · Vituð ér enn eða hvat?

Then does Heener choose the leat-wood,<sup>45</sup>  
 and the sons of two brothers [= Hath and Balder] settle  
 the wide wind-home [SKY/HEAVEN].—Know ye yet, or what?

2 bróðra tveggja 'of two brothers' | Alternatively *bróðra Tveggja* 'the brothers of Tway (= Weden)', attested in *Ylfr* 6 as **Will** and **Wigh**, but they are never said to have children, and it is thus more natural to read *tveggja* as the gen. pl. of *tvęir* 'two'.

<sup>45</sup>Restore the blood and practice divination.

- 62 Sal sér hñn standa · sólu fęgra, [R 2v/31, H 21r/12, G]  
 2 gulli þakðan, · á Gimléi;  
 þar skulu dyggvar · dróttir byggva  
 4 ok umb aldr-daga · ynðis njóta.

A hall she sees standing, fairer than the sun,  
 thatched with gold, on Gemlee;  
 there dutiful men shall dwell,  
 and in their life-days enjoy delight.

1 sér hñn 'she sees' | *vęit* 'I know' G 2 gulli þakðan 'thatched with gold' | *gulli bętra* 'better than gold' ST  
 2 Gimléi | metr. emend.; *Gimlé* RHG 3 þar 'there' | *þann* '[in] that [hall]' TW

- H3 Þa kōmr hinn ríki · at ręgin-dōmi [H 21r/14]  
 2 qflugr ofan · sá's qllu ręðr.

Then comes the mighty one to the great judgement;  
 strong from above, he who rules everything.

1-2 Þá ... rēðr. | This stanza is found only in H and is likely to be a late Christian insert.

63 Þar kœmr hinn **dimmi** · **dręki** fljúgandi, [R 3r/2, H 21r/15]  
 2 **naðr** fránn **nēðan** · frá **Niða**-fjōllum;  
 berr sér í fjōðrum · —**flýgr** vōll yfir—  
 4 **Níð**-hoggr **nái**; · **nú** mun hōn sōkkvask.

Then comes the gloomy dragon flying;  
 the gleaming adder down below from the Nithfells.  
 He carries in his feathers—he flies over the field—  
 Nithehewer, corpses.—Now she will sink!<sup>46</sup>

<sup>46</sup>The wallow, referring to herself in third person, descends back down into her grave, whence Weden woke her. This interpretation has strong support from the very last half-line of *Helr*, where Byrnild says to a gow who insults her: *sōkkst-u, gýgjar-kyn* ‘sink, O gow’ (TODO: translation).



# The Dreams of Balder

## (*Baldrs draumar*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.890)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

In ancient manuscripts only preserved in A, but the poem also survives in later manuscripts with a few extra stanzas (see below). It follows the structure of a riddle contest.

The poem begins *in medias res*; **Balder** has been having nightmares, and so the gods meet at the Thing to figure out why (1). **Weden** rides to **Hell**, where he has an encounter with a bloody dog (2). It barks for a long time at him, but he passes it and continues to “the high house of **Hell**” (3), from which he rides west, to the grave of a certain **wallow**, whom he revives using magic (4). She asks which man has forced her out of the grave (5), and Weden introduces himself as Waytame, before asking for whom the benches of Hell are covered with gold (6). The wallow responds that barrels of mead stand brewed for Balder and that the gods are very anxious (7). Weden asks her who will slay Balder (8), and she responds that it is Hath, carrying a “high fame-beam” (9). Weden then asks her who will avenge Balder’s death by slaying Hath (10). The wallow responds that Rind will give birth to Weden’s son **Wonnell**, who will slay Hath when only one night old (11). Weden then asks about some mysterious maidens (12; see Note), which betrays his identity. The wallow tells him that she now knows his true identity, to which Weden responds that he does as well: she is not a wallow, but rather the “mother of three thurses” (13). She tells him to ride home and “be famous”, before reminding him of his death at the **Rakes of the Reins** (14).

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1      Senn vöru **ésir** • allir á þingi  
2      ok **ósynjur** • allar á máli,  
         ok umb þat **réðu** • ríkir tívar:  
4      hví véri **Baldri** • ballir draumar?

[A 1v/18]

Soon were the **Eese** all at the **Thing**,  
and the **Ossens** all at speech,  
and of this counseled the mighty **Tews**:  
Why did Balder have troubling dreams?

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1–3 Senn ... tívar ‘Soon ... Tews’ | Formulaic, identically shared with *Thrim* 14/1–3. See also Thing of the Gods.

- 2 Upp reís Óðinn, · aldinn gautr, [A 1v/19]  
 2 ok hann á Sleipni · sǫðul of lagði,  
 reïð niðr þaðan · nifl-heljar til;  
 4 mǫtti hvelpi, · þeim's ór helju kom.

Up rose Weden, the ancient Geat,  
 and he on Slapner the saddle did lay;  
 rode down thence to Nivelhell;  
 met the whelp that came out of Hell.

- 3 Sá vas blóðugr · of brjóst framan, [A 1v/21]  
 2 ok galdrs fǫður · gól oflengi,  
 framm reïð Óðinn, · fold-vegr dunði,  
 4 kom at hǫu · Heljar ranni.

That one was bloody on the front of the chest,  
 and at the father of galder [= Weden] for a long time bayed.—  
 Forth rode Weden, the fold-way [EARTH] resounded;<sup>47</sup>  
 he came to the high house of Hell.

<sup>47</sup>A similarity may be noted with the description of Thunder's riding in *Hvl* 14: *dunði ... mána vegr und þónum* 'the moon's way [SKY/HEAVEN] ... resounded beneath him') and *Thrim* 20 (see also note there).

- 4 Þá reïð Óðinn · fyr austan dyrr, [A 1v/22]  
 2 þar's hann vissi · vǫlu leiði;  
 nam hann vittugri · val-galdr kveða,  
 4 unds nauðug reís, · nás orð of kvað:

Then rode Weden east from the door,  
 there as He knew the wallow's grave;  
 He began for the cunning woman to sing a slain-galder,  
 until forced she rose, a corpse's words quoth:

3 val-galdr 'slain-galder' | i.e. a galder to quicken the dead, in this case the wallow. Cf. *High* 158 where Weden tells how He can bring hanged men back to life with runes.

- 5 „Hvat 's manna þat · mér ó·kunnra, [A 1v/24]  
 2 es mér hef'r aukit · erfitt sinni?  
 Vas'k snifin snévi, · ok slęgin regni,  
 4 ok drifin dǫggu, · dauð vas'k lengi.“

“What sort of man is this, unknown to me,  
 who has caused for me this toilsome journey?  
 I was snowed by snow and struck by rain,  
 and bespattered with dew—dead was I for long.”

3–4 Vas'k snifin ... lęgi. 'I was snowed ... long.' | Cf. the similar description of a buried person in *HHund II* 47–48 (TODO).

[Weden quoth:] “Waytame am I called, I am Waltame’s son;  
tell me [the tidings] from Hell—I will [tell those] from the world.  
For whom are the benches sown with **highs**?  
Fairly are the floors flooded with gold.”

[The wallow quoth:] “Here stands brewed for Balder mead:  
pure draughts—a shield lies over [them];  
but the os-lads [= Eese] [stand] in great suspense—  
forced I spoke, now I will shut up!”

[Weden quoth:] “Shut not up, O wallow; thee I wish to ask!  
Until all is known I wish to know further:  
Who will become Balder’s bane,  
and rob Weden’s son [= Balder] of age?”

[Völva kvað:]                9     „Hǫðr berr hǫvan · hróðr-baðm þinig,  
2           hann mun Baldri · at bana verða,  
         ok Óðins son · aldri réna;  
4           nauðug sagða'k, · nú mun'k þegja.“

[A 2r/1]

“**Hath** bears the high fame-beam [MISTLETOE] thither;  
 he will become Balder’s bane,  
 and rob Woden’s son [= Balder] of age—  
 forced I spoke, now I will shut up!”

[The wallow quoth:]

[Óðinn kvað:]

10 „Þegj-at vǫlva, · þik vil’k fregna,  
 2 unds es al-kunna, · vil’k ɛnn vita,  
 hvęrr mun hęipt Hęði · hęnt of vinna,  
 4 eða Baldrs bana · á bál vega?“

[A 2r/3]

“Shut not up, O wallow; thee I wish to ask!  
 Until all is known I wish to know further:  
 Who will avenge that evil doing on Hath,  
 or drag onto the pyre Balder’s bane [= Hath]?”

[Weden quoth:]

[Vǫlva kvað:]

11 „Rindr berr Vála · í vestr-sqlum,  
 2 sá mun Óðins sonr · ɛin-néttr vega;  
 hond of þvęr-at · né hǫfuð kęmbir,  
 4 áðr á bál of berr · Baldrs and-skota;  
 nauðug sagða’k, · nú mun’k þęgja.“

[A 2r/4]

“Rind bears **Wonnel** in the western halls:  
 he will—Weden’s son, one night old—fight.  
 He washes not his hand nor combs his head,  
 before onto the pyre he bears Balder’s opponent [= Hath]—  
 forced I spoke, now I will shut up.<sup>48</sup>”

[The wallow quoth:]

<sup>48</sup>The similarity in wording to the treatment of this myth in *Wsp* is striking; apart from the tense, ll. 2–4 here are near-identical to 32/4–33/2 there (for discussion on the narrative see introduction to *Wsp* 31–34). The irregularity of the stanza length might suggest that a line has been inserted in analogy with the aforementioned poem.

[Óðinn kvað:]

12 „Þegj-at vǫlva, · þik vil’k fregna,  
 2 unds es al-kunna, · vil’k ɛnn vita,  
 hvęrjar ’ru męyjar, · es at muni gráta  
 4 ok á himin verpa · halsa-skautum?“

[A 2r/6]

“Shut not up, O wallow; thee I wish to ask!  
 Until all is known I wish to know further:  
 Which are the maidens that weep heartily,  
 and onto heaven cast the front sheets?<sup>49</sup>”

[Weden quoth:]

<sup>49</sup>According to *Yilv* 49 Hell promised to give Balder back to the Eese if “all things in the world, living and dead, cry for him”. The Eese relayed this message, and “the men and the animals and the earth and the stones and



trees and all metals” cried for Balder. It may be that these maidens were included among the grievors (perhaps they were the walkirries, and this is what reveals Weden’s identity?), but their identity is otherwise unknown.

[Vǫlva kvað:]      **13**      „Ert-at Veg-tamr, · sem **ek** hugða,  
2                      hēldr est **Óðinn**, · **aldinn** gautr.“      [A 2r/8]  
[Óðinn kvað:]      „est-at **vǫlva** · **né** vís kona,  
4                      hēldr est **þriggja** · **þursa** móðir.“  
[The wallow quoth:]      “Thou art not Waytame as I thought,  
                                        rather art thou Weden, the ancient Geat!”—  
[Weden quoth:]      “Thou art no **wallow** nor wise woman,  
                                        rather art thou the mother of three **Thurses!**”

[Vǫlva kvað:]      **14**      „Hēim rið **Óðinn** · ok **hróðigr** ves,  
2                      svá komi-t **manna** · **męirr** aprt á vit,  
                                        es **lauss** **Loki** · **líðr** ór bǫndum  
4                      ok **ragna** **rǫk** · **rjúfęndr** koma.“      [A 2r/9]  
[The wallow quoth:]      “Ride home, O Weden, and be renowned!  
                                        So may no other man come again to visit [me],  
                                        when loose Lock slips out of his bonds,  
                                        and [at] the Rakes of the Reins the rippers come!”

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**1** ok **hróðigr** ves ‘and be renowned’ | A sarcastic, taunting statement, the sense being: “Your fame, Weden, will not save you!”

**4** **rjúfęndr** ‘rippers’ | Presumably Surt and Lock with his children, as described in *Wsp* 40 ff. The verb *rjúfa* ‘CV: to break, rip up, break a hole in’ is used in the same context in the formulaic *þá’s rjúfask regin* ‘when the **Reins** are ripped’ (*Webb* 52), *unds (of) rjúfask regin* ‘until the Reins are ripped’ (*Grim* 4, *Lock* TODO and *Syed* TODO). One might also compare the similar sounding (but not or only very distantly related) verb *rifna* ‘be riven, rent apart’ used in reference to the destruction of the world in Runic inscription Sö 154: *Jǫrð sal rifna · ok upp-biminn* ‘Earth shall be riven, and Up-heaven’, and Arn *Hryn* (in *SkP* II pp. 185–6, ll. 3/7–8, see also note there): *meiri verði þinn an þeira · þrifnuðr allr, unds biminn rifnar*. ‘greater than theirs may thy whole wealth be, until heaven is riven.’

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# The Speeches of the High One

## (*Hávamól*)

**Dating:** See individual sections.

**Meter:** *Leeds-meter, Galders-law, Ancient-words-law*

The **Speeches of the High One** is the second poem of **R**, which is the only medieval witness manuscript. Several sts. are however cited or alluded to in other places, such as Eyv *Hák* (TODO: formatting) 21 and *FbrS* TODO.

The poem before us does not very much seem like a single composition by one poet, but instead much more like a collection of scattered traditional poetry associated with the god Woden. It seems to contain at least two poems of practical life advice, two mythological narratives, scattered gnomic poetry about runes, and a list of galders. These various strands are united by their presumed speaker, namely Woden in His function as God of Wisdom.

Following previous authors, I identify the following strands, excepting various lone sts. that are probably later inserts. In the present edition each of the following is given a separate, short introduction:

1. 1–79 The Guest-strand; practical life advice, beginning with a guest arriving at a homestead
2. 81–90 Various scattered sts. of advice
3. 91–102 Woden’s failed seduction of Billing’s daughter
4. 103–110 Woden’s obtaining of the Mead of Poetry
5. 111–137 The Speeches of Loddfathomer; Woden’s advice to Loddfathomer
6. 138–146 The Rune-tally; various sts. relating to runes and their magical use
7. 146–165 The Leed-tally; Woden’s listing of 18 galders

Two questions shortly arise: who was the redactor (i.e., the person who set these strands together, and gave the new work the title *Háva mól*), and what was his motive? While a detailed and sufficient answer will probably never be found, a careful reading of the final stanza, 165, gives us some clues. By its prayer-like blessing, which brings up the Heathen dichotomy between the Gods and Ettins (the friends and enemies of Mankind, respectively) and calls the contents of the poem (which include unambiguous Heathen ritual instructions) “very useful” (*allþorfr*); and by its reference to the process of oral transmission, the whole poem in something resembling the current form must (it seems) have been put together no later than the early 11th century, in a pre-scribal, pre-monastic, Heathen context. (Iceland converted around year 1000, but people surely clung to the old traditions for some time longer.)

As seen by the emphasis on the usefulness of the poetry, the reason for this redaction was not strictly antiquarian, but foremost utilitarian; the redactor gathered an amount of traditional

poetry he found useful (whether for its life-advice or mythology) into a single poem, which could then be learned by heart by anyone. In this he certainly achieved his goal. The *Higb* is by far the greatest surviving collection of pre-Christian Norse advice poetry, and has functioned like a Noah's Ark—or Hoardmimer's Wood—for that genre. Thus, those scattered stanzas which were not included by the redactor—and many must have existed—are now forever lost.

### The Guest-strand (sts. 1–79)

The Guest-Strand (Old Norse: *Gæsta-páttir*) is one of the most interesting surviving works of Norse poetry. Sadly, its structure has been obscured by the insertion of unrelated sts. and by poor translations. My hope is to shed some light on the original coherence of the strand, while respecting the text as it appears in the manuscript. As I do not think it can do each stanza justice, and since there is not exactly a clear progression of themes, I will not here attempt a stanza-by-stanza summary of this strand. Rather, I will give some important observations and then let the reader read for himself.

The Strand is a piece of advice poetry, and takes its outset in a wanderer's arriving as a guest at a Norse farmstead. It first (roughly sts. 1–4) discusses the mutual responsibilities between guest and host, and then moves on to broader human interactions, with a particular focus on alcohol, war, friendship and human wisdom. While there is some coherence and nice transitions are frequently employed in order to shift from one theme to another (e.g. between sts. 4 and 5, or 10 and 11), the poem is not clearly divided into sections, nor is there (after the very first stanzas) a linear progression from one theme to another.

At all turns the poem advises caution and shrewdness. A man should always carry his “manwit” (ON *man-vit*, a word somewhat analogous with the English “common sense”) with him; he should think before he speaks

The poem moves seamlessly between various parts of life. To do so the poet often employs transitions where a st. repeats the structure of the previous one, but with a new subject. This is particularly evident in sts. 4–5 and 10–11.

TODO.

- 
- 1     Gáttir allar · áðr gangi framm  
 2             of skoðask skyli,  
               of skyggnask skyli;  
 4     því-at ð·víst 's at vita, · hvar ð·vinir  
               sitja á flēti fyrir.

All doorways—before one might go forth  
 he should spy round;  
 he should pry round;  
 for it's unsure to know where enemies  
 sit on the benches within.

---

2 of skoðask skyli, | om. G

2      Gefendur heilir, • gęstr 's inn kominn,  
 2            hvar skal sitja sjá?  
           mjök es bráðr • sá's á bröndum skal  
 4            síns of fręista frama.

O givers, hail! A guest has come in;  
 where shall this one sit?  
 Very anxious is he who on the fires shall  
 tempt his furtherance.

3 á bröndum 'on the fires' | Possibly referring a Norwegian folk custom, wherein a guest would sit down on the wood-pile outside of the door, waiting until being let in; see further TODO SOME ARTICLE on this custom. The speaker is announcing to the hosts (or "givers") that a guest, frozen, wet and tired, is currently sitting on the wood-pile, and ought to be let in.

4 síns of fręista frama 'tempt his furtherance' | i.e. try his luck; see how far he gets. The line is formulaic; cf. *Weib* 11, 13, 15, 17.

3      Elds es þörf • þęim's inn es kominn  
 2            ok á knúi kalinn,  
           matar ok váða • es manni þörf,  
 4            þęim's hefr of fjall farit.

Of fire there is need for the one who is come in,  
 and cold about the knees;  
 of food and of clothing there is need for the man  
 who over the fell has fared.

4      Vats es þörf • þęim's til verðar kómr,  
 2            þęrru ok þjóð-laðar,  
           góðs of óðis, • —ef sér geta mętti—  
 4            orðs ok ęndr-þögu.

Of water there is need for the one who comes for a meal;  
 of a towel and a hearty welcome;  
 of a good reception—if he might get one—  
 of speech, and silence in return.

1–4 ALL | There is a good train of thought throughout the st.: the guest must first wash and dry himself, and then be welcomed to sit and eat at the table. After the host has provided these amenities the responsibility shifts onto the guest, who must now speak.

The word *ęndr-þaga* 'silence in return' leads a nice transition to the rest of the Strand, where proper social conduct (encompassed by the first word of the next stanza below, "wit") will be discussed more broadly. One may note that the verb *þęgia* 'shut up, be silent' (of which *\*þaga*, which only appears in the present compound, is a derivative, formed in the same way as *saga* 'saw, history, story' to *ęggia* 'say, speak') and its derivative *þęgn* 'silence' are frequently used by Scoldic poets to mark the very beginning of their works (e.g. Arn *Magnadr* 1<sup>11</sup>: *þęgi sęim-brotar* 'may gold-breakers [GENEROUS MEN] be silent', Egill *Berdr* 1<sup>V</sup>: *hyggi ... til þagnar þinn lýðr* 'may thy retinue focus on silence', Glúmr *Gráf* 1<sup>1</sup>: *biðjum vér þagnar* 'we ask for silence').

- 5 Vits es þorǫf · þeim's víða ratar;  
 2 dēlt es hēima hvat;  
 at auga-bragði · verðr sá's ękki kann  
 4 ok með snotrum sitr.

Of wit there is need for the one who widely roams;  
 everything is easy at home.  
 Into a laughing-stock turns he who nothing knows,  
 and among the clever sits.

3 at auga-bragði 'Into a laughing-stock' | Idomatic. *auga-bragð* literally means 'twinkling of an eye, moment'; the sense here is thus something like 'a quick glance of derision'.

- 6 At hyggjandi sinni · skyli-t maðr hrósinn vesa,  
 2 hēldr gētinn at gęði,  
 þá's horskr ok þogull · kōmr hēimis-garða til,  
 4 sjaldan verðr víti vorum.  
 því-at ó-brigðra vin · fęr maðr aldri-gi,  
 6 an man-vit mikit.

Of his thinking should man not be boastful,  
 but rather guarding of his senses  
 when sharp and silent he comes to a homestead;  
 sudden harm seldom strikes the wary,  
 for an unfickler friend man never gets  
 than much *manwit*.

5 maðr 'man' | In R abbreviated with the rune ʝ m "man", the first of 45 such instances in the present poem. While Anglo-Saxon Latin-script mss. use several runes ideographically (e.g. ʀ o for OE *ōðel* 'homeland, patrimony'), there are (to my knowledge) no Scandinavian examples with runes other than ʝ. The tradition of ideographic runes standing for their names is ancient and goes back to the time before Latin writing, as proven by the inscriptions from Stentofen (DR 357) and Ingelstad (Ög 43), which use the runes ʝ j for *ár* 'year, good harvest' and ʝ d for *dagr* 'day', respectively. For rune names see below: Anonymous Runerow Poems.

- 7 Hinn vari gęstr, · es til verðar kōmr,  
 2 þunnu hljóði þęgir;  
 ęyrum hlýðir, · en augum skoðar,  
 4 svá nýsisk fróðra hvęrr fyrir.

The wary guest—when for a meal he comes—  
 shuts up and listens closely.  
 With ears he listens and with eyes he watches;  
 so looks each learned man ahead.

2 þunnu hljóði þęgir 'shuts up and listens closely' | lit. 'shuts up with thin (i.e. attentive) listening'.

4 nýsisk fyrir 'looks ahead' | This verb underlies the noun *for-njósn* as found in *Syed* 24.

- 8 Hinn es séll, • es sér of getr  
 2 lof ok líkn-stafi;  
 ó-délla 's við þat, • es ęiga skal  
 4 annars brjóstum í.

This one is blessed, who for himself does get  
 praise and staves of liking.  
 It's uneasy regarding that which one shall own  
 in another man's chest.

2 lof ok líkn-stafi 'praise and staves of liking' | *líkn* 'liking' is a very interesting word. It is defined by *ONP* as: 'mercy, compassion, relief, comfort, help'. In the present poem its precise meaning seems to be something like 'the state of being liked by your surroundings to the point where people are willing to help you out'. Cf. its two other occurrences in the present poem: sts. 120 and especially 123 (where it is likewise paired with *lof* 'praise').

- 9 Sá es séll, • es sjalfr of á  
 2 lof ok vit meðan lifir;  
 því-at ill rǫð • hefr maðr opt þęgit  
 4 annars brjóstum ór.

That one is blessed, who himself does have  
 praise and wits while he lives;  
 for ill counsels has man oft taken  
 out of another man's chest.

- 10 Byrði bętri • berr-at maðr brautu at,  
 2 an sé man-vit mikit;  
 auði bętra • þykkir þat í ó-kunnum stað;  
 4 slíkt es vá-laðs vera.

A better burden bears man not on the road  
 than much manwit.  
 In an unknown place it seems better than wealth;  
 such is the destitute man's shelter.

- 11 Byrði bętri • berr-at maðr brautu at,  
 2 an sé man-vit mikit;  
 veg-nest verra • vegr-a vęlli at,  
 4 an sé of-drykkja ęls.

A better burden bears man not on the road  
 than much manwit.  
 Worse way-provision he drags not along on the plain  
 than a too great drink of ale.

3 velli at ‘on the plain’ | Formulaic, the word *vǫllr* ‘plain, (uncultivated) field’ is also used in sts. 38 and 49. It is easily understood that the wild heaths and plains of Iron Age Norway were particularly unsafe places where a traveller needed to keep his wits about him, lest he fall victim to robbers or murderers (so st. 38).

12      Es-a svá gótt, · sǣm gótt kveða,  
2              ǫl alda sonum;  
            því-at fǣra vǣit, · es flǣira drekk,  
4              síns til gǣðs gumi.

It's not so good, as good they say,  
ale for the sons of men;  
for the less he knows, as the more he drinks,  
man of his own senses.

13      Ó·minnis-hegri heitir, · sá's yfir ǫlðrum þrumir,  
2              hann stelnr gǣði guma;  
            þess fogs fǫðrum · ek fǫtraðr vas'k  
4              í garði Gunnlaðar.

Forgetfulness-heron is he called, who hovers over ale-feasts;  
he robs man of his senses.  
By that bird's feathers I was fettered  
in the yards of Guthlathe.

1 Ó·minnis-hegri ‘Forgetfulness-heron’ | Lit. “unmemory-heron”; a rather interesting personification of drunkenness as a hovering bird.

14      Ǫlr ek varð, · varð ofr-ǫlvi,  
2              at hins fróða Fjalars;  
            því es ǫlðr batst, · at aþtr of heimtir  
4              hvęrr sitt gǣð gumi.

Drunk I became—I became the drunkest by far—  
at the learned Fealer's [home].—  
That ale-feast is best, where every man  
gets back to his senses.

15      Þagalt ok hugalt · skyli þjóðans barn  
2              ok víg-djarft vesa;  
            glaðr ok reifr · skyli gumna hvęrr,  
4              unds sinn bíðr bana.



Silent and thoughtful should the king's child  
—and battle-bold—be.  
Glad and cheerful should every man be,  
until he suffer his bane.

- 16 Ó·snjallr maðr · hyggsk munu **ey** lifa,  
2 ef við **víg** varask;  
en **elli** gefr hōnum · **engi** frið,  
4 þótt hōnum **geirar** gefi.

The unvalorous man thinks he will always live  
if he of war be wary;  
but old age gives him no peace,  
which yet spears would give him.<sup>50</sup>

<sup>50</sup>The unvalorous man might have been spared by the spears, but death will still find him through miserable old age. Since death is unavoidable it is better to live bravely, even if one risks dying in battle, than to live cowardly and die of sickness. This connects well to the ancient view of the 'straw-death' (TODO).

- 17 Kópir af-glapi, · es til **kynnis** kōmr,  
2 þylsk hann umb eða **þrumir**;  
allt es **senn**, · ef **sylg** of getr,  
4 uppi 's þá **gæð** **guma**.

Gapes the oaf when to visit he comes;  
he mumbles about or loiters.  
All at once—if a sip he gets—  
exposed is the mind of the man.

- 18 Sá einn **væt**, · es **víða** ratar  
2 ok hefr **fjölð** of **farit**,  
hverju **gæði** · stýrir **gumna** hverr,  
4 sá es **vitandi** 's **vits**.

He alone knows, who widely roams,  
and has journeyed much,  
which sort of mind every man wields,  
who is knowing of his wits.

2 hefr **fjölð** of **farit** 'has journeyed much' | Cf. *Webb* 3, 44, et.c., where Weden repeats: *Fjölð ek fór, · fjölð fręistaða'k, // fjölð ek reynda ręgin* 'Much I journeyed, much I tried, much I tested the **Reins**.'

- 19 Haldi-t maðr á kęri, · drekki þó at **hófi** mjöð,

- 2                    mēli þarft eða þegi;  
                     ð-kynnis þess · váar þik engi maðr,  
 4                    at gangir snimma at sofa.

Man ought not to hold onto the cask, but still drink mead in moderation;  
 he ought to speak the needful or shut up.  
 For that uncouthness will no man blame thee,  
 that thou go early to sleep.

1 Haldi-t maðr á keri 'Man ought not to hold onto the cask' | Perhaps referring to a toast wherein a drinking vessel would be passed around in a circle and each member would drink. Such toasts were drunk for a long time in Northern Europe—indeed this is the origin of the Scandinavian toasting-word, *skál* 'prosit, cheers!', lit. 'bowl!'. "Holding onto" the vessel (and not letting the next person drink) was surely seen as very rude; as late as 1519 a man in Jämtland was killed in an argument resulting from his refusal to pass on the bowl (see Sjöberg (1907)). The sense is thus: "Do not refuse a toast when offered (but do not drink too much, either!)"

2 mēli þarft eða þegi 'he ought to speak the needful or shut up' | Formulaic, line occurs identically in *Webb* 10/2.

- 20                Gróðugr halr, · nema gęðs viti,  
 2                    etr sér aldr-trega;  
                     opt fęr hlógis, · es með horskum kømr,  
 4                    manni hęmskum magi.

The gluttonous man—unless he know his sense—  
 eats himself a life-sorrow.  
 Oft the belly, when among the sharp he comes,  
 brings the foolish man ridicule.

- 21                Hjarðir þat vitu, · nęr hęim skulu,  
 2                    ok ganga þá af grasi;  
                     en ð-sviðr maðr · kann ęva-gi  
 4                    síns of mál maga.

Herds know when home they shall [go],  
 and then part from the grass;  
 but an unwise man never knows  
 his own belly's measure.

- 22                Ve-sall maðr · ok illa skapi  
 2                    hlęr at hví-vetna;  
                     hitt-ki hann vęit, · es vita þyrpti,  
 4                    at hann es-a vamma vanr.

The wretched man and badly turned out  
 laughs at anything.

This he knows not, which he might need to know:  
that he is not free of blemishes.

---

4 hann es-a vamma vanr 'he is not free of blemishes' | Formulaic, cf. *Lock* 30: *es-a þér vamma vant* 'thou art not free of blemishes'.

23 Ó·sviðr maðr · vakir umb allar nētr  
2 ok hyggr at hví-vetna;  
þá es móðr, · es at morni kōmr;  
4 alt es vīl sēm vas.

The unwise man is awake for all nights  
and thinks of anything.  
Then he is weary when the morning comes:  
all the trouble is as it was.

24 Ó·snotr maðr · hyggr sér alla vesa  
2 við-hljéðndr vini;  
hitt-ki hann fiðr, · þótt of hann fār lesi,  
4 ef með snotrum sitr.

The unclever man thinks all those  
who laugh with him his friends.  
This he finds not, that they yet make sport in him,  
if among the clever he sits.

25 Ó·snotr maðr · hyggr sér alla vesa  
2 við-hljéðndr vini;  
þá þat fiðr · es at þingi kōmr,  
4 at á for-méðndr fáa.

The unclever man thinks all those  
who laugh with him his friends.  
Then he finds, when to the Thing he comes,  
that he has spokesmen few.

---

4 á for-méðndr fáa 'has spokesmen few' | Repeated in st. 62. He has few who are ready to take his side and speak up for him (in legal proceedings); true friends are proven in hard times, not in drunken chatter. The Thing was the old Germanic legal assembly, where smaller disputes might easily turn into deadly feuds.

26 Ó·snotr maðr · þykkisk allt vita,  
2 ef á sér í vǫ veru;  
hitt-ki hann vǣit, · hvat skal við kveða,

4 ef hans fręista firar.

The unclever man seems to know everything  
if he takes shelter in a nook.  
This he knows not, what he shall answer  
if men test him.

2 v̥ 'nook' | From earlier \*vr̥; cf. Swedish vr̥ 'corner, nook', rare English wroo 'id.' The present stanza is to my knowledge the only Norse attestation of the form v̥, which features a rare Western sound change from vr- to v-. The more common change vr- to r- yields r̥, which is the normal Norse form. — Tangentially this word is brought up in FGT (1950) as an example of a word with nasal ̥, and contrasted with oral ̥ in r̥ 'sailyard'.

27      Ó·snotr maðr, · es með aldir kōmr,  
2              þat 's batst at hann þęgi;  
            ęngi þat vęit, · at hann ękki kann,  
4              nema hann męli til mart.  
            vęit-a maðr, · hinn's vęt-ki vęit,  
6              þótt hann męli til mart.

The unclever man when among people he comes,  
it's best that he shut up.  
No one knows that he nothing knows,  
unless he speak too much.  
The man knows not, who nothing knows,  
that he speak too much.

28      Fróðr sá þykkisk, · es fregna kann,  
2              ok sęgja hit sama,  
            ęy-vitu lęyna · męgu ýta synir  
4              því es gęngr of guma.

Learned seems he who can ask  
and answer the same [way].  
In no way may the sons of men hide  
that which eludes a man.

1-2 fregna ... sęgja 'ask ... answer' | Perhaps specifically in the context of a riddling contest of wisdom.

29      Órna męlir, · sá's ęva þęgir,  
2              stað-lausu stafi;  
            hrað-męlt tunga, · nema haldęndr ęigi,  
4              opt sér ó-gótt of gęlr.

He who never shuts up speaks plenty many  
utterings of absurdity.

A quick-spoken tongue—unless it be held in place—  
oft sings evil [into being] for itself.

3–4 hrað-mélt ... of gǫlr ‘A quick-spoken ... for itself’ | Formulaic. Cf. *Lock* 31.

3 nema haldendr ęigi ‘unless it be held in place’ | lit. ‘unless holders own it’ or ‘unless it own holders’. The ‘holders’ are perhaps the teeth which hold the tongue in place.

30 At auga-bragði • skal-a maðr annan hafa,  
2 þótt til kynnis komi;  
margr fróðr þykkisk, • ef freginn es-at  
4 ok nái þurr-fjallr þruma.

For a laughing-stock shall man not have another  
when he comes to visit.  
Many a one seems learned if he is not asked,  
and gets to loiter about dry-skinned.

4 þurr-fjallr ‘dry-skinned’ | i.e. ‘untested’, equivalent to the English idiom *get one’s feet wet*. The word *fell* -*fjall* ‘skin, pelt’ is rare in Old Norse literature and only occurs in cpds, e.g. *Wayl* 11: *ber-fjall* ‘bear-pelt’. It survives in modern Swedish *fjäll* ‘scale (on fish and reptiles)’

31 Fróðr þykkisk • sá’s flótta tǣkr  
2 gęstr at gęst hęðinn;  
veit-a gǫrla • sá’s of verði glissir,  
4 þótt með grǫmum glami.

Learned seems he who takes to flight,  
the guest, from a scoffing guest.  
He knows not clearly, who grins over the food,  
that he be flirting with fiends.

2 gęstr ‘guest’ | The situation hinted at in this and the following stanza is that two guests—unknown to each other—have come to the same homestead. The sense is that when mocked by a stranger it is best not to engage, since the dealing may quickly turn violent. Cf. sts. 122, 123, and 125.

32 Gumnar margir • erusk gagn-hollir,  
2 en at virði vrekask;  
aldar róg • þat mun ę vesa;  
4 órir gęstr við gęst.

Many men are well true to each other,  
but over food drive each other away.  
The strife of mankind will that ever be;  
guest raves against guest.

- 33     **Á**r-liga verðar · skyli maðr opt fāa,  
 2                    nema til kynnis komi;  
               sitr ok snópir, · léttr sēm solginn sé,  
 4                    ok kann fregna at fðu.

An early meal should man oft get,  
 unless he come to visit:  
 he sits and sulks, sounds as if starved,  
 and can ask about little.

- 34     **A**f·hvarf mikit · es til ills vinar,  
 2                    þótt á brautu búi,  
               en til góðs vinar · liggja gagn-vegir,  
 4                    þótt hann sé firr farinn.

A great detour it's to a bad friend,  
 although he live on the road;  
 but to a good friend lie the finest ways,  
 although he far gone be.

- 35     **G**anga skal, · skal-a gęstr vesa  
 2                    ęy í ęinum stað;  
               ljúfr verðr lęðr, · ef lęngi sitr  
 4                    annars flętjum á.

One shall go; he shall not be a guest  
 forever in one place.  
 The loved becomes loathed if for long he sits  
 on another man's benches.<sup>51</sup>

1 skal | emend.; om. R

<sup>51</sup>The customary length of stay in old times was three nights. So Eyel's saw, ch. 78: *þat var engi siðr, at sitja lengr en þrjár nætr at kynni*. 'it was not customary to stay longer than three nights when visiting.' Compare a much Jutish saying: *en tredje dags gjest stinker* 'a third day's guest stinks', which closely resembles a maxim attributed to Benjamin Franklin: "Guests, like fish, begin to smell after three days." It is probably with respect to such proverbs that Auden and Taylor translate the latter half of the present stanza "He starts to stink who outstays his welcome, / in a hall that is not his own."

- 36     **B**ú es bętra, · þótt lítit sé,  
 2                    halr es hęima hvērr;  
               þótt tvęr gęitr ęigi · ok taug-reptan sal,  
 4                    þat 's þó bętra an bón.

A dwelling is better though small it be;  
 each is a hero at home.

Though two goats he own and a cord-roofed hall,  
it is yet better than begging.

---

1 Bú es bętra, · þótt lítit sé 'A dwelling is better though small it be' | The b-line is missing the necessary alliteration, but no good emendation suggests itself.

37      Bú es bętra, · þótt lítit sé,  
2              halr es hęima hęęrr;  
            blóđuęt es hjarta · þęim's biđuja skal  
4              sér í mál hęęrt matar.

A dwelling is better though small it be;  
each is a hero at home.  
Bloody is the heart in him who shall beg  
for his every meal of food.

38      Vópnum sínum · skal-a maður vęlli á  
2              feti ganga framarr;  
            því-at ó-víst 's at vita, · nęę verður á vegum úti  
4              gęęrs of þęrf guma.

From his weapons shall man on the plain  
not take one step further;  
for it's unsure to know, when on the ways outside,  
man comes in need of a spear.

---

1 vęlli á 'on the plain' | Formulaic, see note to st. 12.

2 feti ganga framarr 'take one step further' | Formulaic. Cf. *Lock* 1: *svá't ęinu-gi feti gangir framarr* 'so that thou not take one step further'.

39      Fann'k-a mildan mann · eđa svá matar góđan,  
2              at vęri-t þiggja þęęit;  
            eđa síns fęar · svá-gi [...],  
4              at lęiđu sé laun, ef þęęi.

I found not a generous man or one so good of meat,  
that a gift were not accepted;  
or one with his fee so not [...],  
that the repayments were loathed, if he accepted [them].<sup>52</sup>

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1 matar góđan 'good of meat' | A Viking Age expression; see Encyclopedia.

3 [...] | It is doubtless that a word has been lost here; the meter and sense require it. Finnur Jónsson (1932) suggests *glęggvan* 'miserly, stingy', giving a litotes 'so unstingy', i.e., 'so generous'.

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<sup>52</sup>No man is so generous that he would refuse a gift presented to him, nor loathe receiving a favour as thanks for his generosity.

40 Féar síns, · es fēngit hēfr,  
2 skyli-t maðr þorð þola;  
opt sparir lēiðum · þat's hēfr ljúfum hugat;  
4 mart gēngr verr an varir.

Of his own **fee** which he has earned  
should man not suffer need.  
One oft saves for the loathed what one meant for the loved;  
much goes worse than expected.

41 Vǫpnum ok vǫðum · skulu vinir glēðjask;  
2 þat 's á sjǫlfum sýnst;  
viðr-gefēndr ok ēndr-gefēndr · erusk vinir lēngst,  
4 ef þat biðr at verða vėl.

With weapons and garments shall friends gladden each other;  
that is best seen on oneself.  
Givers-back and givers-again are friends for the longest  
if it comes to last long.

1 Vǫpnum ok vǫðum 'With weapons and garments' | i.e. weapons and armour (the "garments" are probably no silks); friends are supposed to help each other and strengthen their "violence capital". This alliterative word-pair is formulaic and in other occurrences exclusively refers to implements of war; cf. e.g. *Beow* 39, where **Shield's** pyre-ship is loaded with *bilde-wǣpnum ond beaðo-wǣdum* 'war-weapons and battle-garments'.

2 þat 's á sjǫlfum sýnst 'that is best seen on oneself' | i.e. in one's own experience.

4 þat 'it' | The friendship.

42 Vin sínum · skal maðr vinr vesa,  
2 ok gjalda gjof við gjof;  
hlátr við hlátri · skyli hǫlðar taka,  
4 en lausung við lygi.

With his friend shall man be a friend,  
and pay gift against gift;  
laughter against laughter should men employ,  
but duplicity against lie.

43 Vin sínum · skal maðr vinr vesa,  
2 þeim ok þess vin;



4 en ð-vinar síns · skyli ęngi maðr  
vinar vinr vesa.

With his friend shall man be a friend,  
with him and his friend;  
but his enemy's, should no man,  
friend's friend be.

44 Vęitst, ef vin átt, · þann's vęl trúir  
2 ok vilt af hönnum gótt geta,  
gęði skalt við þann · ok gjöfum skipta,  
4 fara at finna opt.

Know, if thou have a friend, one which thou well trust,  
and wilt receive good from him:  
thoughts and gifts shalt thou trade with him;  
journey to find him oft.<sup>53</sup>

<sup>53</sup>Several lines of the present st. are shared with st. 119.

45 Ef þú átt annan, · þann's illa trúir,  
2 vilt af hönnum þó gótt geta,  
fagrt skalt męla við þann, · en flátt hyggja  
4 ok gjalda lausung við lygi.

If thou have another, one which thou badly trust,  
and wilt yet receive good from him:  
fairly shalt thou speak with him, but falsely think,  
and pay duplicity against lie.

3 fagrt ... męla ... flátt hyggja 'fairly ... speak ... falsely think' | Formulaic, cf. sts. 90, 91.

46 Þat 's ęnn umb þann, · es þú illa trúir  
2 ok þér es grunr at gęði,  
hlęja skalt við þeim · ok of hug męla;  
4 glík skulu gjöld gjöfum.

It's yet regarding the one whom thou trust badly,  
and whose intentions toward thee are suspect:  
thou shalt laugh with him and speak with care;  
repayments shall be equal to gifts.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>54</sup>Equivalent to the last line of the previous st. ("pay duplicity against lie").

- 47 Ungr vas'k forðum, · for'k einn saman,  
 2 þa varð'k villr vega;  
 auðigr þóttumk, · es annan fann'k,  
 4 maðr es manns gaman.

Young was I once; I travelled alone;  
 then I became lost of ways.  
 Wealthy I thought myself when another one I found;  
 man is man's pleasure.

- 48 Mildir fróknir · męnn batst lifa,  
 2 sjaldan sút ala;  
 en ó-snjallr maðr · uggir hvat-vetna,  
 4 sýtir ę glęggv við gįofum.

Generous, brave men live best—  
 seldom they nourish sorrow,  
 but the unvalorous man is frightened by anything,  
 the stingy always grieves over gifts.

3 ó-snjallr, glęggv 'unvalorous, stingy' | Contrasting respectively with *frókn*, *mildr* 'brave, generous' in the first half of the stanza; very fine parallelism.

4 sýtir ... gįofum 'the stingy man ... gifts' | Cf. st. 39. After receiving a gift, one was culturally obliged to give something back.

- 49 Váðir mínar · gaf'k vęlli at  
 2 tveim tré-męnnum;  
 rekkar þat þóttusk, · es ript hęfðu;  
 4 nęiss es nękkviðr halr.

My garments I gave, on the plain,  
 to two tree-men.  
 Champions they seemed when cloaks they had;  
 shameful is the naked hero.<sup>55</sup>

<sup>55</sup>One of the harder sts. in the poem. The probable sense is that "the clothes make the man" (or warrior): under expensive gear a thin tree-man might be lurking, and likewise even a mighty man (the choice of the word *halr* 'hero, warrior' (cf. sts. 36, 37) rather than the more neutral *maðr* 'man, person' is surely intentional) can never defend himself against a heavily armoured opponent. Without his arms, he becomes as vulnerable as the "tree-man" on the plain.

- 50 Hrørnar þęll, · sú's stęndr þorpi á,  
 2 hlýr-at hęnni bękr né barr;  
 svá es maðr, · sá's mann-gi ann;  
 4 hvat skal hann lęngi lifa?

Wilters the pine that stands on the yard;  
 shields her not bark nor leaf.  
 So is the man who loves no man;  
 why shall he live for long?

51     **E**ldi heitari · brinnr með **i**llum vinum  
 2                 friðr **f**imm daga,  
               en þá **s**loknar, · es hinn **s**éttri kómr,  
 4                 ok **v**ersnar allr **v**in-skapr.

Hotter than fire burns love among bad friends,  
 for **five days**;  
 but then goes out when the sixth one comes,  
 and all the friendship worsens.

2 **f**imm daga ‘for five days’ | i.e. “for a week”, which was originally five days long. See also st. 74 and the Encyclopedia: **five days**.

52     **M**ikit ęitt · skal-a **m**anni gefa;  
 2                 opt kaupir sér í lítlu **l**of,  
               með **h**ölfum **h**leif · ok með **h**öllu kęri  
 4                 fekk ek mér **f**é-laga.

Much at once shall one not give a man;  
 oft one buys oneself praise for little.  
 With half a loaf and an awry cask  
 I got myself a partner.

53     **L**ítilla sanda, · lítilla **s**ęva,  
 2                 lítil eru **g**ęð guma;  
               því-at **a**llir męnn · **u**rðu-t jafn-spakir;  
 4                 **h**ölf es öld **h**var.

Of small sands, of small seas:  
 small are the senses of man.  
 For all have not become evenly knowing;  
 half is every man.

1 **L**ítilla sanda, · lítilla **s**ęva ‘Of small sands, of small seas’ | Probably a partitive genitive, the sense being that man’s “horizons” are small; the universe will always be far greater than him.

3–4 því-at ... öld hvar. ‘For ... every man.’ | On the meaning of the second half of this stanza I find the view of Guðmundur Finnþogason (1929) most convincing; namely that every man has both strengths and weaknesses in terms of wisdom. As nobody can excel at everything, nobody is complete; every person is “half” (and it should be added that ON *halfir* has a more general sense of incompleteness than its English cognate). This interpretation fits particularly closely with sts. 71 and 132. — This stanza introduces several stanzas dealing with wisdom and foolishness.

54      Meðal-snotr · skyli manna hværr,  
                   éva til snotr séi;  
 2                þeim es fyrða · fęgrst at lifa,  
                   es vęl mart vitu.  
 4

Middle-clever should each man be;  
 never too clever.  
 For those men it's fairest to live,  
 who know well enough.

55      Meðal-snotr · skyli manna hværr,  
                   éva til snotr séi;  
 2                snotrs manns hjarta · verðr sjaldan glatt,  
                   ef sá 's al-snotr es á.  
 4

Middle-clever should each man be;  
 never too clever.  
 The clever man's heart is seldom glad,  
 if its owner is all-clever.

56      Meðal-snotr · skyli manna hværr,  
                   éva til snotr séi;  
 2                ør·løg sín · viti ęngi maðr fyrir;  
                   þeim es sorga-lausastr sefi.  
 4

Middle-clever should each man be;  
 never too clever.  
 His own orlay ought no man to know ahead;  
 his is the most sorrowless mind.

---

4 þeim es sorga-lausastr sefi. 'his is the most sorrowless mind.' | i.e. he who is ignorant of his fate. It is surely fitting that Weden should say this, having knowledge of the inevitable destruction of the world and himself (see Rakes of the Reins).

57      Brandr af brandi · brinnr unds brunninn es,  
                   funi kvęykisk af funa;  
 2                maðr af manni · verðr at máli kuðr;  
                   en til dólskr af dul.  
 4

Fire by fire burns until it is burned [out];  
 flame is quickened by flame.  
 Man by man becomes known through speech,  
 but the too hickish from his folly.

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4 *dólskr* ‘hickish’ | Derived from an ablaut variant of *dalr* ‘valley, dale’ + *-iskr* ‘-ish’, the sense being ‘provincial, not having left his (home) valley’. Cf. the Icelandic tribal names like *vatns-dólr* and *lang-dólr* ‘inhabitants of *Vatns-dalr* (Waterdale), *Lang-dalr* (Longdale)’.

58     *Ár* skal rísa, · sá's annars vill  
 2             *fé* eða *fi*or hafa;  
               sjaldan *l*iggjandi ulfr · *l*ér of getr,  
 4             né *s*ofandi maðr *s*igr.

Early shall he rise who another man's  
*fee* or life will have.  
 Seldom gets the lying wolf the thigh,  
 nor the sleeping man victory.

59     *Ár* skal rísa, · sá's á *yr*kjendr fáa,  
 2             ok ganga síns *ver*ka á *v*it;  
               *ma*rt of *dv*ęlr · þann's umb *m*orgin sefr,  
 4             *hal*fr es auðr und *h*vętum.

Early shall he rise who has workmen few,  
 and go his work to meet.  
 Much is kept back from him who in the morning sleeps;  
 the brisk has half the wealth.

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4 *halfr es auðr und h*vętum ‘the brisk has half the wealth’ | i.e. the brisk man has already claimed half of a fortune by simply choosing to wake up early.

60     *Þ*urra skíða · ok þakinna néfra,  
 2             þess kann *ma*ðr *m*jęt,  
               ok þess *v*iðar, · es *v*innask męgi  
 4             *m*ál ok *m*isęri.

Of dry planks and thatching birch bark:  
 of *this* man knows the measure—  
 and of that firewood which he may use  
 for a season and half-year.

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4 *mál ok m*isęri ‘for a season and half-year’ | i.e. over nine months, presumably the ones outside of summer (June–August).

61     *Þ*vęginn ok męttir · ríði maðr þingi at,  
 2             þótt sé-t *v*ęddr til *v*ęl;  
               *sk*úa ok bróka · *sk*ammisk ęngi maðr

4 né hęsts in hęldr. • þótt hann hafi-t góðan.

Washed and full ought man to ride to the Thing,  
although he be not clothed too well;  
of his shoes and breeches ought no man to be ashamed,  
nor the more of his horse,  
although he has not a good one.

1 Þvegginn ok męttir 'washed and full' | A formulaic collocation. Cf. *Rein* TODO: *kęmbör* 'combed' — *þvegginn* 'washed' — *męttir* 'full'; *Wsp* 33: *þó* 'washed' — *kęmböi* 'combed'. These examples attest to the importance of personal hygiene in the culture, something further seen by the ubiquity of combs in pre-Christian graves. One is reminded of a passage from *Germania* (ch. 22): *Statim ē somnō, quem plērūmque in diem extrahunt, lavantur, saepius calidā, ut apud quōs plūrimum hiems occupat. Lauti cibum capiunt: sēparātae singulis sēdēs et sua cuique mēsa. Tum ad negōtia nec minus saepe ad convivia prōcēdunt armāti.* 'On waking from sleep, which they generally prolong to a late hour of the day, they take a bath, oftenest of warm water, which suits a country where winter is the longest of the seasons. After their bath they take their meal, each having a separate seat and table of his own. Then they go armed to business, or no less often to their festal meetings (*convivia*, i.e., their Things).'

4 þótt hann hafi-t góðan 'although he has not a good one.' | Finnur Jónsson (1932) considers this a late insert, and I agree. It seems that the inserter was not aware of the rules of the *Leeds-meter* meter and interpreted the preceding c-verse (*né hęsts in hęldr*) as an a-verse of *Ancient-words-law*.

The two following sts. are written in opposite order in **R**, but a symbol at the start of each indicates that they should switch places.

62 Snapir ok gnapir, • es til sęvar kęmr,  
2 ęrn á aldinn mar;  
svá es maðr, • es með męrgum kęmr  
4 ok á for-męlęndr fāa.

Snaps and stoops—when to the sea he comes—  
the eagle on the aged ocean.  
So is the man who among the many comes,  
and has spokesmen few.

4 á for-męlęndr fāa 'has spokesmen few' | Shared with st. 25.

63 Fregna ok sęgja • skal fróðra hęrr,  
2 sá's vill hęitinn horskr;  
ęinn vita • né annarr skal,  
4 þjóð vęit ef þrír 'ru.

Ask and answer shall each learned man  
who wishes to be called sharp.

One shall know, another shall not;  
thirty know if there are three.

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<sup>4</sup> þjóð ‘thirty’ | Or “people, nation”; the sense is in any case “many, everybody”. For the translation “thirty” cf. *Scoltd* 82, a list of poetic expressions for various numerals: þjóð eru þrír tígir ‘a nation is thirty’ etc.

64 Ríki sitt · skyli ráð-snotra  
2 hvęrr í hófi hafa;  
þá þat finnr, · es með fróknum kómr,  
4 at ęngi es ęinna hvatastr.

His own power should each counsel-clever  
man use in moderation.  
This he then finds when among the bold he comes—  
that none is the briskest of all.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>3-4</sup> þá ... ęinna hvatastr ‘then ...briskest of all’ | Almost identical to *Rein* TODO/3–4, which however has *flęirum* ‘more men’ instead of *fróknum* ‘the bold’.

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<sup>56</sup>i.e., every man has his match.

65 Orða þęira, · es maðr ęðrum sęgir,  
2 opt hann gjöld of getr.

For those words which man says to another  
he oft gets recompense.

66 Mikils til snimma · kom’k í marga staði,  
2 en til síð í suma;  
ęl vas drukkit, · sumt vas ó-lagat;  
4 sjaldan hittir lęiðr í lið.

Much too early I came to many places,  
and too late to some:  
The ale was drunk up, some was unbrewed—  
seldom finds the loathed his place.<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Mikils til ‘Much too’ | written as one word *mikilsti* R

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<sup>57</sup>i.e., “there are no wrong times, only wrong people”.

67 Hér ok hvar · myndi mér hęim of boðit,  
2 ef þyrpta’k at mólun-gi mat,

70      Bętra 's lifðum, · an séi ò-lifðum,  
2              ęy getr kvikr kú;



4                    **ē**ld sá'k **u**pp brinna · **au**ðgum manni fyr,  
                    en úti vas **da**uðr fyr **du**rum.

It's better for the living than it may be for the unliving:  
always gets the quick a cow.  
A fire I saw burning high for a wealthy man,  
but outside he was dead before the doors.<sup>59</sup>

1 an séi ó-lifðum 'than with the unliving' | emend.; ȝ *ſēl* lifðom R.

1 an séi ó-lifðum 'than with the unliving' | The reading of R, which would be normalized as *ok ſēl-lifðum* 'and for the blessed living', is metrically defect since *ſēl-* is strongly stressed and should carry alliteration. For the original form of the line we may instead cf. *Fatb* 30: *Hvortum 's bētra · an sé ó-bvortum* 'It's better for the brisk than it may be for the unbrisk'. The corruption has probably happened in the following way: \**en* (younger form of *an* 'than') in the prototype was misinterpreted as *en* 'and, but' and copied as ȝ (the tironian *et*), while \**sēi* *ólifðom* (probably with the words cramped together) became *ſēl* *lifðom*.

2 ȝy getr kvíkr kú 'always gets the quick a cow' | i.e., "new opportunities always present themselves for the living". A reference to the cattle-based economy (see also st. 76), the cow being used as a metonym: (cf. churchly English 'the *quick* and the dead', i.e. 'the *living* and the dead').

<sup>59</sup>The fire is presumably the man's funeral pyre, on which a considerable amount of his wealth has been spent; according to ibn Fadlan (TODO) two thirds of a dead chieftain's estate was spent on his funeral. One notes the contrastive *en* 'but' and may understand it as follows: "I saw a lavish funeral held for a man, but he was still dead." This interpretation is supported by the *Higb* 71 below, which expresses the same sentiment.

71                **H**altr ríðr **h**rossi, · **h**jorð rekr **h**andar vanr,  
2                    **da**ufr vegr ok **du**gir;  
                    **b**lindr es **b**etri, · an **b**renndr séi;  
4                    **n**ýtr mann-gi **n**ás.

A halt man rides a horse; a handless drives a herd;  
a deaf fights and avails.  
Blind is better than be burned;  
no man has use for a corpse.

72                **S**onr es **b**etri, · þótt sé **s**íð of alinn  
2                    ęptir **g**inginn **g**uma;  
                    sjaldan **b**autar-**st**ęinar · standa **b**rautu **n**ęr,  
4                    nema **r**ęisi **n**iðr at **n**ið.

A son is better, though he late be born  
after a passed-on man.  
Seldom beat-stones stand near the road,  
save by kinsman for kinsman raised.

1 Sonr es bętri 'A son is better' | i.e. it is better for a man to have a son and heir than not, even if the father should die some time before he is born. The son can further his father's lineage and memory (as exemplified by the raising of a "beat-stone"), and as the poet says, it is rare for a non-relative to do so.

73 Tveir 'ru eins hęrjar, • tunga es hęfuðs bani;  
2 męr 's í heðin hvern • handar vęni.

2 handar 'a hand' | i.e. a hand holding a dagger.

75      Væt-a hinn, · es vėti væt,  
2                      margr verðr af aurum api;

maðr es auðigr, • annarr ö-auðigr,  
4 skyli-t þann vítká váar.

The one knows not, who nothing knows:  
many a man turns an **ape** from wealth.  
A man is wealthy, another not wealthy;  
one oughtn't to curse him for his woe.

2 af **aurum** 'from wealth' | emend. from meaningless *†aflaðrom†* R

2 margr verðr af **aurum** **api** 'many a man turns an ape from wealth' | Cf. *Sun* 34/4: *margan hefr auðr apat* 'wealth has aped many a man', which also lends support to the emendation.

76 Deyr fé, • dýja frændr,  
2 dýr sjalfr hit sama;  
en orðs-tírr • dýr aldri-gi  
4 hveim's sér góðan getr.

**Fee** dies, kinsmen die,  
oneself dies the same [way];  
but a word-glory never dies,  
for whomever gets himself a good one.

1 fé ... frændr 'Fee ... kinsmen' | The import of this merism may be less clear to the modern reader. In the Germanic Iron Age farming society a man's wealth was reckoned by how many heads of cattle (and the Norman loan-word *cattle* is itself the same word as *capital*) he owned (cf. st. 70 above, where "a cow" is used to express "an opportunity"), and his social power by the number of able male relatives ready to side with him in conflict (cf. st. 72 above and TODO: reference?). The meaning is thus: all your power will pass away, and so too must you, but if you leave a good reputation behind it can live on. For Indo-European poetic analogues, see West (2007, pp. 99 ff.).

77 Deyr fé, • dýja frændr,  
2 dýr sjalfr hit sama;  
ek veit einn • at aldri-gi dýr:  
4 dómr of dauðan hvern.

Fee dies, kinsmen die,  
oneself dies the same [way].  
I know one that never dies:  
the **Doom** o'er each man dead.

It is likely that the original Guest-Strand ended here. The three following stanzas, especially the third, are poorly placed and seem like later inserts.

- 78 Fullar grindr · sá'k fyr Fitjungs sonum,  
 2 nú bera þeir v́́anar v́́ql;  
 svá es auðr · sęm auga-bragð,  
 4 hann es valtastr v́́ina.

Full pens I saw for the sons of Fitting;  
 now they carry the staff of hope.  
 So is wealth like the twinkling of an eye:  
 it is the ficklest of friends.

2 v́́anar v́́ql 'the staff of hope' | A beggar's staff.

- 79 Ǫ·snotr maðr · es ęignask getr  
 2 fé eða fljóðs mun-úð;  
 metnaðr hǫnum þróask, · en man-vit aldri-gi;  
 4 framm ęęngr hann drjúgt í dul.

The unclever man who comes to own  
 fee or a girl's loving grace:  
 his pride flourishes, but never his manwit;  
 he goes forth far in folly.

- 80 Þat 's þa ręynt, es þú at rúnum spyrr, · hinum ręgin-kunnum,  
 2 þęim's ęørðu ęinn-ręgin  
 ok fǣði Fimbul-þulr;  
 4 þa hęfr hann batst, ef hann þęgir.

That is then proven, which thou learnest from the runes, those born of the Reins,  
 those which the yin-Reins made,  
 and the Fimble-Thyle (= Weden) painted.—  
 Then he has it best, if he shuts up.<sup>60</sup>

1 rúnum ... ręgin-kunnum 'runes ... born of the Reins' | This expression also appears on the C4th–6th Noleby stone (in the acc. sg. *rúnó ragina-kundó* 'a rune born of the Reins'), which proves that the Eddic rune-magic is (at least in part) founded in oral tradition going back to the Heathen age. See also Encyclopedia [rune](#).

2–3 þęim's ... Fimbul-þulr 'those which ... Fimble-Thyle' | Formulaic. Cf. st. 142 where these two lines occur almost identically, but in reverse order.

<sup>60</sup>This stanza, which deals with runic magic and shares expressions with sts. in the Rune-Tally section (beginning with st. 138 below), hardly fits in its current place. The last line with its shift in person is likely to be a later insert.

## Scattered stanzas of practical advice

The following stanzas are distinguished by the prevalence of *Speeches-meter* and the common subject matter.

- 81 At kveldi skal dag leyfa, · konu es brænd es,  
 2 mēki es reyndr es, · mēy es gefin es,  
 ís es yfir kōmr, · ǫl es drukkit es.

At evening shall one praise day, a woman when she is burned,  
 a sword when it is tried, a maiden when she is given,<sup>61</sup>  
 ice when one crosses over, ale when it is drunk.

<sup>61</sup>i.e. in marriage.

- 82 Í vindi skal við höggva, · veðri á sé róa,  
 2 myrkri við man spjalla— · mǫrg eru dags augu—  
 á skip skal skriðar orka, · en á skjöld til hlífar,  
 4 mēki til höggs, · en mēy til kossa.

In wind shall one cut wood, in weather row at sea,  
 in darkness speak with a maiden—many are the eyes of day.  
 A ship shall one have for speed, and a shield for protection;  
 a sword for striking, and a maiden for kisses.

<sup>1</sup> veðri ‘weather’ | i.e. ‘in good weather’; elsewhere the word *veðr* typically means ‘storm’, but that can hardly be the sense here.

- 83 Við ǫld skal ǫl drekka, · en á ísi skriða,  
 2 magran mar kaupa, · en mēki saurgan,  
 heima hēst fēita, · en hund á búi.

One shall drink ale by fire and skate on ice;  
 buy a starved stallion and a rusty sword;  
 fatten the horse at home and the hound in its dwelling.

- 84 Mēyjar orðum · skyli mann-gi trúa,  
 2 né því’s kveðr kona;  
 því-at á hverfanda hvéli · vǫru þeim hjörtu sköpuð,  
 4 briggð í brjóst of lagit.

A maiden’s words should no man trust,  
 nor that which a woman speaks.

For on a whirling wheel their hearts were shaped;  
fickleness laid in their breasts.

3 því-at | om. *FbrS* 3 vǫru | *er FbrS* 3 hjǫrtu skǫpuð ‘hearts shaped’ | *hjarta skapat* ‘heart shaped’ *FbrS*  
4 briggð | ok briggð *FbrS* 4 lagit | *laginn FbrS*

3–4 þvít ... lagið | Quoted in slightly divergent form in *FbrS* (Thott 1768 4<sup>ox</sup>, fol. 210r) introduced with the words: *Kom bonum þá í hug kviðlingr sá, er kveðinn hafði verit um lausungar-konur*: ‘And then he remembered the ditty which had been composed about loose women.’

- 85      Brestanda boga, · brinnanda loga,  
2              gínanda ulfi, · galandi krǫku,  
             rýtanda svíni, · rót-lausum viði,  
4              vaxanda vági, · vellanda katli,

In bursting bow, in burning flame,  
in yawning wolf, in crowing crow,  
in roaring swine, in rootless tree,  
in waxing wave, in boiling kettle,

- 86      fljúganda fleini, · fallandi bǫru,  
2              ísi ein-néttum, · ormi hring-lægnum,  
             brúðar bæð-mólum · eða brotnu sverði,  
4              bjarnar leiki · eða barni konungs,

in flying spear, in falling billow,  
in one-night old ice, in coiled-up serpent,  
in bride’s bed-speech, or in broken sword,  
in bear’s play, or in king’s child,

- 87      sjúkum kalfi, · sjalf-ráða þréli,  
2              vǫlu vil-méli, · val ný-fældum.

in sick calf, in self-willing thrall,  
in wallow’s pleasing speech, in newly felled corpses,

2 vǫlu vil-méli ‘in wallow’s pleasing speech’ | i.e. in a favourable prophecy (spae).

In **R** the following two sts. come in the opposite order, but it seems probable from its *Speeches-meter* meter and the dative case of the words that 89 should follow 87. On the other hand st. 88, with its *Leeds-meter* meter and self-enclosed form seems a separate composition, and was probably inserted after 87 due to its first line (*akri ár-sǫnum*), which is also in the dative.

- 89      bróður-bana sínum · þótt á brautu móti,  
 2      húsi half-brunnu, · hęsti al-skjótum,  
      þá 's jór ó-nýtr, · ef ęinn fótr brotnar;  
 4      verður-it maður svá trygggr · at þessu trúi ęllu!

in one's brother's bane—though on the road ye meet—  
 in half-burned house, in all-fleet horse—  
 the steed is useless if one foot breaks.  
 No man be so trusting that he trust in all this!

- 88      Akri ár-sónum · trúi ęngi maður,  
 2      né til snimma syni;  
      veður ręður akri, · en vit syni;  
 4      hętt es þęira hvárt.

In an early sown field ought no man to trust,  
 nor too soon in a son.  
 The weather rules the field and the wits the son:  
 there is risk to them both.

- 90      Svá 's friður kvinna · þęira's flátt hyggja,  
 2      sęm aki jó ó-bryddum · á ísi hólum  
      tęitum, tvé-vetrum · ok sé tamr illa,  
 4      eða í byr óðum · þęiti stjórnláusu,  
      eða skyli haltr hęnda · hręin í þá-fjalli.

So is those women's love who falsely think  
 like one rode an unshod horse on slippery ice—  
 a merry one, two winters old, and badly tamed—  
 or in mad wind tacked a rudderless [ship],  
 or a halt man should catch a reindeer on a thawing fell.

5 í þá-fjalli 'on a thawing fell' | i.e. in springtime, when the melting ice on the ground is most slippery.

### Weden's failed seduction of Billing's daughter

The following sts. are united by their meter, *Leeds-meter* (unlike most of the preceding sts., see introduction to them above), style and content. The strand begins with general maxims about love and relations between the sexes, before moving on to the narrative about Billing's daughter.

- 91      Bært nú mēli'k, · því-at bēði vęit'k,  
 2              brigðr es karla hugr konum,  
             þá fęgrst mēlum, · es flást hyggjum;  
 4              þat tēlir horska hugi.

Plainly I now speak, for I know both:  
 fickle is men's thought towards women.  
 We then speak fairest when we think falsest;  
 that entraps sharp minds.

1 bēði 'both' | i.e. both sides, both sexes. The (male) poet declares that he will not attack the fair sex unfairly; he is also aware of men's faults.

3 fęgrst mēlum ... flást hyggjum 'speak fairest ... think falsest' | Formulaic. Cf. st. 45.

4 þat tēlir horska hugi 'that entraps sharp minds' | i.e., love (or sexual infatuation, the poet does not distinguish between them) can turn even wise men into foolish deceivers. Cf. *Mbkv* 20/1–2, which is probably partly based on this stanza: *Ást-blindir 'ru seggir svá · sumir, at þykkja mjök fás gá;*  
*þannig verðr um man-song mēlt: · marga hefr þat hyggna tēlt.* 'Some men are so love-blind, that they seem to heed very little; // so it is said about love-song: many wise men has it entrapped.'

- 92      Fagrt skal mēla · ok fé bjóða,  
 2              sá's vill fljóðs óst fāa,  
             líki leyfa · hins ljósa mans,  
 4              sá fęr, es fríar.

Fairly shall speak, and offer fee,  
 he who will get a woman's love;  
 praise the body of the bright girl;  
 he gets, who woos.

1 Fagrt skal mēla 'Fairly shall speak' | Formulaic. Cf. st. 45.

4 sá fęr, es fríar 'he gets, who woos' | i.e., "he who courts her gets her".

- 93      Ástar firna · skyli ęngi maðr  
 2              annan aldri-gi;  
             opt fāa á horskan, · es á hęimskan né fāa,  
 4              lost-fagrir litir.

For [matters of] love should no man  
 ever blame another;  
 oft they seize the sharp when they seize not the foolish,  
 the lust-fair hues.

4 lost-fagrir litir 'lust-fair hues' | i.e. a woman with countenance so beautiful that men cannot help but greatly lust after her.



94    Eý-vítar firna, · es maðr annan skal,  
 2           þess es of margan gęngr guma;  
       hęimska ór horskum · gęrir hǫlða sonu  
 4           sá hinn mátki munr.

In no way shall man blame another  
 for that which happens to many a man;  
 from sharp to fools are the sons of men made  
 by that mighty thing, love.

95    Hugr ęinn þat vęit, · es býr hjarta nér,  
 2           ęinn es hann sér of sefa;  
       ong es sótt verri · hvęim snotrum manni  
 4           an sér øngu at una.

The mind alone knows what dwells close to the heart;  
 it is alone with its thoughts.  
 No sickness is worse for any clever man  
 than with nothing to be content.

96    Þat þá ręynda'k, · es í ręyri sat'k,  
 2           ok vętta'k míns munar,  
       hold ok hjarta · vas mér hin horska męr,  
 4           þęygi hana at hęldr hęf'k.

I experienced it then, as I sat in the reed,  
 and awaited my love.  
 My flesh and heart was that sharp maiden—  
 I have her none the more.

97    Billings męy · ek fann bęðjum á  
 2           sól-hvíta sofa;  
       jarls ynði · þótti mér ękki vesa  
 4           nema við þat lík at lífa.

Billing's maiden I found on the beds,  
 sun-white, sleeping.  
 An earl's pleasure seemed me naught to be,  
 save living alongside that body.

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1 męy 'maiden' | i.e. unmarried (virgin) daughter.

[Billings mēr:]

98 „Auk nēr aptni · skalt Óðinn koma,  
 2 ef vilt þér mēla man,  
 allt eru ó-sköp, · nema ein vitim  
 4 slíkan lōst saman.“

“And by evening shalt thou, Weden, come,  
 if thou wilt get for thee the girl [me];  
 everything’s misshapen unless we alone should know,  
 such a vice together.”

[Billing’s maiden:]

99 Aptr ek hvarf · ok unna þóttumk  
 2 vísuð vilja frá;  
 hitt ek hugða, · at hafa mynda’k  
 4 gæð hennar allt ok gaman.

Back I turned—and thought myself in love—  
 away from my wise will;  
*this* I thought: that I would have  
 her senses all, and pleasure.

---

2 vísuð vilja frá ‘away from my wise will’ | i.e., “against my better judgment”; the wise choice would have been to walk away.

100 Svá kom’k nēst, · at hin nýta vas  
 2 víg-drótt oðl of vakin,  
 með brinnōndum ljósum · ok bornum viði,  
 4 svá vas mér víl-stígr of vítaðr.

So I came next, as the useful  
 war-troop was all awake;  
 with burning lights and with carried sticks;  
 so a sad path was marked out for me.

---

1 nýta ‘useful’ | Sarcastic. Billing’s daughter had apparently summoned a lynch mob.

3 bornum viði ‘carried sticks’ | lit. ‘carried wood’; the mob was armed with clubs.

4 víl-stígr ‘sad path’ | Ambiguous, referring either to the beating he would have received at the hands of the mob, or to his walk of shame away from the hall. The latter is perhaps more likely.

101 Auk nēr morni, · es vas’k enn of kominn,  
 2 þa vas sal-drótt of sofin;  
 grey eitð þa fann’k · hinnar góðu konu  
 4 bundit bæðjum à.

And by morning when I had come again,  
 then was the hall-troop asleep.

A lone bitch I then found, by the good woman  
bound on the beds.

1 **Auk** nēr morni ‘And by morning’ | Mirroring the beginning of st. 97 above.

3 **gręy** ęitt ‘a lone bitch’ | The insult is clearly understood: Weden is being asked to make love to the dog, “this is all you get!”

3 **góðu** ‘good’ | Possibly not sarcastic, but rather referring to her chastity.

102      Mǫrg es **góð** mēr, · ef **gǫrva** kannar,  
2              **hug**-brigð við **hali**;  
            þá þat **reýnda**’k, · es hit **ráð**-spaka  
4              teygðá’k á flérðir fljóð;  
            **hǫðungar** **hverrar** · leitaði mér hit **horska** man  
6              ok hafða’k þess **væt**-ki **vífs**.

Many a good maiden—if one comes to know her well—  
is heart-fickle towards men.

Then I found that out, as the counsel-clever  
girl into sins I tugged:  
every kind of disgrace gave me that sharp girl,  
and I had naught of the woman.

1 **góð** mēr ‘good maiden’ | A formulaic expression; the “goodness” here refers to faithfulness and chastity. Cf. *Sbir* 12, TODO.

## Weden’s theft of the Mead of Poetry (104–110)

The intricate myth of how Weden came to own the Mead of Poetry is told more fully in *Scold* 5–6. That narrative goes as follows, with minor details left out: After the war between the Eese and Wanes, the two tribes of gods reconcile through spitting into a vat. Not wanting to discard this token of their truce, they instead create a man out of the spit, calling him Quasher; he is so wise that he can answer any question posed to him, and so travels around the world in order to share his wisdom with humans. Quasher eventually comes to the dwelling of two dwarfs, Fealer and Galer. They kill him and drain his blood into three vessels: two vats named Soon and Bothem, and a kettle named Woderearer. Through mixing the blood with honey they make a mead, with the power to turn anyone who drinks from it “a scold or man of learning (*skald eða fróða-maðr*)”. The dwarfs then lie to the Eese about the murder, telling them that Quasher drowned in his own wisdom. Some time later, the dwarfs murder an ettin named Gilling and his wife. Gilling’s son, Sutting, learns of this and prepares to drown the dwarfs. In exchange for their lives and as recompense for his father’s slaying, the dwarfs offer Sutting the “dear mead” (*mjóðinn dýra*; cf. here sts. 105 and 140). Sutting accepts the ransom and takes the mead home with him. He makes his daughter Guthlathe guard it. Some time later, Weden is out journeying, and finds nine thralls mowing hay. He sharpens their scythes with a special whetstone, and the mowing improves greatly. He then

throws it in the air and the thralls shortly kill each other over it. By evening Weden comes to the owner of the thralls, Bigh, Sutting's brother. Bigh laments the death of his workmen, and so Weden, who calls himself Baleworker, offers to do the work of the thralls over the summer, in exchange for one drink of Sutting's mead. Bigh tells him that Sutting alone owns the mead, but that he will accompany Baleworker to Sutting to ask for the drink. The two arrive at Sutting, who as expected refuses to give any part of the mead away. Baleworker then tells Bigh that he will get to it anyway; he takes out the drill Rate, and tells Bigh to drill through the mountain, into the room where the mead is stored. Bigh first attempts to trick him by only drilling halfway, but eventually creates a narrow passage. Baleworker turns himself into a snake and crawls through it; as he does, Bigh tries to strike him the drill, but misses. After coming through, Baleworker sees Guthlathe watching over the mead. He goes on to sleep with her for three nights, after which she promises him three sips of the mead. With each sip he swallows the contents of one of the three vessels, so that all of the mead ends up in his belly. Having taken the mead, he dons his eagle-hame and flies away from the mountain. Sutting sees him, takes his own eagle-hame, and gives chase. The Eese see Weden in flight, and set out several large vat on the ground, into which Weden, still flying, spits out the mead. At this point Sutting has almost caught up with him, and so Weden "sends back" (*senda apttr*, usually interpreted being sent out from the anus) some of the mead, presumably into his face. This portion becomes the lot of foolish poets (*skald-fifla blutr*), while the rest of the mead is given to the Eese and to skilled poets (*þeim mǫnnum, er yrkja kunnu* 'those men who can compose [poetry]').

The core of this many-twisted myth is old. A close parallel is found in *RV* hymns 4.26–27. In these two hymns the *soma* plant (who in the Vedic mythology is not just the plant and its resulting drink, but also a god, perhaps somewhat like Quasher) is first held within "a hundred iron forts" (4.27.1c: *śatām pūraḥ āyasīḥ*) by the archer *Kṛṣānu*, before being stolen by a sweeping falcon. The falcon brings *Soma* to *Manu*, the ancestor of the Aryans and first sacrificer.

The resemblance to the last part of the *Scold* account should be obvious, but, notably, the detail of the falcon is not found in any of the sts. below. This shows that the narrative of *Scold* cannot be exclusively based on the sts. here below, but instead also relies on other, now-lost sources. This is also supported by the present sts. leaving out the narratives about Quasher, the two dwarfs, and Baye, along with some subtler narrative differences.

The order of the present sts. follows that of *R*, their main witness manuscript. The strand begins with some social advice (103), after which the narrative follows (104–110). It is narrated in the first person by Weden himself. The sts. do not tell the myth in chronological order and leave much up to the listener; they are surely composed for an audience that already knows the story. The following narrative details are given:

104. Weden visits Sutting's home, but does not receive a good reception.
105. Guthlathe falls in love with Weden, and gives him a drink of the Mead.
106. Weden has to bore through the mountains with the drill Rate.
107. Weden has "bought [the Mead] well"; possibly a euphemistic reference to sleeping with Guthlathe for it.
108. Guthlathe indeed does sleep with Weden, though not expressly in exchange for the Mead.
109. The following day (*bins bindra dags*, see note to this word in the edited text below), a group of Rime-Thurses come to Weden's hall, to ask him whether a Baleworker is among the Gods, or if he has been slain by Sutting.
110. Switching to the third person (which may indicate that this is his answer to the Rime-Thurses), Weden says that he "thinks" that Weden has sworn an oath, but that his words cannot be trusted. After the "simble" (i.e. drinking feast, banquet; probably referring to the drink of the Mead), Weden betrayed Sutting and made Guthlathe weep.

The underlying narrative seems to generally agree with that of *Scold*, but unlike its more transactional affair, we here find a stronger emphasis on Weden's cruel betrayal of Guthlathe. A notable detail not found in *Scold* is Weden's oath in st. 109. The content of the oath was most likely that Weden would marry Guthlathe, something supported by the language used (see note to st. 108: *hins bindra dags*). The recipient of the oath, which Weden clearly broke, was either Sutting or Guthlathe. That Weden swore it to Sutting, and thus asked him for Guthlathe's hand in marriage, may be suggested by the description of Sutting as *svikvinn* 'betrayed' in st. 109. This view, however, has an internal narrative problem: in st. 103 Weden describes his interaction with Sutting as poor, and in st. 105 Weden is said to have had to bore through the mountains, but this may just have been to reach Sutting, rather than Guthlathe as in *Scold*. The recipient of the oath being Guthlathe would agree better with the *Scold* narrative, and Sutting's betrayer would instead be her.

- 103      Hęima glaðr gumi · ok við gęsti ręifr,  
 2              sviðr skal of sik vesa;  
             minnigr ok mólugr, · ef vill marg-fróðr vesa;  
 4              opt skal góðs geta;  
             fimbul-fambi hęitir, · sá's fátt kann sęgja;  
 6              þat es ó-snotrs aðal.

At home shall man be glad and giving with the guest,  
 wise about himself;  
 [he shall be] of good memory and speech, if he wishes to be many-learned;  
 oft shall he speak of good.  
 A fumble-fool is he called who little can say;  
 that is an unclever man's nature.

- 104      Hinn aldna jǫtun sóttak, · nú em'k aptr of kominn;  
 2              fátt gat'k þęgjandi þar;  
             mǫrgum orðum · męlta'k í minn frama  
 4              í Suttungs solum.

The old ettin (= Sutting) I sought, now am I come back;  
 I got little audience there.  
 Many words I spoke to my furtherance,  
 in the halls of Sutting.

- 105      Gunn-lǫð mér of gaf · gullnum stóli á  
 2              drykk hins dýra mjaðar;  
             ill ið-gjöld · lét'k hana ęptir hafa  
 4              síns hins hęila hugar,  
             síns hins svára sefa.

Guthlathe did give me, on the golden throne,  
 a drink of the dear mead;  
 evil recompense I let her have afterwards,  
 for her whole heart,  
 for her severe affection.

106      Rata munn · létumk rúms of fāa  
 2                      ok of grjót gnaga;  
                     yfir ok undir · stóðumk jǫtna vegir,  
 4                      svá hétta'k hǫfði til.  
 Rate's mouth I made to bring me room,  
 and gnaw away at the rocks.  
 Over and under me stood the roads of the ettins [MOUNTAINS];  
 so I risked my head.

107      Væl keypts hlutar · hef'k vǫl notit;  
 2                      fās es fróðum vant;  
                     því-at Óð-rórir · es nú upp kominn  
 4                      á alda vés jaðar.

The well bought thing [Mead of Poetry] have I used well—  
 little do the learned lack,  
 for Woderearer is now come up  
 over the rim of the wigh of men [= Middenyard].

1–4 Væl ... jaðar | Taken on its own this st. would be somewhat difficult, but in context the import is clear: Woden says that He has made good use of the Mead of Poetry by bringing it to earth, making poetry (and surely likewise other intellectual disciplines) available to men.

3 Óð-rórir 'Woderearer' | One of the vessels in with the Mead of Poetry was held (see introduction to the present section above), here standing in for all the Mead.

4 jaðar 'rim' | metr. emend.; *jaðar* R has a long root-syllable, and does not fit grammatically.

108      Ifi 's mér á, · at véra'k ǣnn kominn  
 2                      jǫtna gǫrðum ór,  
                     ef Gunn-laðar né nytta'k, · hinnar góðu konu,  
 4                      es lǫgðumk arm yfir.

There is doubt in me, if I would yet be come  
 out of the yards of the Ettins,  
 if Guthlathe I had not used, that good woman  
 whom I laid my arm over.

- 109 Hins hindra dags · gingu hrím-þursar  
 2 Háva ráðs at fregna, · Háva hǫllu í,  
 at Bǫl-verki spurðu, · ef véri með bǫndum kominn  
 4 eða hefði hǫnum Suttungr of sóit.

The following day went the Rime-Thurses  
 to ask for the High One's counsel, in the High One's hall.  
 About Baleworker (= Weden) they asked, if he were come among the bonds [GODS],  
 or if Sutting had slain him.

1 Hins hindra dags 'The following day' | This is the only occurrence of the comparative *hindra* 'following, next' in the Norse (i.e. 'belonging to Norway and its colonies') literature. The superlative *bindstr* 'last, final' does occur more often (e.g. *indsta sinni* 'the last time', with loss of the *b*-; see CV: *bindri*), and the possible derivative *bindar-dags* 'day after tomorrow, two days after' is found twice, both times in the *Gole*, chh. 37 and 266. If we, however, search in the broader Scandinavian sphere, we find in the Swedish provincial laws an exact equivalent of the present phrase, namely OSwe. *hindra-dagber*, a law-word referring specifically to the 'day after the wedding', used both on its own and in the expression *hindra-dags gief* 'morning gift'. If this is indeed the sense in the present stanza, two interpretations are possible: it either (i) refers sarcastically to Weden's sleeping with Guthlathe (as would be done on the wedding night), or (ii) means that Weden actually married, or promised to marry, Guthlathe. The latter interpretation may find support in st. 109, see notes there.

- 110 Baug-ęið Óðinn · hygg at unnit hafi,  
 2 hvat skal hans tryggðum trúa?  
 Suttung svikvinn · hann lét sumbli frá  
 4 ok gróttu Gunn-lǫðu.

A high-oath I ween that Weden has sworn—  
 how shall one trust his truces?  
 Away from the simble he left Sutting betrayed,  
 and Guthlathe, made to weep.

1–4 Baug-ęið ... Gunn-lǫðu 'A high-oath ... brought to tears'<sup>TM</sup> | The exact narrative referred to in the stanza is hard to pin down, but I find the following most likely: Weden swore an oath on a high, its contents being that he would marry Guthlathe. Sutting then hosted a simble (banquet, drinking feast) for the new couple (cf. *bins hindra dags* in st. 108), and Weden slept with her, but after. *svikvinn* 'betrayed' and *gróttu* 'brought to tears' are (respectively masc. and fem.) acc. sg. past participles of the transitive verbs *svikva* 'to betray' and *gróta* 'to make weep, bring to tears'. I read *lét* as meaning 'left, abandoned, forsook'.

## The Speeches of Loddfathomer

ON *Loddfáfnis mǫl*.

A series of advice stanzas addressed to Loddfathomer, an otherwise unknown figure who is clearly mythological. The name is a compound: the first element, *lodd-*, is related to ON *loddari* 'juggler, tramp', OE *loddere* 'pauper, beggar'; the second, *Fáfnir* (**Fathomer**), is the name of a famous Wyrm and literally means 'embracer'. This name gives a picture of an archetypal "bumbling fool"; he is taught by Weden, his opposite.

The section division is found in R. Stanza 111 has a large initial *M*, albeit smaller than those which introduce new chapters and poems, and the beginning of the following section, the *Rune-Tally*, is also clearly marked by an initial.

- 
- 111      Mál 's at þylja · þular stóli á;  
 2              Urðar brunni at  
             sá'k ok þagða'k, · sá'k ok hugða'k,  
 4              hlýdda'k á manna mál;  
             of rúnar heyrða'k dóma, · né umb rǫðum þögðu  
 6              Háva hǫllu at,  
             Háva hǫllu í  
 8              heyrða'k sǣgja svá:

It's time to **thill**, upon the **thyle**'s chair.  
 At the well of Weird  
 I saw and shut up; I saw and I thought;  
 I heeded the matters of men.  
 Of runes I heard them speak, nor did they shut up about counsels,  
 at the High One's (= Woden's) hall [= Walhall],  
 in the High One's hall,  
 I heard them say so:<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>62</sup>The speaker, describing himself as a thyle (*þulr* 'sage, chanter of memorized poetry'), says that he will relate what he has heard said in Walhall. Considering the location, it seems almost certain that the giver of this advice was its owner, **Weden**. The receiver of the advice, Loddfáthomer (see Encyclopedia for etymologies), is otherwise unknown.

- 112      Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · at rǫð nemir,  
 2              njóta munt ef nemr,  
             þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4              nǫtt þú rís-at, · nema á njósn séir,  
             eða leitir þér innan út staðar.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer, that thou learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 At night do not rise, unless thou be scouting,  
 or thou look for thy place outside.

---

5 leitir þér innan út staðar 'or thou look for thy place outside' | Lit. word-for-word "or thou look for thee from within out a place", which becomes nonsensical. *leita sér staðar* 'look for one's place' is a euphemism, i.e. "to relieve oneself", which was done outside.

- 113      Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · at rǫð nemir,



2                   njóta munt ef nemr,  
                     þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4           fjöl-kunnigri konu · skal-at-tu í faðmi sofa,  
                     svá't hon lyki þik liðum.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer, that thou learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 By a many-cunning woman's bosom shalt thou never sleep,  
 lest she lock thee in [her?] limbs.

114       Hón svá gørir · at gair ęigi  
 2                   þings né þjóðans máls;  
                     mat þú vill-at · né manns-kis gaman  
 4                   ferr þú sorga-fullr at sofa.

She makes it so that thou heed not  
 Thing's or ruler's speech;  
 thou hast no wish for food nor any man's pleasure;  
 thou goest sorrowful to sleep.

---

1 gair 'heed' | The nasal vowel here is based on Elfdalian *gǽ*.

115       Rððumk þér Loddfáfnir, · at rðð nemir,  
 2                   njóta munt ef nemr,  
                     þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4           annars konu · tęg þér aldri-gi  
                     ęra-rúnu at.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer, that thou learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 Another man's woman never tug  
 into [becoming] thy ear-whisperer [LOVER].

---

5 ęra-rúnu 'ear-whisperer [LOVER]' | This word is also used in *Wsp* 38, in which male seducers of married women are among those being forced to wade through "heavy streams" in the afterlife.

116       Rððumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en r'ðð nemir,  
 2                   njóta munt ef nemr,  
                     þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4           fjalli eða firði, · ef þik fara tíðir,  
                     fask-tu at virði vęl.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 on fell or firth—if thou desire to journey—  
 furnish thyself well with food.

---

4 *fjalli* *eða* *firði* ‘on fell or firth’ | i.e. ‘hiking through mountains or travelling at sea’; a very Norwegian expression. This word pair is a formulaic merism; it occurs nowhere else in poetry, but a few times in the Old Norwegian laws.

117    *Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,*  
 2            *njóta munt ef nemr,*  
             *þér munu góð ef getr:*  
 4            *illan mann · lát aldri-gi*  
             *ð-hopp at þér vita,*  
 6            *því-at af illum manni · fêr aldri-gi*  
             *gjöld hins góða hugar.*

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 An evil man never let  
 know of thy misfortunes;  
 for from an evil man gettest thou never  
 rewards for thy good will.

---

5 *ð-hopp at þér vita* | An unambiguous instance of *v* alliterating with a vowel.

118    *Ofar-la bíta · sá’k ęinum hal*  
 2            *orð illrar konu,*  
             *flá-rǫð tunga · varð hǫnum at fǫr-lagi*  
 4            *ok þęygi of sanna sǫk.*

Sorely biting I saw at a lonely man  
 the words of an evil woman;  
 a false-counseling tongue brought his life to its end,  
 and in no way over a truthful charge.

---

1 *Ofar-la* ‘Sorely’ | Contraction of *ofar-liga* ‘*CV*: high up, in the upper part’, presumably meaning that the words were particularly grievous or insulting, i.e., they “got to him”. Whether he was murdered or committed suicide is not clear.

3 *flá-rǫð tunga* ‘a false-counseling tongue’ | Cf. *Lock* 31/1: *flǫð þér tunga* ‘false is thy tongue’.

119    *Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,*

2           njóta munt ef nemr,  
             þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4       vætst, ef vin átt, · þann's vël trúir,  
             far þú at finna opt;  
 6       því-at hrísi vęx · ok hǫu grasi  
             vegr, es vęt-ki trøðr.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 Know, if thou have a friend, one which thou well trust:  
 journey to find him oft;  
 for with brushwood and tall grass grows  
 the way which no one treads.

---

6 hrísi vęx · ok hǫu grasi ‘with brushwood and with tall grass grows’ | Identical to *Grim* 17/1.

120   Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,  
 2           njóta munt ef nemr,  
             þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4       góðan mann · teyg þér at gaman-rúnum  
             ok nem líknar-galdr meðan lifir.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 A good man do tug toward thee with pleasure-runes,  
 and learn liking-galder while thou livest.

---

4 gaman-rúnum ‘pleasure-runes’ | Here “rune” appears to carry its root meaning of ‘whisper, counsel, speech’, thus ‘pleasing speech’. Cf. st. 129 where this word reoccurs.

5 líknar-galdr ‘liking-galder’ | i.e. ways of speaking which will make one liked or popular. For *líkn* ‘liking’ see sts. 8 (with note) and 123.

121   Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,  
 2           njóta munt ef nemr,  
             þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4       vin þínum · ves aldri-gi  
             fyrri at flaum-slitum.  
 6       sorg etr hjarta, · ef þú sęgja né náir  
             ęin-hverjum allan hug.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:

With thy friend be thou never the first  
to tear apart the company.  
Sorrow eats thy heart if thou cannot tell  
anyone thy whole mind.

---

6–7 segja ... ein-hverjum allan hug ‘tell anyone thy whole mind’ | Cf. st. 123 which uses almost the same expression.

122 Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,  
2 njóta munt ef nemr,  
þér munu góð ef getr:  
4 orðum skipta · skalt aldri-gi  
við ó-svinna apa,

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
they will be good for thee if thou get:  
Words shalt thou never exchange  
with unwise apes,

---

4–5 orðum ... apa ‘Words ... apes’ | Cf. st. 125 which gives similar advice.

5 ó-svinna apa ‘unwise apes’ | Formulaic; cf. *Grim* 33, *Fath* 11.

123 Því-at af illum manni · munt aldri-gi  
2 góðs laun of geta,  
en góðr maðr · mun þik gørva meða  
4 líkn-fastan at lofi.

for from an evil man wilt thou never  
get a reward for thy goodness,  
but a good man will know to make thee  
steadfast in liking by [his] praise.

---

1–2 því-at ... geta ‘For ... praise’ | Cf. st. 117/6–7.

4 líkn-fastan ‘steadfast in liking’ | The first element *líkn* ‘liking’ is somewhat difficult; see sts. 8 (with note) and 120. For the present cpd La Farge and Tucker (1992) give a tentative ‘assured of favour’, while CV gives ‘fast in goodwill, beloved’.

124 Sifjum ’s þá blandit · hverr es segja réðr  
2 einum allan hug;  
alt es bętra · an sé brigðum at vesa:  
4 es-a sá vinnr qðrum · es vilt eitt segir.

Kinship is then blended, when any man decides to tell  
one man his whole mind.

Everything is better than to be with the fickle;  
he is no friend to another who says only that which is wanted.

1–2 segja ... çinum allan hug ‘tell one man his whole mind’ | Cf. st. 121 which uses almost the same expression.

- 125 Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,  
2 njóta munt ef nemr,  
þér munu góð ef getr:  
4 þrimr orðum senna · skal-at-tu þér við verra mann;  
opt hinn bętri bilar,  
6 þá's hinn verri vegr.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
they will be good for thee if thou get:  
With three words shalt thou not flyte with a worse man;  
oft the better man breaks  
when the worse man strikes.<sup>63</sup>

4 þrimr orðum ‘With three words’ | i.e. ‘not even with three words’. If one understands *orð* to mean ‘speech’, it may be interpreted as that if one says something (the first speech) to which another man responds insultingly (the second speech), one should not respond a third time and turn it into a fight.

<sup>63</sup>Cf. st. 121.

- 126 Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,  
2 njóta munt ef nemr,  
þér munu góð ef getr:  
4 skó-smiðr þú vesir · né skępti-smiðr,  
nema sjölfum þér séir.  
6 Skór 's skapaðr illa · eða skapt sé rangt,  
þá 's þér bǫls beðit.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
they will be good for thee if thou get:  
Be not a shoe-maker nor shaft-maker,  
unless thou be one for thyself.  
The shoe is shaped badly or the shaft be crooked:  
then for thee a bale is bid.<sup>64</sup>

<sup>64</sup>i.e. ‘the customer will place a curse on you if he dislikes the wares’.

- 127 Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,

2                    **n**jóta munt ef **n**emr,  
                      þér munu **g**óð ef **g**etr:  
 4                    hvar's **b**ól kant, · kveð þér **b**ólvi at  
                      ok gef-at þínum **f**jóndum **f**ríð.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 Wherever thou dost know a bale, call it a bale against thee,  
 and give not thy enemies peace.<sup>65</sup>

<sup>65</sup>i.e. “if somebody puts a curse on you, do not ignore it, but respond decisively”. This st. has often been interpreted as a command to call out evil, even when committed towards somebody else, and while there is nothing in it that speaks clearly against that interpretation, it does not agree with the general spirit of the *Hig*, which is one of caution and shrewdness.

128                **R**óðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en **r**óð nemir,  
 2                    **n**jóta munt ef **n**emr,  
                      þér munu **g**óð ef **g**etr:  
 4                    **i**llu feginn · ves **a**ldri-gi,  
                      en lát þér at **g**óðu **g**etit.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 Rejoicing in evil be thou never,  
 but [rather] let thyself be pleased by good.

5 en lát þér at **g**óðu **g**etit ‘but [rather] let thyself be pleased by good’ | This construction is equivalent to **CV**: *geta*, A. IV. with acc.

129                **R**óðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en **r**óð nemir,  
 2                    **n**jóta munt ef **n**emr,  
                      þér munu **g**óð ef **g**etr:  
 4                    **u**pp líta · skal-at-tu í orrostu;  
                      —**g**jalti **g**líkir · verða **g**umna synir—  
 6                    síðr þitt of **h**eylli **h**alir.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 Up shalt thou not look in battle  
 —alike to a madman become the sons of men—  
 lest men bewitch thy [sense/life/face].<sup>66</sup>

<sup>66</sup>A very difficult st. CV explains *gjalti* as an old dative of *goltr* ‘boar, hog’, and thus sees the closely related phrase *verða at gjalti* as “‘to be turned into a hog’, i.e. ‘to turn mad with terror’, esp. in a fight”. The vowel breaking is however unexpected here, since *goltr* (< Proto-Norse *\*galtur*) is an u-stem, which makes the stem-vowel in the dat. sg. *galti* (< *\*galtiu*, cf. *kunimudiu*, dat. sg. of *\*Kunimundur*, on the Tjurkö 1 bracteate) the result of i-umlaut rather than an original short *\*e*.

La Farge and Tucker (1992) instead explain the word as a borrowing from Old Irish *geilt* ‘insane, mad’. Pettit (1986) follows this, and argues that the whole theme of the st. probably be of Celtic origin, giving several examples from Celtic literature of warriors going mad upon looking up into the sky during battle. In this case the men (*balir*, which word seems to have an association with warriors; cf. 36–37, 49) would be to quote Pettit some sort of “supernatural sky warriors”, in my opinion most likely the *Oneharriers*.

- 130 Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,  
 2 njóta munt ef nemr,  
 þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4 Ef vilt þér góða konu · kvæðja at gaman-rúnum  
 ok fæa fǫgnuð af,  
 6 fǫgru skalt heita · ok láta fast vesa;  
 leiðisk mann-gi gótt ef getr.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 If thou wilt for thyself greet a good woman to pleasure-runes,  
 and get good cheer from her;  
 fair things shalt thou promise, and let it be fast;  
 no man loathes a good thing if he gets it.

4 gaman-rúnum ‘pleasure-runes’ | While easily interpreted as ‘sexual intercourse’, the word is used in st. 120 with a decidedly non-sexual meaning. Its base meaning is probably ‘good conversation’.

- 131 Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,  
 2 njóta munt ef nemr,  
 þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4 varan bið’k þik vesa · ok ęigi of·varan,  
 ves við ęl varastr, · ok við annars konu  
 6 ok við þat hit þriðja, · at þjófar né leiķi.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 Wary I ask thee to be, and not over-wary;  
 be thou wariest with ale, and with another man’s woman,  
 and with the third, that thieves do not outplay [thee].

- 132 Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,

2                   nǵóta munt ef nemr,  
                     þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4           at háði né hlátri · haf aldri-gi  
                     gęst né ganganda.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 In scorn or laughter never have  
 a guest or wanderer.

133       Opt vitu ó-görla, · þeir's sitja inni fyrir,  
 2                   hvęrs þeir 'ru kyns es koma;  
                     es-at maðr svá góðr · at galli né fylgi,  
 4                   né svá illr at ęinu-gi dugi.

Oft they know unclearly, those who sit further within,  
 of what kind are those who come;  
 there is no man so good that no flaw follows,  
 nor so bad that he for nothing avails.

134       Róðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en r'óð nemir,  
 2                   nǵóta munt ef nemr,  
                     þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4           at h'orum þul · hlę aldri-gi,  
                     opt 's gótt þat's gamlir kveða,  
 6           opt ór skorpum bęlg · skilin orð koma  
                     þeim's hangir með h'oum  
 8           ok skollir með skr'oum,  
                     ok v'afir með v'il-mogum.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 At a hoary thyle do never laugh.  
 Oft is good that which old men sing;  
 oft out of a scorched leather discerning words come;  
 out of that one which hangs with hides,  
 and dangles with dry skins,  
 and sways among lads of toil [THRALLS].<sup>67</sup>

<sup>67</sup>TODO: Some note. *vil-mogum* meaning 'veal-stomachs'? Cf. Crawford's video and Finnur on this.



- 135 Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,  
 2 njóta munt ef nemr,  
 þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4 gæst þú né geyj-a · né á grind hrékir;  
 get þú vó-luðum vël.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer—and thou oughtst to learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 At a guest bark not, nor spit at the gate;  
 furnish the destitute well.

4 né á grind hrékir ‘nor spit at the gate’ | The guest is presumably standing behind gate waiting for the farmer to open it and let him in.

- 136 Rammt es þat tré, · es ríða skal  
 2 ǫllum at upp-loki;  
 baug þú gef · eða þat biðja mun  
 4 þér lés hvers á liðu.

Strong is that wood which shall swing  
 to open up for all.<sup>68</sup>  
 Give a bigh, or it will bid  
 every kind of guile onto thy limbs.

<sup>68</sup>i.e. the beam of the gate in front of the farm.

- 137 Rǫðumk þér Loddfáfnir, · en rǫð nemir,  
 2 njóta munt ef nemr,  
 þér munu góð ef getr:  
 4 hvar's ǫl drekkir · kjós þér jarðar megin,  
 því-at jǫrð tekr við ǫlðri, · en ǫldr við sóttum,  
 6 ǫik við abbindi, · ax við fjǫl-kyngi,  
 hǫll við hýrógi; · heiptum skal Mána kvęðja,  
 8 bęiti við bit-sóttum, · en við bǫlvi rúnar;  
 fold skal við flóði taka.

I counsel thee, O Loddfathomer, that thou learn the counsels;  
 thou wilt have use if thou learn,  
 they will be good for thee if thou get:  
 Wherever thou drinkest ale choose for thee Earth's might,  
 for earth takes against drunkenness, and fire against sicknesses;  
 oak against dysentery; the ear [of corn] against sorcery;  
 bearded rye against hernia; in feuds shall one invoke Moon;  
 heather against bite-sicknesses, and runes against a bale;<sup>69</sup>  
 fold [EARTH] shall one employ against flood.

---

7 *h*ęiptum skal Mána kvęðja ‘in feuds shall one hail Moon’ | Cf. *Wsp* 5 which mentions the “Moon’s might”; for which He is presumably here invoked. For *kvęðja*, here “hail”, cf. *Lock* P3.

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<sup>69</sup>cf. sts. 126, 152.

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## The Rune-Tally

This group of stanzas is introduced by a large initial in **R**, marking the beginning of a new section. In younger paper manuscripts they have the header *Rúna-tals þáttur* ‘Strand of the Rune-Tally’, and generally give an archaic, mystic impression; at times one gets a feeling that they were drawn from the lips of an Odinic priest.

Apart from these stanzas there are a few other instances of similar Runic magic. Closest at hand is st. 80 above, which would fit seamlessly into the present section. Outside of *Higb* there is *Syed* 4–16, also preserved in **R**.

---

138    *V*ęit’k at ek hekk · *v*indga męiði á  
 2            *n*ętr allar *n*iu,  
           *g*ęiri undaðr · ok *g*efinn Óðni,  
 4            *s*jalfr *s*jölfum mér,  
           á þeim *m*ęiði, · es *m*ann-gi vęit,  
 6            hvęrs af *r*ótum *r*innr.

I know that I hung on the windy beam,  
 for nine nights all;  
 wounded by spear and given to Weden—  
 myself to myself—  
 on that beam, which no man knows,  
 of whose roots it runs.

139    *V*ið *h*lęifi mik sólđu-t · né við *h*orni-gi;  
 2            *n*ýsta ek *n*iðr, · *n*am’k upp rúnar,  
           *ó*pandi nam, · *f*ell’k aptr þaðan.

With loaf they relieved me not, nor with any horn.  
 I peered down; I took up the runes;  
 screaming I took; I fell back thence.

---

1 *h*lęifi ... *h*orni-gi ‘loaf ... horn’ | i.e. “I had neither bread nor water”.

140 Fimbul-ljóð níu · nam’k af hinum frégja syni  
 2 Bólþorns, Bęstlu fğður,  
 ok ek drykk of gat · hins dýra mjaðar  
 4 ausinn Óð-róri.

Nine fimble-leeds I learned from the famous son  
 of Balethorn, Bestle’s father—  
 and a drink I got, of that dear mead  
 poured [from] Woderearer.

1 Fimbul-ljóð níu ‘Nine fimble-leeds’ | Nine very great chants or spells (galders), compare the eighteen leeds below (st. 147 onward). It is unclear what this has to do with Weden’s Hanging; this stanza may be an insert.

1-2 hinum frégja syni Bólþorns, Bęstlu fğður ‘the famous son of Balethorn, Bestle’s father’ | According to *Yilv* 6, Byre got for his wife Bestle, the daughter of the ettin Balethorn. By her he fathered three sons: Weden, Will and Wigh. The “famous son of Balethorn” mentioned here is then Weden’s maternal uncle, which reflects an old Germanic (and more broadly European) custom of sending sons away to be fostered by their mother’s brothers or father. Cf. TODO: some reference.

141 Þà nam’k frévask · ok fróðr vesa  
 2 ok vaxa ok vęl hafask;  
 orð mér af orði · orðs leitaði  
 4 verk mér af verki · verks leitaði.

Then I took to flourish, and be learned,  
 and grow and have it well.  
 My word from a word a word sought out;  
 my work from a work a work sought out.

1 nam’k frévask ‘I took to flourish’ | A notorious mistranslation (TODO: source) has rendered these words as “I took semen”, seeing in them a reference to Weden “taking” the seed from hanged men in order to replenish his own powers (something not otherwise attested). This absurd notion which is probably based on the word *frę* ‘seed’ makes no sense in the context of the text and has no philological grounding. *frévask* is without doubt a reflexive verb, and *frę* is used of plant seeds, not ejaculate.

3-4 orð ... leitaði. ‘My word ...sought out.’ | i.e. “Every good speech led to another; every good deed likewise.”

142 Rúnar munt finna · ok ráðna stafi,  
 2 mjøk stóra stafi,  
 mjøk stinna stafi,  
 4 es fáði Fimbul-þulr  
 ok gørðu ginn-ręgin  
 6 ok ręist Hroptr ragna.

Runes wilt thou find, and interpreted staves:  
 very large staves,  
 very stiff staves,  
 which Fimble-Thyle (= Weden) painted,

and the **yin-Reins** made,  
and Roft (= Weden) of the Reins carved.

---

6 **r**agna ‘of the Reins’ | ‘*r*egna’ **R**

---

1 Rúnar ... ok ráðna stafi | Formulaic. Cf. the long-line on the medieval runestone N 13 (excerpt): *rúnar ek rist* · *ok ráðna stafi* ‘runes I carve, and interpreted staves’.

143 Óðinn með ǫsum, · en fyr ǫlfum Dáinn,  
2 Dvalinn **d**vergum fyrir,  
Ásviðr **j**ǫtnum fyrir,  
4 ek reist **s**jalfr **s**umar.

**Weden** among the **Eese** and Doven for the **Elves**;  
Dwollen for the **Dwarfs**;  
Oswith for the Ettins;  
I myself carved some.

---

4 ek ‘I’ | The identity of the speaker is unclear; one would expect it to be Weden, but He is already named in line 1.

144 Veitst, hvé **r**ísta skal? · Veitst, hvé **r**áða skal?  
2 Veitst, hvé **f**áa skal? · Veitst, hvé **f**reista skal?  
Veitst, hvé **b**iðja skal? · Veitst, hvé **b**lóta skal?  
4 Veitst, hvé **s**enda skal? · Veitst, hvé **s**óa skal?

Knowest thou how one shall carve? Knowest thou how one shall read?  
Knowest thou how one shall paint? Knowest thou how one shall try?  
Knowest thou how one shall bid? Knowest thou how one shall **blood**?  
Knowest thou one shall send? Knowest thou how one shall **soo**?<sup>70,71</sup>

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<sup>70</sup>A neat semantic structure would be found if the former four verbs referred to **runes**: carving, interpreting, painting (with blood?), and divining; and the latter four referred to sacrifice: asking for boons, worshipping, sending (the sacrifice or the prayer; making sure the gods receive it), and slaying the victim. This may be supported by the following stanza, which repeats the last four verbs here in what looks like a sacrificial context. See further relevant Encyclopedia entries.

<sup>71</sup>The meter of this st. is unusual, but bears some resemblance to Vg 216 (the Högstena galder). TODO: Elaborate.

145 **B**etra ’s ó-**b**eðit · an sé of-**b**lótít,  
2 ey sér til **g**ildis **g**jǫf;  
betra ’s ó-**s**ent · an sé of-**s**óit;  
4 [...]

It’s better unbid than over**blooded**;  
a gift always sees repayment.

It's better unsent than over<sup>sooed</sup>;  
[...].<sup>72</sup>

4 [...] | For metrical reasons it is very likely that a line has been lost here.

<sup>72</sup>An identical progression of four verbs suggests a close relation with the previous st. — The sense seems to be that it is better not to sacrifice at all than to sacrifice in excess, since even a small gift (to the gods) will be rewarded. A ritual cycle of gifts and rewards between men and the gods is also seen in other Indo-European pagan literatures. Compare the Sanskrit *Dehí me, dádamí te* 'Give to me, I give to thee' and Latin *dō ut dēs* 'I give that thou might give'.

2      146      Svá þundr of reist · fyr þjóða røk,  
         þar's upp of reis, · es aþtr of kom.

So Thound (= Weden) did carve for the rakes of nations,  
where up he rose as back he came.<sup>73</sup>

<sup>73</sup>TODO: A very cryptic st.

## The Leed-Tally (147–165)

This section of *High*, the so-called the Leed-Tally (*Ljóðatal*), is not separated from the preceding section (which is marked out with a large initial), but is usually taken as separate since it is a self-contained list not much concerned with runes. The speaker (certainly Weden) recounts eighteen spells, apparently to Loddfathomer. The spells themselves are not listed; only their use and effects. They are aristocratic and Odinic in character, and deal with such things as battle (3, 4, 5, 8, 11, 13), healing (spell 2, 12), countering sorcery (6, 10), controlling the elements (7, 9), and seduction (16, 17). The eighteenth and last spell must remain mysterious; not even its purpose is told, and it is known only to Weden and his lover.

The eighteen have some similarities with other known spells and lists of spells. The fourth bears a strong likeness to *Growe* 10, and its effect (removing fetters) is shared with the High German *Mers I*, where such a spell is actually found.

2      147      Ljóð þau kann'k, · es kann-at þjóðans kona  
         ok manns-kis mōgr.  
         Hjōlp hēitir ēitt, · þat þér hjalpa mun  
4      við sorgum ok sōkum, · ok sūtum gōrv-ōllum.

Those leeds I know, which knows no king's woman,  
and no man's lad.

Help is called one, it will help thee  
against sorrows and sakes, and all kinds of griefs.<sup>74</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> *søkum* ‘sakes’ | Legal charges, the first element of English *sakeless*.

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<sup>74</sup>TODO: elaborate on translation

148      Þat kann’k *annat*, · es þurfu *ýta* synir,  
                  þeir’s vilja *lékna* *lifa*.

I know another, which the sons of men need,  
 those who wish to live as leechers.

---

<sup>1</sup> þurfu *ýta* synir ‘the sons of men need’ | Cf. the similar wording in 166/2.

149      Þat kann’k *þriðja*, · ef mér verðr *þörf* mikil  
                  *hapt* við mína *heipt*-mogu,  
                  *eggjar* dýfi’k · minna *and*-skota,  
                  bíta-t þeim *vöpn* né *vélir*.

I know the third, if I come in great need  
 of hindrance against my feud-lads [ENEMIES];  
 I dull the edges of my opponents;  
 for them bite not weapons nor staffs.

---

<sup>4</sup> *vélir* ‘staffs’ | plural of *völur*, a magic staff used by witches and warlocks. The word *völva* ‘wallow’ (seeress, prophetess) derives from this word. The reading *vélir* ‘wiles, tricks, deceits’ must be excluded for metrical reasons since a *Leeds-meter* c-verse cannot end in a trochée.

150      Þat kann’k *fjórða*, · ef mér *fyrðar* bera  
                  *bönd* at *bóg*-limum,  
                  svá ek *gæl*, · at *ganga* má’k,  
                  sprettr mér af *fótum* *fjöturr*,  
                  en af *höndum* *hapt*.

I know the fourth, if men bear  
 bonds onto my shoulder-limbs:  
 so I gale that I may walk;  
 springs off my feet the fetter,  
 and off my hands the bond.<sup>75</sup>

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<sup>75</sup>Cf. *Groove* 10, which is very similar to the present stanza, and *Mers I* (edited below under Galders), a galder that seems to have actually been used for the purpose of removing fetters.

151      Þat kann’k *fimta*, · ef sé’k af *fári* skotinn

- 2 flein í folki vaða,  
 flýgr-a svá stint, · at stöðvi'g-a'k,  
 4 ef hann sjónum of sé'k.

I know the fifth, if I see a dangerously shot  
 arrow in the troop wading:  
 it flies not so stiff that I may not stop it,  
 if I see it with my sights.

- 152 Þat kann'k sétta, · ef mik sérir þegn  
 2 á rótum rás viðar,  
 þann hal, · es mik heipta kveðr,  
 4 þann eta meín heldr an mik.

I know the sixth, if athane wounds me  
 on the roots of a raw/sappy tree:  
*that man* who sings hatred against me,  
*him* the harms eat, rather than me.

1–2 ef mik sérir þegn á rótum rás viðar ‘if athane wounds me on the roots of a raw/sappy tree’ | i.e., “if someone carves a runic curse directed against me”. The sappy wood was apparently thought to be important for the curse to work. Cf. *Gretter* 79, where a hag curses Gretter in the following way: after finding a small tree and planing a small smooth surface onto a burnt side of it, she carves runes in its roots and reddens them with her own blood. She then chants *galders* while walking counter-clockwise around it. She last pushes it out to sea, praying for it to drift to Gretter’s homestead, cursing him. Cf. also *Sbir* 32 where a *brár viðr* ‘raw/sappy tree’ occurs in the context of a curse.

2 rás ‘raw/sappy’ | The normal form of this word is \**brár* (cf. *Sbir* 32), but the required alliteration with *rótum* makes it impossible here.

- 153 Þat kann'k sjaunda, · ef sé'k hōvan loga  
 2 sal of sess-mōgum,  
 brinnr-at svá breitt, · at hōnum bjargi'g-a'k;  
 4 þann kann'k galdr at gala.

I know the seventh, if I see a high hall  
 blazing over seat-lads [WARRIORS]:  
 it burns not so broadly that I may not save it<sup>76</sup>—  
 that galder I can gale.

<sup>76</sup>i.e. “if I see a hall burning with men trapped inside, no matter how large the flame is I can save both the hall and the men.”

- 154 Þat kann'k átta, · es ǫllum es  
 2 nyt-sam-ligt at nema,  
 hvar's hatr vœx · með hildings sonum,

- 4 þat má'k **bóta brátt**.  
 I know the eighth, which for all men is  
 useful to learn:  
 wherever hatred grows among a prince's sons,  
 it I may shortly mend.

---

3 **hatr** 'hatred' | i.e. with regard to the father's inheritance.

- 155 þat kann'k **níunda**, · ef mik **nauðr** of stęndr  
 2 at bjarga **fari** mínu á **floti**,  
**vind** ek kyrrí · **vági** á  
 4 ok **svęfi'**k allan **sę**.  
 I know the ninth, if I am in need  
 to save my friend on a floater [SHIP]:  
 the wind I calm on the wave,  
 and put all the sea asleep.

- 156 þat kann'k **tíunda**, · ef sé'k **tún-riður**  
 2 **lęika** lopti á,  
 ek svá **vinn'**k, · at þęr **villar** fara  
 4 sinna **hęim-hama**  
 sinna **hęim-huga**.

I know the tenth, if I see town-rideresses  
 playing aloft:  
 I accomplish it so that they go astray  
 from their home-**hames**;  
 from their home-minds.<sup>77</sup>

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3 þęr **villar** fara 'they (*fem.*) go astray' | emend.; þęir *villir fara* 'they (*masc.*) go astray' R

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<sup>77</sup>The *riður* '(female) riders' were witches who would leave their original human shapes or skins (*hamir*) in order to fly around in the air tormenting and poisoning villagers. Their original bodies would then be lying in a coma-like state, in something resembling that which is today called astral projection. Yet, it was not the case that their whole mental faculties would disconnect from their bodies, but rather they would leave behind something of their humanity, which was thought to be inextricably linked to their human bodies. Weden was through his second sight able to see these riders, and could then use his superior magical skill to confuse them so that they would not be able to return to their human "home"-shapes or minds, but were instead forced to stray as tormented disentangled ghosts; a cruel fate. — Weden likewise brags about tricking riders in *Hbl* 20.

- 157 þat kann'k **ęllipta**, · ef skal'k til **orrostu**  
 2 **lęiða** lang-vini,  
 und **randir** gęl'k, · en þęir með **ríki** fara,



4                   hēilir hildar til,  
                     hēilir hildi frá,  
 6                   koma þeir hēilir hvaðan.

I know the eleventh, if I shall into war  
 lead old friends:  
 beneath the shields I gale, and they go with power  
 healthy to the battle,  
 healthy from the battle;  
 they return healthy anywhence.

158      Þat kann’k tolpta, · ef sé’k á tré uppi  
 2                   váfa virgil-ná,  
                     svá ek rist · ok í rúnum fá’k,  
 4                   at sá gengr gumi.  
                     ok mēlir við mik.

I know the twelfth, if I see high up on a tree  
 a gallow-corpse dangling:  
 so I carve and paint in the runes,  
 that that man walks  
 and speaks with me.

159      Þat kann’k þrettánda · ef skal’k þegn ungan  
 2                   verpa vatni á,  
                     mun-at hann falla · þótt í folk komi,  
 4                   hnígr-a sá halr fyr hjorum.

I know the thirteenth, if on a young thane  
 I shall throw water:  
 he will not fall though he should come into battle;  
 that warrior sinks not down before swords.

---

1–2 ef skal’k þegn ungan verpa vatni á ‘if on a young thane I shall throw water’ | A reference to the Heathen name-giving ceremony in which the infant would be sprinkled with water; cf. the attestations in *Rígh* 7, 21, 34.

160      Þat kann’k fjórtánda, · ef skal’k fyrða liði  
 2                   tēlja tíva fyr,  
                     ása ok alfa · ek kann allra skil,  
 4                   fár kann ó-snotr svá.

I know the fourteenth, if before a retinue of men  
 I shall count forth the Tews:

of all the Eese and Elves I know the discernments;  
few unwise men can do so.

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3 skil 'discernments' | Cf. *Hymn* 38, where the corresponding verb *skilja* 'to discern, understand' is used in the context of god-lore.

- 161 Þat kann'k fimtánda, · es gól þjóð-rórir  
2 dvergr fyr Dëllings durum,  
afl gól ósum, · en ölfum frama,  
4 hyggju Hropta-týi.

I know the fifteenth, which Thedrearer galed,  
the dwarf, before Delling's doors.  
Power he galed for the Eese and fame for the Elves;  
thought for Roft-Tew (= Weden).

- 162 Þat kann'k sextánda, · ef vil'k hins svinna mans  
2 hafa gëð allt ok gaman,  
hugi hverfi'k · hvit-armri konu  
4 ok sný'k hennar öllum sefa.

I know the sixteenth, if I will from the wise girl  
have her senses all, and pleasure;  
the heart I change of the white-armed woman,  
and I twist all her mind.

- 163 Þat kann'k sjautjánda · at mik seint mun firrask  
2 hit man-unga man.

I know the seventeenth, that the girl-young girl  
will lately shun me.

- 164 Ljóða þessa · munt Loddfáfnir  
2 lengi vanr vesa;  
þó sé þér góð ef getr,  
4 nýt ef nemr,  
þorf ef þiggr.

These leads wilt thou, Loddfathomer,  
long be lacking!  
Though they would be good for thee if thou get,  
useful if thou learn,  
needful if thou receive.

165 Þat kann’k átjándá, • es éva kœnni’k  
 2 mœy né manns konu,  
 —allt es bœtra • es einn of kann,  
 4 þat fylgir ljóða lokum—  
 nema þœiri einni, • es mik armi vœrr,  
 6 eða mín systir séi.

I know the eighteenth, which I never teach  
 a maiden nor man’s woman—  
 everything is better when one alone can do it;  
 that follows the end of the leads—  
 save for her alone who with her arm guards me,  
 or who is my sister.

5 mik armi vœrr ‘with her arm guards me’ | A similar expression is also used *Wayl* 2. — The one who wraps Weden in her arm may be His wife, Fric. He has no known sister.

166 Nú eru Háva mól kveðin • Háva hœllu í;  
 2 all-þœrf ýta sonum,  
 ò-þœrf jœtna sonum;  
 4 hœill sá’s kvað, • hœill sá’s kann,  
 njóti sá’s nam,  
 6 hœilir þœir’s hlýddu.

Now are the High One’s speeches sung in the High One’s hall;  
 of great use for the sons of men;  
 of harm for the sons of ettins.  
 Hail he who sang; hail he who knows;  
 may he benefit who learned;  
 hail those who heeded!

3 jœtna ‘ettins’ | corrected in margin from ýta ‘men’ R

4–6 kvað, kann, nam, hlýddu ‘sang, knows, learned, heeded’ | The implied subject is the speeches, i.e. ‘hail he who sang them, hail he who knows them,’ et.c.



# The Speeches of Webthrithner

## (*Vafþrúðnismól*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.894)

Meter: *Leeds-meter*

A wisdom contest poem, known by the author of *Yilv*.

Far from being a loose collection of pieces of mythic information, the poem is tightly structured.

Weden first asks his wife, Frie, for counsel, as he is curious about the ancient wisdom which the ettin Webthrithner might possess (1). Frie expresses worry, as she considers Webthrithner wiser than all other ettins (2), but Weden says that he has travelled far and wide, and wishes to know what Webthrithner's hall is like (3). Frie wishes Weden good luck against the ettin (4) and he departs, to challenge Webthrithner's *orð-spēki* 'word-wisdom' (5). He arrives at hall of Webthrithner (6), who promptly declares that Weden will not come out of the hall unless he be wiser than him (7). Weden introduces himself as Gainred, saying that he has travelled far in need of Webthrithner's hospitality (8). Webthrithner invites Weden to sit down (9), but he instead utters a gnomic stanza (10) not unlike those of the first section of *Highb*.

Webthrithner then begins to ask questions relating to the mythology, each answered by Weden in turn. The questions concern which horses pull the day (11–12) and night (13–14), the river which divides the gods and ettins (15–16) and the plain where Surt and the gods will fight (17–18).

Webthrithner calls the god learned, invites him to sit on the bench, and declares that the loser of the contest must give his head (19). The roles are now reversed, and Weden asks the ettin about the origins of earth and heaven (20–21), of sun and moon (22–23), of day, night, and the phases of the moon (24–25), and of winter and summer (26–27); then about the earliest being, namely the ettin Earyelmer (28–29), his origins (30–31) and how he reproduced asexually (32–33). Weden continues by asking what Webthrithner himself first remembers (34–35), about the origin of the wind (36–37), the god **Nearth** (38–39), Walhall and the Oneharriers (40–41), and where Webthrithner learned these esoteric pieces of wisdom (42–43).

After this the structure and tone of the questions change; each one begins with the same first half as that of st. 3, and they concern the end-times. Weden asks which humans will survive after the Fimble-winter (44–45), how the sun will rise after Fenrer has destroyed it (46–47), about some obscure maidens (48–49; see discussion there), which Eese will survive after the flame of Surt goes out (50–51) and how Weden will die (52–53). Finally, he asks what Weden spoke in the ear of Balder before he was burned on the pyre (54). Webthrithner at last understands the identity of his challenger, since only Weden himself could know the answer to that question. He laconically accepts his imminent death and the futility of his word-wisdom (55); the poem ends with his admission that Weden will always be the wisest (56).

- [Óðinn kvað:] 1 „Ráð mér nú Frigg · alls mik fara tíðir [R 7v/9]  
 2 at vitja Vaf-þrúðnis;  
 for-vitni mikla · kveð’k mér á fornum stöfum  
 4 við þann hinn al-svinna jötun.“  
 “Counsel me now, Frie, as I desire to journey [Weden quoth:]  
 to visit Webthriðner;  
 Very curious am I of ancient staves  
 from that all-wise ettin.<sup>78</sup>”
- 
- <sup>78</sup>i.e. ‘I am very curious to learn his ancient wisdom.’ Cf. st. 55.
- [Frigg kvað:] 2 „Hęima lętja · mynda’k Hęrja-fōðr [R 7v/12]  
 2 í gōrðum gōða;  
 þvi-at ęngi jōtun · hugða’k jafn-ramman  
 4 sęm Vaf-þrúðni vesa.“  
 “At home would I keep the Father of Hosts [= Weden], [Frie quoth:]  
 in the yards of the Gods—  
 for no ettin have I judged to be  
 as strong as Webthriðner.”
- [Óðinn kvað:] 3 „Fjōļð ek fōr, · fjōļð fręistaða’k, [R 7v/13]  
 2 fjōļð ek ręynda ręgin;  
 hitt vil’k vita, · hvę Vaf-þrúðnis  
 4 sala-kynni sęi.“  
 “Much I journeyed, much I tried, [Weden quoth:]  
 much I tested the Reins.  
 This I wish to know: how Webthriðner’s  
 halls might be.”
- [Frigg kvað:] 4 „Hęill þu farir, · hęill þu aptr komir, [R 7v/15]  
 2 hęill á sinnum sęir;  
 ōði þęr dugi · hvar’s skalt, Alda-fōðr,  
 4 orðum męla jōtun.“  
 “Whole journey thou, whole come thou back, [Frie quoth:]  
 whole be thou on thy paths!  
 May thy wisdom avail thee, where thou shalt, O Eldfather (= Weden),  
 with words address the ettin!”

- 5 Fór þá Óðinn · at freista orð-spæki [R 7v/17]  
 2 þess hins al-svinna jǫtuns;  
 at hǫllu kom, · es átti Hymis faðir;  
 4 inn gekk Yggr þegar.

Then journeyed Woden to test the word-wisdom  
 of that all-wise ettin.

To the hall he came, which the father of Hymer [= Webthrithner] owned;  
 shortly walked Ug (= Weden) inside.

3 es | ok R 3 Hymis | *metr. emend. after Finnur Jónsson (1932)*; Íms R

- [Óðinn kvað:] 6 „Hæill þú nú, Vaf-þrúðnir, · nú em’k í hǫll kominn [R 7v/18]  
 2 á þik sjalfan séa;  
 hitt vil’k fyrst vita, · ef fróðr séir  
 4 eða al-sviðr, jǫtunn.“

[Weden quoth:] “Hail thee now, O Webthrithner; now am I come into the hall,  
 to see thy very self!  
 This I wish first to know, if learned thou be,  
 or all-wise, O ettin.”

- Vafþrúðnir: 7 „Hvat ’s þat manna, · es í mínum sal [R 7v/20]  
 2 verpumk orði á?  
 út þú né kǫmr · órum hǫllum frá,  
 4 nema þú inn snotrari séir.“

[Webthrithner quoth:] “What sort of man is that, who in *my* hall  
 throws words at me?  
 Out comest thou not from *our* halls,  
 unless thou be the smarter man.”

- Óðinn kvað: 8 „Gagnráðr hēiti’k, · nú em’k af gǫngu kominn, [R 7v/22]  
 2 þyrstr til þinna sala;  
 laðar þurfi · hēf’k lēngi farit  
 4 ok þinna and-fanga, jǫtunn.“

[Weden quoth:] “Gainred I am called; now am I come from walking,  
 thirsty, to thy halls.  
 In need of a welcome have I journeyed for long;  
 and of thy reception, ettin!”

1 Gagnráðr | Gang-ráðr ‘Gangred; Journey-adviser’ G (paraphrased).

Vafþrúðnir: 9 „Hví þú þá, Gagnráðr, · mēlisk af golfi fyrir?  
 2 fār þú í sess í sal;  
 þá skal fręista, · hvárr flęira viti,  
 4 gęstr eða hinn gamli þulr.“

[R 7v/24]

“Why then, Gainred, speakest thou from the floor before me?  
 Take a seat in the hall!  
 Then it shall be tried, which of the two might know more:  
 the guest, or the old thyle [I].”

[Webthritner quoth:]

[Óðinn kvað:] 10 „Ó-auðigr maðr, · es til auðigs kómr,  
 2 mēli þarft eða þęgi;  
 ofr-mēlgi mikil · hygg’k at illa geti  
 4 hvęim’s við kald-rifaðan kómr.“

[R 7v/26]

“The unwealthy man who comes to a wealthy one  
 ought to speak the needful or shut up.  
 Great over-speaking, I judge, will bring evil  
 for whomever comes by a cold-ribbed one.”

[Weden quoth:]

2 mēli þarft eða þęgi ‘ought to speak the needful or shut up’ | Formulaic, this line occurs identically in *Higb* 19.

4 kald-rifaðan ‘cold-ribbed’ | i.e. ‘cold-hearted, cunning’.

Vafþrúðnir: 11 „Sęg mér, Gagnráðr, · alls á golfi vill  
 2 þíns of fręista frama,  
 hvé hęstr hęitir, · sá’s hverjan dręgr  
 4 dag of drótt-męgu.“

[R 7v/28]

“Say to me, Gainred, since on the floor thou wilt  
 tempt thy furtherance:  
 What is the horse called which pulls every  
 day over the lads of the retinue [MEN]?”

[Webthritner quoth:]

[Óðinn kvað:] 12 „Skin-faxi hęitir, · es hinn skíra dręgr  
 2 dag of drótt-męgu;  
 hęsta batstr · þykkir með Hreįð-gotum;  
 4 ęy lýsir męn af mari.“

[R 7v/30]

“Shinefax is he called who pulls the bright  
 day over the lads of the retinue.  
 The best of horses he seems among the Reth-Gots;  
 ever shines that stallion’s mane.”

[Weden quoth:]



[Óðinn kvað:]           **14** „**Hrím-faxi h**ętir, · es **hverja dręgr**  
                                 **n**ótt of **nýt** reġin;  
                                 **mél-dropa f**ellir · **morgin hverjan;**  
                                 þaðan kómur **d**ogg of **dala.**“

[Weden quoth:] “Rimefax is he called who pulls every  
night over the useful Reins.  
Each morning he does drool from his bit;  
thence comes dew in the dales.”<sup>79</sup>

|                       |    |  |          |
|-----------------------|----|--|----------|
| [Vafþrúðnir:]         | 15 | „Sæg þat, Gagnráðr, · alls á golfi vill  | [R 8r/1] |
| 2                     |    | þíns of freista frama,   |          |
|                       |    | hvé ó heitir, · sú's deilir með jǫtna sonum  |          |
| 4                     |    | grund, ok með goðum.“  |          |
| [Webthritrner quoth:] |    | “Say this, Gainred, since on the floor thou wilt<br>tempt thy furtherance:<br>What the river is called which divides the ground<br>between the sons of ettins and gods?” |          |

|                |    |  |          |
|----------------|----|--|----------|
| [Óðinn kvað:]  | 16 | „Ífing heitir <b>ó</b> , · es deilir með <b>j</b> ǫtna sonum | [R 8r/2] |
| 2              |    | <b>g</b> rund, ok með <b>g</b> oðum;                         |          |
|                |    | <b>o</b> pin rinna · hón skal umb <b>a</b> ldr-daga;         |          |
| 4              |    | verðr-at <b>í</b> ss á <b>ó</b> u.“                          |          |
| [Weden quoth:] |    | “Iving is the river called which divides the ground          |          |
|                |    | between the sons of ettins and gods.                         |          |
|                |    | Open shall she through her life-days flow;                   |          |
|                |    | there forms no ice on the river.”                            |          |

- [Vafþrúðnir:]      **17**      „Seg þat, Gagnráðr, · alls á golfi vill  
    2                    þíns of fręista frama,  
    hvé vǫllr hęitir, · es finnask vígi at  
    4                    Surtr ok hin svǫsu goð.“  
    “Say this, Gainred, since on the floor thou wilt  
    tempt thy furtherance:  
    What that plain is called where they find each other at war,  
    Surt and the excellent Gods?”  
    [Webthritner quoth:]
- Óðinn:              **18**      „Vigríðr hęitir vǫllr, · es finnask vígi at  
    2                    Surtr ok hin svǫsu goð;  
    hundrað rasta · hann ’s á hvęrjan veg;  
    4                    sá ’s þeim vǫllr vitaðr.“  
    “Wighride is the plain called where they find each other at war,  
    Surt and the excellent gods.  
    A hundred rests it goes in every way;  
    for them that plain is marked out.”  
    Weden:
- Vafþrúðnir:      **19**      „Fróðr est nú gęstr, · far á bękk jǫtuns,  
    2                    ok męlumk í sessi saman;  
    hǫfði vęðja · vit skulum hǫllu í  
    4                    gęstr, of goð-spęki.“  
    “Learned art thou now, guest, come onto the ettin’s bench  
    and let us speak on the seat together.  
    Wager a head, shall we two in the hall,  
    O guest, over god-wisdom!”  
    Webthritner:
- Óðinn:              **20**      „Seg þat hit ęina, · ef þitt óði dugir  
    2                    ok þú Vafþrúðnir vitir,  
    hvaðan jǫrð of kom, · eða upp-himinn  
    4                    fyrst, hinn fróði jǫtunn?“  
    “Say the one, if thy wisdom avails,  
    and thou, Webthritner, mightst know:  
    Whence Earth did come, or Up-heaven,  
    first, O learned ettin?”  
    Weden:

1 óði | The first word on fol. 3r. of A; from this point we have the poem in both manuscripts.

Vafþrúðnir: 21 „Ór Ymis holdi · vas jǫrð of sköpuð,  
2 en ór bęinum bjǫrg,  
himinn ór hausi · hins hrím-kalda jǫtuns,  
4 en ór svęita sęr.“ [R 8r/10, A 3r/2]

Webthriðner: “From Yimer’s flesh was the earth shaped,  
and from his bones the mountains;  
heaven from the skull of the rime-cold ettin,  
and from his blood the sea.<sup>80</sup>”

4 svęita ‘blood’ | Cf. *Sont* 3/3 *jǫtuns hals · undir þjóta* ‘the neck-wounds of the ettin [SEAS] roar’. In poetry *svęiti* ‘sweat’ almost always means ‘blood’. This is shared with OE *swāt*, as seen e.g. in *Beow* 1286a: *sweord swāte fāb* ‘sword stained with “sweat”’, 2689b–2690: *bé ge-blódegod wearð // sâwul-dríore; · swât jǫum wéoll*. ‘he was bloodied in soul-gore; the “sweat” gushed in waves’.

<sup>80</sup>The present st. very closely resembles *Grim* 41; lines 1 and 4 here are identical to lines 1–2 there, and lines 2 and 3a here are very similar to line 3a and 4 there. Although the stanzas are clearly related, they are still distinct enough that the one cannot be a direct scribal copy of the other. I think that the relation is most likely to be oral, and that the two stanzas were both composed in the same, most likely West Norwegian, community of poets, or perhaps even by the same individual.

Óðinn: 22 „Sęg þat annat, · ef þitt óði dugir  
2 ok þú Vafþrúðnir vitir,  
hvaðan Máni of kom, · svá’t fęrr męnn yfir,  
4 eða Sól hit sama.“ [R 8r/12, A 3r/3]

Weden: “Say the other, if thy wisdom avails,  
and thou, Webthriðner, mightst know:  
Whence Moon did come, he that journeys over men,  
or Sun likewise?”

Vafþrúðnir: 23 „Mundil-fari hęitir, · hann’s Mána faðir  
2 ok svá Sólur hit sama;  
himin hverfa · þau skulu hverjan dag  
4 ǫldum at ár-tali.“ [R 8r/13, A 3r/4]

Webthriðner: “Mundlefare is he called; he is Moon’s father,  
and so of Sun likewise.  
Turn round in heaven shall they, every day,  
for the year-tally of mankind.”

4 ǫldum at ár-tali ‘for the year-tally of mankind’ | Cf. *Wsp* 6, where the Reins gave names to night, the moon-phases, morning, midday, afternoon, and evening *ǫrum at tęlja* ‘the years for to tally’.

Óðinn: 24 „Sęg þat þriðja, · alls þik svinnan kveða [R 8r/15, A 3r/6]

2 ok þú Vaf-þrúðnir vitir,  
hvaðan Dagr of kom, · sá's fęrr drótt yfir,  
4 eða Nýtt með niðum.“

“Say the third, as they call thee wise,  
and thou, Webthrithner, mightst know:  
Whence Day came, he that journeys over the retinue,  
or Night with the moon-phases?”

Weden:

Vafþrúðnir: 25 „Dellingr heitir, · hann's Dags faðir,  
2 en Nýtt vas Nęrvi borin;  
ný ok nið · skópu nýt řęgin  
4 ęldum at ár-tali.“

[R 8r/17, A 3r/8]

“Delling is he called; he is Day's father,  
but Night was born to Narrow.  
The waxing and waning did the useful Reins create  
for the year-tally of mankind.”

Webthrithner:

3 ný ok nið ‘The waxing and waning’ | i.e. “the moon-phases”. Cf. *Wsp* 6.

Óðinn kvað: 26 „Sęg þat fjórða, · alls þik fróðan kveða,  
2 ok þú Vaf-þrúðnir vitir,  
hvaðan vetr of kom · eða varmt sumar  
4 fyrst með fróð řęgin.“

[R 8r/18, A 3r/9]

“Say the fourth, as they call thee learned,  
and thou, Webthrithner, mightst know:  
Whence winter did come, or warm summer,  
first, among the learned Reins?”

Weden quoth:

Vafþrúðnir: 27 „Vind-svalr heitir, · hann's Vetrar faðir,  
2 en Svęsuðr Sumars.“

[R 8r/20, A 3r/10]

“Windswoll is he called; he is Winter's father;  
but Sosuth [is] Summer's.”

Webthrithner:

1-2 Vind-svalr ... Sumars | The second half of the st. seems to be missing.

Óðinn kvað: 28 „Sęg þat fimta, · alls þik fróðan kveða,  
2 ok þú Vaf-þrúðnir vitir,  
hvęrr ása ęldstr · eða Ymis niðja  
4 yrði í ár-daga.“

[R 8r/21, A 3r/11]

Weden quoth: “Say the fifth, as they call thee learned,  
and thou, Webthrithner, mightst know:  
Who of the **Eese**, or of Yimer’s kinsmen [ETTINS],  
in days of yore might have become eldest?<sup>81</sup>”

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<sup>81</sup>i.e. ‘which being arose first of all?’ Cf. the question on the C9th Malt Stone (DR NOR1988;5): **hwarisi** : **alistiaša**, perhaps *Hvar es inn elisti ása?* ‘Who is the eldest of the Eese?’

Vafþrúðnir:        **29**     „**Ø**r-ófi vetra · áðr véri **jorð** of sköpuð,  
2                    þá vas **Ber**-gælmir **borinn**,  
                      **Þrúð**-gælmir · vas þess faðir,  
4                    en **Aur**-gælmir **afi**.“ [R 8r/22, A 3r/12]

Webthrithner: “Uncountable winters before the Earth was created,  
then was Bareyelmir born.  
Thrithyelmir was that one’s father,  
and Earyelmir the grandfather.”

Óðinn kvað:        **30**     „**S**eg þat **sétta**, · alls þik **svinnan** kveða,  
2                    ok þú **Vaf**-þrúðnir **vitir**,  
                      hvaðan **Aur**-gælmir kom · með **jotna** sonum  
4                    **fyrst**, hinn **fróði** jotunn.“ [R 8r/23, A 3r/14]

Weden quoth: “Say the sixth, as they call thee wise,  
and thou, Webthrithner, mightst know:  
Whence Earyelmir came among the sons of ettins,  
first, O learned ettin?”

Vafþrúðnir:        **31**     „**Ø**r **É**li-vógum · stukku **ætir**-dropar,  
2                    svá **óx** unds ór varð **jotunn**;  
                      þar **órar** **ét**tir · kómu **allar** saman;  
4                    því’s þat **é** alt til **atalt**.“ [R 8r/25, A 3r/15, G]

Webthrithner: “From the Ilewaves splashed venom-drops;  
so it grew until it formed an ettin.  
Our lineages came there all together,  
thus it is ever all too fierce.”

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**1-4 ALL** | Over æons the splashing venom-drops combined until they formed a sentient being: this was Earyelmir, whom *Yilv* identifies with **Yimer**. This stanza is cited in support of the lengthy and embellished creation narrative found in *Yilv*, but it is not certain that this is what our poet had in mind.

The Illewaves are probably a reflex of the chaotic primeval Waters found in many West Eurasian mythologies, including Genesis 1:1–3 and *RV* 10.129. Of these two foundational religious sources the latter is closer to the present stanza, and probably holds the more archaic conception. Where we find in the Jewish narrative a proper *creation*; at the very beginning of time God's spirit is on the Waters and He makes the light shine over them, we find in these two Indo-European texts a *spontaneous emergence* of a single primeval entity long before the Gods are born—here from the violent splashing of venom, in *RV* 10.129.3 from “the power of heat” (*tāpasah mabinā*). This entity in turn asexually begets sexual beings—here through rubbing his limbs together, in *RV* 10.129.4 simply giving rise to “desire” (*kāma*) which serves as the “primal seed of thought” (*mānasah rétaḥ prathamām*)—and it is from these that the world is populated.

3–4 órar ... atalt 'Our ... fierce' | so G; om. RA.

4 þat 'it' | i.e. the ettin race.

- Óðinn kvað: 32 „Sæg þat sjaunda, · alls þik svinnan kveða,  
2 ok þú Vaf-þrúðnir vitir,  
hvé sá bōrn gat · hinn baldni jōtunn,  
4 es hann hafði-t gýgjar gaman.“
- “Say the seventh, as they call thee wise,  
and thou, Webthrithner, mightst know:  
How that one begot bairns, the stubborn ettin,  
when he knew not a troll-woman's pleasure?”
- 3 baldni 'stubborn' | so A; *aldni* 'the aged, old' R breaks alliteration
- [R 8r/26, A 3r/16]
- Weden quoth:

- Vafþrúðnir kvað: 33 „Und hēndi vaxa · kvǫðu hrím-þursi  
2 meḡ ok mōg saman;  
fótr við fōti · gat hins fróða jōtuns  
4 sex-hǫfðaðan son.“
- “Within the hand of the rime-thurse, they said, did grow  
a maiden and lad together.  
Foot by a foot begat for the learned ettin  
a six-headed son.”
- 1–3 Und hēndi ... fótr við fōti 'Within the hand ... Foot against foot' | The image is masturbatory. The stanza is paraphrased in *Ylfr* 5: *En svá er sagt, at þá er hann svaf, fekk bann sveita. Þá óx undir vinstri hendi honum maðr ok kona, ok annarr fótr hans gat son við þðrum, en þaðan af kómu éttir.* 'But so is said, that when he slept he began to sweat. Then grew within his left hand a man and a woman, and one foot of his begat a son by the other, and thereof come the lineages [of Ettins].'
- [R 8r/27, A 3r/17]
- Webthrithner quoth:

- Óðinn kvað: 34 „Sæg þat óttunda, · alls þik fróðan kveða,  
2 ok þú Vaf-þrúðnir vitir,  
hvat fyrst of mant · eða fremst of vëitst,  
4 þú est al-sviðr jōtunn.“
- “Say the eighth, as they call thee learned,  
and thou, Webthrithner, mightst know:
- [R 8r/29, A 3r/18]
- Weden quoth:

What recallest thou first, or knowest foremost?  
Thou art all-wise, ettin!”

Vafþrúðnir kvað: 35 „*Ør-ófi vetra · áðr véri jǫrð of skǫpuð,*  
2 *þá vas Ber-gelmir borinn;*  
*þat fyrst of man’k, · es hinn fróði jǫtunn*  
4 *á vas lúðr of lagiðr.*“ [R 8r/30, A 3r/19, G]

Webthrithner quoth: “Uncountable winters before the Earth was created,  
then was Bareyelmir born.  
It I first remember, when the learned ettin  
on the tree-trunk was laid.<sup>82</sup>”

<sup>82</sup> An obscure mythological reference. According to the prose of *Yilv*, after the sons of Byre (that is, *Weden*, *Will* and *Wigh*) slew Yimer, so much blood flew from his wounds that all the race of Ettins were drowned, save for Bareyelmir and his family, who survived by getting up on his *lúðr*. This is clearly a variant of the flood myth, but it may be of Biblical origin. In regular prose, *lúðr* usually means ‘trumpet, blowing horn’, less commonly ‘flour-bin’; the underlying sense seems to be ‘hollowed-out wood’. Considering the transitive nature of Bareyelmir being laid (*of lagiðr*) upon it, the stanza might instead be referring a ship burial, so that the first thing Webthrithner remembers is Bareyelmir’s funeral.

Óðinn kvað: 36 „*Seg þat níunda, · alls þik svinnan kveða,*  
2 *ok þú Vaf-þrúðnir vitir,*  
*hvaðan vindr of kømr · svá’t færr vág yfir,*  
4 *é męnn hann sjalfan of séa.*“ [R 8r/32, A 3r/21]

Weden quoth: “Say the ninth, as they call thee wise,  
and thou, Webthrithner, mightst know:  
Whence the wind comes which fares over the wave;  
men always see his very self?”

4 *é męnn hann sjalfan of séa* ‘men always see his very self’ | Most likely a negative clitic *-t* has been lost from the verb *séa* ‘see’, which would have given the proper reading: “men *never* see his very self”.

Vafþrúðnir: 37 „*Hrę-svelgr hęitir, · es sitr á himins ęnda,*  
2 *jǫtunn í arnar ham;*  
*af hans vęngjum · kveða vind koma*  
4 *alla męnn yfir.*“ [R 8r/34, A 3r/22]

Webthrithner: “Rawswallower is he called who sits at heaven’s end;  
an ettin in an eagle’s *hame*.  
From his wings they say that the wind comes  
over all men.”

[Óðinn kvað:]

38 „Sæg þat tíunda, · alls þú tíva røk  
 2 ǫll Vafþrúðnir vitir,  
 hvaðan Njǫrðr of kom · með ása sonum;  
 4 hofum ok hǫrgum · rēðr hund-mǫrgum  
 ok varð-at ǫsum alinn.“

[R 8v/1, A 3r/24]

“Say the tenth, since thou of the Rakes of the Tews  
 all, O Webthritner, mightst know:  
 Whence **Nearth** did come among the sons of the **Eese**?  
 Hoves and **harrows** he rules hound-many,  
 and he was not to the Eese begotten.”

[Weden quoth:]

4 hofum ok hǫrgum ‘hoves and harrows’ | A formulaic merism, see note to *Wsp* 7 for other occurrences. This stanza seems to be referring to the large count of cultic places named after Nearth in Norway (TODO: source this); cf. here *Grim* 16, where it is said that Nearth *rēðr hǫ-timbruðum hǫrgi* ‘rules a high-timbered harrow’. Also of interest is *Lock* 51, where a goddess speaks about her *véum ok vǫngum* ‘wighs and wongs’, other cultic names. All of these examples suggest something about the Heathen view of shrines.

[Vafþrúðnir kvað:]

39 „Í Vana-heimi · skópu hann vís regin  
 2 ok sældu at gíslingu goðum,  
 í aldar røk · hann mun aptr koma  
 4 heim með vísun vǫnum.“

[R 8v/3, A 3r/26]

“In Waneham the wise **Reins**<sup>83</sup> created him,  
 and sold him as a hostage to/for the gods.  
 In the Rakes of Mankind<sup>84</sup> he will come back  
 home among the wise **Wanes**.”

[Webthritner quoth:]

<sup>83</sup>While *reggin* ‘Reins’ is usually just a synonym of *goð* ‘gods’, it seems here to refer specifically to the Wanes, in contrast with the **Eese**.

<sup>84</sup>i.e. the Rakes of the Reins.

The two following stanzas are damaged in both **R** and **A**; **R** has only st. 40, but splits it in two, while **A** has 40/1 (abbreviated in the ms.: *S. þ. e. XI*) and then jumps to the answer. The present two stanzas are reconstructed. TODO: explain better.

[Óðinn kvað:]

40 „Sæg þat elliþta, · hvar ýtar túnum í  
 2 hǫggvask hverjan dag;  
 val þeir kjósa · ok ríða vígi frá,  
 4 sitja meir of sáttir saman.“

[R 8v/5, A 3r/28]

“Say the eleventh: Where men in yards  
 cut each other down every day?

[Weden quoth:]



The slain they choose and from the battle ride;  
[then] they sit more at peace together.”

3 val þeir kjósa ‘the slain they choose’ | It is from this verbal phrase that the agent noun *val-kyrja* ‘walkirrie’ is derived; yet those are all women (as the very gender of the word shows), while the Oneharriers are male.

[Vafþrúðnir kvað:] 41 „Allir **ein**-hęrjar • Óðins túnú*m* í [A 3r/28]  
2 hoggvask hveřjan dag,  
val þeir kjósa • ok ríða vígi frá,  
4 sitja meřir of sáttir saman.“

[Webthrithner quoth:] “All the **Oneharriers** in Weden’s yards  
cut each other down every day.  
The slain they choose and from the battle ride;  
[then] they sit more at peace together.”

[Óðinn kvað:] 42 „Seg þat **tol**pta, • hví þú tíva røk [R 8v/6, A 3v/1]  
2 ęll Vaf-þrúðnir vitir,  
frá jętna rúnum • ok allra goða  
4 þú hit sannasta sęgir,  
hinn al-svinni jętunn.“

[Weden quoth:] “Say the twelfth: Why thou the rakes of the Tews  
all, Webthrithner, mightst know?  
From the **runes** of the ettins and of all the gods  
sayest thou the truest,  
O all-wise ettin!”

[Vafþrúðnir kvað:] 43 „Frá jętna rúnum • ok allra goða [R 8v/8, A 3v/2]  
2 ek kann sęgja satt,  
því-at hveřn hęf’k hęim of komit,  
4 níu kom’k hęima • fyr nifl-hęl neðan;  
hinig deęja ór hęlju halir.“

[Webthrithner quoth:] “From the runes of the ettins and of all the gods  
I can speak truly,  
for I have come into each **Home**.  
Into nine Homes I came beneath **Nivelhell**;  
that way die men out of **Hell**.<sup>85</sup>”

<sup>85</sup> Presumably lower underworlds, more severe than the ‘normal’ one. Finnur Jónsson (1932) considers *ór hęlju* ‘out of Hell’ a later interpolation, presumably for metric reasons, but there is no textual support for it.

[Óðinn kvað:]

44 „Fjǫlð ek fór, · fjǫlð freistaða’k,  
 2 fjǫlð ek reynda rēgin;  
 hvat lifir manna, · þá’s hinn mēra líðr  
 4 fimbul-vetr með firum?“

[R 8v/11, A 3v/4]

“Much I journeyed, much I tried,  
 much I tested the Reins.<sup>86</sup>  
 What remains of men, when the renowned Fimble-winter  
 passes among people?”

[Weden quoth:]

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<sup>86</sup>Cf. v. 3.

[Vafþrúðnir kvað:]

45 „Líf ok Lífþrasir, · en þau leyask munu  
 2 í holti Hodd-mímis;  
 morgin-doggvar · þau sér at mat hafa;  
 4 þaðan af aldir alask.“

[R 8v/13, A 3v/6]

“Life and Lifethrasher, but they will hide themselves  
 in Hoardmimer’s wood.<sup>87</sup>  
 Morning-dew [will] they have as food;  
 thence [will] generations be bred.”

[Webthritner quoth:]

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<sup>87</sup>Perhaps in the hollowed-out Uggdrassle.

[Óðinn kvað:]

46 „Fjǫlð ek fór, · fjǫlð freistaða’k,  
 2 fjǫlð ek reynda rēgin;  
 hvaðan kómr sól · á hinn slétta himin,  
 4 es þessa hefr Fēnrir farit?“

[R 8v/15, A 3v/8]

“Much I journeyed, much I tried,  
 much I tested the Reins.  
 Whence comes Sun onto the smooth heaven,  
 when Fenrer has this one<sup>88</sup> slain?”

[Weden quoth:]

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<sup>4</sup> es þessa hefr Fēnrir farit? ‘when Fenrer has this one slain.’ | Cf. *Wsp* TODO. Here it is Fenrer himself who will swallow the sun unless it there be taken as a poetic synonym for ‘wolf’ (which undoubtedly is its original meaning). TODO

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<sup>88</sup>The current incarnation of the sun, as explained in the next st.

[Vafþrúðnir kvað:]

47 „Eina dóttur · berr alf-røðull,  
 2 áðr hana Fēnrir fari;

[R 8v/16, A 3v/9]

4 sú skal **ríða**, · þá's **ręgin** **deyja**,  
**móður** **brautir** **męr**."

[Webthriðner quoth:] "A lone daughter the elf-wheel [= Sun] bears  
before Fenrer might slay her.  
She shall ride—when the Reins die—  
the maiden, her mother's paths."

[Óðinn kvað:] 48 **Fj**qlð ek **fór**, · **fj**qlð **fręistaða**'k,  
2 fjqlð ek **ręynda** **ręgin**;  
hveřjar 'ru **męyjar**, · es líða **mar** yfir,  
4 **fróð**-gęðjaðar **fara**.

[R 8v/18, A 3v/10]

[Weden quoth:] "Much I journeyed, much I tried,  
much I tested the Reins.  
Which are the maidens that pass over the ocean;  
wise-minded they go?"

[Vafþrúðnir kvað:] 49 **Þ**riar **þjóð**-áar · falla **þorp** yfir  
2 **męyja** **Mog**-þrasis;  
**hamingjur** **ęinar** · þęr's í **hęimi** eru,  
4 **þó** þęr með **jotnum** **alask**.

[R 8v/19, A 3v/11]

[Webthriðner quoth:] "Three great rivers fall over the settlement  
of the maidens of Maythrasher;  
the only Hamings are they in the Home,<sup>89</sup>  
though they are among ettins begotten."

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<sup>89</sup>In Ettinham, or in the entire world?

[Óðinn kvað:] 50 „**Fj**qlð ek **fór**, · **fj**qlð **fręistaða**'k,  
2 fjqlð ek **ręynda** **ręgin**;  
hveřir ráða **ęsir** · **ęignum** goða,  
4 þá's **sloknar** **Surta**-logi?"

[R 8v/21, A 3v/13]

[Weden quoth:] "Much I journeyed, much I tried,  
much I tested the Reins.  
Which Eese rule the ownings of the gods  
when the flame of Surt goes out?"

[Vafþrúðnir kvað:] 51 „**Víðarr** ok **Váli** · byggva **vę** goða,  
2 þá's **sloknar** **Surta**-logi;

[R 8v/22, A 3v/14]

Móði ok Magni · skulu Mjöllni hafa

4 Vingnis at víg-þroti.“

“Wider and Wonne! settle the wighs of the gods  
when the flame of Surt goes out.  
Mood and Main shall own Millner  
after Wingner’s fight-exhaustion [DEATH].<sup>90</sup>”

[Webthrithner quoth:]

<sup>90</sup>ie. ‘when Thunder dies’.

[Óðinn kvað:]

52 „Fjǫlð ek fǫr, · fjǫlð fręistaða’k,  
2 fjǫlð ek ręynda ręgin;  
hvat verðr Óðni · at aldr-lagi,  
4 þá’s rjúfask ręgin?“

[R 8v/24, A 3v/16]

“Much I journeyed, much I tried,  
much I tested the Reins.  
What brings Weden’s life to an end,  
when the Reins are ripped?<sup>91</sup>”

[Weden quoth:]

<sup>91</sup>Formulaic; see note to *Bldr* TODO.

[Vafþrúðnir kvað:]

53 „Ulfr glęypa · mun Alda-fǫðr,  
2 þess mun Víðarr vreaka;  
kalda kjapta · hann klyfja mun  
4 vitnis vígi at.“

[R 8v/25, A 3v/17]

“The wolf will devour Eldfather (= Weden):  
that will Wider avenge.  
The cold jaws he will cleave  
of the Wolf at the battle.”

[Webthrithner quoth:]

[Óðinn kvað:]

54 „Fjǫlð ek fǫr, · fjǫlð fręistaða’k,  
2 fjǫlð ek ręynda ręgin;  
hvat męlti Óðinn, · áðr á bál stigi,  
4 sjalfr í ęyra syni?“

[R 8v/27, A 3v/19]

“Much I journeyed, much I tempted,  
much I tested the Reins.  
What spoke Weden, before he would mount the pyre,<sup>92</sup>  
himself into the son’s [= Balder’s] ear?”

[Weden quoth:]

<sup>92</sup>The phrase *stíga á* ‘step onto, mount’ is also used to refer to one stepping aboard a ship or mounting a horse (see CV: *stíga* for citations). Its use for a person being borne onto the pyre seems formulaic and has been compared with *Beow* 1118b: *gūð-rinc á-stáh* ‘the war-champion mounted [his pyre]’, although the interpretation of that

line is controversial. Fulk et al. (2008)[186] follow Grundtvig in emending *güð-rinc* to *güð-réc* ‘war-smoke’ and relate it to *Beow* 3144b (*wudu-réc á-stáb* ‘wood-smoke rose up’, also in a description of a cremation. According to them *Grim* 54 “almost certainly refers not to Baldr but to Óðinn, probably imagined to mount the pyre in order to set fire to it.”

[Vafþrúðnir kvað:]

55 „Ey mann-gi vęit, • hvat þú í ár-daga  
2 sagðir í ęyra syni;  
fęigum munni • męlta’k mína forna stafi  
4 ok of ragna røk. Nú við Óðin • deilda’k mína orð-spęki;  
þú est ę vísastr vera.“

[R 8v/28, A 3v/19]

[Webthrithner quoth:]

“No man ever knows what thou in days of yore  
saidst into the ear of the son.  
With a fey mouth have I spoken my ancient staves,  
and about the Rakes of the Reins.  
Now with Weden have I shared my word-wisdom;  
thou art ever wisest of men!”

1 mann-gi | *manni* dat. sg. RA is impossible; a subject is needed.

3 fęigum ‘fey’ | A word with strong fatalistic connections. Webthrithner realises that he was bound to die from the moment he proposed the wager (v. 19), as no being can outwit Weden.

4 orð-spęki ‘word-wisdom’ | The same word-wisdom Weden in st. 5 set out to try.

5 vera ‘of men’ | *verr* means ‘husband, man’ and is here used for reasons of alliteration; it does not imply that Weden is not a God.



# The Speeches of Grimner

## (*Grímnismól*)

**Dating** (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.976)

**Meter:** *Leeds-meter, Ancient-words-law* (2/3–4, 28/3–5, 45/3–5, 48/4, 49/1–2, 53), *Galders-law* (46)

The **Speeches of Grimner** are preserved whole in both **R** and **A**.

The poem itself is surrounded by two long introductory prose narratives containing some very old motifs, which are here brought up in the notes. It's hard to say for how long these texts have accompanied the poem (TODO: I may write about this in the Introduction, since this question is important for several other poems), but since they are found in both **R** and **A** and contain these motifs it would seem that they are fairly old. Together with sts. 1–3 they form a frame narrative that gives additional meaning to the gnomic sts. enclosed within.

The gnomic sts. themselves, the meat of the poem, are mythological and often quite obscure. In this they align closely with other Eddic gnomic poems such as *High*, *Webth*, *Syed*, and *Allw*.

Weden begins by listing the halls of the gods (4–17). This section has been discussed in detail by de Vries (1952) TODO! who considers it corrupt. Specifically, he sees the second half of v. 4 as a later insert, since it does not elaborate on the “holy land” mentioned in the first half. Jackson (1995) has argued convincingly against this, showing how the first half serves as a generalized introduction to the list; the holy land is the dwelling-places of the gods.

After this list come several sts relating to Weden and his hall, Walhall (18–23). Mentioned are the preparation of food in Walhall (18), Weden's wolves (19) and ravens (20), the river through which the dead have to wade (21) and the gate through which they have to pass (22), the count of doors in Walhall (23), the count of doors in Thunder's hall Bilshirner (24), and two animals which stand on the hall and gnaw on the branches of the tree Leered (25–26). From the latter animal's—the stag Oakthirner's—horns droplets fall into Wharyelmer, which is the origin of all rivers (26).

This introduces a list of mythic rivers (27–28), ending with the waters through which Thunder must wade on his way to Ugdrassle (29). This leads to a list of the horses ridden by the other gods on their way to Ugdrassle (31) which is followed by a description of the roots of Ugdrassle (31), then its animals (32–36) the Walkirries (37), and beings associated with the sun and moon (38–40), the things created from Yimer's body (41–42) with a digression on the significance of the blout for men in the present (43, see note there!), the creation of the ship Shidebladner (44) and finally a list of the noblest of several categories of things and groups (45).

After these lists Weden utters an unclear st. invoking the gods (46), before listing many of his names and the circumstances in which they were used (47–50). He then turns to Garfrith, disappointed by the inhospitality and poor conduct of his former protégé, and predicts his imminent

death (51–53). He finally reveals himself by his true name, daring Garfrith to face him (53). After this he repeats several of his names (54), and the poem ends.

In the final prose section we are told that Garfrith, after learning that he was torturing Weden, hurried up to take the god away from the fires, but tripped and fell on his sword and died. After this his son Ayner ruled for a long time.

### From the sons of king Reading (*Frá sonum Hraððungs konungs*)

- P1a** Hraððungr konungr átti tvá sonu. Hét annarr Agnarr, enn annarr Geirrøðr. Agnarr var tíu vetra enn Geirrøðr átta vetra. Þeir reru tveir á báti með dorgar sínar at smá-fiski. Vindr rak þá í haf út. Í nátt-myrkri brutu þeir við land ok gingu upp; fundu kot-bónda einn. Þar vóru þeir um vetrinn. Kerling fostraði Agnar, enn karl Geirrøð. At vári fekk karl þeim skip. Enn er þau kerling leiddu þá til strandar, þá mælti karl ein-méli við Geirrøð. Þeir fengu byr ok kvómu til stöðva fjoðrú síns. Geirrøðr var fram í skipi. Hann hljóp upp á land enn hratt út skipinu, ok mælti: „Far þú þar er smyl hafi þik.“ Skipit rak út. Enn Geirrøðr gekk út til bójar; hánú var vel fagnat; þá var faðir hans andaðr. Var þá Geirrøðr til konungs tekinn, ok varð maðr ágétr. [R 8v/31, A 3v/23]

King Reading had two sons. One was called Ayner, and the other Garfrith. Ayner was ten winters old, but Garfrith eight winters. The two were rowing in a boat with their trolling-lines for small fishing. The wind drove them out into the sea. In the dark of night they crashed onto land and walked ashore; they found a lone cottage farmer. There they stayed over the winter. The wife fostered Ayner, but the husband Garfrith.<sup>93</sup> In the spring the husband gave them ships, but when he and his wife led them to the shore, the husband spoke privately with Garfrith.<sup>94</sup> They caught good wind, and came to their father's harbour. Garfrith was in the front of the ship. He leapt onto land and pushed out the ship, and spoke: "Go thou whither the fiends may have thee!" The ship drove out. But Garfrith walked towards the farm; he was welcomed well; by then was his father ended. Garfrith was then taken as king, and became an excellent man.

<sup>93</sup>The wife was Frie, and the husband Weden; this is clarified by the following prose. The motif of Weden preferring the youngest brother is also found in *Rígh*.

<sup>94</sup>Surely instructing him to push his brother out to sea.

- P1b** Óðinn ok Frigg sátu í Hliðskjölfu ok sá um heima alla. Óðinn mælti: „Sér þú Agnar fóstara þinn, hvar hann elr börn við gýgi í hellinum? En Geirrøðr, fóstari minn, er konungr ok sitr nú at landi.“ Frigg segir: „Hann er matniðingr sá at hann kvelr gesti sína ef hánú þykkja of-margir koma.“ Óðinn segir at þat er in mesta lygi. Þau veðja um þetta mál. Frigg sendi eskis-mey sína, Fullu, til Geirrøðar. Hon bað konung varask at eigi fyr-gerði hánú fjoðrú-kunnigr maðr sá er þar var kominn í land, ok sagði þat mark á at engi [R 9r/10, A 4r/3]



8 hundr var svá ólmr at á hann myndi hlaupa. En þat var inn mesti hé-gómi  
 at Geirrøðr véri eigi mat-góðr ok þó lét hann hand-taka þann mann er  
 10 eigi vildu hundar á ráða. Sá var í feldi blám ok nefndisk Grímnir ok sagði  
 ekki fleira frá sér þótt hann véri at spurðr. Konungr lét hann pína til sagna  
 12 ok setja milli elda tveggja ok sat hann þar átta nætr. Geirrøðr konungr  
 átti son tíu vetra gamlan ok hét Agnarr eptir bróður hans. Agnarr gekk  
 14 at Grímnir ok gaf hánnum horn fullt at drekka, sagði at konungr gerði illa  
 er hann lét pína hann sak-lausan. Grímnir drakk af. Þá var eldrinn svá  
 16 kominn at feldrinn brann af Grímnir. Hann kvað:

Weden and Frie sat in Lithshelf and looked over all the Homes.<sup>95</sup> Weden spoke: “Seest thou Ayner, thy foster son, as he begets children with a troll-woman in her cave?”<sup>96</sup> But Garfrith, my foster son, is a king and now sits at land.” Frie says: “He is such a meat-nothing that he tortures his guests if he judges too many are coming.” Weden says that this is the greatest lie; they make a wager about this matter. Frie sent her handmaid Full to Garfrith’s hall. She bade the king be wary, lest he be destroyed by that **many-cunning** man who was come to the land, and said that his sign was that no hound was so fierce that he would leap at him. But it was the greatest vainglorious lie that Garfrith should not be **good of meat**, and yet he has that man bound, whom the hounds would not touch. He was in a blue cloak and called himself Grimner, and did not tell any more about himself, although he was asked. The king had him tortured, that he would speak, and set him between two fires, and he sat there for eight nights. King Garfrith had a son, ten winters old, and he was named Ayner after his brother. Ayner walked up to Grimner, and gave him a full horn to drink; he said that the king did badly, as he had him tortured without cause. Grimner drank from it. Then the fire was so grown, that the cloak burned on Grimner. He quoth:

<sup>95</sup>Very similar to the Longbeard Origin Myth (TODO: reference and elaborate).

<sup>96</sup>This may relate to Frie’s role as love-goddess. Ayner is in any case to be understood as a weak, effeminate man or “coomer”.

1 „Heitr est hripuðr · ok heldr til mikill,  
 2 gongumk firr funi!  
 Loði sviðnar, · þótt á lopt bera’k;  
 4 brinnumk feldr fyrir.

[R 9r/27, A 4r/17]

“Hot art thou, flame, and rather too great;  
 go far from me, O fire!  
 The wool-cape is singed though I hold it aloft;  
 the cloak burns before me!

2 Átta nætr · sat’k milli elda hér,  
 2 svá’t mér mann-gi mat né bauð  
 nema einn Agnarr, · es einn skal ráða,

[R 9r/29, A 4r/18]

4           Gǣrrøðar sonr, · Gotna landi.

For eight nights I sat amid the fires here,  
while no man offered me food,  
save for Ayner alone, who alone shall rule—  
Garfrith's son—the land of the Gots!

3       Hǣill skalt, Agnarr, · alls hǣilan biðr  
2           þik Vera-týr vesa;  
          ǣins drykkjar · skalt aldri-gi  
4           bǣtri gjöld geta:

[R 9r/31, A 4r/20]

Hale shalt thou be, Ayner; as hale  
Were-Tew (= Weden) bids thee be!  
For a single drink shalt thou never get  
better recompense:

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4   bǣtri gjöld 'better recompense' | Namely the esoteric lore which makes up the rest of poem up to st. 53.

4       Land es hǣilagt, · es liggja sé'k  
2           ǫsum ok ǫlfum nér;  
          en í Þrúð-hęimi · skal Þórr vesa  
4           unds of rjúfask ręgin.

[R 9r/33, A 4r/22]

Holy is the land which I see lying  
near the Eese and Elves;  
but in Thrithham shall Thunder dwell,  
until the Reins are ripped.

---

4   unds of rjúfask ręgin 'until the Reins are ripped' | i.e. until the Rakes of the Reins. A formulaic expression; see note to *Bldr* 14 for further occurrences.

5       Ý-dalir hęita, · þar's Ullr hęfir  
2           sér of gǫrva sali;  
          Alf-hęim Frey · gófu í ár-daga  
4           tívar at tann-fęi.

[R 9v/2, A 4r/23]

Yewdales they are called where Woulder has  
made for himself a hall.  
Elfham to Free in days of yore  
the Tews as a tooth-gift gave.

---

4 tann-féi 'tooth-gift' | The gift the child receives when he sheds his first tooth.

6      Bór es sá (hinn þriði), · es blíð reigin [R 9v/3, A 4r/25]  
 2      silfri þokðu sali;  
       Vala-skjölf heitir, · es vélti sér  
 4      óss í ár-daga.

Bower is the third one, where the blithe Reins  
 with silver thatched a hall.  
 Waleshef is called the one which the os in days of yore  
 won through wiles.<sup>97</sup>

<sup>97</sup>Several previous editors and translators (e.g. Finnur Jónsson (1932), Pettit (1986), Larrington (2014)) has rendered this phrase with variants of 'craftily made for himself' but I disagree.

7      Sökkva-bekkr heitir (hinn fjórði), · en þar svalar knegu [R 9v/5, A 4r/26]  
 2      unnir glymjá yfir;  
       þar þau Óðinn ok Sága · drekka umb alla daga  
 4      glöð ór gullnum kęrum.

Sinkbench is (the fourth) one called, and there do cool  
 waves clash over above;  
 there Weden and Sey drink all days,  
 glad, out of golden casks.

8      Glaðs-heimr heitir (hinn fimti) · þar's hin gull-bjarta [R 9v/7, A 4r/28]  
 2      Val-höll víð of þrumir;  
       en þar Hroptr · kýss hverjan dag  
 4      vápn-dauða vera.

Gladsham is (the fifth) one called, where the gold-bright  
 Walhall wide stands fast;  
 and there Roft (= Weden) chooses every day  
 weapon-dead men.<sup>98</sup>

<sup>98</sup>Cf. st. 14.

In A the order of the following two sts. is reversed.

- 9 Mjök 's **auð**-kennt · þeim's til Óðins koma [R 9v/9, A 4r/31]  
 2 sal-kynni at **séa**,  
 vargr hangir · fyr **vestan** dyrr  
 4 ok drúpir **ǫrn** yfir.

Very easily recognized, for those who come to Weden,  
 is the hall to see:

A wolf hangs before the western door,  
 and an eagle droops over.<sup>99</sup>

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2 sal-kynni at **séa** | 'sia at sia' A

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<sup>99</sup>According to Hyltén-Cavallius (1863:156) it was custom to hang the bodies of dead wolves high up in old oaks, and dead birds of prey above the stable-door.

- 10 Mjök 's **auð**-kennt · þeim's til Óðins koma [R 9v/10, A 4r/30]  
 2 sal-kynni at **séa**,  
 skǫptum 's rann reþt, · skjǫldum 's salr þakiðr,  
 4 brynjum of **bekki** stráat.

Very easily recognized, for those who come to Weden,  
 is the hall to see:

With shafts is the house roofed; with shields is the hall thatched;  
 with byrnies the benches strewn.

---

3 skǫptum 'shafts' | Spear-shafts.

---

- 11 Þrym-heimr heitir (hinn sétti), · es Þjatsi bjó, [R 9v/12, A 4v/2, G]  
 2 sá hinn **ám**-átki jǫtunn;  
 en nú **Skaði** byggvir, · skír brúðr goða,  
 4 fornar toptir **fǫður**.

Thrimham is (the sixth) one called, where Thedse dwelled,  
 that uncanny ettin;  
 but now Shede bedwells—the pure bride of the Gods—  
 the ancient plots of her father.

---

1 (hinn sétti) 'the sixth' | om. G 1 es 'where' | þar nú 'where now' 1 bjó 'dwelled' | om. W; býr 'dwells'  
 U 2 ám-átki | mátki U 3 goða 'of the Gods' | guma 'of men' U

---

2 ám-átki jǫtunn 'uncanny ettin' | Formulaic. See note to W<sup>sp</sup> 8.

- 12 Bręða-blik eru (hin sjaundu), · en þar Baldr hefir [R 9v/14, A 4v/3]  
 2 sér of gǫrva **sali**,  
 á því **landi** · es **liggja** vęit'k

4 fęsta fęikn-stafi.

Broadblinks are (the seventh), and there Balder has  
made for himself a hall,  
on that land where I know lying  
the fewest wicked deeds.

4 fęikn-stafi ‘wicked deeds’ | lit. ‘staves of wickedness’, where ‘stave’ originally means something like ‘word, speech’. Cf. *Beow* 1018b: *fācen-stafas*, referring to treacherous intrigues among the **Shieldings**.

13 Himin-björg eru (hin óttu), • en þar Hęim-dall  
2 kveða valda véum;  
þar vqrðr goða • drekkr í véru ranni  
4 glaðr hinn góða mjöð.

[R 9v/16, A 4v/5, G]

Heavenbarrows are (the eighth), and there Homedal,  
they say, wields over wighs.  
There the Watchman of the Gods [= Homedal] drinks in the tranquil house,  
glad, the good mead.

4 hinn | so AG; om. R

3 vqrðr goða ‘Watchman of the Gods’ | Formulaic epithet of Homedal, also occurring in *Lock* 49 and possibly in *Shir* 28: *vqrðr með goðum* ‘the Watchman among the Gods’. *Yilv* 27, where the present stanza is cited, gives some further details: *Hann býr þar er heitir Himinbjörg við Biffröst. Hann er vqrðr goða ok sitr þar við himins enda at gęta brúarinnar fyrir berg-risum. Hann þarf minna svefn en fugl. Hann sér jafnt nótt sem dag hundrað rasta frá sér; hann beyrir ok þat, er gras vex á jörðu eða ull á sauðum, ok allt þat er hęra léttr.* ‘He lives at the place called the Heavenbarrows near Bivrest. He [= Homedal] is the Watchman of the Gods and sits there at Heaven’s end to guard the bridge against barrow-risers. He needs less sleep than a bird. Both night and day he sees a hundred rests away from him; he also hear when grass grows on the ground or wool on sheep, and everything which sounds louder.’

14 Folk-vangr es (hinn níundi), • en þar Freyja řęðr  
2 sessa kostum í sal;  
halfan val • hon kýss hveřjan dag,  
4 en halfan Óðinn á.

[R 9v/17, A 4v/6]

Folkwong is (the ninth), and there Frow decides  
the choice of seats in the hall;  
half the slain she chooses each day,  
but half does Weden own.<sup>100</sup>

<sup>100</sup>This st. is cited and closely paraphrased in *Yilv* 24. — The roots of *kęsa val* ‘choose the slain’ are the same as those in walkirrie (*val-kyrja* ‘chooser of the slain’), and as Frow is a prominent goddess this would surely make her the chief walkirrie. This is paralleled by *Sarle*, where Frow assumes the name Gandle (*Gęndul*, a name attested in several lists of walkirries; see *Wsp* 30 and Notes) and incites the legendary never-ending Conflict of the Headnings (*Hęaðningavíg*). In spite of this parallel, there are good reasons to believe that the chief walkirrie was Frie, Weden’s wife. First, one of the functions of the walkirries is to bear ale to the Onecharriers (*Grim* 37). This mirrors royal Germanic banquets attested in heroic poetry, where the host’s wife or daughter would

pour ale to his retainers and guests (the so-called ‘lady with a mead cup’ ritual; see Enright (1996) and Riseley (2014)). As Weden’s wife, we would expect Frie to have this role. Second, at Balder’s funeral as attested in *Yilv* (TODO. chapter number), Weden rides with Frie and the Walkirries, while Frow rides alone with her cats. If she were chief walkirrie, it is rather strange that she should not ride with them. Third, there are two separate myths where Frie and Weden contend over the fates of armies and men. These are the prose introduction to the present poem and the Longbeard origin myth (for which see Introduction to the present poem).

- 15      Glitnir ’s (hinn tíundi), • hann ’s gulli studdr [R 9v/19, A 4v/8]  
 2              ok silfri þakðr it sama;  
              en þar For-seti • byggir flęstan dag  
 4              ok svęfir allar sakir.

Glitner is (the tenth): it is supported by gold,  
 and thatched with silver likewise.  
 And there Foresitter dwells for most of the day,  
 and puts all disputes to sleep.

- 16      Nóa-tún eru (hin ęlliptu), • en þar Njorðr hęfir [R 9v/21, A 4v/9]  
 2              sér of gqrva sali;  
              manna þęngill • hinn męins-vani  
 4              hę-timbruðum hęrgi ręðr.

Nowetowns are (the eleventh), and there Nearth has  
 made for himself a hall.  
 The lord of men, the guileless one,  
 rules the harrow timbered on high.

3 manna þęngill • hinn męins-vani ‘The lord of men, the guileless one’ | Interesting epithets probably relating to Nearth’s roles in upholding the bounty of the land and the law. Cf. my article on pre-Christian oaths (TODO).

4 hę-timbruðum hęrgi ręðr ‘rules the harrow timbered on high’ | The rare verb *hę-timbra* ‘timber on high’ otherwise only occurs in *Wsp* 7, likewise in connection with the *hęrgi* ‘harrow’. The harrow is an outdoors holy place; see Encyclopedia. Cf. also *Webth* 38 where Nearth is said to rule a great many.

- 17      Hrísi vęx • ok hęu grasi [R 9v/23, A 4v/11]  
 2              Víðars land, viði,  
              en þar męgr of léttsk • af mars baki  
 4              frókn at hęfna fęður.

With brushwood grows, and with tall grass,  
 Wider’s land, with wood;  
 and there the lad vows off the back of his steed,  
 brave, to avenge his father.<sup>101</sup>

1 Hrísi vęx • ok hęu grasi ‘with brushwood grows, and with tall grass,’ | Identical to *Higb* 119/6.

<sup>101</sup>At the Rakes of the Reins Widen avenges His father, Widen. See *Wsp* 54–55, *Webth* 53.

- 18      And-hrímni · léttr í Eld-hrímni [R 9v/24, A 4v/12]  
 2              Sét-hrímni soðinn,  
             flęska bęttst, · en þat fáir vitu,  
 4              við hvat ęin-herjar alask.

Andrimner lets Sowrimner  
 in Eldrimner be boiled.  
 The best of meats, but few know this:  
 by what the Oneharriers are nourished.<sup>102</sup>

<sup>102</sup>The cook Andrimner ‘face-sooty’ cooks the boar Sowrimner ‘sow-sooty’ in the cauldron Eldrimner ‘fire-sooty’; by this meat are the Oneharriers nourished.

- 19      Gera ok Freka · sęðr gunn-tamiðr,  
 2              hróðigr Herjafęðr,  
             en við vín ęitt · vápn-gęfugr  
 4              Óðinn ę lifir.

Gar and Freak does the battle-accustomed  
 glorious Father of Hosts (= Widen) feed;  
 but on wine alone, esteemed of weapons,  
 Widen ever lives.

1–4 Gera ... lifir ‘Gar ... live’ | With what Widen feeds his two hounds it is not said, but it is most likely with the corpses of dead warriors. The wine on which he subsists may perhaps be identified with drink offerings. Cf. the 7th century *vita* of Saint Columban (TODO: cite source), describing a rite of the Swabians: *Quo cum moraretur, et inter habitatores loci illius progrediretur, reperit eos sacrificium profanum litare velle, vasque magnum, quod vulgo cupam vocant, quod viginti et sex modios amplius minusve capiebat, cervisia plenum in medio habebant positum. Ad quod vir Dei accessit, et sciscitatur quid de illo fieri vellent. Illi aiunt Deo suo Vodano, quem Mercurium vocant alii, se velle litare.* ‘While he was satyng there and going about the dwellers of that place, he found out that they were going to offer a profane sacrifice, and a large cask called a *cupa*, which held about twenty-six measures, was filled with beer and set in their midst. When the man of God asked what they wanted to do with it, they answered that they were wanted to offer to their God Wodan, whom others call Mercury.’

- 20      Huginn ok Muninn · fljúga hverjan dag [R 9v/28, A 4v/15]  
 2              jęrmun-grund yfir;  
             óumk of Hugin, · at aþtr né komi-t;  
 4              þó séumk meir of Munin.

Highen and Minden fly every day  
 over the ermin-ground [EARTH].  
 I worry for Highen, that he might not come back,  
 yet I fear more for Minden.

2 *jǫrmun*-grund ‘ermin-ground’ | i.e. ‘the immense ground’ (for the rare prefix *ermin*- see Encyclopedia), denoting the earth as a vast flat expanse of land. This compound also occurs in a kenning in the st. on the late C10th Karlevi stone (Öl 1) referring to the unbounded sea as *Ēndils jǫrmungrund* ‘Andle’s ermin-ground’ (Andle being a known “sea-king”), and in *Beow* 859 as *eormen-grund* carrying the same sense.

- 21 Þýtr Þund, • unir Þjóð-vitnis [R 9v/30, A 4v/17]  
 2 fiskr flóði í;  
 áar-straumr • þykkir of-mikill  
 4 val-glaumi at vaða.

Thound roars; Thedwitner’s fish  
 thrives in the flood.  
 The river-stream seems far too great  
 for the noisy slain host to wade.<sup>103</sup>

1–2 Þjóðvitnis fiskr ‘Thedwitner’s fish’ | *Þjóðvitnir* is easily analyzed as *þjóð*- ‘great, main’ + *vitnir* ‘wolf’. The great wolf is naturally the Fenrerswolf, the brother of the Middenyardswyrm. That the Wýrm can be called a fish is shown by *Hyme* 24.

<sup>103</sup>A difficult stanza. Thound may be the river surrounding Walhall, which the dead have to pass over to reach it. The stanza may also be referring to the punishment of criminals in waters; see note to *Wsp* 38 for discussion on that.

- 22 Val-grind heitir • es stendr velli á [R 9v/32, A 4v/18]  
 2 heilög fyr helgum durum;  
 forn ’s sú grind, • en þat fáir vitu,  
 4 hve hön ’s í lás of lokin.

Walgrind ’tis called, which stands on the plain,  
 holy, before the holy doors.  
 Old is that gate, but few know this:  
 how its lock is locked.

1 Val-grind ‘Walgrind’ | ‘Slain-gate,’ the gate standing before Walhall.

- 23 Fimm hundruð golfa • ok umb fjórum tögum [R 9v/34, A 4v/22]  
 2 svá hygg’k Bil-skirni með bugum;  
 ranna þeira, • es reipt vita’k,  
 4 míns veit’k mest magar.

With five hundred floors, and around forty,  
 so I judge Bilshirner altogether.  
 Of those houses which I might know rafted  
 I know my lad’s [= Thunder] to be the greatest.



- 24 Fimm hundruð dura · ok umb fjórum tögum, [R 10r/2, A 4v/20]  
 2 svá hygg at Valhöllu vesa;  
 átta hundruð Eign-herja · ganga ór einum durum,  
 4 þá's fara við vitni at vega.

Five hundred doors, and around forty,  
 so I judge there to be on Walhall.  
 Eight hundred Oneharriers go out of one door,  
 when to fight with the wolf they go.

3 átta hundruð 'eight hundred' | The hundred is probably here the long hundred (120, rather than 100), which gives a sum of  $640 * 960 = 614\,400$  Oneharriers.

- 25 Hæð-rún heitir gæit, · es stendr höllu á Herja-föðrs [R 10r/4, A 4v/24]  
 2 ok bítr af Læ-raðs limum;  
 skap-kær fylla · skal hins skíra mjaðar,  
 4 kná-at sú væg vanask.

Heathrune is the goat called which stands on the hall of the Father of Hosts,  
 and bites off Leered's branches.  
 The shape-vats shall she fill with the pure mead;  
 those draughts cannot wane.

1 höllu á Herja-föðrs 'on the hall of the Father of Hosts' | The hall of Woden, i.e. Walhall. *Herja-föðrs* looks like an unmetrical addition.

3 skap-kær 'shape-vats' | According to CV the central beer-vat, from which drinks were poured into smaller vessels.

3 hins skíra mjaðar 'the pure mead' | The mead is the goat's milk.

- 26 Eik-byrnir heitir hjörtr · es stendr höllu á Herja-föðrs [R 10r/6, A 4v/26]  
 2 ok bítr af Læ-raðs limum;  
 en af hans hornum · drýpr í Hver-gelmi  
 4 þaðan eiga vötn öll vega:

Oakthirner is called the stag who stands on the hall of the Father of Hosts,  
 and bites off Leered's branches.  
 And from his horns [drops] drip into Wharvelmer;  
 thence have all waters their ways:

- 27 Síð ok Víð, Sækin ok Eikin, · Svöl ok Gunn-þró, [R 10r/9, A 4v/28]  
 2 Fjorm ok Fimbul-þul,  
 Rín ok Rinnandi,  
 4 Gipul ok Gopul, · Gømul ok Geir-vimul,  
 þær hverfa umb hodd goða,

- 6            **Þ**yn ok Vin, · **Þ**oll ok Høll,  
                  **G**røð ok **G**unn-þorin.

Side and Wide, Seeken and Oaken, Swale and Guththrew,  
 Ferm and Fimblethule,  
 Rine and Rinnend,  
 Gipple, Gapple, Gamble and Garwimble—  
 they run around the hoard of the Gods [= Osyrd]—  
 Thin and Win, Thall and Hall,  
 Gread and Guththorn.

- 28        **V**ína heitir enn, · qnnur **V**eg-svinn,  
 2            þriðja **Þ**jóð-numa;  
                  **N**yt ok **N**ot, · **N**qnn ok **H**rqnn,  
 4            **S**líð ok **H**ríð, · **S**ylgr ok Ylgr,  
                  **V**íð ok **V**on, · **V**ond ok Strond,  
 6            **G**joll ok Lqiptr; · þér falla gumnum nér  
                  es falla til hēljār heðan.

[R 10r/12, A 5r/1]

Wine is one further called, another Wayswith,  
 a third Thedenumb;  
 Nit and Nat, Nan and Ran,  
 Slithe and Rithe, Sellow and Wellow,  
 Wide and Ween, Wand and Strand,  
 Yell and Laft—they fall near to men  
 as they fall hence to Hell.

- 29        **K**qrmt ok Qrmt · ok **k**er-laugar tvér  
 2            þér skal **Þ**órr vaða  
                  dag hvern · es **d**óma fērr  
 4            at aski **Y**gg-drasils;  
                  því-at **ós**-brú · brēnn **q**ll loga  
 6            **h**eilög vōtn **hl**óa.

[R 10r/15, A 5r/4, G]

Carmt and Armt, and the two Carlays,  
 these shall Thunder wade  
 every day, when to judge he goes,  
 at **Ugdrassle's Ash**;  
 for the os-bridge [RAINBOW] burns all with flame;  
 the holy waters bellow.

2 þér skal Þórr vaða 'these shall Thunder wade' | For Thunder's association with wading see TODO.

6 hlóa 'bellow' | A hapax. TODO.

- 30      Glaðr ok Gyllir, • Glær ok Skeið-brimir, [R 10r/17, A 5r/6]  
             Silfrin-toppr ok Sinir,  
             Gísl ok Fal-hófnir, • Gull-toppr ok Létt-feti,  
             þeim ríða **é**sir jóum  
             **d**ag hværn • es **d**óma fara  
             at aski Ygg-drasils.

Glad and Gilder, Glare and Sheathbrimmer,  
 Silvrentop and Sinewer;  
 Yissel and Fallowhofner, Goldtop and Lightfeet;  
 on these horses ride the Eese,  
 every day, when to judge they go,  
 at Ugdrassle's Ash.

- 31      Þrjár róttr • standa á þrjá vega [R 10r/20, A 5r/8]  
             undan aski Ygg-drasils;  
             Hæl býr und **é**inni, • annarri hrím-þursar,  
             þriðju mænnskir mæn.

Three roots grow on three ways,  
 from beneath Ugdrassle's Ash.  
 Hell lives enclosed by one, [by] the other the Rime-Thurses,  
 [by] the third manly men.

- 32      Rata-toskr heitir íkorni • es rinna skal [R 10r/22, A 5r/9]  
             at aski Ygg-drasils;  
             arnar orð • hann skal ofan bera  
             ok segja Níð-hoggvi niðr.

Wratetusk is the squirrel called who shall run  
 at Ugdrassle's Ash.

The eagle's words he shall carry from above,  
 and say to Nithehewer below.<sup>104</sup>

<sup>104</sup>This st. and the following is paraphrased in *Yilv* 16 (excerpt):

*Þá mælti Gangleri: „Hvat er fleira at segja stór-merkja frá askinum?“ Hár segir: „Mart er þar af at segia. Örn einn sitr í limum asksins, ok er hann margs vitandi, en í milli augna bonum sitr haukr sá, er heitir Veðrfölnir. Íkorni sá, er heitir Rata-toskr, rennr upp ok niðr eptir askinum ok berr gfundar orð millum arnarsins ok Níðhoggs. ‘Gangler spoke: “What more great marks are there to be said about the ash?” High says: “There is much to say about it. An eagle sits in the limbs of the ash, and he is much knowing, but between his eyes sits the hawk called Weatherfalconer. The squirrel, which is called Wratetush, runs up and down along the ash and carries words of spite between the eagle and Nithehewer.”’*

- 2           33       Hirtir 'ru ok fjórir · þeir's af hǣfingar [R 10r/23, A 5r/11]  
                     á gag-halsir gnaga:  
                     Dáinn ok Dvalinn, · Dún-eyrr ok Dura-þrór.

Harts are there also, four, those who TODO

gnaw:

Downen and Dwollen, Downer and Doorthrew.<sup>105</sup>

<sup>105</sup>Paraphrased in *Yilv* 16 immediately following a paraphrase of the last st.: *En fjórir birtir renna í limum asksins ok bíta barr; þeir beita svá: Dáinn, Dvalinn, Dún-eyrr, Dura-þrór.* 'But four harts run in the limbs of the ash and bite its leaves; they are called thus: Downen, Dwollen, Downer, Doorthrew.'

- 2           34       Ormar fleiri · liggja und aski Ygg-drasils [R 10r/25, A 5r/12, G]  
                     an þat of hyggi hværr  
                     ó-sviðra apa:

More worms lie under Ugdrassle's Ash

than any one would think

among unwise apes.<sup>106</sup>

<sup>106</sup>Paraphrased in *Yilv* 16: *En svá margir ormar eru í Hvergelmi með Níðhoggi, at engi tunga má telja; svá segir hér:* 'But so many worms are in Wharvelmer with Nithchewer that no tongue may count them. So it says here:' after which st. 36 is quoted.

- 2           35       Góinn ok Móinn, · þeir 'ru Graf-vitnis synir, [R 10r/26, A 5r/13, G]  
                     Grá-bakr ok Graf-vølluðr,  
                     Ofnir ok Sváfnir, · hygg'k at ǣ skyli  
 4                   męiðs kvistu máa.

Gowen and Mowen—they are Gravewitner's sons—

Greyback and Gravewalled;

Ovner and Sweefner, I ween, shall always

injure the beam's branches.

- 2           36       Askr Ygg-drasils · drýgir ǣrfði [R 10r/28, A 5r/14]  
                     męira an męnn viti:  
                     hjortr bítr ofan · en á hliðu fúnar,  
 4                   skęðir Níð-hoggr neðan.

Ugdrassle's Ash suffers hardship

greater than men might know:

a hart bites it from above, but it rots on the side;

Nithchewer gnaws at it from below.

- 37     **H**rist ok **M**ist · vil’k at mér **h**orn beri, [R 10r/30, A 5r/16]  
 2             **S**keggj-ǫld ok **S**kǫgul,  
              **H**ildr ok Þrúðr, · **H**lökk ok **H**ēr-fjǫtur,  
 4             **G**öll ok **G**eir-ǫlul,  
              **R**and-gríð ok **R**áð-gríð, · **R**egin-læif;  
 6             þér bera **ę**in-herjum ǫl.

Rist and Mist I would have bearing to me a horn—  
 Shageld and Shagle;  
 Hild and Thrith, Lank and Harfetter,  
 Gall and Garannel,  
 Randgrith and Redegrith, Rainlaf—  
 they bear the Oneharriers ale.<sup>107</sup>

3 **H**ildr ok Þrúðr ‘Hild and Thrith’ | so A; *Hildi ok Þrúði* R stems from ðz, ðz with r rotunda being interpreted and copied as ði, ðr, this becomes clear upon viewing the facsimile images.

<sup>107</sup>The women listed in this st. are Walkirries. Their names are known from other lists of Walkirries, but differ somewhat in form. TODO: Note these differences

- 38     **Á**r-vakr ok **A**l-sviðr, · skulu upp heðan [R 10r/32, A 5r/18]  
 2             svangir sól draga;  
              en und þeira **b**ógum · fǫlu blíð regin,  
 4             **ę**sir, **į**sarn-kol.

Yorewaker and Allswith shall hence on high—  
 slender [steeds]—pull the sun;  
 but under their shoulders hid the blithe Reins  
 —the Eese—iron-cooling.<sup>108</sup>

1 **Á**r-vakr ok **A**l-sviðr ‘Yorewaker and Allswith’ | These horses also appear in *Syed* 14a/2; see note to the next st.

<sup>108</sup>According to *Yilv* 11 the gods took two horses to pull the sun’s chariot—Yorewaker and Allswith—and “under the shoulders of the horses the gods placed two wind-bellows to cool them, but in some sources (*į sumum fróðum*, presumably this st.) they are called iron-cooling (*įsarn-kol*).”

- 39     **S**valinn heitir, · hann stęndr sólú fyrir, [R 10v/2, A 5r/20]  
 2             skjǫldr skínanda goði;  
              björg ok brim · vęit’k at brinna skulu,  
 4             ef hann fęllr í frá.

Swollen is [one] called, he stands before the sun,  
 [as] a shield [before] the shining god [SUN].  
 Crags and surf I know shall burn,  
 if he falls away.<sup>109</sup>

<sup>109</sup>The sun-disc was apparently thought to be a translucent shield, which protected the earth from the full power of the Sun behind it. Without it the whole world (“crag and surf”, LAND and SEA; the totality of the earth) would burn up. In *Syed* 14a/1 there is mention of the “shield that stands before the shining god [SUN]”, which may or may not derive from the present stanza.

40 Skoll heitir ulfr, • es fylgir hinu skír-leita [R 10v/4, A 5r/21]  
 2 goði til varna viðar,  
 en annarr Hati, • hann ’s Hróð-vitnis sonr,  
 4 sá skal fyr heīða brúði himins.

Scoll is the wolf called which follows the pure-faced  
 god [= Sun] to the shelter of the woods;  
 but second is Hate—he is Rothwiter’s son—  
 that one shall [run] in front of the bright bride of heaven [= Sun].<sup>110</sup>

<sup>110</sup>According to *Yilv* 12 Scoll chases the Sun and Hate chases the Moon (which is why he runs in front of the sun). See note to *Wsp* 40 for discussion on these wolves.

41 Ór Ymis holdi • vas jorð of sköpuð, [R 10v/6, A 5r/23,  
 2 en ór sveita sjór, A<sub>b</sub> 9v/14, B 3v/11]  
 björg ór beinum, • baðmr ór hári,  
 4 en ór hausi himinn.

From Yimer’s flesh was the earth shaped,  
 and from his blood the sea;  
 mountains from his bones, woods from his hair,  
 and from his skull the heaven.

2 sveita ‘blood’ | *bans sára sveita* ‘blood of his wounds’ A<sub>b</sub>B 2 sjór | so AA<sub>b</sub>B; *sjér* R 4 ór hausi himinn  
 ‘from his skull the heaven’ | *himinn ór hausi bans* ‘the heaven from his skull’ A<sub>b</sub>B

1–4 Ór ... himinn ‘Out of ... heaven’ | This stanza is clearly related to *Webth* 21, see note there.

2 sveita ‘blood’ | For the sense, see note to this word in *Webth* 21.

4 ór hausi himinn ‘from his skull the heaven’ | This suggests that the heavens were understood as a dome, something common among many ancients. This also fits well with the floating clouds being Yimer’s brains, as said in the following st.

42 En ór hans bróum • gørðu blíð reġin [R 10v/8, A 5r/25,  
 2 Mið-garð manna sonum, A<sub>b</sub> 9v/16, B 3v/12]  
 en ór hans heila • vöru þau hin harð-móðgu  
 4 ský ǥll of sköpuð.

But from his eyebrows the blithe Reins made  
 Middenyard for the sons of men;

but from his brains were the hard-minded  
clouds all shaped.

3 harð-móðgu ‘hard-minded’ | *bríð-feldu* ‘stormy’ A<sub>b</sub>B

1-2 En ór hans bróum ... manna sonum ‘But from his eyebrows ... sons of men’ | The gods fenced in Mid-denyard (‘the middle enclosure’) by using the hair of Yimer’s eyebrows as poles.

2 43 Ullar hylli · hefr ok allra goða  
hverr’s tekr fyrstr á funa,  
því-at opnir heimar · verða umb ása sonum,  
4 þá’s hefja af hvera.

[R 10v/9, A 5r/26]

The **holdness** of **Woulder** and of **All Gods**  
has each who first touches the fire,  
for the **Homes** become open for the sons of the Eese,  
when men lift off the kettles.<sup>111</sup>

1 Ullar ‘Woulder’ | The exact reason for why Woulder is invoked here is unclear, but it suggests that he has a role in the setting of the ritual fire, something possibly attested by the archeological finds at *Lilla Ullevi*, Sweden. See Encyclopedia: Woulder and af Edholm (2009) for more.

1 hylli ‘holdness’ | i.e. ‘favour, loyalty, grace’. This word and the corresponding adjective *holtr* ‘hold; favourable, loyal, gracious’ and verb *hylla* ‘to make hold’ are often used when speaking about divine grace, not just of the Christian God, but also (as here) of the Heathen Gods. See Encyclopedia: **hold** and **holdness**.

1 allra goða ‘All Gods’ | Cf. *Syed* 2-3, *Lock* 11, which both hail the Gods as a collective (the former as part of a genuine prayer, the latter subversively). For the oneness of the Gods, see Encyclopedia: **All Gods**.

4 hvera ‘kettles’ | acc. pl. of *hverr*, from PGmc. *\*hweraz*, from PIE *\*k<sup>w</sup>er-* ‘pot, vessel’. Interestingly the Sanskrit cognate *carú* is occasionally used in reference to the vat wherein the ritual drink *soma* is prepared (e.g. *RV* 10.167.4).

<sup>111</sup>This st. is one of the most difficult in the poem and many interpretations have been made (for a summary see Nordberg (2005)). Many commenters (e.g. Finnur Jónsson (1932) and Sijmons and Gering (p. 208, TODO)) interpret it as relating to the poem’s frame narrative. In this view Woden, still bound between the two fires, cryptically asks for a cauldron to be lifted off so that the Gods can see him through the smoke vent and rescue him. This, however, scarcely makes sense given the current stanza’s placement in the gnomic wisdom section of the poem, unless this whole section is taken to be a later insert (as suggested by Finnur), something for which there is little support. The invocation of the obscure god Woulder is also left unexplained, and there is no mention of a cauldron elsewhere in the poem. I agree with Nordberg’s interpretation, namely that the present st. refers to the cooking of the sacrificial meal in large cauldrons during the **bloot**, as described in the kings’ saws. More specifically, Woden is speaking of the divine grace (*hylli* ‘holdness’, see Note to l. 1) gained by the ritualist who sets the fire onto which the cauldron is placed, since this act enables the Gods to become present among those partaking in the ritual meal. Cf. *HGoodS* 14, describing the traditional bloot in the Thronclaw (*Þrónða-lög*), Norway: *At veizlu þeiri skyldu allir menn þl eiga; þar var ok drepinn alls konar smali ok svá bross, [...] en slátr skyldi sjóða til mann-fagnaðar; eldar skyldu vera á miðju gólfi í bofinu ok þar katlar yfir*. ‘At that gathering all men should have ale; thereat was also slain every kind of small cattle and likewise horses, [...] and the fresh meat would be cooked for men to enjoy. There would be fires on the middle of the floor in the hove and kettles over them.’ This interpretation is especially interesting when one considers the immediately preceding two sts. (41, 42), which deal with the ordering of the world through the dismembering of Yimer, the primordial sacrificial victim slain by the Gods. It is well attested in other Indo-European branches that the ritual sacrifice in the present was seen as a reenactment of the primeval sacrifice in the mythic past, which reenactment was necessary for the continued upholding of the world, and *Grim* 41-43 would then seem to attest

this conception also in the Germanic tradition. See Lincoln (1986)—especially the first two chapters—for the Indo-European analogues.

- 44 Ívalda synir · gingu í ár-daga [R 10v/11, A 5r/28]  
 2 Skíð-blaðni at skapa,  
 skipa batst · skírum Frøy,  
 4 nýtum Njarðar bur.

Iwald's sons went in days of yore  
 Shidebladner for to shape:  
 the best of ships for the pure Free,  
 for the useful son of Nearth [= Free].

- 45 Askr Ygg-drasils, · hann 's óðstr viðā [R 10v/13, A 5r/29]  
 2 en Skíð-blaðnir skipa,  
 Óðinn ása · en jóa Sleipnir,  
 4 Bil-røst brúa · en Bragi skalda,  
 Há-brók hauka · en hunda Garmr.

Ugdrassle's Ash: it is the noblest of trees,  
 and Shidebladner of ships;  
 Weden of the Eese and Slapner of steeds;  
 Bilrest of bridges and Bray of scolds;  
 Highbrook of hawks and Garm of hounds.

- 46 Svipum hef'k nú ypt · fyr sig-tíva sonum, [R 10v/15, A 5v/2]  
 2 við þat skal vil-björg vaka,  
 øllum ósum · þat skal inn koma  
 4 Égis þekki á  
 Égis drekku at.

My gaze have I now lifted up before the sons of the victory-Tews [= Eese]—  
 by that shall the willed relief awake.  
 All the Eese shall it bring inside,  
 upon Eagre's bench,  
 at Eagre's drinking!<sup>112</sup>

<sup>112</sup>Weden suddenly announces that he has made the other gods aware of his situation; they will leave their feasting at Eagre's hall and come to his rescue. He then begins to narrate his names.

- 47 Hétumk Grímr, · hétumk Ganglęri, [R 10v/17, A 5v/4]  
 2 Hęjann ok Hjalm-beri,



4 Þekkr ok Þriði, · Þundr ok Uðr,  
Hæl-blindi ok Hár.

I called myself Grim, I called myself Gangler,  
Harn and Helmbearer.  
Theck and Third, Thound and Ith,  
Hellblinder and High.

48 Saðr ok Svipall · ok Sann-getall, [R 10v/19, A 5v/5]  
2 Hēr-ṭeitr ok Hnikarr,  
Bíl-eygr, Bál-eygr, · Bǫl-verkr, Fjǫlnir,  
4 Grímr ok Grímnir, · Glap-sviðr ok Fjǫl-sviðr.

Sooth and Swiple and Soothgettle,  
Hartote and Nicker,  
Bileye, Baleeye, Baleworker, Fillner,  
Grim and Grimner, Glapswith and Fellswith.

49 Síð-hǫttr, Síð-skęggr, · Sig-fǫðr, Hnikuðr, [R 10v/21, A 5v/7]  
2 Al-fǫðr, Val-fǫðr, · At-ríðr ok Farma-týr;  
ęinu nafni · hétumk aldri-gi  
4 síðst ek með folkum fór.

Sidehat, Sideshag, Syefather, Nicked,  
Allfather, Walfather, Atrider, and Farm-Tew—  
by a single name have I never called myself,  
since among manfolk I fared.

50 Grímnir mik hétu · at Gęir-raðar, [R 10v/23, A 5v/9]  
2 en Jalk at Ós-mundar;  
en þá Kjalar · es ek kjalka dró,  
4 Þrór Þingum at.

Grimner they called me at Garfrith's [home],  
but Yelk at Osmund's,  
but Keller whenas I drew the sled;  
Throo at Things.<sup>113</sup>

<sup>113</sup>Presumably referencing other now-lost myths involving Weden travelling in disguise. The last is possibly a reference to the name under which Weden would be invoked at the start of Things (legal assemblies, see Encyclopedia).

51 Óski ok Ómi, · Jafn-hár ok Biflindi,

[R 10v/24, A 5v/10]

2                   Göndlir ok Hár-barðr með goðum.

Wish and Ome, Evenhigh and Bivlend;  
Gandler and Hoarheard among Gods.

52       Sviðurr ok Sviðrir · es ek hét at Sökk-mímis  
2               ok dulða'k þann hinn aldna jötun  
          þá's Mið-vitnis vas'k · ins mēra burar  
4               orðinn ein-bani.

[R 10v/25, A 5v/11]

Swither and Swithrer, as I was called at Sink-Mimer's,  
and I deceived that aged ettin,  
when of Midwitner's famous son  
I had become the lone slayer.

53       Qlr est Geir-røðr, · hefr þú of-drukkit;  
2               miklu est hnugginn, · es þú est mínu gengi,  
          ollum ein-herjum · ok Óðins hylli.

[R 10v/28, A 5v/13]

Worse for ale art thou, Garfrith; thou hast over-drunk.  
Of much art thou bereft when thou art [bereft] of my support,  
of all the Oneharriers, and of Weden's holdness.<sup>114</sup>

<sup>114</sup>Linguistically, Garfrith is not bereft of the support of the Oneharriers but rather of the Oneharriers themselves, but presumably the sense is the same. By breaking the code of conduct to which he owes his success he lost Weden's favour, and thus been excluded from the community of oath-bound Odinic warriors (the Oneharriers). Cf. here

54       Fjölð þér sagða'k, · en þú fátt of mant,  
2               of þik véla vinir;  
          mēki liggja · sé'k míns vinar  
4               allan í dreyra drifinn.

[R 10v/30, A 5v/15]

Much I told thee, but thou recallest little;  
'tis friends that deal with thee!  
The sword of my friend I see lying  
all drenched in gore.

3–4 mēki ... drifinn. 'The sword ... gore.' | Weden foretells Garfrith's coming death.

3 míns vinar 'my friend' | The followers of a god were his *friends*; cf. Eyel's *Sont*, where he speaks about his *friendship* with Weden. Already in *Beow* we see that the Shieldings are called the *Ing-wine* 'friends of Ing'.

55       Egg-móðan val · nú mun Yggr hafa,  
2               þitt velt'k líf of liðit;

[R 10v/31, A 5v/16]

4 varar 'ru dísir, • nú knátt Óðin séa;  
nalgask mik ef þú megir!

An edge-tired corpse will Ug now have:  
I know thy life to be past.  
Aware are the Dises, now dost thou see Weden—  
approach *me*, if thou mayst!

3 dísir 'Dises' | i.e. the Norns, fates, who have determined his hour of death. Cf. *Fath* TODO, *Ham* TODO.

56 Óðinn nú heiti'k, • Yggr áðan hét'k,  
2 hétumk Þundr fyr þat,  
Vakr ok Skilfingr, • Vöfuðr ok Hropta-týr  
4 Gautr ok Jalkr með goðum.

[R 11r/2, A 5v/18]

Weden am I called now, Ug was I called earlier,  
I called myself Thound before that;  
Wacker and Shilving, Waved and Roft-Tew,  
Geat and Gelding among the Gods.

57 Ofnir ok Sváfnir • hygg'k at orðnir sé  
2 allir at einum mér.

[R 11r/4, A 5v/20]

Ovner and Swebner, I ween, have arisen  
all from me alone.

P2 Geir-røðr konungr sat, ok hafði sverð um kné sér ok brugðit til miðs. En  
2 er hann heyrði, at Óðinn var þar kominn, stóð hann upp, ok vildi taka Óðin  
frá eldinum. Sverðit slapp ór hendi hánun; vissu hjóltin niðr. Konungr  
4 drap fēti, ok steiptist á-fram, en sverðit stóð í gognum hann, ok fekk hann  
bana. Óðinn hvarf þá. En Agnarr var þar konungr lengi síðan.

[R 11r/5, A 5v/21]

King Garfrith sat and had the sword about his knee, and it was brandished half-way up. But when  
he heard that Weden were come there, he stood up and would take Weden from the fire. The  
sword slipped out of his hand; the hilt pointed downwards. The king tripped and stooped forth,  
but the sword went through him, and he received his bane. Weden then disappeared, but Ayner  
was there king for a long while afterwards.

4 hann | þar af A 5 Óðinn hvarf þá. | om. A 5 var þar | varð A 5 lengi síðan. | om. A



# The Speeches of Shirner (*Skírnismól*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.897)

Meter: Leeds-meter, Galders-law (TODO)

The whole poem is attested in both R and A. The name *Skírnismól* ‘Speeches of Shirner’ comes from A; R has in the typical titular red ink *Fgr Skírnis* ‘Shirner’s journey’.

The same myth is told in prose in *Yilv* 37. A single stanza of the present poem is quoted there, namely the last one, with some minor differences in wording that would seem to stem from oral tradition (see Note to st. 42 below). It is unlikely that the author of *Yilv* knew of the narrative through an oral tradition which included only the last verse, chiefly since his paraphrase does not add a single detail not found in the present poem, but on the other hand condenses and abbreviates. So, Shirner’s journey and curse (roughly sts. 10–38 here) is simply summarized in the following manner: “Then Shirner journeyed and requested the woman [i.e. Gird] for him [i.e. Free], and received her promise, that nine nights later she would come to the place which is called Barrey, and have a wedding with Free.” The summarising of a narrative mythic poem with a single verse quotation in the form of a dialogue-stanza is something done several times in *Yilv*; see Eddic fragments from Snorre’s Edda below.

On the other hand, the paragraph in *Yilv* 37 corresponding to what is here P1 is much more detailed and reads: “Gymer was a man called, and his woman Earbode; she was of the lineage of mountain-risers. Their daughter is Gird, who is fairest of all women. It was one day when Free had gone to Lithshelf and looked about all the Homes, but when he looked to the north he saw on a farm a great and fine house, and to that house walked a woman, and when she lifted her hands and closed the doors before her, then it did shine from her hands both into the air and onto the waters, and all the homes were brightened by her. And that beauty, which he had seen in that holy seat, harmed him so that he walked away filled with pain, and when he came home he spoke nothing; he neither slept nor drank; nobody dared to get words out of him. Then Nearth had Shirner, Free’s shoe-swain, called unto himself, and asked him to go to Free and ask him to speak, [...]”

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- P1      Freyr, sonr Njarðar, hafði einn dag setsk í Hlið-skjálfr ok sá um heima alla;      [R 11r/10, A 2r/11]  
2      hann sá í Jotun-heima ok sá þar mey fagra, þá er hon gekk frá skála fður  
      síns til skemmu; þar af fekk hann hug-sóttir miklar. Skírnir hét skó-sveinn  
4      Freys. Njörðr bað hann kveðja Frey máls. Þá mélti Skaði:

Free, son of Nearth, had one day set himself in Lithshelf and looked about all the Homes. He looked into the Ettinhomes and saw there a fair maiden as she walked from her father's hall to her bower; thereof he got great heart-aches. Shirner was called the shoe-swain of Free. Nearth asked him to speak with Free. Then Shede spoke:

1 „Rís-tu nú Skírnir · ok gakk at beiða [R 11r/14, A 2r/15]  
 2 okkarn mála mōg,  
 ok þess at fregna · hveim hinn fróði séi  
 4 of-rēiði afi.“

“Rise thou now, Shirner, and go to ask  
 our lad [= Free] for speech;  
 and to learn at whom the wise  
 man [= Free] might be cross.”

1 rís ... beiða ‘Rise ... ask’ | Alliteration is missing here. A simple solution would be to replace *gakk* ‘go’ with a synonym like *rinn* ‘run’ or *rād* ‘resolve’, but this lessens the semantic mirroring with l. 2/2 below (though, the insertion of the verb *ganga* in the present stanza may in fact be due to influence from 2/2).

4 afi ‘man’ | While this word usually means ‘father’ or ‘grandfather’, it must here certainly mean ‘man’ without a connotation of old age. See further CV.

Skírnir kvað: 2 „Illra orða · es mér ón at ykkrum syni, [R 11r/15, A 2r/17]  
 2 ef ek geng at mēla við mōg,  
 ok þess at fregna, · hveim hinn fróði séi  
 4 of-rēiði afi.“

Shirner quoth: “Bad words I expect from your son [= Free],  
 if I go with the lad to speak;  
 and to learn at whom the wise  
 man might be cross.”

Skírnir: 3 „Seg þat Freyr, · folk-valdi goða, [R 11r/17, A 2r/18]  
 2 ok ek vilja vita,  
 hví þú ęinn sitr · ęnd-langa sali,  
 4 minn dróttinn, of daga?“

Shirner [quoth]: “Tell it, O Free, troop-wielder of the gods;  
 I too would wish to know:  
 why thou sittest alone in the endlong halls,  
 my lord, during the days?”

Fręyr: 4 „Hví of sęgia’k þér, • sęgr hinn ungi, [R 11r/19, A 2r/20]  
 2 mikinn móð-trega?  
 því-at alf-røðull • lýsir of alla daga  
 4 ok þęygi at mínum munum.“

Free [quoth]: “Why should I tell thee, O young youth,  
 [of my] great mood-grief?  
 For the elf-wheel [sun] shines during all days,  
 and naught to my liking.”

Skírnir: 5 „Muni þína • hykk-a svá mikla vesa, [R 11r/20, A 2r/21]  
 2 at þú mér sęgr né sęgr;  
 ungir saman • vörum í ár-daga,  
 4 vęl męttim tvęir trúask.“

Shirner [quoth]: “Thy liking I do not think so great,  
 that thou, O youth, should not tell me [of it].  
 Young together were we in days of yore;  
 we two might well trust each other.”

2 sęgr ‘youth’ | This word usually means simply ‘man’, but it seems to have a specific connotation with youth. Its original meaning is ‘messenger’, and the semantic shift is thus: ‘messenger’ > ‘young man’ > ‘warrior/man’. The sense of ‘young man’ is also seen in *Wagl* 23, where it is used in reference to king Nithad’s two young sons. In the present stanza it answers Free’s addressing Shirner as *ęgr hinn ungi* ‘the young youth’; Shirner points out that the two are of equal age, and so Free is as much of a young man as he.

Fręyr: 6 „Í Gymis gøðum • ek ganga sá [R 11r/22, A 2r/23]  
 2 mér tíða męy;  
 armar lýstu, • en af þaðan  
 4 allt lopt ok lęgr.

Free [quoth]: “In Gymer’s yards I saw walking  
 a maiden, dear to me.  
 The arms shone, but thereof  
 all the air and sea.

4 lopt ok lęgr ‘air and sea’ | Formulaic and very old, also paralleled in the Anglo-Saxon. TODO.

7 Męr ’s mér tíðari • an manna hvęim [R 11r/24, A 2r/24]  
 2 ungum í ár-daga;  
 ása ok alfa • þat vill ęngi maðr,  
 4 at vit sátt séim.“

The maiden is dearer to me than to any man  
 young in days of yore.

“Tis dark outside; I declare it time for us to journey  
over the drizzling mountains,  
over the tribe of the **Thurses**.



Both two [shall] we come [over], or us both does take  
that uncanny ettin.<sup>116</sup>

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3 þursa ‘of the Thurses’ | so A; þyria R

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5 ám-átki jǫtunn ‘uncanny ettin’ | Formulaic. See note to *Wsp* 8.

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<sup>116</sup>Shirner declares his intention not to abandon the horse given to him by his lord; they will either both make it, or both perish.

P3 Skírnir reið i Jǫtun-heima til Gymis garða; þar váru hundar ólmir ok bund- [R 11r/31, A 2v/1]  
2 nir fyrir skíð-garðs hliði þess, er um sal Gerðar var. Hann reið at þar, er  
fê-hirðir sat á haugi, ok kvaddi hann:

Shirner rode into the Ettinhomes, to Gymer’s yards. There were fierce hounds bound in front of  
the slope of the wooden fence which surrounded Gird’s<sup>117</sup> hall. He rode to where a shepherd sat  
on a mound, and greeted him:

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<sup>117</sup>It is first now that we are informed of the maiden’s name.

11 „Seg þat hirðir, • es á haugi sitr [R 11v/2, A 2v/4]  
2 ok varðar alla vega:  
hvé ek at and-spilli • komumk hins unga mans  
4 fyr greyjum Gymis.“

“Say this, O herdsman, who on the mound dost sit,  
and watchest all the ways:  
How I to discourse might come with the young girl [= Gird],  
past the greyhounds of Gymer?”

[Hirðir] kvað: 12 „Hvart est fęigr, • eða est framm ginginn [R 11v/4, A 2v/5]  
2 [...];  
and-spillis vanr • þú skalt ę vesa  
4 góðrar meýjar Gymis.“

[The herdsman] quoth:  
“Either art thou fey, or gone forth [DEAD];  
[...].  
Discourse-less shalt thou always be,  
with the good maiden of Gymer [= Gird].”

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<sup>4</sup> góðrar meýjar ‘good maiden’ | Formulaic, carrying with it a sense of chastity. See note to *Higb* 102/1 for further occurrences.

- [Skírnir] kvað: 13 „Kostir ’ru bętri • an klökkva séi [R 11v/6, A 2v/7]  
 2 hvęim es fúss es fara,  
 4 ęinu dógri • mér vas aldr of skapaðr  
 ok alt líf of lagit.“

[Shirner] quoth:

“Choices are better than sobbing might be  
 for whomever is eager to journey.  
 In one half-day my age was shaped,  
 and all my life laid down.<sup>118</sup>”

<sup>1</sup> an ‘than’ | so A; *hęldr an at* ‘rather than to [be]’ R

<sup>1</sup> Kostir ‘Choices’ | i.e. ‘alternatives, other ways’.

<sup>118</sup> An excellent example of the fatalistic Germanic worldview, in which one’s course of life was determined (“laid down”) at birth (“in one half-day”). Presumably after uttering these words Shirner rides through the fire surrounding the fortress. — The causative *leggja* ‘to lay (down, in place)’ is closely connected to fate; the expression is formulaic. Cf. *Lock* 48: *i ár-daga vas þér bit ljóta líf of lagit* ‘in days of yore was thy ugly life laid down’ and *Wsp* 19: *þér lög lögðu* ‘they [= the Norns] laid down laws’.

- [Gęrðr] kvað: 14 „Hvat ’s þat hlym hlymja • es hlymja hęyri’k nú til [R 11v/7, A 2v/8]  
 2 ossum rønnum í?  
 4 jqrð bifask, • en allir fyr  
 skjalfa garðar Gymis.“

[Gird] quoth:

“What is that din of dins, which I of dins now hear  
 in our halls?  
 The earth quakes, but before [me] tremble  
 all Gymer’s yards.”

- Ambótt kvað: 15 „Maðr ’s hér úti, • stiginn af mars baki, [R 11v/9, A 2v/10]  
 2 jó lętr til jarðar taka.“

A servant-woman quoth:

“A man is here outside, stepped down off horseback;  
 he lets take his steed to the ground.<sup>119</sup>”

<sup>119</sup> According to Finnur Jónsson (1932) a still known (in his time) Icelandic expression; Shirner lets his horse graze.

- [Gęrðr] kvað: 16 „Inn bið þú hann ganga • í okkarn sal [R 11v/10, A 2v/11]  
 2 ok drekka hinn męra mjqrð,  
 þó ek hitt óumk, • at hér úti séi

4 minn bróður-bani.“

[Gird] quoth:

“Bid thou him to go in into our hall,  
and to drink the renowned mead;  
though I fear that here outside should be  
my brother's bane.”

[Gērðr] kvað: 17 „Hvat 's þat alfa · né ása sona,  
2 né víska vana;  
hví ǣinn of komt · ǣikinn fúr yfir  
4 ór sal-kynni at séa?“

[R 11v/12, A 2v/13]

[Gird quoth:]

“What sort is that, not of Elves, nor of sons of the Eese,  
nor of wise Wanes?  
Why camest thou alone over the raging fire,  
to see the state of our hall?”

[Skírnir kvað:] 18 „Em'k-at alfa · né ása sona  
2 né víska vana,  
þó ǣinn of kom'k · ǣikinn fúr yfir  
4 yður sal-kynni at séa.

[R 11v/14]

[Shirner quoth:]

“I am not of Elves, nor of sons of the Eese,  
nor of wise Wanes—  
yet I came alone over the raging fire,  
to see the state of your hall.

19 Epli ǣllifu · hér hef'k al-gullin,  
2 þau mun'k þér Gērðr gefa,  
frið at kaupa, · at þú þér Frey kveðir  
4 ó·lǣiðastan at lifa.“

[R 11v/15, A 2v/14]

Elven apples have I here, all-golden;  
those I will to thee, O Gird, give  
to purchase [thy] love, that thou callest Free for thee  
most unloathsome [MOST LOVELY] in life.<sup>120</sup>

<sup>120</sup> at *lifa* here means seems to mean ‘in life/living’ rather than the typical infinitive sense ‘to live’; cf. st. 22 at *deila* ‘in sharing’ below. This is possibly an archaism.

[R 11v/17, A 2v/15]

“Eleven apples will I never take,  
to any man’s liking;  
nor will I and Free—while our lifeblood lives—  
dwell both together.”

[R 11v/19, A 2v/17 (ll. 1-2)]

“The **high** I then give thee, that one which was burned  
with Weden’s young son [= Balder].  
Eight are even-heavy, which from it drip,  
every ninth night.<sup>121</sup>”

3-4 átta ... nótt 'Eight ... night.' | In A these lines and 22:1-2 are missing. Instead 1-2 here and 22:3-4 are combined into one.

<sup>121</sup> The bigh, while not named, is clearly Dleepner as known from *Ylvi* 49, describing Balder's funeral: "Weden laid on the pyre that gold ring which is called Dleepner. Its nature was such that every ninth night, eight even-heavy golden rings dripped from it." When Harmod later comes to **Hell** to try to bring Balder back, Balder tells him to bring the ring back to Weden, as a token of memory.

[R 11v/21, A 2v/18 (ll. 3–4)]

“The high I take not, though it may have been burned  
with Weden’s young son [= Balder];  
I have no want of gold in Gymer’s yards,  
in sharing the **fe**e of my father.”

[R 11v/23, A 2v/19]

4 nema mér **sétt** **segir**.“

[Shirner quoth:]

“Seest thou this sword, O maiden—slender, pictured-painted—,  
which I have in my hand here?  
Hew the head will I, off thy neck,  
unless thou come to terms with me.”

<sup>1</sup> **mál-faan** ‘picture-painted’ | The sword is inlaid with metal (perhaps gold or silver) forming a pattern. The expression is formulaic; cf. TODO.

[Gērðr kvað:]

24 „**Á**-nauð þola · vil’k **aldri**-gi  
at **manns**-kis **munum**,  
þó hins **get**’k, · ef it **Gymir** finniðsk  
4 **vígs** ó·trauðir · at ykk **vega** tíði.“

[R 11v/25, A 2v/20]

[Gird quoth:]

“Stand coercion will I never,  
to any man’s liking;  
though I get this, if thou and Gymer meet—  
men unreluctant of conflict—that ye two will wish to fight.<sup>122</sup>”

<sup>2</sup> **manns**-kis ‘any man’s (lit. ‘no man’s)’ | *manns ęnskis* A

<sup>122</sup> Gird says that she will never let herself be forced to marry Free, even if that means that her father and Shirner should fight over her.

[Skírnir kvað:]

25 „Sér þú **méki**, **mér**, · **mjóvan**, **mál-faan**,  
es **hef**’k í **hendi** **hér**?  
2 fyr þessum **eggjum** · hnígr sá hinn **aldni** jötunn,  
4 verðr þinn **feigr** **faðir**.

[R 11v/27, A 2v/22]

[Shirner quoth:]

“Seest thou this sword, O maiden—slender, pictured-painted—,  
which I have in my hand here?  
By these edges sinks the aged ettin [= Gymer] down;  
**feyr** becomes thy father.

26 **Tams**-vęndi þik drep’k, · ęn þik **tęmja** mun’k,  
2 **mér**, at mínum **munum**,  
þar skalt **ganga** · es þik **gumna** synir  
4 **síðan** ęva **súi**.

[R 11v/28, A 2v/24]

With the taming-wand I strike thee—and tame thee I will,  
O maiden, to my liking!

There shalt thou go, where thee the sons of men  
never since may see.

1 Tams-veṇdi ‘taming-wand’ | Has been interpreted as a sword, TODO.

27 Ara þúfu á · skalt ár sitja, [R 11v/30, A 2v/26]  
2 horfa hēimi ór;  
snugga hēljār til;  
4 matr sé þér mēir lēiðr · an manna hvēim  
hinn fráni ormr með firum.

On an eagle’s perch shalt thou sit at dawn;  
turn out of the world;  
hanker after Hell.  
Food be for thee more loathsome, than to any one  
the gleaming serpent [= the Middenyardswyrm] among men.<sup>123</sup>

1 Ara þúfu á · skalt ár sitja ‘On an eagle’s perch shalt thou sit at dawn’ | ár skalt sitja · ara þúfu á ‘at dawn shalt thou sit on an eagle’s perch’ A 2–3 horfa hēimi ór; snugga hēljār til ‘turn out of the world; hanker after Hell’ | horfa ok snugga hēljār til ‘turn and hanker after Hell’ A

2–3 horfa hēimi ór; snugga hēljār til ‘turn out of the world; hanker after Hell’ | i.e. “you will look toward and yearn for the underworld”.

5 firum | This is the last word of fol. 2v of A, after which the text cuts off.

<sup>123</sup>Her food will be more disgusting than the Middenyardswyrm, for which cf. *Hyme* 22.

28 At undr-sjónum verðir · es út of kōmr, [R 11v/32]  
2 á þik Hrímnir hari  
á þik hot-vetna stari,  
4 víð-kunnari verðir · an vqrðr með goðum,  
gapi þú grindum frá.

A wondrous sight mayst thou become when thou comest out;  
at thee may Rimner ogle;  
at thee may anyone stare.  
More widely known mayst thou become than the Watchman among the Gods [= Homedal];  
mayst thou gape from the gates.

29 Tópi ok ópi, · tǵsull ok ó·þoli, [R 12r/2]  
2 vaxi þér tǵr með trega;  
sętsk þú niðr · en mun’k sęgja þér  
4 sváran sús-breka,

ok tvinnan trega.

Toop and woop, tarsle and restlessness—  
may thy tears grow with grief!  
Sit thyself down, and I will tell thee  
a heavy roaring-breaker,  
and a twined grief.

1 Tópi ok ópi, • tjosull ok óþoli ‘Toop and woop, tessle and restlessness’ | The first three of these four words are magic curse words without clear meaning; I have left them untranslated.

30 Tramar gneypa • þik skulu gerstan dag [R 12r/3]  
2 jǫtna gǫrðum í,  
til hrím-þursa hallar • þú skalt hverjan dag  
4 kranga kosta-laus;  
kranga kosta-von;  
6 grát at gamni • skalt í gǫgn hafa  
ok leiða með tǫrum trega.

Fiends shall pine thee during gloomy day,  
in the yards of the Ettins.  
To the hall of Rime-thurses shalt thou every day  
crawl choice-less;  
crawl choices-lacking.  
Weeping for joy shalt thou have in exchange,  
and nurse with tears [thy] grief.

31 Með þursi þrí-höfðuðum • þú skalt é nara [R 12r/7]  
2 eða ver-laus vesa,  
þitt gæð grípi;  
4 þik morn morni  
ves þú sem þistill, • sá's þrunginn vas  
6 í ofan-verða ónn.

With a thurse three-headed shalt thou always subsist,  
or be husband-less.  
May thy senses seize;  
may murrain mourn thee;  
be thou like the thistle that was pressed  
during highest harvest!

32 Til holts ek gekk • ok til hrás viðar [R 12r/9]  
2 gamban-tęin at geta  
gamban-tęin ek gat.

To the wood I went, and to the raw/sappy tree,  
the gombentoe for to get;  
the gombentoe I got.

2 *gamban-tēin* ‘gombentoe’ | Perhaps “curse-twig”. A compound consisting of the very rare word *gamban* ‘magic/curse?’ and *tēinn* ‘twig, branch’ (cf. *mistil-tēinn* ‘mistle-toe’). This may be the stick on which the runic curse in st. 36 below should be carved, or it is to be identified with the *tams-vǫndr* ‘taming-wand’ of st. 26 above. Cf. *High* 152, which speaks about a runic curse carved on *rótum rás viðar* ‘the roots of a raw/sappy tree’.

- 33     *Rēiðr* ’s þér Óðinn, · *rēiðr* ’s þér Ása-bragr, [R 12r/10]  
2            þik skal *Frēyr* *fíask*,  
            hin *firin*-illa mēr, · en *fingit* hēfr  
4            *gamban*-*rēiði* *goða*.

Wroth with thee is Weden; wroth with thee is Bray of the Eese (= Thunder);  
thee shall Free come to hate,  
O most wicked maiden, if thou hast earned  
the gomben-wrath of the gods.

- 34     *Hęyri* jǫtnar, · *hęyri* *hrím*-þursar, [R 12r/12]  
2            *synir* *Suttunga*, · *sjalfir* ás-liðar,  
            hvé fyrir býð’k, · hvé fyrir banna’k  
4            *manna* *glaum* *mani*,  
            *manna* nyt *mani*.

Hear may Ettins, hear may Rime-thurses,  
sons of Sutting, the very Os-Troops [= Eese] themselves,—  
how I forbid, how I forban  
men’s fellowship from the maid,  
men’s joy from the maid!

- 35     *Hrím*-grímnir hęitir þurs, · es þik *hafa* skal [R 12r/14]  
2            fyr *ná*-grindr *neðan*,  
            þar þér *víl*-megir · á *viðar* *rótum*  
4            *gęita*-hland *gefi*;  
            *óðri* drykkju · fá þú *aldri*-gi,  
6            *mēr*, af þínum *munum*,  
            *mēr*, at *mínum* *munum*.

Rimegrimner is called the thurse who thee shall have  
down beneath Nawgrind,  
where the lads of toil [THRALLS] on the roots of a tree,  
goat-piss will give thee.  
A finer drink do thou never get,



O maiden, against thy liking,  
O maiden, to my liking!

36 Þurs ríst'k þér · ok þríá stafi, [R 12r/16]  
2 ęrgi ok óði ok ó·þola,  
svá ek þat af ríst · sem ek þat á reist,  
4 ef gørask þarfar þess.“

**Thurse** I carve for thee, and three staves:  
**queerness** and madness and restlessness.—  
So I carve it *off*, like I carved it *on*,  
if there be need for that.<sup>124</sup>

1 Þurs ‘thurse’ | Thurse is the name of the þ-rune (þ); it is carved as part of the curse.

1 þríá stafi ‘three staves’ | Three runic letters (or phrases) representing the three following words (*ęrgi* ‘queerness, degeneracy’ etc.). The ritual practice of carving “three staves” is first found on the C7th Gummarp stone: **haþuwołafir sate staba þríá fff** ‘Hathwolf placed three staves: fff’, where the f-rune (ƿ) stands for its name **fee** (i.e. ‘wealth, cattle’) and is thus meant to bring wealth.

2 ęrgi ok óði ok ó·þola ‘queerness and madness and restlessness’ | Both *ęrgi* ‘queerness, degeneracy’ and *ó·þoli* ‘restlessness’ (here probably from strong lust) are found in the love magic charm on the rune stick B257 from Bryggen (edited below under Galders). *ęrgi* is also found in the curse-formula on the C7th Proto-Norse runestones from Stenotoften and Björketorp. See further introduction to B257.

<sup>124</sup>Shirner has carved the curse (which will make true the curse), but tells Gird that he will scrape it off if she accepts his demands. She promptly does.

[Gęřðr kvað:] 37 „Heill ves þú hełdr, sveinn, · ok tak við hrím-kalki [R 12r/19]  
2 fullum forns mjaðar,  
þó haðða'k ętlat, · at mynda'k aldri-gi  
4 unna vaningja vęł.“

[Gird quoth:]  
“Hale be thou rather, O swain, and receive the rime-chalice,  
full of ancient mead—  
though I had intended that I never would  
love the Waning [= Free] well.”

1–2 Heill ... mjaðar ‘Hale ... mead’ | Formulaic; the same lines occur in *Lock* 53.

4 vaningja ‘the Waning [= Free]’ | lit. ‘descendant of the **Wanes**’. A rare word. Its only other occurrence in the Norse corpus is in a **thule** of boar-names. Boars were sacred to Free, TODO.

[Skírnir kvað:] 38 „Ørendi mín · vil'k ęll vita, [R 12r/21]  
2 áðr ríða'k heim heðan,  
nęr á þingi · munt hinum þroska

4                    **n**ęnna **N**jarðar syni.“

[Shirner quoth:]

“My errands all I wish to know,  
before I ride home hence:  
when on the **Thing** wilt thou with the vigorous  
son of Nearth [= Free] be joined?”

[Gērðr kvað:]

39            „**B**arri heitir, · es vit **b**ęði vitum,  
2                    **l**undr **l**ogn-fara,  
                  en ępt **n**ętr **n**íu, · þar mun **N**jarðar syni  
4                    **G**ērðr unna **g**amans.“

[R 12r/23]

[Gird quoth:]

“Barrey is called—as we both know—  
a grove of calm rushes,  
and after nine nights there will to the son of Nearth  
Gird her pleasure grant.”

**P4**        Þá reið Skírnir heim. Freyr stóð úti ok kvaddi hann ok spurði tíðenda:

[R 12r/24]

Then Shirner rode home. Free stood outside and greeted him and asked for the tidings:

40            „**S**ęg mér, Skírnir, · áðr verpir **s**ęðli af mar  
2                    ok stígir **f**eti **f**ramarr,  
                  hvat **á**rnaðir · í **J**otun-ęęima  
4                    þíns eða **m**íns **m**unar?“

[R 12r/25]

“Tell me, O Shirner, before thou throw the saddle off the steed,  
and take a step further:  
what hast thou accomplished in the Ettinhomes,  
to thy or my liking?”

[Skírnir kvað:]

41            „**B**arri heitir, · es vit **b**áðir vitum,  
2                    **l**undr **l**ogn-fara,  
                  en ępt **n**ętr **n**íu, · þar mun **N**jarðar syni  
4                    **G**ērðr unna **g**amans.“

[R 12r/27]

[Shirner quoth:]

“Barrey is called—as we both know—  
a grove of calm rushes,  
and after nine nights there will to the son of Nearth  
Gird her pleasure grant.”

[R 12r/28, G]

Of a month to me seemed less,  
than this half wedding-night. <sup>125</sup>

<sup>125</sup>The wedding-night (TODO: it's a hapax so explain the etymology?) is presumably half as it is not consumed.



# The Leed of Hoarbeard

## (*Hárbarðsljóð*)

**Dating** (Sapp, 2022): early C11th (0.578)–late C11th (0.377)

**Meter:** Unclear (TODO)

In my opinion the poem can be seen as an allegory on class relations, namely between the self-owning Norwegian and later Icelandic farmers, and the warlike Norwegian earls.

Of all Eddic poems this one is probably the strangest in terms of form. Verse length varies greatly, and many of the lines (see especially the final verse) are of an obscene length reminiscent of late continental Germanic poems like the *Heliand*; some simply have no metrical qualities at all. The young clitic definite is (uniquely) employed frequently throughout the poem. These criteria would seem to point towards a late origin for the poem (though not later than the late C13th, when *R* was written).

Against this late origin speaks the presence of rare words (e.g. *ǫgurr* v. 13) and a thorough understanding of the personalities of the two gods which would seem unlikely to stem from several centuries after the conversion of Iceland. The model devised by Sapp gives the poem a 57.8% likelihood of being from the early C11th, and a 37.7% likelihood of being from the late 11th. These scores are most similar to those obtained by *Grip*, a poem that on the surface seems much more archaic.

What could we then be dealing with? It may of course be that the poem is heavily corrupt, but there is no good evidence for this (apart from the above-mentioned irregularities). Most lines are readily understandable and fit well both within their respective context and the poem as a whole. I think a better solution to this problem is to assume that the poem has been acted out as a sort of carnivalesque theatre, with two masked actors, each playing one of the gods. This would explain the variations in meter and line length, and the prose; some lines were simply shouted out, and the lack of alliteration in them would then have a powerful, discordant effect.

This is shown also by uses of the word ‘here’ in sts. 9 and 14. TODO: mention concept of “double scene” by Lars Lönnroth?

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P1 Þórr fór ór austr-vegi ok kom at sundi einu. Qðrum megum sundsins var [R 12r/30]  
2 ferju-karlinn með skipit. Þórr kallaði:

Thunder journeyed from the Eastern Way and came to a sound. At the other side of the sound was the ferryman with the ship. Thunder called out:

1 „Hvęrr ’s sá svęinn svęina • es stęndr fyr sundit handan?“

[R 12r/32]

“Who is that swain of swains, standing here across the sound?”

Hann svaraði:

2 „Hvęrr ’s sá karl karla • es kallar of váginn?“

[R 12v/1]

He answered:

“Who is that churl of churls, calling out over the wave?”

3 „Fęr þú mik of sundit, • fōði’k þik á morgun;

[R 12v/2]

2 męis hęfi’k á baki, • verðor-a matrinn bętri.

Át’k í hvíld • áðr ek hęiman fōr,

4 síldr ok hafra; • saðr em’k ęnn þęss.“

[Thunder quoth:]

“Ferry me over the sound, I feed thee in the morning!

A basket have I on my back; the food does not get better.<sup>126</sup>

I ate for a while before I journeyed from home,

herring and oatmeal/he-goats; I am still full from that.”

<sup>4</sup> hafra ‘oatmeal/he-goats’ | The easiest reading here is the acc. pl. of *hafr* ‘he-goat’. Thunder also eats his goats in *Yilv* 44, where he butchers and cooks them in the evening and brings them back to life by blessing them with his hammer at dawn. Finnur Jónsson (1932) and Pettit (1986) prefer this reading; see also note to next stanza.—Many other scholars have here read an accusative plural of *hafri* ‘oat’, i.e. ‘porridge, oatmeal’. Stiles (forthcoming TODO) connects this with Indra’s (who is the Vedic equivalent of Thunder) “partner and yokemate” (*RV* 6.56.2) Pūṣan’s eating porridge (e.g. 6.56.1, 57.2). Another similarity Stiles notes between Thunder and Pūṣan is that both have chariots driven by goats (e.g. 6.57.3: “Goats are the draft-animals for the one”, 58.2: “Having goats as his horses”). Whether the Vedic tradition has split an original god into two or whether Thunder has absorbed elements of another god is hard to say.

<sup>126</sup> i.e. ‘you will not get better food than that.’

4 „Ár-ligum verkum hrósar þú, verðinum; • vęitst-at-tu fyr gęrła,

[R 12v/5]

2 dępr ’ru þín hęim-kynni, • dauð hygg’k at þín móðir sé.“

“Of early works boastest thou; of eating!<sup>127</sup> Thou knowest not clearly [what lies] before [thee]: dismal is the state of thy home—I think that thy mother is dead!”

<sup>127</sup> TODO. This is pretty difficult. From the previous stanza *verðinum* seems to be referring to eating.

5 „Þat sęgir þú nú • es hęrjum þikkir

[R 12v/6]

2 męst at vita— • at mín móðir dauð sé.“

“Thou now sayest that which to every man seems most important to know—that my mother is dead!”

- 6 „Þeygi 's sem þú · þrjú bú ęigir góð; [R 12v/8]  
 2 bęr-bęinn þú stęndr · ok hęfir brautinga gęrvi, · þat-ki at þú hafir  
 brękr þínar.“

“But it is hardly as if thou own three good homesteads;  
 bare-legged thou standest, and hast the gear of a tramp; it is not even as if thou own thy breeches!”

- 7 „Stýr-ðu hingat ęikjunni, · ek mun þér stęðna kęnna [R 12v/9]  
 2 eða hęęrr á skipit · es þú hęldr við landit?“

“Steer hither the boat! I will show thee to the harbour—  
 or who owns the ship which thou holdest by the shore?”

- 8 „Hildólfr sá hęitir · es mik halda bað, [R 12v/11]  
 2 rekr inn ráð-svinni · es býr í Ráðs-ęjar-sundi;  
 bað-at hann hlęnni-męnn flytja · eða hrossa-þjófa,  
 4 góða ęina · ok þá's ek gęrva kunna;  
 sęę-ðu til nafns þíns · ef þú vill of sundit fara.“

“Hildolf he is called, who asked me to hold it,  
 the counsel-wise man who lives in Redeseysound.  
 He bade me not take highwaymen nor horse-thieves;  
 good men only, and those whom I know well—  
 say thy name if thou wilt go over the sound!”

- 9 „Sęęja mun'k til nafns míns · þótt ek sękr sjá'k [R 12v/15]  
 2 ok til alls øðlis: · Ek em Óðins sonr,  
 Męila bróðir · ęn Magna faðir,  
 4 þrúð-valdr goða · við Þór knátt-u hér dóma!  
 Hins vil'k nú spyrja, · hvat þú hęitir?“

“I will say my name—although I should be charged—  
 and all my origin: I am Weden's son,  
 Male's brother and Main's father,  
 the strength-wielder of the Gods; with Thunder dost thou here speak!  
 Now I will ask something else: What art thou called?”

- 10 „Hár-barðr ek hęiti, · hyl'k of nafn sjaldan.“ [R 12v/18]  
 “Hoarbeard I am called, seldom I conceal my name.”

11 „Hvat skalt-u of **n**afn hylja · **n**ema þú sakar ęgir?“ [R 12v/18]  
 “Why shalt thou conceal thy name, unless thou have charges?”

2 12 „En þótt ek **s**akar ęiga, · fyr **s**líkum sem þú est [R 12v/19]  
 þá mun’k **f**orða **f**jörvi mínu · nema ek **f**ęigr sé.“  
 “But though I had charges—for such a one as thou art  
 then I will protect my life, unless I be **fey**.”

2 13 „Harm ljótan mér þikkir í því [R 12v/21]  
 at **v**aða of **v**áginn til þín · ok **v**ęta ęgur minn;  
 skylda’k launa **k**ęgur-svęini · þínum **k**angin-yrði · ef ek **k**omumk  
 yfir sundit.“

“An ugly harm it seems to me  
 to wade o’er the wave to thee, and wet my burden.  
 I would repay thee, swaddle-swain, for thy mocking words, if I could bring myself over the sound.”

2 ęgur ‘burden’ | The sense of this word is not clear, though it is probably the same as the first element of the compound *ęgur-stund* ‘burdensome hour’, found in *Wāyl* 42. Some authors have read it as a crude euphemism for ‘penis’, which would not be out of character for this poem. I however consider the best interpretation to be that of an author whose name I’ve forgotten (TODO!), namely that Thunder is referring to the food he carries on his back (cf. v. 3).

2 14 „**H**ér mun’k standa · ok þín **h**eðan bíða; [R 12v/23]  
 fannt-a-tu mann inn **h**arðara · at **H**rungni dauðan.“  
 “Here will I stand, and *from here* await thee;  
 thou hast not found a harder man since Rungner died!<sup>128</sup>”

<sup>128</sup>Rungner was an ettin famously slain by Thunder, TODO. Hoarbeard’s mention of that battle sets off a long argument over the deeds of the two.

2 15 „**H**ins vilt-u nú geta · es vit **H**rungnir deildum, [R 12v/25]  
 sá inn **s**tór-úðgi jötunn, · es ór **s**tęini vas hęfuðit á,  
 þó lét’k hann **f**alla · ok **f**yfir hníga;  
 4 hvat vannt-u þá meðan, Hárbarðr?“  
 “This wilt thou now mention, when I and Rungner dealt with each other,  
 that great-minded ettin on whom the head was of stone.  
 Yet I made him fall, and kneel down before [me]—  
 what didst thou then meanwhile, Hoarbeard?”



- 16 „Vas’k með Fjöl-vari • fimm vetr alla [R 12v/27]  
 2 í ey þęiri • es Al-grón heitir;  
 vega vér þar knóttum • ok val fella,  
 4 margs at fręista, • mans at kosta.“

“I was with Felwar for all of five winters  
 in that island which Allgreen is called.  
 There we did fight and fell corpses;  
 many a girl to tempt and win.<sup>129</sup>”

<sup>129</sup>I read *margs* ‘many a’ as modifying *mans* ‘girl’, i.e. *margs mans at fręista, at kosta* ‘to tempt and to win many a girl’.

- 17 „Hversu snúnuðu yör konur yörar?“ [R 12v/30]  
 “How did your women pleasure (TODO!!) you?<sup>130</sup>”

<sup>130</sup>Seemingly a prose line; see Introduction.

- 18 „Sparkar óttum vér konur • ef oss at spökum yrði; [R 12v/30]  
 2 horskar óttum vér konur • ef oss hollar véri,  
 þér ór sandi • síma undu  
 4 ok ór dali djúpum  
 grund of grófu;  
 6 varð’k þeim einn qlum • øfri at róðum;  
 hvílda’k hjá systrum sjau  
 8 ok hafða’k gęð þęira allt ok gaman;  
 hvat vannt-u þá meðan, Þórr?“

“We [I] owned frisky women, if they became pleasing toward us [me];  
 we [I] owned clever women, if they were **hold** toward us [me];  
 they wound a rope out of the sand,  
 and out of a deep dale  
 dug up the ground.  
 I alone became superior to them all in counsels,  
 I rested next to those seven sisters,  
 and had their senses all, and pleasure—  
 what didst thou then meanwhile, Thunder?”

- 19 „Ek drap Þjatsa, • hinn þrúð-móðga jøtun, [R 13r/2, A 1r/1 (l. 4b ff.)]  
 2 upp ek varp augum • All-valda sonar  
 á þann hinn heįða himin;  
 4 þau ’ru męrki męst • minna verka,

þau's allir menn síðan of séa;  
6 hvat vannt-u þá meðan, Hárbarðr?“

“I slew Thedse, the strength-minded ettin;  
Up I threw the eyes of Allwald's son [= Thedse]  
onto the clear heaven!  
Those are the greatest marks of my works,  
those which all men since may see<sup>131</sup> —  
what didst thou then meanwhile, Hoarbeard?”

<sup>131</sup>Here we seem to have a rare example of native Germanic star-lore. Is the exact constellation identifiable? TODO.

20 „Miklar man-vélar · hafða'k við myrk-riður  
2 þá's ek vélta þér frá verum.  
Harðan jötun · hugða'k Hlébarð vesa;  
4 gaf hann mér gamban-tęin  
en ek vélta hann ór viti.“

[R 13r/5, A 1r/1]

“Great girl-tricks did I have against mirk-rideresses,  
when I lured them away from men.<sup>132</sup>  
A hard ettin I judged Leebeard to be;  
he gave me a gombentoe,  
but I tricked him out of his wits.”

<sup>132</sup>Alternatiely ‘away from [their] husbands’. The *riður* ‘(female) riders’ were witches thought to torment people and cause disease and suffering. See *Higb* 156 for discussion.

21 „Illum huga launaðir þú þá góðar gjafar.“  
“With an evil mind didst thou repay the good gift.”

[R 13r/7, A 1r/3]

22 „Þat hefir ęik · es af annarri skęfr;  
2 umb sik es hvęrr í slíku—  
hvat vannt-u þá meðan, Þórr?“

[R 13r/8, A 1r/4]

“An oak has that which it chafes from another;  
each man is for himself in such—  
what didst thou then meanwhile, Thunder?”

23 „Ek vas austr · ok jętna barða'k  
2 brúðir bęl-vísar · es til bjargs gingu;  
mikil myndi ętt jętna · ef allir lifði,  
4 vętr myndi manna · undir Mið-garði—

[R 13r/9, A 1r/4]

hvat vannt-u þá meðan, Hárbarðr?

“I was in the East, and bashed ettins:  
bale-wise brides who walked to the mountain.  
Great would the lineage of ettins be if all lived,  
naught would remain of men within Middenyard<sup>133</sup>—  
what didst thou then meanwhile, Hoarbeard?”

<sup>133</sup> A remarkable clear statement, the underlying worldview of which is far from unique to this stanza; in *Hymr* 11, for instance, Thunder is described as “the opponent of Rooder”, “the friend of manly retinues” and “Wighward”, referring to His role in slaying ettins and guarding men and their shrines (wighs). For Thunder’s killing of women cf. sts. 37–39 below and Lindow 1988.

24 „Vas’k á Vallandi • ok vígum fylgða’k, [R 13r/11, A 1r/6]  
2 atta ek jofrum • en aldri-gi sétta’k;  
Óðinn á jarla • þá’s í val falla  
4 en Þórr á þræla kyn.“

“I was in Walland and followed battles;  
I incited princes and never reconciled them.  
Weden owns the earls which fall among the slain,  
but Thunder owns the kin of thralls.<sup>134</sup>”

<sup>134</sup> We see here a sort of aristocratic, Odinic disregard for lower life and life as a good in itself; where Thunder boasts of saving men, Weden sarcastically responds that he caused the deaths of men so that he could have them for himself.

25 „Ó·jafnt skipta • es þú myndir með ósum liði [R 13r/13, A 1r/8]  
2 ef þú éttr vil-gi mikils vald.“

“Translation.”

26 „Þórr á afl órit • en ekki hjarta; [R 13r/14, A 1r/9]  
2 af hréðslu ok hug-bleyði • þér vas í handska troðit  
ok þóttisk-a þú þá Þórr vesa;  
4 hvár-ki þá þorðir • fyr hréðslu þinni  
hnjósa né fisa • svát Fjalarr heyrði.“

“Thunder owns ample strength, but no heart; out of fear and mind-softness didst thou tread into a glove, and then seemedest thou not to be Thunder. Thou daredst neither—for thy fear—to sneeze nor to fart so that Feller might hear [it].<sup>135</sup>”

<sup>135</sup> This story is also referenced in *Lock* TODO. It is elaborated heavily on in *Yilv* 45: Thunder, Lock, and the siblings Thelvé and Wrash had travelled east for a long time when they discovered a large hall, with an opening on one end, as wide as the building. They took rest inside, but in the middle of the night there was a great earthquake and the ground beneath them trembled. Thunder rose and led the party to a side-room to

the right in the middle of the hall. He sat closest to the opening with his hammer ready, while the others sat terrified further inside. At daybreak they left the hall and found a huge ettin named *Skrymir* (Shrimer) sleeping next to them. His snoring had caused the earth-quakes, and the hall was his mitten; the side-room was the thumb-part.

- 27 „Hár-barðr hinn ragi, • munda’k þik í Hæl drepa  
2 ef mætta’k sæilask of sund.“ [R 13r/17, A 1r/11]

“Hoarbeard the queer, I would strike thee into Hell,  
if I might sail o’er the sound!”

- 28 „Hvat skyldir of sund sæilask • es sakir ’ru alls øngar?  
2 hvat vannt-u þá meðan, Þórr?“ [R 13r/18, A 1r/12]

“Why should thou sail o’er the sound when there are no offenses?—  
what didst thou then meanwhile, Thunder?”

- 29 „Ek vas austr • ok ána varða’k  
2 þá’s mik sóttu • þeir Svárangs synir;  
grjóti mik bqrðu, • gagni urðu þó lítt fegnir,  
4 þó urðu mik fyrri • friðar at biðja.  
hvat vannt-u þá meðan, Hárbarðr?“ [R 13r/19, A 1r/13]

“I was in the east and guarded the river  
when I was attacked by Sweering’s sons.  
With rocks they bashed me—still they rejoiced little in victory,  
still they had to beg me first for peace—  
what didst thou then meanwhile, Hoarbeard?”

- 30 „Ek vas austr • ok við ein-hvērja dómða’k,  
2 lék’k við ina lind-hvítu • ok lqng þing háða’k,  
gladda’k ina gull-björtu, • gamni mér unði.“ [R 13r/22, A 1r/15]

“I was in the east, and spoke with a certain woman;  
I played with the linen-white, and held long-lasting trysts:<sup>136</sup>  
I gladdened the gold-bright—the maiden enjoyed pleasure.”

<sup>136</sup> þing (see Thing) usually means ‘legal assembly’, but clearly not here.

- 31 „Góð óttu þeir man-kynni þar þá.“ [R 13r/24, A 1r/17]
- “Then they had good girl-visits there.”

32 „Liðs þíns véra’k þá þurfi, Þórr, · at helda’k þeiri inni lín-hvítu mey.“ [R 13r/24, A 1r/17]  
 “Of thy help I might have been in need then, Thunder, that I might hold that linen-white maiden.”

33 „Ek mynda þér þat þá vęita · ef ek viðr of kómisk.“ [R 13r/25, A 1r/18]  
 “I would then have granted thee that, if I were able.”

34 „Ek mynda þér þá trúa, · nema mik í tryggð véltir.“ [R 13r/26, A 1r/18]  
 “I would then have trusted thee, unless thou shouldst betray my trust.”

35 „Em’k-at ek sá hęl-bitr · sem húð-skór forn á vár.“ [R 13r/27, A 1r/19]  
 “I am not such a heel-biter as an old hide-shoe in spring.<sup>137</sup>”

<sup>137</sup> Proverbial (a heel-biter being someone who betrays his companions); the leather of a shoe would become very stiff and chafing over the winter.

36 „Hvat vannt-u þá meðan, Þórr?“ [R 13r/28, A 1r/20]  
 “What didst thou then meanwhile, Thunder?”

2 37 „Brúðir ber-sęrkja · barða’k í Hlés-ęyju; [R 13r/28, A 1r/20]  
 þęr hofðu vęrst unnit, · vélta þjóð alla.“  
 “The brides of berserks I bashed in Leesie;  
 they had done the worst thing: deceived a whole people.”

38 „Klęki vannt-u þá, Þórr, · es þú á konum barðir.“ [R 13r/29, A 1r/21]  
 “A great disgrace didst thou then, Thunder, when thou didst bash women.”

2 39 „Vargynjur vóru þęr · en var-la konur, [R 13r/30, A 1r/22]  
 skęlldu skip mitt · es ek skorðat hafða’k,  
 ógðu mér járn-lurki · en ęltu þjálfa.  
 4 hvat vannt-u þá meðan, Hárbarðr?“  
 “She-wolves were they, and hardly women;  
 they overturned my ship which I had propped;

terrorised me with an iron-cudgel, and chased Thelwe around—  
what didst thou then meanwhile, Hoarbeard?”

- 2      40      „Ek vas’k í hęrnum · es hingat gęrðisk  
              gnęfa gunn-fana, · gęir at rjóða.“ [R 13r/32, A 1r/23]
- “I was in the warband, when it readied itself here  
to raise the war-standard, to redden the spear.”

- 41      „Þess vilt-u nú geta, es þú fórt oss ó·ljúfan at bjóða!“ [R 13v/1, A 1r/24]
- “This wilt thou now mention, that thou didst journey to attack us!”

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1 ó·ljúfan | oliyfan A; †olubann† R

- 2      42      „Bóta skal þér þat þá · munda baudi  
              sem jafnęndr unnu · þęir’s okkr vilja sętta.“ [R 13v/2, A 1r/25]
- “Then, I shall repay thee for that, with a hand-high,  
bestowed by the mediators who wish to reconcile us two.”

- 2      43      „Hvar namt þęssi · in hnófi-ligu orð  
              es hęyrða’k aldrigi · hnófi-ligri?“ [R 13v/3, A 1r/26]
- “Where didst thou learn these sarcastic words,  
which I never heard more sarcastic?”

- 44      „Nam’k at męnnum þęim inum aldrónum es búa í hęimis-skógum.“ [R 13v/5, A 1r/27]
- “I learned them from the old men who dwell in the home-forests.”

- 45      „Þó gefr þú gótt nafn dysjum, es þú kallar þat hęimis-skóga.“ [R 13v/5, A 1v/1]
- “Yet thou givest a good name to poor cairns,<sup>138</sup> as thou callest them home-forests.”

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<sup>138</sup> cf. Weden’s waking the dead in various poems.

- 46      „Svá dómi’k of slíkt far.“ [R 13v/6, A 1v/2]
- “So I speak about such matters.”

- 47 „Orð-kringi þín · mun þér illa koma [R 13v/7, A 1v/2]  
 2 ef ek rēð á vág at vaða;  
 ulfi héra · hygg’k at ópa mynir  
 4 ef hlýtr af hamri hogg.“

“Thy glibness of word will bring thee harm,  
 if I decide to wade over the wave;  
 higher than a wolf I judge that thou wilt scream,  
 if thou suffer a strike from the hammer.”

- 48 „Sif á hó hęima, · hans munt fund vilja, [R 13v/9, A 1v/4]  
 2 þann munt þrek drýgja, · þat ’s þér skyldara.“

“Sib has a lover at home; *him* wilt thou wish to meet!  
 Against that one shalt thou use thy strength—that is for thee more urgent!”

1 hó ‘lover’ | Most translators take this acc. sg. word as an alternative form of *bórr* m. ‘adulterer’ (gen. *bórs*), containing the same root as *bóra* f. ‘whore, prostitute’, *bór* n. ‘adultery, fornication’, ModEngl. whore. The *-r* has presumably been interpreted as the masc. nom. sg. ending, giving nom. \**bór*, gen. \**bós*. Further, this accusation is also found in *Lock* TODO, where Lock says that he has been Sib’s lover (*bórr*). Notably, *CV* interprets this word as the unrelated *bór* m. ‘pot-hook’, “insinuating that Thor busied himself with cooking and dairy-work.” This seems very unlikely when considering Thunder’s response in the next verse: “I think that thou liest!” and the parallel in *Lock*.

- 49 „Mélir þú at munns ráði · svát mér skyldi vęrst þikkja, [R 13v/10, A 1v/5]  
 2 halr inn hug-blauði, · hygg’k at þú ljúgir.“

“Thou speakest according to thy mouth’s counsel that which should seem to me the worst;  
 O heart-soft man, I think that thou liest!”

- 50 „Satt hygg’k mik sęgja, · sęinn est at fęr þinni, [R 13v/12, A 1v/6]  
 2 langt myndir nú kominn, þórr, · ef þú litum fęrir.“

“I think myself to speak truly: thou art late on thy journey;  
 far wouldst thou now have come, Thunder, if thou had brought thy colours.”

2 litum fęrir ‘brought thy colours’ | Very unclear expression. *fęra litum* TODO.

- 51 „Hárbarðr inn ragi, · hęldr hęfir nú mik dvalðan!“ [R 13v/14, A 1v/8]  
 “Hoarbeard the queer; thou hast now much delayed me!”

- 52 „Ása-þórs · hugða’k aldri-gi myndu [R 13v/14, A 1v/8]

2                   gleþja **f**é-hirði **f**arar.“

“The journey of Thunder of the Eese I never thought  
that a shepherd would divert.”

53           „**R**áð mun'k þér nú **r**áða: · **R**ó þú hingat bátinum,  
2           **h**éttum **h**ótingi, · **h**itt fǫður Magna!“

[R 13v/15, A 1v/9]

“I will now give thee a counsel: Row the boat hither,  
stop the taunting, come to the father of Main [= Thunder = me]!”

54           „**F**ar þú **f**irr sundi, · þér skal **f**ars synja!“

[R 13v/17, A 1v/10]

“Go far from the sound; the ferry shall be denied thee!”

55           „**V**ísa þú mér nú leiðina · alls þú vill mik ęigi of **v**áginn fęrja!“

[R 13v/17, A 1v/11]

“Now show me the way, since thou wilt not ferry me o'er the wave!”

56           „**L**ítit 's at synja, · **l**angt 's at fara;  
2           **s**tund 's til **s**tokksins, · ǫnnur til **s**tęinsins,  
halt svá til **v**instra **v**ęsins · unds þú hittir **V**er-land;  
4           þar mun Fjǫrgyn · hitta Þór, son sinn,  
ok mun hǫn kęnna hǫnum **ǫ**ttunga brautir · til **Ó**ðins landa.“

[R 13v/18, A 1v/11]

“It is little to deny; it is long to journey:  
an hour to the log, another to the stone;  
keep thus to the left road, until thou dost find Wereland;  
there will Firgyn find Thunder, her son,  
and she will teach him the ancestral roads, to Weden's lands [= Osyrd].”

57           „Mun'k taka þangat í dag?“

[R 13v/22, A 1v/14]

“Will I arrive thither today?”

58           „Taka við víl ok **ę**rfiði · at upp-vesandi sólu  
2           es ek get þána.“

[R 13v/22, A 1v/14]

“[Thou wilt] arrive, with toil and hardship, at the rising of the sun as I guess it is thawing.”



- 2      59      „Skammt mun nú mál okkat vesa, · alls þú mér skótingu einni svarar; [R 13v/23, A 1v/15]  
launa mun ek þér far-synjun · ef vit finnumk í sinn annat.  
Far þú nú þar's þik hafi allan gramir!“

“Now our speech will be short as thou dost answer me only with scoffing;  
I will reward thee for this ferry-denial if we meet another time.  
Go now whither the fiends may have thee all!”

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# The Lay of Hymer

## (*Hymiskviða*)

**Dating** (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.694)–early C11th (0.268)

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

Attested in two manuscripts, **R** and **A**. The two agree very well; they share the same stanzas and they come in the same order. The most substantial difference is the header; **A** has *Hymis-kviða* ‘the Lay of Hymer’, while **R** instead has *Þórr dró Mið-garðs-orm* ‘Thunder pulled the Midden-yardswyrn’.

The poem is a comedy about Thunder’s adventures in Ettinland. This was probably a popular genre, and is also represented by *Thrim*, but in spite of these similarities of contents the two poems are far apart stylistically. Whereas *Thrim* is written in a simple and sparse style with free *Ancient-words-law*-meter and few kennings, the form of *Ancient-words-law* used in *Hyme* is unusually strict, almost syllable-counting, and the stanzas are filled with intricate kennings, difficult grammatical constructions and forced word order. In this way *Hyme* is more akin to Scoldic poetry in intricate measures like *Court-recited meter* than to typical Eddic poetry in *Ancient-words-law*.

For this reason it seems likely that the anonymous poet of *Hyme* was highly trained in the Scoldic arts, and familiar with composition in more advanced meters. (See TODO: Difference between Scoldic and Eddic). Apart from style and meter, the Scoldic composition context of *Hyme* is also supported by both its dating and subject. There are five extant Scoldic poetic fragments (TODO: list them) that deal with Thunder’s fishing expedition, mostly from the 10th century.

These Scoldic fragments are fragmentary, and (in what survives of them) mostly focus on the scene where Thunder faces off against the hooked Wyrn pressed to the gunwale. There are some interesting verbal correspondences between these fragments and *Hyme*—most strikingly the kenning for the Middenyardswyrn in st. 22/4 below—that may also support a common composition context. The fragments do not all agree with each other; in some of them the encounter ends with the cowardly Hymer cutting off the fishing line and the Wyrn sinking back unharmed into the sea (the version preferred by Snorre)—in others Thunder strikes the head off the Wyrn, presumably slaying it.

Numerous pictorial depictions of the myth are found on Wiking Age objects. These are the Swedish Altuna (U 1611) and Linga (Sö 352) runestones, the picture stones from Hørdum, Northern Jutland, a picture stone from Gosforth in Cumbria, and others (TODO). They typically show Thunder standing in the boat with His hammer raised, and the hooked Wyrn below it. Several smaller details also appear on these objects: the use of the ox-head for bait (U 1611, Sö 352), Thunder’s feet going through the ship (U 1611, Hørdum).

*Yilv* 48 gives a complete narrative, here paraphrased for the sake of shortness:

Thunder goes out into Middenyard in the shape of a young man (*ungr drængr*), without his chariot, his goats, or his typical travelling gear. In the evening he comes to the ettin Hymer and

begs for lodgings. At dawn Hymer plans to go fishing, and so Thunder asks to join in. Hymer insults Thunder's small stature and youth, and questions his ability to go on such a long and arduous trip as he usually takes. Thunder, angered, says that he will row very far, and then asks Hymer what bait they will use. Hymer tells him to get his own bait, and so he turns to Hymer's flock of oxen and tears off the head from his greatest ox, one named Heavenrid. The two go out to sea, and Thunder rows far past Hymer's usual fishing spot. Hymer, unhappy, warns him that if they row any further out they'll be in danger of the Middenyardswyrm, but Thunder goes on. Eventually Thunder puts away the oars, readies a fishing line, hooks the ox-head and lowers it. The Wyrm soon bites, and struggles so hard that Thunder is pressed against the gunwale. This angers the god, and he brings himself into his Os-might. Strengthened, he pulls back with such force that his feet go through the bottom of the ship and press into the sea-floor; the Wyrm's head goes up against the gunwale. The two archenemies furiously stare at each other, Thunder "sharpening his eyes" and the Wyrm spitting venom. Hymer is frightened, reaches for his bait-cutting knife, and cuts off the line—the Wyrm then sinks back into the sea. Thunder throws the hammer after it, "and men say that he struck off the monster's head, but I think it true to tell thee, that the Middenyardswyrm still lives and lies in the outer sea." Thunder then punches Hymer's ear with his fist so that he is thrown overboard head-first; the god then wades back to land.

This account is clearly based on several sources, possibly including the present poem. The closest wording correspondence is when it is said that *Miðgarðs-ormr gein yfir uxa-höfuð'it, en þngull'inn vá i góm'inn orm'inum* 'The Middenyardswyrm yawned over the ox-head, and the hook went into the roof of the wyrm's mouth', which is decently close to st. 22 below. The name Heavenrid (*Himinhrjóðr*) is otherwise only found in thules listing names of oxen, and the interesting detail of Thunder's feet going through the boat is only paralleled by the Swedish Altuna stone (though see note to st. 34/2 below).

While *Ylva* 48, the Scoldic fragments, and *Hyme* all share the central narrative of the fishing expedition, *Hyme* has several additional narratives woven into it. That is not to say that *Hyme* consists of multiple originally separate poems. Unlike, say, *High*, which has noticeable differences of style and language between its constituent strands, *Hyme* comes off as a strong stylistic and narrative whole, composed by a single poet and thereafter transmitted faithfully. One may roughly identify the following narrative divisions in *Hyme*, of which only numbers 2–4 are found in the other sources for the myth of Thunder's fishing:

1. 1–6 Thunder attempts to force the ettin Eagre to host a banquet for the Gods; Eagre in turn asks for a cauldron big enough to brew enough ale for them all.
2. 7–16 Thunder and Tew go to visit the stingy ettin Hymer, who owns such a cauldron; horrified at Thunder's great appetite during the evening, Hymer tells them that they must eat fish the next.
3. 17–19 Thunder says that he will go fishing if he is given bait; Hymer challenges him to kill one of his oxen for bait; Thunder tears off the head of one.
4. 20–25 Hymer, Thunder and Tew go fishing; Hymer pulls up some whales; with the ox-head as bait Thunder manages to hook the Middenyardswyrm itself; he loses it.
5. 26–27 Hymer challenges Thunder to carry the boat and whales back to his farm; he does.
6. 28–32 Hymer challenges Thunder to break a supposedly indestructible chalice; he succeeds by smashing it against the ettin's forehead.
7. 33–36 Thunder and Tew depart with the cauldron; they find themselves followed by a troop led by Hymer; Thunder kills them all.
8. 37–38 Lock makes the leg of one of Thunder's goats halt.
9. 39 Thunder returns to the Gods with Hymer's cauldron; they host a banquet.

The fishing expedition, found at the very center of the poem, is thus framed by the unique narrative of Thunder and Tew obtaining a huge cauldron from Hymer for the sake of brewing ale, and several other superfluous narratives scattered throughout. The poet has not been entirely successful in his endeavour, and there are several loose strands. Most notably the god Tew plays no role at all in the fishing expedition, probably because he was not originally in it; in other variants of the myth (including pictorial depictions, like that from Gosforth), Thunder is only accompanied by Hymer. Tew also lacks a reaction to the murder of his father Hymer, and this familiar relationship is also unparalleled; in *Scold* 16 Tew is called Weden's Son. Also unclear is the function of Lock's halting one of Thunder's goats (sts. 37–38); he does not appear anywhere else in the poem.

The poem has some interesting reoccurring themes. The “otherness” of the Ettins, specifically Hymer, is constantly emphasized in several ways:

- they live far to the East (st. 5) in an inhospitable, frozen climate (st. 10), associated with mountains (sts. 2, 17) and lava-fields (st. 36)
- they are physically deviant, being misshapen (st. 10), grey-haired (st. 16), many-headed (sts. 8, 35), and very hard-boned (sts. 30–31); they are even likened to apes (st. 20), whales (st. 36) and Danes (st. 17; see note!),
- they are stingy and inhospitable (sts. 9, 16),
- and sarcastic and cowardly (st. 19–20, 25–26, 28–32).

In these ways the Ettins oppose the Old Germanic social norms as represented by the Gods, who live in a lush green climate and are young, beautiful and generous. The one exception is of course Tew's mother in st. 8, who is light-haired (in contrast to the swarthy grandmother, presumably) and generous. Perhaps the poet is implying that it is from her that Tew has inherited his good traits?

The last point, viz. sarcasm and cowardice, is seen throughout the poem in the way Thunder comically humiliates the Ettins, especially by completing challenges issued to him. These follow a similar format: Thunder is given a near-impossible test of strength, which he shortly completes through a mix of physical strength and cleverness, humiliating the challenger. These tests are finding a huge kettle (st. 3, explicitly called Eagre's “revenge” (*hǫfn*)), taking one of Hymer's oxen for bait (st. 17–18), carrying home Hymer's whales and boat (st. 26), breaking Hymer's finest chalice (st. 28), and perhaps also taking away the kettle (st. 33)—though that may just be Hymer's wishing to finally be rid of the pestering gods.

Much like in *Thrim* the conflict is finally resolved with righteous hammer-slaughter. After the Gods leave, Hymer tries to get his revenge by ambushing them, but Thunder takes his trusty hammer and kills them all. The poem is clearly humorous and meant to be performed before an audience (see st. 38 where the poet directly addresses the listeners). The original performance context may perhaps be gleaned from the difficult final stanza. TODO: It hints at a performance at a harvest bloot.

1    ÁR val-tívar · vǫðar nómu  
2    ok sumbl-samir · áðr saðir yrði,  
     hristu tǫina · ok á hlaut sǫu,  
4    fundu at Égis · or-kost hvera.

[R 13v/26, A 5v/25]

Of yore the slain-Tews [GODS] had caught game,  
and together at the **simble** before they might eat  
they shook the twigs and looked at the **leat**;  
they found at Eagre's a great choice of cauldrons.<sup>139</sup>

2 áðr **saðir** yrði, 'before they might eat' | Lit. 'might become sated'

<sup>139</sup>The gods sprinkled the leat (*blaut* 'sacrificial blood') of the beasts and interpreted the pattern; they found it most auspicious to feast at Eagre's. TODO: reference to leat-twigs.

2 Sat **berg-búi** · **barn**-tęitr fyrir, [R 13v/28, A 5v/27]  
mjök glíkr **męgi** · **Miskur**-blinda,  
lęit í **augu** · **Yggs** barn í þrá:  
4 „þú skalt **ęsum** · **opt** sumbl gęra!“

Sat the mountain-dweller [ETTIN = Eagre] there, merry like a child,  
much alike to the lad of Misherblind;  
into his eyes looked the child of Ug (= Weden) [= Thunder] stubbornly:  
“Thou shalt oft hold simbles for the Eese!”<sup>140</sup>

4 gęra 'host' | *gefa* 'give' A

2 męgi Miskur-blinda 'lad of Misherblind' | An unexplained reference. Misherblind might be another name for Firneet, Eagre's father.

<sup>140</sup>Having seen that Eagre has a great store of cauldrons, Thunder orders him to brew ale for the feasts of the Eese.

3 **Qnn** fekk **jętni** · **orð**-bęginn halr, [R 13v/31, A 5v/29]  
**hugði** at **hefndum** · **hann** nęst við goð,  
bað **Sifjar** ver · **sér** fęra hver,  
4 „þann's ek **ęllum** **ęl** · **yðr** of hęita.“

Great toil for the ettin the word-peevisish man [= Thunder] caused;  
he [= Eagre] thought of revenge, soon, against the god;  
he bade Sib's husband [= Thunder] bring him a cauldron,  
“that one with which I for you all ale might heat.”<sup>141</sup>

<sup>141</sup>Eagre gets back at Thunder by telling him that he needs a single cauldron which can hold enough ale to supply all the Eese.

4 Né þat **męttu** · **męrir** tívar [R 14r/1, A 5v/30]  
ok **ginn**-ręgin · of **geta** hvęr-gi,  
2 unds af **tryggðum** · **Týr** Hlórriða

4                    ást-ráð mikit · ęinum sagði:

But that one might the renowned Tews  
and the yin-Reins nowhere get ahold of—  
until, out of loyalty, a great loving counsel  
Tew to Lorde (= Thunder) alone did say:

2                    5    „Býr fyr austan · Éli-vága  
                      hund-víss Hymir · at himins ęnda,  
                      á minn faðir · móðugr ķettil,  
4                    rúm-brugðinn hver · rastar djúpan.“

[R 14r/3, A 6r/2]

“Dwells to the east of the llewaves  
the hound-wise Hymer, at heaven’s end.<sup>142</sup>  
Owns my father [= Hymer], fierce, a kettle:  
a size-famed cauldron one rest deep.”

4 rúm-brugðinn | *řrumbrygðanř* A

<sup>142</sup>According to *Webb* 31 the llewaves were the poisonous wild rushes out of which the ettins emerged, and so it only makes sense that they would be found in the east, where the ettins dwell. Hymer’s dwelling even further east than them illustrates his fierce nature.

[Þórr kvað:]                    6    „Veitst, ef þiggjum · þann lög-velli?“  
[Týr kvað:]                    2    „Ef, vinr, vélar · vit gørvum til!“  
[Thunder quoth:]    “Knowest thou if we will receive that liquid-boiler [CAULDRON]?” —  
[Tew quoth:]           “If, friend, we two make use of wiles!”<sup>143</sup>

[R 14r/4, A 6r/4]

<sup>143</sup>Like elsewhere in this poem the speakers are not indicated, but it is most sensible that Thunder asks and Tew answers.

2                    7    Fóru drjúgum · dag þann framan  
                      Ásgarði frá · unds til ęgils kvømu;  
                      hirði hafra · horn-gøfgasta;  
4                    hurfu at hǫllu · es Hymir átti.

[R 14r/5, A 6r/4]

They journeyed long from the beginning of the day,  
away from Osyrd, until to Agle they came—  
he herded the he-goats noblest of horns—  
they turned to the hall which Hymer owned.

1 dag þann framan ‘from the beginning of the day’ | emend. after Finnur Jónsson (1932); *dag þann fram* ‘on that day forth’ R; *dag frálíga* ‘swiftly at day’ A 2 ęgils ‘Eyel’ | so R; *ęgis* ‘Eagre’ A is probably from confusion with Eagre (the ettin) described earlier in the poem, though the shepherd may have shared his name.

3 hirði hafra · horn-gofgasta ‘he kept the he-goats most esteemed of horns’ | He took care of Thunder’s two goats.

- 8 Mogr fann qmmu, · mjok leiða sér, [R 14r/7, A 6r/6]  
 2 hafði hofða · hundruð níu.  
 en qnnur gekk · al-gullin framm  
 4 brún-hvít bera · bjór-veig syni:

The lad [= Tew] found his grandmother very loathsome;  
 of heads she had nine hundred.  
 But another woman, all-golden, walked forth,  
 white-browed, bringing a beer-draught for [her] son [= Tew]:

3 qnnur ‘another woman’ | The use of the word “son” in the following line reveals this as Tew’s mother. The poet stresses her beautiful dress and countenance, in contrast to the grandmother.

- [Týs móðir:] 9 „Átt-niðr jǫtna · ek vilja’k ykk  
 2 hug-fulla tvá · und hvera sǣtja;  
 es mín frí · mǫrgu sinni  
 4 glǫggr við gæsti · gǫrr ills hugar.“

“O descendant of ettins [= Tew], I would wish to hide  
 you two, full of heart, under the cauldrons;  
 many a time has my lover [= Hymer] been  
 stingy with guests, quick to bad mood.”

[Tew’s mother:]

3 frí ‘lover’ | so R; fǫðir ‘father’ A

4 glǫggr ... hugar ‘stingy ... mood’ | Ettins are characteristically inhospitable, in stark opposition to the Old Germanic social norms; see Introduction to the poem above. This statement foreshadows the later hunting expedition starting at st. 16 below.

- 10 En vá-skapaðr · varð síð-búinn, [R 14r/11, A 6r/9]  
 2 harð-ráðr Hymir, · hǣim af vǣiðum;  
 gekk inn í sal, · glumðu jǫklar,  
 4 vas karls, es kom, · kinn-skógr frørinn.

But the misshapen one was come late,  
 hard-minded Hymer, home from the hunt.  
 He entered the hall—the icicles clattered—  
 on the churl who came [= Hymer] was the cheek-shaw [BEARD] frozen.

1 síð-búinn ‘come late’ | om. A

3 jǫklar ‘icicles’ | viz. in Hymer’s frozen beard. In modern Icelandic the word *jökull* has come to mean ‘glacier’, but its original meaning (as found in the present stanza) is that of its English cognate ‘icicle’.



[Týs móðir:]      **11**      „Ves þú **heill**, **Hymir**,   ·   í **hugum** góðum! [R 14r/13, A 6r/11]  
2      Nú 's **sonr** kominn   ·   til **sala** þinna,  
3      sá's **vit** **vettum**   ·   af **vegi** lǫngum;  
4      fylgir **hǫnum**   ·   **Hróðrs** and-skoti,  
5      **vinr** **ver**-liða;   ·   **Véurr** heitir sá.

[Tew's mother:] "Be thou hale, Hymer, in good spirits!  
Now the son [= Tew] is come to thy halls,  
the one whom we have been awaiting from a long way off.  
Follows him the opponent of Rooder <ettin>,  
the friend of manly retinues; Wighward (= Thunder) is that one called.

<sup>1</sup> Ves þú heill, ... í hugum góðum! 'Be thou hale ... in good spirits!' | A formulaic greeting; cf. the almost identical greeting in *N B380* (edited below under Galders). Further afield cf. the type exemplified by *Beow* 407a: *Wæs þú, Hrōðgār, hāl* 'Be thou, Rothgar, hale!'

12 Sé þú hvar sitja · und salar gaffi, [R 14r/15, A 6r/13]  
 2 svá forða sér, · stęndr súl fyrir.“  
 Sundr stękk súla · fyr sjón jętuns,  
 4 en allr í tvau · áss brotnaði.

See where they sit beneath the hall's gable:  
so they save themselves—a column stands before them!<sup>144</sup>  
The column crashed down before the ettin's gaze [= Hymer],  
and all in two the roof-beam broke.

2 forða sér | *forðask* A   2 súl ‘column’ | *ʃsolʃ* A   4 allr | *emend.*; *áðr* ‘earlier, before that’ RA. TODO:  
elaborate, mention Finnur

<sup>144</sup>Tew's mother reveals the hiding place of the gods.

13 Stukku áttá, · en **ç**inn af þeim [R 14r/17, A 6r/15]  
2 hverr **harð**-slæginn · **h**éill af þolli;  
framm gingu þeir, · en **f**orn jötunn  
4 sjónum leiddi · **s**inn and-skota.

Eight [cauldrons] crashed down, but one of them—  
a hard-forged cauldron—[came] whole off its peg.<sup>145</sup>  
Forth they went, and the ancient ettin [= Hymer]  
with his gaze tracked his very opponent [= Thunder].

<sup>145</sup> Nine cauldrons were hanging from the roof-beam supported by the column. Eight of them broke, but a single one remained whole; this is presumably the cauldron the Gods will later get.

14      Sagđoi-t hõnum • hugr vėl pá's sá [R 14r/19, A 6r/16]

- 2 gýgjar gróti · á golf kominn,  
 þar vǫru þjórar · þrír of tēknir,  
 4 það senn jǫtunn · sjóða ganga.

His heart did not please him when as he saw  
 the gow's distresser [= Thunder] come onto the floor.  
 There three bulls were a-taken:  
 the ettin bade them at once be cooked.

2 gróti 'distresser' | gēti 'keeper, warder' A 4 senn 'at once' | sun '[his] son [= Tēw]?' A

1 Sagði-t hǫnum · hugr vǫl 'His heart did not please him' | Lit. 'his heart did not speak well to him'.

- 15 Hvern létu þeir · hǫfði skemra  
 2 auk á sęyði · síðan bǫru,  
 át Sifjar verr · áðr sofa gingi,  
 4 ęinn með ǫllu · ǫxn tvá Hymis.

[R 14r/21, A 6r/18]

Each one they let shorten by a head,  
 and onto the cooking-pit then did carry:  
 Sib's husband [= Thunder] ate—before he might go sleep—  
 alone by himself two of Hymer's oxen.<sup>146</sup>

<sup>146</sup>Cf. *Thrim* 24 for another instance of Thunder's great eating, which curiously also uses the kenning *Sifjar verr* 'Sib's husband [= Thunder]'.

- 16 Þótti hǫrum · Hrungrnis spjalla  
 2 verðr Hlórriða · vǫl full-mikill,  
 „munum at aptni · ǫðrum verða  
 4 við vęiði-mat · vér þrír lifa.“

[R 14r/23, A 6r/19]

To Rungner's hoary friend [= Hymer] did seem  
 Loride's ⟨Thunder's⟩ eating far too great;  
 “the following evening we three will  
 on game-meat have to live.”

3–4 munum ... lifa 'the next ... live' | The poet is pushing at the limits of Old Norse syntax with this word order. In prose word order it should be construed as: *at ǫðrum aptni munum vér þrír verða lifa við vęiði-mat*, where *verða* 'have to, must' is used like its modern German cognate *werden*.

Hymer's stinginess—he refuses to share more of his own food but instead forces his guests to go hunt—breaks all Indo-European rules of hospitality and illustrates the otherness of the Ettins. See Introduction to the poem.

- 17 Véurr kvaðsk vilja · á vág róa,  
 2 ef ballr jǫtunn · bęitur gęfi.  
 „Hverf þú til hjarðar, · ef hug trúir,

[R 14r/24, A 6r/21]

4           brjótr berg-Dana, • beitur sókja.

Wighward (= Thunder) called himself willing to row on the wave,

if the baleful ettin might give pieces of bait.

“Turn to the herd—if thou trust in thy heart,

O breaker of boulder-Danes [ETTINS > = Thunder]—to seek pieces of bait.

---

3 hjarðar | *ballar* corr. A

---

4 berg-Dana ‘boulder-Danes [ETTINS]’ | Kennings of this type emphasize the otherness of the Ettins (see Introduction to the poem above) by equating them with ethnic foreigners, and are well known from Anlif Gothrunson’s Drape for Thunder (*Þórsdrápa*), where Ettins are called Scots, Swedes, Danes, Ruges and Hareds; all ethnic enemies of the Norwegian Earl Hathkin, at whose court that poem may have been composed.

18       Þess vëntir mik, • at þér myni-t  
2       oðgn at oxa • auð-feng vesa.“  
      Sveinn sýsliga • sveif til skógar,  
4       þar’s oxi stóð • al-svartr fyrir.

[R 14r/26, A 6r/23]

I expect that the bait from the ox

will not be an easy catch for thee!”—

The swain [= Thunder] swiftly turned to the wood,

where an ox stood, all-black, before [him].

---

1 vëntir mik | so A; *vénti ek* R   1 myni-t ‘will not’ | so A; *myni* ‘will’ R. The A reading is preferable since it makes this the first of Hymer’s several challenges of strength to Thunder, which the god, to the ettin’s humiliation, easily accomplishes.

---

3 Sveinn ‘The swain’ | Thunder was apparently in the shape of a youth. This detail is also found in *Yilv* 48, where Snorre writes: *Gekk hann út of Miðgarð svá sem ungr drengir* ... ‘He went out about Middenyard in the shape of a young warrior’.

4 oxi ... al-svartr ‘all-black ... ox’ | Formulaic, also occurring in *Thrim* 23; see note there for further parallels to the custom of sacrificing animals of certain colours. It seems that all-black oxen were thought the noblest, and so Thunder’s slaying one instead of an inferior beast is probably intended to humiliate the stingy Hymer. In *Yilv* 48 we read that: *Hann tók inn mesta uxann, er Himin-brjóðr hét, ok sleit af höfuðit ok fór með til sjávar*. ‘He took the greatest ox, which was called Heavenrid, and tore off its head and went with it to the sea’.

19       Braut af þjóri • þurs ráð-bani  
2       hó-tún ofan • horna tveggja.  
      „Verk þikkja þín • verri myklu  
4       kjóla valdi • an kyrr sitir.“

[R 14r/28, A 6r/24]

Off the bull broke the counsel-slayer of the thurse [= Thunder]

the high meadow of the two horns [HEAD] from above.—

“Worse by far thy works do seem

to the wielder of ships [= Hymer = me] than if thou mightst sit calm.<sup>147</sup>”

---

<sup>147</sup>I had originally taken this as Hymer snidely belittling Thunder’s feat of pulling the head off the ox (presumably by the horns); he would have earned greater glory had he simply sat and done nothing. However, it may

also be read as a factual statement; Thunder just killed one of his finest oxen, and Hymer would certainly have preferred that he had not.

The scene now shifts, and the party is out at sea. It is possible that a stanza has here been lost, or that it would be indicated in some other way in the original performance.

- 20 Bað hlunn-gota · hafra dróttinn [R 14r/30, A 6r/26]  
 2 átt-runn apa · útar fóra,  
 en sá jötunn · sína talði,  
 4 lítla fýsi · lengra at róa.

The Lord of he-goats [= Thunder] bade the kinsman of the ape [ETTIN = Hymer] push the launching-steed [BOAT] further out; but that ettin told of his scarce wish to row longer.

2 átt-runn | *†atrænn†* A 3 talði | *milldi* corr. A 4 lengra at róa | metr. emend.; *at róa lengra* RA

2 apa ‘ape’ | The specific sense of *api* ‘ape’ is uncertain. It seems to generally refer to a fool, but see Encyclopedia.

3–4 en ... róa. ‘but ... longer.’ | Thunder’s humorous humiliation of Hymer continues with the previously spiteful ettin now forced to row against his will.

- 21 Dró męrr Hymir · móðugr hvala [R 14r/31, A 6r/27]  
 2 ęinn á ęngli · upp sęnn tváa;  
 en aptr í skut · Óðni sífjaðr  
 4 Véurr við vélar · vað gęrði sér.

Famous, fierce Hymer pulled whales:  
 one on the hook, soon up two.  
 But back in the stern the Weden-related  
 Wighward (= Thunder) craftily fixed His line.

1 męrr ‘famous’ | so R; *męir* ‘more, further’ A

- 22 Eęnði á ęngul · sá’s ęldum bergr, [R 14v/1, A 6r/29]  
 2 orms ęin-bani · oxa hęfði;  
 gęin við agni, · sú’s gøð fía,  
 4 umb-gjorð neðan · allra landa.

Baited on the hook He who rescues men [= Thunder]—  
 the Wyrms Lone Slayer—the ox's head.  
 Snapped at the bait the one whom the Gods hate [= Middenyardswyrm]—  
 the encircler of all lands—from below.

---

3 agni 'bait' | so A; *þngli* 'hook' R

---

4 umb-gjörð ... allra landa 'encircler of all lands' | This kenning occurs identically in a fragment by C9th scold Alewigh Snub (*Qlv Þórr* in *SkP* III).

23 Dró djarf-liga · dáð-rakkr Þórr [R 14v/3, A 6v/1]  
 2 orm ęitr-fáan · upp at borði;  
 hamri kníði · hól-fjall skarar  
 4 of-ljótt ofan · ulfs hnit-bróður.

Bravely deed-ready Thunder pulled  
 the venom-glistening Wyrms up on the gunwale;  
 with the hammer He struck the high mountain of hair [HEAD]—  
 very hideous, from above—on the Wolf's clash-brother [= Middenyardswyrm].

---

3 hól-fjall skarar 'high mountain of hair [HEAD]' | A rather unfitting kenning, since serpents do not have hair.

24 Hraun-gólkn hrutu, · ęn hólkn þutu, [R 14v/5, A 6v/2]  
 2 fór hin forna · fold ęll saman;  
 [...]  
 4 sökkoðisk síðan · sá fiskr í mar.

The lavafield-monsters [ETTINS] bounded and the bedrock resounded;  
 the ancient earth moved all at once;  
 [...];  
 sank thereafter that fish [= Middenyardswyrm] into the sea.

---

1 hrutu | so A; *blumðu* 'dashed' R. End-rhyme is also used by the poet in st. 3/3.

---

1 Hraun-gólkn 'The lavafield-monsters' | Both mss. have *bręin-*, which may mean either 'clean' or 'reindeer', neither of which fit. On the other hand *braun ONP*: 'stone/barren area, wasteland; lavafield' is well attested in scoldic kennings for ettins. The precise meaning of *galkn* 'monster' (plural *gólkn*) is unclear; but it is attested in three scoldic verses, always in kennings of the type "troll-woman of the shield [AXE]". While the mss. spelling '*galkn*' (norm. *gálkn*) could reflect either singular and plural, the form of the verb is plural. This means that the word cannot be referring to the Middenyardswyrm, refuting the interpretation of Larrington (2014): "the sea-wolf shrieked".

3 [...] | It is very likely that a line is missing here, since the stanzas in the poem otherwise consistently have four lines. In other tellings of the myth it is at this point that Hymer cuts Thunder's fishing line, so that is probably what has been lost.

It is of course impossible to know what exact form it had, but for the reader's enjoyment, based on other poets and the account in *Yilv* (see introduction to the present poem) I've composed the following variant lines: *unds vinr Hrungnis · vað Þórs of skar* 'until the friend of Rungner [= Hymer] Thunder's fishing-line did cut'; *unds fęlr Hymir · fękk á saxi* 'until pale Hymer grasped the knife'.

4 fiskr ‘fish’ | The Middenyardswyrm may also be called a “fish” in *Grim* 21; see note there.

25 Ó-*tęitr* *ję*tunn, • es *a*ptr *rę*ru, [R 14v/6, A 6v/3]  
 2 [...] *svá*’t *ár* Hymir • *ę*kki *mę*lti,  
 4 *vę*ifđi *rę*đi • *vę*đrs annars til.

The unmerry ettin [= Hymer], as they rowed back,  
 [...],  
 so that in early morn Hymer said nothing;  
 he pulled the oar against the wind:

2 [...] | Another missing line. As said in the previous stanza the meter usually requires four lines, and also the first half of the sentence is incomplete without a verb.

3 *ár* ‘in the early morning’ | Finnur Jónsson (1932) suggests *svá*’t *at ęr* ‘so that by the oar’, but this burdens the meter. Assuming my interpretation is correct, the three would have been out fishing throughout the night.

[Hymir:] 26 „Munt of *vinna* • *verk* halft *viđ* mik, [R 14v/8, A 6v/4]  
 2 at *hę*im *h*vali • *haf* til *bę*jar  
 eđa *fl*ot-*brę*sa • *fę*stir okkarn.“

“Thou wilt accomplish a half work against me,  
 if thou take home the whales to the farm,  
 or our float-jar [BOAT] do fasten.<sup>148</sup>”

[Hymer quoth:]

<sup>148</sup>Hymer tells Thunder, who having let go of the Wyrms now has nothing to show for the trip, that he can accomplish something half as good as the pulling of the whales if he carries them home or ties the boat (by the shore).

27 Gekk Hlórriđi • *greip* á stafni [R 14v/9, A 6v/6]  
 2 vatt með *austri* • upp lęg-fąki;  
 ęinn með *ę*rum • ok með *aust*-skotu  
 4 *bar* til *bę*jar • *brim*-*svın* *ję*tuns  
 ok *holt*-*riđa* • *hver* í gegnum.

Loride (= Thunder) went, grasped the stern,  
 hurled up the lake-nag [BOAT] with the bilge-water;  
 alone with the oars and the bilge-bucket  
 he bore to the farm the ettin’s brim-swines [WHALES],  
 even through the cauldron of woodland ridges [VALLEY?].

1 á | til á R 5 holt-riđa | *þ*boltribaþ R

2 með *austri* ‘with the bilge-water’ | That is, the bilge-water was still inside the boat. As anyone who has handled one knows, this water weighs very much, so this was another great work of strength.

5 holt-riða hver | An uncertain and possibly corrupt kenning. TODO: What do other editors and translators say?

28 Ok **ę**nn jǫtunn · umb **a**frendi, [R 14v/12, A 6v/7]  
 2 þrá-girni vanr, · við Þór sęnti,  
 kvað-at mann **r**amman, · þótt **r**óa kynni,  
 4 krǫptur-ligan, · nema **k**alk bryti.

And yet the ettin, used to stubbornness,  
 over strength of hand did flyte with Thunder;  
 he called no man strong—although he could row,  
 mightily—unless he broke the chalice.

---

1 Ok | *enn* A

---

1–4 ALL | Even after witnessing numerous great feats of strength Hymer still refuses to admit Thunder's superiority. He now insists on challenging him with breaking his indestructible chalice.

29 En Hlórriði, · es at hǫndum kom, [R 14v/14, A 6v/9]  
 2 brátt lét **b**resta · bratt-stęin glęri,  
 sló sitjandi · súlur í gǫgnum;  
 4 bǫru þó **h**ęilan · fyr **H**ymi síðan.

But Lorde (= Thunder), when it came to his hands,  
 impatiently crushed steep stone with glass;  
 he struck right through the fastened columns;  
 it was still brought whole before Hymer afterward.

---

2 bratt-stęin glęri 'steep stone with glass' | That is, he broke the stone columns in Hymer's house with the chalice.

3 sitjandi 'fastened' | This word is ambiguous and can modify either Thunder (in which case it would mean "sitting") or the columns (*súlur*). I have chosen the latter and read it as signifying their stability.

30 Unds þat hin fríða · fríðla kęndi [R 14v/16, A 6v/10]  
 2 ást-ráð mikit, · ęitt es vissi,  
 „drep við **h**aus **H**ymis, · hann 's **h**arðari,  
 4 **k**ost-móðs jǫtuns, · **k**alki hverjum.“

Until the handsome mistress [= Tew's mother] gave  
 a great loving counsel, the one she knew:  
 "Strike against Hymer's skull; it is harder—  
 the choice-weary ettin's—than every chalice."

---

4 kost-móðs jǫtuns 'the choice-weary ettin's' | Presumably referring to the Gods' having already eaten all his choicest food and slain his finest bull.

- 31      Harðr reïs á kné · hafra dróttinn, [R 14v/18, A 6v/12]  
 2      fǫrðisk allra · í ás-megin;  
       heill vas karli · hjalm-stofn ofan,  
 4      en vín-ferrill · valr rifnaði.

Hard on the knee rose the Lord of he-goats [= Thunder];  
 He drew Himself into His highest Os-might.<sup>149</sup> —  
 Whole was on the churl [= Hymer] the helmet-stump [HEAD] above,  
 but the round wine-track [CHALICE] rent apart.

<sup>1</sup> reïs | om. A

<sup>149</sup> Compare *Yilv* in its description of Thunder attempting to pull up the Wyrms: *Þá varð Þórr reiðr ok fǫrðist í ás-megin* “Then Thunder became wroth, and drew himself into his os-might.”

- [Hymir kvað:]      32      „Morg veit’k mēti · mér gingin frá,  
 2      es kalki sé’k · fyr knéum hrundit,“  
       karl orð of kvað: · „kná’k-at segja  
 4      aptr ǣva-gi: · þú ’st ǫlðr of heitt.”

“I know many treasures have passed from me,  
 when I see the chalice thrown before [his] knees!”—  
 The churl spoke [= Hymer] words: “I cannot say  
 ever again: ‘Thou art brewed, O Ale!’

[Hymer quoth:]

<sup>2</sup> es | om. R    <sup>2</sup> fyr | *fyr* R

<sup>3–4</sup> kná’k-at ... of heitt. ‘I cannot ... O ale!’ | Hymer laments that with the loss of his finest vessel he will never be able to enjoy his drink again. There is strong irony here since it was he himself who challenged Thunder to break it.

- 33      Þat ’s til kostar · ef koma mēttið  
 2      út ór óru · ǫl-kjól hofi.“  
       Týr leitaði · tysvar hróra;  
 4      stóð at hvǫru · hverr kyrr fyrir.

It would be best if ye might bring  
 the ale-ship [CAULDRON] out of our hall.”  
 Tew attempted, twice, to move it—  
 each time stood the cauldron still before [him].

<sup>2</sup> ǫl-kjól ‘ale-ship [CAULDRON]’ | *ǫl-kjól* is the accusative of *ǫl-kjóll*, but in this context (CV: *koma*, B) we would expect the dative *ǫl-kjóli*. The meter does not allow for this, however.

<sup>2</sup> hofi ‘hall’ | This is the only Old Norse occurrence of the word *hof* in the sense ‘hall, house’; it otherwise only means ‘temple’ (hove). The West Germanic cognates consistently mean ‘hall’, and that is probably the original sense, so it is unclear if this is an instance of foreign influence (if so, most likely Anglo-Saxon) or just a poetic archaism.



- 34 Faðir Móða · fekk á þremi [R 14v/24, A 6v/16]  
 2 ok í gognum stęig · golf niðr í sal;  
 hóf sér á hqfuð upp · hver Sifjar verr,  
 4 en á hēlum · hringar skullu.

The father of Moody [= Thunder] grasped the brim,  
 and stepped down through the floor in the hall;<sup>150</sup>  
 Sib's husband [= Thunder] heaved the cauldron up onto his head,  
 and at his heels the rings clattered.

4 hringar skullu 'the rings clattered' | i.e. the chain-links. This detail is mentioned in an example sentence contrasting long and short phonemes in FGT (1950): *heyrði til hōddu, þá er Þórr bar hverinn* 'the sound of the pot-links (*badda*) was heard when Thunder bore the cauldron'. According to Finnur Jónsson (1932) the chain (or *badda*) on a Wiking-age cauldron would have reached across, in which case this would be a reference to the cauldron's enormous size, with its diameter—mentioned in st. 5 as one *rest*—being roughly the same as Thunder's height.

<sup>150</sup>In the account of *Yǫl* Thunder is said to have stepped through the boat when trying to pull up the Mid-denyardswyrm. This detail is also seen on the carving of the Altuna stone from Uppland, Sweden; it may have been transposed to this place in the narrative. TODO.

- 35 Fóru-t lęgi, · áðr líta nam [R 14v/26, A 6v/18]  
 2 aptr Óðins sonr · ęinu sinni;  
 sá ór hreysum · með Hymi austan  
 4 folk-drótt fara · fjql-hqfðaða.

They journeyed not for long before Weden's son [= Thunder]  
 took to look back a single time—  
 he saw out of stone-heaps, with Hymer from the east,  
 a war-troop coming, many-headed.

4 folk-drótt ... fjql-hqfðaða 'war-troop ... many-headed' | A deviant number of body parts, especially heads, is typical of ettins. See Introduction and note to st. 8 above.

- 36 Hóf sér af hęrðum · hver standandi, [R 14v/28, A 6v/19]  
 2 vęifði Mjollni · morð-gjornum fram,  
 ok hraun-hvala · hann alla drap.

He heaved off his shoulders the cauldron, standing;  
 he swung the murder-eager Millner forth,  
 and the rock-whales [ETTINS] all he slew.

- 37 Fóru-t lęgi, · áðr liggja nam [R 14v/30, A 6v/21]  
 2 hafr Hlórriða · half-dauðr fyrir,  
 vas skęr skqkuls · skakkr á beini,

4 en því hinn l<sup>é</sup>-vísi · Loki of olli.

They journeyed not for long before Loride's (= Thunder's) he-goat  
took to lie half-dead before [them];  
the steed of the cart-pole [GOAT] was halt in the leg,  
and that the guile-wise Lock did cause.

3 sk<sup>ér</sup> | emend. from meaningless *fskirr* RA

1–4 Fóru-t ... olli. 'They journeyed ... did cause.' | Lock, who is not mentioned earlier in the poem, was apparently placing curses on the returning party. Snorre mentions this, TODO.

38 En ér h<sup>ey</sup>rt hafið, · h<sup>ver</sup> kann umb þat  
2 goð-mólugra · g<sup>orr</sup> at skilja,  
h<sup>ver</sup> af hraun-búa · hann laun of fekk,  
4 es b<sup>æ</sup>ði galt · b<sup>örn</sup> sín fyrir.

[R 14v/32, A 6v/22]

But ye have heard—about that can  
any god-speaking man more clearly discern—  
which recompense he [= Thunder] from the lavafield-dweller [ETTIN] got,  
as he yielded up both his own children for it.

1 ér 'ye' | The audience. As pointed out by Finnur Jónsson (1932) an address to the audience of this type is otherwise unparalleled in Eddic mythological poetry. Such are however fairly common in Scaldic poetry, with which this poem shares several traits (see Introduction above).

2 goð-mólugra 'god-speaking' | This word is a hapax, but easily understood. One who is *goð-mólugr* is 'able to speak about the god-lore', i.e. 'versed in the mythology'.

39 Þrótt-öflugr kom · á þing goða  
2 ok hafið hver, · þann's Hymir átti;  
en v<sup>ear</sup> hverjan · v<sup>el</sup> skulu drekka  
4 öldr at Égis · ęitt h<sup>or</sup>-m<sup>ei</sup>tið.

[R 15r/1, A 6v/24]

The valour-mighty one [= Thunder] came onto the Thing of the gods,  
and had that cauldron which Hymer [had] owned;  
but well the Wighers (= gods) shall drink one  
ale-feast at Eage's, every flax-cutting [FALL?].

4 ęitt h<sup>or</sup>-m<sup>ei</sup>tið 'one ... flax-cutting' | A very obscure kenning. La Farge and Tucker (1992) give several interpretations, viz. *ęitr-b<sup>or</sup>-m<sup>ei</sup>tið* 'poison-rope-cutter [SNAKE > WINTER]', *ęitr-orm-m<sup>ei</sup>ðið* 'poison-worm-injurer' [WINTER]. The solution with the minimal amount of emendation is to read *ęitt* 'one' as modifying *öldr* 'ale-feast', and *hverjan* 'every' as modifying *b<sup>or</sup>-m<sup>ei</sup>tið* 'flax-cutting', a compound made up of *b<sup>or</sup>* 'flax, cord' and *m<sup>ei</sup>ta* 'to cut', seemingly referring to an obscure harvest festival. This interpretation is by no means certain.

# The Flyting of Lock (*Lokasæmna*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.965)

Meter: *Leeds-meter*

Preserved in R, directly following *Hymr*, though the poems without doubt were originally separate; the stylistic differences are drastical.

The poem has been interpreted as blasphemous (TODO: elaborate), but shows no linguistic signs of being particularly late.

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## From Eagre and the Gods (*Frá Egi ok goðum*)

- P1 a Égir, er ǫðru nafni hét Gymer, hann hafði búit ásum ǫl þá er hann hafði  
2 fengit ketil inn mikla sem nú er sagt. Til þeirar veitslu kom Óðinn ok  
Frigg kona hans. Þórr kom eigi því at hann var í austr-vegi. Sif var þar,  
4 kona Þórs; Bragi, ok Íðunn kona hans. Týr var þar, hann var ein-hendr;  
Fenrisulfr sleit hönd af hánum, þá er hann var bundinn. Þar var Njörðr  
6 ok kona hans Skaði; Freyr ok Freyja; Víðarr son Óðins. Loki var þar, ok  
þjónustu-menn Freys, Byggvir ok Beyla. Mart var þar ása ok alfa.  
8 b Égir átti tvá þjónustu-menn; Fimafengr ok Eldir. Þar var lýsi-gull  
haft fyr elds-ljós; sjálft barsk þar ǫl. Þar var griða-stadr mikill. Menn  
10 lofuðu mjök hversu góðir þjónustu-menn Égis vóru. Loki mátti eigi heyra  
þat, ok drap hann Fimafeng. Þá skóku ęsir skjöldu sína ok óptu at Loka,  
12 ok eltu hann braut til skógar, en þeir fóru at drekka. Loki hvarf aptr ok  
hitti úti Eldi; Loki kvaddi hann:

a Eagre, who by another name is called Gymer, had prepared an ale-feast for the Eese when he had got the great kettle as is now told.<sup>151</sup> To that gathering came **Weden** and **Frie**, his woman. **Thunder** came not, for he was on the **Eastern Way**. Sib was there, Thunder's woman; Bray and Idun, his woman. **Tew** was there, he was one-handed. The Fenrerswolf tore his hand off when it was bound.<sup>152</sup> There was **Nearth**, and his woman **Shede**; **Free** and Frow; **Wider**, the son of **Weden**. **Lock** was there, and the servants of Free: Bew and Beal. There was a great many of the **Eese** and **Elves**.<sup>153</sup>

b Eagre had two servants: Femfinger and Elder. There glowing gold was used instead of fire; the ale there poured itself. That place was a great grith-stead.<sup>154</sup> Men greatly praised how good the servants of Eagre were. Lock could not stand to hear that, and he slew Femfinger. Then the Eese shook their shields and screamed at Lock,<sup>155</sup> and chased him away to the forest—but they went to drink. Lock turned back around and met Elder outside. Lock greeted him:

<sup>151</sup>See the immediately preceding *Hyme*.

<sup>152</sup>This detail is probably brought up to chronologically date the events of the poem as happening after the binding of Fenrer in the mythology.

<sup>153</sup>A formulaic expression, see *Eese and Elves*.

<sup>154</sup>A place wherein all violence was forbidden, see *Encyclopedia*.

<sup>155</sup>Some sort of ancient war dance. Cf. the Old Swedish Heathen Law: “He screams three nothing-screams TODO”.

1 „Seg þú þat, Eldir, · svá't ęinu-gi  
2 feti gangir framarr,  
hvat hér inni · hafa at ęl-mólum  
4 sig-tíva synir.“

“Say thou it, O Elder, so that thou not  
take one step further:  
what here within for their ale-speeches have  
the sons of the victory-Tews [GODS]:<sup>156</sup>”

1–2 svá't ... framarr ‘so that ... further’ | Cf. *Hígh* 38: *feti ganga framarr* ‘take one step further’.

<sup>156</sup>i.e. ‘what do they speak about over the ale?’

Eldir: 2 „Of vópn sín dóma · ok of víg-risni sína  
sig-tíva synir;  
ása ok alfa, · es hér inni eru,  
4 mann-gi 's þér í orði vinr.“

Elder quoth: “Of their weapons they speak, and of their fight-valiance,  
the sons of the victory-Tews [GODS];  
of the Eese and Elves which are here within  
none is thee a friend in words.”

3 „Inn skal ganga · Égis hallir í  
á þat sumbl at séa,  
jöll ok ófu · fóri'k ása sonum  
ok blænd'k þeim svá meini mjöð.“

Lock quoth: "In shall I go into Eagre's halls,  
for to see that **simple**;  
scorn and hatred I bring to the sons of the Eese,  
and I mix for them so the mead with harm."

3 jǫll ok ǫfú 'scorn and hatred' | ioll oc ǫfo R. These two interesting words have been interpreted in a variety of ways: CV sees the first word as *jǫll* 'wild angelica', whereas the second is taken to be an error for *ǫfir* 'a beverage [...] translated by Magnacus by *sorbitio avenacea*, a sort of common ale brewed of oats'. TODO: What do other editors say? Esp. Kommentar.

4 blend'k ... mejni mjoð 'I mix ... the mead with harm' | Formulaic, cf. *Syed* TODO (and others?).

Eldir kvað:  
                     4 „Veitst, ef inn gengr · Égis hallir í  
        2                   á þat sumbl at séa,  
                     4 hrópi ok rógi · ef eyss á holl rēgin,  
                                 á þér munu þau þerra þat.“

Elder quoth: “Know, if in thou goest into Eagre’s halls,  
for to see that simble:  
if slander and strife thou pourest onto the **hold Reins**,  
on *thee* will they dry it off.”

Loki kvað:                    5    „Veitst þat Eldir,    • ef ęinir skulum  
   2                    sár-yrðum sakask,  
                      auðigr verða    • mun'k í and-svorum,

4 ef þú mǣlir til mart!“

Lock quoth: “Know that, O Elder, if alone we [two] shall  
banter with wounding words:  
wealthy will I in my answers become,  
if thou speak too much!”

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4 ef þú mǣlir til mart! ‘if thou speak too much!’ | Formulaic; cf. *Higb* 27.

P2 Síðan gekk Loki inn í hollina; en er þeir sá, er fyrir váru, hverr inn var  
2 kominn, þögnuðu þeir allir.

Thereafter Lock went into the hall, but when those who were there before him saw who was come  
inside, they all turned silent.

Loki kvað: 6 „Þyrstr ek kom · þessar hallar til  
2 Loptr of langan veg,  
ósu at biðja, · at mér ęinn gefi  
4 męran drykk mjaðar.

Lock quoth: “Thirsty to these halls came I,  
Loft (= Lock), over a long way,  
to ask the Eese that they give me one  
renowned drink of mead.

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4 męran drykk mjaðar. ‘renowned drink of mead’ | Formulaic language for describing mead; cf. *Higb* 105, 140, *Shir* 16. TODO: more parallels.

7 Hví þęgið ęr svá · þrunġin goð,  
2 at męla né męguð;  
sessa ok staði · vęlið mér sumbli at,  
4 eða hęitið mik heðan!“

Why shut ye up, O pressed Gods, so  
that ye cannot speak?  
Choose seats and places for me at the simble,  
or call me hence [away]!<sup>157</sup>”

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<sup>157</sup> i.e. “Cease your ambiguity; give me a seat or tell me to leave!”

Bragi: 8 „Sessa ok staði · vęlja þęr sumbli at  
2 ęsir aldri-gi;  
því-at ęsir vitu · hveim alda skulu

4                    gamban-sumbl of geta.“

Bray [quoth]: “Seats and places choose for thee at the simble  
never the Eese,  
for the Eese know for which man they shall  
prepare the gomben-simble.”

[Loki:]            9        „Mant þat Óðinn, · es vit í ár-daga  
2                    blendum blóði saman?  
                    ǫlvi þergja · létsk ęigi mundu,  
4                    nema okkr vęri bǫðum borit.“

[Lock quoth:] “Recallest thou, Weden, as we two in days of yore  
blended our blood together?  
Thou declaredst that thou wouldst not taste ale,  
unless it were for us both borne forth!”

[Óðinn:]            10        „Rís þú Víðarr · ok lát ulfs fǫður  
2                    sitja sumbli at,  
                    síðr oss Loki · kvęði lasta-stǫfum  
4                    ęgis hǫllu í.“

[Weden quoth:] “Rise thou, Wider, and let the Wolf’s father [= Lock]  
sit at the simble,  
lest Lock should greet us with words of vice  
in Eage’s hall.”

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1 Rís ... fǫður ‘Rise ... father’ | For the (lack of) alliteration see note to st. 2. A C7th Proto-Norse form of the c-line might be: \**Rís þú Wíðarr · auk lát wulfs fǫður*.

P3        Þá stóð Víðarr upp ok skenkti Loka, en áðr hann drykki, kvaddi hann  
2                    ásuna:

Then Wider stood up and poured a drink to Lock, but before he [= Lock] drunk, he greeted the  
Eese:

11        „Heilir ęsir, · heilar ǫsynjur  
2                    ok ǫll ginn-heiǫg goð,  
                    nema sá ęinn ǫss · es innar sitr  
4                    Bragi þękkjum á.“

“Hail the Eese! Hail the Ossens,  
and all yin-holy Gods!<sup>158</sup>

Save for that one **os** who sits further within:  
Bray, on the benches.”

<sup>158</sup>The first two half-lines prayer formula are identical to *Syed* 2–3; it may be of authentic Heathen origin, used in cup-offerings, with the second half of the stanza being used to ask for a boon. Lock subverts it by instead insulting one of the gods present, something that may have been highly offensive to the original audience.

[Bragi] kvað:           12   „Mar ok **męki** · gef’k þér **míns** fęar  
  2           ok **bótir** þér svá **baugi** **Bragi**,  
  síðr þú **ęsum** · **ęfund** of gjaldir—  
  4           **gręm** þú **ęigi** **goð** at þér!“  
[Bray] quoth: “Steed and sword I give thee of my own wealth,  
and so restores thee Bray with a **bigh**,  
lest thou shouldst yield envy to the Eese—  
anger not the Gods against thee!”

1 Mar ok **męki** ‘Steed and sword’ | Formulaic, also occurring in *Sbir* TODO.

[Loki] kvað:           13   „Jós ok **arm**-bauga · munt **ę** vesa  
  2           **bęggja** vanr **Bragi**,  
  **ása** ok **alfa**, · es hér **inni** eru,  
  4           þú est við **víg** **varastr**,  
  ok **skjarrastr** við **skot**.“  
[Lock] quoth: “Of both steed and arm-bighs wilt thou ever  
O Bray, be lacking!  
Of the Eese and Elves which are here within,  
thou art with war wariest  
and shiest with shot.”

[Bragi] kvað:           14   „Vęit’k, ef fyr **útan** vęra’k, · svá sem fyr **innan** em’k,  
  2           **Ęgis** holl of kominn,  
  **hęfuð** þitt · bęra’k í **hęndi** mér;  
  4           **lít’k** þér þat fyr **lygi**.“  
[Bray] quoth: “I know if outside I were, as inside I am  
come into Eage’s hall:<sup>159</sup>  
thy head I would bear in my hands;  
this I see for thy lie.”

4 lít’k þér þat fyr **lygi** | ‘litt ec þer þat fyr lygi’ R. A variety of emendations have been proposed for this line. Simplest would be *litt es þer þat fyr lygi* ‘that is little [punishment] for thee for lying’. Based on the similarity of *ę* (= *tt*) and *c* Finnur Jónsson (1932) gives *lykak þer þat fyr lygi* ‘so I would bring to thee for thy lie’.



<sup>159</sup>As explicitly said in P1, the rule of grith (a truce of non-violence, even between enemies; see Encyclopedia) applied inside the hall. Being bound to it, Bray (or the other gods) cannot injure Lock.

[Loki] kvað:           15     „Snjallr est í sessi, · skal-at-tu svá gæra,  
2                               Bragi þekk-skrautuðr;  
                             vega þú gakk · ef vręiðr séir;  
4                               hyggsk vętr hvatr fyrir.“

[Lock] quoth: “Valiant art thou in the seat; [but] thou shalt not do thus,  
O Bray the bench-ornamenter!  
Go thou to fight if thou art wroth;  
the bold thinks not in advance.<sup>160</sup>”

<sup>160</sup>Lock attacks Bray’s invoking of the rule of grith; a truly brave man would not care about such a thing.

[İðunn] kvað:           16     „Bið ek, Bragi, · barna sífar duga  
2                               ok allra ósk-maga,  
                             at þú Loka · kveðir-a lasta-stofum  
4                               Égis hollu í.“

[İdun] quoth: “I bid thee, O Bray, to respect the TODO,  
and all the TODO,  
that thou not greet Lock with words of vice  
in Eagre’s hall.”

[Loki] kvað:           17     „Þęgi þú, İðunn, · þik kveð’k allra kvinna  
2                               ver-gjarnasta vesa  
                             síðst þú arma þína · lagðir ítr-þveęna  
4                               umb þinn bróður-bana.“

[Lock] quoth: “Shut up thou, İdun! Thee I declare, of all women,  
most man-eager to be,  
since thy nobly washed arms thou cast  
about thy brother’s bane.”

[İðunn] kvað:           18     „Loka ek kveð’k-a · lasta-stofum  
2                               Égis hollu í;  
                             Braga ek kyrrri · bjór-ęifan,  
4                               vil’k-at at it vręiðir vegisk.“

[İdun] quoth: “I greet not Lock with words of vice,  
in Eagre’s hall.



[Lock] quoth: “Shut up thou, Weden! Thou couldst never  
deal out war amongst men—  
oft thou gavest to them thou shouldst not have given,  
to the slower men victory.”

[Óðinn] kvað:        23     „Veitst ef ek gaf · þeim's gefa né skylda,  
2                    inum slévrurum, sigr,  
                  áttu vetr · vast fyr jörð neðan  
4                    kýr mólkandi ok kona  
                  ok hefir þar börn of borit  
6                    ok hugða'k þat args aðal.“

[Weden] quoth: “Know that if I gave to them I should not have given,  
to the slower men victory:  
for eight winters wast thou beneath the earth  
[as] a milch cow and a woman,  
and thou hast there borne children,  
and I've judged that a queer's nature.”

4 kýr mólkandi 'a milch cow' | May also be read as “milking cows”, the nom. sg. *kýr* being identical to the nom./acc. pl. *kýr*, and *mólka* meaning both ‘to milk’ and ‘to give milk’. “Milch cow” is preferable for two reasons, viz. (i) that the phrase is followed by *ok kona* ‘and a woman’ rather than *sem kona* ‘as a woman’ or similar, and (ii) that it agrees with another instance where Lock is gives birth in the form of a female animal (cows, of course, only giving milk after calving), namely the episode of the building of the wall around Osyrd as told in *Yilv* 42.

[Loki] kvað:        24     „En þik síga kóðu · Sámseyju í  
2                    ok drapt á vett sem vqlur,  
                  vitka líki · fórt ver-þjóð yfir,  
4                    ok hugða'k þat args aðal.“

[Lock] quoth: “But thou, they said, didst sink down into Samsy,  
and thou beatst the drum like [do] wallows.  
In the likeness of a sorcerer thou journeyedst among the nations of men,  
and I've judged that a queer's nature.”

[Frigg kvað:]        25     „Ør-lögum ykkrum · skylið aldri-gi  
2                    sęgja sęggjum frá,  
                  hvat it ęsir tvęir · drýgðuð í ár-daga;  
4                    firrisk ę forn røk firar.“

[Frie quoth:] “Of your orlays should ye two never  
speak to youths,  
that which ye two Eese did in days of yore—  
always be ancient rakes shunned by men.”

[Lock quoth:] "Shut up thou, Frie! Thou art Firgyn's maiden,  
and has always been man-eager:  
as [when] Wigh and Will, thou hadst, O Withrer's wife,  
both in thy bosom taken."

[Frie quoth:] "Know, that if within I had, in Eagre's halls,  
a son alike to Balder:  
out came thou not from the sons of the Eese,  
and thou wouldst be fought with wrath."

[Lock quoth: “Yet wilt thou, Frie, that I count more  
of my harmful deeds:  
I decided it, that thou dost not see Balder  
riding to the halls henceforth.”

[Frow quoth:]: “Mad art thou, Lock, as thou dost count  
your ugly loathsome deeds:  
all orlays I ween that Frie might know,  
though she say them not herself.”

[Loki kvað:]                30      „Þegi þú, Freyja, · þik kann'k full-gørva;  
    2                                es-a þér vamma vant:

4                    ása ok alfa, · es hér inni eru,  
                      hværr hēfir þinn hór vesit.“

[Lock quoth:] “Shut up thou, Frow! I know thee full well—  
thou art not free of blemishes:  
of the Eese and Elves which are here within  
each one has been thy lover!”

2 vamma vant ‘free of blemishes’ | Formulaic, cf. *Higb* 22: *bann es-a vamma vanr* ‘he is not free of blemishes’.

[Frēyja kvað:]            31        „Fló ’s þér tunga, · hygg at þér frēmnr myni  
2                    ó·gótt of gala;  
                      vrēðir ’ru þér ʒsir · ok ʒsynjur,  
4                    hryggr munt hēim fara.“

[Frow quoth:] “False is thy tongue, I ween that it henceforth will  
sing evil [into being] for thee.  
Wroth against thee are the Eese and Ossens:  
grieved wilt thou journey home.”

1–2 Fló ... gala; ‘False ... thee’ | The language is again strikingly similar to *Higb*, particularly 29/3–4: “A quick-spoken tongue—unless it be held in place—oft sings evil [into being] for itself (*opt sér ó-gótt of gēlr*).” and 116/3–4: “a false-counseling tongue (*flá-rʒð tunga*) brought his life to its end, and in no way over a truthful charge.”

4 hryggr munt hēim fara ‘grieved wilt thou journey home’ | Frow here predicts the future; Lock will come to regret his insults.

Loki:                    32        „Þegi þú, Frēyja, · þú est for-dēða  
2                    ok mēini blandin mjök,  
                      síðst-u at bróðr þínum · síðu blíð rēgin  
4                    ok myndir þá, Frēyja, frata.“

Lock [quoth]: “Shut up thou, Frow! Thou art an evil-working woman,  
and much mixed with harm,  
since against thy brother the blithe Reins enchanted thee,  
and thou wouldst then, O Frow, fart.”

Njorðr:                33        „Þat ’s vá-lítit · þótt sér varðir vers fái,  
2                    hós eða hvárs;  
                      hitt’s undr, es áss ragr · es hér inn of kominn  
4                    ok hēfir sá bʒrn of borit.“

Nearth [quoth]: “It is little woe that women should get themselves a man,  
a lover or whomever else;

*this* is a wonder, that a queer os is come here within,  
and he has born children!"

- Loki:           34   „Þegi þú, Njörðr, · þú vast austr heðan  
                          2           gísl of sęndr at goðum;  
                          Hymis meýjar · høfðu þik at hland-trogi  
                          4           ok þér í munn migu.“

Lock [quoth]: “Shut up thou, Nearth! Thou wast east hence  
sent [as] a hostage for the Gods.  
Hymer’s maidens had thee for a urinal,  
and pissed thee in the mouth!”

- Njörðr:       35   „Sú esumk líkn · es vas’k langt heðan  
                          2           gísl of sęndr at goðum:  
                          þá ek mōg gat · þann’s mann-gi fíar,  
                          4           ok þikkir sá ása jaðarr.“

Nearth [quoth]: “That is my relief, as I was far-away hence  
sent [as] a hostage for the Gods: [that] I then begot that lad whom no man hates [= Free], and he  
seems the peak of the Eese.”

- Loki:           36   „Hétt-u nú, Njörðr, · haf á hófi þik;  
                          2           mun’k-a því lęyna lęngr:  
                          við systur þinni · gatst slíkan mōg,  
                          4           ok es-a þó ónu verr.“

Lock [quoth]: “Stop thou now, Nearth, restrain thyself;  
I will no longer hide it:  
by thy sister begotst thou such a lad, and there can be expected nothing worse.”

- Týr:           37   „Fręyr ’s bętstr · allra ball-riða  
                          2           ása gōrðum í;  
                          męy né grótir · né manns konu,  
                          4           ok lęysir ór høptum hvern.“

Tew [quoth]: “Free is the best of all bold riders  
in the yards of the Eese;  
he makes no maiden cry, nor [any] man’s woman, and loosens each from his bonds!”

Loki: 38 „Þegi þú, Týr, • þú kunnir aldri-gi  
 2 bera tilt með tvęim;  
 handar ennar hógri • mun’k hinnar geta  
 4 es þér sleit Fęnrir frá.“

Lock [quoth]: “Shut up thou, Tew! *Thou* couldst never  
 settle strife among two;  
 the right hand I will next mention,  
 which from thee Fenrer tore.”

2 bera tilt með tvęim ‘settle strife among two’ | Uncertain. See TODO.

Týr: 39 „Handar em’k vanr • en þú Hróðrs-vitnis;  
 2 bql es bęggja þráa;  
 ulf-gi hęfir ok vel • es í bõndum skal  
 4 bíða ragna røkrs.“

Tew [quoth]: “A hand am I lacking, but thou Rothwitner;  
 both yearnings are a bale!  
 Nor does the Wolf have it well, who in bonds shall  
 await the Twilight of the Reins.”

Loki: 40 „Þegi þú, Týr, • þat varð þinni konu  
 2 at hon átti mōg við mér!  
 Qln né pęnning • hafðir þess aldri-gi  
 4 van-réttis, vę-sall.“

Lock [quoth]: “Shut up thou, Tew! *This* happened to thy woman,  
 that she had a lad by me!  
 A mackerel nor a penny hadst thou never for that  
 injustice, O wretch!”

3 Qln ‘mackerel’ | Very uncertain. See TODO.

Fręyr: 41 „Ulf sé’k liggja • áar-ósi fyr  
 2 unds rjufask ręgin;  
 því munt nęst, • nema nú þęgir,  
 4 bundinn, bqlva smiðr!“

Free [quoth]: “The Wolf I see lying before the river-mouth,  
 until the Reins are ripped;  
 therefore wilt thou next—unless thou *now* shut up—  
 be bound, O smith of bales!”

- Loki: 42 „Gulli keypta · létst Gymis dóttur  
 2 ok seldir þitt svá sverð,  
 en es Múspells synir · ríða Myrk-við yfir  
 4 vëitst-a þá, vę-sall, hvé vęgr!“

Lock [quoth]: “Bought with gold hadst thou Gymer’s daughter [= Gird],  
 and didst so sell thy sword— but when Muspell’s sons ride over Mirkwood  
 knowest thou, not, O wretch, how to fight!”

- Byggvir: 43 „Vëitst ef øðli ętta’k · sem Ingunar-Fręyr,  
 2 ok svá sël-ligt setr:  
 męrgi smęra · mølða’k þá męin-króku  
 4 ok lęmða alla í liðu.“

Bewe [quoth]: “Know, if I owned a pedigree like Ingwin-Free,  
 and such blessed pasture— smaller than marrow would I mill this harm-crow [= Lock], and beat  
 all its limbs lame!”

- Loki: 44 „Hvat ’s þat it litla · es þat lōggra sé’k  
 2 ok snap-víst snapir?  
 At ęyrum Fręys · munt ęt vesa  
 4 ok und kvęrnum klaka.“

Lock [quoth]: “What is this little thing which I see crawling,  
 and snap-wisely snapping?  
 At Free’s ears wilt thou always be,  
 and chirping under mills.”

- [Byggvir kvað:] 45 „Byggvir ek hęiti, · en mik bráðan kveða  
 2 goð ęll ok gumar;  
 því em’k hér hróðugr · at drekka Hropts męgir  
 4 allir ęl saman.“

[Bewe quoth:] “Bewe I am called, but hurried do call me  
 all Gods, and men;  
 therefore am I here glorious, as Roft’s lads [EASE] drink  
 ale all together.”

- [Loki kvað:] 46 „Þęgi þú, Byggvir, · þú kunnir aldri-gi  
 2 dęila með męnnum mat;  
 ok þik í flęts strá · finna né mótту



4 þá's vógu verar.“  
 [Lock quoth:] “Shut up thou, Bewe! *Thou* couldst never  
 divide food among men,  
 and in the bench-straw could they not find thee,  
 when warriors fought.”

[Hēimdallr kvað:] 47 „Qlr est, Loki · svá't es ør-viti,  
 2 hví né lętsk-a þú, Loki?  
 því-at of-drykkja · vęldr alda hveim  
 4 es sína męłgi né man-at.“  
 [Homedal quoth:] “Drunk art thou, Lock, so that thou art out of wits;  
 why dost thou not hold back, O Lock?  
 For over-drinking causes for every man  
 that he no longer recalls his speech.”

[Loki kvað:] 48 „Þęgi þú, Hēimdallr, · þér vas í ár-daga  
 2 it lјóta líf of lagit;  
 ørgu baki · munt ę vesa  
 4 ok vaka vqrðr goða.“  
 [Lock quoth:] “Shut up thou, Homedal! For *thee* was in days of yore  
 thy ugly life laid [in place];  
 with a stiff back wilt thou ever be  
 and waking, O Watchman of the Gods.”

2 líf of lagit ‘life laid [in place]’ | Formulaic. See TODO.

4 vqrðr goða ‘Watchman of the Gods’ | Formulaic epithet of Homedal, who had to guard the rainbow bridge of the Gods against Their enemies. See note to *Grim* 13.

[X kvað:] 49 „Lét't 's þér, Loki; · mun-at-tu lęngi svá  
 2 lęika lausum hala,  
 því at þik á hјorvi skulu · ins hrím-kalda magar  
 4 gqnum binda goð.“  
 “’Tis light for thee, Lock—thou wilt not so for long  
 play with loose tail:  
 for on a sword shall, with the rime-cold lad’s  
 guts, the Gods bind thee.”

[Loki kvað:] 50 „Veitst ef mik á hјorvi skulu · ins hrím-kalda magar  
 2 gqnum binda goð,

4                   fyrstr ok øfstr · vas'k at fjor-lagi  
                     þar's vér á þjatsa þrifum.“  
 [Lock quoth:] “Know, if on a sword shall, with the rime-cold lad's  
 guts, the Gods bind me:  
 first and highest was I in life-taking,  
 where we laid hands on Thedse.”

[X kvað:]           51   „Veitst ef fyrstr ok øfstr · vast at fjor-lagi  
 2                      þá's ér á þjatsa þrifuð,  
                     frá mínum véum · ok vøngum skulu  
 4                      þér ẽ kold røð koma.“  
 “Know, if first and highest thou wast in life-taking,  
 when ye laid hands on Thedse:  
 from my wighs and wongs shall  
 for thee always cold counsels come.”

[Loki kvað:]       52   „Léttari í mólum · vast við Laufeyjar son  
 2                      þá's létsk mér á bæð þinn boðit;  
                     getit verðr oss slíks · ef vér gørva skulum  
 4                      tølja vømmin vør.“  
 [Lock quoth:] “Lighter of speech wast thou with Leafie's son [= Lock = me]  
 when thou hadst me invited to thy bed;  
 such is told of us, if we shall clearly  
 tell our blemishes.

**P4**      Þá gekk Sif fram ok byrlaði Loka í hrím-kálki mjöð ok mēlti:  
 Then Sib walked forth and poured for Lock mead into a rime-chalice, and spoke:

2                   53   „Hẽill ves þú nú, Loki, · ok tak við hrím-kálki  
                     fullum forns mjaðar,  
                     hẽldr þú hana ẽina · látir með ása sonum  
 4                      vamma-lausa vesa.“  
 “Hale be thou now, O Lock, and receive the rime-chalice,  
 full of ancient mead,  
 that thou rather let her [me] alone, among the sons of the Eese,  
 remain blemish-less.<sup>161</sup>”

<sup>161</sup>Sib attempts to bribe Lock with drink, so that she alone will remain unaccused among the gods.

## P5 Hann tók við horni ok drakk af:

He received the horn and drank from it:

- 54 „Eín þú værir · ef þú svá værir,  
 2 vör ok gröm at veri;  
 einn ek vëit, · svá't ek vita þikkjumk,  
 4 hór ok af Hlórriða,  
 ok vas þat sá inn lē-vísi Loki.“

“Alone were thou, if thou so were  
 wary and wroth against man.  
 I know one—which I think myself to know—  
 adulterer behind even Lorida's back,  
 and that was the guile-wise Lock!”

5 lē-vísi Loki ‘guile-wise Lock’ | Formulaic, also occurring in *Hymr* 37. Cf. also *Wsp* 35 where Lock is called *lē-gjarn* ‘guile-cager’ and note to *Wsp* 17 where Lothar (possibly to be identified with Lock) gives men *lē*, which may be an accusative form of *lē*.

- [Beyla kvað:] 55 „Fjöll ǫll skjalfa, · hygga á fǫr vesa  
 2 heiman Hlórriða;  
 hann rēðr ró · þeim's rógir hér  
 4 goð ǫll ok guma!“

[Beal quoth:] “The fells all quake—I think on the journey  
 from home Lorida to be;  
 he brings calm to the one who here maligns  
 all Gods and men!”

1–2 Fjöll ... Hlórriða ‘The fells ... to be’ | Thunder's movement is often signalled by such disturbance in poetry. See note to *Thrim* 21.

- [Loki kvað:] 56 „Þegi þú, Beyla, · þú est Byggvis kvæn  
 2 ok mēini blandin mjök;  
 ó-kynjan mēira · kom-a með ása sonum;  
 4 ǫll est, dēigja, dritin.“

[Lock quoth:] “Shut up thou, Beal! Thou art Bewe's wife,  
 and much mixed with harm;  
 a greater disgrace came not among the sons of the Eese;  
 thou art all, O kneadess, shitty!”

## P6 Þá kom Þórr at ok kvað:

Then Thunder arrived and quoth:

57 „Þegi þú, rög vëttr, · þér skal minn þrúð-hamarr,  
2 Mjöllnir, mál fyr-nema!  
Hęrða klett · drep’k þér halsi af,  
4 ok verðr þá þínu fјorvi of farit.“

“Shut up thou, queer wight! Thee shall my thrith-hammer  
Millner, deprive of speech!  
The shoulder-rock [HEAD] I strike off thy neck,  
and then is thy life destroyed!”

[Loki kvað:] 58 „Jarðar burr · es hér nú inn kominn;  
2 hví þrasir þú svá, Þórr?  
En þá þorir ekki · es skalt við ulfinn vega  
4 ok svelgr hann allan Sig-fјður.“

[Lock quoth:] “The son of Earth is now here come inside,  
why thrashest thou so, O Thunder?  
But then darest thou not, as thou shalt fight against the wolf,  
and he swallows Syefather (= Weden) whole.”

[Þórr kvað:] 59 „Þegi þú, rög vëttr, · þér skal minn þrúð-hamarr,  
2 Mjöllnir, mál fyr-nema!  
Upp ek þér verp · ok á austr-vega  
4 síðan þik mann-gi sér.“

[Thunder quoth:] “Shut up thou, queer wight! Thee shall my thrith-hammer  
Millner, deprive of speech!  
Up I throw thee, and onto the eastern ways  
thereafter no man sees thee!”

[Loki kvað:] 60 „Austr-fјorum þínum · skalt aldri-gi  
2 sęja sęggjum frá  
síðst í hanska þumlungi · hnúkðir þú, ein-ҳęri,  
4 ok þóttisk-a þá Þórr vesa!“

[Lock quoth:] “Of thy eastern journeys shalt thou never  
speak to youths,  
since in the thumb of a glove thou didst crawl, O Oneharrier,  
and didst not seem to be Thunder then!”

[Þórr kvað:]                    61        „Þęgi þú, rög vęttr, · þér skal minn þrúð-hamarr,  
2                                        Mjöllnir, mál fyr-nema!  
   hęndi inni hógri · drep’k þik Hrungnis bana,  
4                                        svát þér brotnar beina hvat.“

[Thunder quoth:] “Shut up thou, queer wight! Thee shall my thrith-hammer  
Millner, deprive of speech!  
With the right hand I strike thee with Rungner’s bane,  
so that every bone in thee breaks.”

[Loki kvað:]

2 „Lifa étlá’k mér · langan aldr  
þótt **h**ótir **h**amri mér;  
4 **s**karpar álar · þóttu þér **S**krymis vesa  
ok máttir-a þá **n**ęsti **n**áa  
ok svaltsk þá **h**ungri **h**ęill.“

[Lock quoth:] “For myself I intend to live a long life,  
even though thou threatenest me with the hammer;  
TODO.”

[Þórr kvað:]                    63        „Þegi þú, rög vétr, · þér skal minn þrúð-hamarr,  
2                                    Mjöllnir, mál fyr-nema!  
                                      Hrungnis bani · mun þér í hæl koma  
4                                    fyr Ná-grindr neðan.“

[Thunder quoth:] “Shut up thou, queer wight! Thee shall my thrith-hammer  
Millner, deprive of speech!  
Rungner’s bane will take thee to hell,  
down beneath Neegrind!”

[Loki kvað:]

2 64 „Kvað’k fyr *ǫ*sum, · kvað’k fyr *á*sa sonum,  
þat’s mik *h*vatti *h*ugr,  
en fyr þér *ei*num · mun’k *ú*t ganga  
4 því-at ek *v*ęit at þú *v*egr.

[Lock quoth:] “I spoke before the Eese, I spoke before the sons of the Eese  
whatever my mind did goad me.  
but for thee alone will I go out,  
for I know that thou strikest.

- 65      Ql gørðir þú, Égir, · en þú aldri munt  
 2              síðan sumbl of gøra;  
             çiga þín ǫll, · es hér inni es,  
 4              lçiki yfir logi  
             ok brenni þér á baki.“

Ale madest thou, Eagre, but thou wilt never  
 since make a simble;  
 all thy ownings which are here within,  
 over [them] may flame play,  
 and burn thee on the back!”

### From Lock (*Frá Loka*)

The myth told here is known from two other places. Closest at hand is *Wsp*

*Yilv* 50 has a longer but somewhat different account: the Eese captured Lock's two sons, Wonnell and “Nare or Narve”. They turned Wonnell into a wolf (*vargr*, which also means ‘outlaw’) and had him tear his brother Narve apart. Narve's intestines were then taken and used to bind Lock on top of three pointed stones, with one digging into his shoulder-blades, the other digging into his loins, and the third digging into his houghs. The intestines then turned into iron.

Since the author of *Yilv* knew *Wsp*, it is possible that he combined a text similar to *From Lock* with this st., interpreting *Vála víg-bönd* as ‘Wonnell's war-bonds’ and *vargr* as ‘wolf’ rather than the more probable ‘outlaw’. Wonnell is otherwise only known as the son of Weden, and there is no reason as to why he could not have bound Lock. For further differences between *Yilv* and *From Lock* see introduction to *From Lock* below.

- P7      En eptir þetta falst Loki í Fránangrs-forsi í lax líki. Þar tóku çsir hann.  
 2              Hann var bundinn með þçrmum sonar Nara; en Narfi, sonr hans, varð  
             at vargi. Skaði tók eittr-orm ok festi upp yfir and-lit Loka; draup þar ór  
 4              eittr. Sigyn, kona Loka, sat þar ok helt munn-laug undir eitrit. En er  
             munn-laugin var full bar hon út eitrit, en meðan draup eitrit á Loka. Þá  
 6              kipptist hann svá hart við, at þaðan af skalv jçrð ǫll; þat eru nú kallaðir  
             land-skjálftar.

But after this Lock hid himself in the Freenangersforce in the form of a salmon. There the Eese took him. He was bound with the intestines of his son Nare, but his son Narve became an outlaw. Shede took a venomous serpent and fastened it over Lock's face; out of it dripped venom. Syein, Lock's wife, sat there and held a basin [for hand-washing] under the venom. But when the basin was full she bore out the venom, and meanwhile the venom dripped on Lock. Then he revolted so hard that thence all the earth quaked; that is now called earth-quakes.

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# The Lay of Thrim (*Þrymskviða*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C9th (0.741)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

Compare *Hvl*, *Hyme*, other poems and refer to the SkP intro to one of the big Thunder poems.  
TODO.

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1      Vreǰðr vas þá V-ing-Þórr · es hann vaknaði  
2      ok síns hamars · of saknaði,  
         skęgg nam at hrista, · skqr nam at dýja,  
4      réð Jarðar burr · umb at þreífask.

Wroth was then Wing-Thunder as he woke,  
and of his hammer was bereaved.  
His beard he took to rustle, his locks he took to rip;  
the son of Earth resolved to grope about.

---

1 Vreǰðr | TODO: Note about ambiguity of alliteration.

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3 skęgg ... dýja 'beard ... pull' | Apparently formulaic. Cf. a certain heroic poem (TODO).

2      Ok hann þat orða · alls fyrst of kvað:  
2      „Hęyr-ðu nú, Loki, · hvat ek nú męli  
         es ęigi vęit · jarðar hęr-gi  
4      né upp-himins: · áss es stolinn hamri!“

And he this word first of all did say:  
“Hear thou now, Lock, what I now speak,  
which no man knows anywhere on earth  
nor in up-heaven: the os [= Thunder = I] is robbed of his hammer!”

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1 Ok ... of kvað 'And ... did say' | The whole line is formulaic, occurring in five other places: sts. 3, 9 and 12 of the present poem; st 3 of *Ordr*; st. 5 of *Siw Frag*.

3–4 jarðar ... upp-himins ‘earth ... up-heaven’ | Formulaic, see Encyclopedia: [Earth and Up-heaven](#).

- 3      Gingu þeir fagra · Freyju túna  
2      ok hann þat orða · alls fyrst of kvað:  
     „Munt-u mér, Freyja, · fjaðr-hams léa  
4      ef ek mínna hamar · mætta’k hitta?“

Went they to the fair yards of Frow,  
and he this word first of all did say:  
“Wilt thou me, O Frow, the feather-hame lend,  
if I my hammer might find?”

- Freya kvað:      4      „Þó mynda’k gefa þér · þótt ór gulli véri  
2      ok þó selja · at véri ór silfri.“

“Still would I give it to thee though it were golden,  
and yet hand it to thee if it were silvern.”

[Frow quoth:]

2 selja ‘selja’ | *selja*, cognate of English *sell*, here has its older sense of ‘hand over’, cf. Gotish *saljan* Streitberg (1910, p. 116): ‘*opfern*; θύειν’.

- 5      Fló þá Loki, · fjaðr-hamr dunði,  
2      unds fyr útan kom · ása garða  
     ok fyr innan kom · jǫtna hęima.

Flew then Lock—the feather-hame rustled—  
until he came outside the Yards of the Eese,  
and he came inside the Homes of the Ettins.

1 Loki ‘Lock’ | Though Thunder is the one asking for the feather-hame (“if I my hammer might find”), Lock is the one that takes off flying with it.

- 6      Þrymr sat á haugi, · þursa dróttinn,  
2      gręyjum sínum · gull-bǫnd snøri  
     ok mǫrum sínum · mǫn jafnaði.

Thrim sat on the mound, the lord of Thurses:  
on his greyhounds the golden leashes he twirled,  
and on his steeds the manes he evened.<sup>162</sup>

1 sat á haugi ‘sat on the mound’ | Apparently a typical seat for ettins. See *Wsp* 42 for other attestations.

1 þursa dróttinn ‘lord of Thurses’ | This formulaic expression also occurs in several Runic charms against such thursen lords (see below under Galders); an example of the close connection between mythology and ritual.

<sup>162</sup>Hymer sits on a mound surrounded by dogs and horses; the image is reminiscent of the ancient “master of animals” motif, especially as attested on panel A of the Gundestrup cauldron.

[Þrymr kvað:]           7   „Hvat ’s með ǫsum? · Hvat ’s með ǫlfum?  
                                   2       Hví est ǣinn kominn · í jǫtun-hęima?“  
 [Loki kvað:]            „Illt ’s með ǫsum, · illt ’s með ǫlfum!  
                                   4       Hęfir þú Hlórriða · hamar of folginn?“

[Thrim quoth:] “What’s with the Eese? What’s with the elves?  
 Why art thou alone come into the Ettin-homes?”—  
 [Lock quoth:] “Tis bad with the Eese! It’s bad with the elves!  
 Hast thou the hammer of Lorida (= Thunder) hid?”

3 illt ’s með ǫlfum | Required by the meter; om. R

1 Hvat ’s með ǫsum? · Hvat ’s með ǫlfum? ‘What is with the Eese? What is with the elves?’ | Formulaic, identical line occurs in *Wsp*.

[Þrymr kvað:]           8   „Ek hęfi Hlórriða · hamar of folginn  
                                   2       átta rǫstum · fyr jǫrð neðan;  
                                   hann ǣngi maðr · apr of hęimtir  
                                   4       nema fóri mér · Freyju at kvén.“

[Thrim quoth:] “I have the hammer of Lorida hid  
 eight rests beneath the earth!  
 It no man will fetch back,  
 unless he bring me Frow for a wife.”

9   Fló þá Loki, · fjaðr-hamr dunði,  
                                   2       unds fyr útan kom · jǫtna hęima  
                                   ok fyr innan kom · ása garða;  
                                   4       mótti hann Þór · miðra garða  
                                   ok hann þat orða · alls fyrst of kvað:

Flew then Lock—the feather-hame rustled—  
 until he came outside the Yards of the Eese,  
 and he came inside the Homes of the Ettins.  
 Met he Thunder in the middle yards,  
 and he [= Thunder] that word first of all did say:

5 hann þat | emend.; þat hann R, with elsewhere unprecedented word order. Cf. note to st. 2.

10   „Hęfir þú ǫrendi · sem ǣfði?”

2 Seg-ðu á lopti · lǫng tíðendi!  
 Opt sitjanda · sǫgur of fallask,  
 4 ok liggjandi · lygi of þellir.“

“Hast thou an errand of hardship?  
 Tell thou aloft the long tidings!  
 Oft the sitter’s tales fail each other  
 and the liar blows up his lie.”<sup>163</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hefir þú *ørendi* · sem *erfiði*? ‘Hast thou an errand of hardship?’ | Thunder asks Lock if he has bad news. The collocation *ørendi* ‘errand’ ... *erfiði* ‘trouble, hardship’ is formulaic and occurs in X other (TODO!!) places, including in st. 5 of *HHarw*.

<sup>163</sup> Proverbial. If one sits or lies (*liggjandi* means to ‘lie down’; it is rather unfortunate that the two sound the same in English) down and thinks too much over bad news, details will be left out, excuses thought up. Thus it is best that Lock immediately tell Thunder what he has learned.

[Loki kvað:]

11 „Hefi’k *ørendi*, · *erfiði* ok:  
 2 Þrymr hefir þinn hamar, · þursa dróttinn;  
 hann *engi* maðr · aþr of heimtir  
 4 nema hǫnum *fóri* · Freyju at kvæn.“

“I have an errand, hardship also:  
 Thrim has thy hammer, the lord of Thurses.  
 It no man will fetch back,  
 unless he bring him Frow for a wife.”

[Lock quoth:]

12 Ganga þeir fagra · Freyju at hitta  
 2 ok hann þat orða · alls fyrst of kvað:  
 „Bitt-u þik, Freyja, · brúðar líni!  
 4 Vit skulum aka tvau · í jǫtun-heima.“

Go they the fair Frow to find,  
 and he this word first of all did say:  
 “Bind thyself, Frow, with a bride’s linen!  
 We two shall drive into the Ettin-homes.”

<sup>2</sup> hann ‘he’ | The speaker is either Thunder or Lock.

<sup>3</sup> brúðar líni! ‘bride’s linen’ | i.e. bridal cloth.

13 Vreð varð þá Freyja · ok fnasaði,  
 2 allr ása salr · undir bifðisk,  
 stökk þat it mikla · mæn Brísinga:  
 4 „Mik vætst verða · ver-gjarnasta

ef ek **ç**k með þér · í **j**çtun-hęima.“

Wroth became then Frow, and snorted;  
the whole hall of the Eese quivered below;  
down crashed the great torc of the Brisings—  
“Thou knowest that I will become the most man-eager,  
if I drive with thee into the Ettin-homes.”

3 mçn Brisinga ‘torc of the Brisings’ | A legendary jewel owned by Frow.

4 verða · ver-gjarnasta ‘become the most man-eager’ | Presumably Frow is speaking out of self-awareness of her own lustful inclinations, i.e., she will be gripped by uncontrollable lust. It is also possible that she complains about being accused of promiscuity by the other gods, but that is not the literal sense. For Frow’s promiscuity cf. *Lock* 30, and also st. 26 of that poem where Frie is likewise called *ver-gjörn* ‘man-eager’.

14 Sçnn vçru **ç**sir · allir á þingi  
2 ok **ç**synjur · allar á máli,  
ok umb þat **r**éðu · **r**ikir tívar:  
4 **h**vé þçir **H**lórriða · **h**amar of sótti?

Soon were the **Eese** all at the **Thing**,  
and the **Ossens** all at speech,  
and of this counseled the mighty **Tews**:  
How they Loride’s (= Thunder’s) hammer would get?

1-3 Sçnn ... tívar ‘Soon ... Tews’ | Formulaic, identically shared with *Bldr* 1/1-3 (see Note there).

15 Þá kvað þat **H**ęimdallr, · **h**vítastr ása,  
2 **v**issi **v**çl framm · sçm **v**anir aðrir:  
„Bindu vér Þór þá · **b**rúðar líni;  
4 hafi hann it **m**ikla · **m**çn Brisinga!

Then quoth this **Homedal**, whitest of the Eese;  
he foreknew well like the other **Wanes**:  
“Let us bind Thunder then, with a bride’s linen;  
he may have the great torc of the Brisings.

2 vissi **v**çl framm ‘he foreknew well’ | i.e. saw the future. Compare the derived adjective *fram-víss* ‘forth-wise, prescient.’

16 Lçtum und **h**çnum · **h**rynja lukla  
2 ok **k**ven-váðir · umb **k**né falla  
en á **b**rjósti · **b**reįða stęina  
4 ok **h**ag-liga · umb **h**çfuð typpum!“

Let us set by his side keys to jingle,  
and women’s garments to fall about the knees,

but on the breast broad stones,  
and skillfully let us tip his head.<sup>164</sup>

<sup>164</sup>An interesting description of Wiking age bridal dress. As the everyday manager of the household, keys were the mark of a respectable married woman. The “broad stones” on the breast may be tortoise brooches (also mentioned in *Wayl* 25, 36.) or beads. The tipping of the head refers to some sort of bridal hat, perhaps a veil (TODO: Literature).

17 Þá kvað þat Þórr, • þrúðugr áss:  
2 „Mik munu **é**sir • argan kalla  
ef ek **b**indask lét • brúðar líni!“

Then quoth this Thunder, the mighty Os:  
“Me will the Eese call **queer**,  
if I let myself be bound with a bride’s linen!”

18 Þá kvað þat Loki • Laufeyjar sonr:  
2 „Þegi þú, Þórr, • þeira orða!  
Þegar munu **j**otnar • **Ó**s-garð búa  
4 nema þú þinn hamar • þér of heimtir.“

Then quoth this Lock, Leafie’s son:  
“Shut up thou, Thunder, with those words!  
Shortly the Ettins will settle Osyard,  
unless thou thy hammer for thyself dost fetch!”

3–4 Þegar ... heimtir. ‘Shortly ... dost fetch!’ | Guarding Osyard from transgressive and destructive forces was Thunder’s task, and the hammer his most important tool. Cf. *Hbl* TODO, and a couplet by the obscure poet Thurbern Disescold, cited in *Scold* 11: *Þórr hefr Yggs með órum • Ósgarð af þrek varðan*. ‘Thunder has with the messengers of Ug [GODS] mightily guarded Osyard.’

19 Bundu þeir Þór þá • brúðar líni  
2 ok hinu **m**ikla • **m**ęni Brisinga,  
létu und **h**ónum • **h**rynja lukla  
4 ok **k**ven-váðir • umb **k**né falla  
en á **br**jósti • **br**ęiða stęina  
6 ok **h**ag-liga • of **h**ófuð typpðu.

Bound they Thunder then with a bride’s linen,  
and with the great torc of the Brisings.  
They set by his side keys to jingle,  
and women’s garments to fall about the knees,  
but on the breast broad stones,  
and skillfully they tipped his head.

- 20 Þá kvað þat **L**oki · **L**aufeyjar sonr:  
 2 „Mun’k **a**uk með þér · **a**mbótt vesa,  
 vit skulum **a**ka tvau · í **j**ötun-hęima.“

Then quoth this Lock, Leafie’s son:

“I will also with thee be a handmaid;

we two <sup>165</sup> shall drive into the Ettin-homes.”

<sup>165</sup>The form used, *tvau*, is the neuter plural, i.e. one of the pair is female and the other male. This is either an error due to mindless copying of v. 11, or a backhanded insult against Thunder.

- 21 Sęnn vöru **h**afrar · **h**ęim of vrekni,  
 2 **s**kyndir at **s**köklum, · **s**kyldu vęl renna;  
**b**jörg **b**rotnuðu, · **b**rann jörð loga;  
 4 ók Óðins sonr · í **j**ötun-hęima.

Soon were the he-goats driven home,

hastened onto the cart-poles; they were to run well.

Crags burst, earth burned with flame;

drove Weden’s son [= Thunder] into the Ettin-homes. <sup>166</sup>

<sup>1</sup> **h**afrar ‘he-goats’ | Thunder’s chariot was driven by two he-goats, whence he is called “the Lord of He-goats” (e.g. in *Hym* 20, 31).

<sup>166</sup>Thunder’s driving is often connected with cosmic disturbance. So, his arrival in *Lock* 55 is signalled by the mountains quaking. The description most similar to the present stanza is found in Thedwolf’s *Hvl* 14–16, where crags (*björg*) burst asunder and fires rage before him. A possibly Indo-European parallel to this is the Vedic myth of Indra breaking the mountains and releasing the rivers (as described most famously in *RV* 1.32). Cf. *Bldr* 3 where the ground rumbles beneath the riding Weden.

- 22 Þá kvað þat Þrymr, · Þursa dróttinn:  
 2 „Standið upp, jötnar, · ok stráið bękki!  
 Nú fórið mér · Freyju at kván,  
 4 Njarðar dóttur · ór Nóa-túnum.

Then quoth this Thrim, the lord of Thurses:

“Stand up, O ettins, and strew the benches!

Now bring me Frow for a wife,

**N**earth’s daughter from the Nowetowns.

- 23 Ganga hér at garði · gull-hyrndar kýr,  
 2 øxn al-svartir, · jötni at gamni,  
 fjöld á’k męiðma, · fjöld á’k męnja;  
 4 ęinnar mér Freyju · á-vant þykkir.“

Here march to the farm golden-horned kine,  
all-black oxen to the ettin's [= my] pleasure.  
A multitude I own of treasures, a multitude I own of torcs—  
only Frow I think myself missing.”

2 **oxn** **al**-svartir ‘all-black oxen’ | Formulaic, also occurring in *Hyme* 18. That all-black (i.e. spotlessly black) oxen were most valued is seen by the pairing with “golden-horned”. One may also compare Grammaticus (2015)[1.8.12], where the hero Hadding has to atone for his slaying of a heavenly being by a sacrifice of dark-coloured victims (*furvae hostiae*): *Siquidem propiciandorum numinum gratia Frø deo rem diuinam furuis hostiis fecit. Quem litationis morem annuo feriarum circuitu repetitum posteris imitandum reliquit. Frøblod Sueones uocant.* ‘In order to mollify the divinities he [= Hadding] did indeed make a holy sacrifice of dark-coloured victims to the god Frø. He repeated this mode of propitiation at an annual festival and left it to be imitated by his descendants. The Swedes call it Frøblot.’ This ancient ritual taboo finds parallel even in the Tanakh, where animals dedicated to YHWH were to be without blemish (תמים; Leviticus 1:3)

24 Vas þar at **k**veldi · of **k**omit snimma  
2 **ok** fyr **j**ǫtna · **ǫ**l framm borit.  
**Ẽ**inn át **oxa**, · **átta** laxa,  
4 **krásir** allar, · þér's **konur** skyldu,  
drakk **Sif**jar verr · **sáld** þrjú mjaðar.

There was the evening come early,  
and for the ettins ale brought forth.  
Alone ate he [= Thunder] an ox, eight salmons,  
all the dainties meant for the women;  
drank Sib's husband [= Thunder] three sieves of mead.<sup>167</sup>

<sup>167</sup>Cf. *Hyme* 15, where Thunder eats two of Hymer's oxen. It is rather interesting that the same kenning is used in both stanzas relating the god's great eating; perhaps one poet was playing on the other's expression, or they were both referencing another, now-lost work.

25 Þá kvað þat Þrymr, · þursa dróttinn:  
2 „Hvar sát-t-u **brúðir** · **bíta** hvassara?  
Sá'k-a **brúðir** · **bíta** ęnn **bręiðara**  
4 né ęnn **męira m**jǫð · **męy** of drekka!“

Then quoth this Thrím, the lord of Thurses:  
“Where hast thou seen brides bite sharper?  
I have never seen brides bite yet broader;  
nor yet more mead a maiden drink!”

26 Sat hin **al**-snotra · **ambótt** fyrir  
2 es **orð** of fann · við **j**ǫtuns máli:  
„**Át** vętr Fręyja · **átta** nótum,  
4 svá vas hón **óð**-fús · í **j**ǫtun-þęima.“



Sat the all-clever handmaid [= Lock] in front,  
 who a word did find against the ettin's speech:  
 "Frow ate naught for eight nights;  
 so madly she longed for the Ettin-homes."

- 27     **L**aut und **l**ínu, · **l**ysti at kyssa,  
 2        en hann **ú**tan stökk · **ę**nd-langan sal:  
       „Hví eru **ę**ndótt · **a**ugu Fręyju?  
 4        Þykki mér **ó**r · **a**ugum brenna!“

He looked 'neath the linen, lusted for a kiss—  
 but he from the outside flung back across the length of the hall—  
 "Why are the eyes of Frow blazing?  
 Methinks there be flames coming out of the eyes!"<sup>168</sup>

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<sup>168</sup> Lit. "Methinks out of the eyes burn."

- 28     Sat hin **a**l-snotra · **a**mbótt fyrir  
 2        es **o**rð of fann · við **j**ötuns máli:  
       „Svaf vętr Fręyja · átta nóttum,  
 4        svá vas hón **ó**ð-fús · í **j**ötun-heima.“

Sat the all-clever handmaid [= Lock] in front,  
 who a word did find against the ettin's speech:  
 "Frow slept naught for eight nights;  
 so madly she longed for the Ettin-homes."

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<sup>1</sup> fyrir | add. *þf.þ* R.

- 29     **I**nn kom hin **a**rma · jötna systir,  
 2        hin's **b**rúð-féar · **b**iðja þorði:  
       „Lát þér af **h**öndum · **h**ringa rauða  
 4        ef þú **ę**ðlask vill · ástir mínar,  
       ástir mínar, · **a**lla hylli!“

In came the wretched sister of the ettins,  
 she who for the bride-fee [= Millner] dared ask:  
 "Slide off from thy hands the red rings,  
 if thou wilt win my love,  
 my love; all [my] **holdness**."<sup>169</sup>

5 ástir mínar, · alla hylli ‘my love; all [my] holdness’ | Probably formulaic. There are no preserved parallels in poetry, but there may be one in *Yilv* 49 (excerpt, following the death of Balder): *En er goðin vitkuðust, þá mēlti Frigg ok spurði, hvern sá véri með ásum, er eignast vildi „allar ástir mínar (so TW; ástir bennar ‘her loves’ SU) ok hylli, ok vili hann ríða á hel-veg ok freista, ef hann fái fundit Baldr, ok bjóða Helju út-launs, ef þon vill láta fara Baldr heim í Ás-garð.“* ‘But when the gods came back to their wits, then Frie spoke and asked which one among the Eese would own “all my loves and boldness, and will ride on the Hellway and see if he may find Balder and offer Hell a ransom if she will let Balder come home to Osyard.” We can tell from the citation of a *Leeds-meter* stanza at the end of ch. 49 (see Eddic Fragments below) that Snorre knew one or more now-lost Eddic poems about Balder’s death, and it may be that one of these poems contained the same two long-lines as the present stanza. For such a sharing of whole lines cf. e.g. st. 14/1–3 above, which are identical to *Bldr* 1/1–3.

<sup>169</sup>The sister, who was apparently the one who asked for the Hammer, now has the audacity to ask Thunder (disguised as Frow) to give her the very rings on his hands.

30 Þá kvað þat Þrymr, · þursa dróttinn:  
2 „Berð inn hamar · brúði at vígja,  
læggið Mjöllni · í meýjar kné,  
4 vígið okkr saman · Várar hendi!“

Then quoth this Thrim, the lord of Thurses:  
“Bear ye in the hammer, the bride to bless;  
lay ye Millner in the maiden’s knee;  
bless ye us two together by Ware’s hand!”

4 Várar ‘Ware’ | According to Snorre one of the goddesses, presiding over vows between men and women. See Encyclopedia.

31 Hló Hlórriða · hugr í brjósti  
2 es harð-hugaðr · hamar of þekkdö;  
Þrym drap hann fyrstan, · þursa dróttin,  
4 ok étt jötuns · alla lamði.

Laughed Loride’s (= Thunder’s) heart in the chest,  
when, hard-hearted, he recognized the hammer.  
Thrim he slew first, the lord of Thurses,  
and all the ettin’s lineage he beat lame.

32 Drap hann ina ǫldnu · jötna systur,  
2 hin’s brúð-féar · of beðit hafði;  
hón skell of hlaut · fyr skillinga,  
4 en hogg hamars · fyr hringa fjöld.  
Svá kom Óðins sonr · endr at hamri.

He slew the aged sister of the ettins,  
she who for the bride-fee had asked;

a smiting she received for shillings,  
and a strike of the hammer for a multitude of rings.  
So got Weden's son [= Thunder] back his hammer.

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# The Thule of Righ (*Rígsþula*)

**Dating** (Sapp, 2022): early C11th (0.240), late C11th (0.204), late C12th (0.195), C13th (0.280)

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

Dumezil hypothesis. Irish influence? Many interesting things to write here!

The language of *Rígh* is highly formulaic, but also often unique to it. Of particular note are the alliteration between the adverb *męirr* ‘further’ and *miðra*, e.g. in st. 2/1: *gekk męirr at þat*

- P1 Svá segja męnn í fornum sęgum, at ęinn-hvęrr af ęsum, sá er Hęimdallr [W 78r/1]  
2 hét, fór fęrðar sinnar ok framm með sjóvar-stręndu nękkurri, kom at  
ęinum húsa-bó ok nęndisk Rigr; ęptir þęiri sęgu er kvęði þetta.

So say men in ancient saws that one of the **Eese**, he who was called **Homedal**, went on his journey and came forth along a certain lake shore, came upon a lone homestead and called himself Righ—according to that saw is this poem.

- 1 Ár kvęðu ganga · grónar brautir [W 78r/TODO]  
2 oflgan ok aldinn · ęs kunnigan,  
ramman ok ręskvan · Ríg stíganda.

Of yore, they said, did walk on green roads  
a mighty and aged **os**, cunning:  
the strong and brisk Righ, striding.

1 Ár ‘Of yore’ | sens. emend. (see note); at W

1 Ár ‘Of yore’ | Formulaic. It is very common for poems to begin with *ár*. Cf. *Wsp* 3/1, *Hyme* 1/1, *HHund* I 1/1, *Guth* I 1/1, *Siw* 1/1

- 2 Gekk męirr at þat · miðrar brautar, [W 78r/TODO]  
2 kom hann at húsi, · hurð vas á gętti;  
inn nam at ganga, · ęldr vas á golfi,

- 4           hjón sǫtu þar · hǫr at arni,  
            Ái ok Țdda · aldin-falda.

Went he further after that on the middle of the road,  
came he to a house—the door was wide open.  
He took to go inside, fire was on the floor.  
A couple sat there, hoary by the hearth:  
Great-Grandfather and Great-Grandmother, old-fashioned.

<sup>4</sup> at | sens. emend.; *af* W

- 3           Rigr kunni þeim · rǫð at sęja;  
2           męirr sęttisk hann · miðra fletja  
            en á hlið hvára · hjón sal-kynna.

[W 78r/TODO]

Righ knew to tell them counsels,  
further he set himself down on the middle of the floor-bench,  
and on either side: the couple of the hall.

- 4           Þá tók Țdda · økkvinn hleif,  
2           þungan ok þykkvan, · þrunginn sǫðum,  
            bar hǫn męirr at þat · miðra skutla,  
4           soð vas í bolla · sętti á bjóð;  
            vas kalfr soðinn · krása bętstr;  
6           ręis hann upp þaðan, · réðsk at sofna;

[W 78r/TODO]

Then took Great-Grandmother a lumpy loaf,  
heavy and thick, stuffed with chaff,  
she carried it further after that on the middle of a trencher,  
broth was in a bowl, she set it on a plate—  
a cooked calf was the best dainty;  
he [= Righ] rose up thence, resolved to sleep.

- 5           Rigr kunni þeim · rǫð at sęja;  
2           męirr lagðisk hann · miðrar rękku,  
            en á hlið hvára · hjón salkynna.

[W 78r/TODO]

Righ knew to tell them counsels;  
further he laid himself down in the middle of the bed,  
and on either side: the couple of the hall.

- 6           Þar vas hann at þat · þrjár nętr saman;  
2           gekk hann męirr at þat · miðrar brautar;

[W 78r/TODO]

There he was after that for three nights in all;  
went he further after that on the middle of the road;  
passed further after that nine months.

Great-Grandmother begot a child, they sprinkled it with water<sup>170</sup>—  
swarthy of skin—they called it Thrall.

<sup>170</sup> A reference to the Heathen naming ceremony, somewhat resembling the Christian baptism, wherein water would be poured on a newborn. Cf. *High* 156.

He took to grow, and thrive well;  
there on his hands was wrinkled skin,  
crooked knuckles, [...],  
thick fingers, a foul face,  
a stooping back, long heels.

He took further after that to try his power:  
 bast to bind, burdens to make,  
 he carried home after that brushwood on a gloomy day.<sup>171</sup>

10 Þar kom at garði · gengil-bæina, [W 78r/TODO]  
2 aurr vas á iljum, · armr sól-brunninn,  
niðr-bjúgt es nef, · nefndisk þír.

There came to the farm a gangle-boned woman:  
mud was on her footsoles, her arm sunburnt,  
downturned her face—she called herself Thew.

<sup>1</sup> gęgil-bęina ‘gangle-boned woman’ | Derogatory, somebody who (due to poverty) only travels by foot.

<sup>3</sup> Þír ‘Thew’ | The name probably means ‘maid-servant’ or ‘female slave’. Unlike Thrall, it is not attested in any prose texts, but probably corresponds to OS *thiwi* ‘maid(-servant)’, being further root-related to *þéa* -*þjá* ‘to enthrall’, Proto-Norse *þewar* ‘servant’, OE *þéow* ‘slave, servant’,.

- 11      Męirr sęttisk hōn · miðra fletja, [W 78r/TODO]  
2      sat hjá hęnni · sonr hús,  
         rōddu ok rýndu, · rękkju gōrðu  
4      Þręll ok Þír · þrungin dōgr.

Further she set herself down on the middle of the floor-bench;  
by her sat the son of the house [= Thrall].  
They spoke and whispered, made a bed—  
Thrall and Thew—in hard-pressed nights.

<sup>1</sup> Męirr ... fletja | emend. based on other sts.; *miðra fletja* · *męirr sęttisk hōn* W

- 12      Bōrn ólu þau, · bjuggu ok unðu; [W 78r/TODO]  
2      hygg’k at hēti · Hreimr ok Fjósniir,  
         Klúrr ok Klęggi, · Kęfsir, Fúlnir,  
4      Drumbr, Digraldi, · Drōtr ok Hōsvir,  
         Lútr ok Lęggjaldi; · lōgðu garða,  
6      akra tōddu, · unnu at svinum,  
         gęita gęttu, · grófu torf.

Children they begot—they settled and were content—  
I think that they were called Rame and Feesner,  
Clour and Cledge, Chafser, Foulner,  
Drumber, Digrald, Drant and Hazer,  
Lout and Ledgald.—They laid yard-fences,  
dunged the fields, fed the swine,  
kept the goats, dug the turf.

- 13      Dōtr vōru þēr · Drumba ok Kumba, [W 78r/TODO]  
2      Økkvin-kalfa · ok Arin-nęfa,  
         Ysja ok Ambōtt, · Eikin-tjasna,  
4      Tōtrug-hypja · ok Trōnu-bęina;  
         þaðan eru komnar · þręla ętir.



The daughters were these: Drumb and Cumb;  
 Inkencalf and Arn-neb, Yeaze and Ambight, Oakentezen, Tattryhip and Tranebone—  
 thence are come the lineages of thralls.

- 14      Gekk Rígr at þat · réttar brautir      [W 78r/TODO]  
 2      kom hann at hǫllu · hurð vas á skiði  
      inn nam at ganga · ǫldr vas á golfi  
 4      hjón sǫtu þar · heldu á syslu.

TODO: Translation.

2 hǫllu 'hall' | sens. and metr. emend., cf. st. TODO; om. W

- 15      Maðr tǫlgði þar · meïð til rifjar,      [W 78r/TODO]  
 2      vas skǫgg skapat, · skǫr vas fyr ǣnni  
      skyrtu þrǫngva · skokkr vas á golfi.

TODO: Translation.

- 16      Sat þar kona, · sveigði rokk,      [W 78r/TODO]  
 2      brǣiddi faðm, · bjó til váðar;  
      sveigr vas á hǫfði, · smokkr vas á bríngu,  
 4      dúkr vas á halsi, · dvergar á ǫxlum;  
      Afi ok Amma · ǫttu hús.

TODO: Translation.

- 17      Rígr kunni þeim · rǫð at sǣgja,      [W 78r/TODO]  
 2      reïs frá borði · réð at sofna.  
      Meirr lagðisk hann · miðrar rǣkkju  
 4      en á hlið hvára · hjón sal-kynna.  
      Þar vas hann at þat · þrjár nétr saman  
 6      liðu meirr at þat · mǫnuðr níu.

Rígh knew to tell them counsels,  
 rose from the table, resolved to sleep.  
 Further he laid himself down in the middle of the bed,  
 and on either side: the couple of the hall.  
 There he was after that for three nights in all;  
 passed further after that nine months.

- 18 Jóð ól Amma, · jósu vatni, [W 78r/TODO]  
 2 kǫlluðu Karl · kona sveip ripti  
 rauðan ok rjóðan · riðuðu augu.

Grandmother begot a child, they sprinkled it with water,  
 called it Churl; the woman wrapped him in cloth,  
 red and ruddy; his eyes trembled.

- 19 Hann nam at vaxa · ok vël dafna, [W 78r/TODO]  
 2 oxn nam at temja · arðr at gørva  
 hús at timbra · ok hløður smíða  
 4 karta at gørva · ok keyra plóg.

TODO: Translation.

- 20 Heim óku þá · Hangin-luklu [W 78r/TODO]  
 2 gęita kyrtlu · giptu Karli.  
 Snqr hęitir sú, · sęttisk und ripti.  
 4 Bjuggu hjón, · bauga deildu,  
 breiddu blęjur, · ok bú gørðu.

TODO: Translation.

- 21 Børn ólu þau, · bjuggu ok unðu; [W 78r/TODO]  
 2 hét Halr ok Drengr, · Hǫldr, Þegn ok Smiðr,  
 Bręiðr, Bóndi, · Bundin-skęggi,  
 4 Búi ok Boddi · Bratt-skęgggr ok Sęgggr.

Children they begot—they settled and were content—

TODO: Translation.

- 22 Enn hétu svá · ǫðrum nǫfnum [W 78v/1]  
 2 Snot, Brúðr, Svanni, · Svarri, Sprakki,  
 Fljóð, Sprund, ok Víf, · Feima, Ristill—  
 4 þaðan eru komnar · karla ęttir.

TODO: Translation.

- 23      Gekk Rígr þaðan · réttar brautir      [W 78v/TODO]  
 2      kom hann at sal, · suðr horfðu dyrr,  
       vas hurð hnigin, · hringr vas í gétti.

TODO: Translation.

- 24      Gekk hann inn at þat · golf vas stráat      [W 78v/TODO]  
 2      sótu hjón · sýusk í augu  
       faðir ok móðir · fingrum at leika.

TODO: Translation.

- 25      Sat hús-gumi · ok snøri stræng      [W 78v/TODO]  
 2      alm of bændi · ǫrvar skepti;  
       en hús-kona · hugði at ǫrmum,  
 4      strauk of rípti · sterti ǫrmar.

Sat the husband and twisted the bow-string,  
 bent the elmwood, shafted arrows—  
 but the housewife minded her arms,  
 smoothened the fabric, tightened the sleeves.

- 26      Keisti fald, · kinga vas á bringu,      [W 78v/TODO]  
 2      síðar slóður, · serk blá-faan;  
       brún bjartari, · brjóst ljósara,  
 4      hals hvítari · hrænni mjöllu.

The linen hood jutted out, a brooch was on her chest,  
 a long-hanging gown, her serk dyed blue; her brow was brighter, her chest lighter,  
 her throat whiter than purest snow.

- 27      Rígr kunni þeim · rǫð at sęja;      [W 78v/TODO]  
 2      meirr sęttisk hann · miðra flętja  
       en á hlið hvára · hjón sal-kynna.

Rígh knew to tell them counsels,  
 further he set himself down on the middle of the floor-bench,  
 and on either side: the couple of the hall.

- 28      Þá tók móðir · meřktan dúk,      [W 78v/TODO]

- 2 hvítan af hǫrvi, · hulði bjóð;  
hón tók at þat · hlēifa þunna,  
4 hvíta af hveiti, · ok hulði dúk.

Then took Mother a patterned cloth,  
white of flax—she covered a platter.  
She took after that thin loaves,  
white of wheat—and covered the cloth.<sup>172</sup>

<sup>172</sup>Note the strong parallelism. The household can afford an excess of expensive fabric and bread; Mother can cover the platter with a patterned (*męrktr*) flaxen cloth, and then cover the cloth with wheat-bread.

- 29 Framm sętti hón · skutla fulla  
2 silfri varða á bjóð  
fǣn ok flęski · ok fugla stęikta  
4 vín vas i kǫnnu · varðir kalkar;  
drukku ok dómðu; · dagr vas á sinnum.

[W 78v/TODO]

TODO: Translation.

- 30 Rigr kunni þeim · rǫð at sęgja,  
2 reis Rigr at þat, · rekkju gǫrði.

[W 78v/TODO]

Righ knew to tell them counsels,  
rose Righ after that, made the bed.

- 31 Þar vas hann at þat · þrjár nętr saman;  
2 gekk hann męirr at þat · miðrar brautar;  
liðu męirr at þat · mǫnuðr níu.

[W 78v/TODO]

There he was after that for three nights in all;  
went he further after that on the middle of the road;  
passed further after that nine months.

- 32 Svein ól móðir, · silki vafði,  
2 jósu vatni— · Jarl létu hęita;  
blęikt vas hár, · bjartir vangar,  
4 ętul vǫro augu · sem yrmlingi.

[W 78v/TODO]

Mother begot a swain, swaddled him in silk;  
they sprinkled him with water—let him be called Earl.  
Pale was his hair, bright his cheeks,  
fierce were his eyes, like the young serpent.

<sup>4</sup> *ǫtul* ... *yrmlingi* 'fierce ... the young serpent' | A person of noble stock being recognised as such through their appearance is a motif in Norse literature. Cf. esp. the incident at the beginning of *HHund II*, where Hallow, disguised as a thrall-woman, is almost caught due to his unslavelike eyes, which are, as in the present stanza, likewise said to be *ǫtul* 'fierce, terrible'.

- 33 Upp óx þar · Jarl á flētjum; [W 78v/TODO]  
 2 lind nam at skelfa, · læggja strēngi,  
 alm at beygja, · ǫrvar skēpta,  
 4 flēin at flējja, · frōkkur dýja,  
 hēstum ríða, · hundum verpa,  
 6 sverðum bregða, · sund at frēmja.

Up grew Earl there on the floor-benches;  
 he took to shake shields, fasten bow-strings,  
 bend elmwood, shaft arrows,  
 throw javelins, hoist frankish spears,  
 ride horses, throw hounds (TODO)  
 , brandish swords, practice swimming.

- 34 Kom þar ór runni · Rígr gangandi, [W 78v/TODO]  
 2 Rígr gangandi, · rúnar ķenndi;  
 sitt gaf ķēiti, · son kveðsk ķiga;  
 4 þann bað hann ķignask · óðal-vōllu,  
 óðal-vōllu, · aldnar bygðir.

There came out of a brush Rígh, walking:  
 Rígh, walking, taught runes;  
 he gave his own name; said that he had a son;  
 he bade *him* take the ethel-plains:  
 the ethel-plains, the ancient villages.

<sup>1-5</sup> Kom ... bygðir. | Rígh approaches his son, Earl. He reveals himself as his father and initiates him into the warrior aristocracy through teaching him the runes and giving him the noble title Rígh (henceforth he will be known as Rígh Earl). Finally he instructs him to set out and win land for himself, which Rígh Earl soon does.

- 35 Reĩð hann meĩrr þaðan · myrkan við [W 78v/TODO]  
 2 hélug fjōll · unds at hōllu kom;  
 skapt nam at dýja, · skelfōi lind,  
 4 hēsti hlēpti, · ok hjōrvi brá;  
 víg nam at vēķja, · vōll nam at rjóða,  
 6 val nam at fēlla, · vá til landa.

He [= RÍGH-EARL] rode further thence through the mirky wood,

through the frosty fells, until to a hall he came—  
the shaft he took to hoist, shook the linden shield,  
leapt with the horse, and brandished the sword;  
war he took to rouse, the plain he took to redden,  
men he took to fell—he won the land.

- 36 Réð hann einn at þat · átján búum;  
2 auð nam skipta · ǫllum veta  
meiðmar ok mǫsma, · mara svang-rifja;  
4 hringum hreytti, · hjó sundr baug.

[W 78v/TODO]

He alone ruled, after that, eighteen homesteads.  
Wealth he took to hand out; to give all men  
gifts and treasures, [and] slender-ribbed steeds;  
rings he scattered; he cut apart a bigh.

4 hringum hreytti ‘rings he scattered’ | Cf. StarkSt Frag 1/2a *bring-bręytanda* ‘ring-scatterer’ [GENEROUS MAN]’ which contains the same words.

- 37 Óku erir · úrgar brautir  
2 kvǫmu at hǫllu · þar’s hersir bjó:  
mótti [...] · mjó-fingraði  
4 hvítri ok horskri, · hétu Erna.

[W 78v/TODO]

Messengers drove through drizzling roads,  
came to the hall where a ruler lived;  
met a slender-fingered,  
white and wise—they called her Erne.

1 Óku | *okū* W 3 mjó-fingraði | the grammar requires *-ri*; mjó-fingraði W

- 38 Bǫðu hennar · ok heim óku,  
2 giptu Jarli, · gekk hón und líni;  
saman bjuggu þau · ok sér unðu,  
4 ettir jóku · ok aldrs nutu.

[W 78v/TODO]

They asked for her hand and drove home,  
married her off to Earl—she went under the linen.  
They settled together and were content with themselves,  
grew their lineage and enjoyed life.

2 gekk hón und líni ‘she went ‘neath the linen’ | i.e. she donned the bridal veil; cf. *Thrim* 27.

- 39 Burr vas hinn elsti, · en Barn annat;

[W 78v/TODO]

2 Jóð ok Aðal, · Arfi, Mogr,  
 Niðr ok Niðjungr, · (nómu leika)  
 4 Sonr ok Svęinn, · (sund ok tafl)  
 Kundr hét ęinn; · Konr vas hinn yngsti.

Byre was the oldest, and Bairn another;

TODO: Translation.

TODO: Translation (they learned to play) Son and Swain (swimming and Tavel) Kund was one called; Kin was the youngest.

40 Upp óxu þar · Jarli bornir: [W 78v/TODO]  
 2 hęsta tǫmðu, · hlífar bęndu,  
 skęyti skófu, · skęlfðu aska.  
 4 En Konr ungr · kunni rúnar:  
 ęvin-rúnar · ok aldr-rúnar.

There grew up the sons of Earl:

horses they tamed, shield-rims they bent,

smoothened shafts, shook ash-spears.—

But Kin the Young knew runes:

ever-runes and life-runes.

---

4 Konr ungr ‘Kin the Young’ | The name is clearly a folk etymological pun on ON *konungr* ‘king’, who held the highest social rank, above even the earls.

41 Męirr kunni hann · męnnum bjarga, [W 78v/TODO]  
 2 ęggjar deyfа, · ęgi lęgja.  
 Klǫk nam fugla, · kyrra ęlda,  
 4 sǫfa ok svęfja, · sorgir lęgja,  
 afl ok ęljun · átta manna.

Further he knew men to save,

blades to dull, the sea to lower.

He learned the chirps of birds, to calm fires,

to soothe and lull to sleep, to lower sorrows,

the strength and zeal of eight men.

42 Hann við Rígh Jarl · rúnar deildi; [W 78v/TODO]  
 2 brǫgðum bęitti · ok bętr kunni;  
 þá ǫðladisk · ok þá ęiga gat,  
 4 Rígr at hęita, · rúnar kunna.

With Rígh-Earl he shared runes;

TODO.

then he earned for himself, and got to own,  
 Righ to be called, runes to know.

- 43      Reǿð Konr ungr · kjǿrr ok skóga; [W 78v/TODO]  
 2      kolfi fleǿgðei · kyrðei fugla;  
      þá kvað þat kráka · —sat kvisti ęin—  
 4      „Hvat skalt, Konr ungr, · kyrra fugla?  
      Hęldr mętti þer · hęstum riða  
 6      [...] · ok hęr fęlla.

Kin the Young rode through brushes and woods;  
 he flung bolts, he calmed birds.  
 Then quoth a crow—it sat lone on a twig—:  
 “For what shalt thou, Kin the Young, calm birds?  
 Better it fit thee horses to ride,  
 [...], and armies to fell.”

- 44      Á Danr ok Danpr · dýrar hallir; [W 78v/TODO]  
 2      óðra óðal · an ér hafið;  
      þęir kunnu vel · kjól at riða,  
 4      ęgg at kęnna, · undir rjúfa.

Dan and Danp own costly halls:  
 nobler ethel than ye do—  
 they know well the ship to ride,  
 the blade to teach, wounds to tear.

<sup>2</sup> ér ‘ye’ | metr. emend.; þér ‘id.’ W, which is simply a younger form of ér, and shows that the poem has been linguistically modernised.

<sup>2</sup> óðal ‘ethel’ | Ancestral farmland, in this case the eighteen homesteads owned by Earl.

<sup>3</sup> kjól at riða ‘ship to ride’ | i.e. to sail.

<sup>4</sup> ęgg at kęnna ‘the blade to teach’ | i.e. to fight, wage war. Apparently a euphemism; to “teach someone the blade” is to fight him.

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At this point leaf 78 ends. The rest of the poem is lost.

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# Eddic fragments from Snorre's Edda

A number of Eddic lines, stanzas and groups of stanzas are quoted in Snorre's Edda. The majority of them are taken from longer Eddic poems preserved in full in other manuscripts (primarily R and A), but a few are found nowhere else. These fragments will be edited in the present section.

The fragments have some things in common: they are generally pieces of spoken dialogue quoted in the context of longer narrative prose sections, and are, with one exception (Homedal's galder, see below), not introduced by reference to their source but rather with phrases like *þá kvað hann* 'then he quoth'.

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## A lost riddle-poem

This half-stanza is quoted in *Yilv* 2, being the second Eddic verse in the text, following *High* 1 in the same chapter, which is uttered by Yilfer himself when he enters the hall of the Eese. The whole section is clearly referencing other Eddic mythic wisdom contests and particularly reminiscent of *Webth*.

- P1      Hann sá þrjú há-séti ok hvert upp frá ǫðru, ok sátu þrír menn sinn í hverju.  
2      Þá spurði hann, hvert nafn høfðingja þeira véri. Sá svarar, er hann leiddi  
inn, at sá, er í inu neðsta háséti sat, var konungr, ok heitir Hárr, en þar nęst  
4      sá, er heitir Jafnhárr, en sá ofast, er Þriði heitir. Þá spyrr Hárr komandann,  
hvárt fleira er erendi hans, en heimill er matr ok drykkir honum sem ǫllum  
6      þar í Háva hǫll. Hann segir, at fyrst vill hann spyrja, ef nokkurr er fróðr  
maðr inni. Hárr segir, at hann komi eigi heill út, nema hann sé fróðari,

He [= Yilfer] saw three high-seats and each higher than the other, and three men sat there, each in his own seat. Then he asked what the names of those chieftains were. He who led him in answers that the one who sat in the lowest high-seat was a king called High, and next to him he who is called Evenhigh, and uppermost he who is called Third. Then High asks the guest whether he has any other errands, but food and drink will be freely offered him, like all men there in the High One's hall. He [= Yilfer] asks whether anyone within is a learned man. High says that he will not come out whole unless he be more learned [than he],

- 1      „ok statt-u fram̃m · meðan þú fregn  
2      sitja skal sá es sęgir.“

“and stand forth while thou askest;  
sit shall he who speaks!”

## Nearth and Shede

The following passage is almost the whole of *Yǫlv* 23, excepting at the very end *svá er sagt* ‘so it is said’, after which is quoted *Grim* 11. Notably, the two stanzas cited here are also found translated in Grammaticus (2015)[1.8.18–19], where they are said to have been spoken by Hadding and Rainhild, respectively. For discussion Hopkins (2021).

- P2    Inn þriði áss er sá, er kallaðr er Njǫrðr. Hann býr á himni, þar sem heitir  
2    Nóatún. Hann reðr fyrir gongu vinds ok stillir sjá ok eld. Á hann skal  
heita til sé-fara ok til veiða. Hann er svá auðigr ok fé-séll, at hann má gefa  
4    þeim auð, landa eða lausa-fjár. Á hann skal til þess heita. Eigi er Njǫrðr ása  
éttar. Hann var upp fódðr í Vana-heimi, en Vanir gísluðu hann goðunum  
6    ok tóku í mót at gíslingu þann, er Hónir heitir. Hann varð at sétt með  
goðum ok Vǫnum. Njǫrðr á þá konu, er Skaði heitir, dóttir Þjatsa jǫtuns.  
8    Skaði vill hafa bú-stað þann, er átt hafði faðir hennar, þat er á fjöllum  
nǫkkurum, þar sem heitir Þrym-heimr, en Njǫrðr vill vera nēr sé. Þau  
10    séttust á þat, at þau skyldu vera níu nētr í Þrym-heimi, en þá aðrar níu at  
Nóa-túnum. En er Njǫrðr kom aftr til Nóatúna af fjallinu, þá kvað hann  
12    þetta:

The third Os is that one who is called Nearth. He lives in the heaven in the place called Nowetowns. He rules the course of the wind, and stills sea and fire. On him shall one call for sea-faring and for hunting. He is so wealthy and blessed with money that he may give them a wealth of lands or loose property; on him shall one call for that sake. Nearth is not of the lineage of the Eese. He was brought up in Wanehome, but the Waners gave him as a hostage to the gods, and in return got as hostage that one who is called Heener. He was used to reconcile the gods and the Waners. Nearth has that woman who is called Shede, the daughter of the ettin Thedse. Shede wishes to have the dwelling which her father had owned, which lies on some fells in the place called Thrimham—but Nearth wishes to live by the sea. They agreed with each other that they would live for nine nights in Thrimham, but the other nine at Nowetowns. But when Nearth came back to the Nowetowns from the fell, he quoth this:

- 2    „Lēið erumk fjöll, · vas’k-a lēngi á,  
2    nētr ęinar níu;  
ulfa þytr · mér þótti illr vesa

- 4 hjá sǫngvi svana.“  
 “The fells are loathsome to me; I was not long thereon—  
 only for nine nights.  
 The howling of the wolves thought me evil,  
 compared to the song of swans.”

**P3** Þá kvað Skaði þetta:

Then Shede quoth this:

- 3 „Sofa né mát'k-a'k · sǣvar beðjum á  
 2 fugls jarmi fyrir;  
 sá mik vǣkr · es af víði kǫmr  
 4 morgun hverjan már.“  
 “I could not sleep on the beds of the sea  
 for the bleating of the bird.  
 He awakes me, when from the wide sea he comes,  
 every morning, the mew.”

- P4** Þá fór Skaði upp á fjall ok byggði í Þrym-heimi, ok ferr hon mjök á skíðum  
 2 ok með boga ok skýtr dýr. Hon heitir ǫndur-goð eða ǫndur-dís.  
 Then Shede went up to the fells and dwelled in Thrimham, and she often goes on skis with her  
 bow and shoots beasts. She is called ski-god or ski-dise.

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### Homedal's Galder (*Heimdallargaldr*)

This mysterious fragment is quoted in *Yilv* 27, the chapter describing Homedal, which is here reproduced in full. The fragment consists of two c-lines and appears to be the end of a stanza in the fitting meter *Galders-law*.

The same poem is mentioned again in *Scold* 15: *Heimdallar hǫfuð heitir sverð. Svá er sagt, at hann var lostinn manns hǫfði í gegnum. Um þat er kveðit í Heimdallar-galdri, ok er síðan kallat hǫfuð mjötuðr Heimdallar* ‘A sword is called Homedal's head. So is said that he was run through with a man's head. About that it is sung in Homedal's galder, and henceforth the head is called Homedal's bane.’

---

- P5      Heimdallr heitir einn. Hann er kallaðr hvíti áss; hann er mikill ok heilag.  
 2      Hann báru at syni meyjar níu ok allar systir; hann heitir ok Hallinskíði ok  
      Gullintanni; tennr hans váru af gulli. Hestr hans heitir Gulltoppr. Hann  
 4      býr þar er heitir Himinbjörg við Bifröst; hann er vörðr goða ok sitr þar við  
      himins enda at gæta brúarinnar fyrir berg-risum. Hann þarf minna svefn  
 6      en fugl. Hann sér jafnt nótt sem dag hundrað rasta frá sér; hann heyrir  
      ok þat, er gras vex á jörðu eða ull á sauðum, ok allt þat er héra lètr. Hann  
 8      hefir lúðr þann er Gjallar-horn heitir, ok heyrir blástr hans í alla heima.  
      Heimdallar sverð er kallat höfuð manns. Hér er svá sagt:

Homedal one is named. He is called the White Os; he is great and holy. He was born as the son of nine maidens, sisters all. He is also named Haldenshid and Goldentooth; his tooth were of gold. His horse is called Goldtop. He lives at the place called the Heavenbarrows near Bivrest. He is the Watchman of the Gods and sits there at Heaven's end to guard the bridge against barrow-risers. He needs less sleep than a bird. Both night and day he sees a hundred rests away from him; he also hear when grass grows on the ground or wool on sheep, and everything which sounds louder. He has the basoon called the Horn of Yell, and his blowing can be heard in all realms. Homedal's sword is called a man's head. Here it says so:

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(Here the text cites *Grim* 13; see there.)

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P6      Ok enn segir hann sjalfr í Heimdallar-galdri:

And further he himself says in Homedal's Galder:

- 4      „Níu em'k mǫðra mǫgr,  
 2      níu em'k systra sonr.“

“Of nine mothers I'm the lad,  
 of nine sisters I'm the son.”

---

1 mǫðra 'mothers' | so STW; meyja 'maidens' U 2 sonr 'son' | om. T

---

## Gna and the Wanes

The following passage is from *Ylvi* 35, which lists the **Ossens**.

- P7 Fjórtánda Gná, hana sendir Frigg í ymsa heima at ørindum sínum. Hon á þann hest, er renn lopt ok lög, er heitir Hóf-varpnir. Þat var eitt sinn, er hon reið, at vanir nokkvörir sá reið hennar í loptinu. Þa mælti einn:

The fourteenth is Gna; Frie sends her into every home to do her errands. She owns the horse who runs through air and sea, and is called Hoofwarpner. It was one time when she rode that some Wanes saw her riding in the air. Then one spoke:

- 5 „Hvat þar flýgr, · hvat þar ferr,  
2 eða at lopti liðr?“

“What flies there, what fares there,  
or passes through the air?”

- P8 Hon svarar:

She answers:

- 6 „Né ek flýg, · þó ek fer  
2 ok at lopti lið’k  
á Hóf-varpni, · þeim’s Ham-skępir  
4 gat við Garð-rofu.“

“I fly not, though I fare,  
and pass through the air,  
on Hoofwarpner, whom Hamsherper  
begot with Yardrove.”

- P9 Af Gnár nafni er svá kallat, at þat gnéfar, er hátt ferr:

From Gna’s name it is so called that something which fares high up *protrudes*.

## Balder's Death

*Yilv* 49 contains the narrative of Balder's death, beginning with his ominous dreams, and ending with the Eese failing to "weep him out of Hell" (for a summary and discussion of the myth and its attestations, see the introduction to *Wsp* 31–33). At the end of the chapter, a single *Leeds-meter* speech-stanza is quoted.

- 
- P10** Því nęst sendu ęsir um allan heim ęrind-reka at biđja, at Baldr vęri grátinn  
 2 őr Helju, en allir gerđu þat, menninir ok kykvendin ok jęrđin ok steinarnir  
 ok trę ok allr málmr, svá sem þú munt sęt hafa, at þęssir lutir gráta, þá er  
 4 þęir koma őr frosti ok í hita. Þá er sendi-menn fóru heim ok hęfđu vel  
 rekit sín ęrindi, finna þęir í helli nękkvęrum, hvar gýgr sat; hon nefndist  
 6 Þękk. Þęir biđja hana gráta Baldr őr helju, hon segir:

Next after that the Eese sent an errand-runner through all the **Home**, to ask that Balder be wept out of hell. And all did that, the men and the beasts and the earth and the stones and trees and all bedrock, as thou must have seen, that these things weep when they come out of cold and into heat. When the messengers journeyed home, and had ran their errand well, they find in a certain cave that a gow sat there; she called herself Thanks. They ask her to weep Balder out of hell. She says:

- 7 „Þękk mun gráta • þurru tęrum  
 2 Baldrs bál-farar;  
 kyks né dauđs • naut'k-a Karls sonar  
 4 hafi Hęl því's hęfir.“

“Thanks will weep—with dry tears  
 for Balder's pyre-journey [DEATH].  
 Neither alive nor dead did I benefit from Churl's son [= Balder];  
 let Hell have what she has!”

- P11** En þęss geta menn, at þar hafi verit Loki Laufeyjarson, er flest hęfir illt  
 2 gęrt með ásum.

But men guess that this must have been Lock, Leafy's son, who has done the most evil among the Eese.

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## Thunder's Journey to Garfrith

*Scold* 26, here edited in part, is the only surviving retelling of Thunder's journey to the ettin Garfrith, and his following fight with, and slaying of, him and his two daughters, Yelp and Grope. This was apparently a well-known story, and is also mentioned in *Vetr l* v 1/1b (quoted in *Scold* 11, which lists kennings for Thunder): *stétt of Gjǫlp dauða* 'thou didst step over the dead Yelp'. The prose of *Scold* 26 seems to be based on an earlier, now-lost poem in *Leeds-meter*, from which it quotes two stanzas. The first is found in all four main manuscripts, while the second is found only in U. Both are spoken by Thunder and closely resemble each other stylistically, which is why they most likely come from the same poem.

- P12 Þá fór Þórr til ár þeirar, er Vimur heitir, allra á mest. Þá spennti hann  
 2 sik megin-gjörðum ok studdi for-streymis Gríðar-völ, en Loki helt undir  
 megin-gjarðar. Ok þá er Þórr kom á miðja ána, þá óx svá mjök áin, at uppi  
 4 braut á qxl honum. Þá kvað Þórr þetta:

Then Thunder journeyed to that river which is called Wimbre, greatest of all rivers. Then he wrapped his might-girdle around himself and leaned upon Grith's stave against the stream, and Lock held up the might-girdle. And when Thunder came to the middle of the river, then it waxed so great that it broke over his shoulders. Then Thunder quoth this:

- 8 „Vax-at-tu nú, Vimur, • alls mik þik vaða tíðir  
 2 jǫtna garða í;  
 vætst, ef þú vęx • at þá vęx mér ós-męgin  
 4 jafn-hátt upp sem himinn.“

“Wax not now, O Wimbre, as I wish to wade through thee  
 into the yards of the ettins.  
 Thou knowest, if thou waxest, then my os-might waxes  
 up as high as the heaven.”

- P13 Þá sér Þórr uppi í gljúfrum nokkurum, at Gjálp, dóttir Geirrðar stóð þar  
 2 tveim megin árinna, ok gerði hon ár-vøxtinn. Þá tók Þórr upp ór ánni  
 stein mikinn ok kastaði at henni ok męlti svá: „At ósi skal á stemma.“ Eigi  
 4 missti hann, þar er hann kastaði til, ok í því bili bar hann at landi ok fekk  
 tekit reyni-runna nokkurn ok steig svá ór ánni. Því er þat orð-tak haft, at  
 6 reynir er björg Þórs.

Then Thunder sees that up in some certain gorges Yelp, daughter of Garfrith, stood on both sides of the river, and she caused the river's growth. Then Thunder took up from the river a great stone and threw it at her and spoke so: “At its source shall the river be dammed.” He did not miss his target, and in that moment he threw himself towards land and got hold of a certain rowan shrub, and thus stepped out of the river. From this comes the saying that the rowan is Thunder's deliverance.

1–2 stóð þar tveim megin árinna, ok gerði hon ár-vøxtinn. ‘stood on both sides of the river, and she caused the river’s growth’ | She stood with her legs spread and befouled the river.

- P14 En er Þórr kom til Geirrðar, þá var þeim fê-lögum vísat fyrst í geita-hús  
 2 til her-bergis, ok var þar einn stóll til sëtis, ok sat Þórr þar. Þá varð hann  
 þess varr, at stóllinn fór undir honum upp at réfri. Hann stakk Gríðar-veli  
 4 upp í raftana ok lét sígast fast á stólinn. Varð þá brestr mikill, ok fylgði  
 skrékr. Þar hófðu verit undir stólinum dótr Geirrðar, Gjálp ok Greip, ok  
 6 hafði hann brotit hrygginn í báðum. Þa kvað Þórr:

And when Thunder came to Garfrith’s home the fellows were first shown into a goathouse for lodgings, and therein one chair was for sitting, and Thunder sat down on it. Then he noticed that the chair beneath him was moving up toward the roof. He thrust Grith’s stave up against the rafters and made it push firm onto the chair. Then there was a great crack, followed by a shriek; there beneath the chair had been the daughters of Garfrith, Yelþ and Grope, and he had broken both their backs. Then Thunder quoth:

- 9 „Einu sinni · neytta’k alls megin  
 2 jøtna gøðum í  
 þá’s Gjølþ ok Greip, · dótr Geir-raðar,  
 4 vildu hefja mik til himins.“

“Only one time I used all my might  
 in the yards of the ettins,  
 when Yelþ and Grope, daughters of Garfrith,  
 would lift me to the heaven.”

1 sinni ‘time’ | metr. and sens. emend.; om. U

## On the Making of Glapner

The following stanza about the making of Glapner, the fetter used to bind the Fenrerswolf, is found in the short work on kennings today called the *Little Scald* (*Lítla skálda*), which text was probably used as a source by Snorre; see further Males (2020, pp. 129–47). A variant of this stanza is transparently paraphrased in *Yilv* 28: *Hann var gørr af sex blutum: af dyn kattarins ok af skeggi konunnar ok af rótum bjargsins ok af sinum bjarnarins ok af anda fisksins ok affogls bráka*. ‘It [Glapner] was made of six things: of the cat’s din and of the woman’s beard and of the mountain’s root and of the bear’s sinews and of the fish’s breath and of the fowl’s spittle.’ The two differences—*bráka* ‘spittle’ for *mjolk* ‘milk’, and the inverted order of lines 2 and 3—suggest that Snorre had access to a somewhat different version. It is not attributed to any named poem.



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10      Ór kattar dyn · ok ór konu skeggi,  
2            ór físk's anda · ok ór fugla mjólk,  
            ór bergs rótum · ok bjarnar sinum,  
4            ór því vas hann Gleipnir gørr.

“From cat's din and from woman's beard;  
from fish's breath and from fowls' milk;  
from mountain's roots and bear's sinews;  
from this was Glapner made.”

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## Heroic Poetry of the Codex Regius



# The Lay of Wayland (*Vǫlundarkviða*)

**Dating** (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.428)–early C11th (0.475)

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

The **Lay of Wayland** (*Wayl*) is a story of immense psychological complexity, one of the masterpieces of Norse narrative poetry.

The poem begins with a prose introduction, which survives in both **R** and **A**.

Wayland gets his revenge on the whole royal household. He murders Nithad's two young sons (affectionately, his "bear-cubs") and thus ends his male lineage. Likewise he defangs Nithad's "cunning wife" (she is never called anything else) by reducing her once powerful counsels to cold words; and finally he rapes Beadhild, depriving her of her maidenhood and value in marriage. They are thus reduced to the same state of complete powerlessness as he himself experienced, something clearly seen in the repetition of the adjective *viljalauss* 'powerless'; in v. 12 it describes Wayland after he wakes in shackles, but in v. 31 Nithad uses it to refer to his own mental state after the deaths of his sons. This sense of hopelessness is also seen in Beadhild's haunting concluding speech. "I knew by naught struggle against him; I could by naught struggle against him."

From the other versions of the story it is known that Beadhild gave birth to a son, Woody (OE *Wudga*, *ThdrS Viðga*, in Danish ballads *Vidrik Verlandson*). He went on to become a great hero, and in the later heroic ballads by far eclipses his father. His birth seems heavily foreshadowed by Wayland forcing Nithad to swear an oath in v. 33, but he is nowhere directly mentioned in the poem, probably for artistic reasons.

Apart from this lay there is one other telling of the full story, namely the Strand of Wayland the Smith in *ThdrS*. While written in Old Norse, it is clear from the proper names and content that it is based on German sources (probably heroic ballads). Thus the native form *Vǫlundr* is replaced with *Velent* [*sic*], *Niðuðr* with *Niðungr*. Interestingly there is a note within it showing that the native form was still known, namely about "Velent, the excellent smith, whom Warrings (*væringjar*) call Wayland (*Vǫlundr*)". Apparently Wayland was so famous that "all men seem to praise his workmanship so, that the maker of any smith's work which is made better than other works, is called a Wayland (*Vǫlundr*) with regards to workmanship."

Far more stark than minor differences of language is that of tone. The psychological complexity and tension of the older redaction is almost entirely gone: Wayland is no longer a mysterious wild man, but a chivalrous knight who can escape from any peril through his ingenuity and craftsmanship. He is not kidnapped out of Nithad's greed, nor hamstrung out of the suspicion of his cruel wife, but rather a loyal servant of Nithad's, banished from the kingdom after defending himself against the king's corrupt steward, and hamstrung after being caught attempting to poison the king's food in revenge.

Most frustratingly the personality of Beadhild is entirely expulged. She is the anonymous “king’s daughter”, an unnamed maiden (*jungfrú*, a borrowing from Low German) who is peacefully seduced by Wayland and quickly falls in love with him. Likewise the person of Nithad’s cunning wife is completely gone, and the murder of his sons no longer ends his lineage, since he has another, older son who survives him and takes over the kingdom. Wayland still flies away laughing after telling Nithad what he has done, but only four years (his son with Beadhild is three years old) later reconciliates with Nithad’s son, retrieves Beadhild and their son and lives a long life as a famous craftsman.

With this it is clearly seen that the story by the time of the *ThdrS* had been heavily distorted, a tragic victim of medieval romantic sensibilities. It does not have any high literary value, but is of interest since it shows the wide reception and variation of the narrative.

Finally there are also traces of the story in the Anglo-Saxon tradition, where it is alluded to in both *Walder* and *Deer*, the latter of which particularly emphasising the powerlessness felt by Wayland and Beadhild (thus being much closer in spirit to the present poem than to *ThdrS*). Parts of the narrative are depicted on the early C8th Frank’s casket, where it is as prominent as the depiction of the Adoration of the Magi—a true testament to the weight with which it was regarded within that culture.

To illustrate the narrative correspondences and differences of the various redactions, I present the following table:

| Person                             |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Wayland                            |  |
| Wayland’s brothers                 |  |
| Father of the brothers             |  |
| Nithad                             |  |
| Nithad’s daughter (Beadhild)       |  |
| Nithad’s sons                      |  |
| Wayland and Beadhild’s son (Woody) |  |
| Wives of the brothers              |  |
| —                                  | Wayland and his brothers ski and hunt animals. They settle in the Wolfdales, and one |
| —                                  | Nithad learns that Wayland is alone, V   |
| —                                  |  |

### Regarding Wayland (*Frá Völundi*)

- P1 Níðuðr hét konungr í Svíþjóð. Hann átti tvá sonu ok eina dóttur; hon hét [R 18r/4, A 6v/26]  
 2 Bǫðvildr. Bróðr vǫru þrír, synir Finna konungs. Hét einn Slagfiðr, annarr  
 Egill, þriði Völundr. Þeir skriðu ok veiddu dýr. Þeir kvómu í Úlfðali ok  
 4 gerðu sér þar hús. Þar er vatn, er heitir Úlfsjár. Snemma of morgin fundu  
 þeir á vatsströndu konur þrjár, ok spunnu lín. Þar vǫru hjá þeim álfarhamir  
 6 þeira; þat vǫru valkyrjur. Þar vǫru tvær dótr Hlǫðvés konungs: Hlaðguðr  
 svanhvít ok Hervǫr alvitr. In þriðja var Qlrún Kjárs dóttir af Vallandi.  
 8 Þeir hófðu þær heim til skála með sér. Fekk Egill Qlrúnar, en Slagfiðr  
 Svanhvítrar, en Völundr Alvitrar. Þau bjuggu sjau vetr. Þá flugu þær at  
 10 vitja víga ok kvómu eigi aptr. Þá skreið Egill at leita Qlrúnar, en Slagfiðr

12 leitaði Svanhvítrar, en Völundr sat í Úlfðólum. Hann var hagrastr maðr,  
svá at menn viti í fornum sögum. Níðuðr konungr lét hann höndum taka,  
svá sem hér er um kveðit:

Nithad was a king called in Sweden. He had two sons and one daughter; she was called Beadhild. Three brothers were there; the sons of a king of the Finns. One was called Slayfinn, the other Eyel, the third Wayland. They fared on skis and hunted wild beasts. They came into the Wolfdales and made for themselves houses there. There is a lake there which is called the Wolfsea. Early in the morning they found on the lake-shore three women, and they span linen. There were by them their swan-hames; those were Walkirries. There were two daughters of king Ladwigh: Ladguth Swanwhite and Harware Elwight. The third was Alerune, daughter of Choser of Walland. The men took the women to their halls with them. Eyel got Alerune, and Slayfinn Swanwhite, and Wayland the Elwight. The couples lived there for seven winters; then the women left to attend battles, and did not come back. Then Eyel fared on skis to search for Alerune, but Slayfinn searched for Swanwhite—but Wayland stayed in the Wolfdales. He was the most skilled craftsman whom men know of in the ancient saws. King Nithad had him taken, as it is here sung of:

1 hon hét 'she was called' | so R; ok hét hon 'and she was called' A 2 vöru 'were' | so A; om. R 4–13 sér þar hús ... um kveðit 'for themselves houses ... sung of' | so R; om. (due to loss of the following foll. in the ms.) A

7 Kjárs [...] af Vallandi 'Choser of Walland' | i.e. 'Cæsar of Rome'; a legendary form of the Roman emperor. See Encyclopedia.

1 Męjjar flugu sunnan • Myrk-við í gögnum  
2 al-vitr ungar, • ør-lög drýgja;  
þér á sévar-strönd • sęttusk at hvílask  
4 drósir suð-rónar, • dýrt lín spunnu.

[R 18r/19]

Maidens flew from the south through Mirkwood  
—young elwights— to fulfill orlay.  
They on the lake-shore set down to rest,  
southern ladies, they span costly linen.

1 Myrk-við 'Mirkwood' | Mirkwood is surely referenced for its association with the war-ravaged lands of the Gots and Huns; a natural environment for Walkirries.

2 al-vitr 'elwights' | i.e. "strange beings, foreign wights", continuing a hypothetical \**alja-wihtiz*.

2 ør-lög drýgja; 'fulfill orlay' | That is, to fulfill their preordained destinies, and act according to their innate nature, as described in P1 and st. 3. Clunies Ross (2005)[103] and some other editors see a sign of English influence in these words; they translate *drýgja ør-lög* as "engage in war", considering *ør-lög* a semantic borrowing from the OE cognate of Dutch *oorlog* 'war'. This is unnecessary; ON *ør-lög* otherwise means 'fate, destiny', and so may its OE cognate, as seen by the equivalent phrase found in l. 29 of a poem on the Christian Doomsday (TODO?), where a man going to Hell for his sins *þonne á tó ealdre • or-leg dreógeð* 'and then for ever and ever [he] suffers his orlay'.

2 Eın nam þęira • Eęil at vęrja

[R 18r/21]

- 2 fōgr mér fira · faðmi ljósum;  
 3 onnur vas Svanhvít, · svan-fjaðrar dró,  
 4 [...]  
 en hin þriðja · þeira systir  
 6 varði hvítan · hals Völundar.

One of them began—the fair maiden of men—  
 to embrace Eyel in her bosom bright.  
 Second was Swanwhite—her swan-feathers she rustled.  
 [...]  
 But the third of those sisters  
 embraced the white throat of Wayland.

2 fōgr mér fira ‘fair maiden of men’ | i.e. “fair maiden in human shape”.

4 [...] | A line mentioning Slayfinn has probably been lost here.

- 3 Sǫtu síðan · sjau vetr at þat,  
 2 en hinn átta · allan þróðu,  
 en hinn níunda · nauðr of skilði,  
 4 meýjar fýstusk · á myrkvan við,  
 al-vitr ungar · ør-løg drýggja.

[R 18r/24]

They stayed then for seven winters after that,  
 but all the eighth they yearned,  
 and the ninth did need divorce them.—  
 The maidens longed for the Mirky wood:  
 the young elwights, to fulfill orlay.

- 4 Kom þar af veiði · veðr-eygr skyti  
 2 Völundr líðandi · of langan veg,  
 Slagfiðr ok Egill, · sali fundu auða,  
 4 gingu út ok inn · ok umb sǫusk.

[R 18r/26]

Came there from the hunt the stormy-eyed shooter:  
 Wayland passing over a long way.  
 Slayfinn and Eyel found the halls deserted;  
 they walked out and in, and looked around.

2 Völundr ... veg ‘Wayland ... way’ | emend. based on st. 9/3–4 below; om. R

- 5 Austr skreið Egill · at Qlrúnu,  
 2 en suðr Slagfiðr · at Svanhvítu,  
 en einn Völundr · sat í Ulf-dǫlum.

[R 18r/27]



East skied Eyel after Alerune,  
but south Slayfinn after Swanwhite—  
but alone Wayland stayed in the Woldfdales.

- 6 Hann sló gull rautt · við gim fastan, [R 18r/29]  
2 lukði alla · linn-baugum vël;  
svá bæið hann · sinnar ljóssar  
4 kvánar, ef hönnum · koma gærði.

He struck red gold by fastened gem;  
he enclosed all the serpent-bighs well;  
thus he awaited his own bright wife,  
if to him she might come.

2 linn-baugum ‘serpent-bighs’ | Armlets, torcs resembling or shaped like serpents. Cf. the snake- or dragon-shaped Wiking age armlet 108822 HST found in a hoard in Undrom, Ångermanland, northern Sweden. <https://samlingar.shm.se/object/5C5658C4-0813-4DFF-947F-E5E4C4BAB965>.

- 7 Þat spyrr Níðuðr, · Níara dróttinn, [R 18r/31]  
2 at çinn Völundr · sat í Ulf-dölum;  
nótum fóru seggir, · næglðar vóru brynjur,  
4 skildir bliku þeira · við hinn skarða mána.

This learns Nithad, lord of the Nears,  
that alone Wayland stayed in the Woldfdales.  
Nightily journeyed warriors—nailed were their byrnies—  
their shields gleamed by the waning moon.

1 Níara ‘the Nears’ | An obscure tribe, perhaps the residents of *Närke*, an ancient province of Sweden. See Encyclopedia.

3 næglðar vóru brynjur ‘nailed were their byrnies’ | The “byrnies” here are apparently some kind of costly plate armour.

- 8 Stigu ór sǫðlum · at salar gaffi, [R 18r/33]  
2 gingu inn þaðan · çnd-langan sal,  
sǫu á bast · bauga drægna,  
4 sjau hundruð allra, · es sá seggr átti.

They stepped off their saddles by the hall’s gables;  
went thence inside the endlong hall;  
saw they on a bast-rope bighs drawn up:  
seven hundred in all, which that man owned.

2 gingu ... sal 'went ... hall' | Formulaic. The fixed variant line *bón/bann inn of gekk · end-langan sal* 'he/she inside did go the endlong hall' (i.e. 'through the entire length of the hall', cf. English "livelong") occurs in three other places: sts. 16 and 30 of the present poem, and st. 3 of *Ordr*. *end-langr salr* 'endlong hall' occurs in two additional places: st. 27 of *Thrim* and st. 3 of *Sbir*.

- 9      Ok þeir af tóku · ok þeir á létu [R 18v/2]  
 2      fyr çinn útan, · es af létu.  
       Kom þar af vçiði · vçðr-eygr skyti  
 4      Vçlundr líðandi · of langan veg.

And they took off, and they slid on;  
 save for one, which off they slid.—  
 Came there from the hunt the stormy-eyed shooter:  
 Wayland passing over a long way.

2 fyr çinn útan, · es af létu 'save for one, which off they slid' | This bigh is probably the one mentioned in sts. 17 and 26, since Beadchild has it already when Wayland is brought back after being captured. It may have been kept for its particular beauty. Finnur Jónsson (1932) writes (*my translation from the Danish*): "The ring which Nithad kept must have had special properties, and distinguished itself before others. There is no doubt that the ring is a flight ring; whether this was clear to the poet is however questionable. This much is certain, that Wayland seems to be able to fly away only after he has got back the ring; that is, the one which Beadchild brings him." This is by no means certain. Wayland was a craftsman of legendary skill and could certainly have built wings for himself without a magical flight-ring. That is what he does in the Low German version; it is also what happens in the related Daidalos myth. For both of these see the introduction to the present poem.

- 10     Gekk hann brúnni · beru hold steikja; [R 18v/4]  
 2     ár brann hrísi · all-þurr fura,  
       viðr hinn vind-þurri, · fyr Vçlundr.

Went he the brown she-bear's flesh to roast;  
 in early morning burned the twigs of all-dry pine—  
 the wood wind-dry—before Wayland.

2 ár | metr. and sens. emend.; *bár* R

- 11     Sat á ber-fjalli, · bauga talði, [R 18v/5]  
 2     alfa ljóði · çins saknaði;  
       hugði at hçfði · Hlçðvés dóttir,  
 4     al-vitr unga · vçri aptr komin.

Sat he on the bear-pelt, bighs he counted—  
 the prince of elves was missing one!  
 Thought he that Ladwigh's daughter [= Harware] might have it,  
 that the young elwight might be come back.

1 bauga talði 'bighs he counted' | Wayland's grief and loneliness are skilfully illustrated by his counting all seven hundred rings, something which had apparently become a habit for him.

2 alfa ljóði ‘prince of elves’ | Probably referring to Wayland’s nature as a half-dæmonic Wild Man, something also seen by his hunting of bears, skiing, and fierce gaze. Cf. 14/2b and 32/1b, where Nithad calls him *vísi alfa* ‘overseer of elves’.

12 Sat svá lengi, • at sofnaði, [R 18v/7]  
 2 ok vaknaði • vilja-lauss;  
 vissi sér á hǫndum • hǫfgar nauðir,  
 4 en á fótum • fǫtur of spennntan.  
 Sat he so long that asleep he fell,  
 and he awoke, powerless.  
 He knew on his hands tortuous restraints,  
 and on his feet were fetters tightened.

[Völundr kvað:] 13 „Hverir ’ru jǫfrar • þeir’s á lögðu [R 18v/9]  
 2 bæsti-síma • ok bundu mik?“  
 [Wayland quoth:] “Which are the princes that laid on  
 the bast-cordage, and bound me?”

14 Kallaði nú Níðuðr, • Níara dróttinn: [R 18v/10]  
 2 „Hvar gatst, Völundr, • vísi alfa,  
 óra aura, • í Ulf-dǫlum?  
 4 Gull vas þar eigi • á Grana leiðu,  
 fjarri hugða’k vart land • fjǫllum Rínar.“  
 Now called Nithad, lord of the Nears:  
 “Where gottest thou, Wayland, overseer of elves,  
 our ounces, in the Wölfdales?  
 Gold was there not on Grane’s path;  
 far I’ve thought our land from the fells of the Rhine.<sup>173</sup>”

<sup>173</sup>Grane was the horse of the legendary hero Siward, slayer of the dragon Fathomer. These events were thought to have taken place in Germany. Nithad’s speech is thus sarcastic: “Where did you get that gold? I have never heard of a dragon’s hoard in the Wölfdales!”, the implication being that Wayland has stolen the gold (from king Nithad).

[Völundr kvað:] 15 „Man’k at meiri • méti ǫttum, [R 18v/13]  
 2 es vér heil hjú • heima vorum:  
 Hlaðguðr ok Hervǫr • borin vas Hlǫðvé,  
 4 kunn vas Qlrún • Kíars dóttir.“  
 [Wayland quoth:] “I recall that we owned greater wealth,  
 when we a whole household were at home:

Ladguth and Harware were born to Ladwigh;  
known was Alerune, Choser's daughter."<sup>174</sup>

<sup>174</sup>Wayland responds rather cryptically and almost seems to be speaking to himself. It seems that by asserting the noble lineages of the three swan-wives he gives a legitimate reason for his wealth, but, judging by the tone, he is aware that Nithad neither believes him nor cares.

16      Úti stóð kunnig · kvón Níðaðar, [R 18v/15]  
2      hón inn of gekk · ęnd-langan sal,  
         stóð á golfi, · stilti rōddu:  
4      „es-a sá nú hýrr, · es ór holti fęrr.“

Outside stood the cunning wife of Nithad,  
she went inside the endlong hall,  
stood on the floor, steered her voice:  
“He is not mild now, who comes out of the wood.”

1 Úti ... Níðaðar ‘Outside ... of Nithad’ | emend. based on st. 30/1–2; om. R

2 hón ... sal ‘she went ... hall’ | Formulaic, also occurring in st. 30 of the present poem and in *Ordr* 3.

P2      Níðuðr konungr gaf dóttur sinni Bōðvildi gull-hring þann er hann tók af [R 18v/16]  
2      bastinu at Vōlundar, en hann sjalfr bar sverðit er Vōlundr átti. En dróttning  
         kvað:

King Nithad gave his daughter Beadhild the golden ring which he took from the bast rope in Wayland's hall, but he himself carried the sword which Wayland had owned. But the queen quoth:

17      Tęnn hōnum tęygjask · es hōnum's tęt sverð, [R 18v/19]  
2      ok hann Bōðvildar · baug of þękkir,  
         ǫmun eru augu · ormi hinum frána;  
4      sníðið ér hann · sina magni,  
         ok sętið hann síðan · í Sęvarstōð.“

His teeth are bared when he is shown the sword,  
and Beadhild's bigh he recognizes;  
reminiscent are his eyes to the gleaming serpent's.—  
Snithe ye from him the might of his sinews,  
and set him thereafter on Seastead!”

- P3 Svá var gort, at skornar váru sinar í knés-fótum ok settr í holm einn, er [R 18v/21]  
 2 þar var fyrir landi, er hét Sévarstaðr. Þar smíðaði hann konungi alls-kyns  
 gǫr-simar; engi maðr þorði at fara til hans, nema konungr einn. Völundr  
 4 kvað:

So it was done that the sinews in his houghs were cut, and he was placed on a lonely islet lying there before the land, which was called Seastead. There he smithed for the king every kind of jewelry. No man dared go to him save the king alone. Wayland quoth:

- 18 „Sé’k Níðaði • sverð á linda, [R 18v/24]  
 2 þat’s ek hvęsta • sęm hagast kunna’k  
 ok ek hęrða’k • sęm hǫgst þótti;  
 4 sá ’s mér fránn mękir • ę fjarri borinn;  
 sé’k-a þann Völundi • til smiðju borinn.

“I see the sword on Nithad’s belt,  
 which I sharpened as most handily I could,  
 and I hardened as most pleasingly seemed.—  
 That gleaming blade is ever further from me carried;  
 I see it not for Wayland to the smithy carried!

1 Sé’k ‘I see’ | metr. emend.; *skínn* ‘shines’ R

- 19 Nú berr Bǫðvildr • brúðar minnar [R 18v/27]  
 2 —bíð’k-a þęss bót— • bauga rauða.“

Now does Beadhild bear my bride’s  
 —I await no recompense for that—red bighs.”

- 20 Sat—né svaf á-valt— • ok sló hamri; [R 18v/28]  
 2 vél gęrði hęldr • hvatt Níðaði;  
 drifu ungir tvęir • á dýr sęa  
 4 synir Níðaðar • í Sévarstǫð.

He sat—he slept never—and struck the hammer;  
 he very boldly planned wiles for Nithad.—  
 Two young ones were drifting to see costly things:  
 Nithad’s sons, to Seastead.

1 Sat—né svaf á-valt— ‘He sat—he slept never—’ | Compare *Guth Inst* TODO: *bófu mik—né drękkðu—* ‘they lifted me—they drowned [me] not—’.

- 21 Kvǫmu til kistu, • krǫfðu lukla, [R 18v/30]

- 2           opin vas illúð, · es í sǫu,  
             fjǫlð vas þar męina, · es mǫgum sýndisk  
 4           at vęri gull rautt · ok gǫr-simar.

Came they to the chest, demanded the keys;  
 open was the evil when inside they looked.  
 A great deal was there of harms, which to the lads seemed  
 like were it red gold and jewelry.

[Vǫlundr kvað:]

- 22       „Komið ęinir tveir, · komið annars dags;  
 2       ykkr lét’k þat gull · of gefit verða;  
           sęgið-a męyjum · né sal-þjóðum,  
 4       manni ęngum, · at mik fyndið.“

[R 18v/33]

“Come alone ye two; come another day!  
 To you, I declare, this gold will be given.  
 Tell not maidens nor the folk of the hall  
 —no man!—that *me* ye met.”

[Wayland quoth:]

- 23       Snimma kallaði · sęggr á annan,  
 2       bróðir á bróður: · „gǫngum baug séa!“  
           Kvǫmu til kistu, · krǫfðu lukla,  
 4       opin vas illúð · es í litu.

[R 19r/1]

Early called one youth to another,  
 brother to brother: “Let us go see the bighs!”  
 Came they to the chest, demanded the keys;  
 open was the evil when inside they looked.

- 24       Sneįð af hǫfuð · húna þęira  
 2       ok und fęn fjǫturs · fǫtr of lagði,  
           ęn þęr skálar, · es und skǫrum vǫru,  
 4       sveįp útan silfri, · sęldi Níðaði.

[R 19r/3]

He sliced off the heads of those bear-cubs,  
 and under the fetter’s fen their feet he laid;  
 but those bowls which were under their curls  
 he coated with silver and gave to Nithad.

1 húna ‘bear-cubs’ | An affectionate term for the young boys, perhaps relating to warrior-initiations done in bear-skins.

2 fęn fjǫturs ‘the fetter’s fen’ | Unclear. The smithy or islet may be Wayland’s “fetter”, in which case he buried them in a bog close-by.

3 þęr skálar, · es und skǫrum vǫru ‘those bowls which were under their curls’ | i.e. their skulls.

- 25      En ór augum · jarkna-stęina [R 19r/5]  
 2      sęndi kunnigri · kvęn Nįðaðar;  
          en ór tęnnum · tvęggja þęira  
 4      sló brjóst-kringlur, · sęndi Bęðvildi.

But out of the eyes arkenstones  
 he sent to the cunning wife of Nithad;  
 but out of the teeth of the two lads  
 he struck breast-brooches; sent [them] to Beadhild.

1 jarkna-stęina ‘arkenstones’ | Probably round crystals.

Something appears to be missing here, but the narrative can be gleaned. Beadhild breaks the bigh stolen by Nithad (mentioned above in sts. 10 (see note there) and 17), and is afraid that her parents will be angry about it. She thus goes to Wayland in secret and asks him to mend it. The sight of this ring may be what angers Wayland, and makes him take it out on Beadhild.

- 26      Þá nam Bęðvildr · baugi at hrósa [R 19r/7]  
 2      [...] · es brotit hafði,  
          „þori’g-a’k sęgja, · nema þér ęinum.“  
 Then Beadhild began to praise the ring,  
 [...] which she had broken,  
 “I dare not tell save to thee alone.”

2 [...] | The meter requires a half-line here, likely containing a more specific description of the bigh.

- Völundr kvað: 27      „Ek bęti svá · brest á gulli, [R 19r/8]  
 2      at fęðr þinum · fęgri þykkir,  
          ok męðr þinni · miklu bętri,  
 4      ok sjalfri þér · at sama hófi.“

Wayland quoth: “I [will] so mend the crack on the gold,  
 that to thy father it fairer seems,  
 and to thy mother much better,  
 and to thyself of the same rank.”

- 28      Bar hána bjóri, · því-at bętr kunni, [R 19r/10]  
 2      svá’t hęn í sessi · of sofnaði.  
          „Nú hęfi’k hęfnt · harma minna

4 allra nema ęinna · í-við-gjarna.“

He overcame her with beer—for he knew better—  
so that she in the seat asleep did fall.  
“Now have I avenged my harms,  
all, save one, on the insidious ones.”

1 því-at bętr kunni ‘for he knew better’ | i.e. he was more cunning than her.

4 nema ęinna ‘save one’ | Presumably the deprivation of his mobility due to the hamstringing, which he resolves by crafting his flight suit.

4 í-við-gjarna ‘insidious ones’ | King Nithad and his house.

29 „Vęl ek,“ kvað Vęlundr, · „verða’k á fitjum,  
2 þęim’s mik Níðaðar · nęmu rekkar.“  
Hlęjandi Vęlundr · hófsk at lopti,  
4 grátandi Bęðvildr · gekk ór ęju.  
tregði fęr friðils · ok fęður reði.

[R 19r/12]

“Well I”, quoth Wayland, “fall on my paddles;  
those which Nithad’s men bereaved me of!”  
Laughing, Wayland threw himself in the air;  
weeping, Beadhild went from the island;  
grieved the lover’s flight, and the father’s fury.

1 fitjum ‘paddles’ | CV: *fit* ‘the webbed foot of water-birds’, here a reference to the flight-suit which allows Wayland to regain his freedom.

30 Úti stęndr kunnig · kvón Níðaðar,  
2 ok hón inn of gekk · ęnd-langan sal,  
en hann á sal-garð · sęttisk at hvílask,  
4 „Vakir þú Níðuðr, · Níara dróttinn?“

[R 19r/14]

Outside stands the cunning wife of Nithad,  
and she inside did go the endlong hall—  
but he, on the courtyard, set down to rest.  
“Art thou awake, O Nithad, lord of the Nears?”

[Níðuðr kvað:]

31 „Vaki’k á-valt · vilja-lauss,  
2 sofna’k minst, · síðst sonu dauða,  
kęll mik í hęfuð, · kęld erumk ręð þín,

[R 19r/17]



4 vilnumk þess nú, · at við Völund dóma’k.“

[Nithad quoth:] “I am always awake, powerless;  
I fall asleep the least since my sons have died.  
My head turns cold; cold seem thy counsels—  
I wish now but this: to speak with Wayland.”

1 vilja-lauss ‘powerless’ | Used earlier of Wayland in st. 12, immediately after his binding.

3 kǫld erumk rǫð þín ‘cold seem thy counsels’ | A severe insult to a woman, evenmoreso to a queen, for such counsels to their husbands were how they could influence worldly affairs.

[Níðuðr kvað:] 32 „Sæg mér þat Völundr, · vísi alfa,  
2 af heilum hvat varð · húnum mínum?“

[R 19r/19]

[Nithad quoth:] “Tell me this, O Wayland, overseer of elves:  
what became of my healthy bear-cubs?”

[Völundr kvað:] 33 „Eiða skalt mér áðr · alla vinna,  
2 at skips borði · ok at skjaldar rǫnd,  
at mars bógi · ok at mækis egg  
4 at þú kvelj-at · kvön Völundar,  
né brúði minni · at bana verðir,  
6 þótt kvön ęigim, · þá’s ér kunnið,  
eða jóð ęigim · innan hallar.

[R 19r/20]

[Wayland quoth:] “All oaths shalt thou first swear to me,  
by deck of ship and rim of shield,  
by bough of steed and edge of sword—  
that thou wilt not torment the wife of Wayland,  
nor of my bride become the bane,  
though a wife we might own whom ye might know;  
or a babe might own within the hall.

2–3 at skips ... egg ‘by deck ... of sword’ | Which are all tools of war; in this way Wayland asks Nithad to swear on his honour as a warrior. A familiar oath-formula; TODO.

4–5 kvön Völundar ‘wife of Wayland’, brúði minni ‘my bride’ | i.e. Beadhild, who is now pregnant.

34 Gakk til smiðju, · þeirar’s gørðir,  
2 þar fiðr belgi · blóði stokna,  
snęð’k af hǫfuð · húna þinna  
4 ok und fęn fjǫturs · fǫtr of lagða’k.

[R 19r/24]

Go to the smithy, which *thou* didst make;  
there wilt thou find bellows sprinkled with blood.  
I sliced off the heads of thy bear-cubs,  
and under the fetter's fen their feet I laid.

- 35 En þer **skálar**, · es und **skorum** vóru, [R 19r/26]  
2 **sveip**'k útan **silfri**, · **selda**'k Níðaði,  
**en** ór **augum** · **jarkna**-steina,  
4 **senda**'k **kunnigri** · **kvón** Níðaðar.

But the bowls which were under their curls,  
I coated with silver and gave to Nithad.  
But out of the eyes arkenstones  
I sent to the cunning wife of Nithad.

- 36 En ór **tønnum** · **tveggja** þeira [R 19r/28]  
2 **sló**'k brjóst-kringlur, · **senda**'k Bøðvildi;  
nú gengr **Bøðvildr** · **barni** aukin,  
4 **ęinga** dóttir · **ykkur** þeggja.“

But out of the teeth of the two,  
I struck breast-brooches; sent [them] to Beadhild.  
Now goes Beadhild swollen with child;  
the only daughter of you both.”

4 ęinga dóttir · ykkur þeggja. ‘the only daughter of you both’ | Formulaic, near-identical to *HarS* st. 25/1–2:  
(*Vaki, Angantýr*, · *vękr þik Hęrvęr*, // *ęinga dóttir* · *ykkur Svęfu*. ‘Wake, Ongentew: Harware awakes thee, the  
only daughter of thee and Sweve.’ Cf. also *Beow* 375a, 2997b: *ąngan dohtor* ‘only daughter (accusative)’.)

- [Níðuðr kvað:] 37 „Męltir-a þat **mál**, · es mik **męirr** tregi, [R 19r/30]  
2 né þik **vilja**'k **Vqlundr** · **verr** of nita;  
es-at svá maðr **hqr**, · at þik af **hęsti** taki,  
4 **nę** svá qflugr, · at þik **nęðan** skjóti,  
þar's þú **skollir** · við **ský** uppi.“

“Thou mightst not have spoken a speech which might grieve me more;  
nor could I worse wish, O Wayland, to deny thee.—  
No man is so high that he from horse might take thee,  
nor so mighty that he might shoot thee from below,  
there as thou jeerest against the clouds above!”

[Nithad quoth:]

- 38 Hlęjandi Vqlundr · **hófsk** at lopti, [R 19v/1]

2 en ó-kátr Níðuðr · sat þá ęptir.

Laughing, Wayland threw himself in the air;  
but, gloomy, Nithad stayed behind.

[Níðuðr kvað:] 39 „Upp rís Þakkráðr, · þréll minn batsti, [R 19v/2]  
2 bið Bøðvildi, · mey hina brá-hvítu,  
gangi fagr-varið · við fęður róða.“

[Nithad quoth:] “Rise up, O Thankred, my best thrall;  
bid Beadhild, the brow-white maiden,  
to go, fair-clothed, with her father to counsel.”

2–3 mey hina brá-hvítu ... fagr-varið ‘the brow-white maiden ... fair-clothed’ | With these expressions Nithad strongly stresses the purity of his daughter (*męr* ‘maiden’ here simply meaning ‘virgin’). Perhaps he thinks that her innocence can be restored if she dresses in fair clothes, but it will not be so.

[Níðuðr kvað:] 40 „Es þat satt Bøðvildir, · es sęgðu mér, [R 19v/3]  
2 sętuð it Völundr · saman í holmi?“

[Nithad quoth:] “Is it true, Beadhild, as they told me:  
stayed thou and Wayland together on the islet?”

[Bøðvildir kvað:] 41 „Satt ’s þat Níðuðr · es sagði þér: [R 19v/4]  
2 sötum vit Völundr · saman í holmi  
ęina ęgur-stund, · ęva skyldi;  
4 ek vętr hęnum · vinna kunna’k,  
ek vętr hęnum · vinna máttu’k.“

[Beadhild quoth:] “Tis true, Nithad, as *be* told thee:  
I and Wayland stayed together on the islet,  
for one heavy hour—it should never [have been]!  
I by naught against him *knew* struggle;  
I by naught against him *could* struggle.”

4 vinna | metr. and sens. emend.; om. R

1 sagði ‘*be* told’ | Beadhild knows that Wayland is the only one aware of the rape and thus deduces that *be* told her father. She makes a subtle change in the conjugation from her father’s general third person plural (“what they told”), to the specific singular form (“what *be* told”).

4-5 kunna'k 'knew', mátt'a'k 'could' | Beadhild was totally incapable of defending her honour, both mentally (*kunna* 'to know, understand') and physically (*méga* 'to have strength to do, avail'. — As Finnur Jónsson (1932) comments, an excellent final stanza.

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# First Lay of Hallow Hundingsbane (*Helgakviða Hundingsbana fyrsta*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): late C12th (0.805)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

This rather late poem is very well written. Particularly beautiful are the introductory stanzas, which tell of Norns arriving in the night to predetermine Hallow's life.

P1 Hér hefr upp kvæði frá Helga Hundings bana, þeira ok Høðbrodds. Völ-  
2 sunga kviða.

Here begins a lay regarding Hallow, bane of Hunding and his men, and of Hathbrod. A lay of the Walsings.

1 Ár vas alda · þat's arar gullu [R 20r/21]  
2 hnigu hēilōg vōtn · af Himin-fjōllum;  
þá hafði Hēlga · inn hugum-stóra  
4 Borghildr borit · í Brálundi.

It was the dawn of elds, as eagles shrieked,  
holy waters poured down from the Heavenfells;  
then had Burhild in Browlund given birth  
to Hallow the great of heart.

1 Ár vas alda 'It was the dawn of elds' | This formulaic introduction immediately situates the events of the poem in the distant mytho-heroic past, indeed, if one compares *Wsp* 3, at the beginning of history.

2 Nōtt varð í bō, · nornir kvōmu,  
þēr's qōlingi · aldr of skópu;  
þann bōðu fylki · frégstan verða [R 20r/23]

4 ok buðlunga · bætstan þykkja.

It turned night in the settlement; norns came,  
those who shaped the age of the nobleman [= Hallow].  
They bade that battle-arrayer become the noblest,  
and among princes seem the best.

3 Sneru þér af afli · ør·løg-þóttu [R 20r/25]  
2 þá's borgir braut · í Brálundi;  
þér um greiddu · gullin-símu  
4 ok und mána sal · miðjan fęstu.

They turned mightily orlay-strands  
when castles were broken in Browlund.  
They wrapped a golden band,  
and beneath the moon's hall [SKY/HEAVEN] fastened it in the middle.

4 Þér austr ok vestr · ęnda fōlu, [R 20r/27]  
2 þar átti lofðungr · land á milli,  
brá nipt Nera · á norðr-vega  
4 ęinni fęsti, · ęy bað hon halda.

They in the east and west hid its ends;  
there the praised one owned land in between.  
The kinswoman of Nare <unknown person> [NORN] tugged onto the northern ways  
a single cord—she bade it hold forever.

TODO.

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# The Lay of Hallow Harwardson

## (*Helgakviða Hjörvarðssonar*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): early C11th (0.385)–late C11th (0.550)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

Heroic poem.

### From Harward and Syelind (*Frá Hjörvarði ok Sigrlinn*)

P1 Hjörvarðr hét konungr. Hann átti fjórar konur. Ein hét Alfhlidr; sonr  
2 þeira hét Heðinn. Önnur hét Séreiþr; þeira sonr hét Humlungr. In þriðja  
hét Sinrjóð; þeira sonr hét Hymlingr. Hjörvarðr konungr hafði þess heit  
4 strengt at eiga þá konu er hann vissi vænsta. Hann spurði at Sváfni konungr  
átti dóttur allra<sup>a</sup> fegrsta; sú hét Sigrlinn. Iðmundr hét jarl hans; Atli var  
6 hans sonr er fór at biðja Sigrlinnar til handa konungi. Hann dvalðisk  
vetrlangt með Sváfni konungi. Fránmarr hét þar jarl, fóstri Sigrlinnar;  
8 dóttir hans hét Álof. Jarlinn réð, at meyjar var synjat, ok fór jarlinn heim.  
Atli jarls sonr stóð einn dag við lund nokkurn, en fugl sat í limunum uppi  
10 yfir hánun ok hafði heyrt til, at hans menn kǫlluðu vænstar konur þær, er  
Hjörvarðr konungr átti. Fuglinn kvakaði, en Atli hlýddi, hvat hann sagði.  
12 Hann kvað:

TODO. He quoth:

<sup>a</sup>‘vænallra’ corr. R

1 „Sátt-u Sigrlinn, · Sváfnis dóttur,  
2 meýna fęgrstu · i munar-heimi?  
þó hagligar · Hjörvarðs konur  
4 gumnum þykkja · at Glasislundi.“

2           **2**   „Munt við Atla · Iðmundar son  
2           fugl fróð-hugaðr · fleira mēla?“  
              „Mun’k ef mik buðlungr · blóta vildi  
4           ok kys’k þat’s ek vil · ór konungs garði.“  
2

**3**   Kjós-at-tu Hjörvarðr TODO  
3

**4**   Hof mun ek kjósa, TODO  
4

**5**   Hofum erfiði · ok ekki ørendi;  
5

**6**   6  
6

**7**   7  
7

**8**   Sverðr veit’k liggja · i Sigarsholmi,  
2           fjórum fēra · enn fimm tōgu;  
              eitt es þeira · ǫllum bētra  
4           vínesta bǫl · ok variðr gulli.

Swords I know lying, in Sycharsholm, four less than fifty. One of them is better than all—the bale of war-needles<sup>175</sup> [SPEARS?]<sup>175</sup>—and inlaid with gold.

<sup>175</sup>The kenning *vínest* also appears in

**9**   Hringr ’s i hjalti, · hugr ’s i miðju,  
2           ógn ’s i oddi, · þeim’s eiga getr;  
              liggr með eggju · ormr dręrfáiðr



4            en á valbøstu · verpr naðr hala.

A ring is in the hilt; courage is in the middle; fear is in the point, for the one who gets to own it;  
along the blade lies a serpent painted in blood, but on the walbast<sup>176</sup> an adder chases its tail.

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<sup>176</sup>An unclear part of the sword-hilt; see *Syed* 7.

TODO.

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# Second Lay of Hallow Hundingsbane

## (*Helgakviða Hundingsbana aðra*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): early C11th (0.346)–late C11th (0.587)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law* (TODO)

TODO: Introduction. Similarities to ballads like the Lover's Ghost, the Grey Cock.

... TODO ...

P1 Hælgí fekk Sigrúnar ok óttu þau sonu; vas Hælgí ęigi gamall. Dagr Hęgna  
sonr blótaði Óðin til fęður-hefnda. Óðinn léði Dag geirs síns. Dagr fann  
Helga, mág sinn, þar sem hęitir at Fjęturlundi. Hann lagði í gęgnum  
Hęlga með geir'num. Þar fell Hęlgí, en Dagr reidd til fjalla ok sagði Sigrúnu  
tíðindi:

Hallow got Syerun and they had sons; Hallow was not old. Day, son of Hain, made a **bloot** to  
Weden for the sake of avenging his father. Weden lent Day his spear. Day found Hallow, his  
brother-in-law, where it is called Fetterlund; he ran through Hallow with the spear. There Hallow  
fell, but Day rode to the fells and told Syerun the tidings:

1 „Trauðr em ek, systir, • trega þér at segja  
2 því-at ek hęfi nauðigr • nipti grótta:  
Fell í morgun • und Fjęturlundi  
4 buðlungr sá's vas • bętstr í hęimi  
ok hildingum • á halsi stóð.“

“Regretful am I, O sister, to grieve thee by saying—  
for, forced, have I made my kinswoman weep:  
this morning fell in Fetterlund  
that prince who was the best in the world,  
and on the throats of princes stood.”

[Sigrún kvað:]

2 „Þik skyli allir • ęiðar bíta,

- 2 þeir es Hēlga · hafðir unna,  
 at inu ljósa · Lēiptrar vatni  
 4 ok at úr-svǫlum · Unnar steini!

“*Thee* should all oaths bite,  
 which thou to Hallow hast sworn,  
 by the light water of Lafter,  
 and by the spray-cold stone of Ithe.

- 3 Skríði-at þat skip, · es und þér skríði,  
 2 þótt óska-byrr · eptir leggisk!  
 Renni-a sá marr, · es und þér renni,  
 4 þótt fiendr þína · forðask ęgir!

May the ship not glide, which glides beneath thee,  
 though it has a wished-for gust behind it!  
 May the sea not run, which runs beneath thee,  
 though from thy enemies thou must escape!

- 4 Bíti-a þér þat sverð, · es þú bregðir,  
 2 nema sjölfum þér · syngvi of höfði!  
 Þá vęri þér hefnt · Hēlga dauða,  
 4 ef þú vęrir vargr · á viðum úti,  
 auðs and-vani · ok alls gamans,  
 6 hefðir ęgi mat, · nema á hręum spryngir!“

May the sword not bite for thee, which thou brandishest,  
 unless it sing over thy very head!  
*Then* were on thee Hallow’s death avenged,  
 if thou wert a wolf in the woods outside,  
 deprived of wealth and all pleasure;  
 hadst no food, save thou plundered carrion!“

- Dagr kvað: 5 „Ör ert, systir, · ok ör-vita,  
 2 es bróðr þínum · biðr for-skapa!  
 Einn veldr Óðinn · öllu bǫlvi,  
 4 þvíat með sífjungum · sak-rúnar bar!

“Mad art thou, sister, and out of wits,  
 when onto thy brother thou dost bid a cruel shape.  
 Alone does Woden cause all the bale,  
 for he bore strife-runes among relatives!

Day quoth:

1 Ör ... ok ör-viti ‘Mad ... and out of wits’ | Formulaic, also occurring in *Lock* and others TODO.

- 6 Þér býðr bróðir · bauga rauða  
 2 öll Vandils-vé · ok Víg-dali  
 haf halfan heim · harms at gjöldum  
 4 brúðr baug-varið · ok búrir þínir.

Thee thy brother offers red bigs,  
 all Wendelswigh and the Wighdales;  
 have half the realm as recompense for the injury,  
 O bigh-adorned bride—and thy sons, too.<sup>177</sup>

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<sup>177</sup>I.e., “you and your sons can have half the kingdom.”

- 7 „Sit’k-a svá sæl · at Sefa-fjollum,  
 2 ár né of nētr, · at ek una lífi,  
 nema at liði lofðungs · ljóma bręgði,  
 4 renni und vísa · Víg-blér þinig,  
 gull-bitli vanr, · knega’k grami fagna!

“I [shall] not sit so happy in the Sevefells,  
 at dawn nor at night, that I should be content with life,  
 unless the retinue of the man of praise were struck with light;  
 [and] beneath the ruler ran Wighblaw hither,  
 wont to the golden bit—[and] I welcomed the prince!

- 8 Svá hafði Hęlgi · hręddu gęrva  
 2 fjáendr sína alla · ok fręndr þęira,  
 sem fyr ulfi · óðar rynnir  
 4 gęitr af fjalli, · gęiska fullar!

So would Hallow have terrified  
 his enemies all, and their kinsmen,  
 like from a wolf were madly running  
 goats down a fell, full of fright.

- 9 Svá bar Hęlgi · af hildingum  
 2 sem ítr-skapaðr · askr af þyrni  
 eða sá dýr-kalfr · dęggu slunginn  
 4 es øfri fęrr · öllum dýrum,  
 ok horn glóa · við himin sjalfan.“

So did Hallow surpass the princes  
 like a nobly shaped ash the thorn,  
 or the deer-calf, dew-besprinkled,

who fares higher than all beasts,  
and the horns gleam against heaven itself.”

1-5 ALL | Cf. the very similar description of Siward in *Guth II* 2.

**P2**     Haugr var gørr eptir Helga. En er hann kom til Valhallar, þá bauð Óðinn  
2     hánnum öllu at ráða með sér. Helgi kvað:

A barrow was made for Hallow. And when he came to Walhall, then Woden asked him to rule everything together with himself. Hallow quoth:

10     „Þú skalt, **Hundingr**, · **hverjum** manni  
2     **fót**-laug geta · ok **funa** kynda;  
      **hunda** binda, · **hesta** gétu,  
4     gefa **svinum** soð, · áðr **sofa** gangir!“

“Thou shalt, O Hunding, for every man  
make a foot-bath and kindle the fire;  
bind the hounds, feed the horses,  
give broth to the swine—before thou mightst go to sleep!”

**P3**     Ambótt Sigrúnar gekk um aptan hjá haugi Helga ok sá at Helgi reið til  
2     haugs'ins með marga menn. Ambótt kvað:

Syerun's maid-servant walked by Hallow's barrow at evening, and saw that Hallow rode to the barrow with many men. The maid-servant quoth:

11     „Hvárt 'ru þat **svik** ein · es **séa** þikkjumk  
2     eða **ragna** **rök** · **ríða** menn dauðir,  
      es **jóa** **yðra** · **oddum** keyrið,  
4     eða es **hildingum** · **heim-för** gefin?“

“Either these are only tricks, as I seem to see  
—or the Rakes of the Reins?—dead men riding,  
as ye drive on your steeds by spear-points—  
or are the princes granted leave to go home?”

[Einn þeira kvað:]

12     „Es-a þat **svik** ein · es **séa** þikkisk  
2     né **aldar** rof · þótt-u oss lítir,  
      þótt vér **jóa** **óra** · **oddum** keyrim,  
4     né es **hildingum** · **heim-för** gefin.“

[One of them quoth:] “It’s not only tricks, as thou seemest to see—  
nor the Ripping of the Age, although thou behold us;  
although we drive on our steeds by spear-points  
the princes are not granted leave to go home.”

2 aldar rof ‘ripping of the age’ | Formulaic. Cf. TODO *rjúfask rēgin*. This is the same root, only zero-grade.

#### P4 Heim gekk ambótt ok sagði Sigrúnu:

The maid-servant walked home and said to Syerun:

13 „Út gakk Sigrún, • frá Sęfa-fjollum  
2 ef þik folks jaðarr • finna lystir;  
upp ’s haugr lokinn, • kominn es Hęlgi!  
4 Dólg-spor dreęra • dęglingr bað þik  
at þú sár-dropa • sveęja skyldir.“

“Go outside, O Syerun from the Sevefells,  
if thou dost long to meet the leader of the troop [= Hallow];  
the barrow is unlocked; Hallow is come!  
The ruler of bloody wounds [= Hallow] bade thee  
that thou the wound-drops shouldst soothe.”

#### P5 Sigrún gekk í haug’inn til Helga ok kvað:

Syerun walked into the barrow to Hallow, and quoth:

14 „Nú em’k svá fęgin • fundi okkrum  
2 sem át-frękir • Óðins haukar  
es val vitu, • varmar bráðir,  
4 eða dęgg-litir • dags-brún séa.“

“Now do I so rejoice at our meeting,  
like the ravenous hawks of Weden [RAVENS]  
when they know corpses, warm venison,  
or, gleaming with dew, they see the day’s brow [DAWN].

15 Fyrr vil’k kyssa • konung ó-lifðan  
2 an þú blóðugri • brynju kastir;  
hár ’s þitt, Helgi, • hélu þrungit,  
4 allr es vísi • val-dęgg slęgin,

- hęndr úr-svalar · Høgna mági;  
 6 hvé skal'k þér, buðlungr, · þess bót of vinna?“

Sooner will I kiss the unliving king,  
 than thou the bloody byrnie mightst cast away!  
 Thy hair is, O Hallow, with hoarfrost swollen;  
 the prince is all with corpse-dew [BLOOD] whipped;<sup>178</sup>  
 the hands spray-cold on Hain's in-law [= Hallow].—  
 How shall I for thee, O nobleman, remedy that?”

<sup>178</sup>For the formulation cf. *Bldr* 5.

- [Hęlgi kvað:]      16 „Ein vęldr þú, Sigrún · frá Sefafjollum,  
 2 es Hęlgi es · harm-døgg slęinn:  
 Grętr þú, gull-varið, · grimum tórum,  
 4 sól-björt suð-rón, · áðr þú sofa gangir,  
 hvęrt fęllr blóðugt · á brjóst grami,  
 6 úr-svalt, inn-fjalgt · ękka þrungit.

“Thou alone dost cause, O Syerun from the Sevefells,  
 that Hallow be by harm-dew whipped:  
 thou weepest—O gold-covered—bitter tears—  
 O sun-bright southern lady—before thou go to sleep.  
 Each one falls bloody on the prince's chest,  
 spray-cold, stifled, pressed forth by grief.

- 17 Vęl skulum drekka · dýrar vęigar  
 2 þótt misst hafim · munar ok landa!  
 Skal ęngi maðr · angr-ljóð kveða  
 4 þótt mér á brjósti · bęnjar líti.  
 Nú eru brúðir · byrgðar í haugi,  
 6 lofða dísir, · hjá oss liðnum!“

Well shall we drink expensive draughts,  
 although we've lost both love and land!  
 No one shall sing songs of sorrow,  
 although he behold the wounds on my chest.  
 Now the brides are shut within in the barrow,  
 the praised one's dises, next to us [me], passed-on.”

5–6 brúðir, dísir, oss ‘brides, dises, us’ | Hallow speaks in the plural. “Now has my bride, my dise (goddess), come into the closed barrow, next to me, who am dead.”

P6      Sigrún bjó sęing í haug'inum.



Syerun made a bed in the barrow:

- 18 „Hér hefi’k þér, Hęłgi, • hvílu gørva,  
2 angr-lausa mjök, • Ylfinga niðr;  
vił’k þér í faðmi, • fylkir, sofna  
4 sem’k loðungi • lifnum mynda’k!“

“Here have I for thee, Hallow, made a place of rest,  
all sorrowless, O kinsman of the Wolvings!  
I will in thy arms, O marshal, fall asleep,  
like I would with the living man of praise.”

---

4 sem’k loðungi • lifnum mynda’k! ‘like I would with the living man of praise’ | i.e. “just as I would if you were still alive.”

- [Hęłgi kvað:] 19 „Nú kveð’k ęnskis • ør-vént vesa,  
2 síð né snimma, • at Sefa-fjöllum  
es þú á armi • ó·lifðum søfr,  
4 hvít, í haugi, • Høgna dóttir,  
ok est-u kvik, • in konung-bornal!“

[Hallow quoth:] “Now, I say, there is naught more missing  
neither late nor soon from the Sevefells,  
when thou dost sleep on the unliving arm,  
O white daughter of Hain—in the barrow,  
and thou art alive!—born of the king.”

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(The night has passed; dawn is breaking, and Hallow speaks. The manuscript does not indicate the change of scene.)

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- [Hęłgi kvað:] 20 „Mál’s mér at riða • roðnar brautir,  
2 láta fólvan jó • flug-stíg troða;  
skal’k fyr vestan • vind-hjalms brúar  
4 áðr Sal-gofnir • sigr-þjóð vęki.“

“It’s time for me to ride the reddening roads;  
to let my pale steed tread the flight-path [SKY/HEAVEN].  
I shall go west of the wind-helm’s bridges [SKY/HEAVEN > CLOUDS?],  
before Salgovner may awaken the victorious people.”

1 roðnar ‘reddening’ | From the rising dawn.

- P7 Þeir Hęlgi riðu leið sína, en þęr fóru hęim til bójar. Annan aptan lét  
2 Sigrún ambótt halda vęrð á haugi’num. En at dag-setri, es Sigrún kom til  
haugs’ins, hón kvað:

Hallow and his men rode on their way, but the women journeyed home to the farm. The next evening Syerun let her maid-servant keep watch on the barrow. And at sunset, when Syerun came to the barrow, she [= the maid-servant] quoth:

- 21 „Kominn vęri nú, • ef koma hygði,  
2 Sigmundar burr • frá solum Óðins;  
kveð’k grams þinig • gręnask vånir  
4 es á ask-limum • ęrnir sitja  
ok drífr drótt ęll • draum-þinga til.“

“Come were now, if to come he had thought,  
Syemund’s son [= Hallow] from Weden’s halls;  
the hopes, I say, of the prince here fade,  
when on ashen branches eagles sit,  
and all mankind drifts off to dream-Things.

4 es á ask-limum • ęrnir sitja ‘when on ashen branches eagles sit’ | i.e. “when the eagles roost on yonder trees”. This is a sign of Hallow and his men not coming; if they were, the eagles would be following them and picking at their bodies.

5 drífr ... draum-þinga til ‘drifts off to dream-Things’ | i.e. “falls asleep”. A fine poetic metaphor.

- 22 Ves ęigi svá ór • at ęin farir,  
2 dís skjöldunga, • draug-húsa til!  
Verða ęflgari • allir á nóttum  
4 dauðir dólgar, męr, • an of daga ljósa.“

Be not so mad that thou journey alone,  
O lady of the Shieldings, to the ghost-houses!  
Mightier at night do all become  
dead fiends, O maiden, than during the bright days!”

- P8 Sigrún varð skamm-líf af harmi ok trega. Þat var trúa í forneskju, at menn  
2 vęri endr-bornir, en þat er nú kęlluð kerlinga-villa. Hęlgi ok Sigrún er  
kallat at vęri endr-borin. Hét hann þá Hęlgi Haddingjaskati en hon Kára  
4 Hálfdanar dóttir, svá sem kveðit er í Káru ljóðum, ok var hon val-kyrja.

Syerun became short-lived for pain and grief. It was a belief in ancient times that men were born again, but that is now called an old wives' tale. Of Hallow and Syerun it is said that they were born again. He was then called Hallow Hardingskate and she Cheer Halfdanesdaughter, as is told in the Leeds of Cheer, and she was a walkirrie.

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<sup>4</sup> Kárljóðum 'Leeds of Cheer' | A now-lost heroic poem.

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# Spae of Griper (*Grípisspó*)

**Dating** (Sapp, 2022): early C11th (0.616)–late C11th (0.313).

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

TODO: Introduction. This poem is uniquely regular and well preserved; every single one of its 53 *Ancient-words-law* stanzas all is four lines long.

The title is “From Sinfittle’s death”.

- 
- P1      Grípir hét sonr Eýlima, bróðir Hjörðisar. Hann réð lǫndum ok vas allra  
2      manna vitrastr ok fram-víss. Sigurðr reið einn saman ok kom til hallar  
         Grípis. Sigurðr vas auð-kenndr. Hann hitti mann at máli úti fyr höll’inni;  
4      sá nefndisk Geitir. Þá kvaddi Sigurðr hann máls, ok spyrr:

Griper was called the son of Ilime, Hardise’s brother. He ruled lands and was wisest of all men, and forthwise. Siward rode alone and came to Griper’s hall. Siward was easily recognized. He approached a man for speech outside of the hall; he was named Goater. Then Siward greeted him with a speech, and asks:

- 1      „Hverr byggir hér · borgir þessar?  
2      Hvat þann þjóð-konung · þegnar nefna?“  
         „Grípir heitir · gumna stjóri,  
4      sá’s fastrí réðr · foldu ok þegnum.“

“Who bedwells here these forts?

What is this great king called by thanes?”

“Griper is called the steerer of men,

who rules the steadfast land, and thanes.”

- 2      Mæla nómu · ok margt hjala  
2      þá’s ráð-spakir · rekkar fundusk.  
         „Sægðu mér ef þú veizt, · móður-bróðir,

4 hvé mun Sigurði • snúna évi?“

They began to speak and chatter much,  
when the council-wise champions met each other.  
“Tell me, if thou knowest, O mother’s brother:  
how will Siward’s age turn out?”

3 „Þú munt maðr vesa • mēztr und sólu  
2 ok hēstr borinn • hverjum jǫfri;  
gjǫfull af gulli • en glæggr flugar,  
4 ítr álití • ok í orðum spakr.“

„Thou wilt be a man noblest ’neath the sun,  
and borne higher than every ruler,  
giving with gold but stingy of flight,  
radiant of hue and wise in words.“

TODO.

4 Es-a með lǫstum • lǫgð évi þér;  
2 lát-tu, inn ítri, þat, • ǫðlingr, nemask  
því at uppi mun • meðan ǫld lifir,  
4 nadd-éls boði, • nafn þitt vera.

TODO.

For remembered will while mankind lives,  
O beseecher of the sword-storm [BATTLE > WARRIOR], thy name be.

TODO.

5 Þú munt hvíla, • hęrs odd-viti,  
2 męrr hjá męyju • sem þín móðir sé;  
því mun uppi • meðan ǫld lifir,  
4 þjóðar þęngill, • þitt nafn vera.

Thou wilt rest, O spear-point-knower of the host,  
renowned, beside a maiden as if she were thy mother.  
For that will remembered while mankind lives,  
O prince of the nation, thy name be.

TODO.

6 Því skal hugga þik, • hęrs odd-viti,  
2 sú mun gipt lagit • á grams évi;  
mun-at mętri maðr • á mold koma

4           und sólar sjöt · en þú, Sigurðr, þikkir.  
 For that [she] shall soothe thee, O spear-point-knower of the host;  
 she will have laid poison in the ruler's age.  
 No nobler man will come onto the earth  
 beneath the sun's seat [SKY/HEAVEN], than thou, Siward, seemest!

7       Skiljumk heilir; · mun-at sköpum vinna!  
 2       Nú hefir þú, Grípir, velt · gørt sem beiddak;  
       fljótt myndir þú · fríðri segja  
 4       mína évi · ef þú mættir þat!  
 Let us part in good health; one will not conquer the shapes!  
 Now hast thou, Griper, well done as I asked;  
 shortly wouldst thou speak prettier  
 of my age, if thou mightst do that!

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# The Speeches of Rein

## (*Ręinsmól*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.666)–early C11th (0.259)

Meter: *Leeds-meter, Ancient-words-law*

The title of this poem (or, better, prosimetrum) is editorial. It most closely The differing meter of the stanzas might suggest that they are taken from different poems.

- P1      Sigurðr gekk til stóðs Hjálp-reks ok kaus sér af hest einn er Grani var  
2      kallaðr síðan. Þá var kominn Reginn til Hjálp-reks, sonr Hreið-mars.  
Hann var hverjum manni hagari ok dvergr of vøxt. Hann var vitr, grimmr  
4      ok fjöl-kunnigr. Reginn veitti Sigurði fóstr ok kennslu ok elskaði hann  
mjök. Hann sagði Sigurði frá for·ellri sínu ok þeim at·burðum at Óðinn  
6      ok Hónir ok Loki höfðu komit til And-vara-fors; í þeim forsi var fjöldi  
fiska. Einn dvergr hét And-vari; hann var lōngum í forsinum í geddu líki  
8      ok fekk sér þar matar. „Otr hét bróðir várr,“ kvað Reginn, „er oft fór í  
forsinn í otrs líki. Hann hafði tekit einn lax ok sat á ár-bakkanum ok át  
10      blundandi. Loki laust hann með steini til bana. Þóttust ésir mjök heppnir  
verit hafa ok flógu belg af otrinum. Þat sama kveld sóttu þeir gisting til  
12      Hreið-mars ok sýndu veiði sína. Þá tóku vér þá hōndum ok lōgðum þeim  
fjor-laun at fylla otr-belginn með gulli ok hylja útan ok með rauðu gulli.  
14      Þá sendu þeir Loka at afla gullsins. Hann kom til Ránar ok fekk net hennar  
ok fór þá til And-vara-fors ok kastaði netinu fyr gedduna en hon hljóp í  
16      netit. Þá mēlti Loki:

Siward went to Helpric's stable and thereof chose for himself one horse, which was henceforth called Grane. Then Rein, son of Rethmar, was come to Helpric. He was more crafty than any man and a dwarf in stature; he was clever, cruel and **many-cunning**. Rein fostered and taught Siward and love him very much. He told Siward about his own parents, and about the events that Weden, Heener and Lock had come to Andwareforce; in that force was a multitude of fish. A dwarf was named Andware; he was for a long time in the force in the likeness of a pike and got his food there. "Otter was our brother called," said Rein, "who often journeyed in the force in the likeness of an otter. He had caught a salmon and sat on the riverbank and ate it with closed eyes Lock struck him

with a stone unto his death. The Eese thought themselves to have been very lucky, and flayed the skin off the otter. The same evening they sought to pass the night at Rethmar's house, and showed their catch. Then we bound them and proposed to them as a life-ransom that they would fill the otter-skin with gold, and also cover the outside with red gold. Then they sent Lock to procure the gold. He came to Ran and got her net, and then journeyed to Andwareforce and threw the net in front of the pike, and it jumped into the net. Then spoke Lock:

1       „Hvat 's þat fiska · es rinn flóði í,  
2               kann-at sér við víti varask.  
             Höfuð þitt · leys-tu hēlju ór;  
4               finn mér lindar loga!“

“What kind of fish is it who runs in the flood?  
It cannot protect itself from harm.  
Ransom thy head out of Hell;  
find me the flame of the linden [GOLD]!”

2       „And-vari ek hēiti, · Óinn hét minn faðir,  
2               margan hēfi'k fors of farit.  
             Aumlig norn · skóp oss í ár-daga  
4               at skylda í vatni vaða.“

“Andware I am called; Owen was called my father;  
through many a force have I fared.  
A wretched norn shaped for us in days of yore,  
that I should in the water wade.”

3       „Sęg-ðu þat, And-vari, (kvað Loki) ef þú ęiga vill  
2               líf í lýða solum:  
             Hver gjöld · fāa gumna synir  
4               ef hōggvask orðum á?“

“Say that, Andware—quoth Lock—if thou wilt own  
life in the halls of men:  
Which recompense do the sons of men get,  
if they hew at each other with words?”

4       „Ofr-gjöld · fāa gumna synir  
2               þęir's Vaðgęlmi vaða;  
             ó·saðra orða · hverr's á annan lýgr,  
4               of lęngi lęiða limar.“

“Great recompense do the sons of men get,  
those who in Wadyelmer wade.  
By the ramifications of untrue words is each  
who lies to another long followed.<sup>179</sup>”

<sup>179</sup> Watery torment in the afterlife for oath-breakers and liars is well attested in the Germanic sources. See note to *Wsp* 39 for discussion.

**P2**      Loki sá allt gull þat er And-vari átti. En er hann hafði fram reitt gullit, þá  
2            hafði hann eftir einn hring ok tók Loki þann af hánnum. Dvergrinn gekk  
             inn í steininn ok mælti:

Lock saw all the gold which Andware owned. But when he had brought forth all the gold, then he had one ring left, and Lock took it off him. The dwarf went into the stone and spoke:

5            „Þat skal gull · es Gustr átti  
2            bróðrum tveim · at bana verða  
             ok ǫðlingum · átta at rógi;  
4            mun míns féar · mann-gi njóta.“

“That gold which Gust owned shall  
for two brothers become the bane,  
and for eight nobles the [cause of] strife;  
of my wealth will no man benefit.”

**P3**      Ésir reiddu Hreið-mari féit ok tráðu upp otr-belginn ok reistu á fóttr; þá  
2            skyldu ésirnir hlaða upp gullinu ok hylja. En er þat var gørt gekk Hreið-  
             marr framm ok sá eitt grana-hár ok bað hylja. Þá dró Óðinn framm  
4            hringinn And-vara-naut ok hulði hárit.

The Eese prepared the wealth for Rethmar and stuffed the otter-skin and raised it on its feet. Then the Eese should fill it up with gold and cover it. But when that was done Rethmar stepped forth, and saw a single whisker-strand and bade it be covered. Then Weden drew forth the ring Andwaresgift and covered the strand.

6            „Gull ’s þér nú reitt (kvað Loki) en þú gjöld hefir  
2            mikil míns höfuðs;  
             syni þínum · verðr-a sēla skǫpuð;  
4            þat verðr ykkarr þeggja bani!“

“TODO.”

- 7 „Gjafar þú gaft— · gaft-at óst-gjafar,  
2 gaft-at af heilum hug!  
Fjörvi yðru · skylduð ér firrðir vesa  
4 ef vissa'k þat fár fyrir.“

“Thou gavest a gift—gavest not a gift of love;  
gavest not out of a true heart!  
From your lives would ye be removed,  
if I had known that danger before!”

- 8 „Enn es verra, · þat vita þikkjumk,  
2 niðja stríð um nept;  
jöfra ó·borna · hygg þá enn vesa  
4 es þat 's til hatrs hugat.“

“TODO.”

- 9 „Rauðu gulli (kvað Hreiðmarr) hygg ek mik ráða munu  
2 svá lengi sem ek lifi;  
hót þín · hręðumk ekki lyf  
4 ok haldið heim heðan!“

“The red gold—quoth Rethmar—I think that I will rule  
for as long as live.  
Thy threats TODO.”

- P4 Fáfñir ok Reginn kręfðu Hreið-mar nið-gjalda eptir Otr, bróður sinn.  
2 Hann kvað nei við. En Fáfñir lagði sverði Hreið-mar, fęður sinn, sofanda.  
Hreið-marr kallaði á dótr sínar:

Fathomer and Rein demanded from Rethmar the kinsman-payment after Otter, their brother. He said no to it. But Fathomer laid the sword through Rethmar, his father, sleeping. Rethmar called upon his daughters:

- 10 „Lyng-heiðr ok Lofn-heiðr, · vitið mínu lífi farit!  
2 Mart 's þat's þęrf þęar!“

“Lingheath and Lovenheath, witness my destroyed life!  
TODO.”

Lyngheiðr svaraði:

- 11 „Fá mun systir, · þótt fęður missi,

2                    hēfna hlýra harms!“

Lingheath answered:

“Not many a sister, although she misses her father,  
will avenge her brother’s harm!”

12            „Al þú þó dóttur, (kvað Hreiðmarr) dís úlf-huguð,  
2            ef þú getr-at son · við siklingi;  
fá þú meý mann · í megin-þarfar, þá mun þeirar sonr · þíns harms  
reka.“

“TODO.”

P5           þá dó Hreið-marr en Fáfnir tók gullit allt. Þá beiddisk Reginn at hafa  
2            fǫður-arf sinn, en Fáfnir galt þar nei við. Þá leitaði Reginn ráða við Lyng-  
heiði, systur sína, hvernig hann skyldi heimta fǫður-arf sinn. Hon kvað:

Then Rethmar died, and Fathomer took all the gold. Then Rein asked to have his father’s inheritance, but Fathomer gave back a no. Then Rein looked for counsel from Lingheath, his sister, over how he should get his father’s inheritance. She quoth:

13            „Brúðar kvęðja · skalt blíð-liga  
2            arfs ok óðra hugar;  
es-a þat hóft · at þú hjörvi skylir  
4            kvęðja Fáfni féar!“

“TODO.”

P6           Þessa hluti sagði Reginn Sigurði. Einn dag, er hann kom til húsa Regins,  
2            var hánun vel fagnat. Reginn kvað:

These things Rein said to Siward. One day when he came to Rein’s house he was greeted well. Rein quoth:

14            „Kominn ’s hingat · konr Sig-mundar,  
2            sęggr inn snar-ráði, · til sala várar;  
móð hęfir meýra · en maðr gamall,  
4            ok es mér fangs vǫn · at frekum ulfi.

“Hither is come the son of Syemund [= Siward],  
the quick-counselling youth, to our halls;

he has greater courage than an old man,  
and I expect a catch from the hungry wolf!

- 15 Ek mun fœða · folk-djarfan gram;  
2 nú 's yngva konr · með oss kominn;  
sjá mun rêsir · ríkstr und sólu,  
4 þrymr um ǫll lǫnd · ǫr·lǫg-símu.“

I will raise the troop-bold prince,  
now the son of a king is come among us!  
This ruler will become mightiest under the sun,  
he fastens through all lands his orlay-strands!”

4 þrymr ... ǫr·lǫg-símu ‘he fastens ... orlay-strands’ | i.e. “his fate is being fixed throughout all lands”. Cf. the first four sts. of *HHund I*.

- P7 Sigurðr var þá jafnan með Regin ok sagði hann Sigurði at Fáfñir lá á Gnita-  
2 heiði ok var í orms líki. Hann átti ógis-hjalm er ǫll kvikvendi hréddusk  
við. Reginn gerði Sigurði sverð er Gramr hét. Þat var svá hvasst at hann  
4 brá því ofan í Rín ok lét reka ullar-lagð fyr straumi ok tók í sundr lagðinn  
sem vatnit. Því sverði klauf Sigurðr í sundr steðja Regins. Eptir þat eggjaði  
6 Reginn Sigurð at vega Fáfni. Hann sagði:

Then Siward was always with Rein, and he told Siward that Fathomer lay on the Gnit-heath in a Wyrms likeness; he owned the helm of awe by which all living things were frightened. Rein made for Siward the sword which is called Gram; it was so sharp that he plunged it down into the Rhine, and floated a lock of wool down the stream, and it split the lock like it did the water. With that sword Siward split asunder Rein’s anvil; after that Rein urged Siward to slay Fathomer. He said:

- 16 „Hátt munu hléja · Hundings synir  
2 þeir’s Ey-lima · aldrs synjuðu,  
ef meirr tiggja · munar at sókja  
4 hringa rauða · en hefnd fœður.“

“TODO.”

- P8 Hjalp-rekr konungr fekk Sigurði skipa-lið til fœður-hefnda. Þeir fengu  
2 storm mikinn ok beittu fyr bergs-nȝs nakkvara. Maðr einn stóð á berginu  
ok kvað:

Helpric got Siward a ship-retinue in order to avenge his father. They caught a great storm, and tacked the ships through some rocky cliffs. A lone man stood on the cliff and quoth:

17 „Hvērir ríða þar · Rēfils hestum  
 2 hávar unnir, · haf glymjanda?  
 Segl-vigg eru · sveita stokkin,  
 4 mun-at vág-marar · vind of standask.“

“TODO.”

18 „Hér eru vér Sig-urðr · á sé-tréum;  
 2 es oss byrr gefinn · við bana sjalfan;  
 fellr brattr breki · bröndum héri,  
 4 hlunn-vigg hrapa— · hvēr spyr at því?“

“TODO.”

19 „Hnikar hétu mik · þá's Hugin gladdi  
 2 Völsungr ungi · ok vegit hafði;  
 nú mátt kalla · karl af bergi,  
 4 Feng eða Fjölmi; · far vil'k þiggja.“

“Nicker they called me, when the young Walsing  
 gladdened Highen, and had fought;  
 now thou mayst call me man of the cliff,  
 Fang or Fillner—I wish to take passage!”

P9 Þeir viku at landi, ok gekk karl á skip, ok lēgði þá veðrit.

They turned toward land and the man stepped onto the ship, and then the weather calmed down.

20 „Ség mér þat, Hnikarr, · alls hvár-tveggja veltst,  
 2 goða heill ok guma:  
 hvēr bōzt eru · ef þerjask skal,  
 4 heill at sverða svipun?“

“TODO.”

21 „Morg eru góð · ef gumar vissi,  
 2 heill at sverða svipun;  
 dyggja fylgju · hygg ins dökkva vesa  
 4 at hrotta-meði hrafns.

“TODO.”

22      Þat es annat · ef est út of kominn  
 2              ok est á braut búinn:  
             tvá þú lítr · á tái standa  
 4              hróðr-fúsa hali.

“TODO.”

23      Þat ’s it þriðja · ef þjóta heyrir  
 2              ulf und ask-limum,  
             heilla auðit · verðr þér af hjalm-stofum  
 4              ef sér þá fyrri fara.

“TODO.”

24      Eñgr skal gumna · í gøgn vega  
 2              síð skínandi · systur mána;  
             þeir sigr hafa · es séa kunnu,  
 4              hjör-leiks hvatir, · eða hamalt fylkja.

“TODO.”

25      Þat ’s fār mikit · ef fōti drepr  
 2              þar’s þú at vígi veðr;  
             talar dísir · standa þér á tvēr hliðar  
 4              ok vilja þik sáran séa.

“TODO.”

26      Kēmbōr ok þveginn · skal kónna hvērr  
 2              ok at morni mēttr,  
             því-at ó·sýnt es · hvar at aptni kōmr;  
 4              illt ’s fyr heill at hrapa.

Combed and washed shall each keen man be,  
 and by morning full,  
 for ’tis unseen where by evening he comes;  
 ’tis bad to rush before one’s luck.<sup>180</sup>

<sup>180</sup>The wording of the first half of this stanza is very close to *Highb* 61 and *Wsp* 33; for discussion on personal hygiene and bathing see note to the former.



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# The Speeches of Fathomer

## (*Fáfnismól*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.442)–early C11th (0.402)

Meter: *Leeds-meter* (TODO)

Titled *Frá dauða Fáfnis* ‘From Fathomer’s death’ in R.

1 „Sveinn ok sveinn! • Hverjum est sveini of borinn?  
2 Hverra est manna mögr?  
es þú á Fáfni rautt • þinn hinn frána mēki;  
4 stöndumk til hjarta hjörr!“

[Fathomer quoth:]

“O swain and swain! To which swain art thou born;  
of which men art thou son?  
As thou on Fathomer hast reddened thy gleaming blade,  
the sword stands unto my heart!”

P1 Sigurðr dulði nafns síns fyr því at þat var trúa þeira í forneskju at orð feigs  
2 manns mētti mikit ef hann bölvaði óvin sínum með nafni. Hann kvað:

Siward concealed his name, because it was their belief in ancient times that the word of a **fey** man  
could do much if he baled his enemy by his name. He [= Siward] quoth:

2 „Göfugt dýr ek heiti • en ek gengit hef’k  
2 hinn móður-lausi mögr,  
föður ek á’kk-a • sem fira synir,  
4 geng ek einn saman.“

“Noble Deer am I called, and I have gone  
as the motherless lad.  
A father I have not like the sons of men;  
I go alone.”

- 3 „Veitst, ef fǫður né átt-at · sem fira synir,  
2 af hverju vastu undri alinn? [...]“

[Fathomer quoth:]

“Dost thou know, if thou hast no father, like do the sons of men,  
by which wonder thou wast begotten?”

- 4 „Étterni mitt · kveð’k þér ó·kunnigt vesa  
2 ok mik sjalfan hit sama:  
Sigurðr ek heiti · Sigmundr hét minn faðir  
4 es hef’k þik vǫpnum vegit.“

[Siward quoth:]

“My lineage I declare is unknown to thee,  
and my self the same.<sup>181</sup>

Siward am I called—Syemund was called my father—  
who with weapons have struck thee.”

<sup>181</sup>The meaning is that Fathomer would not recognize Siward’s lineage (i.e. his father) or name, since he is an orphan who up until this point has not won any glory. He is not saying that he is lineage is unknown even to himself, since *sjalfan mik* ‘my self’ is accusative, not dative.

- 5 „Hvęrr þik hvatti, · hví hvętjask lést,  
2 mínu fǫrvi at fara?  
Hinn frán-ęygi sveinn, · þú áttir fǫður bitran,  
4 á-bornu skjór á skęið.“

[Fathomer quoth:]

“Who goaded thee—why didst thou let thee be goaded—  
my life for to destroy?

O gleaming-eyed swain, thou haddest a sharp father;  
inborn traits quickly show!”

<sup>4</sup> á-bornu skjór á skęið. ‘inborn traits quickly show.’ | The original is cryptic. *á skęið* means roughly ‘rapidly, quickly’, whence the expression *ríða á skęið* ‘CV: to ride at full speed’, but the other words are uncertain. La Farge and Tucker (1992) read ‘your innate qualities show quickly’, suggesting two unattested words: an adjective *\*áborinn* ‘innate, inborn’ and a verb *\*skjóa* ‘to show’. Yet the lack of i-umlaut in the supposed 3rd sg. pres. ind. *skjór* is difficult. We would expect *\*\*skýr*, as in *skjóta* ‘to shoot,’ with 2nd/3rd sg. pres. ind. *skýtr*. A solution here would be reading a 2nd sg. pres. subj. *skjóir*, with a vowel TODO

- 6 „Hugr mik hvatti, · hendr mér full-týðu  
2 ok minn inn hvassi hjorr;  
fár es hvatr · es hrøðask tękr  
4 ef í barnósku ’s blauðr.“

[Siward quoth:]

“My heart goaded me, my hands availed me,  
and this my sharp sword.  
Few a man is brave when he takes to grow,  
if in youth he be soft.”

7      „Væt'k, ef þú vaxa næðir · fyr þinna vina brjósti,  
2                      séi-t maðr þik vręðan vega;  
            nú est haptr · ok hęr-numinn,  
4                      ę kveða bandingja bifask.“

[Fathomer quoth:]

“TRANSLATION”

8      „Því bregðr þú nú mér, Fáfnir, · at til fjarri sjá'k  
2                      mínum fęðr-munum,  
            ęgi em'k haptr · þótt vęra hęr-numi;  
4                      þú fannt, at ek lauss lifi!“

[Siward quoth:]

“TRANSLATION”

9      „Heipt-yrði ęin · tęlr þú þér í hví-vętna  
2                      en ek þér satt ęitt sęgi'k:  
            It gjalla gull · ok it glóð-rauða fę,  
4                      þér verða þęir baugar at bana!“

[Fathomer quoth:]

“With only hateful words dost thou answer anything,  
but I tell thee truth alone:  
The resounding gold and the glowing red wealth,  
those bighs will be thy bane!”

10     „Fęi ráða · skal fyrða hvērr  
2                      ę til ins ęina dags  
            því-at ęinu sinni · skal alda hvērr  
4                      fara til hęljar heðan.“

[Siward quoth:]

“Rule [his] wealth shall every man,  
always, until the one day;  
for at one time must every man

journey hence to Hell.”

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<sup>2</sup> ins *çina dags* ‘the one day’ | i.e. his predetermined time of death. Siward dismisses the idea of the curse, since he knows that he will die regardless of whether he takes the gold or not; and he would rather die rich and famous than wretched and forgotten.

11 „Norna dóm · munt fyr ñesjum hafa  
2 ok ó·svinns apa;  
í vatni þú drukknar · ef í vindi rēr;  
4 allt es fęigs forað.“

[Fathomer quoth:]

“The doom of the Norns shalt thou have before the headlands,  
and that of an unwise ape.

In water wilt thou drown if thou row in wind;  
everything is the pit of the *fey*.<sup>182</sup>”

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<sup>1</sup> fyr ñesjum ‘before the headlands’ | i.e. ‘close at hand, imminent’. A formulaic expression for imminent death, cf. the last st. of *Sont* (TODO).

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<sup>182</sup>That is, the cursed, death-doomed (*fey*) man will find sudden death no matter where he turns.

12 „Sęg mér, Fáfnir, · alls þik fróðan kveða  
2 ok vęl mart vita:  
Hvęrjar ’ru þęr nornir · es nauð-gonglar ’ru  
4 ok kjósa móðr frá mögum?“

[Siward quoth:]

“Say to me, Fathomer, as they call thee wise,  
and knowing well enough:

Who are the Norns that attend in need,  
and choose mothers from their lads?”

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<sup>3</sup> es nauð-gonglar ’ru ‘that attend in need’ | lit. ‘who are attendant in need’, i.e. who help ailing mothers during childbirth. Cf. *Syed* 8.

13 „Sundr-bornar mjøk · hygg at nornir sé,  
2 ęigu-t þęr ęt samann;  
sumar ’ru ás-kunngar, · sumar alf-kunngar,  
4 sumar dótr Dvalins.“

[Fathomer quoth:]

“Of very sundry birth I judge the norns to be;  
they come not from a common lineage:

Some are begotten of the Eese, some begotten of the Elves,  
some are the daughters of Dwollen [DWARFS].”

14     „Sęg mér þat, Fáfnir, · alls þik fróðan kveða  
2             ok vęl margt vita,  
           hvé sá holmr hęitir · es blanda hjor-łęgi  
4             Surtr ok ęsir saman.“

[Siward quoth:]

“Say to me, Fathomer, as they call thee wise,  
and knowing well enough:  
What is the islet called, where Surt and the Eese  
blend sword-water [BLOOD] together?”

15     „Ó·skópnir hęitir · en þar ęll skulu  
2             gęirum lęika goð;  
           Bil-ręst brotnar · es á brott fara  
4             ok svima í móðu marir.

[Fathomer quoth:]

“Unshopner it is called, and there shall all  
the Gods play with spears;  
Bilrest shatters when they fare away,  
and the horses swim in the sea.

---

Fathomer continues speaking, but there is probably something missing here, since the transition is abrupt. Between its paraphrases of st. 15 and of st. 16, N has *Ok enn męlti Fáfnir: „Reginn bróðir minn veldr mínum dauða, ok þat blęgir mik, er hann veldr ok þínum dauða, ok ferr þá, sem hann vildi.“* “And further spoke Fathomer: “My brother Rein causes my death, and it gladdens me that he also causes thy death, and then it will go like he has willed.”, which may either be a paraphrase of a lost st., or an addition by the redactor.

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16     Ógis hjalm · bar’k of alda sonum  
2             meðan of męnjum lá’k;  
           ęinn rammari · hugðumk ęllum vesa,  
4             fann’k-a’k marga męgu.“

A helmet of terror I carried over the sons of men  
while on the rings I lay;

stronger than all I thought myself alone to be;  
I did not find many men."

- 17 „Ógis hjalmr · bergr einu-gi  
2 hvar's skulu vręiðir vega;  
þá þat finnr · es með fleirum kómr  
4 at engi es einna hvatastr."

[Siward quoth:]

"A helmet of terror saves no man,  
wherever wroth men should fight;  
then he finds, when among the many he comes,  
that none is the boldest of all."

- 18 „Eitri ek fnęsta · es á arfi lá'k  
2 miklum míns fęður."

[Fathomer quoth:]

"Venom I snorted, while I lay on the great  
inheritance of my father."

- 19 „Inn rammi ormr, · þú gęrðir fręs mikla  
2 ok gatst harðan hug;  
heipt at meiri · verðr hęlða sonum  
4 at þann hjalm hafi."

[Siward quoth:]

"O mighty wrym, thou madest a great snort,  
and didst get a hard heart;  
TODO."

- 20 „Ręð'k þér nú, Sigurðr, · en þú ráð nemir  
2 ok rið hęim heðan;  
it gjalla gull · ok it glóð-rauða fé,  
4 þér verða þęir baugar at bana!"

[Fathomer quoth:]

"I counsel thee now, O Siward—and thou oughtst to take the counsel,  
and ride home, hence!  
The resounding gold and the glowing red wealth,  
those highs will become thy bane!"



21 „Ráð 's þér ráðit · en ek ríða mun  
 2 til þess gulls es í lyngvi liggr,  
 en þú, Fáfnir, ligg · í fjör-brotum  
 4 þar's þik Hæl hafi!“

[Siward quoth:]

“Thy counsel has been counseled—but I will ride,  
 to the gold which in the heather lies;  
 but *thou*, Fathomer, lie in the blood-tracks,  
 where Hell may have thee!”

---

4 þar's þik Hæl hafi 'where Hell may have thee' | Formulaic. TODO.

22 „Reginn mik réð, · hann þik ráða mun,  
 2 hann mun okkr verða böðum at bana;  
 fjör sitt láta · hygg at Fáfnir myni;  
 4 þitt varð nú meira megin.“

[Fathomer quoth:]

“Rein betrayed *me*, he will betray *thee*;  
 he will become the bane of us both;  
 give his life, I judge that Fathomer will;  
 thy strength was now the greater.”

P2 Reginn var á brott horfinn meðan Sigurðr vá Fáfni ok kom þá aptr er  
 2 Sigurðr strauk blóð af sverðinu. Reginn kvað:

Rein had gone away while Siward smote Fathomer, and then came back as Siward wiped the blood  
 off the sword. Rein quoth:

23 „Heill þú nú, Sigurðr, · nú hefir sigr vegit  
 2 ok Fáfni of farit;  
 manna þeira · es mold troða  
 4 þik kveð'k ó·blauðastan alinn.“

[SPEAKER quoth:]

“Hail thee now, O Siward—now thou hast won victory  
 and Fathomer destroyed!  
 Of those men who tread on the earth  
 I declare *thee* with least softness begotten.”

24 „VERSE“

[SPEAKER quoth:]  
“TRANSLATION”

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# The Speeches of Syedrive (*Sigrdrífumól*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.961)

Meter: Leeds-meter

Syed is attested in two medieval mss., namely **R** (which is the main mss. for the pres. ed) and **N** (*WalsS* ch. 21), which begins with a paraphrase of the present poem up to P2:

*Brynhildr segir, at tveir konungar þorðust. Hét annarr Hjalmgunnarr; hann var gamall ok hinn mesti hermaðr, ok hafði Óðinn honum sigr heitit, en annarr Agnarr eða Auða bróðir. „Ek fellda Hjalmgunnarr í orrostu, en Óðinn stakk mik svefn-þorni í hefnd þess ok kvað mik aldri síðan skyldu sigr hafa ok kvað mik giptast skulu. En ek strengða þess heit þar í mót at giptast engum þeim, er bræðast kynni.“ Sigurðr mælti: „Kenn oss ráð til stórra hluta.“ Hun svarar: „Þér munuð betr kunna, en með þökkum vil ek kenna yðr, ef þat er nokkut, er vér kunnum, þat er yðr mætti líka, í rúnum eða öðrum blutum, er liggja til hvers blutar, ok drekkum bæði saman, ok gefi goðin okkr góðan dag, at þér verði nýt ok fregð at mínum vitrleik, ok þú munir eptir þat, er vit réðum.“ Brynhildr fyllði eitt ker ok fýrði Sigurði ok mælti:*

‘Byrnhild says that two kings fought. One was called Helmguther; he was old and the greatest warrior, and Weden had promised him victory, but the other was called Eyner or Eade’s brother. “I felled Helmguther in battle, but Weden stung me with a sleeping-thorn as revenge for that, and declared that I should never thenceforth have victory, and said that I must marry, but I made a vow in response, to marry no man who could be frightened.” Siward spoke: “Teach us counsels regarding great things.” She answers: “Ye will know better, but with thanks I will teach you, if there is anything which we know that may please you, of runes or other things of importance; and let us both drink together, and may the gods give us two a good day, that thou have use and joy from my wisdom and that thou afterwards recall that which we two speak of.” Byrnhild filled a vessel and brought it to Siward and spoke:’

After this it cites sts. 4–12 and 14–18 in uninterrupted sequence, and paraphrases sts. 19 ff. (TODO: edit these!). The order of stanzas in **N** is not identical to **R**. Both mss. have sts. 4–5 and 12, 14–18 in the same place, but the order of sts. 6–11 in between is divergent, as seen by the following table:

|   | pres. ed.             | <b>R</b> | <b>N</b> |
|---|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 4 | Bjór föri’k þér       | 4        | 6        |
| 5 | Sig-rúnar skalt rísta | 5        | 7        |

|    | <i>pres. ed.</i>        | R      | N     |
|----|-------------------------|--------|-------|
| 6  | Ql-rúnar skalt kunna    | 6      | 10    |
| 7  | Full skal signa         | 6*     | 11    |
| 8  | Bjarg-rúnar skalt kunna | 7      | 12    |
| 9  | Brim-rúnar skalt rísta  | 8      | 8     |
| 10 | Lim-rúnar skalt kunna   | 9      | 13    |
| 11 | Mál-rúnar skalt kunna   | 10     | 9     |
| 12 | Hug-rúnar skalt kunna   | 11a    | 14    |
| 13 | Á bjargi stóð           | 11b–12 | –     |
| 14 | Á skildi kvað ristnar   | 13–14a | 15–17 |
| 15 | Allar vöru af skafnar   | 14b–15 | 18    |
| 16 | Þat eru bókrúnar        | 16     | 19    |
| 17 | Nú skalt kjósa          | 17     | 20    |
| 18 | Mun’k-a ek flója        | 18     | 21    |

The contents of the poem

- 1 „Lengi ek svaf, • lengi ek sofnuð vas,  
 2 lōng eru lýða lē;  
 Óðinn því veldr • es ęigi máttak  
 4 bregða blund-stofum.“

[Syedrive quoth:] “Long I slept, long was I asleep,  
 long are the guiles of men.  
 Weden doth cause that I could not  
 break the sleeping-staves.”

- P1 Sigurðr settisk niðr ok spyrr hana nafns. Hón tók þá horn fullt mjaðar ok  
 2 gaf hönnum minnis-vęig.

Siward set himself down, asking for her name. Then she took a horn full of mead, and gave him a draught of memory:

- 2 Heill Dagr, • heilir Dags synir,  
 2 heil Nōtt ok nipt!  
 Ó-ręiðum augum • lítið okkr þinig  
 4 ok gefið sitjōndum sigr!

“Hail Day! Hail the sons of Day!<sup>183</sup>  
 Hail Night and [her] kinswoman [= Earth]!  
 With un-wroth [FRIENDLY] eyes look ye toward us two,  
 and give the sitters [= us] victory.

2 nipt ‘[her] kinswoman [= Earth]’ | According to *Yǫlv* 10 Earth is the daughter of Night and Aner.

3 Ó-*rēiðum* *augum* · *litið okkr þinig* ‘With unwrathful [FRIENDLY] eyes look ye toward us two’ | An archaic conception; the Gods turning Their friendly gaze toward the worshipper symbolises Their bestowing their favour, and the specific use of *ó-rēiðr* ‘un-wroth’ shows that the wrath of the Gods was feared. Compare *Hind* 6. Similar language is found in other ancient literatures, e.g. in the Hebrew Bible, most famously in the “Priestly Blessing” of Numbers 6:24–26 where Yahweh’s favour is expressed by “making His face shine” and “lifting His face” toward the receiver of the blessing, and also in Psalms 4:6 and the chorus of Psalms 80, contrasting with 80:17 where the Israelites are depicted as perishing before the rebuke of Yahweh’s face.

<sup>183</sup>TODO. Who?

3 Hēilir *ēsir*, · hēilar *ósynjur*,  
2 hēil sjá in *fjöl-nýta fold!*  
Mál ok *man-vit* · *gefið okkr mērum tvēim*  
4 ok *lēknis-hēndr meðan lifum!*

Hail the *Eese!* Hail the *Ossens!*

Hail this much-giving Fold!

Speech and *manwit* give ye to us renowned two,  
and a leecher’s hands, while we live.”

1 Hēilir *ēsir*, · hēilar *ósynjur* ‘Hail the Eese! Hail the Ossens!’ | Probably formulaic, subverted by Lock in *Lock* 11 (see note there for possible ritual use).

2 hēil sjá in *fjöl-nýta fold!* ‘Hail this much-giving Fold!’ | Cf. particularly *Acreboot*: *Hâl wes þú Folde · fira módor!* ‘Hail be thou, Fold, mother of men!’ Fold is a poetic name for *Earth* with cultic-poetic associations and is cognate with Old Indian *Ṗṛthivī*, which occurs frequently in *RV* for Earth. For the epithet ‘much-giving’ cf. *Iliad* 3.89: ἐπι χθονὶ πολυβοτείρῃ ‘upon the much-nourishing earth’.

4 *lēknis-hēndr* ‘a leecher’s hands’ | The hands of a physician, i.e., hands with healing powers. The singular *lēknis-hēnd* occurs on the Ribe galder stick (DR EM85;49), edited below under Galders.

P2 Hon nefndisk Sigrdrífa ok var valkyrja. Hon sagði, at tveir konvngar  
2 bǫrðusk. Hét annarr Hjalmgunnarr; hann var þá gamall ok inn mesti  
hermaðr, ok hafði Óðinn hánum sigri heitit. En annarr hét *Agnarr*, ·  
4 *Auðu* bróðir // er *vétr* engi · *vildi þiggja*. Sigrdrífa felldi Hjalmgunnar  
í orrostunni. En Óðinn stakk hana svefn-þorni í hefnd þess ok kvað hana  
6 aldri skyldu síðan sigr vega í orrostu, ok kvað hana giftask skyldu, „en  
sagða’k hánum at strengða’k heit þar í mót, at giptask øngom þeim manni  
8 er hrēðask kynni.“ Hann segir ok biðr hana kenna sér speki ef hon vissi  
tíðendi ór ǫllum heimum. Sigrdrífa kvað:

She called herself Syedrive and was a walkirie. She said, that two kings fought. One was called Helmguther; he was then old and the greatest warrior, and Weden had promised him victory. But the other was called Eyner, Eade’s brother, who in no way wished to surrender. Syedrive felled Helmguther in the battle, but Weden stung her with a sleeping-thorn as revenge for that, and declared that she should never thenceforth cause victory in battle, and said that she must marry, “but I said to him that I made a vow in response, to marry no man who could be frightened.” He [= Siward] speaks and asks her to teach him wisdom, if she knew any tidings out of all the *Homes*. Syedrive quoth:

- 4 „Bjór fóri’k þér, • bryn-þings apaldr, [R 32r/18–20, N 24v/12–14]  
 2 magni blandinn • ok męgin-tíri,  
 fullr es ljóða • ok líkn-stafa,  
 4 góðra galdra • ok gaman-rúna.

Beer I bring thee, O apple-tree of the byrnie-Thing [BATTLE > WARRIOR]!  
 mixed with might and mighty splendour;  
 it is full of leeds and grace-staves,  
 of good galders and pleasure-runes.

1 bryn-þings apaldr ‘apple-tree of the byrnie-Thing [BATTLE > WARRIOR]’ | *bryn-þinga valdr* ‘wielder of byrnie-Things [BATTLES > WARRIOR]’ N 4 gaman-rúna ‘pleasure-runes’ | *gaman-þrędnaþ* N

- 5 Sig-rúnar skalt rísta, • ef vilt sigr hafa, [R 32r/20–22, N 24v/14–16]  
 2 ok rísta á hjalti hjors,  
 sumar á vętt-rimum, • sumar á val-bęstum,  
 4 ok nęfna tysvar Tý.

Victory-runes shalt thou know, if thou wilt have victory,  
 and carve them on the hilt of the sword;  
 some on the weight-rims;<sup>184</sup> some on the wal-basts<sup>185</sup>,  
 and twice name Tew.

1 sigr hafa ‘have victory’ | *snotr vera* ‘be clever’ N 2 rísta | *þristþ* N 3 sumar ‘some’ | om. N 3 vętt-rimum | *vętt-þrimumþ* N 3 sumar ‘some’ | ok ‘and’ N 3 val-bęstum | *val-þbystumþ* N

<sup>184</sup>Unclear. TODO.

<sup>185</sup>Possibly the sword-pommel, the word also occurs in *HHarw* 9. TODO.

- 6 Ql-rúnar skalt kunna • ef vilt at annars kvęn [R 32r/22–24, N 25r/1–3]  
 2 véli-t þik í tryggð ef trúir;  
 á horni skal þęr rísta • ok á handar baki  
 4 ok męrkja á nagli Nauð.

Ale-runes shalt thou know, if thou wilt that another man’s wife  
 not betray thee in troth if thou trustest [in her].  
 On the horn shall one carve them, and on the back of the hand,  
 and mark Need on the nail.

1 at ‘that’ | emend. from *þaþ* N; om. R 2 véli-t þik í tryggð | *vęli þik eigi tryggð* N 3 þęr ‘them’ | *þat* ‘it’ N

4 Nauð ‘Need’ | i.e. the n-rune, †.

- 7 Full skal signa • ok við fári séa [R 32r/24–25, N 25r/3–4]  
 2 ok verpa lauki í lęg;

4 þá þat veit'k, · at þér verðr aldri-gi  
męini blandinn mjǫðr.

The cup shall one sign<sup>186</sup>, and gaze against the danger,  
and throw in the liquid a leek.  
Then I know that it will never be  
mixed with harm, thy mead.

1 Full 'The cup' | *pl* 'The ale' N breaks alliteration. 4 męini blandinn | emend.; *męin-blandinn* N

3-4 þá ... mjǫðr | only in N; om. R

<sup>186</sup>Dedicate to the gods with a certain formula. TODO.

8 Bjarg-rúnar skalt kunna · ef bjarga vilt  
2 ok leysa kind frá konum;  
á lófa þér skal rísta · ok of liðu spęnna  
4 ok biðja þá dísir duga.

[R 32r/25-26, N 25r/5-7]

Rescue-runes shalt thou know, if thou wilt rescue  
and loosen children from women;<sup>187</sup>  
on the palm shall one carve them, and wrap them round the joints,  
and then bid the dises to avail.

1 kunna 'know' | *nema* 'learn' N 1 ef bjarga vilt 'if thou wilt rescue' | *ef þú vilt borgit fú* 'if thou wilt get rescued' N 4 þá 'then' | om. N

4 dísir 'dises' | Minor female deities; one of their roles was helping ailing women during childbirth. Probably a synonym for the norns; cf. *Fath* 12.

<sup>187</sup>i.e. during difficult childbirth. Cf. *Ordr*, esp. st. TODO, for an example of galders used to avail childbirth.

9 Brim-rúnar skalt rísta · ef vilt borgit hafa  
2 á sundi segl-mǫrum;  
á stafni skal rísta · ok á stjórna blaði  
4 ok leggja ęld í ár; es-a svá brattr breki · né svá bláar unnir,  
þó kǫmsk-tu hęill af hafi.

[R 32r/27-29, N 24v/16-19]

Surf-runes shalt thou carve, if thou wilt rescue  
sail-steeds [SHIPS] on the sound;  
on the stem shall one carve them, and on the rudder's blade,  
and lay fire into the oar.  
There is not so steep a breaker nor so blue-black waves  
that thou not come whole off the sea.

1 rísta 'carve' | *gjǫra* 'make' N 3 skal rísta 'shall [one] carve' | *skal þér rísta* 'shall [one] carve them' N 4 es-a 'There is not' | *falla-t* 'There fall not' N

4 leggja ǣld í ár 'lay fire into the oar' | i.e. mark it with fire in some way.

5 þó ... hafi 'that ... sea' | lit. 'yet comest thou whole off the sea.'

10 Lim-rúnar skalt kunna · ef vilt lēknir vesa  
2 ok kunna sár at sēa;  
á þerki skal þér rísta · ok á baðmi viðar,  
4 þeim's lúta austr limar.

[R 32r/29–31, N 25r/7–9]

Limb-runes shalt thou know, if thou wilt be a leecher,  
and know how to look at wounds;  
on a birch shall one carve them, and on the beam of the wood:  
on the one whose limbs bow to the east.<sup>188</sup>

3 baðmi 'beam' | barri 'leaf' 4 þeim's | þess es N

<sup>188</sup>Probably referring to a characteristically bent mountain birch bowing to the east.

11 Mál-rúnar skalt kunna · ef vilt at mann-gi þér  
2 heiptum gjaldi harm;  
þér of vindr, · þér of vęfr,  
4 þér of setr allar saman,  
á því þingi · es þjóðir skulu  
6 í fulla dóma fara.

[R 32r/31—34, N 24v/19–21]

Speech-runes shalt thou know, if thou wilt that no man  
should repay thy insults with harm;  
them dost thou wind, them dost thou weave,  
them dost thou put all together,  
on that Thing whereas peoples shall  
go to full judgements.

1 vilt | om. N 2 gjaldi | *ǧialldaʃ* N 5 þjóðir 'nations' | *męnn* N breaks alliteration.

12 Hug-rúnar skalt kunna · ef vilt hverjum vesa  
2 gęð-svinnari guma;  
þér of réð, · þér of reist,  
4 þér of hugði Hroptr,  
af þeim lęgi · es lekit hafði  
6 ór hausi Hęiðdraupnis  
ok ór horni Hoddrofnis.

[R 32r/34–32v/3, N 25r/9–10]

Mind-runes shalt thou know, if thou wilt be  
sense-swifter than every man;



them did counsel, them did carve,  
 them did Rofþ think out,  
 from that liquid which had leaked  
 out of Heathdreepner's skull  
 and out of Hoardrovner's horn.

1 kunna 'know' | *nema* 'learn' N 2 gæð-svinnari 'sense-swifter' | *gæð-borskari* 'sense-sharper' N

5-7 af ... Hoddrofnis 'from ... Hoardrovner's [horn]. | om. N

13 Á bjargi stóð · með Brimis eggjar, [R 32v/3-4]  
 2 hafði sér á hofði hjalm;  
 þá mælti Míms hofuð  
 4 fróðligt it fyrsta orð,  
 ok sagði sanna stafi.

On the barrow he stood along Brimer's edges;  
 he had on his head a helmet.  
 Then Mime's head spoke,  
 learnedly, the first word,  
 and said true staves:

14a Á skildi kvað ristnar · þeim's stendr fyr skínanda goði, [R 32v/5-7, N 25r/11-13]  
 2 á eyra Árvaks, · ok á Alsvinns hófi,  
 á því hvéli · es snýsk und reið Hrungnis,  
 4 á Slēipnis tønnum · ok á slēða fjetrum,

On a shield, it declared there to be carved [runes]— [on] the one that stands before the shining  
 god<sup>189</sup> [SUN];  
 on Yorewaker's ear and on Allswith's hoof,<sup>190</sup>  
 on that wheel which turns beneath Rungner's chariot,  
 on Slapner's teeth and on the fetters of sleds,

2 á eyra Árvaks, · ok á 'on Yorewaker's ear and on' | om. N 3 á | ok á N 3 snýsk 'turns' | *stendr* 'stands'  
 N 3 Hrungnis 'Rungner's' | emend. based on sense and meter; *Ravgnis* R; *Raugnis* N 4 tønnum 'teeth' |  
*taumum* 'reins' N

<sup>189</sup> Cf. *Grim* 39, according to which the sun is covered by a shield, protecting the earth from its heat. Without it, the whole world will burn up.

<sup>190</sup> The two horses that pull the sun across the heavens; cf. *Grim* 38.

14b á bjarnar hrammi · ok á Braga tungu, [R 32v/7-9, N 25r/13-15]  
 2 á ulfs klóum · ok á arnar nefi,  
 á blóðgum vengjum · ok á brúar sporði,

4 á lausnar lófa · ok á líknar spori,

on the bear's paw and on Bray's tongue,  
on the wolf's claws and on the eagle's beak,  
on bloody wings and on the bridge's supports,  
on the palm of release and the track of grace,

2 neþi | þnefiuþ N 4 á | om. N

14c á glēri ok á gulli · ok á gumna heillum,

[R 32v/9–11, N 25r/15–18]

2 í víni ok virtri · ok vili-sessi,  
á Gungnis oddi · ok á Grana brjósti,  
4 á nornar nagli · ok á neþi uglu;

on glass and on gold and on men's luck-charms,  
in wine and beerwort and the comfortable seat,  
on Gungner's point and on Grane's chest,  
on a norn's nail and on an owl's beak.

1 gumna heillum 'men's luck-charms' | *gōðu silfri* N 2 vili-sessi 'the comfortable seat' | *vplu sessi* 'a wallow's seat' N 3 Gungnis oddi 'Gungner's point' | *Gaupnis oddi* 'Yeapner's point' (an elsewhere unknown spear) N 3 Grana brjósti 'Grane's chest' | *gygjar brjósti* 'a gow's chest'

2 vili-sessi 'the comfortable seat' | *í guma holdi* 'in a man's flesh' add. N is clearly an inserted line.

15 Allar vōru af skafnar, · þēr's vōru á ristnar,

[R 32v/11–14, N 25r/18–21]

2 ok hveṛfðar við inn heḷga mjoð  
ok sendar á víða vega:  
4 þēr 'ru með ósum, · þēr 'ru með ǫlfum,  
sumar með vísu sum vōnum,  
6 sumar hafa meniskir menn.

All were shaven off—those that were carved on—  
and mixed into the holy mead,  
and sent on wide ways:  
they are among the Eese, they are among the Elves,  
some among the wise Wanes,  
some have manly men.

2 hveṛfðar 'mixed' | *þbrēdarþ* (for *brōrðar* 'stirred?') N 4 ósum ... ǫlfum 'Eese ... Elves' | *ǫlfum ... ósum* 'Elves ... Eese' N 4 þēr 'ru 'they are' | *sumar* 'some' N 5 sumar 'some' | *ok* 'and' N

16 Þat eru bók-rúnar, · þat eru bjarg-rúnar

[R 32v/14–16, N 25r/21–25v/3]

2 ok allar ǫl-rúnar  
ok mētar megin-rúnar

4           hvęim's þęr kná ó·villtar · ok ó·spilltar  
               sér at hęillum hafa;  
 6           nјót-tu ef namt  
               unds rјúfask ręgin!

They are book-runes, those are rescue-runes,  
 and all ale-runes,  
 and noble might-runes—  
 for whomever knows them unfalsified and uninjured  
 to use for himself as charms.  
 Use [them] if thou learn [them],  
 until the Reins are ripped!

1 þat eru 'those are' | ok 'and' N 3 ok mętar 'and noble' | ok męrar ok 'and renowned and' N 4 ó·spilltar |  
 řof villtarř N 7 rјúfask | rјúfa N

1 bók-rúnar 'book-runes' | Or 'beech-runes'. The word may also be emended to *bót-rúnar* 'cure-runes', since the letters *c* and *t* were, in the TODO miniscule used on Iceland, very similar. This emendation is favourable for two reasons: (i) it makes more sense, since the semantic pair *bót* 'cure' : *bjarg* 'rescue' is surely stronger than *bók* 'book, beech' : *bjarg* 'rescue', and since the present stanza is specifically referring to the practical use of the runes; (ii) the pair *bót-runar* : *bjarg-rúnar* is already found in a runic charm (B 257, edited under Galders from Bryggen).

17       „Nú skalt kјósa · alls þęr 's kоstr of bođinn,  
 2           hvassa vápna hlynr,  
           sogn eđa þogn · haf þęr sjalfr í hug;  
 4           ęll eru męin of metin.“

[R 32v/16–18, N 25v/3–5]

[Syedrive quoth:]  
 “Now shalt thou choose, as the choice is offered thee,  
 O maple-tree of sharp weapons [WARRIOR]!  
 Speech or silence have for thyself in thy heart;  
 all the harms are measured<sup>191</sup>!”

<sup>191</sup>i.e. in advance.

18       „Mun'k-a ek flója · þótt mik fęigan vitir,  
 2           em'k-a ek með blęyði borinn;  
           ást-róð þín · ek vil ęll hafa  
 4           svá lęngi sem ek lifi.“

[R 32v/18–20, N 25v/5–8]

[Siward quoth:] “I shall not flee, although thou know me to be fey;  
 I was not born with softness.<sup>192</sup>  
 Thy loving counsels, all, will I have  
 for as long as I may live.”

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2 með 'with' | om. N

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<sup>192</sup>TODO: Note about this common heroic expression.

- 19 „Þat réð'k þér it fyrsta · at við frændr þína [R 32v/20–22]  
 2 vamma-laust verir;  
 síðr þú hefnir · þótt þeir sakar gøri;  
 4 þat kveða dauðum duga.“

[Syedrive quoth:] “This I counsel thee first: that thou against thy kinsmen defend thyself faultlessly.

Late oughtst thou to take revenge, although they incur charges;  
 that, they say, befits the dead.

- 20 Þat réð'k þér annat, · at eið né sverir, [R 32v/22–24]  
 2 nema þann 's saðr séi,  
 grimmar simar · ganga at tryggð-rofi;  
 4 armr es vára vargr.

This I counsel thee second: that thou not swear an oath,  
 save for the one which is true.

Grim strands follow the troth-breach;  
 wretched is the outlaw of vows.<sup>193</sup>

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3 simar ‘strands’ | i.e. ‘strands of fate’; cf. *HHund I* 3, where the nors are said to twist such strands. Often emended to *limar* ‘ramifications’ in accordance with *Rein* 4, where that word is used in basically the same context. Such a scribal confusion is easily understood, since *s* in this position was always spelled with long *f* in the old mss. The paraphrase (see other note) is not conclusive, since it replaces this word with *hefn* ‘revenge’.

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<sup>193</sup>The punishment is one of torment in the afterlife; see note to *Wsp* 39. — The whole stanza is paraphrased in *WalsS* ch. 21: *Ok sver eigi rangan eið, því at grimm hefn fylgir gríðrofi*. ‘And swear no wrong oath, for grim revenge follows the grith-breach.’

- 21 Þat réð'k þér þriðja · at þú þingi á [R 32v/24–25]  
 2 deili-t við heimska hali  
 því-at ó·sviðr maðr · léttr oft kveðin  
 4 verri orð an viti.

This I counsel thee third: that thou on the Thing  
 not bandy with foolish men;  
 for an unwise man often lets be spoken  
 worse words than he ought to know.

- 22 Allt es vant · ef við þegir; [R 32v/25–28]  
 2 þá þikkir þú með bleýði borinn  
 eða sǫnnu sagðr;  
 4 hēttr es hēimis-kviðr  
 nema sér góðan geti.  
 6 Annars dags · lát hans ǫndu farit  
 ok launa svá lýðum lygi.

Everything is wrong if thou shut up in reply;  
 then thou seemest born with softness,  
 or truthfully accused.

Risky is the hometown-verdict,  
 unless one get himself a good one.  
 On another day do destroy his life,  
 and thus repay the people for the lie.

- 23 Þat réð’k þér it fjórða · ef býr for-dęða [R 32v/28–30]  
 2 vamma-full á vegi:  
 ganga ’s betra · an gista séi  
 4 þótt þik nǫtt of nemi.

This I counsel thee fourth: if there lives an evil-working woman,  
 full of faults, by the road,  
 to walk is better than to take lodgings,  
 although night overtake thee.

- 24 For-njósnar augu · þurfu fira synir [R 32v/30–32]  
 2 hvar’s skulu vręiðir vega;  
 oft bǫl-vísar konur · sitja brautu nér;  
 4 þér’s deýfa sverð ok sefa.

Eyes of looking-ahead the sons of men need,  
 wherever wroth men should fight;  
 oft bale-wise women sit near the highway,  
 they who dull sword and sense.

1 For-njósnar ‘looking-ahead’ | Verbal noun to *nýsask fyrir* ‘to look ahead’, as found in *Hígh* 7.

- 25 Þat réð’k þér it fimmta, · þótt fagnar séir [R 32v/32–34]  
 2 brúðir þekkjum á,  
 sífja silfr · lát-a þínum svefni ráða,  
 4 tęgji-at þér at kossi konur.

This I counsel thee fifth: although thou seest  
 fair brides on the benches,  
 let not kinsmen's silver rule thy sleep;  
 lure not women to thee for kisses.

26      Þat réð'k þér it sétta, · þótt með seggjum fari  
 2              ǫlðr-mál til ǫfug:  
               drukkinn deila · skal-at við dolg-viðu  
 4              margan stelr vín viti.

[R 32v/34]

This I counsel thee sixth: although among warriors may grow  
 the ale-speech too awry,  
 drunkenly deal shalt thou not with war-trees [WARRIORS];  
 wine steals wit from many.

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<sup>1</sup> Þat ... fari 'That ... may grow' | With these words fol. 32v of R ends, and we have the "great lacuna". The rest of the stanzas are supplied from younger paper mss.

TODO: More stanzas from paper manuscripts.

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## Fragments from the Saw of the Walsings

In **R** *Syed* is followed by the famous “great lacuna”. Numerous pages are missing, and with them much poetry about Siward. The author of the *WalsS* had access to and drew from a manuscript collection of Eddic poetry closely related to **R**. He quotes many stanzas known to us from **R**, but also some which are not found in the extant copy—these are edited here. The following stanzas in *WalsS* occur at the part of the narrative which would have been found on the lost pages of **R**, and so it is likely that some or all of them derive from longer poems found there.

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...TODO...

- 1     Ristu af magni · mikla hellu,  
2       Sigmundr hjörvi · ok Sinfjötli.

They carved mightily the great stone,  
*Syemund* with sword, and Sinfittle.

- 
- 2     Ełdr nam at *ósask* · en jörð at skjalfa  
2       ok *hár* logi · við *himni* gnéfa;  
      fár *tręystisk* þar · *fylkis* rekka  
4       *ęld* at riða · né *yfir* stíga.

Fire took to rage and earth to shake  
and high flame to rise against heaven.  
Few dared there, of the marshall's champions,  
the fire to ride, nor to step over it.

- 3     Sigurðr Grana · *sverði* keyrði;  
2       *ęldr* sloknaði · fyr *ęðlingi*;  
      logi allr *lęgðisk* · fyr *lof-gjörnum*;  
4       bliku *ręði*, · es *Reginn* átti.

Siward Grane by sword drove on;  
 the fire went out before the athling;  
 the flame all lowered before the praise-eager man;  
 the harness flashed, which Rein had owned.

---

4      Sigurðr vǫ at ormi, · en þat síðan mun  
 2           ðngum fyrnask, · meðan ǫld lifir.  
       En hlýri þinn · hvárki þorði  
 4           ǫld at ríða · né yfir stíga.

Siward smote the Wǫrm, and that afterwards will  
 by none be forgotten, while mankind lives.  
 But *thy* brother neither dared  
 the fire to ride, nor to step over it.

---

5      Út gekk Sigurðr · ann-spjalli frá,  
 2           holl-vinr lofða, · ok hnípaði,  
       svá at ganga nam · gunnar-fúsum  
 4           sundr of síður · serkr járn-ofinn.

TODO.

...TODO...

---



# The First Lay of Guthrun

## (*Guðrúnarkviða fyrsta*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.988)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

After Siward's death Guthrun is so upset that she cannot make herself weep.

---

1     Ár vas þat's Guðrún · gøðisk at deyja,  
2     es hön sat sorg-full · yfir Sigurði,  
         gøði-t hön hjúfra · né høndum sláa  
4     né kveina umb · sem konur aðrar.

TODO.

2     Gingu jarlar · al-snotrir framm,  
2     þeir's harðs hugar · hana lottu;  
         þeygi Guðrún · gráta mátti,  
4     svá vas hön móðug; · mundi hön springa.

TODO...

Nowise could Guthrun weep;  
so moody was she; she would burst apart.

3     Sötu ítrar · jarla brúðir  
2     golli búnar · fyr Guðrúnu;  
         hver sagði þeira · sinn of-trega  
4     þann's bitrastan · of beðit hafði.

TODO.

- 4 Þá kvað Gjaflaug, · Gjúka systir:  
 2 „Mik veit’k á moldu · munar-lausasta;  
 hef’k fimm vera · for-spell beðit,  
 4 tveggja dótra, · þriggja systra,  
 átta bróðra, · þó ek ein lifi.“

TODO.

- 5 Þeygi Guðrún · gráta mátti;  
 2 svá vas hön móðug · at mōg dauðan  
 ok harð-huguð · um hrør fylkis.

Nowise could Guthrun weep;  
 so moody was she after the lad’s death,  
 and hard-minded over the marshaller’s corpse.

- 6 Þá kvað þat Hęrborg, · Húna lands dróttning:  
 2 „Hef’k harðara · harm at segja:  
 mínir sjau synir · sunnan lands,  
 4 verr inn átti, · í val fellu:

TODO.

- 7 Faðir ok móðir, · fjórir bróðr, þau á vági · vindr of lék, barði bára ·  
 við borð-þili.

TODO.

- 8 Sjölf skylda’k gofga, · sjölf skylda’k gōtva,  
 2 sjölf skylda’k hōndla, · hęr-fōr þęira;  
 þat ek allt of beĩð · ęin misseri  
 4 svá’t mér maðr ęngi · munar lęitaði.

TODO.

- 9 Þá varð’k hapta · ok hęr-numa  
 2 sams misseris · síðan verða;  
 skylda’k skreyta · ok skúa binda  
 4 hęrsis kván · hvęrjan morgin.

TODO.

- 10      Hon ógðði mér · af af-brýði  
 2          ok hǫrðum mik · hoggum keyrði;  
          fann’k hús-guma · hvergi inn bættra  
 4          en hús-freyju · hvergi verri.“

TODO,  
 and with hard blows drove me on;  
 a better husband I never found,  
 and a worse housewife never.”

- 11      Þeygi Guðrún · gráta mátti;  
 2          svá vas hǫn móðug · at mǫg dauðan  
          ok harð-huguð · um hrør fylkis.

Nowise could Guthrun weep;  
 so moody was she after the lad’s death,  
 and hard-minded over the marshaller’s corpse.

- 12      Þá kvað þat Gullrǫnd, · Gjúka dóttir:  
 2          „Fá kannt, fósttra, · þótt fróð séir,  
          ungu vífi · and-spjöll bera.“  
 4          Varaði hǫn at hylja · umb hrør fylkis.

TODO.

- 13      Svípti hǫn bléju · af Sigurði  
 2          ok vatt vengi · fyr vífs knjám:  
          „Líttu á ljúfan, · legg þú munn við grǫn  
 4          sem þú halsaðir · heilan stilli.“

TODO.

- 14      Á leit Guðrún · einu sinni;  
 2          sá hǫn dǫglings skǫr · dreypa runna,  
          fránar sjónir · fylkis liðnar,  
 4          hug-borg jǫfurs · hjǫrvi skorna.

TODO.

- 15 Þá hné Guðrún · holl við bólstri;  
 2 haddr losnaði, · hlýr roðnaði  
 en regns dropi · rann niðr umb kné.

her hair loosened, her cheek reddened,  
 and a drop of rain ran down to her knee.

- 16 Þá grét Guðrún, · Gjúka dóttir,  
 2 svá't tór flugu · tresk í gognum  
 ok gullu við · gæss í túni,  
 4 mērir fuglar · es mēr átti.

Then wept Guthrun, Yivick's daughter,  
 so that the tears flew through the ...  
 and in response shrieked the geese in the yard,  
 the famous fowls which the maiden owned.

- 17 Þá kvað þat Gullrönd, · Gjúka dóttir:  
 2 ykkar vissa'k · ástir mestar  
 manna allra · fyr mold ofan;  
 4 unðir þú hvárki · úti né inni,  
 systir mín, · nema hjá Sigurði.

TODO.

- 18 „Svá vas mín Sigurðr · hjá sonum Gjúka  
 2 sem véri geir-laukr · ór grasi vaxinn,  
 eða véri bjartr steinn · á band dreginn:  
 4 jarkna-steinn · yfir øðlingum.

So was my Siward by the sons of Yivick  
 like were a garlic out of grass grown,  
 or were a bright stone drawn on a band:  
 an arkenstone over the athlings.

[Guthrun quoth:]

1–2 Svá vas ... vaxinn 'So was ... grown' | These two lines are almost identical to *Guth II* 2/1–2. Since the present poem is probably older (Sapp, 2022), it is likely the source.

2 geir-laukr 'garlic' | or 'spear-leek'. I have opted for this translation based on etymology (cf. OE *gār-léac* 'spear-leek'), but the botanical identity is unclear. *Guth II* 2 has *grónn laukr* 'green leek' instead. For the cultural importance of leeks and onions see note to *Wsp* 4.

3–4 eða véri ... øðlingum. 'or were ... athlings.' | Beaded necklaces were commonly worn by Scandinavian women of the time, and the beads were mostly of opaque coloured glass. Siward is thus likened to a bright crystal, the sons of Yivick to (dull) glass.

- 19 Ek þóttu auk · þjóðans rekkum  
2 hverri hverri · Herjans dísi;  
nú em'k svá lítil · sem lauf séa  
4 opt í jölstrum · at jöfur dauðan.

I, too, seemed to the prince's champions  
higher than each lady of the Lord of Hosts;  
now I am as small as if a leaf I were, up in the willows, after the ruler's death.

TODO...

---



# The Hell-ride of Byrnhild

## (*Hēlrēið Brynhildar*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): late C11th (0.650)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

TODO: INTRODUCTION.

- P1 Eptir dauða Brynhildar voru gøt bøl tvau: annat Sigurði, ok brann þat  
2 fyrr, en Brynhildr var á qðru brennd ok var hon í reið þeiri er guð-vefjum  
var tjölduð. Svá er sagt at Brynhildr ok með reið'inni á hel-veg ok fór um  
4 tún þar er gýgr nokkur bjó. Gýgr'in kvað:

After Byrnhild's death two pyres were made: one for Siward, and it burned earlier; but Byrnhild was burned on the other, and she was in that wagon which was covered with godweb. It is said that Byrnhild drove with the wagon onto the Hellway and passed through a plot where there lived a certain gow. The gow quoth:

2-3 í reið þeiri er guð-vefjum var tjölduð 'in that wagon which was covered with godweb' | The tent-covering of the wagon was made of precious garments. For the burial of women in wagons, cf. TODO (Oseberg ship?).

3 Brynhildr ok með reið'inni á hel-veg 'Byrnhild drove with the wagon on the Hellway' | This gives us some interesting insight into old afterlife beliefs. After Byrnhild is burnt she ends up between the worlds of the dead and the living, the so-called "Hell-way", or road to Hell (the underworld); she is buried in a wagon so that she will be able to travel comfortably. We may presume that the animals driving the wagon were slaughtered and burnt with her on the pyre.

- 1 „Skalt í gognum · ganga egi  
2 grjóti studda · garða mína;  
þetr sómði þér · borða at røkja  
4 hēldr an vitja · vers annarar.

“Thou shalt in no way go through  
these rock-supported yards of mine;  
better fit would be to TODO,  
rather than visit another woman's man.

- 2           2           3           4           Hvat skalt vitja · af Val-landi,  
hvar-füst hǫfuð, · húsa minna?  
Þú hefir, Vár gulls, · ef þik vita lystir,  
mild, af hǫndum · manns blóð þvegit.“

Why shalt thou visit from Walland,  
O straying head, these houses of mine?  
Thou hast, mild Ware of gold, if thou hast lust to know,  
washed a man's blood off thy hands.”

Byrnhild answers:

- 2           3           „Bregð ęigi mér, · brúðr ór stęini,  
þótt ek véra'k · í víkingu;  
ek mun okkur · óðri þikkja  
4           hvar's męnn ęðli · okkart kunna.“

“Upbraid me not, O bride from the stone,  
though I may have been in the sea-raid;  
of us two will I seem the nobler,  
wherever men know our lineages.”

The gow:

- 2           4           „Þú vast, Bryn-hildir, · Buðla dóttir,  
heilli verstu · í heim borin;  
þú hefir Gjúka · of glatat bǫrnum  
4           ok búi þęira · brugðit góðu.“

“Thou wast, O Byrnhild, Budle's daughter,  
with the worst luck born into the world;  
thou hast destroyed Yivick's children,  
and deprived their house of good.”

Byrnhild:

- 2           5           „Ek mun sęgja þér, · svinn, ór ręiðu  
vit-laussi mjök, · ef þik vita lystir:  
hvé gørðu mik · Gjúka arfar  
4           ásta-lausa · ok ęið-rofa.

“I will tell thee, wise from my wagon,  
O very witless one, if thou hast lust to know,  
how Yivick's heirs did make me  
loveless, and an oath-breakeress.



- 6      Lét hami vára · hug-fullr konungr,  
 2      átta systra, · undir ęik borit;  
       vas'k vetra tólf, · ef þik vita lystir,  
 4      es ungum gram · ęiða sęlda'k.

TODO.

I was twelve winters old, if thou hast lust to know,  
 when to the young prince I swore oaths.

- 7      Hétu mik allir · í Hlym-dǫlum  
 2      Hildi und hjalmi, · hvęrr es kunni.

They all called me, in the Limdales,  
 a hild 'neath the helmet, whoever knew me.

- 8      Þá lét'k gamlan · á Goð-þjóðu  
 2      Hjalm-Gunnar nęst · hęljar ganga;  
       gaf'k ungum sigr · Auðu bróður;  
 4      þar varð mér Óðinn · of-ręiður um þat.

Then I next among the Gots  
 made old Helm-Guther go the way of Hell;  
 I gave victory to Ead's young brother;  
 there Weden was furious with me for that.

- 9      Lauk hann mik skjǫldum · í Skata-lundi,  
 2      rauðum ok hvítum, · randir snurtu;  
       þann bað hann slíta · svefni mínum  
 4      es hvęr-gi lands · hręðask kynni.

He locked me in with shields in Shatelund,  
 with red ones and white; their rims clasped.  
 He bade that one end my sleep,  
 who of no land could be frightened.

- 10      Lét umb sal minn · sunnan-verðan  
 2      hávan brenna · hęr alls viðar;  
       þar bað hann ęinn þegn · yfir at ríða,  
 4      þann's mér fǫrði gull · þat's und Fáfni lá.

He made around my hall a south-facing,  
 high host of all wood [FIRE] burn;

there he bade one thane ride over,  
he who brought me the gold which 'neath Fathomer lay.

- 11      Reǣð góðr Grana · gull-miðlandi  
2      þar's fóstri minn · flētjum stýrði;  
          einn þótti hann þar · ǫllum bētri,  
4      víkingr Dana, · í verðungu.

On Grane rode the good gold-dealer,  
where my foster-son ruled the benches;  
alone he seemed there better than all,  
the Wiking of Danes, in the warband.

- 12      Svófu vit ok unðum · í sęing ęinni  
2      sem hann minn bróðir · of borinn vęri;  
          hvárt-ki knátti · hǫnd yfir annat  
4      átta nóttum · okkart lęggja.

We slept and loved in one bed,  
as if he were born my brother:  
neither one laid a hand o'er the other  
for eight nights, of us two.

- 13      Því brá mér Guðrún, · Gjúka dóttir,  
2      at ek Sigurði · svęfa'k á armi;  
          þar varð'k þęss vís · es vildi'g-a'k  
4      at þau véltu mik · í ver-fangi.

Thus Guthrun upbraided me, Yivick's daughter,  
that I slept on Siward's arm;  
there I became wise of that which I wanted not,  
that those two had tricked me in the catch of man.

- 14      Munu við of-stríð · alls til lęngi  
2      konur ok karlar · kvikkvir fódask;  
          vit skulum okkrum · aldri slíta,  
4      Sigurðr, saman. · Søkks-tu, gýgjar-kyn!"

In great strife for far too long  
will men and women alive be born.  
We two shall end our age,  
I and Siward, together.—Sink down, thou gow's kin!"

---



# The Second Lay of Guthrun

## (*Guðrúnarkviða aðra*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): early C11th (0.759)–late C11th (0.199)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

TODO.

### The Slaying of the Nivlings (*Dráp Niflunga*)

P1 Gunnarr ok Hogni tóku þá gullit allt, Fáfnis arf. Ó-friðr var þá milli  
2 Gjúkunga ok Atla; kenndi hann Gjúkungum völd um and-lát Brynhildar.  
Þat var til sétta, at þeir skyldu gipta hánnum Guðrúnu, ok gáfu henni  
4 ó-minnis-veig at drekka áðr hon játti at giptast Atla. Synir Atla voru þeir  
Erpr ok Eitill, en Svanhildr var Sigurðar dóttir ok Guðrúnar. Atli konungr  
6 bauð heim Gunnari ok Hogni, ok sendi Vinga eða Knéfrøð. Guðrún vissi  
vélar ok sendi með rúnum orð at þeir skyldu eigi koma ok til jar-tegna  
8 sendi hon Hogni hringinn Andvaranaut ok knýtti í vargs-hár. Gunnarr  
hafði beðit Oddrúnar, systur Atla, ok gat eigi; þá fekk hann Glaumvarar,  
10 en Hogni átti Kostberu. Þeira synir voru þeir Sólarr ok Snévarr ok Gjúki.  
En er Gjúkungar kómu til Atla, þá bað Guðrún sonu sína at þeir bæði  
12 Gjúkungum lífs en þeir vildu eigi. Hjarta var skorit ór Hogni en Gunnarr  
settr í orm-garð. Hann sló hǫrpu ok svéðði ormana, en naðra stakk hann  
14 til lifrar. Þjóðrekr konungr var með Atla ok hafði þar látit flesta alla menn  
sína. Þjóðrekr ok Guðrún kærðu harma sín á milli. Hon sagði hánnum ok  
16 kvað:

Guthur and Hain then took all the gold, Fathomer's inheritance. Hatred was then between the Yivickings and Attle; he blamed the Yivickings for Byrnhild's passing. These were their terms, that they would marry off to him Guthrun; and they gave her a forgetfulness-draught to drink before she agreed to be married off to Attle. The sons of Attle were Earp and Oatle, and Swanhild was Siward's daughter and Guthrun's. Attle invited to his home Guthur and Hain, and sent Winge or Kneefrith. Guthrun knew his wiles and sent a word with runes, that they should not come,

and as a sign she sent Hain the ring Andwaresneat, and tied through it a wolf's hair. Guthr had asked for Ordrun's hand, Attle's sister, and did not get her; then he got Gleamware, and Hain had Costbeare. Their sons were Solwer and Snower and Yivick. And when the Yivickings came to Attle, then Guthrun asked her sons that they should ask for the life of the Yivickings, but they would not. The heart was cut out of Hain, and Guthr set in the serpent-yard. He struck his harp and soothed the serpents, but an adder stung him unto the liver. King Thedric was with Attle, and had there lost almost all of his men. Thedric and Guthrun recounted their griefs to each other. She spoke to him and quoth:

- 
- 1 „Mér vas'k meýja; • móðir mik fódði,  
2 björt í búi; • unna'k vël bróðrum—  
unds mik Gjúki • gulli reifði,  
4 gulli reifði, • gaf Sigurði.

“A maiden was I of maidens; my mother raised me  
bright in the bowers; I loved well my brothers—  
until Yivick with gold endowed me,  
with gold endowed me, and gave to Siward.

- 2 Svá vas Sigurðr • uf sonum Gjúka  
sem véri grónn laukr • ór grasi vaxinn,  
eða hjörtr hó-beynn • um hvossum dýrum,  
4 eða gull glóð-rautt • af gróu silfri.“

So was Siward over the sons of Yivick,  
like were a green leek out of grass grown,  
or a hart, high-legged, amidst coarse beasts,  
or gold, glowing-red, beside grey silver—

---

1–4 ALL | Cf. *Guth I* 18, which shares the first two lines with only small differences, and the very similar description of Hallow in *HHund II* TODO: *Svá bar Hēlgi • af bildingum...*

2 grónn laukr ‘green leek’ | The leek was a highly valued plant. Compare *Wsp* 4 where the *grónn laukr* ‘green leek’ is said to have grown the first Golden Age. See also note there about its mythological significance.

- 3 unds mér fyr·munðu • mínir bróðr  
2 at ek ętta ver • ǫllum frēmra;  
sofa þeir né mottu-t • né of sakar dóma  
4 áðr þeir Sigurð • svelta létu.

until my brothers begrudged me,  
that I had a husband better than all;

sleep could they not, nor speak of anything,  
before they made Siward die.

4     Grani rann at þingi, · gnýr vas at heýra,  
2     en þá Sigurðr · sjalfr eigi kom;  
      oll vǫru sǫðul-dýr · svęita stokkin  
4     ok of vanið vási · of vegǫndum.

Grane ran from the Thing—a din was to be heard—  
but then Siward himself came not.  
All were the saddle-beasts [HORSES] with sweat covered,  
and trained to toil under heavy men.

---

3 sǫðul-dýr ‘saddle-beasts [HORSES]’ | This kenning also occurs in a loose stanza by Norse King Anlaf “the Holy” Haraldson.

5     Gekk ek grátandi · við Grana róða,  
2     úrug-hlýra, · jó frá’k spjalla;  
      hnipnaði Grani þá, · drap í gras hǫfði;  
4     jór þat vissi: · eigiendr né lifðu-t.

I went, weeping, with Grane to speak,  
teary-cheeked, the horse I asked for news.  
Drooped Grane then; dropped his head in the grass;  
the horse knew this: its owners lived not.

6     Lęgi hvarf-at, · lęgi hugir deildusk  
2     áðr of fręgja’k · folk-vǫrð at gram;  
      hnipnaði Gunnarr, · sagði mér Hǫgni  
4     frá Sigurðar · sǫrum dauða:

Long time passed not—long my thoughts were torn—  
before I did ask the folk-ward about the prince.  
Drooped Guthr; Hain told me  
of Siward’s sore death.

7     Liggr of hǫggvinn · fyr handan ver  
2     Guðþorms bani, · of gefinn ulfum;  
      lít-tu þar Sigurð · á suðr-vega,  
4     þá heyrir þú · hrafna gjalla,  
      ǫrnu gjalla, · ęzli fęgna,

6                   varga þjóta · umb veri þinum.

TODO.

Guthorm's bane, given to the wolves.

Behold there Siward on the southern ways;

then hearest thou ravens shrieking;

eagles shrieking, of carrion rejoicing;

wolves howling around thy husband.

...TODO...

---



# The Third Lay of Guthrun

## (*Guðrúnarkviða þriðja*)

**Dating** (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.731)–early C11th (0.178)

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

A very short narrative poem of ballad-type, depicting a single event from the legendary cycle. It is especially notable for its depiction of a trial by ordeal and the mention of a woman being drowned in a bog.

Herch, one of Attle's concubines tells Attle that she has seen his wife Guthrun sleeping with Thedric. Attle becomes distressed upon hearing this (P1). Guthrun asks him what is wrong (1), and he responds that Herch has accused her of sleeping with Thedric (2). Guthrun promises to prove her innocence through a trial by ordeal involving picking up a white stone from boiling water (3). She further says that while she and Thedric did sit down together, they did so in mutual grief over the deaths of her brothers (4–5). She tells Attle to summon a German lord named Saxe, who knows how to carry out the trial. Seven hundred men arrive to witness the event (6). Before picking up the stone, Guthrun laments over her brothers' deaths, saying that they would have disputed the accusation through violence, but that she must now prove her innocence by herself (7). She then puts her hand in the boiling water, and unscathed takes out the stones. She holds it up and shows it to the witnesses (8). Attle laughs, knowing that his wife has been faithful, and orders Herch to pick up the stone (9). She does so, but her hands are horribly scorched, and men lead her to a "foul bog", presumably to be drowned. The poet ends by laconically stating that Guthrun in such a way was "reconstituted for her affronts".

- 
- P1      Herkja hét ambótt Atla; hón hafði verit frilla hans. Hón sagði Atla at hón  
2      hefði sét Þjóðrek ok Guðrúnu bæði saman. Atli var þá allókatr. Þá kvað  
            Guðrún:

Herch was named the female thrall of Attle; she had been his concubine. She told Attle that she had seen Thedric and Guthrun both together. Attle was then wholly displeased. Then Guthrun quoth:

- 1      „Hvat 's þér, Atli? · **é**, Buðla sonr,  
2      es þér **hryggt** í **hug**; · hví **hlér** þú éva?  
            Hitt myndi **óðra** · **j**orlum þykkja

4 at við męnn męltir • ok mik sęir.“

“What is with thee, Attle? Always, O son of Bodle,  
art thou sad at heart—why laughest thou never?  
TODO.”

2 „Tregr mik þat, Guðrún, • Gjúka dóttir,  
mér í hǫllu • Hęrkja sagði  
at þit Þjóðrekr • undir þaki svęfið  
4 ok léttliga • líni verðið.“

“This troubles me, Guthrun, Yivick’s daughter:  
in the hall has Herch told me  
that thou and Thedric beneath thatched roof slept,  
and ye lightly warded the linen.<sup>194</sup>”

<sup>194</sup>i.e., they threw off their clothes and slept together.

3 „Þér mun’k alls þess • ęiða vinna  
2 at inum hvíta • hęlga stęini,  
at ek við Þjóðmar • þat-ki átta’k,  
4 es vǫrðr né verr • vinna knátti,—

“To thee I will swear oaths of all of that—  
by the white, holy stone—  
that I did not do such a thing with Thedmar,<sup>195</sup>  
which neither wife nor husband has been able to swear upon,—<sup>196</sup>

<sup>195</sup>Historically, Thedmar was the father of Thedric, who took over the kingdom after his father’s death (see Encyclopedia). Thedmar may here be a scribal error for Thedric, a scribal error for “Thedmar’s son”, or a nickname due to conflation of the father and son.

<sup>196</sup>Guthrun says that she will prove her innocence through a trial by ordeal (that is, by lifting “the white holy stone” out of boiling water; see st. 8). She further strengthens her position by pointing out that no reliable person has sworn an oath attesting to her guilt.

4 nema ek halsaða • hęrja stilli,  
2 jǫfur ó·nęisinn, • ęinu sinni;  
aðrar vǫru • okkrar spēkjur  
4 es vit hǫrmug tvau • hnigum at rúnum.

unless I embraced the stiller of hosts [RULER = Thedmar]:  
the unshamed prince, a single time.  
Different were the dealings of us two,  
when distressed [Guthrun and Thedric] we reclined in whispers.

- 5 Hér kom Þjóðrekr · með þrjá tǫgu,  
 2 lifa þeir né einir, · þriggja tega manna;  
 hrink-tu mik at bróðrum · ok at brynjuðum,  
 4 hrink-tu mik at ǫllum · á hǫfuð-niðjum.

Here came Thedric with thirty men;  
 of those thirty none still lives.—  
 Surround me with brothers and with byrned men;  
 surround me with all close kinsmen!

3 hrink-tu ‘surround’ | Consisting of *bring*, 2nd sg. imper. of *bringja* ‘surround, encircle’ + *þú* ‘thou’. The clitic form *-tu* has caused devoicing.

- 6 Send at Saxa, · sunn-manna gram;  
 2 hann kann hēlga · hver vellanda;“  
 sjau hundruð manna · í sal gingu  
 4 áðr kvēn konungs · í ketil tóki.

Send for Saxe, the lord of the Southmen,  
 he can hallow a boiling cauldron!”  
 Seven hundred men went into the hall,  
 before the king’s wife should reach into the kettle.

- 7 „Kømr-a nú Gunnarr, · kalli’k-a Høgna,  
 2 sé’k-a síðan · svása bróðr;  
 sverði myndi Høgni · slíks harms reka,  
 4 nú verð’k sjölf fyr mik · synja lýta.“

“Now Guthur comes not; I cannot call on Hain;  
 I see not henceforth [my] beloved brothers.  
 by his sword would Hain avenge such an affront;  
 now must I for myself disprove the slanders!”

- 8 Brá hón til botns · björtum lófa  
 2 ok hón upp of tók · jarkna-stęina:  
 „Sé nú sęggir · —sykn em ek orðin  
 4 hęilag-liga— · hvé sjá hverr velli.“

She thrust to the bottom her bright palms,  
 and she up did take the arkenstones:  
 “Let men now see—I am proven innocent,  
 through holy means!—how this cauldron boils!”

2 jarkna-stęina ‘arkenstones’ | Gems, crystals; probably a borrowing from the Old English *eorcnan-stānas* ‘id.’ The modern English form *arkenstone* was coined by Tolkien.

- 9      Hló þá Atla · hugr í brjósti  
 2      es hann hēilar sá · hēndr Guðrúnar:  
      „Nú skal Hērka · til hvers ganga,  
 4      sú's Guðrúnu · grandi vēnti.“

Then laughed the heart in Atle's chest,  
 when he saw unscathed the hands of Guthrun:  
 “Now shall Herch to the cauldron go,  
 she who hoped for Guthrun's harm.”

- 10     Sá-at maðr armligt, · hvęrr es þat sá-at,  
 2     hvé þar á Hērku · hēndr sviðnuðu;  
      lēiddu þá męy · í mýri fúla,  
 4     svá þá Guðrún · sinna harma.

Man saw nothing pitiful, who did not see that:  
 how there on Herch the hands were scorched.  
 Led they that maiden into a foul bog;  
 so was Guthrun reconstituted for her affronts.

---

3 lēiddu þá męy · í mýri fúla ‘Led they that maiden into a foul bog’ | I.e. to be drowned. Drowning in bogs was a common Germanic punishment for perjurers; see note to *Wsp* 38.

# The Weeping of Ordrun (*Oddrúnargrátr*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.954)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

## From Burgny and Ordrun (*Frá Borgnýju ok Oddrúnu*)

P1      Heiðrekr hét konungr; dóttir hans hét Borgný. Vilmundr hét sá er var  
2      friðill hennar. Hon mátti eigi fœða börn áðr til kom Oddrún, Atla systir;  
         hon hafði verit unnusta Gunnars, Gjúka sonar. Um þessa sögu er hér  
4      kveðit:

Heathric was a king called, his daughter was called Burgny. Wilmund was he called who was her lover. She could not bear children before Ordrun, Attle's sister, came to her. She had been the lover of Guthar, Yivick's son. Of this saw is here sung:

1      Heyrðað'k segja · í sögum fornum  
2      hvé mér of kom · til Morna-lands;  
         engi mátti · fyr jörð ofan  
4      Heiðreks dóttur · hjalpir vinna.

I heard [it] said in ancient saws,<sup>197</sup>  
how a maiden came to Mornland;  
noone could—above the earth—  
find help for Heathric's daughter [= Burgny].

<sup>197</sup>Probably formulaic; cf. *Hild* 1: *ik gi-bórta dat seggen* 'I heard it said' which likewise uses the 1sg pret. of 'hear' and the infinitive of 'say'. Both would go back to a Proto-Northwest Germanic phrase *\*ek (ga-)bauridō (þat) sagjanq.*

2      Þat frá Oddrún, · Atla systir,  
2      at sú mér hafði · miklar sóttir;  
         brá hon af stalli · stjórð-bitluðum

4 ok á svartan · sǫðul of lagði.

This learned Ordrun, Attle's sister,  
that the maiden [= Burgny] had great ailments;  
she grabbed from the stable a rudder-bitted steed,  
and a black saddle on [it] did lay.

3 Lét hon mar fara · mold-veg sléttan  
2 unds at hári kom · hǫll standandi;  
ok hon inn of gekk · ęnd-langan sal;  
4 svipti hon sǫðli · af svǫngum jó  
ok hon þat orða · alls fyrst of kvað:

She let the steed journey on the smooth soil-way [EARTH],  
until she came to the high standing hall,  
and she inside did go the endlong hall.  
She drew the saddle off the slender horse,  
and she that word first of all did say:

---

3 ok hon ... sal 'and she ... hall' | The whole line is formulaic, see note to *Wayl* 8.

5 ok ... of kvað 'and ... did say' | The whole line is formulaic, see note to *Thrim* 2.

TODO: More stanzas...

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# The Lay of Attle

## (*Atlakviða*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.719)–early C11th (0.212)

Meter: *Speeches-meter, Ancient-words-law*

A famously archaic poem.

Attle sends his messenger Kneefrith to Guthur (1). He arrives at Guthur's hall, where the mood is one of unease, and addresses Guthur (2). Kneefrith invites him and his brother Hain to Attle's court (3), offering them treasures, weapons and land (4–5). Guthur asks his brother Hain for advice, since he has not heard of Attle having gold to give away (6).

---

### The Death of Attle (*Dauði Atla*)

- P1      Guðrún Gjúkadóttir hefndi bróðra sinna, svá sem frégt er orðit. Hon drap  
2      fyrst sonu Atla, en eptir drap hon Atla ok brendi hollina ok hirðina alla;  
         um þetta er sjá kviða ort.

Guthrun Yivicksdaughter avenged her brothers, as has become famous. She first killed the sons of Attle, and after that she killed Attle, and burned the hall and the whole hird. Regarding that this lay is wrought.

- 
- 1      Atli sendi · ár til Gunnars  
2      kunnan segg at riða, · Knéfrøðr vas sá heitinn;  
         at gorrðum kom hann Gjúka · ok at Gunnars hollu,  
4      bækkjum arin-græypum · ok at bjóri svósum.

Attle sent—of yore—to Guthur  
a well-known messenger to ride; Kneefrith he was called.  
To the yards of Yivick he came, and to the hall of Guthur;  
to the hearth-surrounding benches, and to the lovely beer.

- 2     Drukku þar drótt-męgir · —ęn dyljędr þogðu—  
 2     vín í val-höllu, · vręði sųusk þęir Húna;  
      kallaði þá Knęfręðr · kaldri ręddu,  
 4     sęggr inn suð-róni · sat hann á bękk hęm:

There the dright-lads [WARRIORS] drank—but the concealed ones shut up—  
 wine in the walhall; they feared the wrath of the Huns.  
 Then called Kneefrith with cold voice,  
 the southern messenger, he sat on a high bench:

1 dyljędr ‘concealed ones’ | Finnur Jónsson (1932) reasonably interprets this as referring to Atle’s spies at Guthur’s court.

2 val-höllu ‘the walhall’ | The interpretation of this compound is difficult in the current context. The first element *val-* could be (1) *valr* ‘falcon’, referring to the aristocratic hunting practice; (2) *valr* ‘Wale’, cognate with ‘Welsh’ but in ON referring to the French or Romans, stressing the southern location or appearance of the hall; or (3) *valr* ‘(collective) the battle-slain’, foreshadowing the inevitable death (*feyness*) of the Yivickings. If (3) is correct the word is linguistically identical to *Walhall*, Weden’s hall, whither the battle-slain go.

- 3     „Atli mik hingat sęndi · ríða ęręndi,  
 2     mar inum męl-gręypa, · Myrk-við inn ó·kunna  
      at biðja yðr, Gunnarr, · at it á bękk kómið  
 4     með hjólumum arin-gręypum · at sękja hęim Atla.

“Atle sent me hither to ride with an errand,  
 on the bit-champing steed through Mirkwood uncharted—  
 to ask you, O Guthur, that ye two [= Guthur and Hain] on the bench come,  
 with hearth-surrounding helmets, to seek the home of Atle.

- 4     Skjöldu knęguð þar vęlja · ok skafna aska,  
 2     hįalma gull-roðna · ok Húna męngi,  
      silfr-gyllt sęðul-klęði, · sęrki val-rauða,  
 4     dafar, darraða, · dręsla męl-gręypa.

There ye might choose shields, and shaven ash-spears,  
 helmets gold-reddened, and the multitude of the Huns,  
 silver-gilt saddle-cloths, blood-red serks,  
 daves, spears, bit-champing steeds.

- 5     Vęll létssk ykkir ok myndu gefa · víðrar Gnita-hęiðar  
 2     af gęiri gjallanda · ok af gylltum stęfnum,  
      stórar męiðmar · ok staði Danpar,  
 4     hrís þat it męra · es meðr Myrk-við kalla.“

He also declared himself willing to give you two the field of wide Gnit-heath,  
 [and] of yelling spears and of gilded prowls,



great treasures and the place of Danp;  
the renowned brush which men call Mirkwood.

- 6     Hǫfði vatt þá Gunnarr · ok Hǫgna til sagði:  
2     „Hvat rēðr þú okkr, sēggr hinn óri, · alls vit slíkt heyrum?  
       Gull vissa’k ekki · á Gnita-heiði,  
4     þat’s vit étim-a · annat slíkt.

His head turned Guthur then, and said to Hain:

“What dost thou counsel us two, O younger man, as such a thing we hear?

I knew of no gold on the Gnit-heath

which we two should not own as much of.

- 7     Sjau ęigu vit sal-hús · sverða full,  
2     hverju ’ru þeira · hjǫlt ór gulli;  
       mín vęit’k mar bętstan · en męki hvassastan,  
4     boga bękk-sóma · en brynjur ór gulli;

We own seven hall-houses filled with swords—

on each of them is a golden hilt;

I know my horse to be the best and [my] sword the sharpest,

[my] bow bench-fit and [my] byrnies golden,

- 8     hjalm ok skjǫld hvítastan, · kominn ór hǫll Kíars;  
2     ęinn ’s mín bętri · en sé allra Húna.“

[my] helmet and shield the whitest, come from Choser’s hall;

mine alone is better, than [those] of all of the Huns might be!”

- 9     „Hvat hyggr brúði bęndu · þá’s hón okkr baug sęndi,  
2     varinn vǫðum heįðingja? · Hykk at hón vǫrnuð byði!  
       Hár fann’k heįðingja · riðit í hring rauðum;  
4     ylfskr es vegr okkarr · at riða ǫręndi.“

[Hain quoth:]

“What dost thou think the bride meant, when she sent us two an armlet

wrapped with a heath-dweller’s garment [WOLF > WOLF’S HAIR]? I think that she gave us a warning!

I found the heath-dweller’s [WOLF’S] hair tied through the red ring:

wolven is our road, if we ride that errand!<sup>198</sup>”

<sup>198</sup>That it is the more cautious Hain who speaks here is clear from Guthur’s response in the following stanzas. Whereas Hain judges the wolf-hair to be a warning of Hunnish treachery, Guthur thinks that it is a warning that wolves will steal his treasure if he does not show up.

- 10 Niðjar-gi hvøttu Gunnar · né náungr annarr,  
 2 rýnendr né ráðendr, · né þeir's ríkir vöru;  
 kvaddi þá Gunnarr · sëm konungr skyldi,  
 4 mærr í mjǫð-ranni · af móði stórum:

Kinsmen urged not Guthur, nor any other relation,  
 not counselors nor advisors, nor those who were mighty.  
 Guthur then announced—as a king should,  
 renowned in the mead-hall—with great spirit:

- 11 „Rís-tu nú, Fjornir, · lát-tu á flæt vaða  
 2 græppa gull-skálir · með gumna höndum!

“Rise now, Ferner; let on the floorboards wade forth  
 the golden bowls of warriors along the hands of men!

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1 Fjornir ‘Ferner’ | An otherwise unknown servant.

- 12 Ulfr mun ráða · arfi Niflunga,  
 2 gamlir gran-varðir, · ef Gunnars missir,  
 birnir blakk-fjallir · bíta þref-tǫnnum,  
 4 gamna grøy-stóði, · ef Gunnarr né kǫmr-at.“

The wolf will rule the inheritance of the Nivlings—  
 the old grey guardians [WOLVES]—if Guthur is missing.  
 Black-furred bears [will] bite with wrangling teeth—  
 amusing the bitch-pack—if Guthur comes not.”

- 13 Læiddu land-rǫgni · lýðar ó-neisir,  
 2 grátendr, gunn-hvatan, · ór garði Húna;  
 þá kvað þat inn óri · erfri-vǫrðr Hǫgna:  
 4 „Heilir farið nú ok horskir · hvar's ykkur hugr tægir!“

TODO

Then quoth this the young inheritance-ward [SON] of Hain:  
 “Whole fare ye two now, and wise, wherever your hearts may draw you!”

---

1 lýðar ó-neisir ‘unshamed [FAMOUS] people’ | Compare the long-line on the Thorsberg chape (I60–240):  
*wlþuþewar · ni wajē-mārir* ‘Wolthew, the not ill-famed [FAMOUS]’.

- 14 Fetum létu fróknir · of fjöll at þyrja  
 2 mar ina mál-græpyu, · Myrk-við inn ókunna;  
 hristisk ǫll Hún-mǫrk · þar's harð-móðgir fóru,

4           vróku þeir vann-styggva · völlu al-gróna.

With paces made the valiant ones over the fells  
the bit-champing steed rush along, through Mirkwood uncharted.  
TODO.

15       Land sðu þeir Atla · ok lið-skjalfar djúpar  
2       Bikka greppar standa · á borg inni höu,  
          sal of suðr-þjóðum, · slæginn sess-meðum,  
4       bundnum røndum, · blækum skjöldum,

They saw the land of Attle, and deep valleys(?);  
the warriors of Bicke standing on the high fortress  
TODO

16       dafar, darraða; · en þar drakk Atli  
2       vín í val-höllu; · vęðir sótu úti  
          at varða þeim Gunnari · ef þeir hér vitja kómi  
4       með gęiri gjallanda · at vękja gram hildi.

daves, spears; but there drank Attle  
wine in the wale-hall; the watchmen sat outside  
to watch for Guthur's men, if they came here to visit,  
with yelling spear, to wake the ruler with war.

17       Systir fann þeira snemmst · at þeir í sal kvómu,  
2       bróðr hennar báðir, · bjóri vas hón lítt drukkin:  
          „Ráðinn est nú, Gunnarr, · hvat munt, ríkr, vinna  
4       við Húna harm-brøðum? · Høll gakk þú ór snemma!

Their sister found earliest they they had come into the hall,  
both of her brothers—on beer was she lightly drunk:  
“Betrayed art thou now, Guthur; how wilt thou, powerful man, work  
against the harm-tricks of the Huns? Go early out of the hall!”<sup>199</sup>

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<sup>199</sup>Before anything evil might happen.

18       Bętr hęðir þú, bróðir, · at þú í brynju fęrir,  
2       sem hjølmum arin-gręypum · at séa hęim Atla;  
          sętir þú í sęðlum · sól-ęęða daga,  
4       nái nauð-følva · létir nornir gráta.

Better hadst thou, brother, if thou went in byrnie  
 with hearth-surrounding helmets, to see the home of Attle—  
 if thou placed in the saddle—during sun-bright days—  
 need-pale corpses, [if thou] made the norns cry;

- 19      **H**úna skjald-męyjar · **h**ęrfi kanna  
 2      en **A**tla sjalfan · létir í **o**rm-garð koma;  
          nú 's sá **o**rm-garðr · **y**kkir of folginn.“

[if thou made] the shield-maidens of the Huns to know the harrow,<sup>200</sup>  
 and Attle himself thou brought into the snake-pit—  
 now is that snake-pit enclosing you two!”

<sup>200</sup> i.e. if he turned the Hunnish shield-maidens into enslaved farmhands.

- 20      „**S**ęinað 's nú, systir, · at **s**amna Niflungum,  
 2      **l**angt 's at **l**ęita · **l**ýða sinnis til,  
          of **r**osmu-fjöll **R**ínar, · **r**ekka ó-ņęissa.“

“Tis late now, O sister, to gather the Nivlings;  
 'tis far to look for the support of men—  
 over the fells of the Rhine—for unshamed [FAMOUS] warriors.”

- 21      **F**engu þęir Gunnar · ok í **f**jotur sęttu,  
 2      vinir **B**orgunda, · ok **b**undu fastla;  
          **s**jau hjó **H**ęgni · **s**verði hvęssu  
 4      en inum **á**tta hratt hann · í **ę**ld hęitan.

Caught they Guthur, and in fetters set him—  
 the friends of the Burgends—and bound them tightly.  
 Hain hewed down seven with sharp sword,  
 but the eighth one he threw into hot fire.

- 22      Svá skal **f**rókn · **f**jándum vęrjask;  
 2      **H**ęgni varði · **h**ęndr Gunnars.  
          **f**rógu **f**róknan · ef fjor vildi  
 4      **G**otna þjóðann · **g**ulli kaupa.

Thus shall the bold against fiends ward himself;  
 Hain warded the hands of Guthur.  
 They asked the bold man [= Guthur] if his life he wished—  
 the ruler of the Gots—to buy with gold.<sup>201</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Svá ... verjask | Line moved from the last st. to this one since it seems to connect semantically with the immediately following line, and also creates a regular line distribution of 4-4 instead of 5-3.

<sup>201</sup>The Huns ask Guthur (it is clear that “ruler of the Gots” refers to him, cf. sts. 1, 3, 10) if he wishes to ransom Hain. He instead responds with the following:

- 23     „Hjarta skal mér Høgna · í hendi liggja  
blóðugt, ór brjósti · skorit bald-riða,  
saxi slíðr-bæitu, · syni þjóðans.“

[Guthur quoth:] “The heart of Hain shall lie in my hands:  
bloody from the breast, cut from the bold rider [= Hain],  
with a slide-biting sax,<sup>202</sup> from the son of the sovereign [= Hain].”

<sup>202</sup>i.e. a short-sword with a blade so sharp that it draws blood when one slides the finger across it.

- 24     Skóru þeir hjarta · Hjalla ór brjósti,  
blóðugt, ok á bjóð lögðu · ok bóru þat fyr Gunnar.

Cut they the heart of Helle from the breast,  
bloody, and on a platter laid it, and carried it before Guthur.

- 25     Þá kvað þat Gunnarr, · gumna dróttinn:  
„Hér hefi’k hjarta · Hjalla ins blauða,  
ó-líkt hjarta · Høgna ins frókna,  
es mjök bifask · es á bjóði liggr;  
bifðisk hōlfu meirr · es í brjósti lá!“

Then quoth that Guthur, the lord of men:  
“Here have I the heart of Helle the soft—unlike the heart of Hain the bold!—  
which much trembles when on the platter it lies;  
it trembled twice as much when in the breast it lay.”

- 26     Hló þá Høgni · es til hjarta skóru  
kvikvan kumbla-smið; · klökkva síðst hugði;  
blóðugt þat á bjóð lögðu · ok bóru þat fyr Gunnar.

Hain laughed then, when unto the heart they cut  
the living wound-smith [WARRIOR = Hain]; he thought least of sobbing.  
Bloody on a platter they laid it, and carried it before Guthur.

- 27     Mérr kvað þat Gunnarr, · Gæir-Niflungr:

- 2 „Hér hefi’k hjarta · Høgna ins frøkna,  
 ó·líkt hjarta · Hjalla ins blauða,  
 4 es lítt bifask · es á bjóði liggr;  
 bifðisk svá-gi mjök · þá’s í brjósti lá!

Renowned, quoth Guthr, the Spear-Nivling:

“Here have I the heart of Hain the bold—unlike the heart of Helle the soft!—  
 which little trembles, when on the platter it lies;  
 it trembled not so much when in the breast it lay.

- 28 Svá skalt, Atli, · augum fjarri  
 2 sęm munt · męnjum verða;  
 es und ęinum mér · ęll of folgin  
 4 hodd Niflunga: · lifir-a nú Hogni!

Thus shalt thou, Attle, be as far from the eyes  
 as thou wilt from the neck-rings.

With me alone are all concealed  
 the hoards of the Nivlings—now Hain lives not!

- 29 Eę vas mér týja · meðan vit tveir lifðum,  
 2 nú ’s mér ęngi · es ęinn lifi’k;  
 Rín skal ráða · róg-malmi skatna,  
 4 svinn, ős-kunna · arfi Niflunga.

I was ever in doubt when we *two* lived;  
 now I am not when alone I live.

The Rhine shall rule the strife-ore of princes [GOLD]—  
 swift [river]—the os-born inheritance of the Nivlings!

- 30 Í veltanda vatni · lýsask val-baugar  
 2 heldr an á høndum gull · skíni Húna bęrnum.“

In tumbling water [shall] the Welsh bighs gleam,  
 rather than gold might shine on the hands of the children of Huns!”

- 31 “Ýkvið ér hvél-vęgnum, · haptr ’s nú í bęndum!”

“Turn ye the wheel-wagons—the captive is now in bonds!”

- 32 Atli inn ríki

TODO

**33** Svá gangi þér

TODO

**34** ok meirr þaðan

TODO

**35** Lifanda gram

TODO

**36** Glumðu strængir;

TODO

**37** Dynr vas í garði,

TODO

**38** Út gekk þá Guðrún,

TODO

**39** Umðu ǫlskálir

TODO

**40** Út gekk þá Guðrún,

TODO

**41** Skævaði þá in skírleita

TODO

42 Sona hefir þinna,

TODO

43 Kallar-a þú síðan

TODO

44 Ymr varð á bekkjum,

TODO

45 Gulli seri

TODO

46 Óvarr Atli,

TODO

47 Hon beð broddi

TODO

48 Ełdi gaf hón alla · es inni vǫru  
 2 ok frá morði þęira Gunnars · komnir vǫru ór Myrk-ķęimi;  
 forn timbr fellu, · fjarg-hús ruku,  
 4 bór Buđlunga, · brunnu ok skjald-męyjar,  
 inni aldr-stamar · hnigu í ęld ķęitan.

To the fire she gave all those who were inside  
 and from the murder of Guthers men had come out of Mirkham.  
 Ancient timbers fell; great houses smoked—  
 the settlement of the Buthlungs—burned also the shield-maidens;  
 inside aged trunks sank into hot fire.

49 Full-rótt's umb þetta; · ķęrr ķęngi svá síðan  
 2 brúđr í brynju · bróđra at ķęfna;  
 hón ķęfir þriggja · þjóđ-konunga



4                   ban-orð borit, · björt, áðr sýlti.

'Tis told fully about this: none fares afterwards so,  
a bride in byrnie, her brothers to avenge.  
She has of three great kings  
borne the bane-words—bright woman—before she must die.

---

4 ban-orð borit 'borne the bane-words' | 203

---

203 i.e. "she has caused the deaths of three great kings." This expression and its Germanic and Indo-European relatives is discussed in detail in Watkins (1995)[417–422].

## 50       Enn segir gleggra í Atlamálum inum grón-lenskum.

Yet says it more clearly in the Greenlendish Speeches of Attle.

---



# The Instigation of Guthrun

## (*Guðrúnarhvöt*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): early C11th (0.781)–late C11th (0.177)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

TODO: INTRODUCTION.

---

1 Þá frá'k sænnu · slíðr-fęng-ligasta,  
2 trauð mól talit · af trega stórum,  
es harð-huguð · hvatti at vígi  
4 grimmum orðum · Guðrún sonu:

That gibing I found most sharply caught—unwilling speeches told from great sorrow—when hard-minded incited to war, with cruel words, Guthrun her sons:

2 „Hví sitið? · Hví sofið lífi?  
2 Hví tregr-at ykkir · tęiti at męla  
es Jormunrekr · yðra systur,  
4 unga at aldri, · jóm of traddi?

“Why sit ye? Why sleep ye [away your] life? Why troubles it not you two to speak merrily?—When by Erminric your sister was, young of age, trampled by steeds?”

3 Hvítum ok svörtum · á hęr-vegi  
2 grám, gang-tǫmum · Gotna hrossum.

“By white and black ones on the war-path; by grey, pacing, Gotish horses!”

...

4 Hlęjandi Guðrún · hvarf til skęmmu,

2 kumbl konunga · ór kęrum valði,  
 síðar brynjur · ok sonum fǫrði;  
 4 hlóðusk móðgir · á mara bógu.

...

5 Þá kvað þat Hamðir · inn hugum-stóri:  
 2 Svá koma'k meirr aftr · móður at vitja  
 Geir-Njörðr hniginn · á Goð-þjóðu  
 4 at þú ęrfi · at ęll oss drykkir,  
 at Svanhildi · ok sonu þína.

...

6 Guðrún grátandi, · Gjúka dóttir,  
 2 gekk tregliga · á tái sitja  
 ok at telja, · tǫrug-hlýra, móðug spjǫll · á margan veg:

...

7 „Þrjá vissa'k ęlda, · þrjá vissa'k arna,  
 2 vas'k þrimr verum · vegin at húsi;  
 ęinn vas mér Sigurðr · ęllum bętri  
 4 es bróður mínir · at bana urðu.

“Three I knew fires; three I knew hearths; for three men was I carried to the house. To me was Siward alone better than all, he of whom my brothers became the bane.

TODO: Bunch of verses.

8 Minnst-u, Sigurðr, · hvat vit męltum  
 2 þá's vit á bęð · bęði sǫtum?  
 at þú myndir mín · móðugr vitja,  
 4 halr, ór hęlju, · en ek þín ór hęimi.

Recallest thou, O Siward, what we two spoke, as in bed we both did sit? that thou would me, O mighty man, visit out of Hell—but I thee out of the world.

9 Hlaðið ér, jarlar, · ęiki-kǫstinn,  
 2 látið þann und himni · hęstan verða!  
 Męgi bręnna brjóst · bǫlva-fullt ęldr

4                   umb hjarta [...] · þiðni sorgir!

Load, ye earls, the oaken pile [PYRE]; let it become the highest under heaven! May fire burn [my]  
curse-filled chest; unto the heart ... may the sorrows melt away!

---

2 *himni* 'heaven' | emend.; *þilmi* 'prince' R

10       Jǫrlum ǫllum · óðal batni,  
2       snótum ǫllum · sorg at minni  
         at þetta treg-róf · of talit vęri.

For all earls may their homeland improve;  
for all ladies their sorrow decrease,  
as this grief-chain [TRAGIC POEM] was recounted!

\_\_\_\_\_



# The Speeches of Hamthrew

## (*Hamðismól*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): C10th (0.885)  
Meter: *Ancient-words-law, Speeches-meter*

Two poems?

... TODO ...

- 1 Vei hofum vit vegit, · stöndum á val Gotna  
2 ofan egg-móðum · sem ɛrnir á kvisti;  
góðs hofum tírar fengit · þótt skylim nú eða í gér deyja,  
4 kveld lifir maðr ekki · eftir kvið norna.

“Well have we two fought, we stand on the corpses of the Gots:  
above the edge-weary [KILLED] like eagles on a branch.  
We have earned great glory, even if we should die now or tomorrow—  
man lives not one evening after the verdict of the norns!”

- 2 Þar fell Sqrli · at salar gaffi,  
2 en Hamðir hné · at hús-baki.

There fell Sarrel by the gables of the hall,  
but Hamthrew sank down by the back of the house.





## Other Norse Heroic Poetry



# The Leed of Hindle

## (*Hyndluljóð*)

Dating (Sapp, 2022): late C11th (0.996)

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

1 „Vaki mér meýja, · vaki mín vina,  
2 Hyndla systir, · es í helli býr;  
nú 's røkr røkra, · ríða vit skulum  
4 til Valhallar · ok til vés heilags.

[Frow quoth:] “Wake, O maiden of maidens; wake, my friend,  
sister Hindle, who lives in the rock-face!

Now is the twilight of twilights; we two shall ride  
to Walhall, and to the holy wigh!

2 Biðjum Hērjafoðr · í hugum sitja,  
2 hann geldr ok gefr · gull verðugum,  
gaf hann Hēr móði · hjalm ok brynju,  
4 en Sigmundi · sverð at þiggja.

Let us bid Harryfather (= Woden) to remain in good spirits;  
he rewards and gives gold to the worthy:

He gave to Heremod a helmet and byrnie,  
but to Syemund a sword to receive.

2 verðugum ‘to the worthy’ | emended to *verðungu* ‘to the retinue’ by Finnur Jónsson (1932), Guðni Jónsson (1954)

3 Gefr hann sigr sonum, · en svinnum aura,  
2 mēlsku mǫrgum · ok manvit firum,  
byri gefr brǫgnum, · en brag skǫldum,  
4 gefr hann mann-sēmi · mǫrgum rekki.

He gives victory to sons, but silver to the wise;  
 speech to many, and **manwit** to men.  
 Fair wind he gives to noble ones, and poetry to **scolds**;  
 he gives manly valour to many a champion.

- 4 Þór mun'k blóta, · þess mun'k biðja,  
 2 at hann é við þik · einart láti;  
 þó 's hönum ótítt · við jötuns brúðir.

Thunder I will **blood**, of this I will bid:  
 that he always show a friendly face to thee,  
 though he hath hate for the brides of the ettins.

- 5 Nú tak-tu ulf þinn · einn af stalli,  
 2 lát hann rinna · með runa mínum.“—  
 „Seyinn es góltr þinn · goð-veg troða,  
 4 vil'k-at mar minn · mętan hlóða.

Now take thy single wolf from the stable;  
 let him run together with my boar.”—  
 [Hindle quoth:] “Slow is thy boar to tread the God-ways;  
 I wish not load my noble steed.”

- 6 Fló est Freyja, · es freistar mín,  
 2 vísar þú augum · á oss þannig,  
 es hafir ver þinn · í val-sinni  
 4 Óttar unga · Innsteins bur.“

Deicitful art thou, Frow, as thou temptest me;  
 thou showest thy eyes on us this way  
 since thou hast thy lover on the slain-ways:  
 the young Oughter, Instone's offspring.”

2-3 vísar ... val-sinni 'thou showest ... slain-ways' | i.e., “You only show favour to me because you want me to help your lover”. For the expression cf. *Syed* 2/3 and note.

- 7 „Dulið est Hyndla, · draums étla'k þér,  
 2 es kveðr ver minn · í valsinni.

[Frow quoth:] Deluded art thou, Hindle; I think thee dreamy  
 as thou sayest that my man is on the slain-ways.

- 2        8       Þar's góltr glóar · Gullinbursti,  
             Hildisvíni, · es mér hagir gērðu,  
             dvergar tvęir · Dáinn ok Nabbi.

There where the boar Goldenbristle glows,  
the Hildswine, which the two skillful dwarfs  
Downen and Nab did make for me.

---

2 Hildisvíni 'Hildswine' | Presumably an alternative name of Goldenbristle.

- 2        9       Senn í sǫðlum · sitja vit skulum  
             ok of jǫfra · ęttir dóma,  
             gumna þęira, · es frá goðum kómu.

Soon in the saddles we two shall sit,  
and speak about the lineages of princes,  
of those men who are come from the gods.

- 2        10      Þęir hafa vęðjat · vala malmi  
             Óttarr ungi · ok Angantýr;  
             skylt 's at vęita, · svá't skati hinn ungi  
4               fǫður-leiřð hafi · ępt fręndr sína.

They have wagered the Welsh ore [GOLD],  
young Oughter and Ongenthew—  
it *must* be divulged, so that the young prince  
may have the patrimony left by his kinsmen.

- 2        11      Hǫrg hann mér gęrði · hlaðinn stęinum;  
             nú 's grjót þat · at glęri orðit;  
             rauð hann í nýju · nauta blóði;  
4               ę trúði Óttarr · á ǫsynjur.

A **harrow** he made for me, loaded with stones;  
now that stone-pile has turned into glass.  
He reddened it in the fresh blood of oxen;  
always did Oughter trust on the **Ossens**.

- 2        12      Nú lát forna · niðja talða  
             ok upp-bornar · ęttir manna  
             hvat 's Skjöldunga, · hvat 's Skilfinga,

- 4           hvat 's Qðlinga · hvat 's Ylfinga
- 6           hvat 's hǫld-borit, · hvat 's hęrs-borit  
            męst manna val · und Mið-garði?“

Now let ancient kinsmen be counted,  
and the high born lineages of men:  
What is of the Shieldings? What is of the Shilvings?  
What is of the Athlings? What is of the Wolvings?  
What is born of hero? What is born of chief,  
the mightiest choice of men in Middenyard?”

- 13       „Þú est Óttarr · borinn Innstęini,  
2       en Innstęinn vas · Alfi inum gamla,  
          Alfr vas Ulfi, · Ulfr Sęfara,  
4       en Sęfari · Svan inum rauða.

[Hindle quoth:] “Thou<sup>204</sup> art, Oughter, born to Instone,  
and Instone was born to Elf the old,  
Elf to Wolf, Wolf to Seafare,  
and Seafare to Swan the red.

<sup>204</sup>Hindle, maybe in a trance-like state, speaks straight to Oughter.

- 14       Móður átti faðir þinn · męnjum gǫfga,  
2       hygg at hęti · Hlędís gyðja,  
          Fróði vas faðir þęirar, · en Fríund móðir;  
4       ǫll þótti ęt sú · með yfir-męnnum.

Thy father had thy mother, esteemed with neck-rings,  
I think that she was called Leedise the **gidden**.  
Frood was her father and Friend her mother;  
all her lineage seemed to be among overmen.

3 Fríund | emend. from meaningless *friaut* F

- 15       Auði vas áðr · ǫflgastr manna,  
2       Halfdanr fyrri · hęstr Skjöldunga,  
          fręg vǫru folk-víg, · þau's framir gęrðu,  
4       hvarfla þóttu verk · með himins skautum.

Ed was once the mightiest of men,  
Halfdane earlier the highest of Shieldings.  
Renowned were the troop-conflicts [wars] which the famous ones made;  
his (= Halfdane's) works seemed to circle along the corners of heaven.

- 16      Eððisk við Eymund · óðstan manna  
 2           en vá Sigtrygg · með svólum eggjum,  
             eiga gekk Almvæg, · óðsta kvinna,  
 4           ólu þau ok óttu · átján sonu.

He (= Halfdane) became the in-law of Iemund<sup>205</sup>, the noblest of men,  
 and he slew Syettrue with cool edges.

He went on to have Elmwey, the noblest of women;  
 they begot and had eighteen sons.

---

<sup>205</sup>lit. "[he] was strengthened by". Elmwey was Iemund's daughter or sister.

- 17      Þaðan eru Skjöldungar, · þaðan eru Skilfingar,  
 2           þaðan eru Qðlingar, · þaðan eru Ynglingar,  
             þaðan es hqld-borit, · þaðan es hęrs-borit,  
 4           mest manna val · und Mið-garði;  
             alt 's þat ęt þín, · Óttarr hęmski.

Thence come the Shieldings! Thence come the Shilvings!

Thence come the Athlings! Thence come the Ingling!<sup>a</sup>

Thence is born of hero! Thence is born of chief

the mightiest choice of men in Middenyard!

All of this is thy lineage, O foolish Oughter!"

---

<sup>a</sup>Note the contradiction with v. 12. Since the Ingling has already been mentioned (under the name Shilvings, for the difference between the two see Encyclopedia), it seems likely that Wolvings is the original reading.

- 18      Vas Hildigunnr · hęnnar móðir,  
 2           Svófu barn · ok Sę-konungs;  
             alt 's þat ęt þín, · Óttarr hęmski.  
 4           varði at viti svá, · viltu ęnn lęgra?

Hildguth was her mother,

the child of Sweve and Sea-king.

All of this is thy lineage, O foolish Oughter!—

It is meaningful that one might know thus; wilt thou [hear] yet further?

- 19      Dagr átti Þóru · dręngja móður,  
 2           ólusk í ęt þar · óðstir kappar,  
             Fraðmarr ok Gyrðr · ok Frekar báðir,  
 4           Ámr ok Jqsurmarr, · Alfr hinn gamli.  
             varðar at viti svá, · viltu ęnn lęgra?

Day had Thure, the mother of valiant men;  
 in that lineage were begotten the noblest champions:  
 Fradmer and Yird, and both Frekes;  
 Ame and Essirmer; Elf the old.—  
 It is meaningful that one might know thus; wilt thou [hear] yet further?

- 20      Kętill hét vinr þęira · Klypps arf-þęgi,  
 2            vas hann móður-faðir · móður þinnar;  
             þar vas Fróði · fyrr ęnn Kári,  
 4            en Hildi vas · Hóalfr of getinn.

Kettle was their friend, the heir of Clip;  
 he was the father of thy mother's mother.  
 There was Frood, yet earlier Keer,  
 but by Hild was Highelf begotten.

...

---



## West Germanic Heroic Poetry



# The Lay of Hildbrand

**Dating:** C8th

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

For the text of original poem I present the manuscript text with as few textual emendations as possible. As for the orthography, I have found it impossible to produce a normalised without too heavily distorting the received text, being as it is, a blend of several dialects (one need only observe the treatment of the name Thedric, which appears thrice, and each time in a markedly different form). Apart from my typical practice of capitalising proper names, marking prefixes with ⟨·⟩ and compounds with ⟨-⟩, and using acute accents to signify long vowels, circumflex accents to signify now-monophthongised original diphthongs, and overdots to mark nasal vowels, I have done the following changes in order to clarify etymological relationships and make the text somewhat more wieldy. Of these, 8–10 have also been noted in the apparatus where they occur:

1. Consistently replaced both *p* (wynn) and *uu* with *w*.
2. Consistently replaced *c* with *k*.
3. Consistently replaced *qu* with *kw*.
4. Consistently replaced *t* with *ȥ* in positions affected by the Second Sound Shift.
5. Replaced *th* with *þ*.
6. Replaced *e* with *ē* when reflecting an original a-vowel affected by *i*-mutation.
7. Replaced *ó* with *ō* where originally an *a*.
8. Removed unetymological double *nn*.
9. Restored initial *b*- where etymological and/or metrically required.
10. Removed initial *b*- unetymological and/or metrically deficient.

The punctuation of the original, entirely consisting of interpuncts, at times representing metrical breaks, at others sporadically placed, has not been retained.

Where they appear in cæsuræ, the words *kwad Hilti-brant* ‘Hildbrand quoth’ (found in ll. 30, 49, and 58) replace the usual interpunct. Due to their hypermetrical nature, I had originally planned to remove these, and instead indicate the speaker in the margins—but after comparison with various Norse stanzas (e.g. *Rein* 3, wherein the words *kvað Loki* ‘Lock quoth’ appear in the stanza’s first cæsura), I have come to believe that these represent an ancient oral interjection, seemingly going back as far as the Migration Period (as it seems incredulous to think that the scribe of ms. should have influenced the four centuries younger scribe of R in such a minor point.)

The poet begins with a short formulaic introduction; he is the reteller of older stories (1–2). The two duellists, Hildbrand and Hathbrand, father and son, arm themselves and ride into battle at the head of two opposing hosts (3–6). They speak, and Hildbrand asks Hathbrand for his name and lineage (7–13). Hathbrand gives his name and ancestry, and reveals his father as the warrior Hildbrand, who abandoned him as a newborn to serve Thedric in his fight against Edwaker. This was long ago; he is most likely dead (14–29). Hearing this, Hildbrand calls on God as witness, and offers his son a golden torc as a token of loyalty (30–35). Hathbrand thinks it an insulting trick. He proclaims that wealth should be won by struggle alone and insults Hathbrand, accusing him of having grown old through treachery (36–41). He has learned from sailors on the Mediterranean that his father is dead (42–44).

After this follow three short speeches. The second is certainly spoken by Hildbrand, but the other two may be misplaced or misattributed. Hildbrand first reflects on his son's prosperity: from his clothes he can tell that he has a good lord, and that he, unlike himself, has not suffered the fate of exile (45–48). He then calls on God, and laments that after thirty years in various armies, he is at last forced to fight against his own son. Still, Hathbrand should easily be able to kill such an old man as himself, if he has strength and fate on his side (49–57). He (or Hildbrand, if we choose to emend) at last says that only the most cowardly easterner would refuse a fight so greatly desired. When the duel is over the winner will strip the armour of the other (58–62).

The two men then throw their javelins, each of which gets stuck in the opposing shield, before rushing into each other, hacking away at their shields until they become worthless (63–68). The rest of the poem was continued on the now-lost, following page(s).

---

2           Ik gi·hôrta dat̃ sęggen  
             dat̃ sih **ur**·hêt̃tun · **aenon** muot̃in:  
             **Hilti**-brant ęnti **Hadu**-brant · untar **hę**jun t̃wēm  
 4           **sunu**-fatar·ungo · iro **saro** rihtun  
             **garutun** sé iro **gūd**-hamun · **gurtun** sih iro swert ana  
 6           **hę**lidos ubar **hringa** · dó sie t̃o dero **hiltu** ritun.

I have heard it said,  
 that two contenders alone did meet:  
 Hildbrand and Hathbrand, under two hosts.  
 Son and father ordered their armour,  
 readied their war-cloths, girded on their swords,  
 the heroes over the mailcoats, when to that fray they rode.

---

6 **hringa** | *ringa* ms.

---

3 untar **hę**jun t̃wēm 'under two hosts' | Either man was a champion of his army.

8           **Hilti**-brant gi·mahalta · her was **hēr**oro man  
             **ferahes** fr̃ótoro · her fr̃ágén gi·stuont  
             **fō**hém wortum · hwer sín **fater** wári  
 10          **firjo** in **folkhe** · [...]  
             [...] · „eddo hwe-líhhes **knuosles** dú sís

- 12           ibu dú mí ênan sagés · ik mí de ôdre wêt  
               **kh**ind in **kh**unink-ríkhe · **kh**ûd ist mín al irmin-deot“

Hildbrand spoke—he was the hoarier man,  
 more learned of life—he began to ask  
 in few words, who his father might be,  
 of men in the troop, [...]  
 “or of which lineage thou be;  
 if thou tell me one I the others will know,  
 O child, in the kingdom I know the whole great tribe.”

7 gi·mahalta | *beribrantes sunu* ‘Harbrand’s son’ add. ms. 9 hwer | *wer* ms. 11 hwe-líhhes | *welíhbes* ms.  
 13 **kh**unink-ríkhe | *chunnincriche* ms.

8 ferahes frótóro ‘more learned of life’ | Possibly formulaic; cf. *Maldon* 317a:  *Ic eom fród feores*. ‘I am learned of life’.

- 14           **H**adu-brant gi·mahalta · **H**ilti-brantes sunu  
               „daṭ sagetun mí · ùsere liuti  
 16           **a**lte anti fróte · dea êrhina wárun  
               daṭ **H**ilti-brant haetṭi mín fater · ih heṭṭu **H**adu-brant  
 18           forn her ôstar gi·weṭ · flôh her Ôt-akhres níd  
               hina miti **P**eot-ríhhe · ėnti sínero **d**egano filu  
 20           her fur-laet in lante · lúṭṭila siṭṭen  
               **b**rút in búre · **b**arn un·wahsan  
 22           **a**rbjo-laosa · her raet ôstar hina  
               des sîd **D**et-ríhhe · **d**arba gi·stuontun  
 24           **f**ateres mínes · daṭ was só **f**riunt-laos man  
               her was Ôt-akhre · **u**m·meṭ ṭirri  
 26           **d**egano **d**ĕkhisto · unti **D**eot-ríkhhe  
               her was eo **f**olkhes aṭ ėnte · imo was eo **f**eheta ṭi leop  
 28           **kh**ûd was her · **kh**óném mannum  
               ni wániu ih iu líb habbe.“

Hathbrand spoke, Hildbrand’s son:  
 “This our liegemen have said to me—  
 the old and learned, they who earlier lived:  
 that Hildbrand was called my father—I am called Hathbrand.  
 Of yore he turned east; he fled Edwaker’s hate  
 away with Thedric and his multitude of thanes.  
 He left in the land a little one to stay:  
 a bride in the bower, a bairn ungrown,  
 heritance-less. He rode away to the East,  
 at a time when Thedric was in great need  
 of my father—that was so friendless a man!  
 He was toward Edwaker utterly hostile,

the dearest of thanes under Thedric.

He was always in the front of the troop; him did always the fighting gladden;  
known was he among keen men.—

I guess not that he still live.”

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18 gi·wēiṭ | *gibueit* ms. 21 brūt | *prut* ms. 22 her raet | *beraet* ms. 23 gi·stuontun | *gistuontum* ms.  
24 fateres | *fätereres* ms. 26 Deot-rīkhhe | *darba gistontun* add. ms. 27 feheta | *pebeta* ms. 28 khóném |  
*chonnem* ms.

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15 dat ... liuti | this l. breaks no rhythmic rules (cf. l. 42), but the needed alliteration is missing.

30 „wētṭu Irmin-got (kwad Hilti-brant) obana ab hewane  
daṭ dú neo dana halt mit sus sippan man  
32 dink ni gi·lēitós“  
want her dó ar arme · wuntane bauga  
34 khēisur·ingu gi·tán · só imo sie der khuning gap  
hunjo truhtin · „daṭ ih dír iṭ nú bí huldí gibu“

“I call Ermin-god as witness, from heaven above,  
that thou never with such close kin hast led dispute!”  
Then he wound from his arm twisted *bighs*,  
made of Cæsar’s coin, which the king had given him,  
the lord of the Huns—“This I now give thee out of *holdness*.<sup>206</sup>”

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30 hewane | *beuane* ms.

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<sup>206</sup>The association between *bighs* (armlets, torcs) and a warrior’s honour is well attested; see Encyclopedia.  
This encounter is particularly reminiscent of *Hbl* 42.

36 Hadu-brant gi·mahalta · Hilti-brantes sunu:  
„mit gēru skal man · geba in·fāhan  
38 ort widar orte!  
dú bist dir altér hun · um·meṭ spáhér  
40 spēnis mih mit díném wortun · wili mih dínu speru werpan  
bist al-só gi·altét man · só dú êwín in·wit fórtós  
42 daṭ sagetun mí · sêo-lídante  
westar ubar Wēntil-sêo · daṭ man wík fur·nam:  
44 tōt ist Hilti-brant · Hēri-brantes suno!“

Hathbrand spoke, Hildbrand’s son:

“By the spear shall one win gifts,  
point against point!  
Thou art, old Hun, utterly clever;  
thou dost tempt me with thy words—at me wilt thou hurl thy spear!  
Thou art thus an aged man, since thou always wroughtst treachery.—  
This seafarers said to me

in the west over the Wendle-sea: that war took that man.  
Dead is Hildbrand, Harbrand's son!"

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41 bist | *pist* ms.

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37 mit *gêru* skal man • *geba* in·fâhan 'With spear shall one win gifts' | This ancient mindset was codified by the Indians as part of the *kṣatra-dharma*, the code of the Warrior (*kṣatriya*) caste, which explicitly forbade them from taking gifts. So in a part of the Mahabharata (12.192.73), a Warrior King refuses a gift from a priest since "it is the duty prescribed for a Kṣatriya that he must fight and protect (people). Kṣatriya are said to be the givers, then, how can I take (this) from you?" (Hara (1974) transl.)

43 *Węntil-sêo* 'Wendle-sea' | The Mediterranean, the name referring to the Vandals who for a time ruled North Africa.

46                   Hilti-brant gi·mahalta • Hêri-brantes suno:  
                      „wela gi·sihu ih in díném hrustim  
                      daṭ dú habés hême • hêrron góten  
48                   daṭ dú noh bí desemo ríkhe • rekkhjo ni wurti“

Hildbrand spoke, Harbrand's son:  
“Well do I behold on thy garb,  
that thou hast at home a good lord,  
that thou yet in this realm hast not become an exile.”

50                   „welaga nú waltant got (kwad Hilti-brant) wê-wurt skihit  
                      ih wallóta sumaro ęnti wintro • sehs-tik ur lante  
                      dar man mih eo skęrita • in folk skeoṭantero  
52                   só man mir aṭ burk ênigeru • banun ni gi·fasta  
                      nú skal mih swásaṭ khind • swertu hauwan  
54                   bretón mit sínu billju • eddo ih imo ṭi banin werdán.  
                      Doh maht dú nú aod-líhho • ibu dir dín ęllen taok  
56                   in sus hêremo man • hrusti gi·winnan  
                      rauba bi·rahanen • ibu dú dar ênig reht habés!“

“Well now—O Ruler God!—the woeful weird comes to pass.  
I roamed for sixty summers and winters from the land,  
where I always was placed in the troop of shooters,  
as at no fortress my bane was fastened.—  
Now shall my very child hew at me with his sword,  
strike me with his blade, or I become his bane.  
Yet mayst thou now easily—if thy zeal avail thee—  
from such a hoary man win the garb,  
bear away the booty—if thou have any right thereto!”

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57 bi·rahanen | *bibrabanen* ms.

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49 waltant got ‘O Ruler God!’ | Cf. OE *wealdend god*, OS *waldand god*. Apparently a common West Germanic poetic expression.

49 wê-wurt ‘woeful weird’ | *wurt* ‘weird’ here meaning ‘inexorable course of events’, not the norn; cf. ON *grimmar urðir* ‘grim “weirds”’ TODO.

50 sumaro ċenti wintro · sehs-tik ‘sixty summers and winters’ | i.e. thirty years. Cf. *Beow* 1498, 1769: *bund misséra* ‘a hundred half-years’. Hathbrand must then be thirty years old, while Hildbrand is in his fifties or sixties.

51 skeoƿantero ‘shooters’ | Cf. *Beow* 702, where the OE cognate *sceótend* stands for “warriors” in general.

55 ibu dir dín ċllen taok ‘if thy zeal avail thee’ | Formulaic. Cf. *Beow* 572b–573: [...] · *Wýrd oft nęreð // un-fęgne eorl* · þonne his ċllen déab. ‘Weird often saves the un-fey earl when his zeal avails.’

58 „der sí doh nú argósto (kwad Hilti-brant) ôstar-liuto  
der dir nú wíges warne · nú dih es só wel lustit  
60 gũdja gi·męinun · niuse de mótti  
hwędar sih hiutu dêro hřęgilo · hruomen muoƿti  
62 eddo desero brunnóno · bêdero waltan!“

“He were now the weakest of Easterners,  
who would refuse thee the fight which thou so greatly cravest  
the struggle together. Try he who might,  
which one of us today of these garments may boast,  
or both these byrnies wield!”

61 hwędar | *werdar* ms. 61 hiutu dêro | metr. emend.; *dero hiutu* ms. 61 hruomen | *brumen* ms. 62 eddo | *erdo* ms.

61–62 hřęgilo hruomen muoƿti ... desero brunnóno bêdero waltan ‘of these garments may boast ... both these byrnies wield’ | Like in the *Iliad*, the winner is expected to strip the loser of armour.

Dó létŧun sé aerist · askim skrítan  
64 skarpén skúrim · daŧ in dem skiltim stónt  
dó stóptun Ƨó·samane · staim-bort hludun  
66 hewun harm-líkko · hwítte skilti  
unti imo iro lintún · lúttŧilo wurtun  
68 gi·wigan miti wábnum · [...]

Then let they first their ash-spears glide,  
in sharp showers, that in the shields they stuck.  
Then they charged at each other—the coloured boards [SHIELDS] clashed—  
they hewed harmfully at the white shields,  
until for them their lindens [SHIELDS] became little,  
worn down by the weapons, [...]

63 askim | *asckim* ms. 65 hludun | *chludun* ms.

64 skarpén skúrim ‘in sharp showers’ | Formulaic, also occurring in *Healend* 5137a.



68 [...] | At this point the lone folio ends. The rest of the poem would have been found on the now-lost following pages. See Introduction to the poem.

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# Widsith

(*Widsiþ*)

**Dating:** 600–700s (Neidorf 2013)

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

An archaic heroic poem.

1      Wid-sið maðolade, · word-hord qn·leac,  
2      sé þe mǣst · mǣrþa ofer eorþan,  
3      folca geond·ferde; · oft he flette ge·þah  
4      myne-lícne maþþum. · Hine from Myrgingum  
5      æþele qn·wócon. · He mid Ealh-hilde,  
6      fǣlre freoþu-wębban, · forman siþe  
7      Hreð-cyninges · hām ge·sóhte  
8      éastan of Ʒngle, · Eorman-ríces,  
9      wrāþes wær-logan. · Qn·gōnn þá worn sprecan:

Widesith spoke, unlocking his word-hoard,  
he who through the most tribes over the earth  
and nations had journeyed; often on the bench he received  
delightful treasures. From the Mirgings  
his ancestry stemmed. Together with Elhild,  
the good peace-weaveress, for the first time  
he sought out the Reth-King's realm,  
to the east of the Angles, [the realm of] **Erminric**,  
the fierce oath-breaker. — He then began to speak long:

6 freoþu-wębban 'peace-weaveress' | A woman used in a political marriage to bring peace between two tribes or families, in this case apparently between King Edwin (see ll. 97–98) and the Gots.

7 Hreð-cyninges 'Reth-King' | i.e. the king of the Reth-Gots, which is apparently just a poetic name for the (Eastern) Gots; cf. ll. 18, 57, 88–89.

2      „Fela ic mōnna ge·frægn · mægþum wealdan.

- 2           Sceal þeóða ge·hwylc · þeawum lifgan,  
               eorl æfter oþrum · oðle ráðan,  
 4           sé þe his þeóden-stól · ge·þéon wile.

"I have learned of a many men ruling tribes.  
 Every nation shall live in virtue;  
 each earl after the other rule his homeland,  
 who wishes to prosper on the ruler's seat.

- 3           þára wæs Wala · hwíle sélast,  
 2           oṇd Alexandreas · ealra rícost  
               moṇna cynnes, · oṇd he mást ge·þáh  
 4           þára þe ic ofer foldan · ge·frægen hæbbe.

TODO.

- 4           Ætla weold Húnum, · Eorman-ríc Gotum,  
 2           Becca Banningum, · Burgendum Gifica.  
               Câsere weold Créacum · oṇd Cælic Finnum,  
 4           Hagena Holm-rycum · oṇd Henden Glommum.

TODO.

- 5           Witta weold Swáfum, · Wada Hælsingum,  
 2           Meaca Myrgingum, · Mearc-healf Hundingum.  
               þeód-ríc weold Frōncum, · þyle Rōndingum,  
 4           Breoca Brōndingum, · Billing Wernum.

TODO.

- 6           Oswine weold Eowum · oṇd Ytum Gef-wulf,  
 2           Finn Folc-walding · Fresna cynne.  
               Sige-here lēngest · Sâ-denum weold,  
 4           Hnæf Hocingum, · Helm Wulfingum,  
               Wald Woingum, · Wód þyringum,  
 6           Sâ-ferð Sycgum, · Swéom Ongend-þeow,  
               Sceaft-here Ymbrum, · Sceafa Lōng-beardum,  
 8           Hún Hæt-werum · oṇd Holen Wrosnum;  
               Hring-wald wæs hâten · Here-farena cyning.

TODO.

- 7      Offa weold Ɔngle, · Ale-wiþ De-num;  
 2      sé wæs þāra manna · módgast ealra,  
       no hwæþre he ofer Offan · eorl-scype frēmede,  
 4      ac Offa ge·slóg · ārest mōnna,  
       cniht-wesende, · cyne-ríca mǣst.

Offe ruled the Angles, Ale-wigh the Danes;  
 of those men was he the bravest of all,  
 but he never furthered earlship more than Offe,  
 for Offe overwon—youngest of men,  
 still a boy—the greatest kingdom.

- 8      Nænig efen-eald him · eorl-scipe mǣran  
 2      Ɔn orette: · āne sweorde  
       mērcē ge·mǣrde · wið Myrgingum  
 4      bi Fifel-dore; · heoldon forð siþþan  
       Ɔngle Ɔnd Swǣfe, · swá hit Offa ge·slóg.

No man of his age accomplished  
 greater earlship: with *one* sword  
 he marked the border against the Mirgings,  
 by Fiveldoor—it was thenceforth held  
 by the Angles and Sweves, as Offe had won it.

- 9      Hróþ-wulf Ɔnd Hrōð-gâr · heoldon lēngest  
 2      sibbe æt·somne · suhtor-fædran,  
       siþþan hý for·wræcon · Wícinga cynn  
 4      Ɔnd Ingeldes · ord for·bigdan,  
       for·heowan æt Heorote · Heaðo-beardna þrym.

Rotholf and Rothgar held for the longest  
 the peace together, uncle and nephew,  
 since they drove away the race of Wikings,  
 and bent down Ingeld's spear-point,  
 striking down at the Hart the host of the Hathbeards.

- 
- 10      Swá ic geond·ferde fela · frēmdra lōnda  
 2      geond ginne grund. · Gódes Ɔnd yfles  
       þær ic cunnade · cnósle bi·dæled,  
 4      fréo-mǣgum feor · folgade wíde.

So I journeyed through many foreign lands,  
 through the wide world. Good and evil  
 I there came to know, deprived of kin,  
 far from beloved kinsmen; I strayed far.

- 11 For·þon ic mæg singan · ƿnd sęcgan spell,  
 2 mǣnan fore męngo · in meodu-healle  
 hú mé cyne-góde · cystum dohten.

Therefore I may sing and tell tales,  
 recount before the many in the mead-hall,  
 how men of good kin treated me virtuously.

- 12 Ic wæs mid Húnum · ƿnd mid Hreð-gotum,  
 2 mid Swéom ƿnd mid Géatum · ƿnd mid Sūþ-denum.  
 Mid Wenlum ic wæs ƿnd mid Wærnum · ƿnd mid wicingum;  
 4 mid Gefþum ic wæs ƿnd mid Winedum · ƿnd mid Gefflegum;  
 mid Englum ic wæs ƿnd mid Swæfum · ƿnd mid Ænenum;  
 6 mid Seaxum ic wæs ƿnd Sycgum · ƿnd mid Sweord-werum;  
 mid Hronum ic wæs ƿnd mid Deanum · ƿnd mid Heaþo-réamum.

I was among Huns and among Reth-Gots,  
 among Swedes and among Geats and among South-Danes.  
 Among Wendles I was and among Warns, and among Wikings;  
 among Yefths I was and among Winds, and among Yefflegs;  
 among Angles I was and among Sweves, and among Anens;  
 among Saxes I was and among Sidges, and among Sword-weres;  
 among Ranes I was and among Deans, and among Hath-Reams.

- 13 Mid Þyringum ic wæs · ƿnd mid Þrowendum,  
 2 ƿnd mid Burgendum, · þær ic béag ge·þâh;  
 mé þær Gūð-herē for·geaf · glæd-lícne maþþum  
 4 sōnges to léane. · Næs þæt sǣne cyning!

Among Thirings I was and among Throwends,  
 and among Burgends, there I received a bigh; there Guthere gladdened me with treasures, as reward  
 for my song. That was not a bad king!

- 14 Mid Frōncum ic wæs ƿnd mid Frysum · ƿnd mid Frumtingum;  
 2 mid Rugum ic wæs ƿnd mid Glommum · ƿnd mid Rúm-walum.

Among Franks I was and among Frises, and among Frumtings;

among Ruges I was and among Glams, and among Rome-Wales.

- 
- 15 Swylce ic wæs on Eatule · mid Ælf-wine,  
 2 sé hæfde mōn-cynnes, · mīne ge·fræge,  
 leohteste hōnd · lofes tó wyrçenne,  
 4 heortan un·hneaweste · hringa ge·dāles,  
 beorhtra béaga, · bearn Éad-wines.

Suchwise was I in Italy, with Elfwin;  
 of mankind he had—as I have learned—  
 the lightest hand in the winning of praise,  
 the unstingiest heart in the dealing of rings  
 and bright bighs, that child of Edwin.

- 16 Mid Sercingum ic wæs · onð mid Seringum;  
 2 mid Creacum ic wæs onð mid Finnum · onð mid Cāsere,  
 sé þe win-burga · ge·weald áhte,  
 4 wiolena onð wilna, · onð Wala rices.

TODO.

- 17 Mid Scottum ic wæs onð mid Peohtum · onð mid Scríde-finnun;  
 2 mid Líd-wícingum ic wæs onð mid Léonun · onð mid  
 Lōng-beardun,  
 mid hæðnum onð mid hæleþum · onð mid Hundingum.

TODO.

- 18 Mid Israhelum ic wæs · onð mid Exsyringum,  
 2 mid Ebreum onð mid Indeum · onð mid Egyptum.  
 Mid Moidum ic wæs onð mid Persum · onð mid Myrgingum,  
 4 onð Mofdingum · onð ongend Myrgingum,  
 onð mid Amothingum. · Mid Éast-þyringum ic wæs  
 6 onð mid Eolum onð mid Istum · onð Idumingum.

TODO.

- 19 Qnd ic wæs mid Eorman-ricē · ealle þāge,  
 2 þær mē Gotena cyning · gōde dohte;  
 sē mē bēag for·geaf, · burg-warena fruma,  
 4 on þam siex hund wæs · smātes goldes,  
 ge·scyred sceatta · scilling-rīme;  
 6 þone ic Ead-gilse · on æht sealde,  
 mīnum hléo-dryhtne, · þa ic to hām bi·cwōm,  
 8 leófum to léane, · þæs þe hé mē lond for·geaf,  
 mīnes fæder óþel, · frēa Myrginga.

And I was with Ermenric for all the time,  
 there the king of the Gots treated me well;  
 he gave me a bigh—that chief of city-dwellers—  
 in which were six hundred coins counted,  
 TODO;  
*it* I handed into the possession of Edgils,  
 to my beloved shelter and lord when I came home,  
 as repayment for his giving me land,  
 the Lord of the Mirgings, my father's patrimony.

- 20 Qnd mē þā Ealh-hild · óþerne for·geaf,  
 2 dryht-cwén duguþe, · dohtor Éad-wines.  
 Hyre lof lengde · geond lōnda fela,  
 4 þonne ic be sōnge · sēcgan sceolde  
 hwær ic under swegl · sélast wisse  
 6 gold-hrodene cwén · giefre bryttian.

TODO.

- 21 Ðonne wit Scilling · scíran reorde  
 2 for uncrum sige-dryhtne · sōng a·hófan,  
 hlúde bí hearpan, · hleoþor swinsade,  
 4 þonne mōnige mēnn, · móðum wlōnce,  
 wordum sprécan, · þa þe wel cūþan,  
 6 þæt hí nāfre sōng · séllan ne hýrdon.

Then I and Shilling, with pure voices,  
 before our victorious lord raised up a song, loudly by the harp—the sound rang out.  
 Then many men proud in their hearts  
 told with words—those who knew well— that they never had heard a better song.



- 22      Ðonan ic ealne geond·hwearf · óþel Gotena,  
 2      sóhte ic â síþa · þá sélestan;  
          þæt wæs inn-weorud · Earman-rices.

Then I went through all the land of the Gots;  
 TODO.

- 23      Heðcan sóhte ic ƿnd Beadecan · ƿnd Hƿere-lingas,  
 2      Emercan sóhte ic ƿnd Fridlan · ƿnd Éast-gotan,  
          fródne ƿnd gódne · fæder Un-wenes.

TODO

- 24      Seccan sóhte ic ƿnd Beccan, · Seafolan ƿnd Þeód-ric,  
 2      Heaþo-ric ƿnd Sifecan, · Hliþe ƿnd Incgen-þeow.  
          Éad-wine sóhte ic ƿnd Elsan, · Ægel-mund ƿnd Hún-gâr,  
 4      ƿnd þá wloncan ge·dryht · Wiþ-myrginga.

TODO

- 25      Wulf-hƿere sóhte ic ƿnd Wýrm-hƿere; · ful oft þær wíg ne a·læg,  
 2      þonne Hræda hƿere · heardum sweordum  
          ymb Wistla-wudu · wergan sceoldon  
 4      ealdne óþel-stól · Ætlan leódum.

I sought out Wolfer and Wyrmer—very seldom did the warring there stop,  
 when the Reth-army, with hard swords,  
 in the Wistlewood had to defend  
 the old homeland-seat against Attle's people.

- 26      Ræd-hƿere sóhte ic ƿnd Rƿnd-hƿere, · Rúm-stân ƿnd Gisl-hƿere,  
 2      Wiþer-gield ƿnd Freoþe-ric, · Wudgan ƿnd Hâman;  
          ne wæran þæt ge·síþa · þá sáemestan,  
 4      þeah þe ic hý a·niht · nemnan sceolde.

TODO.

- 27      Ful oft of þâm héape · hwínende fléag

- 2 giellende gâr · ƿn grȝme þeóde;  
 wræccan þær weoldan · wundnan golde  
 4 werum ƿnd wífum, · Wudga ƿnd Hâma.

Very often from that heap whistling did fly  
 a yelling spear into the fiendish host;  
 there the adventurers Woody and Homer  
 ruled twisted gold, men and women.

2 giellende gâr ‘a yelling spear’ | Formulaic.

- 28 Swá ic þæt symle ƿn·fȝnd · ƿn þære feringe,  
 2 þæt sé biþ leófast · lȝnd·búendum  
 sé þe him God syleð · gumena ríce  
 4 to ge·healdenne, · þenden hé hér leofað.“

So I always found on that journey,  
 that he is dearest to land-dwellers [MEN],  
 whom God grants the realm of men  
 for to hold while *here* he lives.”

- 29 Swá scríþende · ge·sceapum hweorfað  
 2 gleó-męnn gumena · geond grunda fela,  
 þearfe sęgað, · þȝnc-word sprecaþ,  
 4 simle sũð ȝþe norð · sumne ge·mótað  
 gydda gleawne, · geofum un·hneawne,  
 6 sé þe fore duguþe wile · dóm a·ræran,  
 eorl-scipe æfnan, · ȝþæt eal scæceð,  
 8 leoht ƿnd lif sȝmod; · lof sé ge·wyrceð,  
 hafað under heofonum · héah-fæstne dóm.

So passing through fates they wander,  
 the song-men of mankind, through many lands;  
 they say their needs, speak thoughtful words;  
 always, south or north, some one they meet,  
 in songs gay, with gifts unstingy,  
 who for the old troop will rear up **Doom**,  
 earlship accomplish, until all goes away,  
 light and life together. He who works praise  
 has under the heavens a high, fastened Doom.

---



# Deer

## (*Deor*)

Dating: TODO

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

A lamentation from the Exeter Book, filled with numerous references to heroic legend.

2 Welund him be wurman · wræces cunnade,  
ân-hýdig eorl · earfoþa dréag,  
hæfde him tó ge·siþþe · sorge ƿnd lōngaf,  
4 winter-cealde wræce; · wéan oft ƿn·fōnd,  
siþþan hine Nīðhad ƿn · néde lēgde,  
6 swƿncre seono-bende · ƿn syllan mōnn.  
Þæs ofer-eode, · þisses swá mæg!

Wayland with worms his exile experienced;  
the one-minded earl hardship did suffer;  
had him for companions sorrow and longing,  
winter-cold exile; woes he often found,  
since Nithad on him fetters did lay;  
heavy sinew-bonds on the better man.  
*That* passed over; *this* may likewise.

8 Beadohilde ne wæs · hyre bróþra déaþ  
on sefan swá sâr · swá hyre sylfre þing,  
10 þæt heo gearo-líce · on·gieten hæfde  
þæt heo éacen wæs; · æfre ne meahte  
12 þriste ge·þencan, · hú ymb þæt sceolde.  
Þæs ofer-eode, · þisses swá mæg!

For Beadhild was not her brothers' deaths  
on her heart so sore, as her own thing,  
that she clearly had understood,

that she was pregnant. Never could she  
bravely think out what about *that* she should do.  
*That* passed over; *this* may likewise.

14           Wé þæt Mæðhilde · mōnge ge·frugnon  
              wurdon grund-léase · Geates frige,  
16           þæt hi seo sorg-lufu · slæp ealle bi·nōm.  
              þæs ofer-eode, · þisses swá mæg!

That for Mathild many, we have heard,  
bottomless [troubles] arose, for Geat's beloved,  
that the sorrowful love her of sleep all deprived.  
*That* passed over; *this* may likewise.

18           Þeodric áhte · þritig wintra  
              Mæringa burg; · þæt wæs mōnegum cūþ.  
20           þæs ofer-eode, · þisses swá mæg!

Thedric owned for thirty winters  
the fort of the Meerings; that was to many known.  
*That* passed over; *this* may likewise.

              Wé ge·ascodan · Eormanríces  
22           wylfenne ge·þóht; · áhte wíde folc  
              Gotena ríces. · þæt wæs grim cyning!  
24           Sæt sæcg mōnig · sorgum ge·bunden,  
              wéan on wénan, · wýscte ge·neahhe  
26           þæt þæs cyne-ríces · ofer-cumen wære.  
              þæs ofer-eode, · þisses swá mæg!

We have learned of Erminric's  
woven nature; he wielded widely the folk  
of the realm of the Gots. That was a grim king!  
Sat many a man by sorrows bound,  
woes in his thoughts; wished aplenty  
that the kingdom might be overcome.  
*That* passed over; *this* may likewise.

---

23 þæt wæs grim cyning! 'That was a grim king!' | Formulaic; cf. *Beow* 11b: *þæt wæs gód cyning!* 'That was a good king!'

28           Siteð sorg-céarig, · sálum bi·dæled,

30 on sefan sweorceð, · sylfum þinceð  
 þæt sý ęnde-léas · earfoda dâl.  
 Mæg þonne ge·þencan, · þæt geond þás woruld  
 32 witig dryhten · wendeþ ge·neahhe,  
 eorle mōnegum · âre ge·sceawað,  
 34 wís-licne blæd, · sumum wéana dâl.

One sits grieved with sorrow, of blessings bereft;  
 his heart darkens; to himself he thinks  
 that endless must be his share of hardships.  
 He may then think that throughout this world  
 the Wise Lord turns coat aplenty.  
 To many an earl honour he shows,  
 sure success—to another a share of woes.

36 þæt ic bi mé sylfum · sæcgan wille,  
 þæt ic hwile wæs · Heodeninga scóp,  
 dryhtne dýre— · mé wæs Deor noma.  
 38 Áhte ic fela wintra · folgað tilne,  
 holdne hlaford, · oþþæt Heorrenda nú,  
 40 léoð-cræftig mōnn · lōnd-ryht ge·þáh,  
 þæt me eorla hléo · âr ge·sealde.  
 42 Þæs ofer-eode, · þisses swá mæg!

This of myself I wish to say,  
 that for a while I was the Heedenings's shop,  
 dear to their lord—Deer was my name.  
 I had for a multitude of winters a good retinue,  
 a **hold** bread-giver, until Harrend now,  
 the lay-crafty man the land-right has received,  
 that to *me* the shelter of earls of yore did grant.  
*That* passed over; *this* may likewise.





## Misceallaneous Runic Poetry



Not all poetry preserved in Runic inscriptions is included here; see below under Galders. The stanza from the Rök runestone is included under Other Heroic Poetry, and the Runic version of the *Dream of the Rood* is found there.

Metrically the poetry is generally in *Ancient-words-law*. A few fragments from Jutland are in *Leeds-meter* and two from Sweden are in *Court-recited meter*.



# Anonymous Runerow Poems

## Introduction to the Rune Poems

TODO: Acrophonic principle

The order and names of the letters in the Runic alphabets or *futharks* stayed relatively consistent throughout the many centuries and countries in which they were used. This can probably be ascribed to the *rune poems*—poetic lists of the names of each rune with a short explanation, passed down orally as mnemonic devices to aid early Germanic learners, who were doubtless far more accustomed to learn by heart spoken poems than written letters.

Three such rune poems survive, from three countries: England, Norway, and Iceland. The English rune poem documents the English *futhorc*, while the Norwegian and Icelandic document the Scandinavian *younger futhark*.

When compared to the Common Germanic *elder futhark*, these two daughter scripts have taken opposing paths. Whereas the English *futhorc* has appended several letters for new vowels to the end of the rune row, the Scandinavian *futhark* has instead done away with numerous runes, namely those for *ng*, plosives *d*, *g*, *p*, the semi-vowel *w* and the vowels *o* and *e*, along with the obscure hook-shaped rune (TODO). That much of this simplification was probably intentional, rather than the result of neglect or language change, is seen from the following facts.

First, several of the lost runes stood for sounds that did not undergo any major sound shifts in the North Germanic languages in the relevant time period. For instance, all modern Scandinavian dialects still clearly distinguish between the initial consonants in the descendants of *dagr* ‘day’ and *Týr* ‘Tew’, and most even have the same articulation of these consonants as modern English.

Second, in two archaic runic inscriptions we find clear proof that the names and sound values of some of the lost runes were still remembered and passed down even after the adoption of the simplified younger *futhark*. On the Swedish Rök stone (Ög 136), which is mostly composed in the younger *futhark*, runes of the elder *futhark* are used in a cipher, which works in the following way: Every younger *futhark* rune representing two distinct phonemes, where one of those was the sound value of that rune in the elder *futhark* system, and the other has been assimilated from a lost rune, is replaced by the elder *futhark* rune whose value it assimilated. For instance, the **k** rune, which in the elder *futhark* stood for only /k/, but which in the younger *futhark* stands for both /k/ and /g/, is replaced with the old **g** rune. A similar instance of two-scriptedness is found on the Ingelsta stone (Ög 43), where the old **d** rune is used in an otherwise younger *futhark* inscription, probably standing for its name *dagr* ‘day’, which is also attested as a male given name.

Third, there is virtually no regional variation in which runes disappear in the transition from elder to younger *futhark*. There is some variation in their shapes, but there is no region which, say, simplifies only the plosive consonants *t/d*, *k/g*, *b/p* > *t*, *k*, *b*, but retains the written distinction between *o* and *u*—they all go away at once.

These facts point away from neglect or a natural development of the script—they instead suggest deliberate reform. Since we lack historical sources, the motivations behind such a reform

can only be guessed at, but making the script simpler may have been intended to increase literacy by making it easier to learn and faster to write. If this were the case it was certainly successful: the transition to the simplified younger futhark brings with it a huge increase in inscriptions in Scandinavia, along with interest in various ciphers, and a new tradition of inscribed stones in Denmark, where they were previously unknown.

This new system also quickly gave rise to even more simplified systems, like the “short-stave” runes found already on the C9th Rök stone, or the “staveless” runes known from northern Sweden. Both of these variants make it even faster to write on materials like wood, wax and bone; the runes also take up less space—very useful for carvers writing on limited surfaces.

In any case, the names of the runes seem to have survived these developments. Of the 16 runes found in both the English and Icelandic (which appears to be more conservative than the Norwegian) rune poems, 10—**f, r, h, n, i, j, s, b, m** and **l**—have etymologically identical names. Three of the remaining six—**þ, a** and **t**—in the Icelandic stand for words with clear Heathen associations—Thurse, Os, and Tew—and so may have been changed deliberately after the conversion of England, rather than lost in the process of oral transmission. Two more—**u** and **k**—have names which agree in form but not in meaning. Thus it is only the old **ᚱ**-rune where this is total disagreement about its ancient name. This is easily understood, since the sound which that rune designated was lost in early Old English.

# The English Rune Poem

**Dating:** 700s–C10th

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

TODO: Introduction. Preservation only in printed copy.

- 
- 1    ƿ (feoh) byþ frofur · fira ge·hwylcum.  
2    Sceal ðeah manna ge·hwylc · miclun hyt dælan  
     gif he wile for drihtne · dômes hleotan.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 2    ʀ (ur) byþ ân-mód · and ofer-hyrned,  
2    fela-frécne deor, · feohteþ mid hornum,  
     mære mór-stapa; · þæt is módig wuht.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 3    þ (ðorn) byþ ðearle scearp; · ðegna ge·hwylcum  
2    an·feng ys yfyl, · un-gemetun reþe  
     manna ge·hwylcun · ðe him mid resteð.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 4    ʃ (os) byþ ord-fruma · ælcra spræce,  
2    wís-dômes wraþu · and witena frofur,  
     and eorla gehwam · ead-nys and to·hiht.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 5    ʀ (rad) byþ on recyde · rinca ge·hwylcum

- 2            sefte, and swiþ-hwæt · ðam ðe sitteþ on ufan  
meare mægen-heardum · ofer mīl-paþas.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 2            6    ƿ (cen) byþ cwicera ge·hwam · cūþ on fyre,  
blac and beorht-líc, · byrneþ oftust  
ðær hí æþelingas · inne restaþ.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 2            7    ƿ (gyfu) gumena byþ · gleng and herenys,  
wraþu and wyrþ-scype, · and wræcna ge·hwam  
ar and ætwist · ðe byþ oþra leas.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 2            8    ƿ (wen) ne bruceþ · ðe can wéana lýt,  
sâres and sorge, · and him sylfa hæfþ  
blæd and blysse · and eac byrga ge·niht.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 2            9    ƿ (hægl) byþ hwitust corna; · hwyrft hit of heofones lyfte,  
wealcaþ hit windes scura, · weorþeþ hit to wætere syððan.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 2            10    † (nyd) byþ nearu on breostan, · weorþeþ hi ðeah oft niþa bearnum  
to helpe and to hæle ge·hwæþre, · gif hí his hlýstaþ æror.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 2            11    ƿ (is) byþ ofer-ceald, · un-ge·metum slidor,  
glisnaþ glæs-hluttur, · gimum ge·licust,  
flor forste ge·woruht, · fæger an-sýne.

TODO: TRANSLATION.



- 12     þ (ger) byþ gumena hiht, · ðon God læteþ,  
 2        hâlig heofones cyning, · hrusan syllan  
       beorhte bleða · beornum and ðearfum.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 13     ƿ (eoh) byþ utan · un-smeþe treow,  
 2        heard, hrusan fæst, · hyrde fyres,  
       wyr̥t-rumun under·wreþyd, · wynan on éþle.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 14     ƿ (peorð) byþ symble · plega and hlehter  
 2        [...] wlancum · ðar wigan sittað  
       on beor-sele · bliþe æt·somne.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 15     ƿ (eolhx)-secg eard hæfþ · oftust on fenne,  
 2        wexeð on wature, · wundað grimme,  
       blode breneð · beorna ge·hwylcne  
 4        ðe him ænigne · on·feng ge·deð.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 16     ƿ (sigel) sé-mannum · symble biþ on hihte,  
 2        ðonn hi hine feriaþ · ofer fises beþ,  
       oþ hí brim-hengest · bringeþ to lande.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 17     ƿ (tir) biþ tâcna sum, · healdeð trywa wel  
 2        wiþ æþelingas, · a biþ on færylde,  
       ofer nihta ge·nipu · næfre swiceþ.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 18     ƿ (beorc) byþ bleða leas, · bereþ efne swa ðeah  
 2        tânas b·útan tudder, · biþ on telgum wlitig,

4 heah on helme · hrysted fægere,  
ge·loden leafum, · lyfte ge·tenge.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

2 19 M (eh) byþ for eorlum · æþelinga wyn,  
hors hofum wlanc, · ðær him hæleþe ymb,  
welege on wicgum, · wrixlaþ spræce,  
4 and biþ un-styllum · æfre frofur.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

2 20 M (man) byþ on myrgþe · his magan leof;  
sceal þeah ânra gehwylc · oðrum swícan,  
for ðam dryhten wyle · dôme síne  
4 þæt earme flæsc · eorþan be·tæcan.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

2 21 l (lagu) byþ leodum · lang-sum ge·þuht,  
gif hí sculun neþun · on nacan tealtum,  
and hi sæyþa · swýþe bregaþ,  
4 and se brim-hengest · bridles ne gymeð.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

2 22 x (ing) wæs ærest · mid Éast-Denum  
ge·sewen secgum, · oþ he siððan est  
ofer wæg ge·wât, · wæn æfter rann;  
4 ðus hearingas · ðone hæle nemdun.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

2 23 x (eþel) byþ ofer-leof · æg·hwylcum men,  
gif he mot ðær rihtes · and ge·rysena on  
brúcan on blode · bleadum oftast.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 24    Ð (dæg) byþ drihtnes sond, · deore mannum,  
2        mære metodes leoht, · myrgþ and to·hiht  
         eadgum and earmum, · eallum brice.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 25    ƿ (ac) byþ on eorþan · ƿlða bearnum  
2        flæscas fodor, · fereþ ge·lome  
         ofer ganotes bæþ; · gâr-sęcg fandaþ  
4        hwæþer ac hæbbe · æþele treowe.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 26    Ʀ (æsc) biþ ofer-heah, · ƿldum dýre,  
2        stiþ on staþule, · stede rihte hylt,  
         ðeah him feohtan on · firas monige.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 27    ƿ (yr) byþ æþelinga · and eorla ge·hwæs  
2        wyn and wyrþ-mynd, · byþ on wicge fæger,  
         fæst-lic on fær-elde, · fyrd-geatewa sum.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 28    \* (iar, ior) byþ éa-fixa, · and ðeah a bruceþ  
2        fódres on foldan, · hafaþ fægerne eard,  
         wætre be·worpen, · ðær he wynnum leofaþ.

TODO: TRANSLATION.

- 29    ƿ (ear) byþ egle · eorla ge·hwylcun,  
2        ðonn fæst-lice · flæsc on·ginneþ,  
         hraw colian, · hrusan ceosan  
4        blac to gebeddan; · bleða ge·dreosaþ,  
         wylna ge·witaþ, · wera ge·swicaþ.

TODO: TRANSLATION.



# The Icelandic Rune Poem

**Dating:** Medieval.

**Meter:** Unclear.

The poem is highly formulaic. All lines begin with the respective rune's name, followed by three synonyms. It is only attested in late manuscripts which often have major disagreements with each other.

- 
- 1      Fé es frēnda róg · ok flóðar viti  
2                      ok graf-seiðs gata.  
Fee is strife of kinsmen and beacon of the sea  
and grave-saith's [SERPENT'S] street.
- 2      Úr es skýja grátr · ok skára þveggir  
2                      ok hirðis hatr.  
Drizzle is weeping of clouds and ...  
and shepherd's hatred.
- 3      Þurs es kvenna kvöl · ok kletta í·búi  
2                      ok varð-rúnar verr.  
Thurse is women's torment and indweller of hills  
and husband of the weird-whisperess [GIANTESS].
- 4      Óss es aldinn gautr · ok Ós-garðs jöfurr,  
2                      ok Val-hallar vísi.  
Os is ancient Geat, and Osyrd's chief,  
and Walhall's overseer.

- 5      Reĩð es sitjandi sēla · ok snúðig ferð  
2                      ok jós ƿrfiði.

Chariot is sitting bliss and twirling journey  
and horse's heavy work.

- 6      Kaun es barna bōl · ok bar-dagi  
2                      ok hold-fúa hús.

Boil is children's curse and TODO  
and house of flesh-rot.

- 7      Hagall es kalda korn · ok knappa drífa  
2                      ok snáka sótt.

Hail is cold kernel and storm of beads  
and sickness of snakes.

- 8      Nauð es þýjar þrō · ok þungr kost  
2                      ok vās-samlig verk.

Need is maidservant's yearning and scant choice  
and working in wet-cold weather.

- 9      Íss es áar bōrk · ok unnar þekja  
2                      ok fēigra manna fār.

Ice is river's bark and wave's roof  
and fey men's danger.

- 10      Ár es gumna góði · ok gótt sumar  
2                      ok al-gróinn akr.

Year is men's boon and good summer  
(and) all-grown acre.

- 11      Sól es skýja skjōldr · ok skínandi rōðull  
2                      ok ísa aldr-tregi.

Sun is the shield of clouds and shining wheel  
and life-grief of ice.

- 12 Týr es **ęin**-hęndr **óss** · ok **ulfs** lęifar  
2 ok **hofa** **hilmir**.

Tew is the one-handed Os and the wolf's leftovers  
and lord of hoves.

- 13 Bjarkan es **laufgat** **lim** · ok **lítit** tré  
2 ok **ung**-samligr **viðr**.

Birch is leafy branch and little tree  
and youthful wood.

- 14 Maðr es **manns** gaman · ok **moldar** auki  
2 ok **skipa** **skreytir**.

Man is man's joy and the product of dust  
and adorer of ships.

- 15 Lęgr es **vellanda** **vatn** · ok **viðr** kętill  
2 ok **glęmmungr** **grund**.

Liquid is boiling water and wide kettle  
and TODO.

- 16 Ýr es **bęndr** bogi · ok **brot**-gjarnt járn  
2 ok **fęnju** **fleygir**.

Yew is a bent bow and easily broken iron  
and arrow's hurler.

---





# The Norwegian Rune Poem

**Dating:** Medieval.

**Meter:** Unclear.

The poem is generally the same as the Icelandic, but there are some differences.

The language is clearly medieval, and has a few uniquely Norwegian sound changes. That these are not just scribal is seen by the meter.

- *h-* has been lost before *l*, *n* and *r* (st. 2 *lēȝpr* < *hleȝpr*; st. 8 *neþpa* < *hneþpa*; st. 5 *rossum* < *hrossum*).
- *rst* has become *st* (st. 5 *vęsta* < *vęrsta*)

---

1    Ƿ Fé vęldr fręnda rógi;   •   fōðisk ulfr í skógi.

TRANSLATION.

2    ƿ Úr 's af illu jarni;   •   opt lęȝpr ręinn á hjarni.

TRANSLATION.

3    þ Þurs vęldr kvinna kvillu;   •   kátr verðr fār af illu.

TRANSLATION.

4    ƿ Óss er flęstra fęrða   •   fōr; en skalpr er sverða.

TRANSLATION.

5    ƿ Ręið kveða rossum vęsta;   •   Ręinn sló sverðit bęsta.

TRANSLATION.

6 † Kaun er barna bōlvan; • bōl gōrvir nán fōlvan.

TRANSLATION.

7 † Hagall er kaldastr korna; • Kristr skóp hēiminn forna.

TRANSLATION.

8 † Nauðr gōrir neppa kosti; • nøktan kēlr í frosti.

TRANSLATION.

9 † Ís kōllum brú breiða; • blindan þarf at leiða.

Ice we call a broad bridge; the blind man must be lead.

10 † Ár er gumna góði; • get'k at qrr var Fróði.

Year is men's boon; I recall that mad was Frood.

11 † Sól er landa ljómi; • lúti'k hēlgum dómi.

TRANSLATION.

12 † Týr er ein-ēndr ása; • opt verðr smiðr blása.

Tew is the one-handed of the Eese; TODO.

13 † Bjarkan er lauf-grónstr líma; • Loki bar flérða tíma.

TRANSLATION.

14 † Maðr er moldar auki; • mikil er grēip á hauki.

Man is the product of dust; great is the grip on the hawk..

15 † Lōgr er, fēllr ór fjalli • foss; en gull eru nossir.

TRANSLATION.

**16**    ʟ Ýr er vetr-grónstr viðá;   •   vēnt 's, er brennr, at sviða.  
TRANSLATION.

---



# Younger Runic Poetry from Sweden and Gotland

TODO: Introduction to Swedish inscriptions

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## Sm 16

**Dating:** C11th

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

TODO.

---

2           Hrósteinn auk Eilífir, · Áki auk Hökon,  
          reistu þeir sveinar · eftir sinn faður  
          kumbl kenndi-ligt · eftir Kala dauðan.  
4           Þý mun góðs manns · um getit verða,  
          með steinn lifir · ok stafir rúna.

Rothstan and Anlif, Eke and Hathkin,  
those lads raised after their father  
a remarkable monument after the dead Cale.  
Thus will the good man be spoken of,  
while the stone lives and the staves of the runes.

---

## Sm 39

**Dating:** C11th

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

A standing stone inscribed on two sides, one of which has a large cross. The expression is formulaic; cf. Sm 44, Sö 130, U 703, U 739, and U 805. For “good of meat”, which also occurs in *High*; see Encyclopedia. The first line is not poetic.

---

2                      Gunni satti stên þenna eptir Súna, fǫður sinn,  
                         mildan orða · ok matar góðan.

Guthe set this stone after Sown, his father,  
mild of words and good of meat.

---

### Sm 44

**Dating:** C11th  
**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

TODO. The expression is formulaic; cf. Sm 39, Sö 130, U 703, U 739, and U 805.

---

2                      TODO mildan við sinna · ok matar góðan,  
                         TODO.

TODO  
Mild with his men and good of meat.  
TODO

---

### Sö 34–35 (Tjuvstigen)

**Dating:** 1000–C12th  
**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

Two paired stones standing next to each other. The last line of Sö 35 is not poetic.

---

Sö 34     Styrlaugr ok Holmbr • steina reistu  
 2         at bróðr sína, • brautu nęsta.  
             Þęir ęndaðus • í austr-vegi,  
 4         Þórkęll ok Styrbjörn, • þiagnar góðir.

Sturley and Holm raised the stones,  
 after their brothers, nearest to the road.  
 They were ended in the Eastway,  
 Thurkettle and Sturbern, good thanes.

---

2 brautu nęsta 'nearest to the road' | Cf. *Higb* TODO.

Sö 35     Lét Ingigęirr • annan reisa stęin  
 2         at sonu sína, • sýna giørði. Guð hjalpi ęnd þęira. Þórir hjó.

Inggar let raise another stone,  
 after his sons made visible.  
 God may help their spirit. Thurer hewed.

## Sö 56 (Fyrby)

Dating: 1000–C12th  
 Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

TODO: INTRODUCTION.

Iak vęit Há-stęin • þá Holm-stęin bróðr  
 2         męnnr rýnasta • á Mið-garði  
             sęttu stęin • auk stafa marga  
 4         eptir Frey-stęin • fęður sinn.

I know Highstan and Holmstan, those brothers,  
 the men most rune-cunning in Middenyard;  
 they set the stone and many staves,  
 after Freestan, their father.

## Sö 65 (Djulefors)

Dating: 1000–C12th

Meter: *Ancient-words-law* with hendings in the b-verses

A standing stone inscribed on one side with a large cross. Already on the earliest depictions the stone was damaged, but an even larger part has now gone missing. Other stones that mention Longbeardland (Lombardy) include TODO... The meter is highly unusual for runic Swedish poetry, relying on hendings (in line 2 an ethel-hending *arð-* : *barð-*, in line 3 a shot-hending *land-* : *end-*). Line 2b is formulaic; see note.

---

2                    Inga reṣṣti stein þannsi at Ólṣif sinn a...  
                      Hann austarla · arði barði  
                      auk à Langbarði- · landi endaðis.

Inge raised this stone after Anlaf, her ...  
 Easterly he ploughed with the prow,  
 and on Longbeardland was ended.

---

2 arði barði ‘ploughed with the prow’ | i.e. “sailed”. A formulaic poetic expression shared with an anonymous line from the Third Grammatical Treatise, which reads: *sá’s af Íslandi · arði barði* ‘he who [away] from Iceland ploughed with the prow’.

## Sö 130

Dating: 1000–C12th

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

A standing stone. TODO. The expression is formulaic; cf. Sm 39, Sm 44, U 703, U 739, and U 805.

---

2                    Fiurir geṣṣou · at fṣður góðan  
                      dýrð drengi-la · at Dómara  
                      mildan orða · ok matar góðan.  
 4                    Þat ...

Four men made after a good father,  
 an honour, valiantly, after Doomer,  
 mild of words and good of meat.  
 This ...



## Sö 179 (Gripsholm)

Dating: C11th

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

TODO: INTRODUCTION. The three-line stanza is a biographical addition following a typical prose memorial formula.

---

**P** Tóla lét rēisa stēin þennsa at son sinn Harald, bróður Ingvars.

Tool let raise this stone after his son Harold, brother of Ingwar.

2 Þeir fōru dręngi-la · fiarri at gulli  
ok austar-la · ęrni gōfu,  
dōu sunnar-la · á Sęrk-landi.

They journeyed valiantly far for gold,  
and easterly gave to the eagle;  
died southerly in Serkland.

## U 703

Dating: C11th

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

A standing stone inscribed on one side. There is no cross present, but a large four-legged beast with a long tail. The stone is heavily damaged, but mostly readable, except for what is here taken to be the half of line 2, which is entirely lost. The expression is formulaic; cf. Sm 39, Sm 44, Sö 130, U 739, and U 805. For “good of meat”, which also occurs in *Hǫb*; see Encyclopedia. The first line is not poetic.

---

2 Ásvi lét rēisa stēin þennsa at Ǫrnulf, son sinn góðan.  
Hann byggi hér · ...,  
mandr matar góðr · ok mál̥s risinn.

Oswye let raise this stone after Arnolf, her good son.  
He dwelled here ...,  
a man good of meat and proud of speech.

---

## U 739

Dating: C11th

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

A standing stone inscribed on one side, with a large cross present. There are no major difficulties with the reading. The expression is formulaic; cf. Sm 39, Sm 44, Sö 130, U 703, and U 805. “mild of meat” appears to be a variant of “good of meat”, which also occurs in *Highb*; see Encyclopedia. The first line is not poetic. For other stones raised by someone in memory of themselves, see TODO.

---

2                      Holbjörn lét reisa stein at sik sjalfan.  
                         Hann var mildr matar · ok máls risinn.

Holbern let raise this stone after himself.  
He was mild of meat and proud of speech.

---

## U 805

Dating: C11th

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

The stone has been lost, and only survives in old depictions, which makes the reading, especially two of the personal names, uncertain. My transliteration follows Rundata.

The expression is formulaic; cf. Sm 39, Sm 44, Sö 130, U 703, and U 739. For “good of meat”, which also occurs in *Highb*; see Encyclopedia. The first line is not poetic.

---

2                      Fylkir lét reisa stein eptir iel, bróður sinn, ok Gunnmarr eptir menk,  
                         fður sinn,  
                         bónda góðan matar; · bygggi í Víkbý.

Filch let raise this stone after ..., his brother, and Guthmar after ..., his father,  
a farmer good of meat; he lived in Wickby.

---

# Galders: Poetic Charms, Spells, and Curses



Under this section are gathered sundry **galders** (metrical magic charms) attested in Old Germanic languages. I have only included those with clear Heathen or otherwise traditional elements (especially certain poetic formulae known from older texts). Thoroughly Christian prayers are found below under “Poetry on Christian Subjects”.



## Continental Germanic galders





# The Two Merseburg Galders

**Dating:** TODO.

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law, Galders-law*

These two galders, preserved in a manuscript (TODO) are some of the only surviving examples of genuine Heathen galders from the continent. Both share a common two-part structure, each beginning with an *historiola*—a “historical” account describing the successful effects of the galder in the mythic past—followed by an *imperative* commanding that the willed magic effect take place in the present.

The first galder begins with the *historiola* describing a group of supernatural women in the midst of a battle, affecting its outcome by fastening or loosening fetters. The imperative then commands that some fetters in the present be destroyed, so that captive(s) may escape.

The second galder begins with the *historiola* describing a group of Gods riding through the woods. Among them is **Balder**, whose young foal sprains its foot. Three Gods—the otherwise unknown goddess **Sithguth**, the goddess **Sun**, the god **Weden**—in turn chant a healing galder over it. The imperative—apparently the galder sung by Weden—then commands that a present sprain be healed.

---

1    Ęiris sázun idisi · sázun hera duo der;  
2    suma hapt hęptidun · suma hęri lęzidun  
      suma klubodun · umbi kuonjo-widi  
4    in·sprink hapt-bandun · in·far figandun  
      .H.

Of yore sat dises, sat here, then there:  
some fastened fetters, some hindered armies,  
some cleaved shackles (TODO!).—  
Destroy the fetter-bonds, lead the way from the fiends!  
.H.

---

5 .H. | The meaning of this letter, which is very clear and written in the same hand as the galders, is uncertain. To me the most convincing suggestion is that it be read as .N., short for Latin *nomen* ‘name’, presumably the name of the person whom the singer wishes to free from the fetters.

2    Fol ęnde Wuodan · fuorun zi holza

2 dú wart demo Balderes folon · sín fuoz bi·rēnkit  
 þú bi·guol en Sinthgunt · Sunna era swister  
 4 þú bi·guol en Frija · Folla era swister  
 þú bi·guol en Wuodan · só hé wola konda:  
 6 „Só-se bēn-rēnkí · só-se bluot-rēnkí · só-se lidi-rēnkí  
 bēn zi bēna  
 8 bluot zi bluoda  
 lid zi ge·liden · só-se ge·limida sín“!

Phol and Weden journeyed in the woods;  
 then was the foot of Balder's foal sprained.  
 Then him *Sithguth begaled*—*Sun* her sister;  
 then *Frie* begaled him—*Full* her sister;  
 then Weden begaled him, as well he knew:  
 “Like bone-sprain, like blood-sprain, like joint-sprain!  
 Bone to bone,  
 blood to blood,  
 joint to joints, like were they glued together!”

1 Fol | *Phol* ms. 3 Sinthgunt | *Sinhtgunt* ms.

3 bi·guol ‘begale’ | third past singular of *bi·galan* ‘begale’, transitive of *galan* ‘gale, sing a galder’. This verb is the origin of the noun “galder”, literally ‘something galed’. Cf. *Ordr* TODO, wherein a woman “gales” “bitter galders” over another in order to help her in childbirth.

4 bi·guol en ‘begaled him’ | i.e. “sang galders over him”

# Against wyrms

## (*Contra vermes*)

Dating: ?

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

A manuscript charm against wyrms located in the bone-marrow, probably thought to cause aching. The galder calls upon a chief worm, Nesse, and its nine offspring, to depart from the patient. It lays out a path for the worms, who are to leave the sufferer's body and instead go into an arrow or sharp point (*strála*), probably a ritual implement used to pierce the affect area.

The structure “Go from X to Y, from Y to Z” may be very old, as it is also found in Romani charms collected by Leland (1891, pp. 27, 28, 95) The charm on p. 95 is also against wyrms. Like in our galder the wyrms (*kirmora*, from Sanskrit *kṛmi*, which is probably related to Germanic *\*wurmiz*, although the difference in the initial consonant is unusual—perhaps a taboo formation?) are to leave the body and instead go into the ritual implement, in the Gypsy charm an ointment. I take me the freedom to reproduce this charm in full, with Leland's introduction and translation:

“Before sunrise wolf's milk (Wolfsmilch, rukeskro tçud) is collected, mixed with salt, garlic, and water, put into a pot, and boiled down to a brew. With a part of this the afflicted spot is rubbed, the rest is thrown into a brook, with the words:—

*Kirmora jánen ándre tçud Andrál tçud, andré sir Andrál sir, andré páñi, Panensá kiyá dádeske, Kiyá Niváseske Pçándel tumen shelebá Eñávárdesb teñá!*

“Worms go in the milk, From the milk into the garlic, From the garlic into the water, With the water to (your) father, To the Nivasi, He shall bind you with a rope, Ninety-nine (yards long).”

---

2      Gang út, Nesso, · mid nigun nessi-klínon,  
ut fana þemo marge an þat bæn, · fan þemo bêne an þat fleşg,  
4      ut fan þemo fleşgke an þia húd, · ut fan þera húd an þesa strála.  
Drohtin, werþe só.

Go out, O Nesse, with the nine small Nesses!  
Out from the marrow into the bone, from the bone into the flesh,  
out from the flesh into the skin, out from the skin into this arrow.  
Lord, may it be so.

---

<sup>1</sup> Nesso 'Nesse' | The *naming* of the daemon or being which is to be excised is common in ancient magic, including several other galders edited here. The idea is that knowledge of the name of the entity gives the healer power over it.

---

Old English galders



# Against Swarm

## (*Wið ymbe*)

Dating: ?

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

TODO. That bees are called “victory-wives” is interesting.

P1      Wið ymbe nim eorþan, ofer·weorp mid þínre swíþran handa under þínum  
2      swíþran fét, and cwet:

Against a swarm take earth, throw it with thy right hand under thy right foot, and say:

1      Fó ic under fót, · funde ic hit.  
2      Hwæt eorðe mæg · wið ealra wihta ge·hwilce  
and wið andan · and wið æminde  
4      and wið þá micelan · mannes tungan.

I catch under foot, I may have found *it*.  
How, earth works against everywhich wight  
and against mischief and against neglect  
and against that mighty tongue of man.

4 þá micelan · mannes tungan ‘that mighty tongue of man’ | The tongue is surely here standing in for “speech”, specifically galder; i.e., if the swarming of the bees were caused by an enemy’s cursing, the earth will disarm it.

P2      And wiððoon for·weorp ofer greót, þonne hí swirman, and cweð:

And with that throw the grit over, when they swarm, and say:

1 for·weorp ofer greót ‘throw the grit over’ | i.e. “throw the earth over the swarm”.

2      Sitte gé, sige-wíf, · sígað to eorþan!

- 2        Næfre gé **w**ilde · to **w**uda fleogan.  
Beo gé swá ge·**m**indige · **m**ínes gódes,  
4        swá bið **m**anna ge·hwilc · **m**etes and éþeles.

Sit ye, victory-wives; sink to the earth!

Never ye would fly to the woods.

Be ye so mindful of *my* good,

like is every man of his measure and homestead.

---



# Against Dwarf

## (*Wið dweorb*)

Dating: TODO

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

TODO: Introduction.

- P1 Mann sceal niman *seofon* lytle of-lætan swylce mann mid ofrað, ond wri-  
tan þás naman on ælcra oflætan: Maximianus, Malchus, Johannes, Mar-  
tinianus, Dionisius, Constantinus, Serafion. Þænne eft þæt galdor þæt hér  
æfter cweð[eð] mann sceal singan, ærest on þæt wynstre éare, þænne on þæt  
swiðre éare, þænne búfan þæs mannes moldan; ond gá þænne ân mæden-  
mann tó, ond hó hit on his sweoran, ond dó mann swá þrý dagas. Him  
bið sóna sél.

One shall take seven small wafers, such as one offers [during the Mass], and write these names on each wafer: Maximianus, Malchus, Johannes, Martinianus, Dionysius, Constantinus, Seraphion. After that shall one sing this galder which is henceforth said; first into the left ear, then into the right ear, then over the man's head; and thereafter a maiden go forth, and hang it on his neck; and one do so for three days. He will soon be well.

- 1 Hér cóm in·gangan · in·spiden wiht,  
2 hæfde him his haman on handa; · cwæð þæt þú his hæncgest wære,  
lēgeþe þe his téage on sweoran; · on·gunnan him of þæm lande líðan.  
4 Sóna swá hý of þæm lande cóman · þá on·gunnan him þá *leomu*  
cólian.—  
þá cóm in·gangan · déores sweostar;  
6 þá ge·ændode héo · ond áðas swór,  
þæt næfre þis þæm adlegan · *eglian* ne móste  
8 né þæm þe þis galdor · be·gýtan mihte  
oððe þe þis galdor · on·galan cūðe.

10

## Amen fiað.

Here came walking in an inspiden wight,  
had his harness in his hands; said that thou wert his horse,  
laid his reins on thy neck; then they together began to ride from the land.  
As soon as they came away from the land, then they together began to cool limbs.  
Then came walking in the beast's sister;  
then she ended [it], and swore oaths,  
that this never should harm the ailing man,  
nor him who this galder might get,  
nor whomever this galder could gale.  
Amen, let it be.

---

# Against a Sudden Stitch

## (*Wið fêr-stice*)

Dating: ?

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

Attested in *Lacning*.

- 1 Hlúde wæran hý, lá, hlúde, · þá hý ofer þone hláw ridan,  
2 wæran ân-móde, · þá hý ofer land ridan.  
Scyld þú þé nú, þú þysne nið · ge·nesan móte.  
4 Út, lýtel spere, · gif hér inne síe!

Loud were they, lo, loud, when they rode over that mound;  
they were steadfast, when they rode over land.  
Shield thyself now; thou mayst escape this evil!  
Out little spear, if here within it be!

- 2 Stód under linde, · under leohtum scylde,  
2 þær þá mihtigan wíf · hýra mægen be·ráddon  
and hý gyllende · gâras sændan;  
4 ic him óðerne · eft wille sændan,  
fléogende flâne · forane tó·géanes.  
6 Út, lýtel spere, · gif hit her inne sý!

Stood under the linden [SHIELD]—under the light shield—  
where those mighty wives their might arrayed,  
and they yelling spears did send.  
To them another [projectile] will I send back:  
a flying arrow, aimed against [them].  
Out little spear, if here within it be!

- 3 Sæt smið, · sloh seax,

- 2 lytel íserna, · wund swíðe.  
 Út, lytel spere, · gif her inne sý!

Sat the smith, struck the sax:  
 a little iron-thing—a great wound.  
 Out little spear, if here within it be!

- 4 Syx smiðas sætan,  
 2 wæl-spera worhtan.  
 Út, spere, · næs in, spere!  
 4 Gif her inne sý · ísenes dæl,  
 hæg-tessan ge·weorc, · hit sceal ge·myltan.

Six smiths sat,  
 wrought slaughter-spears.  
 Out, spear! Be not in, spear!  
 If here within be a part of iron,  
 the work of a hag-tess—it shall melt!

- 5 Gif þú wære on fell scoten · oððe wære on flæsc scoten  
 2 oððe wære on blód scoten · [...]  
 oððe wære on lið scoten, · næfre ne sý þín líf atæsed;

If thou wert shot in the skin, or wert shot in the flesh,  
 or wert shot in the blood, [...],  
 or wert shot in the limb—never be thy life injured.

- 6 gif hit wære esa ge·scot · oððe hit wære ylfa ge·scot  
 2 oððe hit wære hæg-tessan ge·scot, · nú ic wille þín helpa:  
 þis þe to bóte esa ge·scotes, · þis þe to bóte ylfa ge·scotes,  
 4 þis þe to bóte hæg-tessan ge·scotes; · ic þín wille helpa.

If it were Eese-shot, or it were Elf-shot,<sup>207</sup>  
 or it were Hag-tess-shot—now I will help thee!  
 This for thee as cure against Eese-shot; this for thee as cure against Elf-shot;  
 this for thee as cure against Hag-tess-shot—I will help thee!

<sup>207</sup>Formulaic; see Eese and Elves. That they are held in the same category as the hag-tess—a witch—indicates Christian influence. Among the Germanic peoples the elves and Eese were originally beneficial, as seen by numerous names like Alfred (OE *Ēlf-réd* 'Elf-counsel'), Oswald (OE *Ōs-weald* 'Os-power'), Elfwin (Lomb. *Alb-oin* 'Elf-friend'), Oshelm (Lomb. *Anselm* 'Os-helmet').

- 7 Fleo þær on · fyr-gen-hæfde!

2            **H**âl wes-tu, · **h**elpe þín drihten!  
             Nim þonne þæt seax, · ado on wætan.

TODO.

Be thou hale, may the Lord help thee.

---



# The Nine Herbs Galder

Dating: ?

Meter: *Ancient-words-law*

2           Ge·myne ðú mug-wyrt · hwæt þú á·meldodest  
            hwæt þu renadest · æt Regen-melde?

Rememberest thou, Mugwort, what thou didst declare,  
what thou didst arrange at Reinmeld?

4           Una þú hâttest · yldost wyrta  
            þú miht wið III · and wið XXX  
            þú miht wiþ attre · and wið on·flyge  
6           þú miht wiþ þâm lâþan · ðe geond lond færð

Un art thou called, oldest of worts;  
thou availest against three and against thirty;  
thou availest against the venom and against the onflier;  
thou availest against the loathsome one that journeys through the lands.

8           + Ond þú weg·bráde · wyrta módor  
            éastan opene · innan mihtigu  
            ofer ðy cræte curran · ofer ðy cwéne réodan  
10           ofer ðy brýde brýodedon  
            ofer ðy fearras fnærdon.

And thou, Waybroad, mother of worts, open from the east, mighty from within. Over thee TODO.

8           Eallum þu þon wið·stóde · and wið·stunedest  
            swá ðú wið·stonde attre · and on·flyge  
            and þæm lâðan · þe geond lond fereð.

Them all withstoodest thou then, and stoppedst;  
 so may thou withstand the venom and the onflier,  
 and the loathsome one that journeys through the lands.

8 Stune hætte þeos wýrt, · héo on stâne ge·weox  
 stond héo wið attre, · stunað héo wærce  
 Stiðe héo hatte, · wið·stunað héo attre  
 10 wreceð héo wrāðan, · weorpeð út attor.

Stun is this wort called, she grew on stone;  
 she withstands venom, she stops aches.  
 Stithe is she called, she stops the venom;  
 she drives away the wroth one, she casts out the venom.

+ Þis is séo wýrt · séo wiþ wýrm ge·feagt  
 8 þeos mæg wið attre, · héo mæg wið on·flyge;  
 héo mæg wið ðām lāpan · ðe geond lond fereþ.

This is the wort that fought against the Wýrm;  
 this one avails against the venom, she avails against the onflier;  
 she avails against the loathsome one that journeys through the lands.

8 Fleoh þú nú attor-lāðe, · séo lāsse ðá mārān  
 séo mære þā lāssan, · oððæt him beigra bót sý!

TODO

8 Ge·myne þú, mægðe, · hwæt þú á·meldodest  
 hwæt ðú ge·ændadest · æt Alor·forda  
 10 þæt náfne for ge·floge · feorh ne ge·sealde  
 syþðan him mon mægðan · tú mete ge·gyrede

TODO

8 Þis is séo wýrt · ðe wer-gulu hatte  
 ðás on·sænde seolh · ofer sæs hrygc  
 ondan attres · óþres tó bóte

TODO



Ðás VIII magon · wið nygon attrum.

These nine avail against nine venoms.

8 + Wýrm côm snícan, · to·slât hé man  
 8 ðá ge·nam Wóden · VIII wuldor·tânas  
 slóh ðá þá næddran · þæt héo on VIII tó·fléah  
 10 þær ge·ændade æppel · and attor  
 þæt héo næfre ne wolde · on hús búgan.

A Wýrm came crawling; he tore apart a man.  
 Then took Weden nine glory-twigs,  
 slew then that adder, that it sprung into nine [parts].  
 There ended apple and venom,  
 that she would never wish to enter a house.

8 + Fille and finule, · fela-mihtigu twá  
 8 þá wyrte ge·sceop · wítig drihten  
 hâlig on heofonum, · þá hé hongode  
 10 sette and sænde · on VII worulde  
 earmum and éadigum · eallum tó bóte

Fill and Fennel, the many-mighty two;  
 those worts shaped the wise lord,  
 holy in heaven, when he hung.  
 He set and sent them into seven worlds,  
 for wretched men and for wealthy, for all men as a cure.

8 Stond héo wið wærce, · stunað héo wið attru  
 8 séo mæg wið III · and wið XXX  
 wið [féondes] hond · and wið færbregde  
 10 wið malscrunge · manra wihta

She stands against ache, she stands against venom; she avails against three and against thirty;  
 against

---

8 wið III and wið XXX ‘against three and against thirty’ | Formulaic; an uncountable amount; “snakes” are probably understood. This oral formula appears in many folk ballads, viz. (Child) 4EFG, 18B, 20C, 30, 53BCDEIKM, 63EFH, 73I, 97AC, 100AG, 110BGH, 156G, 185A, 187A, 187C, 190A, 192A, 193B, 203C, 211A, 217GHLN, 244A, 268A, 269C, 281ABC. Things described include horses, heads of cattle, warriors, days, years, winters.

+ Nu magon þás VIII wyrta · wið nygon wuldor-ge·flogenum

8           wið VIII attrum · and wið nygon on·flygnum  
             wið ðý réadan attre, · wið ðý runlan attre  
 10          wið ðý hwitan attre, · wið ðý [hæwe]nan attre  
             wið ðý geolwan attre, · wið ðý grénan attre  
 12          wið ðý wonnan attre, · wið ðý wedenan attre  
             wið ðý brúnan attre, · wið ðý basewan attre  
 14          wið wýrm-ge·blæd, · wið wæter-ge·blæd  
             wið þorn-ge·blæd, · wið þystel-ge·blæd  
 16          wið ýs-ge·blæd, · wið attor-ge·blæd

Now these nine worts avail against glory-onfliers:  
 against nine venoms and against nine onfliers;  
 against the red venom; against the TODO venom;  
 against the white venom; against the TODO venom;  
 against the yellow venom; against the green venom;  
 against the TODO venom; against the TODO venom;  
 against the brown venom; against the TODO venom;  
 against worm-TODO; against water-TODO;  
 against thorn-TODO; against thistle-TODO;  
 against ice-TODO; against venom-TODO.

8           Gif ænig attor cume · éastan fleógan  
             oððe ænig norðan cume  
             oððe ænig westan · ofer wer-ðeóde

If any venom should come flying from the east;  
 or any come from the north;  
 or any from the west, over mankind.

8           + Críst stód ofer ádle · ængan cundes  
             Ic âna wât · éa rinnende  
             þær þá nygon nædran · néan be·healdað

Christ stood over TODO;  
 I know one river running,  
 there the nine adders TODO.

8           Motan ealle wéoda · nu wýrtum á·springan  
             sæs tó·slúpan, · eal sealt wæter  
             ðonne ic þis attor · of ðé ge·bláwe

TODO

- P1**      Mucgwyr̥t, weg-brade þe eastan open sy, lombes-cyrse, attor-laðan, mageðan,  
2      netelan, wudu-sur-æppel, fille and finul, ealde sapan. Ge·wyr̥c ða wyr̥ta to  
duste, mængc wiþ þa sapan and wiþ þæs æpples gor.

TODO.

- P2**      Wyr̥c slypan of wætere and of axsan, ge·nim finol, wyl on þære slyppan and  
2      beþe mid æggemongc, þonne he þa sealfe on do, ge ær ge æfter.

TODO.

- P3**      Sing þæt galdor on æcre þara wyr̥ta, :III: ær he hy wyr̥ce and on þone æppel  
2      eal-swa; ond singe þon men in þone muð and in þa earan buta and on ða  
wunde þæt ilce gealdor, ær he þa sealfe on do :.

TODO.

---



Old Norse galders



# The Ribe galder stick (DR EM85;493)

**Dating:** Medieval.

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law, Galders-law*

A wooden stick from the Danish city of Ribe. The galder is syncretic, and as such contains numerous pre-Christian elements, albeit in a Christian(ised) context.

The inscription may be conveniently divided into four parts. Part one (ll. 1–4) contains an introductory prayer where the healer asks for the support of natural forces (Earth, Up-heaven and the Sun) and Christian divinities (God and Saint Mary), that the healing may be successful. Part two (ll. 5–8) ritually exorcises any sickness which may have entered any part of the body. Part three (ll. 9–14) apparently warns the addressee that they will be haunted by “nine needs” (an old Heathen formula; see Note) until they pray. Part four (ll. 15, which is probably prose) gives the personal name “Bonde”, perhaps the addressee, and concludes with an “Amen”.

---

2 Jorð bið ak varðe · ok up-himēn  
sól ok santę María · ok salfēn Guð dróttēn  
þet hann lē mik lēknēs-hand · ok lyf-tunge  
4 at lyfę bifjandę · þer bótę þarf.

I bid earth to ward, and up-heaven,  
the sun and saint Mary, and the very lord God,  
that he lend me a leecher's hand and medicine-tongue,  
as medicine for the trembler who needs a cure.

2 Ór bak ok ór bryst  
ór líkę ok ór lim  
ór ôvęn ok ór ôręn  
4 ór allę þe þer illt kann í at kumę.

Out of back and out of breast!  
Out of body and out of limb!  
Out of eyes and out of ears!  
Out of everything, where evil which might come in!

Svart hétur stênn · han stér í hafę úte,  
2 þer liggur á þé níu nauðer;  
þer skule hverki sötęn sofę;  
4 ęð varmęn vakę;  
förr ęn þú þessa bót biðer, þer ak orð at kvęðę.

Swart is a stone called, he stands out in the ocean.

There lie on it nine needs.

They will not sleep sweetly

nor wake warmly,

until thou prayest this cure

to which I have given the words.

---



# The Canterbury Galder

**Dating:** c. 1075

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

This Old Norse galder is found in the Anglo-Saxon manuscript Cotton Caligula A XV. It runs across the bottom margin of the two facing pages 123v and 124r and is written in very clear runes of Wiking Age long-stave type. One rune, viz. **g** in **vigi** *vegi* ‘smite’ is “stung”. The text has no word separators.

The galder is very similar to those on the amulets from Sigtuna (U Fv1933;134, U NOR1998;25) below. They all belong to a type of magical healing where an illness-causing devil is commanded to leave the suffering person. The final line, *viðr áðra-vari* ‘against pus of veins’ is probably a declaration of purpose.

---

2           Gyrils sár-þvara!  
            F̥ar-ð̥u nú, · f̥undinn es-tu!  
            Þórr vegi þik · þursa dróttinn!  
4           Jórls sár-þvara!  
            Viðr áðra-vari.

O Gyrel's wound-borer!  
Go thou now; found art thou!  
May Thunder smite thee, O lord of Thurses!  
O Erel's wound-borer!  
Against pus of veins.

---



# Sigtuna Rib

## (*U NOR1998;25*)

**Dating:** c. 1100

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

TODO: Introduction.

---

Jórls **v**rið, ... **v**aksna úr Króki!  
2      **B**att han riðu · **b**arði hann riðu,  
auk **s**íða **s**arð · **s**ára rann.  
4      Vara hafir **f**ullt **f**engit; · **f**lý braut, riða!

O Erel's trembling, grow out of Crook!  
He bound the fever; he beat the fever,  
and thereafter sodomised(?) the house of wounds.  
The pus has he fully caught—fly away, fever!

---



# Sigtuna Plate I

## (*U Fv1933;134*)

**Dating:** C11th

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

TODO: Introduction

---

2        Þurs sár-riðu, • þursa dróttinn;  
      fliu þú nú • fundinn es!  
      Af þér þríar þráar, ulfr;  
4        af þér níu nœðir, ulfr!  
      Efir þessi sér, auk es unir ulfr.  
6        Niut lyfja!

O thurse of the wound-fever, O lord of Thurses;  
fly thou now; found art thou!  
Have for thee three yearnings, O wolf!  
Have for thee nine needs, O wolf!  
He has this for himself, and the wolf is content.  
Benefit from the medicine!

---



# Galders from Bryggen

Several galders or magical inscriptions are part of the cache of medieval rune-inscribed objects found at Bryggen in the city of Bergen, Norway. For simplicity's sake, they are here listed in ascending order of their runological numbers.

## B 257

**Dating:** c. 1335

**Meter:** *Galders-law*

A stick inscribed on four planed sides. Part of the stick is broken off, which renders the text incomplete. The inscription is clearly a “love-charm” (that is, a piece of sexually coercive magic), addressed—as shown by the feminine dative *sjalfri þér* ‘thy self’ on side D—to a woman. The language closely resembles that of *Shir* 36, in which Shirner, Free’s servant, threatens to carve a runic inscription which will curse the ettin-woman Gird with *ęrgi* ‘queerness, degeneracy’, *óði* ‘madness’, and *óþoli* ‘restlessness, impatience’ unless she sleep with his master. It seems that we are here dealing with just such a surviving runic curse, and that *Shir* 36 is reflecting an authentic form of Norse “love magic” (for it is unlikely that the present inscription should derive directly from that poem) by which a woman is cursed with sexual restlessness until she succumb to the will of the male curser.

A more distant parallel may be seen in the curse-formula found on the two C7th runic inscriptions from Stentoft and Björketorp (see TODO), wherein the destroyer of the respective monuments is cursed to become *herma-lauser argjú* ‘restless (a different root from *óþoli* above!) with queerness’, i.e. ‘incessantly randy’.

Side D ends with a string of fake-Latin gibberish, a clear sign of Christian syncretic influence on the Old Norse-Germanic magical tradition.

A     Ríst ek bót-rúnar · ríst ek bjarg-rúnar  
2             ein-falt við ęlfum  
             tví-falt við trollum  
4             þrí-falt við þursum

I carve cure-runes, I carve rescue-runes:  
onefold against elves,

twofold against trolls,  
threefold against thurses.

**B** Við inni skóðu · skag-val-kyrju  
2 svá't ei megi · þó-at é vili  
lé-vís kona · lífi þínu *granda*.

Against the scatheful shag-walkirrie,  
so that she may not—though she always wants to—  
that guile-wise woman—harm thy life.

**C** Ek sendir þér · ek sé á þér  
2 ylgjar ergi · ok ó·þola;  
á þér hríni ó·þoli · ok jøtuns móðr;  
4 sit-tu aldri, · sop-tu aldri.

I send to thee, I see on thee  
a she-wolf's queerness and restlessness;  
may restlessness stick on thee, and an ettin's wrath!  
Never sit, never sleep!

**D** Ant mér sem sjalfri þér.  
2 †Beirist rubus rabus et arantabus laus abus rosa gava†

Love me like thy self.

...

2 †Beirist rubus rabus et arantabus laus abus rosa gava† '...' | Latin-like gibberish.

## B 380

**Dating:** ?

**Meter:** *Galders-law*

A short little charm explicitly invoking the two most important Heathen Gods, **Thunder** and **Weden**. The inscription postdates the official conversion of Norway by over a hundred years, and it is an open question whether the two mentioned gods were still seen in a good light or whether they had already been assimilated into the Catholic system of demons and devils. This question is important since it determines the context of the letter: was it well-wishing, assuming that the receiver was of like mind to the sender, or did he have more sinister intent than the first line lets



on? Judging from the first line, and from the half-Heathen contents of many other inscriptions found at Bryggen (some from as late as the C14th), I see it as crypto-Heathen.

2

---

Hęill sé þú · ok í hugum góðum;

Þórr þik þiggi,

Óðinn þik ęigi.

May thou be hale and in good spirits;  
may Thunder receive thee,  
may Weden own thee.

---

<sup>1</sup> Hęill sé þú · ok í hugum góðum ‘May thou be hale and in good spirits’ | A formulaic greeting. The very same line is found in *Hyme* 41; see note there for parallels.

<sup>3</sup> Óðinn þik ęigi ‘may Weden own thee’ | See note to *Wsp* 23.

---



## Poetry on Christian Subjects



# Old Saxon Baptismal Vow

**Dating:** ?  
**Meter:** Prose.

While not an alliterative poem in the slightest, this short text is important for its mention of Saxon Heathen Gods, and as I have no section for Miscellanea, I have here set it first among the Christian poetry, in order to give relevant cultural context. The format of the text is straightforward and resembles the modern Catholic questions asked to participants during the Sacrament of Confirmation (TODO: reference). The person to be baptised is to respond positively to three denying and three affirming questions; first to forsake the Devil (P1), all “Devil-yields” (i.e. non-Christian rituals, see note to that word) (P2), and all the Devil’s “works and words” and his followers, among which are listed the three Germanic-Saxon gods Thunder, Woden, and Saxneet (P3); and then to profess belief in each member of the Trinity: God the almighty father (P4), Christ God’s son (P5), and the Holy Ghost (P6).

---

**P1** „For·sachistu diobole?“ et respondeat: „ec for·sacho diobole“

“Forsakest thou the Devil?” *and he should respond:* “I forsake the Devil.”

**P2** „end allum diobol-gelde?“ respondeat: „end ec for·sacho allum diobol-gelde.“  
2

“And all devil-yields?” *he should respond:* “I forsake all devil-yields.”

---

**1** diobol-gelde ‘devil-yields’ | An obvious calque of OE TODO, which means TODO.

**P3** „End allum dioboles wercum?“ respondeat „end ec for·sacho allum dioboles  
2 wercum and wordum, Thuner ende Wóden ende Sax-nôte ende allem them  
un·holdum the hira ge·nôtas sint.“

“And all the Devil’s works” *he should respond:* “and I forsake all the works and words of the Devil; Thunder and Woden and Saxneet and all those unhold ones who are their fellows.”

**P4** „Ge·lôbistu in Got ala-męhtigun fader?“ „Ec ge·lôbo in Got ala-męhtigun  
2 fader.“

“Believest thou in God, the almighty father?” “I believe in God, the almighty father.”

**P5** „Ge·lôbistu in Crist Godes suno?“ „Ec ge·lôbo in Crist Gotes suno.“

“Believest thou in Christ, God’s son?” “I believe in Christ, God’s son.”

**P6** „Ge·lôbistu in hâlogan gâst?“ „Ec ge·lôbo in hâlogan gâst.“

“Believest thou in the Holy Ghost?” “I believe in the Holy Ghost.”

---

# Heliand

**Dating:** 830s

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

Very much a work in progress.

The following is a complete list of source manuscripts, in chronological order.

| Siglum   | Date     | Lines | Full name                           |
|----------|----------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>L</i> | 840–850  | TODO  | (Thomas 4073 (Ms))                  |
| <i>P</i> | 840–850  | TODO  | (R 56/2537 (PA))                    |
| <i>V</i> | 800–850  | TODO  | (Palatini Latini 1447)              |
| <i>S</i> | 850      | TODO  | (cgm. 8840)                         |
| <i>M</i> | 850–875  | TODO  | (cgm. 25)                           |
| <i>C</i> | 950–1000 | TODO  | (Cotton Caligula A. VII sign. 3-11) |

The two main manuscripts of the poem are M and C. Fragments L and P appear to originally belong to the same codex; they are identical in terms of handwriting and page layout.

Notes on the normalization:

- Long vowels are marked by the acute rather than by the circumflex accent or macron. This is both faithful to the original manuscripts and concordant with my practice in normalising other Germanic languages.
  - Long vowels *ê* and *ô* resulting from monophthongisation of diphthongs *ai* and *au* are, however, written with the circumflex accent. That these were in fact articulated separately is seen by the following circumstance: in the mss. etymological *é* and *ó* are frequently written as *ie* and *uo*, but this is never done for *ê* and *ô*.
  - When attested in all mss., epenthetic (svarabhakti) vowels are marked with an underdot. Otherwise they are deleted.
  - Long vowels resulting from nasal assimilation are marked with an overdot. *i* is written as *ĩ*.
  - ms. *e* and *i*, when occurring between vowels are written as *j*.
  - ms. *i*, when word-initial or following *g* and corresponding to etymological *j* is written as *j*.
  - ms. *e* as resulting from *i*-mutation is written as *ē*.
  - ms. *b* or *ḃ*, when representing the voiced bilabial fricative, is written as *v*.
  - ms. *th* is written as *þ*.
  - ms. *uu* is written as *w*.
-

1 Manega wáron, · þe sia iro **mód** ge·spón,  
 2 þat sia bi·gunnun word godes,  
 3 **rękkjan** þat gi·**rúni**, · þat þie **ríkjo** Krist  
 4 undar **man**-kunnja · **máriða** gi·frumida  
 5 mid **wordun** ęndi mid **werkun**. · Þat wolda þó **wísara** filo  
 6 **liudo** barno **lovon**, · **lêra** Kristes,  
 7 **hêlag** word godas, · ęndi mid iro **handon** skrívan  
 8 **beręht**-líko an **buok**, · hwó sia is gi·**bod**-skip skoldin  
 9 **frummjan**, **firiho** barn. · Þan wárun þoh sia **fiori** te þiu  
 10 under þera **męnigo**, · þia habdon **maht** godes,  
 11 **helpa** fan **himila**, · **hêlagna** gęst,  
 12 **kraft** fan **Kriste**; · sia wurðun gi·**korana** te þio,  
 13 þat sie þan **Éwangelium** · **ênan** skoldun  
 14 an **buok** skrívan · endo só manag gi·**bod** godes,  
 15 **hêlag** **himilisk** word: · sia ne muosta **hęliðo** þan mēr,  
 16 **firiho** barno **frummjan**, · newan þat sia **fiori** te þio  
 17 þuru **kraft** godas · ge·**korana** wurðun,  
 18 **Matheus** ęndi **Markus**, · —só wárun þia **man** hêtana—  
 19 **Lukas** ęndi **Johannes**; · sia wárun **gode** lieva,  
 20 **wirðiga** ti þem gi·**wirkje**. · Habda im **waldand** god,  
 21 þem **hęliðon** an iro **hertan** · **hêlagna** gęst  
 22 **fasto** bi·**folhan** · ęndi **ferąhtan** hugi,  
 23 só manag **wís**-lík **word** · ęndi gi·**wit** mikil,  
 24 þat sea skoldin a·**hębbjan** · **hêlagaro** stemnun  
 25 **god**-spell þat **guoda**, · þat ni havit ênigan gi·**gadon** hwęrgin,  
 26 þiu **word** an þesaro **wer**-oldi, · þat io **waldand** mēr,  
 27 **drohtin** **diurje** · efþo **dervi** þing,  
 28 **firin**-werk **fęllje** · efþo **fiundo** nið,  
 29 **stríd** wiðer·**stande**—, · hwand hie habda **starkan** hugi,  
 30 **mildjan** ęndi **guodan**, · þie þe **mêster** was,  
 31 **aðal**-ord-frumo · **alo**-mahtig.  
 32 Þat skoldun sea **fiori** · þuo **fingron** skrívan,  
 33 **sęttjan** ęndi **singan** · ęndi **sęggjan** forð,  
 34 þat sea fan **Kristes** · **krafte** þem mikilon  
 35 gi·**sáhun** ęndi gi·**hôrdun**, · þes hie **selvo** gi·sprak,  
 36 gi·**wísda** ęndi gi·**warąhta**, · **wundar**-líkas filo,  
 37 só **manag** mid **mannon** · **mahtig** drohtin,  
 38 all so hie it fan þem **an**-ginne · þuru is **ênes** kraht,  
 39 **waldand** gi·sprak, · þuo hie êrist þesa **wer**-old gi·skuop  
 40 ęndi þuo **all** bi·fieng · mid **ênu** wordo,



himil ęndi erđa · ęndi al þat sea bi·hlidan ęgun  
 42 gi·warāhtes ęndi gi·wahsanēs: · þat warđ þuo all mid wordon godas  
 fasto bi·fangan, · ęndi gi·frumid after þiu,  
 44 hwi-lik þan liud-skepī · landes skoldi  
 wīdost gi·waldan, · efþo hwar þiu wer-old-alдар  
 46 ęndon skoldin. · Ên was iro þuo noh þan  
 firiho barnun bi·foran, · ęndi þiu fivi wārun a·gangan:  
 48 skolda þuo þat sehsta · sálig-liko  
 kuman þuru kraft godes · ęndi Kristas gi·burd,  
 50 hêlandero bęstan, · hêlagas gêstes,  
 an þesan middil-gard · managon te helpun,  
 52 firjo barnon ti frumon · wiđ fiundo níđ,  
 wiđ dęrnero dwalm. · Þan habda þuo drohtin god  
 54 Rómano-liudjon far·liwan · ríkjo mēsta,  
 habda þem hęri-skipje · herta gi·stęrkid,  
 56 þat sia habdon bi·þwungana · þiedo gi·hwi-lika,  
 habdun fan Rúmu-burg · ríki gi·wunнан  
 58 helm-gi·trôstjon, · sáton iro hęri-togon  
 an lando gi·hwem, · habdun liudjo gi·wald,  
 60 allon ęli-þeodon. · Erodes was  
 an Jerusalem · over þat Judeono folk  
 62 gi·kora te kunge, · só ina þie kēser þarod,  
 fon Rúmu-burg · ríki þiodan  
 64 satta undar þat gi·sīđi. · Hie ni was þoh mid sibbjon bi·lang  
 avaron Israheles, · ęđili-gi·burdi,  
 66 kuman fon iro knuosle, · newan þat hie þuru þes kēsure þank  
 fan Rúmu-burg · ríki habda,  
 68 þat im wārun só gi·hōriga · hildi-skalkos,  
 avaron Israheles · ęlljan-ruova:  
 70 swīđo un·wanda wini, · þan lang hie gi·wald êhta,  
 Erodes þes ríkjas · ęndi rád-burdjon held  
 72 Judeo liudi. · Þan was þar ên gi·gamalod mann,  
 þat was fruod gomo, · habda feręhtan hugi,  
 74 was fan þem liudjon · Lewias kunnes,  
 Jakobas sunjas, · guodero þiedo:  
 76 Zakharias was hie hêtan. · Þat was só sálig man,  
 hwand hie simblon gerno · gode þeonoda,  
 78 warāhta after is willjon; · deda is wíf só self  
 —was iro gi·aldrod idis: · ni muosta im ęrvi-ward  
 80 an iro juguđ-hêdi · giviđig werđan—

libdun im far·úter **laster**, · waruhtun **lof** goda,  
 82 wárun só gi·**h**ôriga · **hevan**-kuninge,  
 diuridon úsan **drohtin**: · ni weldun **d**êrvjas wiht  
 84 under **man**-kunnje, · **m**ênes gi·frummjan,  
 ne \***s**aka ne **sundja**; · was im þoh an **sorgun** hugi,  
 86 þat sie **ę**rvi-ward · **ę**gan ni móstun,  
 ak wárun im **bar**no-lôs. · Þan skolda hé gi·**bod** godes  
 88 þar an **J**erusalem, · só oft só is gi·**g**ęngi gi·stód,  
 þat ina **torht**-líko · **tí**di gi·manodun,  
 90 só skolda hé at þem **wí**ha · **wald**andes geld  
**h**êlag bi·**h**wervan, · **hevan**-kuninges,  
 92 **godes** jungar-skępi: · **g**ern was hé swíðo,  
 þat hé it þurh **ferht**an hugi · **frummjan** mósti.  
 94 2 Þó warð þiu **tí**d kuman, · —þat þar gi·**tald** habdun  
**wí**sa man mid **wor**dun,— · þat skolda þana **wí**h godes  
 96 **Zakharias** bi·**sehan**. · Þó warð þar gi·**sam**nod filu  
 þar te **J**erusalem · **J**udeo liudi,  
 98 **werodes** te þem **wí**ha, · þar sie **wald**and god  
 swíðo þeo·líko · þiggjan skoldun,  
 100 **h**êrron is **hul**di, · þat sie **hevan**-kuning  
**l**êðes a·**l**éti. · Þea liudi stódu  
 102 umbi þat **h**êlaga **hús**, · ęndi géng im þe gi·**h**êrodo man  
 an þana **wí**h innan. · Þat **werod** ôðar béd  
 104 umbi þana **alah** **ú**tan, · **E**breo liudi,  
 hwan êr þe **fró**do man · gi·frumid habdi  
 106 **wald**andes **will**jon. · Só hé þó þana **wí**-rôk dróg,  
**ald** aftar þem **alaha**, · ęndi umbi þana **altari** géng  
 108 mid is **rôk**-fatun · **rík**jun þionon,  
 —**fr**ęmida **ferht**-líko · **fráon** sínes,  
 110 **godes** jungar-skępi · **g**erno swíðo  
 mid **hluttru** **hugi**, · \*só man **h**êrren skal  
 112 **g**erno ful-**g**angan—, · **grurjos** kwámun im,  
**ęgison** an þem **alahe**: · hie gi·sah þar aftar þiu ênna **ęngil** godes  
 114 an þem **wí**he innan, · hie sprak im mid is **wor**dun tuo,  
 hiet þat **fruod** gumo · **for**øht ni wári,  
 116 hiet þat hie im ni an·**driede**: · þína **dá**di sind“, kwat-hie\*,  
 „**wald**anda **werðe** · ęndi þín **wor**d só self,  
 118 þín þionost is im an þanke, · þat þú su·lika gi·þáht haves  
 an is **ę**nes kraft. · Ik is **ęngil** bium,  
 120 **Gabriel** bium ik hêtan, · þe gio for **goda** standu,

and-ward for þem alo-waldon, · ne sí þat hé me an is ârundi hwarod  
 122 sēndjan willja. · Nu hiet hé me an þesan sið faran,  
 hiet þat ik þi þoh gi·küðdi, · þat þi kind gi·boran,  
 124 fon þinera alderu idis · ôðan skoldi  
 werðan an þesero wer-oldi, · wordun spáhi.  
 126 Þat ni skal an is liva gio · liðes an·bítan,  
 wínes an is wer-oldi: · só haved im wurd-gi·skapu,  
 128 metod gi·markod · ęndi maht godes.  
 Hét þat ik þi þoh sagdi, · þat it skoldi gi·sið wesan  
 130 hevan-kuninges, · hét þat git it heldin wel,  
 tuhin þurh trewa, · kwað þat hé im tíras só filu  
 132 an godes ríkja · for·gevan weldi.  
 Hé kwað þat þe gódo gumo · Johannes te namon  
 134 hebbjan skoldi, · gi·bôð þat git it hétin só,  
 þat kind, þan it kwámi, · kwað þat it Kristes gi·sið  
 136 an þesaro wíðun wer-old · werðan skoldi,  
 is selves sunjes, · ęndi kwað þat sie sliumo herod  
 138 an is bod-skępi · bêðe kwámin.“  
 Zakharias þó gi·mahalda · ęndi wið selvan sprak  
 140 drohtines ęngil, · ęndi im þero dádjo bi·gan,  
 wundron þero wordo: · „hwó mag þat gi·werðan só“, kwað hé,  
 142 „aftar an aldre? · it is unk al te lat  
 só te gi·winnanne, · só þú mid þínun wordun gi·sprikis.  
 144 Hwanda wit habdun aldres · êr efno twên-tig  
 wintro an unkro wer-oldi, · êr þan kwámi þit wíf te mí;  
 146 þan wárun wit nu at·samna · ant·sivunta wintro  
 gi·bęnkjon ęndi gi·będdjon, · siðor ik sie mí te brúdi ge·kôs.  
 148 Só wit þes an unkro juguði · gi·gírnan ni mohtun,  
 þat wit ęrvi-ward · êgan móstin,  
 150 fódjan an unkun flęttja, · nu wit sus gi·fródod sint  
 —havad unk ęldi bi·noman · ęlljan-dádi,  
 152 þat wit sint an unkro siuni gi·slekit · ęndi an unkun sídun lat;  
 flêsk is unk ant·fallan, · fel un·skôni,  
 154 is unka lud gi·liðen, · lík gi·drusnod,  
 sind unka and-bári · ôðar-líkaron,  
 156 mód ęndi megin-kraft—, · só wit giu só managan dag  
 wárun an þesero wer-oldi, · só mí þes wundar þunkit,  
 158 hwó it só gi·werðan mugi, · só þú mid þínun wordun gi·sprikis.  
 3 Þó warð þat heven-kuninges bodon · harm an is móde,  
 160 þat hé is gi·werkes · só wundron skolda

162      ɛndi þat ni welda gi·huggjan, · þat ina mahta hêlag god  
 só ala-jungan, · só hé fon êrist was,  
 selvo gi·wirkjan, · of hé só weldi.  
 164      Skęřida im þó te wítja, · þat hé ni mahte ênig word sprekan,  
 gi·mahljen mid is müðu, · „êr þan þi magu wirðid,  
 166      fon þínero aldero idis · erl a·fódit,  
 kind-jung gi·boran · kunnjes gódes,  
 168      wánum te þesero wer-oldi. · Þan skalt þú eft word sprekan,  
 hębbjan þínaro stemna gi·wald; · ni þarft þú stum wesan  
 170      lęngron hwíla.“ · Þó warð it sán gi·lêstid só,  
 gi·worðan te wáron, · só þar an þem wíha gi·sprak  
 172      ęngil þes alo-waldon: · warð ald gumo  
 spráka bi·lôsit, · þoh hé spáhan hugi  
 174      bári an is breostun. · Bidun allan dag  
 þat werod for þem wíha · ɛndi wundrodun alla,  
 176      bi·hwí hé þar só lango, · lof-sálig man,  
 swíðo fród gumo · fráon sínun  
 178      þionon þorfti, · só þar êr ênig þegno ni deda,  
 þan sie þar at þem wíha · waldandes geld  
 180      folmon frumidun. · Þó kwam fród gumo  
 út fon þem alaha. · Erlos þrungun  
 182      náhor mikilu: · was im niud mikil,  
 hwat hé im sôð-líkes · sęggjan weldi,  
 184      wísjan te wáron. · hé ni mohta þó ênig word sprekan,  
 gi·sęggjan þem gi·siðja, · b·útan þat hé mid is swiðron hand  
 186      wísda þem weroda, · þat sie úses waldandes  
 lêra lêstin. · Þea liudi for·stódun,  
 188      þat hé þar habda gegnungo · god-kundes hwat  
 for·sehen selvo, · þoh hé is ni mahti gi·sęggjan wiht,  
 190      gi·wísjan te wáron. · Þó habda hé úses waldandes  
 geld gi·lêstid, · al só is gi·gęngi was  
 192      gi·markod mid mannun. · Þó warð sán aftar þiu maht godes,  
 gi·küðid is kraft mikil: · warð þiu kwán ôkan,  
 194      idis an ira ɛldju: · skolda im ɛrvi-ward,  
 swíðo god-kund gumo · giviðig werðan,  
 196      barn an burgun. · Bêd aftar þiu  
 þat wíf wurdi-gi·skapu. · Skrêd þe wintar forð,  
 198      gęng þes gęres gi·tal. · Johannes kwam  
 an liudjo lioht: · lík was im skôni,  
 200      was im fel fagar, · fahs ɛndi naglos,

202 wangun wárun im wlitige. · Þó fórun þar wíse man,  
 snelle te·samne, · þea swásostun mêt,  
 204 wundrodun þes werkes, · bi·hwí it gio mahti gi·werðan só,  
 þat undar só aldun twêm · ôðan wurði  
 206 barn an gi·burðjon, · ni wári þat it gi·bod godes  
 selves wári: · af·suovun sie garo,  
 þat it elkor só wán-lík · werðan ni mahti.  
 208 Þó sprak þar ên gi·fródot man, · þe só filo konsta  
 wísaro wordo, · habde gi·wit mikil,  
 210 frágode niud-líko, · hwat is namo skoldi  
 wesan an þesaro wer-oldi: · „mi þunkid an is wísu gi·lík  
 212 iak an is gi·bárja, · þat hé sí bētare þan wi,  
 só ik wániu, þat ina ùs gegnungo · god fon himila  
 214 selvo sēndi“. · Þó sprak sán aftar  
 þiu móðar þes kindes, · þiu þana magu habda,  
 216 þat barn an ire barme: · „hér kwam gi·bod godes“, kwað siu,  
 „fernun gēre, · furmon wordu  
 218 gi·bôð, þat hé Johannes · bi godes lêrun  
 hētan skoldi. · Þat ik an mínumu hugi ni gi·dar  
 220 wēndjan mid wihti, · of ik is gi·waldan mót“.  
 Þó sprak ên gēl-hert man, · þe ira gaduling was:  
 222 „ne hét êr io·wiht só“, · kwað hé, „aðal-boranes  
 ùses kunnjes efþo knósles; · wita kiasan im ôðrana  
 224 niud-samna namon: · hé niate of hé móti“.  
 Þó sprak eft þe fródo man, · þe þar konsta filo mahljan:  
 226 „ni givu ik þat te ráde“, · kwað hé, „rinko neg·ênun,  
 þat hé word godes · wēndjan bi·ginna;  
 228 ak wita is þana fader frágon, · þe þar só gi·fródod sitit,  
 wís an is wín-sēli: · þoh hé ni mugi ênig word sprekan,  
 230 þoh mag hé bi bók-stavon · bréf ge·wirkjan,  
 namon gi·skrivan“. · Þó hé náhor géng,  
 232 lēgða im êna bók an barm · ēndi bad gerno  
 wítan wís-líko · word-gi·merkjun,  
 234 hwat sie þat hēlaga barn · hētan skoldin.  
 Þó nam hé þia bók an hand · ēndi an is hugi þáhte  
 236 swíðo gerno te gode: · Johannes namon  
 wís-líko gi·wrêt · ēndi ôk aftar mid is wordu gi·sprak  
 238 swíðo spáh-líko: · habda im eft is spráka gi·wald,  
 gi·wittjas ēndi wísun. · Þat wíti was þó a·gangan,  
 240 hard harm-skare, · þe im hēlag god

mahtig makode, · þat hé an is mód-sevon  
 242 godes ni for·gáti, · þan hé im eft sēndi is jungron tó.  
 4 Þó ni was lang aftar þiu, · ne it al só gi·lêstid warð,  
 244 só hé man-kunnja · managa hwíla,  
 god alo-mahtig · for·geven habda,  
 246 þat hé is himilisk barn · herod te wer-oldi,  
 sí selves sunu · sēndjan weldi,  
 248 te þiu þat hé hér a·lōsdi · al liud-stamna,  
 werod fon wítja. · Þó warð is wis-bodo  
 250 an Galilea-land, · Gabriel kuman,  
 ęngil þes alo-waldon, · þar hé êne idis wisse,  
 252 muni-líka magað: · María was siu hêten,  
 was iru þiorna gi·þigan. · Sea ên þegan habda,  
 254 Joseph gi·mahlit, · gódes kunnjes man,  
 þea Dawides dohter: · þat was só diur-lík wíf,  
 256 idis ant·hêti. · Þar sie þe ęngil godes  
 an Nazareth-burg · bi namon selvo  
 258 grótte ęgin-warde · ęndi sie fon gode kwēdda:  
 „Hêl wis þú, Maria“, · kwað hé, „þú bist þínun hêrron liof,  
 260 waldande wirðig, · hwand þú gi·wít haves,  
 idis ęnstjo fol. · Þu skalt for allun wesán  
 262 wíwun gi·wíhit. · Ne have þú wêkan hugi,  
 ne forhti þú þínun ferhe: · ne kwam ik þi te ênigun frêson herod,  
 264 ne dragu ik ênig drugi-þing. · Þu skalt úses drohtines wesán  
 módar mid mannun · ęndi skalt þana magu fódjan,  
 266 þes hôhon hevan-kuninges suno. · Þe skal hêljand te namon  
 êgan mid ęldjun. · Neo ęndi ni kumid,  
 268 þes wídon ríkjas gi·wand, · þe hé gi·waldan skal,  
 mári þeodan.“ · Þó sprak im eft þiu magað an·ęgin,  
 270 wið þana ęngil godes · idiso skônjost,  
 allaro wívo wlitigost: · „hwó mag þat gi·werðen só“, kwað siu,  
 272 „þat ik magu fódje? · Ne ik gio mannes ni warð  
 wís an mínara wer-oldi.“ · Þó habde eft is word garu  
 274 ęngil þes alo-waldon · þero idisiu te·ęgnes:  
 „an þi skal hêlag gêst · fon hevan-wange  
 276 kuman þurh kraft godes. · Þanan skal þi kind ôdan  
 werðan an þesaro wer-oldi; · waldandes kraft  
 278 skal þi fon þem hôhoston · hevan-kuninge  
 skadowan mid skimon. · Ni warð skônjera gi·burd,  
 280 ne só mári mid mannun, · hwand siu kumid þurh maht godes

an þese wídon wer-old.“ · Þó warð eft þes wíves hugi  
 282 aftar þem ârundje · al gi·hworven  
 an godes willjon. · „Þan ik hér garu standu“, kwað siu,  
 284 „te su·likun ambaht-skępi, · só hé mi êgan wili.  
 Þiu bium ik þeot-godes. · Nu ik þeses þinges gi·trúon;  
 286 werðe mi aftar þínun wordun, · al só is willjo sí,  
 hêrron mínes; · nis mi hugi twíflī,  
 288 ne word ne wísa.“ · Só gi·fragn ik, þat þat wíf ant·feng  
 þat godes ârundi · gerno swíðo  
 290 mid leohtu hugi · ęndi mid gi·lôvon góðun  
 ęndi mid hluttrun trewun; · warð þe hêlago gêst,  
 292 þat barn an ira bósma; · ęndi siu ira breostun for·stód  
 iak an ire sevon selvo, · sagda þem siu welda,  
 294 þat sie habde gi·ôkana · þes alo-waldon kraft  
 hêlag fon himile. · Þó warð hugi Josepes,  
 296 is mód gi·worrid, · þe im êr þea magað habda,  
 þea idis ant·hêttja, · aðal-knósles wíf  
 298 gi·boht im te brúðju. · hé af·sóf þat siu habda barn undar iru:  
 ni wánda þes mid wihti, · þat iru þat wíf habdi  
 300 gi·wardod só waro·líko: · ni wisse waldandes þó noh  
 blíði gi·bod-skępi. · Ni welda sia imo te brúdi þó,  
 302 halon imo te híwon, · ak bi·gan im þó an hugi þenkjan,  
 hwó hé sie só for·léti, · só iru þar nu wurði lêdes wiht,  
 304 ôðan arvides. · Ni welda sie aftar þiu  
 meldon for męnigi: · antd-réd þat sie manno barn  
 306 lívu bi·námin. · Só was þan þero liudjo þau  
 þurh þen aldon êw, · Ebreo folkes,  
 308 só hwi-lik só þar an un·reht · idis gi·híwida,  
 þat siu simbla þana bed-skępi · buggjan skolda,  
 310 frí mid ira ferhu: · ni was gio þiu fēmja só gód,  
 þat siu mid þem liudun lęng · libbjen mósti,  
 312 wesand undar þem weroda. · Bi·gan im þe wíso mann,  
 swíðo gód gumo, · Joseph an is móða  
 314 þenkjan þero þingo, · hwó hé þea þiornun þó  
 listjun for·léti. · Þó ni was lang te þiu,  
 316 þat im þar an drôma · kwam drohtines ęngil,  
 hevan-kuninges bodo, · ęndi hét sie ina haldan wel,  
 318 minnjon sie an is móde: · „Ni wis þú“, kwað hé, „Mariun wrêð,  
 þiornun þínaro; · siu is gi·þungan wíf;  
 320 ne for·hugi þú sie te hardo; · þú skalt sie haldan wel,

wardon ira an þesaro wer-oldi. · Lêsti þú inka wini-trewa  
 322 forð só þú dádi, · ęndi hald inkan friund-skępi wel!  
 Ne lát þú sie þi þiu lêðaron, · þoh siu undar ira liðon ęgi,  
 324 barn an ira bósma. · It kumid þurh gi·bod godes,  
 hêlages gêstes · fon hevan-wanga:  
 326 þat is Jêsu Krist, · godes ęgan barn,  
 waldandes sunu. · Þu skalt sie wel haldan,  
 328 hêlag-líko. · Ne lát þú þi þinan hugi twífljen,  
 męrrjan þína mód-gi·þáht.“ · Þó warð eft þes mannes hugi  
 330 gi·węndid aftar þem wordun, · þat hé im te þem wíva ge·nam,  
 te þera magað minnja: · ant·ķęnda maht godes,  
 332 waldandes gi·bod; · was im willjo mikil,  
 þat hé sia só hêlag-líko · haldan mósti:  
 334 bi·sorgoda sie an is gi·siðja, · ęndi siu só súvro dróg  
 al te huldi godes · hêlagna gêst,  
 336 gód-líkan gumon, · ant-þat sie godes gi·skapu  
 mahtig gi·manodun, · þat siu ina an manno lioht,  
 338 allaro barno bętst, · brengjan skolda.  
 5 Þó warð fon Rúmu-burg · ríkes mannes  
 340 ovar alla þesa irmin-þiod · Oktawíanas  
 ban ęndi bod-skępi · ovar þea is brêdon gi·wald  
 342 kuman fon þem kêsura · kuningo gi·hwi-likun,  
 hêm-sittjandjun, · só wído só is hęri-togon  
 344 ovar al þat land-skępi · liudjo gi·weldun.  
 Hiet man þat alla þea ęli-lęndjun man · iro óðil sóhtin,  
 346 hęliðos iro hand-mahal · an·gegen iro hêrron bodon,  
 kwámi te þem knósla gi·hwe, · þanan hé kunnjas was,  
 348 gi·boran fon þem burgjun. · Þat gi·bod warð gi·lêstid  
 ovar þesa wídon wer-old; · werod samnoda  
 350 te allaro burgeo gi·hwem. · Fórun þea bodon ovar all,  
 þea fon þem kêsura · kumana wá\*run,  
 352 bók-spáha weros, · ęndi an bréf skrivun  
 swíðo niud-líko · namono gi·hwi-likan,  
 354 ia land ia liudi, · þat im ni mahti a·lęttjan mann  
 gumono su·lika gambra, · só im skolda geldan gi·hwe  
 356 hęliðo fon is hówda. · Þó gi·wêt im ôk mid is híwiska  
 Joseph þe gódo, · só it god mahtig,  
 358 waldand welda: · sóhta im þiu wánamon hêm,  
 þea burg an Bethleem, · þar iro bęiðero was,  
 360 þes hęliðes hand-mahal\* · ęndi ôk þera hêlagun þiornun,



Mariun þera góðun. · Þar was þes mārjon stól  
 362 an êr-dagun, · aðal-kuninges,  
 Dawides þes góðon, · þan langa þe hé þana druht-skēpi þar,  
 364 erl undar Ebreon · êgan mósta,  
 haldan hôh-gi·setu. · Sie wárun is híwiskas,  
 366 kuman fon is knósla, · kunnjas gódes,  
 bêðju bi gi·burdjun. · Þar gi·fragn ik, þat sie þiu berhtun gi·skapu,  
 368 Mariun gi·manodun · \*endi maht godes,  
 þat iru an þem siða · sunu ôðan warð,  
 370 gi·boran an Bethlehem · barno strangost,  
 allaro kuningo kraftigost: · kuman warð þe mārjo,  
 372 mahtig an manno lioht, · só is êr managan dag  
 biliði wárun · endi bôkno filu  
 374 gi·worðen an þesero wer-oldi. · Þó was it all gi·wárod só,  
 só it êr spáha man · gi·sprokan habdun,  
 376 þurh hwi-lik ôð-módi · hé þit erð-ríki herod  
 þurh is selves kraft · sókjan welda,  
 378 managaro mund-boro. · Þó ina þiu módar nam,  
 bi·wand ina mid wáðju · wívo skônjost,  
 380 fagaron fratahun, · endi ina mid iro folmon twê  
 lēgða liov-líko · luttilna man,  
 382 þat kind an êna kribbjun, · þoh hé habdi kraft godes,  
 manno drohtin. · Þar sat þiu módar bi·foran,  
 384 wíf wakogjandi, · war\*doda selvo,  
 held þat hēlaga barn: · ni was ira hugi twíflī,  
 386 þera magað ira mód-sevo. · Þó warð þat managun kûð  
 owar þesa wídon wer-old, · wardos ant·fundun,  
 388 þea þar chu-skalkos · úta wárun,  
 weros an wahtu, · wiggjo gômjan,  
 390 fehas aftar fel\*da: · gi·sáhun finistri an twê  
 te·látan an lufte, · endi kwam lioht godes  
 392 wánum þurh þiu wolkan · endi þea wardos þar  
 bi·fēng an þem felda. · Sie wurðun an forhtun þó,  
 394 þea man an ira móda: · gi·sáhun þar mahtigna  
 godes engil kuman, · þe im te·gēgnes sprak,  
 396 hét þat im þea wardos · wiht ne antd-rédin  
 lēðes fon þem liohta: · „ik skal eu“, kwað hé, „liovara þing,  
 398 swíðo wár-líko · willjon seggjan,  
 kûðjan kraft mikil: · nu is Krist ge·boran  
 400 an þeser\*o selvun naht, · sálíg barn godes,

an þera Dawides burg, · drohtin þe gódo.  
 402 Þat is mēdislo · manno kunnjas,  
 allaro firiho fruma. · Þar gí ina fīðan mugun,  
 404 an Bethlema-burg · barno ríkjost:  
 hebbjad þat te tēkna, · þat ik eu gi·tēlljan mag  
 406 wárun wordun, · þat hé þar bi·wundan ligid,  
 þat kind an ēnera kribbjun, · þoh hé sí kuning ovar al  
 408 erðun ėndi himiles · ėndi ovar ėldjo barn,  
 wer-oldes waldand“. · Reht só hé þó þat word gi·sprak,  
 410 só warð þar ėngilo te þem ēnun · un·rím kuman,  
 hēlag hēri-skēpi · fon hevan-wanga,  
 412 fagaṛ folk godes, · ėndi filu sprákun,  
 lof-word manag · liudjo hērron.  
 414 Af·hóvun þó hēlagna sang, · þó sie eft te hevan-wanga  
 wundun þurh þiu wolkan. · Þea wardos hōrdun,  
 416 hwó þiu ėngilo kraft · alo-mahtigna god  
 swiðo werð-líko · wordun lovodun:  
 418 „diuriða sí nu“, · kwáðun sie, „drohtine selvun  
 an þem hōhoston · himilo ríkja  
 420 ėndi friðu an erðu · firiho barnun,  
 gód-willigun gumun, · þem þe god ant·ķennjad  
 422 þurh hluttran hugi.“ · Þea hirdjo for·stóðun,  
 þat sie mahtig þing · gi·manod habda,  
 424 blíð-lík bod-skēpi: · gi·witun im te Bethleem þanan  
 nahtes siðon; · was im niud mikil,  
 426 þat sie selvon Krist · gi·sehan móstin.  
 6 Habda im þe ėngil godes · al gi·wisid  
 428 torhtun tēknun, · þat sie im tó selvun,  
 te þem godes barne · gangan mahtun,  
 430 ėndi fundun sán · folko drohtin,  
 liudjo hērron. · Sagdun þó lof goda,  
 432 waldande mid iro wordun · ėndi wído kúðdun  
 ovar þea berhtun burg, · hwi-lik im þar biliði warð  
 434 fon hevan-wanga · hēlag gi·tôgit,  
 fagaṛ an felde. · Þat frí al bi·held  
 436 an ira hugi-skēftjun, · hēlag þiorna,  
 þiu magað an ira móde, · só hwat só siu gi·hōrda þea mann sprekan.  
 438 Fódða ina þó fagaṛo · frího skânjosta,  
 þiu módar þurh minnja · managaro drohtin,  
 440 hēlag himilisk barn. · hēliðos gi·sprákun

an þem ahtodon daga · erlos managa,  
 442 swiðo glawa gumon · mid þera godes þiornun,  
 þat hé hêljand te namon · hêbbjan skoldi,  
 444 só it þe godes engil · Gabriel gi·sprak  
 wáron wordun · ęndi þem wíve gi·bôd,  
 446 bodo drohtines, · þó siu êrist þat barn ant·fêng  
 wánum te þesero wer-oldi; · was iru willjo mikil,  
 448 þat siu ina só hêlag-líko · haldan mósti,  
 ful-géng im þó só gerno. · Þat gēr furðor skrêd  
 450 unt-þat þat friðu-barn godes · fiar-tig habda  
 dago ęndi nahto. · Þó skoldun sie þar êna dád frummjan,  
 452 þat sie ina te Jerusalem · for·gevan skoldun  
 waldanda te þem wíha. · Só was iro wísa þan,  
 454 þero liudjo land-sidu, · þat þat ni mósta for·látan ne-gên  
 idis undar Ebreon, · ef iru at êrist warð  
 456 sunu a·fódit, · ne siu ina simbla þarod  
 te þem godes wíha · for·gevan skolda.  
 458 Gi·witun im þó þiu góðun twê, · Joseph ęndi Maria  
 bêðju fon Bethleem: · habdun þat barn mid im,  
 460 hêlagna Krist, · sóhtun im hús godes  
 an Jerusalem; · þar skoldun sie is geld frummjan  
 462 waldanda at þem wíha · wísa lêtjan  
 Judeo folkes. · Þar fundun sea ênna góðan man  
 464 aldan at þem alaha, · aðal-boranan,  
 þe habda at þem wíha só filu · wintro ęndi sumaro  
 466 gi·libd an þem liohta: · oft warhta hé þar lof goda  
 mid hluttru hugi; · habda im hêlagna gêt,  
 468 sálig-líkan sevon; · Simeon was hé hêtan.  
 Im habda gi·wísid · waldandas kraft  
 470 langa hwíla, · þat hé ni mósta êr þit lioht a·gevan,  
 węndjan af þesero wer-oldi, · êr þan im þe willjo gi·stódi,  
 472 þat hé selvan Krist · gi·sehan mósti,  
 hêlagna hevan-kuning. · Þó warð im is hugi swiðo  
 474 blíði an is briostun, · þó hé gi·sah þat barn kuman  
 an þena wíh innan. · Þuo sagða hie waldande þank,  
 476 al-mahtigon gode, · þes hé ina mid is ôgun gi·sah.  
 Géng im þó te·gęgnes · ęndi ina gerno ant·fêng  
 478 ald mid is armun: · al ant·kęnde  
 bôkan ęndi blíði · ęndi ôk þat barn godes,  
 480 hêlagna hevan-kuning. · „Nu ik þi, hêrro, skal“, kwað hé,

„gerno biddjan, · nu ik sus gi·gamalod bium,  
 482 þat þú þinan holdan skalk · nu hinan hwervan láticas,  
 an þína friðu-wára faran, · þar êr mína forðrun dedun,  
 484 weros fon þesero wer-oldi, · nu mi þe willjo gi·stód,  
 dago liovosto, · þat ik mínan drohtin gi·sah,  
 486 holdan hêrron, · só mi gi·hêtan was  
 langa hwíla. · Þú bist lioht mikil  
 488 allun elli-þiodun, · þea êr þes alo-waldon  
 kraft ne ant·kêndun. · Þína kumi sindun  
 490 te dóma êndi te diurðon, · drohtin frô mín,  
 avarun Israhelas, · êganumu folke,  
 492 þínun liovun \*liudjun.“ · Listjun talde þó  
 þe aldo man an þem alaha · idis þero góðun,  
 494 sagða sôð-liko, · hwó iro sunu skolda  
 ovar þesan middil-gard · managun werðan  
 496 sumun te falle, sumun te fróvru · firiho barnun,  
 þem liudjun te leova, · þe is lêrun gi·hórdin,  
 498 êndi þem te harma, · þe hôrjen ni weldin  
 Kristas lêron. · „Þu skalt noh“, kwað hé, „kara þiggjan,  
 500 harm an þínumu herton, · þan ina hêliðo barn  
 wápnun wítnod. · Þat wirðid þi werk mikil,  
 502 þrim te gi·þolonna.“ · Þiu þiorna al for·stód  
 wísas mannas word. · Þó kwam þar ôk ên wíf gangan  
 504 ald innan þem alaha: · Anna was siu hêtan,  
 dohtar Fanueles; · siu habde ira drohtine wel  
 506 gi·þionod te þanka, · was iru gi·þungan wíf.  
 Siu mósta aftar ira magað-hêdi, · siðor siu mannes warð,  
 508 erles an êhti · êðili þiorne,  
 só mósta siu mid ira brúdi-gumon · bodlo gi·waldan  
 510 sivun wintar saman. · Þó gi·fragn ik þat iru þar sorga gi·stód  
 þat sie þiu mikila maht · metodes te·dêlda,  
 512 wrêð wurdi-gi·skapu. · Þó was siu widowa aftar þiu  
 at þem friðu-wíha · fior êndi ant·ahtoda  
 514 wintro an iro wer-oldi, · só siu nia þana wíh ni for·lét,  
 ak siu þar ira drohtine wel · dages êndi nahtes,  
 516 gode þionode. · Siu kwam þar ôk gangan tó  
 an þea selvun tíð: · sán ant·kênde  
 518 þat hêlage barn godes · êndi þem hêliðon kúðde,  
 þem weroda aftar þem wíha · wil-spel mikil,  
 520 kwað þat im nêrjandas ginist · gi·náhid wári,

522 helpa heven-kuninges: · „nu is þe hêlago Krist,  
 waldand selvo · an þesan wîh kuman  
 te a·lôsjenne þea liudi, · þe hér nu lango bidun  
 524 an þesara middil-gard, · managa hwîla,  
 þurftig þioda, · só nu þes þinges mugun  
 526 męndjan man-kunni.“ · Manag fagonoda  
 werod aftar þem wîha: · gi·hôrdun wil-spel mikil  
 528 fon gode sęggjan. · Ðat geld habde þó gi·lêstid  
 þiu idis an þem alaha, · al só it im an ira êwa gi·bôd  
 530 ęndi an þera berhtun burg · bók gi·wîsdun,  
 hêlagaro hand-gi·werk. · Gi·witun im þó te hús þanan  
 532 fon Jerusalem · Joseph ęndi Maria,  
 hêlag híwiski: · habdun im heven-kuning  
 534 simbla te gi·siða, · sunu drohtines,  
 managaro mund-boron, · só it gio mári ni warð  
 536 þan wídor an þesaro wer-oldi, · b·útan só is willjo géng,  
 7 heven-kuninges hugi. · Ðoh þar þan gi·hwi-lik hêlag man  
 538 Krist ant·kęndi, · þoh ni warð it gio te þes kuninges hove  
 þem mannun gi·márid, · þea im an iro mód-sevon  
 540 holde ni wárun, · ak was im só bi·halden forð  
 mid wordun ęndi mid werkun, · ant-þat þar weros ôstan,  
 542 swiðo glawa gumon · gangan kwámun  
 þrea te þero þiodu, · þegnos snelle,  
 544 an langan weg · ovar þat land þarod:  
 folgodun ênun berhtun bókne · ęndi sóhtun þat barn godes  
 546 mid hluttru hugi: · weldun im hnígan tó,  
 gehan im te jungrun: · drivun im godes gi·skapu.  
 548 Ðó sie Eródesan þar · ríkjan fundun  
 an is sęli sittjen, · slíð-wurdjan kuning,  
 550 módagna mid is mannun: · —simbla was hé morðes gern—  
 þó kwaddun sie ina kúsko · an kuning-wîsun,  
 552 fagaro an is flęttje, · ęndi hé frágoda sán,  
 hwi-lik sie ârundi · úta gi·bráhti,  
 554 weros an þana wrak-sið: · „hweðer lédjad gí wundan gold  
 te gevu hwi-likun gumuno? · te hwí gí þus an ganga kumad,  
 556 gi·faran an fôðju? · Hwat gí n·êt-hwanan ferran sind  
 erlos fon ôðrun þiodun. · Ik gi·sihu þat gi sind ęðili-gi·burdjun  
 558 kunnjes fon knósle góðun: · nio hér êr su·lika kumana ni wurðun  
 éri fon ôðrun þiodun, · siðor ik mósta þesas erlo folkes,  
 560 gi·waldan þesas wídon ríkjas. · Gí skulun mi te wárun sęggjan

- for þesun liudjo folke, · bi·hwí gí sín te þesun lande kumana“.
- 562 Þó sprákun im eft te·gegnes · gumon ôstr-onja,  
word-spáhe weros: · „wí þí te wárun mugun“, kwáðun sie,
- 564 „úse ârundi · óðo gi·tęlljen,  
gi·seggjan sôð-líko, · bi·hwí wí kwámun an þesan síð herod
- 566 fon ôstan te þesaro erðu. · Giu wárun þar aðaljes man,  
gód-sprákja gumon, · þea ús gódes só filu,
- 568 helpa gi·hétun · fon heven-kuninge  
wárum wordun. · Þan was þar ên gi·wittig man,
- 570 fród ęndi fil-wís · —forn was þat giu—,  
úse aldiro ôstar hinan, · —þar ni warð síðor ênig man
- 572 sprákono só spáhi—; · hé mahte rekkjen spel godes,  
hwand im habde for·liwan · liudjo hêrro,
- 574 þat hé mahte fon erðu · up gi·hôrjan  
waldandes word: · bi·þiu was is gi·wit mikil,
- 576 þes þegnes gi·þáhti. · Þó hé þanan skolda,  
a·geven gardos, · gadulingo gi·mang,
- 578 for·lâten liudjo drôm, · sókjen lioht ôðar,  
þó hé is jungron hét · gangan náhor,
- 580 ęrvi-wardos, · ęndi is erlun þó  
sagde sôð-líko: · —þat al síðor kwam,
- 582 gi·warð\* an þesaro wer-oldi—: · þó sagda hé þat hér skoldi kuman  
ên wís-kuning  
mári ęndi mahtig · an þesan middil-gard
- 584 þes bętston gi·burdjes; · kwað þat it skoldi wesarn barn godes,  
kwað þat hé þesero wer-oldes · waldan skoldi
- 586 gio te êwan-daga, · erðun ęndi himiles.  
Hé kwað þat an þem selvon daga, · þe ina sáliga
- 588 an þesan middil-gard · módar gi·drógi,  
só kwað hé þat ôstana · ên skoldi skínan
- 590 himil-tungal hwít, · su·lik só wí hér ne habdin êr  
undar·twisk erða ęndi himil · ôðar hwerigin,
- 592 ne su·lik barn ne su·lik bôkan. · Hét þat þar te bedu fórin  
þrea man fon þero þiodu, · hét sie þęnkjan wel,
- 594 hwan êr sie gi·sáwin ôstana · up síðogjan,  
þat godes bôkan gangan, · hét sie garwjan sán,
- 596 hét þat wí im folgodin, · só it furi wurði,  
westar owar þesa wer-oldi. · Nu is it al gi·wárod só,
- 598 kuman þurh kraft godes: · þe kuning is gi·fódit,  
gi·boran bald ęndi strang: · wí gi·sáhun is bôkan skínan

600 hêdro fon himiles tunglun, · só ik wêt, þat it hêlag drohtin,  
 markoda mahtig selvo; · wí gi·sáhun morgno gi·hwi-likes  
 602 blíkan þana berhton sterron, · ęndi wí gęngun aftar þem bôkna herod  
 wegas ęndi waldas hwílon. · Þat wári ús allaro willjono mēsta,  
 604 þat wí ina selvon gi·sehan móstin, · wissin, hwar wí ina sókjan  
 skoldin,  
 þana kuning an þesumu kêsur-dóma. · Saga ús, undar hwi-likumu hé  
 sí þesaro kunnjo a·fódit.“  
 606 Þó warð Erodessa · innan briostun  
 harm wið herta, · bi·gan im is hugi wallan,  
 608 sevo mid sorgun: · gi·hôrde sęggjan þó,  
 þat hé þar ovar-hôvdon · ęgan skoldi,  
 610 kraftagoron kuning · kunnjes gódes,  
 sáligoron undar þem gi·siðja. · Þó hé samnon hét,  
 612 só hwat só an Jerusalem · góðaro manno  
 allaro spáhoston · sprákono wárun  
 614 ęndi an iro brioston · bók-kraftes mēst  
 wissun te wárun, · ęndi hé sie mid wordun fragn,  
 616 swíðo niud-líko · níð-hugdig man,  
 kuning þero liudjo, · hwar Krist gi·boran  
 618 an wer-old-rikja · werðan skoldi,  
 friðu-gumono bętst. · Þó sprak im eft þat folk an·gęgin,  
 620 þat werod wár-líko, · kwáðun þat sie wissin garo,  
 þat hé skoldi an Bethleem gi·boran werðan: · „só is an úsun bókun  
 gi·skrivan,  
 622 wís-líko gi·writan, · só it wár-sagon,  
 swíðo glawa gumon · bi godes krafta  
 624 fil-wíse man · furn gi·sprákun,  
 þat skoldi fon Bethleem · burgo hirdi,  
 626 liof landes ward · an þit lioht kuman,  
 ríki rád-gevo, · þe rihtjen skal  
 628 Judeono gum-skępi · ęndi is geva wesan  
 mildi ovar middil-gard · managun þiodun.“  
 630 8 Þó gi·fragn ik þat sán aftar þiu · slíð-mód kuning  
 þero wár-sagono word · þem wrękkjun sagda,  
 632 þea þar an ęli-lęndi · erlos wárun  
 ferran gi·farana, · ęndi hé frágoda aftar þiu,  
 634 hwan sie an ôstar-wegun · ęrist gi·sáhin  
 þana kuning-sterron kuman, · kumbal liuhtjen  
 636 hêdro fon himile. · Sie ni weldun is im þó helen eo·wiht,

ak sagdun it im sôð-líko. · Þó hét hé sie an þana sið faran,  
 638 hét þat sie ira ârundi al · undar·fundin  
 umbi þes kindes kumi, · ęndi þe kuning selvo gi·bôð  
 640 swiðo hard-líko, · hêrro Judeono,  
 þem wísun mannun, · êr þan sie fôrin westan forð,  
 642 þat sie im eft gi·küðdin, · hwar hé þana kuning skoldi  
 sókjan at is selðon; · kwað þat hé þar weldi mid is gi·siðun tó,  
 644 bedan te þem barne. · Þan hogða hé im te banon werðan  
 wápnes ęggjun. · Þan eft waldand god  
 646 þáhte wið þem þinga: · hé mahta a·þęngjan mêt,  
 gi·lêstjan an þesum liohte: · þat is noh lango skín,  
 648 gi·küðid kraft godes. · Þó géngun eft þiu kumbl forð  
 wánum undar wolknun. · Þó wárun þea wíson man  
 650 fúsa te faranne: · gi·witun im forð þanan  
 balda an bod-skępi: · weldun þat barn godes  
 652 selvon sókjan. · Sie ni habdun þanan gi·siðjas mêt,  
 b·útan þat sie þrie wárun: · wissun im þingo gi·skêð,  
 654 wárun im glawe gumon, · þe þea geva lêddun.  
 Þan sáhun sie só wís-líko · undar þana wolknnes skion,  
 656 up te þem hôhon himile, · hwó fórun þea hwíton sterron  
 —ant·kęndun sie þat kumbal godes—, · þiu wárun þurh Krista herod  
 658 gi·warht te þesero wer-oldi. · Þea weros aftar géngun,  
 folgodun ferht-líko · —sie frumide þe mahte—  
 660 ant-þat sie gi·sáhun, · sið-wórige man,  
 berht bôkan godes, · blêk an himile  
 662 stillo gi·standen. · Þe sterro liohto skên  
 hwít ovar þem húse, · þar þat hêlage barn  
 664 wonode an willjon · ęndi ina þat wíf bi·held,  
 þiu þiorne gi·þiudo. · Þó warð þero þegno hugi  
 666 blíði an iro briostun: · bi þem bôkna for·stóðun,  
 þat sie þat friðu-barn godes · funden habdun,  
 668 hêlagna heven-kuning. · Þó sie an þat hús innan  
 mid iro gevun géngun, · gumon ôstr-onja,  
 670 sið-wórige man: · sán ant·kęndun  
 þea weros waldand Krist. · Þea wrękkjon fellun  
 672 te þem kinde an kneo-beda · ęndi ina an kuning-wísa  
 góðan gróttun · ęndi im þea geva drógun,  
 674 gold ęndi wih-rôk · bi godes tēknun  
 \*ęndi myrra þar mid. · Þea man stóðun garowa,  
 676 holde for iro hêrron, · þea it mid iro handun sán



fagaŕo ant·fēngun. · Þó gi·witun im þea fer̥hton man,  
 678 seġgi te selðon · sið-wórige,  
 gumon an gast-sēli. · Þar im godes engil  
 680 slápanđjun an naht · swevan gi·tôgde,  
 gi·drog im an drôme, · al so it drohtin self,  
 682 waldand welde, · þat im þúhte þat man im mid wordun gi·budi,  
 þat sie im\* þanan ôðran weg, · erlos fórin,  
 684 liðodin sie te lande · ģndi þana lēðan man,  
 Erodesan · eft ni sóhtin,  
 686 módagna kuning. · Þó warð morgan kuman  
 wánum te þesero wer-oldi. · Þó bi·gunnun þea wíson man  
 688 seġgjan iro swevanos; · selvon ant·kēndun  
 waldandes word, · hwand sie gi·wit mikil  
 690 bárun an iro briostun: · bádun alo-waldon,  
 hēron heven-kuning, · þat sie móstin is huldi forð,  
 692 gi·wirkjan is willjon, · kwáðun þat sea ti im habdin gi·wēndit hugi,  
 \*iro mód morgan gi·hwem. · Þó fórun eft þie man þanan,  
 694 erlos ôstr-onje, · al só im þe engil godes  
 wordun gi·wísde: · námun im weg ôðran,  
 696 ful-ġéngun godes lêrun: · ni weldun þemu Judeo kuninge  
 umbi þes barnes gi·burd · bodon ôstr-onje,  
 698 sið-wórige man · seġgjan gio·wiht,  
 9 ak wendun im eft an iro willjon. · Þó warð sán aftar þiu waldandes,  
 700 godes engil kumen · Josepe te sprákun,  
 sagde im an swefne · slápanđjum an naht,  
 702 bodo drohtines, · þat þat barn godes  
 slíð-mód kuning · sókjan welda,  
 704 áhtjan is aldres; · „nu skaltu ine an Aegypto  
 land ant·lêđjan · ģndi undar þem liudjun wesan  
 706 mid þiu godes barnu · ģndi mid þeru góðan þior\*nan,  
 wunon undar þemu werode, · unt-þat þi word kume  
 708 hērron þínes, · þat þú þat hēlage barn  
 eft te þesum land-skępi · lēđjan mótis,  
 710 drohtin þínen.“ · Þó fon þem drôma an·sprang  
 Joseph an is ġest-sēli, · ģndi þat godes gi·bod  
 712 sán ant·kēnda: · gi·wēt im an þana sið þanen  
 þe þeġan mid þeru þiornon, · sóhta im þiod ôðra  
 714 owar brêðan berg: · welda þat barn godes  
 fiundun ant·fórjan. · \*Þó gi·frang aftar þiu  
 716 Eródes þe kuning, · þar hé an is ríkja sat,

þat wárun þea wíson man · westan gi·hworvan  
 718 ôstar an iro óðil · ęndi fórun im ôðran weg:  
 wisse þat sie im þat ârundi · eft ni weldun  
 720 seggjan an is selðon. · Þó warð im þes an sorgun hugi,  
 mód mornondi, · kwað þat it im þie man dedin,  
 722 heðios\* te hōnðun. · Þó hé só hriwig sat,  
 balg ina an is briostun, · kwað þat hé is mahti bętaron rád,  
 724 ôðran gi·þenkjen: · „nu ik is aldar kan,  
 wêt is winter-gi·talū: · nu ik gi·winnan mag,  
 726 þat hé io ovar þesaro erðu · ald ni wirðit,  
 hér undar þesum heři-skępi.“ · Þó hé só hardo gi·bôd,  
 728 Eródes ovar is ríki, · hét þó is rinkos faran  
 kuning þero liudjo, · hét þat sie kinda só filo  
 730 þurh iro hand-magen · hōvdu bi·nāmin,  
 só manag barn umbi Bethlehem, · só filo só þar gi·boran wurði,  
 732 an twēm gērun a·togan. · Tionon frumidon  
 þes kuninges gi·siðos. · Þó skolda þar só manag kindisk man  
 734 sweltan sundjono lōs. · Ni warð sið noh êr  
 jámar-líkara for·gang · jungaro manno,  
 736 arm-líkara dōð. · Idisi wiopun,  
 módar managa, · gi·sáhun iro megi spildjan:  
 738 ni mahte siu im nio gi·formon, · þoh siu mid iro faðmon twēm  
 iro êgan barn · armun bi·fengi,  
 740 liof ęndi luttil, · þoh skolda is simbla þat líf gevan,  
 þe magu for þeru módar. · Mēnes ni sáhun,  
 742 wítjes þie wam-skaðon: · wápnes eggjun  
 fręmidun firin-werk mikil. · Fellun managa  
 744 magu-junge man. · Þia módar wiopun  
 kind-jungaro kwalm; · kara was an Bethlehem,  
 746 hofno hlúdost: · þoh man im iro herton an twê  
 sniði mid swerdu, · þoh ni mohta im gio sêrara dád  
 748 werðan an þesaro wer-oldi, · wívun managun,  
 brúdjun an Bethlehem: · gi·sáhun iro barn bi·foran,  
 750 kind-junge man, · kwalmu sweltan  
 blódag an iro barmun. · Þie banon wítnodun  
 752 un·skuldige skole: · ni bi·skrivun gio·wiht  
 þea man umbi mēn-werk: · weldun mahtigna,  
 754 Krist selvon a·kwełljan. · Þan habde ina kraftag god  
 gi·nęridan wið iro níðe, · þat inan nahtes þanan  
 756 an Aegypteo land · erlos ant·lêddun,

gumon mid Josepe · an þana grónjon wang,  
 758 an erðono bēstun, · þar ên aha fliutid,  
 Níl-strôm mikil · norð te sêwa,  
 760 flódo fagorosta. · Þar þat friðu-barn godes  
 wonoda an willjon, · ant-þat wurd for·nam  
 762 Erodes þana kuning, · þat hé for·lét ęldjo barn,  
 módag manno drôm. · Þó skolda þero marka gi·wald  
 764 êgan is ęrvi-ward: · þe was Arkheláus  
 hêtan, hęri-togo · helm-berandero:  
 766 þe skolda umbi Jerusalem · Judeono folkes,  
 werodes gi·waldan. · Þó warð word kuman  
 768 þar an Egypti · ęðiljun manne,  
 þat hé þar te Josepe, · godes ęngil sprak,  
 770 bodo drohtines, · hét ina eft þat barn þanan  
 lêdjen te lande. · „nu havað þit lioht af·geven“, kwað hé,  
 772 „Erodes þe kuning; · hé welde is áhtjen giu,  
 frêson is ferahas. · Nu maht þú an friðu lêdjen  
 774 þat kind undar ewa kunni, · nu þe kuning ni livod,  
 erl ovar-módig.“ · Al ant·kēnde  
 776 Josep godes tēkan: · gęriwide ina sniumo  
 þe begān mit þera þiornun, · þó sie þanan weldun  
 778 bēðju mid þiu barnu: · lēstun þiu berhton gi·skapu,  
 waldandes willjon, · al só hé im êr mid is wordun gi·bôd.  
 780 **10** Gi-witun im þó eft an Galilea-land · Joseph ęndi Maria,  
 hêlag híwiski · heven-kuninges,  
 782 wárun im an Nazareth-burg. · Þar þe nęrjondio Krist  
 wóhs undar þem werode, · warð gi·wittjes ful,  
 784 an was imu anst godes, · hé was allun liof  
 módar-mágun: · hé ni was ôðrun mannun gi·lík,  
 786 þe gumo an sínera gódi. · Þó hé gęr-talo  
 twe-livi habde, · þó warð þiu tíð kuman,  
 788 þat sie þar te Jerusalem, · Juðeo liudi  
 iro þiod-gode · þionon skoldun,  
 790 wirkjan is willjon. · Þó warð þar an þana wíh innan  
 þar te Jerusalem · Judeono gi·samnod  
 792 man-kraft mikil. · Þar Maria was  
 self an gi·siðja · ęndi iru sunu habda,  
 794 godes êgan barn. · Þó sie þat geld habdun,  
 erlos an þem alaha, · só it an iro êwa gi·bôd,  
 796 gi·lêstid te iro land-wísun, · þó fórun im eft þie liudi þanan,

weros an iro willjon · ɛndi þar an þem wíha af·stód  
 798 mahtig barn godes, · só ina þiu módar þar  
 ni wissa te wáron; · ak siu wánda þat hé mid þem weroda forð,  
 800 fóri mit iro friundun. · Gi·frang aftar þiu  
 eft an öðrun daga · aðal-kunnjes wíf,  
 802 sálíg þiorna, · þat hé undar þem gi·siðja ni was.  
 warð Mariun þó · mód an sorgun,  
 804 hriwig umbi iro herta, · þó siu þat hêlaga barn  
 ni fand undar þem folka: · filu gornoda  
 806 þiu godes þiorna. · Gi·witun im þó eft te Jerusalem  
 iro sunu sókjan, · fundun ina sittjan þar  
 808 an þem wíha innan, · þar þe wísa man,  
 swiðo glauwa gumon · an godes ewa  
 810 lásun ɛnde línodun, · hwó sie lof skoldin  
 wirkjan mid iro wordun þem, · þe þesa wer-old gi·skóp.  
 812 Þar sat undar middjun · mahtig barn godes,  
 Krist alo-waldo, · só is þea ni mahtun ant·kennjan wiht,  
 814 þe þes wíhes þar · wardon skoldun,  
 ɛndi frágoda sie · firi-wit-líko  
 816 wísera wordo. · Sie wundradun alle,  
 bu-hwí gio só kindisk man · su·lika kwidi mahti  
 818 mid is müðu gi·mênjan. · Þar ina þiu módar fand  
 sittjan under þem gi·siðja · ɛndi iro sunu grótta,  
 820 wísan undar þem weroda, · sprak im mid ira wordun tó:  
 „hwí weldes þú þínera módar, · manno liovosto,  
 822 gi·sidon su·lika sorga, · þat ik þi só sêrag-mód,  
 idis arm-hugdig · êskon skolda  
 824 undar þesun burg-liudjun?“ · Þó sprak iru eft þat barn an·gëgin  
 wísun wordun: · „Hwat þú wêst garo“, kwað hé,  
 826 „þat ik þar gi·rísu, · þar ik bi rehton skal  
 wonon an willjon, · þar gi·wald havad  
 828 mín mahtig fader.“ · Þie man ni for·stódun,  
 þie weros an þem wíha, · bi·hwí hé só þat word gi·sprak,  
 830 gi·mênda mid is müðu: · Maria al bi·held,  
 gi·barg an ira breostun, · só hwat só siu gi·hôrda ira barn sprekan  
 832 wisaro wordo. · Gi·witun im þó eft þanan  
 fon Jerusalem · Joseph ɛndi Maria,  
 834 habdun im te gi·siðja · sunu drohtines,  
 allaro barno bëtsta, · þero þe io gi·boran wurði  
 836 magu fon módar: · habdun im þar minnja tó

þurh hluttran hugi, · ęndi hę só gi·hōrig was,  
 838 godes ęgan barn · gaduling-mágun  
 þurh is ôd-módi, · aldron sínun:  
 840 ni welda an is kindiski þó noh · is kraft mikil  
 mannun mārjan, · þat hę su·lik męgin ęhta,  
 842 gi·wald an þesaro wer-oldi, · ak hę im an is willjon bēd  
 gi·þiudo undar þero þiodu · þri-tig gęro,  
 844 ęr þan hę þar tēkan ęnig · tōgjan weldi,  
 sęggjan þem gi·siþja, · þat hę selvo was  
 846 an þesaro middil-gard · manno drohtin.  
 Habda im só bi·halden · hēlag barn godes  
 848 word ęndi wīs-dóm · ęnde allaro gi·wittjo mēst,  
 tulgo spāhan hugi: · ni mahta man is an is sprākun werðan,  
 850 an is wordun gi·war, · þat hę su·lik gi·wit ęhta,  
 þegan su·lika gi·þāhti, · ak hę im só gi·þiudo bēd  
 852 torhtaro tēkno. · Ni was noh þan þiu tīd kuman,  
 þat hę ina ovar þesan middil-gard · mārjan skolda,  
 854 lērjan þie liudi, · hwó sie skoldin iro gi·lōvon haldan,  
 wirkjan willjon godes; · wissun þat þoh managa  
 856 liudi aftar þem landa, · þat hę was an þit lioht kuman,  
 þoh sie ina kũð-líko · an·kēnnjan ni mahtin,  
 858 ęr þan hę ina selvo · sęggjan welda.  
 11 Þan was im Johannes · fon is juguð-hēdi  
 860 a·wahsan an ęnero wóstunni; · þar ni was werodes þan mēr,  
 b·útan þat hę þar ęn-kora · alo-waldon gode,  
 862 þegan þionoda: · for·lēt þioda gi·mang,  
 manno gi·mēnðon. · Þar warð im mahtig kuman  
 864 an þero wóstunni · word fon himila,  
 gód-lík stemna godes, · ęndi Johanne gi·bod,  
 866 þat hę Kristes kumi · ęndi is kraft mikil  
 ovar þesan middil-gard · mārjan skoldi;  
 868 hēt ina wār-líko · wordun sęggjan,  
 þat wāri hevan-riki · hęliþo barnun  
 870 an þem land-skępi, · liudjun gi·nāhid,  
 welono wun-samost. · Im was þó willjo mikil,  
 872 þat hę fon su·likun sáldun · sęggjan mósti.  
 Gi·wēt im þó gangan, · al só Jordan flót,  
 874 watar an willjon, · ęndi þem weroda allan dag,  
 aftar þem land-skępi · þem liudjun kũða,  
 876 þat sie mid fastunnju · firin-werk manag,

iro selvoro · sundja bóttin,  
 878 „þat gí werðan hrênja“, · kwað hé. „Hevan-riki is  
 gi·náhid manno barnun. · Nu látad eu an ewan mód-sevon  
 880 ewar selvoro · sundja hrewan,  
 lêdas þat gí an þesun liohta frëmidun, · ęndi mínun lêrun hôrjad,  
 882 węndjat aftar mínun wordun. · Ik eu an watara skal  
 gi·dôpjan diur-líko, · þoh ik ewa dádi ne mugi,  
 884 ewar selvaro · sundja a-látan,  
 þat gí þurh mín hand-gi·werk · hluttra werðan  
 886 lêðaro gi·lêsto: · ak þe is an þit lioht kuman,  
 mahtig te mannun · ęndi undar eu middjun stéd,  
 888 —þoh gí ina selvun · gi·sehan ni willjan—,  
 þe eu gi·dôpjan skal · an ewes drohtines namon  
 890 an þana hâlagon gêst. · Þat is hêrro ovar al:  
 hé mag allaro manno gi·hwena · mên-gi·þähtjo,  
 892 sundjono sikoron, · só hwene só só sálig mót  
 werðen an þesaro wer-oldi, · þat þes willjon havad,  
 894 þat hé só gi·lêstja, · só hé þesun liudjun wili,  
 gi·bioden barn godes. · Ik bium an is bod-skëpi herod  
 896 an þesa wer-old kumen · ęndi skal im þana weg rúmjen,  
 lêrjan þesa liudi, · hwó sea skulin iro gi·lôvon haldan  
 898 þurh hluttran hugi, · ęndi þat sie an hëllja ni þurvin,  
 faran an fern þat hêta. · Þes wirðid só fagan an is móde  
 900 man te só managaro stundu, · só hwe só þat mên for·látid,  
 gerno þes gramon an-busni, · —só mag im þes gódon gi·wirkjan,  
 902 huldi heven-kuninges,— · só hwe só havad hluttra trewa  
 up te þem alo-mahtigon gode.“ · Erlos managa  
 904 bi þem lêrun þó, · liudi wándun,  
 weros wár-líko, · þat þat waldand Krist  
 906 selbo wári, · hwanda hé só filu sôðes gi·sprak,  
 wároro wordo. · Þó warð þat só wído kúð  
 908 ovar þat for·gevana land · gumono gi·hwi-likum,  
 sęggjun at iro selðun: · þó kwámun ina sókjan þarod  
 910 fon Jerusalem · Judeo liudjo  
 bodon fon þeru burgi · ęndi frágodun, ef hé wári þat barn godes,  
 912 „þat hér lango giu“, · kwaðun sie, „liudi sagdun,  
 weros wár-líko, · þat hé skoldi an þesa wer-old kuman“.  
 914 Johannes þó gi·mahalde · ęndi te·gęgnes sprak  
 þem bodun bald-líko: · „ni bium ik“, kwað hé, „þat barn godes,  
 916 wár waldand Krist, · ak ik skal im þana weg rúmjen,

918 hêrron **mínumu**.“ · Þea **h**eliðos frugnun,  
 þea þar an þem **â**rundje · **e**rlas wárun,  
 920 **b**odon fon þero **b**urgi: · „ef þú nu ni bist þat **b**arn godes,  
 bist þú þan þoh **E**lias, · þe hér an **ê**r-dagun  
 922 **w**as undar þesumu **w**erode? · hé is **w**is-kumo  
 eft an þesan **m**iddil-gard. · Saga ús hwat þú **m**anno sís!  
 Bist þú **ê**nig þero, · þe hér **ê**r wári  
 924 **w**ísaro **w**ár-saguno? · Hwat skulun wí þem **w**erode fon þi  
 seggjan te **s**óðon? · Neo hér **ê**r **s**u·lik ni warð  
 926 an þesun **m**iddil-gard · **m**an ôðar kuman  
**d**áðjun só mári. · Bi·hwí þú hér **d**ôpisli  
 928 frëmis undar þesumu **f**olke, · ef þú þaro **f**ora·sagono  
**ê**n·hwi·lik ni bist?“ · Þó habde **e**ft garo  
 930 **J**ohannes þe **g**ódo · glau **a**nd·wordi:  
 „Ik bium **f**ora·bodo · **f**ráon mínes,  
 932 **l**ioves hêrron; · ik skal þit **l**and rekon,  
 þit **w**erod aftar is **w**illjon. · Ik hëbbju fon is **w**orde mid mi  
 934 **s**tranga **s**temna, · þoh sie hér ni willje for·**s**tandan filo  
**w**erodes an þesaro **w**óstunni. · Ni bium ik mid **w**ihti gi·lík  
 936 **d**rohtine **mínumu**: · hé is mid is **d**áðjun só strang,  
 só **m**ári çndi só **m**ahtig · —þat wirðid **m**anagun kûð,  
 938 **w**erun aftar þesaro **w**er·oldi— · þat ik þes **w**irðig ni bium,  
 þat ik móti an is gi·**s**kuoha, · þoh ik sí is **s**kalk êgan,  
 940 an só **r**íkjumu drohtine, · þea **r**eomon ant·bindan:  
 só mikilu is hé **b**etara þan ik. · Nis þes **b**odon gi·mako  
 942 **ê**nig ovar **e**rðu, · ne nu aftar ni skal  
**w**erðan an þesaro **w**er·oldi. · Hëbbjad ewan **w**illjon þarod,  
 944 **l**iudi ewan gi·lôvon: · þan eu **l**ango skal  
 wesan ewa **h**ugi **h**rómag; · þan gi **h**elli·gi·þwing,  
 946 for·látad **l**êðaro drôm · çndi sókjad eu **l**ioht godes,  
**u**p·ôdes hêm, · **ê**wig ríki,  
 948 **h**óhan **h**even·wang. · Ne látad ewan **h**ugi twífljen!“  
 12 Só sprak þó **j**ung **g**umo · bi **g**odes lêrun  
 950 **m**annun te **m**árðu. · **M**anag samnoda  
 þar te **B**ethania · **b**arn Israheles;  
 952 **k**wámun þar te **J**ohannese · **k**uningo gi·siðos,  
**l**iudi te **l**êrun · çndi iro gi·lôvon ant·fëngun.  
 954 Hé **d**ôpte sie **d**ago gi·hwi·likes · çndi im iro **d**ádi lóg,  
**w**rêðaro **w**illjon, · çndi lovode im **w**ord godes,  
 956 hêrron sínes: · „heven·ríki wirðid“, kwað hé,

„garu gumono só hwem, · só ti gode þenkid  
 958 ęndi an þana hēljand \*wili · hluttro gi·lôvjan,  
 lêstjan is lêra“. · Þó ni was lang te þiu,  
 960 þat im fon Galilea gi·wêt · godes êgan barn,  
 \*diur-lik drohtines sunu, · dōpi suokjan.  
 962 was im þuo an is wastme · waldandes barn\*,  
 al só hé mid þero þiodu · þrí-tig habdi  
 964 wintro an is wer-oldi. · Þó hé an is willjon kwam,  
 þar Johannes · an Jordana strôme  
 966 allan langan dag · liudi manage  
 dōpte diur-liko. · Reht só hé þó is drohtin gi·sah,  
 968 holdan hêrron, · só warð im is hugi blīði,  
 þes im þe willjo gi·stód, · ęndi sprak im þó mid is wordun tó,  
 970 swiðo gód gumo, · Johannes te Kriste:  
 „nu kumis þú te mínero dōpi, · drohtin frô mín,  
 972 þiod-gumono bętsto: · só skolde ik te þínero duan,  
 hwand þú bist allaro kuningo kraftigost.“ · Krist selvo gi·bôd,  
 974 waldand wár-liko, · þat hé ni spráki þero wordo þan mēr:  
 „wêst þú, þat ús só gi·rísid“, · kwað hé, „allaro rehto gi·hwi-lik  
 976 te gi·fulljanne · forð-wardes nu  
 an godes willjon“. · Johannes stód,  
 978 dōpte allan dag · druht-folk mikil,  
 werod an watere · ęndi ôk waldand Krist,  
 980 hêran heven-kuning · handun sínun  
 an allaro baðo þem bętston · ęndi im þar te bedu gi·hnêg  
 982 an kneo kraftag. · Krist up gi·wêt  
 fagar fon þem flóde, · friðu-barn godes,  
 984 liof liudjo ward. · Só hé þó þat land af·stóp,  
 só ant·hlidun þó himiles doru, · ęndi kwam þe hêlago gęst  
 986 fon þem alo-waldon · ovane te Kriste:  
 —was im an gi·lik-nissje · lungras fugles,  
 988 diur-likara dúvun— · ęndi sat im uppan úses drohtines ahslu,  
 wonoda im ovar þem waldandes barne. · Aftar kwam þar word fon  
 himile,  
 990 hlúd fon þem hôhon radura · ęndi grótta þane hēljand selvon,  
 Krista, allaro kuningo bętston, · kwað þat hé ina gi·korana habdi  
 992 selvo fon sínun ríkja, · kwað þat im þe sunu líkodi  
 bętst allaro gi·boranaro manno, · kwað þat hé im wári allaro barno  
 liovost.  
 994 Þat móste Johannes þó, · al só it god welde,



gi·sehan ęndi gi·hōrjan. · hé gi·deda it sán aftar þiu  
 996 mannun mári, · þat sie þar mahtigna  
 hêrron habdun: · „Þit is“, kwað hé, „heven-kuninges sunu,  
 998 ên alo-waldand: · þesas willjo ik ur-kundjo  
 wes an þesaro wer-oldi, · hwand it sagda mí word godes,  
 1000 drohtines stemne, · þó hé mi dōpjan hét  
 weros an watere, · só hwar só ik gi·sáwi wár-líko  
 1002 þana hêlagon gêst · \*fan hevan-wange  
 an þesan middil-gard · ênigan man waron,  
 1004 kuman mid kraftu; · þat kwað, þat skoldi Krist wes an,  
 diur-lík drohtines suno. · Hie dōpjan skal  
 1006 an þana hêlagon gêst · ęndi hêljan managa  
 manno mên-dádi. · hé havad maht fon gode,  
 1008 þat hé a·látan mag · liudjo gi·hwi-likun  
 saka ęndi sundja. · Þit is selvo Krist,  
 1010 godes êgan barn, · gumono bêtsto,  
 friðu wið fiundun. · Wala þat eu þes mag frâh-mód hugi  
 1012 wes an þesaro wer-oldi, · þes eu þe willjo gi·stód,  
 þat gí só libbjanda · þana landes ward  
 1014 selvon gi·sahun. · Ní mót sliumo sundjono lōs  
 manag gêst faran · an godes willjon  
 1016 tionon a·tómid, · þe mid trewon wili  
 wið is wini wirkjan · ęndi an waldand Krist  
 1018 fasto gi·lōvjan. · Þat skal te frumun werðen  
 gumono só hwi-likun, · só þat gerno dót“. **13**  
 1020 Só ge·fragn ik þat Johannes þó · gumono gi·hwi-likun,  
 lovoda þem liudjun · lêra Kristes,  
 1022 hêrron sínes, · ęndi heven-ríki  
 te gi·winnanne, · welono þane mēston,  
 1024 sálig sin-líf. · Þó hé im selvo gi·wêt  
 aftar þem dōpislja, · drohtin þe gódo,  
 1026 an êna wóstunnja, · waldandes sunu;  
 was im þar an þero ên-ôdi · erlo drohtin  
 1028 lange hwíla; · ne habda liudjo þan mēr,  
 sęggjo te gi·siðun, · al só hé im selvo gi·kōs:  
 1030 welda is þar lātan koston · kraftiga wihti,  
 selvon Satanasan, · þe gio an sundja spēnit,  
 1032 man an mên-werk: · hé konsta is mód-sevon,  
 wrêðan willjon, · hwó hé þesa wer-old êrist,  
 1034 an þem an-ginnja · irmin-þioda

bi·swêk mit **sundjun**, · þó hé þiu **sin**-híun twê,  
 1036 **Á**ðaman **endi** **É**wan, · þurh **un**-trewa  
 for·lêdda mid **luginun**, · þat **liudo** barn  
 1038 aftar iro **hin**-fêrði · **h**ellja sóhtun,  
**gumono** **gêstos**. · Þó welda þat **god** mahtig,  
 1040 **waldand** **w**endjan · **endi** welda þesum **werode** for·geven  
**h**ôh **himil**-ríki: · be·þiu hé herod **h**êlagna bodon,  
 1042 is **sunu** **s**enda. · Þat was **Satanase**  
 tulgo **harm** an is **hugi**: · afonsta **hevan**-ríkjæs  
 1044 **manno** kunnje: · welda þó **mahtigna**  
 mid þem **selvon** **sakun** · **sunu** drohtines,  
 1046 þem hé **Á**ðaman · an **êr**-dagun  
**darnungo** bi·**dróg**, · þat hé warð is **drohtine** lêð,  
 1048 bi·swêk ina mid **sundjun** · —só welda hé þó **selvan** dón  
**h**êlandjan Krist. · Þan habda hé is **hugi** fasto  
 1050 wið þana **wam**-skaðon, · **waldandes** barn,  
**herte** só gi·**h**erðid: · welda **heven**-ríki  
 1052 **liudjun** gi·lêstjan. · Was im þes **landes** ward  
 an **fastunnja** · **fior**-tig nahto,  
 1054 **manno** drohtin, · só hé þar **mates** ni ant·bêt;  
 þan langa ni gi·**dorstun** · im **d**ernja wihti,  
 1056 **níð**-hugdig fiund, · **náhor** gangan,  
**grótjan** ina **g**egin-warðan: · wánde þat hé **god** ên-fald,  
 1058 for·útar **man**-kunnjes wiht · **mahtig** wári,  
**h**êleg **himiles** ward. · Só hé ina þó ge·**h**ungrjan lét,  
 1060 þat ina bi·gan bi þero **m**ennisko · **móses** lustjan  
 aftar þem **fiuwar**-tig dagun, · þe **fiund** náhor géng,  
 1062 **mirki** **m**ên-skaðo: · wánda þat hé **man** ên-fald  
**wári** **wissungo**, · sprak im þó mid is **w**ordun tó,  
 1064 **grótta** ina þe **g**êr-fiund: · „ef þú sís **godes** sunu“, kwað hé,  
 „be·hwí ni hêtis þú þan **w**erðan, · ef þú gi·**wald** haves,  
 1066 allaro **barno** **b**etst, · **brôd** af þesun stênun?  
 Ge·**h**êli þínna **h**ungar!“ · Þó sprak eft þe **h**êlago Krist:  
 1068 „ni mugun **ç**ldi-barn“, · kwað hé, „ên-faldes brôdes,  
**liudi** **libbjen**, · ak sie skulun þurh **lêra** godes  
 1070 **wesan** an þesero **w**er-oldi · **endi** skulun þiu **w**erk frummjen,  
 þea þar werðað a·**hlúdid** · fon þero **h**êlogun tungun,  
 1072 fon þem **galme** **godes**: · þat is **gumono** líf  
**liudjo** só hwi-likon, · só þat **lêstjan** wili,  
 1074 þat fon **waldandes** · **w**orde ge·biudid.“

Þó bi·gan eft **n**iuson · **ę**ndi **n**áhor géng  
 1076 **un**-hiuri fiund · **ö**ðru siðu,  
**f**andoda is **f**rôhan. · Þat **f**riðu-barn þolode  
 1078 **w**rêðes **w**illjon · **ę**ndi im gi·**w**ald for·gaf,  
 þat hé umbi is **k**raft mikil · **k**oston mósti,  
 1080 **l**ét ina þó **l**édjan · þana **l**iud-skaðon,  
 þat hé ina an Jerusalem · te þem **g**odes wíha,  
 1082 **a**lles **o**van-wardan, · **u**p gi·sætta  
 an allaro **h**úso **h**ôhost, · **ę**ndi **h**osk-wordun sprak,  
 1084 þe **g**ramo þurh **g**elp mikil: · „ef þú síš **g**odes sunu“, kwað hé,  
 „**s**kríd þi te erðu hinan. · Ge·**s**krivan was it giu lango,  
 1086 an **b**ókun ge·writen, · hwó gi·**b**oden havad  
 is **ę**ngilun · **a**lo-mahtig fader,  
 1088 þat sie þi at **w**ege ge·hwem · **w**ardos sinðun,  
**h**aldad þi undar iro **h**andun. · Hwat þú **h**wargin ni þarft  
 1090 mid þínun **f**ótun · an **f**elis be·spurnan,  
 an **h**ardan stên.“ · Þó sprak eft þe **h**êlago Krist,  
 1092 allaro **b**arno **b**ætst: · „só is ôk an **b**ókun ge·skrivan“, kwað hé,  
 „þat þú te **h**ardo ni skalt · **h**êrran þínes,  
 1094 **f**andon þínes **f**rôhan: · þat nis þi allaro **f**rumono neg·ên.“  
 Lét ina þó an þana **þ**riddjan sið · þana **þ**iud-skaðon  
 1096 gi·**b**rengen uppan ênan **b**erg þen hôhon: · þar ina þe **b**alo-wíso  
 lét **a**l **o**var-sehan · **i**rmin-þiode,  
 1098 **w**onod-saman **w**elon · **ę**ndi **w**er-old-ríki  
**ę**ndi all su·lik **ô**des, · só þius **e**rða bi·havad  
 1100 **f**agðoro **f**rumono, · **ę**ndi sprak im þó þe **f**iund an·gęgin,  
 kwað þat hé im þat al só **g**ód-lík · for·**g**even weldi,  
 1102 **h**ôha **h**ęri-dómos, · „ef þú wilt **h**nígan te mí,  
**f**allan te mínun **f**ótun · **ę**ndi mí for **f**rôhan havas,  
 1104 **b**edos te mínun **b**arma. · Þan látu ik þi **b**rúkan wel  
**a**lles þes **ô**d-welon, · þes ik þi hębbju gi·**ô**git hír.“  
 1106 Þó ni welda þes **l**êðan word · **l**ęgeron hwíle  
**h**ôrjan þe **h**êlago Krist, · ak hé ina fon is **h**uldi for·drêf,  
 1108 **S**atanasan for·**s**wêp, · **ę**ndi **s**án aftar sprak  
 allaro **b**arno **b**ætst, · kwað þat man **b**edon skoldi  
 1110 up te þem **a**lo-mahtigon gode · **ę**ndi im **ê**num þionon  
**s**wíðo **þ**io-liko · **þ**egnos managa,  
 1112 **h**ęlidos aftar is **h**uldi: · „þar ist þiu **h**elpa ge·lang  
**m**anno ge·hwi-likun.“ · Þó gi·wêt im þe **m**ên-skaðo,  
 1114 **s**wíðo **s**êrag-mód · **S**atanas þanan,

- fiund undar fern-dalu. · Warð þar folk mikil  
 1116 fon þem alo-waldan · ovana te Kriste  
 godes engilo kumen, · þie im siðor jungar-dóm,  
 1118 skoldun ambaht-skępi · aftar lęstjen,  
 þionon þio-liko: · só skal man þiod-gode,  
 1120 hêrron aftar huldi, · hevan-kuninge.  
 14 Was im an þem sin-węldi · sálig barn godes  
 1122 lange hwile, · unt-þat im þó liovora warð,  
 þat hé is kraft mikil · kùðjen wolda  
 1124 weroda te willjon. · Þó for-lét hé waldes hleo,  
 ên-ôdjес ard · ęndi sóhte im eft erlo ge-mang,  
 1126 mári męgin-þiode · ęndi manno drôm,  
 gęng im þó bi Jordanes staðe: · þar ina Johannes ant-fand,  
 1128 þat friðu-barn godes, · frôhan sínan,  
 hêlagana heven-kuning, · ęndi þem hęliðun sagda,  
 1130 Johannes is jungurun, · þó hé ina gangan ge-sah:  
 „þit is þat lamb godes, · þat þar lôsjan skal  
 1132 af þesaro wídon wer-old · wrêða sundja,  
 man-kunnjas mên, · mári drohtin,  
 1134 kungingo kraftigost.“ · Krist im forð gi-wêt  
 an Galileo land, · godes êgan barn,  
 1136 fôr im te þem friundun, · þar hé a-fódit was,  
 tír-liko a-togan, · ęndi talda mid wordun  
 1138 Krist undar is kunnje, · kungingo ríkjost,  
 hwó sie skoldin iro selvoro · sundja bótjan,  
 1140 hét þat sie im iro harm-werk manag · hrewan létin,  
 feldin iro firin-dádi: · „nu is it all ge-fulllot só,  
 1142 só hír alde man · êr hwanna sprákun,  
 ge-hétun eu te helpu · heven-ríki:  
 1144 nu is it giu gi-náhid þurh þes nęrjandan kraft: · þes mótun gí neotan  
 forð,  
 só hwe só gerno wili · gode þeonogjan,  
 1146 wirkjan aftar is willjon.“ · Þó warð þes werodes filu,  
 þero liudjo an lustun: · wurðun im þea lêra Kristes,  
 1148 só swótja þem gi-siðja. · hé bi-gan im samnon þó  
 gumono te jungoron, · góðoro manno,  
 1150 word-spáha weros. · Géng im þó bi ênes watares staðe,  
 þat þar habda Jordan · a-nevan Galileo land  
 1152 ênna sê ge-warhtan. · Þar hé sittjan fand  
 Andreas ęndi Petrus · bi þem aha-strôme,

1154 bēðja þea ge·bróðar, · þar sie an brêd watar  
 swiðo niud·líko · nētti þenidun,  
 1156 fiskodun im an þem flóde. · Þar sie þat friðu-barn godes  
 bi þes sêes staðe · selvo gróttā,  
 1158 hét þat sie im folgodin, · kwað þat hé im só filu woldi  
 godes ríkjas for·geven; · „al só git hír an J Jordanes strôme  
 1160 fiskos fâhat, · só skulun git noh firiho barn  
 halon te inkun handun, · þat sie an heven-ríki  
 1162 þurh inka lēra · liðan mótin,  
 faran folk manag.“ · Þó warð frô-mód hugi  
 1164 bēðjun þem gi·bróðrun: · ant·kēndun þat barn godes,  
 liovan hērron: · for·lētun al saman  
 1166 Andreas ēndi Petrus, · só hwat só sie bi þeru ahu habdun,  
 ge·wunstes bi þem watare: · was im willjo mikil,  
 1168 þat sie mid þem godes barne · gangan móstin,  
 samad an is gi·siðja, · skoldun sálig-líko  
 1170 lôn ant·fâhan: · só dôt liudjo so hwi-lik,  
 só þes hērran wili · huldi gi·þionon,  
 1172 ge·wirkjan is willjon. · Þó sie bi þes watares staðe  
 furðor kwámun, · þó fundun sie þar ēnna fródan man  
 1174 sittjan bi þem sēwa · ēndi is suni twēne,  
 Jakobus ēndi Johannes: · wárun im junga man.  
 1176 Sátun im þá ge·sun-fader · an ênumu sande uppen,  
 brugdun ēndi bóttun · bēðjum handun  
 1178 þiu nētti niud·líko, · þea sie habdun nahtes êr  
 for·sliten an þem sēwa. · Þar sprak im selvo tó  
 1180 sálig barn godes, · hét þat sie an þana sið mid im,  
 Jakobus ēndi Johannes, · géngin bēðje,  
 1182 kind-junge man. · Þó wárun im Kristes word  
 só wirðig an þesaro wer-oldi, · þat sie bi þes watares staðe  
 1184 iro aldan fader · ênna for·lētun,  
 fródan bi þem flóde, · ēndi al þat sie þar fehas êhtun,  
 1186 nēttju ēndi nēglit-skipu, · ge·kurun im þana nērijandan Krist,  
 hêlagna te hērron, · was im is helpono þarf  
 1188 te gi·þiononne: · só is allaro þegno ge·hwem,  
 wero an þesero wer-oldi. · Þó gi·wēt im þe waldandes sunu  
 1190 mid þem fiuwarjun forð, · ēndi im þó þana fifton gi·kôs  
 Krist an ênero kôp-stēdi, · kuninges jungoron,  
 1192 mód-spáhana man: · Mattheus was hé hêtan,  
 was im ambahtjo · ēðilero manno,

- 1194 skolda þar te is hêrron · handun ant·fáhan  
 tins ęndi tolna; · trewa habda hé góda,  
 1196 ađal-and·bári: · for·lét al saman  
 gold ęndi siluvar · ęndi geva managa,  
 1198 diurje mēðmos, · ęndi warð im ūses drohtines man;  
 kôs im þe kuninges þegn · Krist te hêrran,  
 1200 milderan mēðom-gevon, · þan êr is man-drohtin  
 wári an þesero wer-oldi: · fēng im wóðera þing,  
 1202 lang-samoron rád. · Þó warð it allun þem liudjun kúð,  
 fon allaro burgo gi·hwem, · hwó þat barn godes  
 1204 samnode ge·siðos · ęndi selvo ge·sprak  
 só manag wís-lík word · ęndi wáres só filu,  
 1206 torhtes gi·tôgde · ęndi tēkan manag  
 ge·warhte an þesero wer-oldi. · Was þat an is wordun skín  
 1208 iak an is dádjun só same, · þat hé drohtin was,  
 himilisk hêrro · ęndi te helpu kwam  
 1210 an þesan middil-gard · manno barnun,  
 liudjun te þesun liohta. · Oft ge·deda hé þat an þem lande skín,  
 1212 þan hé þar torht-líko · só manag tēkan gi·warhte,  
 þar hé hêlde mid is handun · halte ęndi blinde,  
 1214 lôsde af þeru lēf-hêdi · liudi manage,  
 af su·likun suhtjun, · só þan allaro swároston  
 1216 an firiho barn · fiund bi·wurpun,  
 15 tulgo lang-sam legar. · Þó fórun þar þie liudi tó  
 1218 allaro dago ge·hwi-likes, · þar ūsa drohtin was  
 selvo undar þem gi·siðje, · unt-þat þar ge·samnod warð  
 1220 męgin-folk mikil · managero þiodo,  
 þoh sie þar alle be ge·likumu · ge·lôvon ni kwámin.  
 1222 weros þurh ênan willjon: · sume sóhtun sie þat waldandes barn,  
 armoro manno filu · —was im átes þarf—,  
 1224 þat sie im þar at þeru męnigi · mates ęndi drankes,  
 þigidin at þeru þiodu; · hwand þar was manag þegan só gód,  
 1226 þie ira alamosnje · armun mannun  
 gerno gávun. · Sume wárun sie im eft Judeono kunnjes,  
 1228 fęgni folk-skępi: · wárun þar ge·farana te þiu,  
 þat sie ūses drohtines · dádjo ęndi wordo  
 1230 fáron woldun, · habdun im fęgnjen hugi,  
 wrêðen willjon: · woldun waldand Krist  
 1232 a·lêdjen þem liudjun, · þat sie is lêron ni hôrdin,  
 ne węndin aftar is willjon. · Suma wárun sie im eft só wíse man,

1234 wárun im glawe gumon · ɛndi gode werðe,  
 a·lesane undar þem liudjun, · kwámun im þarod be þem lêron Kristes,  
 1236 þat sie is hêlag word · hôrjen móstin,  
 línon ɛndi lêstjen: · habdun mid iro ge·lôvon te im  
 1238 fasto ge·fangen, · habdun im ferhten hugi,  
 wurðun is þegnos te þiu, · þat hé sie an þiod-welon  
 1240 aftar iro ên-dagon · up ge·bráhti,  
 an godes ríki. · hé só gerno ant·fêng  
 1242 man-kunnjes manag · ɛndi mund-burd gi·hét  
 te langaru hwílu, · ɛndi mahta só gi·lêstjen wel.  
 1244 Þó warð þar męgin só mikil · umbi þana márjon Krist,  
 liudjo ge·samnod: · þó gi·sah hé fon allun landun kuman,  
 1246 fon allun wíðun wegun · werod te·samne  
 lungro liudjo: · is lof was só wído  
 1248 managun ge·márid. · Þó gi·wêt im mahtig self  
 an ênna berg uppan, · barno ríkjost,  
 1250 sundar ge·sittjen, · ɛndi im selvo ge·kôs  
 twe-livi ge·talda, · trew-hafta man,  
 1252 góðoro gumono, · þea hé im te jungoron forð  
 allaro dago ge·hwi-likes, · drohtin welda  
 1254 an is ge·sið-skępja · simblon hębbjan.  
 Nęmnida sie þó bi naman · ɛndi hét sie im þó náhor gangan,  
 1256 Andreas ɛndi Petrus · êrist sána,  
 ge·bróðar twêne, · ɛndi bêðje mid im,  
 1258 Jakobus ɛndi Johannes: · sie wárun gode werðe;  
 mildi was hé im an is móde; · sie wárun ênes mannes suni  
 1260 bêðje bi ge·burdjun; · sie kôs þat barn godes  
 góde te jungoron · ɛndi gumono filu,  
 1262 márjero manno: · Mattheus ɛndi Þomas,  
 Judasas twêna · ɛndi Jakob öðran,  
 1264 is selves swiri: · sie wárun fon gi·sustruonjon twêm  
 knósles kumana, · Krist ɛndi Jakob,  
 1266 góde gadulingos. · Þó habda þero gumono þar  
 þe nęrjendo Krist · niguni ge·talde,  
 1268 trew-hafte man: · þó hét hé ôk þana te·handon gangan  
 selvo mid þem gi·siðun: · Símon was hé hêtan;  
 1270 hét ôk Bartholomeus · an þana berg uppan  
 faran fan þem folke áðrum · ɛndi Philippus mid im,  
 1272 trew-hafte man. · Þó géngun sie twe-livi samad,  
 rinkos te þeru rúnu, · þar þe ráðand sat,

- 1274 managoro mund-boro, · þe allumu man-kunnje  
wið hēllje ge·þwing · helpan welde,  
1276 formon wið þem ferne, · só hwem só frummjen wili  
só liov-líka lēra, · só hé þem liudjun þar  
1278 þurh is gi·wit mikil · wísjan hogda.  
16 Þó umbi þana nęjandon Krist · náhor géngun  
1280 su·líka ge·siðos, · só hé im selvo ge·kôs,  
waldand undar þem werode. · Stóðun wísa man,  
1282 gumon umbi þana godes sunu · gerno swíðo,  
weros an willjon: · was im þero wordo niud,  
1284 þáhtun ęndi þagodun, · hwat im þero þiодо drohtin,  
weldi waldand self · wordun kúðjan  
1286 þesum liudjun te liove. · Þan sat im þe landes hirdi  
geggin-ward for þem gumun, · godes ęgan barn:  
1288 welda mid is sprákun · spáh-word manag  
lērjan þea liudi, · hwó sie lof gode  
1290 an þesum wer-old-ríkja · wirkjan skoldin.  
Sat im þó ęndi swígoda · ęndi sah sie an lango,  
1292 was im hold an is hugi · hēlag drohtin,  
mildi an is móde, · ęndi þó is mund ant·lôk,  
1294 wísde mid wordun · waldandes sunu  
manag mār-lík þing · ęndi þem mannum sagde  
1296 spáhun wordun, · þem þe hé te þeru spráku þarod,  
Krist alo-waldo, · ge·kora habda,  
1298 hwi-like wárin allaro · irmin-manno  
gode werðoston · gumono kunnjes;  
1300 sagde im þó te sōðan, · kwað þat þie sálige wárin,  
man an þesoro middil-gardun, · þie hér an iro móde wárin  
1302 arme þurh ôd-módi: · „þem is þat ęwana ríki,  
swíðo hēlag-lík · an hevan-wange  
1304 sin-líf far·geven.“ · Kwað þat ôk sálige wárin  
máð-mundje man: · „þie mótun þie mārjon erðe,  
1306 of·sittjen þat selve ríki.“ · Kwað þat ôk sálige wárin,  
þie hír wiopin iro wammun dádi; · „þie mótun eft willjon ge·bídan,  
1308 frófre an iro fráhon ríkja. · Sálige sind ôk, þe sie hír frumono  
gi·lustid,  
rinkos, þat sie rehto a·dómjen. · Þes mótun sie werðan an þem ríkja  
drohtines  
gi·fullit þurh iro ferhton dádi: · su-líkoro mótun sie frumono  
bi·knégan



1312 þie rinkos, þie hír rehto a·dómjad, · ne willjad an rúnun be·swíkan  
 man, þar sie at mahle sittjad. · Sálige sind ôk þem hír mildi wirðit  
 hugi an hēliðo briostun: · þem wirðit þe hēlego drohtin,  
 1314 mildi mahtig selvo. · Sálige sind ôk undar þesaro managon þiodu,  
 þie hēbbjad iro herta gi·hrēnod: · þie mótun þane hevenes waldand  
 1316 sehan an sínun ríkja.“ · Kwað þat ôk sálige wárin,  
 „þie þe friðu-samo undar þesumu folke libbjod · ęndi ni willjad êniga  
 fehta ge·wirken,  
 1318 saka mid iro selvoro dádjun: · þie mótun wesán suni drohtines  
 ge·nēmnde,  
 hwande hé im wil ge·nádig werðen; · þes mótun sie niotan lango  
 1320 selvon þes sínes ríkjes.“ · Kwað þat ôk sálige wárin  
 þie rinkos, þe rehto weldin, · „ęndi þurh þat þolod ríkjoro manno  
 1322 hęti ęndi harm-kwidi: · þem is ôk an himile eft  
 godes wang for·geven · ęndi gēst-lík líf  
 1324 aftar te êwan-dage, · só is io ęndi ni kumit,  
 welan wun-sames.“ · Só habde þó waldand Krist  
 1326 for þem erlom þar · ahto ge·talda  
 sálða ge·sagda; · mid þem skal simbla gi·hwe  
 1328 himil-ríki ge·halon, · ef hé it hēbbjan wili,  
 etþo hé skal te êwan-daga · aftar þarvon  
 1330 welon ęndi willjon, · siðor hé þese wer-old a·givid,  
 erð-lívi-gi·skapu, · ęndi sókit im ôðar lioht  
 1332 só liof só lêð, · só hé mid þesun liudjun hér  
 gi·werkod an þesoro wer-oldi, · al só it þar þó mid is wordun sagde  
 1334 Krist alo-waldo, · kuningo ríkjost  
 godes êgan barn · jungorun sínun:  
 1336 „Ge werðat ôk só sálige“, · kwað hé, „þes iu saka biodat  
 liudi aftar þeson lande · ęndi lêð sprekát,  
 1338 hēbbjad iu te hoska · ęndi harmes filu  
 ge·wirkjad an þesoro wer-oldi · ęndi wíti ge·frummjad,  
 1340 fēlgjad iu firin-spráka · ęndi fiund-skępi,  
 lāgnjad iuwa lēra, · dót iu lêðes filu,  
 1342 harmes þurh iuwan hêrron. · Þes látad gi iuwan hugi simbla,  
 líf an lustun, · hwand iu þat lôn stęndit  
 1344 an godes ríkja garu, · gódo ge·hwi-likes,  
 mikil ęndi manag-fald: · þat is iu te médu far·gevan,  
 1346 hwand gi hér êr bi·foran · arvid þolodun,  
 wíti an þesoro wer-oldi. · Wirs is þem ôðrum,  
 1348 giviðig grimmora þing, · þem þe hér gód êgun,

- wídan worold-welon: · þie for·slítat iro wunnja hér;  
 1350 ge·niudot sie ge·nóges, · skulun eft narowaro þing  
 aftar iro hin·fērði · hēliðos þolojan.  
 1352 Þan wópjan þar wan·skefti, · þie hér êr an wunnjon sín,  
 libbjad an allon lustun, · ne willjad þes far·látan wiht,  
 1354 mēni-gi·þáhtjo, · þes sie an iro mód spēnit,  
 lēðoro gi·lēstjo. · Þan im þat lôn kumid,  
 1356 uvil arved-sam, · þan sie is þane ėndi skulun  
 sorgondi ge·sehan. · Þan wirðid im sêr hugi,  
 1358 þes sie þesero wer-oldes só filu · willjan ful-géngun,  
 man an iro mód-sevon. · Nu skulun gi im þat mēn lahan,  
 1360 wēȝjan mid wordun, · al só ik giu nu ge·wísjan mag,  
 sēggjan sōð-líko, · ge·siðos míne,  
 1362 wárun wordun, · þat gi þesoro wer-oldes nu forð  
 skulun salt wesan, · sundigero manno,  
 1364 bótjan iro balu-dádi, · þat sie an bēȝara þing,  
 folk far·fáhan ėndi for·látan · fiundes gi·werk,  
 1366 diuvalēs ge·dádi, · ėndi sókjan iro drohtines ríki.  
 Só skulun gi mid iuwon lērun · liud-folk manag  
 1368 wēȝdjan aftar mínon willjon. · Ef iuwar þan a·wirðid hwi-lik,  
 far·látid þea lēra, · þea hé lēstjan skal,  
 1370 þan is im só þem salte, · þe man bi sēes staðe  
 wído te·wirpit: · þan it te wihti ni dōg,  
 1372 ak it firiho barn · fótun spurnat,  
 gumon an greote. · Só wirðid þem, þe þat godes word skal  
 1374 mannum mārjan: · ef hé im þan látid is mód twehon,  
 þat hi ne willja mid hluttro hugi · te heven-ríkja  
 1376 spanen mid is spráku · ėndi sēggjan spel godes,  
 ak wēȝkid þero wordo, · þan wirðid im waldand gram,  
 1378 mahtig módag, · ėndi só samo manno barn;  
 wirðid allun þan · irmin-þiodun,  
 1380 liudjun a·lēðid, · ef is lēra ni dugun.“  
 17 So sprak hé þó spáh-líko · ėndi sagda spel godes,  
 1382 lērde þe landes ward · liudi síne  
 mid hluttru hugju. · Hēliðos stóðun,  
 1384 gumon umbi þana godes sunu · gerno swíðo,  
 weros an willjon: · was im þero wordo niud,  
 1386 þáhtun ėndi þagodun, · gi·hōrdun þero þiodo drohtin  
 sēggjan ēw godes · ėldi-barnun;  
 1388 gi·hét im heven-ríki · ėndi te þem hēliðun sprak:

„Ôk mag ik iu sēggjan, · ge·siðos mína,  
 1390 wárun wordun, · þat gi þesoro wer-oldes nu forð  
 skulun lioht wesan · liudjo barnun,  
 1392 fagar mid firihun · ovar folk manag,  
 wlitig ėndi wun-sam: · ni mugun iuwa werk mikil  
 1394 bi·holan werðan, · mid hwi-liko gi sea hugi kúðjat:  
 þan mēr þe þiu burg ni mag, · þiu an berge stáð,  
 1396 hōh holm-klivu, · bi·holen werðen,  
 wrisi-lík gi·werk, · ni mugun iuwa word þan mēr  
 1398 an þesoro middil-gard · mannum werðen,  
 iuwa dādi bi·dērnit. · Dót, só ik iu lērju:  
 1400 látad iuwa lioht mikil · liudjun skínan,  
 manno barnun, · þat sie far·standan iuwan mód-sevon,  
 1402 iuwa werk ėndi iuwan willjon, · ėndi þes waldand god  
 mid hluttro hugju, · himiliskan fader,  
 1404 lovon an þesumu liohte, · þes hé iu su·lika lēra far·gaf.  
 Ni skal neoman lioht, þe it havad, · liudjun dērnjan,  
 1406 te hardo be·hwēlvjan, · ak hé it hōho skal  
 an sēli sēttjan, · þat þea ge·sehan mugin  
 1408 alla ge·líko, · þea þar inna sind,  
 hēliðos an hallu. · þan hald ni skulun gi iuwa hēlag word  
 1410 an þesumu land-skēpa · liudjun dērnjen,  
 hēlið-kunnje far·helan, · ak ge it hōho skulun  
 1412 brēdjan, þat gi·bod godes, · þat it allaro barno ge·hwi-lik,  
 ovar al þit land-skēpi · liudi far·standan  
 1414 ėndi só ge·frummjen, · só it an forn-dagun  
 tulgo wíse man · wordun ge·sprákun,  
 1416 þan sie þana aldan êw · erlos heldun,  
 ėndi ôk su·liku swíðor, · só ik iu nu sēggjan mag,  
 1418 alloro gumono ge·hwi-lik · gode þionojan,  
 þan it þar an þem aldom · êwa ge·beode.  
 1420 Ni wánjat gi þes mit wihtju, · þat ik bi þiu an þesa wer-old kwámi,  
 þat ik þana aldan êw · irrjen willje,  
 1422 fēlljan undar þesumu folke · efþo þero fora-sagono  
 word wiðar-werpen, · þea hér só gi·wárja man  
 1424 bar-líko ge·budun. · Êr skal bēðju te·faran,  
 himil ėndi erðe, · þiu nu bi·hlidan standat,  
 1426 êr þan þero wordo · wiht bi·líva  
 un·lēstid an þesumu liohte, · þea sie þesum liudjun hér  
 1428 wár-líko ge·budun. · Ni kwam ik an þesa wer-old te þiu,

- þat ik feldi þero fora-sagono word, · ak ik siu fulljen skal,  
 1430 ôkjon çndi nígjan · çldi-barnum,  
 þesumu folke te frumu. · Þat was forn ge·skrivan  
 1432 an þem aldon êo · —ge hòrdun it oft sprekan  
 word-wíse man—: · só hwe só þat an þesoro wer-oldi gi·dót,  
 1434 þat hé áðrana · aldru bi·neote,  
 lívu bi·lòsje, · þem skulun liudjo barn  
 1436 dōd a·dêljan. · Þan willjo ik it iu diopor nu,  
 furður bi·fáhan: · só hwe só ina þurh fiund-skepi,  
 1438 man wiðar ôðrana · an is mód-sevon  
 bilgit an is breostun · —hwand sie alle ge·bróðar sint,  
 1440 sálíg folk godes, · sibbjon bi·tengja,  
 man mid mág-skepi—, · þan wirðit þoh hwe ôðrumu an is móde só  
 gram,  
 1442 líbes weldi ina bi·lòsjen, · of hé mahti gi·lêstjen só:  
 þan is hé sán a·féhit · çndi is þes ferahas skolo,  
 1444 al su·likes ur·dêljes · só þe ôðar was,  
 þe þurh is hand-mëgin · hòvdo bi·lòsde  
 1446 erl ôðarna. · Ôk is an þem êo ge·skrivan  
 wárun wordun, · só gí witon alle,  
 1448 þan man is náhiston · niud-liko skal  
 minnjan an is móde, · wesen is mágun hold,  
 1450 gadulingun gód, · wesen is geva mildi,  
 fráhon is friunda ge·hwane, · çndi skal is fiund hatan,  
 1452 wiðer·standen þem mid strídu · çndi mid starku hugi,  
 węřjan wiðar wrêðun. · Þan seggjo ik iu te wáron nu,  
 1454 ful·líkur for þesumu folke, · þat gí iuwa fiund skulun  
 minnjon an iuwomu móde, · só samo só gí iuwa mágos dót,  
 1456 an godes namon. · Dót im gódes filu,  
 tōgjat im hluttran hugi, · holda trewa,  
 1458 liof wiðar ira lêðe. · Þat is lang-sam rád  
 manno só hwi-likumu, · só is mód te þiu  
 1460 ge·flíhit wiðar is fiunde. · Þan mótun gí þea fruma êgan,  
 þat gí mótun hêten · heven-kuninges suni,  
 1462 is blíði barn. · Ne mugun gí iu bęțaran rád  
 ge·winnan an þesoro wer-oldi. · Þan seggjo ik iu te wáron ôk,  
 1464 barno ge·hwi-likum, · þat gí ne mugun mid gi·bolgono hugi  
 iuwas gódes wiht · te godes húsun  
 1466 waldande far·gevan, · þat it imu wirðig sí  
 te ant·fáhanne, · só lango só þú fiund-skeþjes wiht,

1468 wiðer ôðran man · in-wid hugis.  
 Êr skalt þú þi simbla ge·sónjen · wið þana sak-waldand,  
 1470 ge·módi gi·mahljan: · siðor maht þú mēðmos þína  
 te þem godes altere a·gevan: · þan sind sie þemu góðan werðe,  
 1472 heven-kuninge. · Mér skulun gi aftar is huldi þionon,  
 godes willjon ful·gán, · þan ôðra Judeon duon,  
 1474 ef gí willjat êgan · êwan ríki,  
 sin-líf sehan. · Ôk skal ik iu sēggjan noh,  
 1476 hwó it þar an þem aldon · êo ge·biudid,  
 þat ênig erl ôðres · idis ni bi·swíka,  
 1478 wíf mid wammu. · Þan sēggjo ik iu te wáron ôk,  
 þat þar man is siuni mugun · swíðo far·lédjan  
 1480 an mirki mēn, · ef hi ina látid is mód spanen,  
 þat hé be·ginna þero girnjan, · þiu imu ge·gangan ni skal.  
 1482 Þan haved hé an imu selvon sán · sundja ge·warhta,  
 ge·hēftid an is hertan · hēlli-wíti.  
 1484 Ef þan þana man is siun wili · etþa is swíðare hand  
 far·lédjen is liðo hwi-lik · an lēðan weg,  
 1486 þan is erlo ge·hwem · ôðar bētera,  
 firiho barno, · þat hé ina fram werpa  
 1488 ėndi þana lið lōsje · af is lík-hamon  
 ėndi ina áno kuma · up te himile,  
 1490 þan hé só mid allun · te þem Inferne,  
 hwerve mid só hēlun · an hēlli-grund.  
 1492 Þan mēnid þiu lēf-hēd, · þat ênig liudjo ni skal  
 far·folgan is friunde, · ef hé ina an firina spanit,  
 1494 swás man an saka: · þan ne sí hé imu eo só swíðo an sibbjun bi·lang,  
 ne iro mág-skēpi só mikil, · ef hé ina an morð spēnit,  
 1496 bēdid balu-werko; · bētera is imu þan ôðar,  
 þat hé þana friund fan imu · fer far·werpa,  
 1498 mīðe þes mages · ėndi ni hēbbja þar êniga minnja tó,  
 þat hé móti êno · up ge·stígan  
 1500 hôh himil-ríki, · þan sie hēlli-ge·þwing,  
 brêd balu-wíti · bēðja gi·sókjan,  
 1502 **18** uvil arvidi. · Ôk is an þem êo ge·skrivan  
 wárun wordun, · só gí witun alle,  
 1504 þat mīðe mēn-ēðos · man-kunnjes ge·hwi-lik,  
 ni for·swērje ina selvon, · hwand þat is sundje te mikil,  
 1506 far·lēdid liudi · an lēðan weg.  
 Þan willjo ik iu eft sēggjan, · þan sán ni swērja neo-man

- 1508      ênigan êð-staf · ęldi-barno,  
          ne bi himile þemu hôhon, · hwand þat is þes hêrron stól,  
 1510      ne bi erðu þar undar, · hwand þat is þes alo-waldon  
          fagaꝛ fót-skamel, · nek ênig firiho barno  
 1512      ne swęꝛja bi is selves hôvde, · hwand hé ni mag þar ne swart ne hwít  
          ênig hár ge-wirkjan, · b-útan só it þe hêlago god,  
 1514      ge·markode mahtig; · be·þiu skulun míðan filu  
          erlos êð-wordo. · Só hwe só it ofto dót,  
 1516      só wirðid is simbla wirsa, · hwand hé imu gi·wardon ni mag.  
          Bi·þiu skal ik iu nu te wárun · wordun gi·beodan,  
 1518      þat gi neo ne swęꝛjen · swíðoron êðos,  
          méron met mannun, · b-útan só ik iu mid mínun hér  
 1520      swíðo wár-liko · wordun ge·biudu:  
          ef man hwemu saka sókja, · bi·sęggja þat wáre,  
 1522      kweðe já, gef it sí, · geha þes þar wár is,  
          kweðe nên, af it nis, · láta im ge·nóg an þiu;  
 1524      só hwat só is mêr owar þat · man ge·frummjad,  
          só kumid it al fan uville · ęldi-barnun,  
 1526      þat erl þurh un-trewa · ôðres ni wili  
          wordo ge·lôvjan. · Þan sęggjo ik iu te wáron ôk,  
 1528      hwó it þar an þem aldon · êo ge·biudit:  
          só hwe só ôgon ge·nimid · ôðres mannes,  
 1530      lôsid af is lík-haman, · etþa is liðo hwi-likan,  
          þat hé it eft mid is selves skal · sán ant·gelden  
 1532      mid ge·líkun liðjon. · Þan willjo ik iu lêrjan nu,  
          þat gí só ni wrekan · wrêða dádi,  
 1534      ak þat gí þurh ôd-módi · al ge·þologjan  
          wítjes ęndi wammes, · só hwat só man iu an þesoro wer-oldi ge·dóe.  
 1536      Dóe alloro erlo ge·hwi-lik · ôðrom manne  
          frume ęndi ge·fóri, · só hé willje, þat im firiho barn  
 1538      gódes an·gęgin dóen. · Þan wirðit im god mildi,  
          liudjo só hwi-likum, · só þat lêstjen wili.  
 1540      Êrod gí arme man, · dêljad iuwan ôd-welon  
          undar þero þurftigon þiodu; · ne rókjad, hweðar gí is ênigan þank  
          ant·fáhan  
 1542      efþo lôn an þesoro lêhnjon wer-oldi, · ak huggjat te iuwomu leovon  
          hêrran  
          þero gevono te gelde, · þat sie iu god lôno,  
 1544      mahtig mund-boro, · só hwat só gi is þurh is minnes gi·dót.  
          Ef þú þan gevogjan wili · gódun mannun

1546 fagare feho-skattos, · þar þú eft frumono hugis  
 mēr ant-fāhan, · te hwí havas þú þes êniga méda fon gode  
 1548 etþa lôn an þemu is liohte? · hwand þat is lêhni feho.  
 Só is þes alles ge·hwat, · þe þú ôðrun ge·duos  
 1550 liudjon te leove, · þar þú hugis eft ge·lik neman  
 þero wordo êndi þero werko: · te hwí wêt þi þes ùsa waldand þank,  
 1552 þes þú þín só bi·filhis · êndi ant-fāhis eft þan þú wili?  
 iuwan ôð-welon · gevan gi þem armun mannun,  
 1554 þe ina iu an þesoro wer-oldi ne lônnon · êndi rómot te iuwes  
 waldandes ríkja.  
 Te hlúd ni dó þú it, · þan þú mid þínun handun bi·felhas  
 1556 þína alamosna þemu armon manne, · ak dó im þurh ôð-móðjen  
 gerno þurh godes þank: · þan móst þú eft geld niman,  
 1558 swíðo liof-lik lôn, · þar þú is lango bi·þarft,  
 fagaroro frumono. · Só hwat só þú is só þurh ferhtan hugi  
 1560 darno ge·dêljas, · —so is ùsumu drohtine werð—  
 ne galpo þú far þínun ge·vun te swíðo, · noh ênig gumono ne skal,  
 1562 þat siu im þurh ídale hróm · eft ni werðe  
 lêð-líko far·loren. · Þanna þú skalt lôn nemen  
 1564 fora godes ôgun · góðero werko.  
 Ôk skal ik iu ge·beodan, · þan gi willjad te bedu hnígan  
 1566 êndi willjad te iuwomu hêrron · helpono biddjan,  
 þat hé iu a·láte · lêðes þinges,  
 1568 þero sakono êndi þero sundjono, · þea gi iu selvon hír  
 wrêða ge·wirkjad, · þat gi it þan for ôðrumu werode ni duad:  
 1570 ni mārjad it far mēnigi, · þat iu þes man ni lovon,  
 ni diurjan þero dádjo, · þat gi iuwes drohtines gi·bed  
 1572 þurh þat ídala hróm · al ne far·leosan.  
 Ak þan gi willjan te iuwomo hêrron · helpono biddjan,  
 1574 þiggjan þeo-líko, · —þes iu is þarf mikil—  
 þat iu sigi-drohtin · sundjono tómja,  
 1576 þan dót gi þat só darno: · þoh wêt it iuwe drohtin self  
 hêlag an himile, · hwand imu nis bi·holan n·eo·wiht  
 1578 ne wordo ne werko. · hé látid it þan al ge·werðan só,  
 só gi ina þan biddjad, · þan gi te þero bedo hnígad  
 1580 mid hluttru hugi.“ · Heliðos stóðun,  
 gumon umbi þana godes sunu · gerno swíðo,  
 1582 weros an willjon: · was im þero wordo niud,  
 þáhtun êndi þagodun, · was im þarf mikil,  
 1584 þat sic þat eft ge·hogdin, · þat im þat hêlaga barn

- an þana forman sið · filu mid wordun  
 1586 torhtes ge·talde. · Þó sprak im eft ên þero tve-livjo an·gëgin,  
 glauworo gumono, · te þem godes barne:  
 1588 **19** „Hêrro þe gódo“, · kwað hé, „ús is þínoro huldi þarf,  
 te gi·wirkenne þínna willjon, · ęndi ôk þínoro wordo só self,  
 1590 allaro barno bętst, · þat þú ús bedon lêres,  
 jungoron þíne, · só Johannes duot,  
 1592 diur-lík dôperi, · dago ge·hwi-likas  
 is werod mid wordun, · hwí sie waldand skulun,  
 1594 gódan grótjan. · Dó þína jungorun só self:  
 ge·rihti ús þat ge·rúni.“ · Þó habda eft þe ríkjo garu  
 1596 sán aftar þiu, · sunu drohtines,  
 gód word an·gëgin: · „Þan gi god willjan“, kwað hé,  
 1598 „weros mid iuwon wordun · waldand grótjan,  
 allaro kuningo kraftigostan, · þan kweðad gi, só ik iu lęrju:  
 1600 ,Fadar úsa · firiho barno,  
 þú bist an þem hôhon · himila ríkja,  
 1602 ge·wihid sí þín namo · wordo ge·hwi-liko.  
 Kuma þín · kraftag ríki.  
 1604 Werða þín willjo · ovar þesa wer-old alla,  
 só sama an erðo, · só þar uppa ist  
 1606 an þem hôhon · himilo ríkja.  
 Gef ús dago ge·hwi-likes rád, · drohtin þe gódo,  
 1608 þína hêlaga helpa, · ęndi a·lát ús, hevenes ward,  
 managoro mên-skuldjo, · al só we ôðrum mannum dóan.  
 1610 Ne lát ús far·lędjan · lęða wihti  
 só forð an iro willjon, · só wí wirðige sind,  
 1612 ak help ús wiðar allun · uvilon dádjun.  
 Só skulun gí biddjan, · þan gi te bede hnígad  
 1614 weros mid iuwom wordun, · þat iu waldand god  
 lęðes a·láte · an leut-kunnja.  
 1616 Ef gi þan willjad a·látan · liudjo ge·hwi-likun  
 þero sakono ęndi þero sundjono, · þe sie wið iu selvon hír  
 1618 wrêða ge·wirkjat, · þan a·látid iu waldand god,  
 fadar ala-mahtig · firin-werk mikil,  
 1620 managoro mên-skuldjo. · Ef iu þan wirðid iuwa mód te stark,  
 þat gi ne wileat ôðrun · erlun a·látan,  
 1622 weron wam-dádi, · þan ne wil iu ôk waldand god  
 grim-werk far·gevan, · ak gi skulun is geld niman,  
 1624 swiðo lęð-lik lôn · te languru hwílu,



alles þes un-rehtes, · þes gi ððrum hír  
 1626 gi·lêstjad an þesumu liohte · ęndi þan wið liudjo barn  
 þea saka ni gi·sónjad, · êr gi an þana sið faran,  
 1628 weros fon þesoro wer-oldi. · Ok skal ik iu te wárun sęggjan,  
 hwó gi lêstjan skulun · lêra mína:  
 1630 þan gi iuwa fastonnja · frummjan willjan,  
 minson iuwa mên-dádi, · þan ni duad gi þat te managom kũð,  
 1632 ak mĩðad is far ððrum mannun: · þoh wêt mahtig god,  
 waldand iuwan willjan, · þoh iu werod ððar,  
 1634 liudjo barn ne lovon. · hé gildid is iu lôn aftar þiu,  
 iuwa hêlag fadar · an himil-ríkja,  
 1636 þes ge im mid su·likum ôð-módja, · erlos þeonod,  
 só ferht-líko undar þesumu folke. · Ne willjat feho winnan  
 1638 erlos an un-reht, · ak wirkjad up te gode  
 man aftar médu: · þat is mēra þing,  
 1640 þan man hír an erðu · ôðag libbja,  
 wer-old-skattes ge·wono. · Ef gi willjad mínun wordun hōrjan,  
 1642 þan ne samnod gi hír sink mikil · silōvres ne goldes  
 an þesoro middil-gard, · mēðom-hordes,  
 1644 hwand it rotat hír an roste, · ęndi rēgin-þeovos far·stelad,  
 wurmi a·wardjad, · wirðid þat gi·wádi far·slitan,  
 1646 ti·gangid þe gold-welo. · Lêstjad iuwa gódon werk,  
 samnod iu an himile · hord þat méra,  
 1648 fagara feho-skattos: · þat ni mag iu ênig fiund be·niman,  
 ne-wiht an·wēndjan, · hwand þe welo standid  
 1650 garu iu te·gęgnes, · só hwat só gĩ gódes þarod,  
 an þat himil-ríki · hordes ge·samnod,  
 1652 hēliðos þurh iuwa hand-geva, · ęndi hēbbjad þarod iuwan hugi fasto;  
 hwand þar ist alloro manno gi·hwes · mód-ge·þáhti,  
 1654 hugi ęndi herta, · þar is hord ligid,  
 sink ge·samnod. · Nis eo só sálig man,  
 1656 þat mugi an þesoro brēdon wer-old · bēðju ant·hengjan,  
 ge þat hi an þesoro erðu · ôðag libbja,  
 1658 an allun wer-old-lustun wesa, · ge þoh waldand gode  
 te þanke ge·þeono: · ak hé skal alloro þingo gi·hwes  
 1660 simbla ððar-hweðar · ên far·látan  
 etþo lusta þes lík-hamon · etþo lif êwig.  
 1662 Be·þiu ni gornot gi umbi iuwa ge·garuwi, · ak huggjad te gode fasto,  
 ne mornont an iuwomu móde, · hwat gi eft an morgan skulin  
 1664 etan etþo drinkan · etþo an hēbbjan

- weros te ge·wēdja: · it wēt al waldand god,  
 1666 hwes þea bi·þurvun, · þea im hír þionod wel,  
 folgod iro frôhan willjon. · Hwat gi þat bi þesun fuglun mugun  
 1668 wār-liko undar·witan, · þea hír an þesoro wer-oldi sint,  
 farad an feðar-hamun: · sie ni kunnun ênig feho winnan,  
 1670 þoh givid im drohtin god · dago ge·hwi-likes  
 helpa wiðar hungre. · Ôk mugun gi an iuwom hugi markon,  
 1672 weros umbi iuwa ge·wādi, · hwó þie wurti sint  
 fagoro ge·fratohot, · þea hír an felde stād,  
 1674 berht-liko ge·blóid: · ne mahta þe burges ward,  
 Salomon þe suning, · þe habda sink mikil,  
 1676 mēðom-hordas mēst, · þero þe ênig man êhti,  
 welono ge·wunnan · çndi allaro ge·wādjo kust,—  
 1678 þoh ni mohte hé an is lîve, · þoh hé habdi alles þeses landes ge·wald,  
 a·winnan su·lik ge·wādi, · só þiu wurt havad,  
 1680 þiu hír an felde stād · fagoro ge·gariwit,  
 lilli mid só liof-líku blómon: · ina wādit þe landes waldand  
 1682 hér fan hevenes wange. · Mēr is im þoh umbi þit hēliðo kunni,  
 liudi sint im liovoron mikilu, · þea hé im an þesumu lande ge·warhte,  
 1684 waldand an willjon sínan. · Be·þiu ne þurvon gi umbi iuwa ge·wādi  
 sorgon,  
 ne gornot gi umbi iuwa ge·gariwi te swiðo: · god wili is alles rádan,  
 1686 helpan fan hevenes wange, · ef gi willjad aftar is huldi þeonon.  
 Gerot gi simbla êrist þes godes ríkjas, · çndi þan duat aftar þem is  
 gódun werkun,  
 1688 rómod gi rehtoro þingo: · þan wili iu þe ríkjo drohtin  
 gevon mid alloro gódu ge·hwi-liku, · ef gi im þus ful·gangan willjad,  
 1690 só ik iu te wárun hír · wordun sēggjo.  
 20 Ne skulun gí ênigumu manne · un-rehtes wiht,  
 1692 dērvjes a·dēljan, · hwand þe dóm eft kumid  
 ovar þana selvon man, · þar it im te sorgon skal,  
 1694 werðan þem te wítja, · þe hír mid is wordun ge·sprikid  
 un-reht ôðrum. · Neo þat iuwar ênig ne dua  
 1696 gumono an þesom gardon · geldes etþo kôpes,  
 þat hi un-reht gi·met · ôðrumu manne  
 1698 mēn-ful mako, · hwand it simbla mótjan skal  
 erlo ge·hwi-likomu, · su·lik só hé it ôðrumu ge·dód,  
 1700 só kumid it im eft te·gēgnes, · þar hé gerno ne wili  
 ge·sehan is sundjon. · Ôk skal ik iu sēggjan noh,  
 1702 hwar gi iu wardon skulun · wítjo mēsta,

mên-werk manag: · te hwí skalt þú ênigan man be·sprekan,  
 1704 bróðar þínan, · þat þú undar is bráhon ge·sehas  
 halm an is ôgon, · çndi ge·huggjan ni wili  
 1706 þana swáran balkon, · þe þú an þínoro siuni havas,  
 hard trio çndi hëvig. · Lát þi þat an þínan hugi fallan,  
 1708 hwó þú þana êrist a·lôsjas: · þan skínid þi lioht be·foran,  
 ôgun werðad þi ge·oponot; · þan maht þú aftar þiu  
 1710 swáses mannes ge·siun · siðor ge·bótjan,  
 ge·hêljan an is hōvde. · Só mag þat an is hugi méra  
 1712 an þesoro middil-gard · manno ge·hwi-likumu,  
 wesan an þesoro wer-oldi, · þat hi hír wammas ge·duot,  
 1714 þan hi ahtogja · ôðres mannes  
 saka çndi sundja, · çndi havad im selvo mêt  
 1716 firin-werko ge·frumid. · Ef hé wili is fruma lêstjan,  
 þan skal hi ina selvon êr · sundjono a·tómjan,  
 1718 lêð-werko lôson: · siðor mag hi mid is lêrun werðan  
 heļiðun te helpu, · siðor hi ina hluttran wêt,  
 1720 sundjono sikoran. · Ne skulun gi swinum te·foran  
 iuwa mere-gríton makon · etþo mēðmo ge·striuni,  
 1722 hêlag hals-męni, · hwand siu it an horu spurnat,  
 sulwjad an sande: · ne witun súvrjas ge·skêð,  
 1724 fagaroro fratoho. · Su-lik sint hír folk manag,  
 þe iuwa hêlag word · hōrjan ne willjad,  
 1726 ful-gangan godes lêrun: · ne witun godes ge·skêð,  
 ak sind im lári word · leovoron mikilu,  
 1728 umbi·þarvi þing, · þanna þeot-godes  
 werk çndi willjo. · Ne sind sie wirðige þan,  
 1730 þat sie ge·hōrjan iuwa hêlag word, · ef sie is ne willjad an iro hugi  
 þenkjan,  
 ne línon ne lêstjan. · Þem ni sęggjan gi iuworo lêron wiht,  
 1732 þat gi þea spráka godes · çndi spel managu  
 ne far·leosan an þem liudjun, · þea þar ne willjan gi·lōvjan tó,  
 1734 wároro wordo. · Ôk skulun gi iu wardon filu  
 listjun undar þesun liudjun, · þar gí aftar þesumu lande farad,  
 1736 þat iu þea luggjon ne mugin · lêron be·swíkan  
 ni mid wordun ni mid werkun. · Sie kumad an su·likom ge·wádjon  
 te iu,  
 1738 fagorōn fratohon: · þoh hębbjad sie fêknan hugi:  
 þea mugun gi sán ant·kęnnjan, · só gi sie kuman ge·schad:  
 1740 sie sprekað wís-lik word, · þoh iro werk ne dugin,

- 1742 þero þegno ge·þáhti. · Hwand gi witun, þat eo an þorniun ne skulun  
 wín-beri wesān · eþþa welon eo·wiht,  
 fagororo fruhtjo, · nek ôk figun ne lesad  
 1744 hēliðos an hiopon. · Þat mugun gi undar·huggjan wel,  
 þat eo þe uвило bôm, · þar hé an erðu stád,  
 1746 góden wastum ne givid, · nek it ôk god ni ge·skóp,  
 þat þe gódo bôm · gumono barnun  
 1748 bári bittres wiht, · ak kumid fan alloro bâmo ge·hwi-likumu  
 su·lik wastom te þesero wer-oldi, · só im fan is wurtjon ge·dregid,  
 1750 etþa berht etþa bittar. · Þat mēnid þoh breost-hugi,  
 managoro mód-sevon · manno kunnjes,  
 1752 hwó alloro erlo ge·hwi-lik · ôgit selvo,  
 meldod mid is müðu, · hwi-likan hé mód havad,  
 1754 hugi umbi is herte: · þes ni mag hé far·helan eo·wiht,  
 ak kumad fan þem uvilan man · in-wid-rádos,  
 1756 bittara balu-spráka, · su·lik só hi an is breostun havad  
 ge·hēftid umbi is herte: · simbla is hugi kũðid,  
 1758 is willjon mid is wordun, · ęndi farad is werk aftar þiu.  
 Só kumad fan þemu gódan manne · glau and-wordi,  
 1760 wís-lik fan is ge·wittja, · þat hi simbla mid is wordu ge·sprikid,  
 man mid is mĩðu su·lik, · só hé an is móde havad  
 1762 hord umbi is herte. · Þanan kumad þea hēlagan lêra,  
 swiðo wun-sam word, · ęndi skulun is werk aftar þiu  
 1764 þeodu ge·þíhan, · þegnun managun  
 werðan te willjon, · al só it waldand self  
 1766 góðun mannun far·givid, · god alo-mahtig,  
 himilisk hērro, · hwand sie áno is helpa ni mugun  
 1768 ne mid wordun ne mid werkun · wiht a·þęngjan  
 gódes an þesun gardun. · Be·þiu skulun gumono barn  
 1770 an is ênes kraft · alle gi·lôvjan.  
 21 Ôk skal ik iu wísjan, · hwó hír wegos twêna  
 1772 liggjad an þesumu liohte, · þea farad liudjo barn,  
 al irmin-þiod. · Þero is ôðar sán  
 1774 wíd stráta ęndi brêd, · —farid sie werodes filu,  
 man-kunnjes manag, · hwand sie þarod iro mód spēnit,  
 1776 wer-old-lusta weros— · þiu an þea wirson hand  
 liudi lêdid, · þar sie te far·lora werðad,  
 1778 hēliðos an hēllju, · þar is hêt ęndi swart,  
 ęgis-lik an innan: · ôði ist þarod te faranne  
 1780 ęldi-barnun, · þoh it im at þemu ęndje ni dugi.

Ðan ligid eft ôðar · ęngira mikilu  
 1782 weg an þesoro wer-oldi, · ęerid ina werodes lút,  
 fāho folk-skępi: · ni willjad ina firiho barn  
 1784 gerno gangan, · þoh hé te godes ríkja,  
 an þat êwiga líf, · erlos lédja.  
 1786 Ðan nimad gí iu þana ęngjan: · þoh hé só óði ne sí  
 firihon te faranne, · þoh skal hi te frumu werðan  
 1788 só hwemu só ina þurh·gęngid, · só skal is geld niman,  
 swiðo lang-sam lôn · ęndi líf êwig,  
 1790 diur-líkan drôm. · Eo gi þes drohtin skulun,  
 waldand biddjen, · þat gi þana weg mótin  
 1792 fan foran ant·fāhan · ęndi forð þurh gi·gangan  
 an þat godes ríki. · hé ist garu simbla  
 1794 wiðar þiu te gevanne, · þe man ina gerno bidid,  
 fergot firiho barn. · Sókjad fadar iuwan  
 1796 up te þemu êwinom ríkja: · þan mótun gi ina aftar þiu  
 te iuworu frumu fiðan. · Kűðjad iuwa fard þarod  
 1798 at iuwas drohtines durun: · þan werðad iu an·dón aftar þiu,  
 himil-portun ant·hlidan, · þat gi an þat hêlage lioht,  
 1800 an þat godes ríki · gangan mótun,  
 sin-líf sehan. · Ôk skal ik iu sęggjan noh  
 1802 far þesumu werode allun · wár-lík biliði,  
 þat alloro liudjo só hwi-lik, · só þesa mína lêra wili  
 1804 ge·haldan an is herton · ęndi wil iro an is hugi a·þęnkjan,  
 lêstjan sea an þesumu lande, · þe gi·líko duot  
 1806 wísumu manne, · þe gi·wit havad,  
 horska hugi-skęfti, · ęndi hús-stędi kiusid  
 1808 an fastoro foldun · ęndi an felisa uppan  
 wégos wirkid, · þar im wind ni mag,  
 1810 ne wág ne watares strôm · wihtju ge·tiunjan,  
 ak mag im þar wið un-gi·widerjon · allun standan  
 1812 an þemu felise uppan, · hwand it só fasto warð  
 gi·stellit an þemu stêne: · ant·havad it þiu stędi niðana,  
 1814 wreðid wiðar winde, · þat it wíkan ni mag.  
 Só duot eft manno só hwi-lik, · só þesun mínun ni wili  
 1816 lêrun hôrjen ne þero · lêstjen wiht,  
 só duot þe un-wíson · erla ge·líko,  
 1818 un-ge·wittigon were, · þe im be watares staðe  
 an sande wili · sęli-hús wirkjan,  
 1820 þar it westrani wind · ęndi wágo strôm,

- 1822 sêes üðjon te·sláad; · ne mag im sand ęndi greot  
 ge·wreðjen wið þemu winde, · ak wirðid te·worpan þan,  
 te·fallen an þemu flóde, · hwand it an fastoro nis  
 1824 erðu ge·timbrod. · Só skal allaro erlo ge·hwes  
 werk ge·þíhan wiðar þiu, · þe hi þius mín word frumid,  
 1826 haldid hêlag ge·bod.“ · Þó bi·gunnun an iro hugi wundron  
 megin-folk mikil: · ge·hórdun mahtiges godes  
 1828 liof-líka lêra; · ne wárun an þemu lande ge·wuno,  
 þat sie eo fan su·likun êr · seggjan ge·hórdin  
 1830 wordun etþo werkun. · Far·stóðun wíse man,  
 þat hé só lêrde, · liudjo drohtin,  
 1832 wárun wordun, · só hé ge·wald habde,  
 allun þem un-ge·líko, · þe þar an êr-dagun  
 1834 undar þem liud-skępja · lérjon wárun  
 a·kora undar þemu kunnje: · ne habdun þiu Kristes word  
 1836 ge·makon mid mannun, · þe hé far þero męnigi sprak,  
 22 ge·bôd uppan þemu berge. · hé im þó bēðju be·falh  
 1838 te ge·seggennja · sínom wordun,  
 hwó man himil-ríki · ge·halon skoldi,  
 1840 wíð-brêðan welan, · gia hé im ge·wald far·gaf,  
 þat sie móstin hêljan · halte ęndi blinde,  
 1842 liudjo léf-hêdi, · legar-bêð manag,  
 swára suhti, · giak hé im selvo ge·bôd,  
 1844 þat sie at ênigumu manne · méde ne námin,  
 diurje mēðmos: · „ge·huggjad gi“, kwað hé, —, „hwand iu is þiu dád  
 kuman,  
 1846 þat ge·wit ęndi þe wís-dóm, · ęndi iu þea ge·wald far·givid  
 alloro friho fadar, · só gi sie ni þurvun mid ênigo feho kôpon,  
 1848 mēdjan mid ênigun mēðmun,— · só wesat gi iro mannun forð  
 an iuwon hugi-skęftjun · helpono mildja,  
 1850 lérjad gi liudjo barn · lang-samna rád,  
 fruma forð-wardes; · firin-werk lahad,  
 1852 swára sundjon. · Ne látad iu silovar nek gold  
 wihti þes wirðig, · þat it eo an iuwa ge·wald kuma,  
 1854 faga feho-skattos: · it ni mag iu te ênigoro frumu hwęgin,  
 werðan te ênigumu willjon. · Ne skulun gi ge·wádjas þan mēr  
 1856 erlos êgan, · b·útan só gi þan an hębbjan,  
 gumon te garewja, · þan gi gangan skulun  
 1858 an þat gi·mang innan. · Neo gi umbi iuwan męti ni sorgot,  
 lęng umbi iuwa lif-nare, · hwand þene lérjand skulun

1860 fódjan þat folk-skēpi: · þes sint þea fruma werða,  
 leov-likes lōnes, · þe hi þem liudjun sagad.  
 1862 wirðig is þe wurhtjo, · þat man ina wel fódja,  
 þana man mid mōsu, · þe só managoro skal  
 1864 seola bi·sorgan · ċndi an þana sið spanen,  
 gēstos an godes wang. · Þat is grōtara þing,  
 1866 þat man bi·sorgon skal · seolun managa,  
 hwó man þea ge·halde · te heven-ríkja,  
 1868 þan man þene lik-hamon · liudi-barno  
 mōsu bi·morna. · Be·þiu man skulun  
 1870 haldan þene hold-líko, · þe im te heven-ríkja  
 þene weg wísit · ċndi sie wam-skaðun,  
 1872 feondun wit·fāhit · ċndi firin-werk lahid,  
 swára sundjon. · Nu ik iu sēndjan skal  
 1874 aftar þesumu land-skēpje · só lamb undar wulvos:  
 só skulun gi undar iuwa fiund faren, · undar filu þeodo,  
 1876 undar mis-líke man. · Hēbbjad iuwan mōd wiðar þem  
 só glawan te·gēgnes, · só samo só þe gelwo wurm,  
 1878 nādra þiu fēha, · þar siu iro níð-skēpjes,  
 witodes wānit, · þat man iu undar þemu werode ne mugi  
 1880 be·swikan an þemu siðe. · Far þiu gi sorgon skulun,  
 þat iu þea man ni mugin · mōd-ge·þāhti,  
 1882 willjan a·wardjen. · Wesat iu so wara wiðar þiu,  
 wið iro fēknjon dádjun, · só man wiðar fiundun skal.  
 1884 Þan wesat gí eft an iuwon dádjun · dúvon ge·líka,  
 hēbbjad wið erlo ge·hwene · ên-faldan hugi,  
 1886 mildjan mōd-sevon, · þat þar man neg·ên  
 þurh iuwa dádi · be·drogan ne werðe,  
 1888 be·swikan þurh iuwa sundja. · Nu skulun gí an þana sið faran,  
 an þat ârundi: · þar skulun gí arvidjes só filu  
 1890 ge·þolon undar þeru þiod · ċndi ge·þwing só samo  
 manag ċndi mis-lík, · hwand gi an mīnumu namon  
 1892 þea liudi lērjat. · Be·þiu skulun gi þar lēðes filu  
 fora wer-old-kuningun, · wítjas ant·fāhan.  
 1894 Oft skulun gi þar for ríkja · þurh þius mín rehtun word  
 ge·bundane standen · ċndi bêðju ge·þologjan,  
 1896 ge hosk ge harm-kwidi: · umbi þat ne látad gi iuwan hugi twíflon,  
 sevon swíkandjan: · gi ni þurvun an ênigun sorgun wesan  
 1898 an iuwomu hugi hwęrgin, · þan man iu for þea hêri forð  
 an þene gast-sēli · gangan hêtid,

- 1900 hwat gi im þan te·gēgnes skulin · góðoro wordo,  
 spáh-líkoro ge·sprekan, · hwand iu þiu spód kumid,  
 1902 helpe fon himile, · ęndi sprikid þe hêlogo gêst,  
 mahtig fon iuwomu munde. · Be·þiu ne and-ráðad gi iu þero manno  
 níð  
 1904 ne forhtjat iro fīund-skępi: · þoh sie hębbjan iuwas ferāhes ge·wald,  
 þat sie mugin þene lík-hamon · lívu be·neotan,  
 1906 a·slahan mid swerde, · þoh sie þeru seolon ne mugun  
 wiht a·wardjan. · Ant-dráðad iu waldand god,  
 1908 forhtjad fader iuwan, · frummjad gerno  
 is ge·bod-skępi, · hwand hi havad bēðjes gi·wald,  
 1910 liudjo líves · ęndi ôk iro lík-hamon  
 gek þero seolon só self: · ef gi iuwa an þem sīðe þarod  
 1912 far·liosat þurh þesa lēra, · þan mótun gi sie eft an þemu liohte godes  
 be·foran fīðan, · hwand sie fader iuwa,  
 1914 haldid hêlag god · an himil-ríkja.
- 23 Ne kumat þea alle te himile, · þea þe hér hrópat te mí  
 1916 manno te mund-burd. · Managa sind þero,  
 þea willjad alloro dago ge·hwi-likes · te drohtine hnígan,  
 1918 hrópad þar te helpu · ęndi huggjad an ôðar,  
 wirkjad wam-dádi: · ne sind im þan þiu word fruma,  
 1920 ak þea mótun hwervan · an þat himiles lioht,  
 gangan an þat godes ríki, · þea þes gerne sint,  
 1922 þat sie hír ge·frummjen · fader ala-waldan  
 werk ęndi willjon. · Þea ni þurvun mid wordun só filu  
 1924 hrópan te helpu, · hwanda þe hêlogo god  
 wêt alloro manno ge·hwes · mód-ge·þáhti,  
 1926 word ęndi willjon, · ęndi gildid im is werko lôn.  
 Be·þiu skulun gí sorgon, · þan gí an þene sīð farad,  
 1928 hwó gi þat ârundi · ti ęndja be·brenge.  
 Þan gí líðan skulun · aftar þesumu land-skępja,  
 1930 wído aftar þesoro wer-oldi, · al só iu wegos lédjad,  
 brêd stráta te burg, · simbla sókjad gi iu þene bętston sán  
 1932 man undar þeru męnegi · ęndi kúðjad imu iuwan móð-sevon  
 wárun wordun. · Ef sie þan þes wirðige sint,  
 1934 þat sie iuwa góðun werk · gerno ge·lêstjen  
 mid hluttru hugi, · þan gi an þemu húse mid im  
 1936 wonod an willjon · ęndi im wel lônod,  
 geldad im mid góðu · ęndi sie te gode selvon  
 1938 wordun ge·wíhad · ęndi seggjad im wissan friðu,



- hêlaga helpa · heven-kuninges.  
 1940 Ef sie þan só sálīga · þurh iro selvoro dád  
 werðan ni mótun, · þat sie iuwa werk frummjen,  
 1942 lêstjen iuwa lêra, · þan gi fan þem liudjun sán,  
 farad fan þemu folke, · —þe iuwa friðu hwirvid  
 1944 eft an iuworo selvoro sið,— · ęndi látad sie mid sundjun forð,  
 mid balu-werkun búan · ęndi sókjad iu burg ôðra,  
 1946 mikil man-werod, · ęndi ne látad þes melmes wiht  
 folgan an iuwom fótun, · þanan þe man iu ant·fáhan ne wili,  
 1948 ak skuddjat it fan iuwon skóhun, · þat it im eft te skamu werðe,  
 þemu werode te ge·wit-skępje, · þat iro willjo ne døg.  
 1950 Þan sęggjo ik iu te wárun, · só hwan só þius wer-old ęndjad  
 ęndi þe márjo dag · ovar man farid,  
 1952 þat þan Sodom-burg, · þiu hír þurh sundjon warð  
 an af-grundi · êldes kraftu,  
 1954 fiuru bi·fallen, · þat þiu þan havad friðu méran,  
 mildiran mund-burd, · þan þea man êgin,  
 1956 þe iu hír wiðar-werpat · ęndi ne willjad iuwa word frummjen.  
 Só hwe só iu þan ant·fáhit · þurh ferhtan hugi,  
 1958 þurh mildjan mód, · só havad mínan forð  
 willjon ge·warhten · ęndi ôk waldand god,  
 1960 ant·fangan fader iuwan, · firiho drohtin,  
 ríkjan rád-gevon, · þene þe al recht bi·kan.  
 1962 wêt waldand self, · ęndi willjan lônót  
 gumono ge·hwi-likumu, · só hwat só hi hír gódes ge·duot,  
 1964 þoh hi þurh minnja godes · manno hwi-likumu  
 willjandi far·geve · watares drinkan,  
 1966 þat hi þurftigumu manne · þurst ge·hêlje,  
 kaldes brunnan. · Þesa kwidi werðad wára,  
 1968 þat eo ne bi·lívid, · ne hi þes lôn skuli,  
 fora godes ôgun · geld ant·fáhan,  
 1970 méda manag-falde, · só hwat só hi is þurh mína minnja ge·duot.  
 Só hwe só mín þan far·lôgnid · liudi-barno,  
 1972 hęliðo for þesoro hęrju, · só dóm ik is an himile só self  
 þar uppe far þem alo-waldan fader · ęndi for allumu is ęngilo krafte,  
 1974 far þeru mikilon męnigi. · Só hwi-lik só þan eft manno barno  
 an þesoro wer-oldi ne wili · wordun miðan,  
 1976 ak gihit far gum-skępi, · þat hé mín jungoro sí,  
 þene willju ek eft ôgjan · far ôgun godes,  
 1978 fora alloro firiho fader, · þar folk manag

- for þene alo-waldon · alla gangad  
 1980 reðinon wið þene ríkjon. · Þar willju ik imu an reht wesan  
 mildi mund-boro, · só hwemu só mínun hír  
 1982 wordun hôrid · ęndi þiu werk frumid,  
 þea ik hír an þesumu berge uppan · ge·boden hębbju.“  
 1984 Habda þó te wárun · waldandes sunu  
 ge·lêrid þea liudi, · hwó sie lof gode  
 1986 wirkjan skoldin. · Þó lét hi þat werod þanan  
 an alloro halva ge·hwi-lika, · hęri-skępi manno  
 1988 siðon te selðon. · Habdun selves word,  
 ge·hôrid heven-kuninges · hêlaga lêra,  
 1990 só eo te wer-oldi sint · wordo ęndi dádjo,  
 man-kunnjes manag · ovar þesan middil-gard  
 1992 sprákono þiu spáhiron, · só hwe só þiu spel ge·frang,  
 þea þar an þemu berge ge·sprak · barno ríkjast.  
 1994 24 Ge·wêt imu þó umbi þrea naht aftar þiu · þesoro þiодо drohtin  
 an Galileo land, · þar hé te ênum gômum warð,  
 1996 ge·bedan þat barn godes: · þar skolda man êna brúd gevan,  
 muna-líka magað. · Þar Maria was,  
 1998 mid iro suni selvo, · sálig þiorna,  
 mahtiges móder. · Managoro drohtin  
 2000 géng imu þó mid is jungoron, · godes êgan barn,  
 an þat hôha hús, · þar þe hęri drank,  
 2002 þea Judeon an þemu gast-sęli: · hé im ôk at þem gômun was,  
 giak hi þar ge·küðe, · þat hi habda kraft godes,  
 2004 helpa fan himil-fader, · hêlagna gêst,  
 waldandes wís-dóm. · Werod blíðode,  
 2006 wárun þar an luston · liudi at·samne,  
 gumon glad-módje. · Géngun ambaht-man,  
 2008 skęnkjon mid skálun, · drógun skírjane wín  
 mid orkun ęndi mid alo-fatun; · was þar erlo drôm  
 2010 fagar an flettja, · þó þar folk undar im  
 an þem bęnkjon só bętst · blíðsja af·hóvun,  
 2012 wárun þar an wunnjun. · Þó im þes wínes brast,  
 þem liudjun þes líðes: · is ni was far·lêvid wiht  
 2014 hwęrgin an þemu húse, · þat for þene hęri forð  
 skęnkjon drógin, · ak þiu skapu wárun  
 2016 líðes a·láríd. · Þó ni was lang te þiu,  
 þat it sán ant·funda · frío skônjosta,  
 2018 Kristes móder: · géng wið iro kind sprekan,

wið iro sunu selvon, • sagda im mid wordun,  
 2020 þat þea wērdos þó mēr • wīnes ne habdun  
 þem gēstjun te gōmun. • Siu þó gerno bad,  
 2022 þat is þe hēlogo Krist • helpa ge·riedi  
 þemu wērode te willjon. • Þó habda eft is word garu  
 2024 mahtig barn godes • ėndi wið is móder sprak:  
 „Hwat ist mī ėndi þi“, • kwað hé, „umbi þesoro manno lið,  
 2026 umbi þeses wērodes wīn? • Te hwī sprikis þú þes, wīf, só filu,  
 manos mi far þesoro mēnigi? • Ne sint mīna noh  
 2028 tīdi kumana.“ • Ðan þoh gi·trúoda siu wel  
 an iro hugi-skēftjun, • hēlag þiorne,  
 2030 þat is aftar þem wordun • waldandes barn,  
 hēljandoro bēst • helpan weldi.  
 2032 Hét þó þea ambaht-man • idiso skōnjost,  
 skēnkjon ėndi skap-wardos, • þea þar skoldun þero skolu þionon,  
 2034 þat sie þes ne word ne werk • wiht ne far·létin,  
 þes sie þe hēlogo Krist • hētan weldi  
 2036 lēstjan far þem liudjun. • Lárja stóðun þar  
 stēn-fatu sehsi. • Þó só stillo ge·bōd  
 2038 mahtig barn godes, • só it þar manno filu  
 ne wissa te wárun, • hwó hé it mid is wordu ge·sprak;  
 2040 hé hét þea skēnkjon • þó skírjas watares  
 þiu fatu fulljen, • ėndi hi þar mid is fingrun þó,  
 2042 segnade selvo • sínun handun,  
 warhte it te wīne • ėndi hét is an ên wēgi hlaðen,  
 2044 skēppjen mid ênoro skálon, • ėndi þó te þem skēnkjon sprak,  
 hét is þero gēstjo, • þe at þem gōmun was  
 2046 þemu hēroston • an hand gevan,  
 ful mid folmun, • þemu þe þes folkes þar  
 2048 ge·weld aftar þemu werde. • Reht só hi þes wīnes ge·drank,  
 só ni mahte hé be·mīðan, • ne hi far þeru mēnigi sprak  
 2050 te þemu brúdi-gumon, • kwað þat simbla þat bētste líð  
 alloro erlo ge·hwi-lik • êrist skoldi  
 2052 gevan at is gōmun: • „undar þiu wirðid þero gumono hugi  
 a·wēkid mid wīnu, • þat sie wel blīðod,  
 2054 druncan drômjad. • Ðan mag man þar dragan aftar þiu  
 líht-líkora líð: • só ist þesoro liudjo þau.  
 2056 Ðan havas þú nu wunder-líko • werd-skēpi þínan  
 ge·markod far þesoro mēnigi: • hétis far þit manno folk  
 2058 alles þínes wīnes • þat wirsiste

þíne ambaht-man · êrist brengjan,  
 2060 gevan at þínun gômun. · Nu sint þína gęsti sade,  
 sint þíne druhtingos · drunkane swíðo,  
 2062 is þit folk frô-mód: · nu hétis þú hír forð dragan  
 alloro líðo lof-samost, · þero þe ik eo an þesumu liohte ge·sah  
 2064 hwęgin hębbjan. · Mid þius skoldis þú ős hin-dag êr  
 gevon ęndi gômjan: · þan it alloro gumono ge·hwi-lik  
 2066 ge·þigedi te þanke.“ · Þó warð þar þegan manag  
 ge·war aftar þem wordun, · siðor sie þes wines ge·drunkun,  
 2068 þat þar þe hêlogo Krist · an þemu húse innan  
 tēkan warhte: · trúodun sie siðor  
 2070 þiu mēr an is mund-burd, · þat hi habdi maht godes,  
 ge·wald an þesoro wer-oldi. · Þó warð þat só wído kúð  
 2072 ovar Galileo land · Judeo liudjun,  
 hwó þar selvo ge·deda · sunu drohtines  
 2074 water te wíne: · þat warð þar wundro êrist,  
 þero þe hi þar an Galilea · Judeo liudjon,  
 2076 tēkno ge·tôgdi. · Ne mag þat ge·tęlljan man,  
 ge·sęggjan te sôðan, · hwat þar siðor warð  
 2078 wundres undar þemu werode, · þar waldand Krist  
 an godes namon · Judeo liudjon  
 2080 allan langan dag · lêra sagde,  
 gi·hét im heven-ríki · ęndi hęlljo ge·þwing  
 2082 węride mid wordun, · hét sie wara godes,  
 in-líf sôkjan: · þar is seolono lioht,  
 2084 drôm drohtines · ęndi dag-skímon,  
 gód-lik-nissja godes; · þar gēst manag  
 2086 wunod an willjan, · þe hír wel þęnkid,  
 þat hé hír bi·halde · heven-kuninges ge·bod.  
 2088 **25** Ge·wêt imu þó mid is jungoron · fan þem gômun forð  
 Kristus te Kapharnaum, · kuningo ríkjost,  
 2090 te þeru mārjon burg. · Męgin samnode,  
 gumon imu te·gęgnes, · góдоро manno  
 2092 sálig ge·siði: · weldun þiu is swótjan word  
 hêlag hōrjen. · Þar im ên hunno kwam,  
 2094 ên gód man an·gęgin · ęndi ina gerno bad  
 helpan hêlagne, · kwað þat hi undar is híwiskja  
 2096 ênna lefna lamon · lango habdi,  
 seokan an is selðon: · „só ina ênig sęggjo ne mag  
 2098 handun ge·hêljen. · Nu is im þínoro helpono þarf,

frô mín þe gódo.“ · Þó sprak im eft þat friðu-barn godes  
 2100 sán aftar þiu · selvo te·gegnes,  
 kwað þat hé þar kwámi · ęndi þat kind weldi  
 2102 nęrjan af þeru nōdi. · Þó im náhor géng  
 þe man far þeru męnigi · wið só mahtigna  
 2104 wordun wehslan: · „ik þes wirðig ne bium,“ kwað hé,  
 „hērro þe gódo, · þat þú an mín hús kumes,  
 2106 sókjas mína sęliða, · hwand ik bium só sundig man  
 mid wordun ęndi mid werkun. · Ik ge·lôvju þat þú ge·wald havas,  
 2108 þat þú ina hinana maht · hêlan ge·wirkjan,  
 waldand frô mín: · ef þú it mid þínun wordun ge·sprikis,  
 2110 þan is sán þiu léf-hêd lōsot · ęndi wirðid is lik-hamo  
 hêl ęndi hrêni, · ef þú im þína helpa far·givis.  
 2112 Ik bium mi ambaht-man, · hębbju mi ôdes ge·nóg,  
 welono ge·wunnen: · þoh ik undar ge·wêldi sí  
 2114 aðal-kuninges, · þoh hębbju ik erlo ge·trōst,  
 holde hęri-rinkos, · þea mi só ge·hōriga sint,  
 2116 þat sie þes ne word ne werk · wiht ne far·látad,  
 þes ik sie an þesumu land-skęppe · lêstjan hête,  
 2118 ak sie farad ęndi frummjad · ęndi eft te iro frôhan kumad,  
 holde te iro hêrron. · Þoh ik at mínumu hús êgi  
 2120 wíd-brêdene welon · ęndi werodes ge·nóg,  
 hęliðos hugi-dęrvje, · þoh ni gi·dar ik þi só hêlagna  
 2122 biddjen, barn godes, · þat þú an mín bú gangas,  
 sókjas mína sęliða, · hwand ik só sundig bium,  
 2124 wêt mína far·wurhti.“ · Þó sprak eft waldand Krist,  
 þe gumo wið is jungoron, · kwað þat hi an Judeon hwęgin  
 2126 undar Israheles · avoron ne fundi  
 ge·makon þes mannes, · þe io mêt te gode  
 2128 an þemu land-skępi · ge·lôvon habdi,  
 þan hluttron te himile: · „nu látu ik iu þar hōrjen tó,  
 2130 þar ik it iu te wárun hír · wordun sęggjo,  
 þat noh skulun ęli-þeoda · ôstane ęndi westane,  
 2132 man-kunnjes kuman · manag te·samne,  
 hêlag folk godes · an heven-ríki:  
 2134 þea motun þar an Abrahames · ęndi an Isaakes só self  
 ęndi ôk an Jakobes, · góдоро manno,  
 2136 barmun restjen · ęndi bêðju ge·þologjan,  
 welon ęndi willjon · ęndi wonod-sam líf,  
 2138 gód liobt mid gode. · Þan skal Judeono filu,

- þeses ríkjas suni · be·rôvode werðen,  
 2140 be·dêlide su·likoro diurðo, · ęndi skulun an dalun þiustron  
 an þemu alloro ferristan · ferne liggen.  
 2142 Þar mag man ge·hôrjen · hęliðos kwíðjan,  
 þar sie iro torn manag · tandon bítad;  
 2144 þar ist grist-grimmo · ęndi grádag fiur,  
 hard hęlljo ge·þwing, · hêt ęndi þiustri,  
 2146 swart sin-nahti · sundja te lône,  
 wrêðoro ge·wurhtjo, · só hwemu só þes willjon ne havad,  
 2148 þat hé ina a·lôsje, · êr hi þit lioht a·geve,  
 węndje fan þesoro wer-oldi. · Nu maht þú þi an þínan willjon forð  
 2150 siðon te selðun; · þan findis þú ge·sundan at hús  
 mago-jungan man: · mód is imu an luston,  
 2152 þat barn is ge·hêlid, · só þú bédi te mi:  
 it wirðid al só ge·lêstid, · só þú ge·lôvon havas  
 2154 an þínumu hugi hardo.“ · Þó sagde heven-kuninge,  
 þe ambaht-man · alo-waldon gode  
 2156 þank for þero þiодо, · þes hé imu at su·likun þarvun halp.  
 Habda þo gi·ârundid, · al só hé welde,  
 2158 sálig-líko: · gi·wêt imu an þana sið þanan,  
 wende an is willjan, · þar hé welon êhte,  
 2160 bú ęndi bodlos: · fand þat barn ge·sund,  
 kind-jungan man. · Kristes wárun þó  
 2162 word ge·fullot: · hi ge·wald habda  
 te tôgjanna têkan, · só þat ni mag gi·tęlljen man,  
 2164 ge·ahton ovar þesoro erðu, · hwat hé þurh is ênes kraft  
 an þesaro middil-gard · máriða ge·frumide,  
 2166 wundres ge·warhte, · hwand al an is ge·wêldi stád,  
 26 himil ęndi erðe. · Þó ge·wêt imu þe hêlogo Krist  
 2168 forð-wardes faren, · fręmide alo-mahtig  
 alloro dago ge·hwi-likes, · drohtin þe gódo,  
 2170 liudjo barnum leof, · lérde mid wordun  
 godes willjon gumun, · habda imu jungorono filu  
 2172 simbla te gi·siðun, · sálig folk godes,  
 manno męgin-kraft, · managoro þeodo,  
 2174 hêlag hęri-skepi, · was is helpono gód,  
 mannun mildi. · Þó hi mid þeru męnigi kwam,  
 2176 mid þiu brahtmu þat barn godes · te burg þeru hôhon,  
 þe nęrjendo te Naim: · þar skolde is namo werðen  
 2178 mannun ge·márid. · Þó géng mahtig tó

2180 neꝛjendo Krist, · an-tat hé gi·náhid was,  
 hêljandero bêtst: · þó sáhun sie þar ên hrêo dragan,  
 ênan líf-lôsan lík-hamon · þea liudi fôrjen,  
 2182 beran an ênaru báru · út at þera burges dore,  
 magu-jungan man. · Þiu móder aftar géng  
 2184 an iro hugi hriwig · êndi handun slóg,  
 karode êndi kúmde · iro kindes dôð,  
 2186 idis arm-skapan; · it was ira ênag barn:  
 siu was iru widowa, · ne habda wunnja þan mêt,  
 2188 bi·úten te þemu ênagun sunje · al ge·láten  
 wunnja êndi willjan, · ant-tat ina iru wurd be·nam,  
 2190 mári metodo-ge·skapu. · Mëgin folgode,  
 burg-liudjo ge·brak, · þar man ina an báru dróg,  
 2192 jungan man te grave. · Þar warð imu þe godes sunu,  
 mahtig mildi · êndi te þeru móder sprak,  
 2194 hét þat þiu widowa · wóp far·léti,  
 kara aftar þemu kinde: · „þú skalt hír kraft sehan,  
 2196 waldandes gi·werk: · þi skal hír willjo ge·standen,  
 frófra far þesumu folke: · ne þarft þú ferah karon  
 2198 barnes þínes.“ · \*Þuo hie ti þero báron géng  
 iak hie ina selvo ant·hrên, · suno drohtines,  
 2200 hêlagon handon, · êndi ti þem hêliðe sprak,  
 hiet ina só ala-jungan · up a·standan,  
 2202 a·rísan fan þeru restun. · Þie rink up a·sat,  
 þat barn an þero bárun: · warð im eft an is briost kuman  
 2204 þie gêst þuru godes kraft, · êndi hie te·gëgnes sprak,  
 þe man wið is mágos. · Þuo ina eft þero muoder bi·falah  
 2206 hêlandi Krist an hand: · hugi warð iro te frovra,  
 þes wíves an wunnjon, · hwand iro þar su·lik willjo gi·stuod.  
 2208 Fêll siu þó te fuotun Kristes · êndi þena folko drohtin  
 lovoda for þero liudjo mēnigi, · hwand hie iro at só liobes ferāhe  
 2210 mundoda wiðer metodi-gi·skeftje: · far·stuod siu þat hie was þie  
 mahtigo drohtin,  
 þie hêlago, þie himiles gi·waldid, · êndi þat hie mahti gi·helpan  
 managon,  
 2212 allon irmin-þiedon. · Þuo bi·gunnun þat ahton managa,  
 þat wundēr, þat under þem weroda gi·burida, · kwāðun þat waldand  
 selvo,  
 2214 mahtig kwámi þarod is mēnigi wíson, · êndi þat hie im só mārjan  
 sandi

- wár-sagon an þero wer-oldes ríki, · þie im þar su·likan willjon  
frumidi.
- 2216 warð þar þuo erl manag · egison bi·fangan,  
þat folk warð an forohton: · gi·sáhun þena is ferah êgan,  
2218 dages liot sehan, · þena þe êr dôð for·nam,  
an suht-bëddjon swalt: · þuo was im eft gi·sund after þiu,  
2220 kind-jung a·kwikot. · Þuo warð þat kuð obar all  
avaron Israheles. · Reht só þuo ávand kwam,  
2222 só warð þar all gi·samnod · seokora manno,  
haltaro çndi hávaro, · só hwat só þar hwęgin was,  
2224 þia lévun under þem liudjon, · çndi wurðun þar gi·lêdit tuo,  
kumana te Kriste, · þar hie im þuru is kraft mikil  
2226 halp çndi sie hêlda, · çndi liet sia eft gi·haldana þanan  
wendan an iro willjon. · Be·þiu skal man is werk lovon,  
2228 diuran is dádi, · hwand hie is drohtin self,  
mahtig mund-boro · manno kunnje,  
2230 liudjo só hwi·likon, · só þar gi·lôbit tuo
- 27 an is word çndi an is werk. · Þuo was þar werodes só filo  
2232 allaro çli-þiodo kuman · te þem êron Kristes,  
te só mahtiges mund-burd. · Þuo welda hie þar êna męri líðan,  
2234 þie godes suno mid is jungron · a·nevan Galilea-land,  
waldand ênna wágo strôm. · Þuo hiet hie þat werod ôðar  
2236 forð-werdes faran, · çndi hie gi·wêt im fahora sum  
an ênna nakon innan, · nęjendi Krist,  
2238 slápan sið-wórig. · Segel up dádun  
weder-wísa weros, · lietun wind after  
2240 manon ovar þena męri-strôm, · unþat hie te middjan kwam,  
waldand mid is werodu. · Þuo bi·gan þes wedares kraft,  
2242 ûst up stígan, · ûðjun wahsan;  
swang gi·swerk an gi·mang: · þie sêw warð an hruoru,  
2244 wan wind çndi water; · weros sorogodun,  
þiu męri warð só muodag, · ni wánda þero manno nig·ên  
2246 lęngron líves. · Þuo sia landes ward  
wękidun mid iro wordon · çndi sagdun im þes wedares kraft,  
2248 bádun þat im gi·náðig · nęjendi Krist  
wurði wið þem watere: · „efþa wí skulun hier te wunder-kwálu  
2250 sweltan an þeson sêwe.“ · Self up a·rês  
þie guodo godes suno · çndi te is jungron sprak,  
2252 hiet þat sia im wedares gi·win · wiht ni and-rédin:  
„te hwí sind gi só forhta?“ · kwat-hie. „Nis iu noh fast hugi,



2254 gi·lôvo is iu te luttîl. · Nis nu lang te þiu,  
 þat þia strômos skulun · stilrun werðan  
 2256 gi þit \*wedat wun-sam.“ · Þo hi te þem winde sprak  
 ge te þemu sêwa só self · ęndi sie smultro hét  
 2258 bêðja ge·bárjan. · Sie gi·bod lêstun,  
 waldandes word: · weder stillodun,  
 2260 faġar warð an flóde. · Þó bi·gan þat folk undar im,  
 werod wundrajan, · ęndi suma mid iro wordun sprákun,  
 2262 hwi-lik þat só mahtigoro · manno wári,  
 þat imu só þe wind ęndi þe wág · wordu hôrdin,  
 2264 bêðja is gi·bod-skępjies. · Þó habda sie þat barn godes  
 gi·nęrid fan þeru nôdi: · þe nako furðor skręid,  
 2266 hôh-hurnid skip; · hęliðos kwámun,  
 liudi te lande, · sagdun lof gode,  
 2268 máridun is męgin-kraft. · Kwam þar manno filu  
 an·gęgin þemu godes sunje; · hé sie gerno ant·fęng,  
 2270 só hwene só þar mid hluttru hugi · helpa sóhte;  
 lêrde sie iro gi·lôvon · ęndi iro lík-hamon  
 2272 handun hêlde: · nio þe man só hardo ni was  
 gi·sêrit mid suhtjun: · þoh ina Satanases  
 2274 fêknja jungoron · fiundes kraftu  
 habdin undar handun · ęndi is hugi-skęfti,  
 2276 gi·wit a·wardid, · þat hé wódjendi  
 fôri undar þemu folke, · þoh im simbla ferh far·ġaf  
 2278 hêlandjo Krist, · ef hé te is handun kwam,  
 drêf þea diuvlas þanan · drohtines kraftu,  
 2280 wárun wordun, · ęndi im is ge·wit far·ġaf,  
 lét ina þan hêlan · wiðer hęttjandun,  
 2282 ġaf im wið þie fiund friðu, · ęndi im forð gi·wêt  
 an só hwi-lik þero lando, · só im þan leovost was.  
 2284 **28** Só deda þe drohtines sunu · dago ge·hwi-likes  
 gód werk mid is jungeron, · só neo Judeon umbi þat  
 2286 an þea is mikilun kraft · þiu mēr ne ge·lôvdun,  
 þat hé alo-waldo · alles wári,  
 2288 landes ęndi liudjo: · þes sie noh lôn nimat,  
 wídana wrak-sið, · þes sie þar þat ge·win drivun  
 2290 wið selvan þene sunu drohtines. · Þó hé im mid is ge·siðon gi·wêt  
 eft an Galilaeo land, · godes êgan barn,  
 2292 fôr im te þem friundun, · þar hé a·fódid was  
 ęndi al undar is kunnje · kind-jung a·wóhs,

- 2294 þe hēlago hēljand. · Umbi ina hēri-skēpi,  
 þeoda þrungun; · þar was þegan manag  
 2296 só sálig undar þem ge·siðe. · Þar drógun ênna seokan man  
 erlos an iro armun: · weldun ina for ôgun Kristes,  
 2298 brengjan for þat barn godes · —was im bótono þarf,  
 þat ina ge·hēldi · hevenes waldand,  
 2300 manno mund-boro—, · þe was êr só managan dag  
 liðu-wastmon bi·lamod, · ni mahte is lík-hamon  
 2302 wiht ge·waldan. · Þan was þar werodes só filu,  
 þat sie ina fora þat barn godes · brengjan ni mahtun,  
 2304 ge·þringan þurh þea þioda, · þat sie só þurftiges  
 sunnja ge·sagdin. · Þó gi·wêt imu an ênna sēli innan  
 2306 hēljando Krist; · hwarf warð þar umbi,  
 mēgin-þeodo ge·mang. · Þó bi·gunnun þea man spreken,  
 2308 þe þene lēfna lamon · lango fórdun,  
 bārun mid is bēddju, · hwó sie ina ge·drógin fora þat barn godes,  
 2310 an þat werod innan, · þar ina waldand Krist  
 selvo gi·sáwi. · Þó géngun þea ge·siðos tó,  
 2312 hówun ina mid iro handun · ėndi uppan þat hús stigin,  
 slitun þene sēli ovana · ėndi ina mid sēlun létun  
 2314 an þene rakud innan, · þar þe ríkjo was,  
 kuningo kraftigost. · Reht só hé ina þó kuman gi·sah  
 2316 þurh þes huses hróst, · só hé þó an iro hugi far·stód,  
 an þero manno mód-sevon, · þat sie mikilana te imu  
 2318 ge·lôvon habdun, · þó hé for þen liudjun sprak,  
 kwað þat hé þene siakon man · sundjono tómjan  
 2320 látan weldi. · Þó spráku im eft þea liudi an·gęgin,  
 gram-harde Judeon, · þea þes godes barnes  
 2322 word aftar warodun, · kwáðun þat þat ni mahti gi·werðen só,  
 grim-werk far·geven, · bi·útan god êno,  
 2324 waldand þesaro wer-oldest. · Þó habda eft is word garu  
 mahtig barn godes: · „ik gi·dón þat“, kwað hé, „an þesumu manne  
 skín,  
 2326 þe hír só siak ligid · an þesumu sēli innan,  
 te wundron gi·wêgid, · þat ik ge·wald hębbju  
 2328 sundja te far·gevanne · ėndi ôk seokan man  
 te ge·hēljanne, · só ik ina hrínan ni þarf.“  
 2330 Manoda ina þó · þe mārjo drohtin,  
 liggjandjan lamon, · hét ina far þem liudjun a·standan  
 2332 up alo-hélan · ėndi hét ina an is ahslun niman,

is bēd-gi-wādi te baka; · hé þat gi·bod lêste  
 2334 sniumo for þemu gi·siðja · ęndi gęng imu eft ge·sund þanan,  
 hēl fan þemu hūse. · Þó þes só manag hēðin man,  
 2336 weros wundradun, · kwāðun þat imu waldand self,  
 god alo-mahtig · far·gevan habdi  
 2338 méron mahti · þan elkor ênigumu mannes sunje,  
 kraft ęndi kusti; · sie ni weldun ant·kennjan þoh,  
 2340 Judeo liudi, · þat hé god wári,  
 ne ge·lôvdun is lēran, · ak habdun im lēðan stríd,  
 2342 wunnun wiðar is wordun: · þes sie werk hlutun,  
 lēð-lík lôn-geld, · ęndi só noh lango skulun,  
 2344 þes sie ni weldun hōrjen · heven-kuninges,  
 Kristes lērun, · þea hé kúðde ovar al,  
 2346 wído aftar þesaro wer-oldi, · ęndi lét sie is werk sehan  
 allaro dago ge·hwi-likes, · is dádi skawon,  
 2348 hōrjen is hēlag word, · þe hé te helpu ge·sprak  
 manno barnun, · ęndi só manag mahtig-lík  
 2350 tēkan ge·tôgda, · þat sie gi·trúodin þiu bet,  
 gi·lôvdin an is lēra. · hé só managan lík-hamon  
 2352 balu-suhtjo ant·band · ęndi bóta ge·skęride,  
 far·gaf fęgjun ferah, · þem þe fūsid was  
 2354 hęlið an hęl-sið: · þan gi·deda ina þe hēland self,  
 Krist þurh is kraft mikil · kwikan aftar dōða,  
 2356 lét ina an þesaro wer-oldi forð · wunnjono neotan.  
 29 Sô hēlde hé þea haltun man · ęndi þea hávon só self,  
 2358 bóttá þem þar blinde wárun, · lét sie þat berhte lioht,  
 sin-skôni sehan, · sundja lōsda,  
 2360 gumono grim-werk. · Ni was gio Judeono be·þiu,  
 lēðes liud-skeppes · gi·lôvo þiu bętara  
 2362 an þene hēlagon Krist, · ak habdun im hardene mód,  
 swíðo starkan stríd, · far·standan ni weldun,  
 2364 þat sie habdun for·fangan · fiundun an willjan,  
 liudi mid iro ge·lôvun. · Ni was gio þiu latoro be·þiu  
 2366 sunu drohtines, · ak hé sagde mid wordun,  
 hwó sie skoldin ge·halon · himiles ríki,  
 2368 lērde aftar þemu lande, · habde imu þero liudjo só filu  
 gi·wenid mid is wordun, · þat im werod mikil,  
 2370 folk folgoda, · ęndi hé im filu sagda,  
 be biliðjun þat barn godes, · þes sie ni mahtun an iro breostun  
 far·standan,

- 2372 undar·huggjan an iro herton, · êr it im þe hêlago Krist  
 ovar þat erlo folk · oþonun wordun  
 2374 þurh is selves kraft · sæggjan welda,  
 mārjan hwat hé mēnde. · Þar ina mēgin umbi,  
 2376 þioda þrungun: · was im þarf mikil  
 te gi·hōrjenne · heven-kuninges  
 2378 wār-fastun word. · hé stód imu þó bi ênes watares staðe,  
 ni welde þó bi þemu ge·þringe · ovar þat þegno folk  
 2380 an þemu lande uppan · þea lēra kûðjan,  
 ak gēng imu þó þe gódo · ėndi is jungaron mid imu,  
 2382 friðu-barn godes, · þemu flóde náhor  
 an ên skip innan, · ėndi it skalden hét  
 2384 lande rúmur, · þat ina þea liudi só filu,  
 þioda ni þrungi. · Stód þegān manag,  
 2386 werod bi þemu watere, · þar waldand Krist  
 ovar þat liudjo folk · lēra sagde:  
 2388 „Hwat ik iu sæggjan mag“, · kwað hé, „ge·siðos míne,  
 hwó imu ên erl bi·gan · an erðu sájan  
 2390 hrên-korni mid is handun. · Sum it an hardan stên  
 ovan-wardan fel, · erðon ni habda,  
 2392 þat it þar mahti wahsan · efþa wurtjo gi·fáhan,  
 kínan efþa bi·klíven, · ak warð þat korn far·loren,  
 2394 þat þar an þeru léian gi·lag. · Sum it eft an land bi·fel,  
 an erðun aðal-kunnjes: · bi·gan imu aftar þiu  
 2396 wahsen wán-líko · ėndi wurtjo fáhan,  
 lód an lustun: · was þat land só gód,  
 2398 fránisko gi·fehóð. · Sum it eft bi·fallen warð  
 an êna starka strátun, · þar stópon géngun,  
 2400 hrosso hóf-slaga · ėndi hēliðo tráda;  
 warð imu þar an erðu · ėndi eft up gi·gég,  
 2402 bi·gan imu an þemu wege wahsen; · þó it eft þes werodes far·nam,  
 þes folkes fard mikil · ėndi fuglos a·lásun,  
 2404 þat is þemu éksan wiht · aftar ni móste  
 werðan te willjan, · þes þar an þene weg bi·fel.  
 2406 Sum warð it þan bi·fallen, · þar só filu stóðun  
 þikkero þorno · an þemu dage;  
 2408 warð imu þar an erðu · ėndi eft up gi·gég,  
 kén imu þar ėndi klivode. · Þó slógun þar eft krúd an gi·mang,  
 2410 wēridun imu þene wastom: · habda it þes waldes hlea  
 forana ovar-fangan, · þat it ni mahte te ėnigaro frumu werðen,

2412 ef it þea þornos · só þringan móstun.“  
 Þó sátun ęndi swígodun · ge·siðos Kristes,  
 2414 word-spáha weros: · was im wundar mikil,  
 be hwi-likun biliðjun · þat barn godes  
 2416 su·lik sôð-lík spel · seggjan bi·gunni.  
 Þó bi·gan is þero erlo · ên frágojan  
 2418 holdan hêrron, · hnêg imu te·geğnes  
 tulgo werð-liko: · „Hwat þú ge·wald havas“, kwað hé,  
 2420 „ia an himile ia an erðu, · hêlag drohtin,  
 uppa ęndi niðara, · bist þú alo-waldo  
 2422 gumono gêsto, · ęndi wí þíne jungaron sind,  
 an úsumu hugi holde. · Hêrro þe gódo,  
 2424 ef it þín willjo sí, · lát ús þínaro wordo þar  
 ęndi gi·hôrjen, · þat wí it aftar þi  
 2426 ovar al Kristin-folk · kûðjan mótin.  
 wí witun þat þínun wordun · wár-lík biliði  
 2428 forð folgojad, · ęndi ús is firinun þarf,  
 þat wí þín word ęndi þín werk, · —hwand it fan su·likumu ge·wittja  
 kumid—  
 2430 þat wí it an þesumu lande · at þi línon mótin.“  
 30 Þó im eft te·geğnes · gumono betsta  
 2432 and-wordi ge·sprak: · „ni mênde ik elkor wiht“, kwað hé,  
 „te bi·ðernjenne · dádjo mínaro,  
 2434 wordo efþa werko; · þit skulun gí witan alle,  
 jungaron míne, · hwand iu far·geven havad  
 2436 waldand þesaro wer-oldes, · þat gí witan mótun  
 an iuwom hugi-skęftjun · himilisk ge·rúni;  
 2438 þem ôðrun skal man be biliðjun · þat gi·bod godes  
 wordun wísjen. · Nu willju ik iu te wárun hier  
 2440 márjen, hwat ik mênde, · þat gí mína þiu bet  
 ovar al þit land-skępi · lêra far·standan.  
 2442 Þat sád, þat ik iu sagda, · þat is selves word,  
 þiu hêlaga lêra · heven-kuninges,  
 2444 hwó man þea márjen skal · ovar þene middil-gard,  
 wído aftar þesaro wer-oldi. · Weros sind im gi·hugide,  
 2446 man mis-líko: · sum su·likan mód dreğid,  
 harda hugi-skęfti · ęndi hrêan sevon,  
 2448 þat ina ni ge·werðood, · þat hé it be iuwon wordun due,  
 þat hé þesa mína lêra forð · lêstjen willje,  
 2450 ak werðad þar só far·lorana · lêra mína,

godes ambusni · ęndi iuwaro gumono word  
 2452 an þemu uvilon manne, · só ik iu êr sagda,  
 þat þat korn far·warð, · þat þar mid kíðun ni mahte  
 2454 an þemu stêne uppan · stędi-haft werðan.  
 Só wirðid al far·loran · ęðilero spráka,  
 2456 ârundi godes, · só hwat só man þemu uvilon manne  
 wordun ge·wísid, · ęndi hé an þea wirson hand,  
 2458 undar fiundo folk · fard ge·kiusid,  
 an godes un-wiljan · ęndi an gramono hróm  
 2460 ęndi an fiures farm. · Forð skal hé hêtjan  
 mid is breost-hugi · brêda logna.  
 2462 Nio gi an þesumu lande þiu lés · lêra mína  
 wordun ni wísjad: · is þeses werodes só filu,  
 2464 erlo aftar þesaro erðun: · bi·stéd þar ôðar man,  
 þe is imu jung ęndi glau, · —ęndi havad imu góðan mód—,  
 2466 sprákono spáhi · ęndi wêt iuwaro spello gi·skęð,  
 hugid is þan an is herton · ęndi hôrid þar mid is ôrun tó  
 2468 swiðo niud-liko · ęndi náhor stéd,  
 an is breost hlędid · þat gi·bod godes,  
 2470 línod ęndi lêstid: · is is gi·lôvo só gód,  
 talod imu, hwó hé ôðrana · eft gi·hwervje  
 2472 mên-dádigan man, · þat is mód draga  
 hluttra trewa · te heven-kuninge.  
 2474 Þan brêdid an þes breostun · þat gi·bod godes,  
 þie luvigo gi·lôbo, · só an þemu lande duod  
 2476 þat korn mid kíðun, · þar it gi·kund havad  
 ęndi imu þiu wurð bi·hagod · ęndi wederes gang,  
 2478 ręgin ęndi sunne, · þat it is reht havad.  
 Só duod þiu godes lêra · an þemu góðun manne  
 2480 dages ęndi nahtes, · ęndi gangid imu diuval fer,  
 wrêða wihti · ęndi þe ward godes  
 2482 náhor mikilu · nahtes ęndi dages,  
 ant-tat sie ina brengjad, · þat þar bêðju wirðid  
 2484 ia þiu lêra te frumu · liudjo barnun,  
 þe fan is mûðe kumid, · iak wirðid þe man gode;  
 2486 havad só gi·wehslod · te þesaro wer-old-stundu  
 mid is hugi-skęftjun · himil-ríkjas gi·dêl,  
 2488 welono þene mêtan: · farid imu an gi·wald godes,  
 tionuno tómig. · Trewa sind só góða  
 2490 gumono ge·hwi-likumu, · só nis goldes hord

ge·līk su·likumu gi·lōvon. · Wesad iuwaro lērono forð  
 2492 man-kunnje mildje; · sie sind só mis-līka,  
 hēliðos ge·hugda: · sum havad iro hardan stríd,  
 2494 wrēðan willjan, · wankolna hugi,  
 is imu fēknes ful · ęndi firin-werko.  
 2496 Þan bi·ginnid imu þunkjan, · þan hé undar þeru þiodu stád  
 ęndi þar gi·hōrid · ovar hlust mikil  
 2498 þea godes lēra, · þan þunkid imu, þat hé sie gerno forð  
 lēstjen willje; · þan bi·ginnid imu þiu lēra godes  
 2500 an is hugi hafton, · ant-tat imu þan eft an hand kumid  
 feho te gi·fōrja · ęndi fręmiði skat.  
 2502 Þan far·lédjad ina · lēða wihti,  
 þan hé imu far·fāhid · an feho-giri,  
 2504 a·lēskid þene gi·lōbon: · þan was imu þat luttil fruma,  
 þat hé it gio an is hertan ge·hugda, · ef hé it halden ne wili.  
 2506 Þat is só þe wastom, · þe an þemu wege be·gan,  
 liodan an þemu lande: · þó far·nam ina eft þero liudjo fard.  
 2508 Só duot þea męgin-sundjon · an þes mannes hugi  
 þea godes lēra, · ef hé is ni gōmid wel;  
 2510 elkor bi·fēlljad sia ina · ferne te boðme,  
 an þene hētan hēl, · þar hé heven-kuninge  
 2512 ni wirðid furðour te frumu, · ak ina fund skulun  
 wítju gi·waragjan. · Simla gí mid wordun forð  
 2514 lērjad an þesumu lande: · \*ik kan þesaro liudjo hugi,  
 só mis-líkan muod-sevon · manno kunnjes,  
 2516 só wanda wísa · [...]  
 Sum havit all te þiu is muod gi·látan · ęndi mēr sorōgot,  
 2518 hwó hie þat hord bi·halde, · þan hwó hie hevan-kuninges  
 willjon gi·wirkje. · Be·þiu þar wahsan ni mag  
 2520 þat hēlaga gi·bod godes, · þoh it þar a·hafton mugi,  
 wurtjon bi·werpan, · hwand it þie welo þringit.  
 2522 Só samo só þat krúd ęndi þie þorn · þat korn ant·fāhat,  
 węrvat im þena wastom, · só duot þie welo manne:  
 2524 gi·hęftid is herta, · þat hie it gi·huggjan ni muot,  
 þie man an is muode, · þes hie mēst bi·þarf,  
 2526 hwó hie þat gi·wirkje, · þan lang þie hie an þesaro wer-oldi sí,  
 þat hie ti ēwon-dage · after muoti  
 2528 hębbjan þuru is hērren þank · himiles ríki,  
 só ęndi-lōsan welon, · só þat ni mag ęnig man  
 2530 witan an þesaro wer-oldi. · Nio hie só wído ni kan

- te gi·þenkjanne, · þegan an is muode,  
 2532 þat it bi·haldan mugi · herta þes mannes,  
 þat hie þat ti wáron witi, · hwat waldand god havit  
 2534 guodes gi·gęrewid, · þat all gęgin-werd stéð  
 manno só hwi-likon, · só ina hier minnjot wel  
 2536 ęndi selvo te þiu · is seola gi·haldit,  
 þat hie an lioht godes · líðan muoti.“  
 2538 **31** Só wísda hie þuo mid wordon, · stuod werod mikil  
 umbi þat barn godes, · ge·hórdun ina bi biliðon filo  
 2540 umbi þesaro wer-oldes gi·wand · wordon tēlljan;  
 kwað þat im ôk ên aðales man · an is akker sáidi  
 2542 hluttar hrên-korni · handon sínon:  
 wolda im þar só wun-sames · wastmes tiljan,  
 2544 fagares fruhtes. · Þuo géng þar is fiond aftar  
 þuru dęrnjan hugi, · ęndi it all mid durðu ovar-séu,  
 2546 mid weodo wirsiston. · Þuo wóhsun sia bêðju,  
 ge þat korn ge þat krúd. · Só kwámun gangan  
 2548 is haga-stoldos te hús, · iro hêrren sagdun,  
 þegnos iro þiodne · þristjon wordon:  
 2550 „Hwat þú sáidos hluttar korn, · hêrro þie guodo,  
 ên-fald an þínon akkar: · nú ni gi·sihit ênig erlo þan mēr  
 2552 weodes wahsan. · Hwí mohta þat gi·werðan só?“  
 Þuo sprak eft þie aðales man · þem erlon te·gęgnes,  
 2554 þiodan wið is þegnos, · kwað þat hie it mahti undar·þenkjan wel,  
 þat im þar un·hold man · aftar sáida,  
 2556 fiond fękni krúd: · „ne gionsta mi þero fruhtjo wel,  
 a·werda mi þena wastom.“ · Þuo þar eft wini sprákun,  
 2558 is jungron te·gęgnes, · kwáðun þat sia þar weldin gangan tuo,  
 kuman mid kraftu · ęndi lósjan þat krúd þanan,  
 2560 halon it mid iro handon. · Þuo sprak im eft iro hêrro an·gęgin:  
 „ne węlljo ik, þat gí it wiodon“, · kwat-hie, „hwand gi bi·wardon ni  
 mugun,  
 2562 gi·gômjan an iuwon gange, · þoh gí it gerno ni duan,  
 ni gí þes kornes te filo, · kíðo a·węrdjat,  
 2564 fęlljat under iuwa fuoti. · Láte man sia forð hinan  
 bêðju wahsan, · und êr bewod kume  
 2566 ęndi an þem felde sind · fruhti ríþja,  
 aroa an þem akkare: · þan faran wí þar alla tuo,  
 2568 halon it mid ússan handon · ęndi þat hrên-kurni lesan  
 súvro te·samne · ęndi it an mínon sęli duojan,



2570 hēbbjan it þar gi·haldan, · þat it hwęgin ni mugi  
 wiht a·węrdjan, · ęndi þat wiod niman,  
 2572 bindan it te burðinnjon · ęndi werpan it an bittar fiur,  
 látan it þar halojan · hēta logna,  
 2574 ǣld un-fuodi.“ · Þuo stuod eryl manag,  
 þegnos þagjandi, · hwat þiod-gomo,  
 2576 \*mári mahtig Krist · mēnjan weldi,  
 bōknjen mid þiu biliðju · barno ríkjost.  
 2578 Bádun þó só gerno · góðan drohtin  
 ant·lúkan þea lēra, · þat sia móstin þea liudi forð,  
 2580 hēlaga hōrjan. · Þó sprak im eft iro hērro an·gęgin,  
 mári mahtig Krist: · „þat is“, kwað hé, „mannes sunu:  
 2582 ik selvo bium, þat þar sáiu, · ęndi sind þesa sáliga man  
 þat hluttra hrēn-korni, · þea mí hér hōrjad wel,  
 2584 wirkjad mínan willjan; · þius wer-old is þe akkar,  
 þit brēda bú-land · barno man-kunnjes;  
 2586 Satanas selvo is, · þat þar sáid aftar  
 só lēð-líka lēra: · havad þesaro liudjo só filu,  
 2588 werodes a·wardid, · þat sie wam frummjad,  
 wirkjad aftar is willjon; · þoh skulun sie hér wahsen forð,  
 2590 þea for·griponon gumon, · só samo só þea góðun man,  
 ant-tat Múd-spelles meḡgin · ovar man fērid,  
 2592 ęndi þesaro wer-oldes. · Þan is allaro akkaro ge·hwi-lik  
 ge·ripod an þesumu ríkja: · skulun iro regan-gi·skapu  
 2594 frummjen firiho barn. · Þan te·farid erða:  
 þat is allaro bewo brēdost; · þan kumid þe berhto drohtin  
 2596 ovana mid is ęngilo kraftu, · ęndi kumad alle te·samne  
 liudi, þe io þit lioht gi·sáun, · ęndi skulun þan lōn ant·fáhan  
 2598 uviles ęndi gódes. · Þan gangad ęngilos godes,  
 hēlage heven-wardos, · ęndi lesat þea hluttron man  
 2600 sundor te·samne, · ęndi duat sie an sin-skōni,  
 hōh himiles lioht, · ęndi þea öðra an hēllja grund,  
 2602 werpad þea far·warhton · an wallandi fiur;  
 þar skulun sie gi·bundene · bittra logna,  
 2604 þrá-werk þolon, · ęndi þea öðra þiod-welon  
 an heven-ríkja, · hwítaro sunnon  
 2606 liohtjan ge·liko. · Su-lik lōn nimad  
 weros wal-dádjo. · Só hwe só gi·wit êgi,  
 2608 ge·hugdi an is hertan, · etþa gi·hōrjen mugi,  
 eryl mid is ôrun, · só láta imu þit an innan sorga,

- 2610 an is **mód**-sevon, · hwó hé skal an þemu **márjon** dage  
 wið þene **ríkjon** god · an **ręđju** standen  
 2612 **wordo** ęndi **werko** allaro, · þe hé an þesaro **wer**-oldi gi·duod.  
 Þat is **ęgis**-líkost · **allaro** þingo,  
 2614 **forht**-líkost **firiho** barnun, · þat sie skulun wið iro **fráhon** mahljen,  
**gumon** wið þene **gódan** drohtin: · þan weldi **gerno** ge·hwe wesan,  
 2616 allaro **manno** ge·hwi-lik · **mênes** tómg,  
**slíðero** **sakono**. · Aftar þiu skal **sorgon** êr  
 2618 allaro **liudjo** ge·hwi-lik, · êr hé þit **lioht** af·geve,  
 þe þan **êgan** wili · **alungan** tír,  
 2620 **hôh** **heven**-ríki · ęndi **huldi** godes.“  
 32 Só gi·fragn ik þat þó **selvo** · **sunu** drohtines,  
 2622 allaro **barno** **bętst** · **biliðjo** sagda,  
 hwi-lik þero **wári** · an **wer**-old-ríkja  
 2624 undar **hęlið**-kunnje · **himil**-ríkje ge·lík;  
 kwað þat oft **luttiles** hwat · **liohtora** wurði,  
 2626 só **hôho** af·**huovi**, · „so duot **himil**-ríki:  
 þat is simla **mêra**, · þan is **man** ênig  
 2628 **wánje** an þesaro **wer**-oldi. · Ôk is imu þat **werk** ge·lík,  
 þat man an **sêo** innan · **sęgina** wirpit,  
 2630 **fisk**-nęt an **flód** · ęndi **fáhit** bęđju,  
**uvile** ęndi góde, · tiuhid **up** te staðe,  
 2632 **liðod** sie te lande, · **lisit** aftar þiu  
 þea **góðun** an **greote** · ęndi látid þea öðra eft an **grund** faran,  
 2634 an **wídan** **wág**. · Só duod **waldand** god  
 an þemu **márjon** dage · **męnniskono** barn:  
 2636 brengid **irmin**-þiod, · **alle** te·samne,  
 lisit imu þan þea **hluttron** · an **heven**-ríki,  
 2638 látid þea far·**griponon** · an **grund** faren  
**hęllje** fiures. · Ni wêt **hęliðo** man  
 2640 þes **wítjes** **wiðar**-lága, · þes þar **weros** þiggjat,  
 an þemu **Inferne** · **irmin**-þioda.  
 2642 Þan hald ni mag þera **médan** **man** · gi·**makon** fiðen,  
 ni þes **welon** ni þes **willjon**, · þes þar **waldand** skerid,  
 2644 **gildid** **god** selvo · **gumono** só hwi-likumu,  
 só ina **hér** gi·**haldid**, · þat hé an **heven**-ríki,  
 2646 an þat **lang**-same **lioht** · **líðan** móti.“  
 Só **lêrda** hé þó mid **listjun**. · Þan fórun þar þea **liudi** tó  
 2648 ovar al **Galilaeo** land · þat **godes** barn sehan:  
 dádun it bi þemu **wundre**, · hwanen imu mahti su·lik **word** kumen,

2650 só spáh-líko gi·sprokan, · þat hé spel godes  
 gio só sôð-líko · seggjan konsti,  
 2652 só kraftig-líko gi·kweðen: · „Hé is þeses kunnjes hinen“, kwáðun sie,  
 „þe man þurh mág-skæpi: · hér is is móder mid ùs,  
 2654 wíf undar þesumu werode. · Hwat wí þe hér witun alle,  
 só kũð is ùs is kuni-burd · ęndi is knósles ge·hwat;  
 2656 a·wóhs al undar þesumu werode: · hwanen skoldi imu su·lik ge·wit  
 kuman,  
 méron mahti, · þan hér óðra man ęgin?“  
 2658 Só far·munste ina þat manno folk · ęndi sprákun im gi·mêd-lik word,  
 far·hogdun ina só hêlagna, · hôrjen ni weldun  
 2660 is gi·bod-skæpjes. · Ni hé þar ôk biliðjo filu  
 þurh iro un-gi·lôvon · ógjan ni welde,  
 2662 torhtero têkno, · hwand hé wisse iro twífljan hugi,  
 iro wrêðan willjan, · þat ni wárun weros óðra  
 2664 só grimme under Judeon, · só wárun umbi Galilaeo land,  
 só hardo ge·hugide: · só þar was þe hêlago Krist,  
 2666 gi·boren þat barn godes, · si ni weldun is gi·bod-skæpi þoh  
 ant·fáhan ferht-líko, · ak bi·gan þat folk undar im,  
 2668 rinkos rádan, · hwó sie þene ríkjon Krist  
 wêgdin te wundron. · Hétun þó iro werod kumen,  
 2670 ge·siði te·samne: · sundja weldun  
 an þene godes sunu · gerno gi·têlljen  
 2672 wrêðes willjon; · ni was im is wordo niud,  
 spáharo spello, · ak sie bi·gunnun sprekan undar im,  
 2674 hwó sie ina só kraftagne · fan ênumu klive wurpin,  
 ovar ênna berges wal: · weldun þat barn godes  
 2676 livu bi·lôsjen. · Þó hé imu mid þem liudjun samad  
 frô-líko fôr: · ni was imu foraht hugi,  
 2678 —wisse þat imu ni mahtun · męnniskono barn,  
 bi þeru god-kundi · Judeo liudi  
 2680 êr is tídjun wiht · teonon gi·frummjen,  
 lêðaro gi·lêsto—, · ak hé imu mid þem liudjun samad  
 2682 stêg uppen þene stên-holm, · ant-þat sie te þeru stędi kwámun,  
 þar sie ine fan þemu walle niðer · werpen hugdun,  
 2684 fêlljen te foldu, · þat hé wurði is ferhes lôs,  
 is aldres at ęndje. · Þó warð þero erlo hugi,  
 2686 an þemu berge uppen · bittra gi·þahti  
 Juðeono te·gangen, · þat iro ęnig ni habde só grimmon sevon  
 2688 ni só wrêðen willjon, · þat sie mahtin þene waldandes sunu,

Krist ant·kēnnjen; · hé ni was iro kũð ênigumu,  
 2690 þat sie ina þó undar·wissin. · Só mahte hé undar ira werode standen  
 2692 ɛndi an iro gi·mange · middjumu gangen,  
 faren undar iro folke. · hé dede imu þene friðu selvo,  
 2694 mund-burd wið þeru mēnegi · ɛndi gi·wēt imu þurh middi þanan  
 þes fiundo folkes, · fōr imu þó, þar hé welde,  
 an êne wóstunnje · waldandes sunu,  
 2696 kuningo kraftigost: · habde þero kustes gi·wald,  
 hwar imu an þemu lande · leovost wári  
 2698 33 te wesanne an þesaru wer-oldi. · Þan fōr imu an weg ôðran  
 Johannes mid is jungarun, · godes ambaht-man,  
 2700 lērde þea liudi · lang-samane rád,  
 hét þat sie frume frēmidin, · firina far·létin,  
 2702 mēn ɛndi morð-werk. · hé was þar managumu liof  
 gódaro gumono. · hé sóhte imu þó þene Judeono kuning,  
 2704 þene hēri-togon at hús, · þe hēten was  
 Erodes aftar is ɛldiron, · ovar-módig man:  
 2706 búide imu be þeru brúdi, · þiu êr sínes bróðer was,  
 idis an êhti, · ant-tat hé ɛlljor skók,  
 2708 wer-old weslode. · Þó imu þat wíf gi·nam  
 þe kuning te kwenun; · êr wárun iro kind ôdan,  
 2710 barn be is bróðer. · Þó bi·gan imu þea brúd lahan  
 Johannes þe gódo, · kwað þat it gode wári,  
 2712 waldande wiðer-mód, · þat it ênig wero frumidi,  
 þat bróðer brúd · an is bēd námi,  
 2714 hēbbje sie imu te híwun. · „Ef þú mi hōrjen wili,  
 gi·lōvjen mínun lērun, · ni skalt þú sie lēng ēgan,  
 2716 ak mīð ire an þinumu móde: · ni hava þar su·lika minnja tó,  
 ni sundjo þi te swiðo.“ · Þó warð an sorgun hugi  
 2718 þes wíves aftar þem wordun; · and-réd þat hé þene wer-old-kuning  
 sprákono ge·spóni · ɛndi spáhun wordun,  
 2720 þat hé sie far·léti. · Be·gan siu imu þó lēðes filu  
 ráden an rúnnon, · ɛndi ine rinkos hét,  
 2722 un-sundigane · erlos fáhan  
 ɛndi ine an ênumu karkerja · klústar-bēndjun,  
 2724 liðo-kospun bi·lúkan: · be þem liudjun ne gi·dorstun  
 ine ferāhu bi·lōsjen, · hwand sie wárun imu friund alle,  
 2726 wissun ine só góden · ɛndi gode werðen,  
 habdun ina for wár-sagon, · só sia wela mahtun.  
 2728 Þó wurðun an þemu gēr-tale · Judeo kuninges

2730 tīdi kumana, · só þar gi·tald habdun  
 fróde folk-weros, · þó hé gi·fódid was,  
 an lioht kuman. · Só was þero liudjo þau,  
 2732 þat þat erlo ge·hwi-lik · óvjan skolde,  
 Judeono mid gômun. · Þó warð þar an þene gast-seli  
 2734 męgin-kraft mikil · manno ge·samnod,  
 hęri-togono an þat hús, · þar iro hērro was  
 2736 an is kuning-stóle. · Kwámun managa  
 Judeon an þene gast-seli; · warð im þar glad-mód hugi,  
 2738 blíði an iro breostun: · gi·sáhun iro bâg-gevon  
 wesen an wunnjon. · Dróg man wín an flet  
 2740 skiri mid skálun, · skęnkjon hwurvun,  
 gęngun mid gold-fatun: · gaman was þar inne  
 2742 hlúd an þero hallu, · hęliðos drunkun.  
 Was þes an lustun · landes hirdi,  
 2744 hwat hé þemu werode mēst · te wunnjun gi·fręmidi.  
 Hét hé þó gangen forð · gēla þiornun,  
 2746 is bróder barn, · þar hé an is bęnki sat  
 wínu gi·wlęnkid, · ęndi þó te þemu wíve sprak;  
 2748 grótte sie fora þemu gum-skępje · ęndi gerno bad,  
 þat siu þar fora þem gastjun · gaman af·hóvi  
 2750 fagar an fletjtje: · „lát þit folk sehan,  
 hwó þú ge·línod havas · liudjo męnegi  
 2752 te blíðsjanne an bęnkjun; · ef þú mi þera bede tugiðos,  
 mín word for þesumu werode, · þan willju ik it hér te wárun  
 ge·kweðen,  
 2754 liahto fora þesun liudjun · ęndi ôk gi·lêstjen só,  
 þat ik þi þan aftar þiu · êron willju,  
 2756 só hwes só þú mí bidis · for þesun mínun bâg-winjun:  
 þoh þú mí þesaro hęri-dómo · halvaro fergos,  
 2758 ríkjas mínes, · þoh gi·dón ik, þat it ênig rínko ni mag  
 wordun gi·węndjen, · ęndi it skal gi·werðen só.“  
 2760 Þó warð þera magað aftar þiu · mód gi·hworven,  
 hugi aftar iro hêrron, · þat siu an þemu húse innen,  
 2762 an þemu gast-seli · gamen up a·huof,  
 al só þero liudjo · land-wíse gi·dróg,  
 2764 þero þiодо þau. · Þiu þiorne spilode  
 hrór aftar þemu húse: · hugi was an lustun,  
 2766 managaro mód-sevo. · Þó þiu magað habda  
 gi·þionod te þanke · þiod-kuninge

- 2768      endi allumu þemu **erl**-skępje, · þe þar **inne** was  
           **g**óðaro **g**umono, · siu welde þó ira **geva** êgan,  
 2770      þiu **magað** for þeru **męnegi**: · gęng þó wið iro **móðar** sprekan  
           endi **frágode** sie · **firi**-wit-liko,  
 2772      hwes siu þene **burg**es ward · **biddjen** skoldi.  
           Þó **wísde** siu aftar iro **willjon**, · hét þat siu **wihtes** þan êr  
 2774      ni **gęrodi** for þemu **gum**-skępje, · bi·útan þat man iru **Johannes**  
           an þeru **hallu** innan · **hôvid** gávi  
 2776      a·lôsid af is **lík**-hamon. · Þat was allun þem **liudjun** harm,  
           þem **mannun** an iro **móde**, · þó sie þat gi·hórdun þea **magað** sprekan;  
 2778      só was it ôk þemu **kuninge**: · hé ni mahte is **kwidi** liagan,  
           is **word** **węndjen**: · hét þó is **wępan**-berand  
 2780      **gangen** fan þemu **gast**-sęli · endi hét þene **godes** man  
           lívú bi·lôsjen. · Þó ni was **lang** te þiu,  
 2782      þat man an þea **halla** · **hôvid** bráhte  
           þes þiod-gumon, · endi it þar þeru þiornun far·gaf,  
 2784      **magað** for þeru **męnegi**: · siu dróg it þeru **móder** forð.  
           Þó was **ên**-dago · **allaro** manno  
 2786      þes **wísoston**, · þero þe gio an þesa **wer**-old kwámi,  
           þero þe **kwene** ênig · **kind** gi·bári,  
 2788      **idis** fan **erle**, · lét man simla þen **ênon** bi·foran,  
           þe þiu þiorne gi·dróg, · þe gio þegnes ni warð  
 2790      **wís** an iro **wer**-oldi, · bi·útan só ine **waldand** god  
           fan **heven**-wange · **hêlages** gęstes  
 2792      gi·markode **mahtig**: · þe ni habde ênigan gi·makon hwęgin  
           êr nek aftar. · **Erlos** hwurvun,  
 2794      **gumon** umbi **Johannen**, · is **jungaron** managa,  
           **sálig** ge·sīði, · endi ine an **sande** bi·gróvun,  
 2796      **leoves** **lík**-hamon: · **wissun** þat hé **lioht** godes,  
           **diur**-líkan **drôm** · mid is **drohtine** samad,  
 2798      **up**-ôdas hêm · **êgan** móste,  
 34      **sálig** **sókjan**. · Þó ge·witun im þea ge·sīðos þanen,  
 2800      **Johannes** **jungaron** · **jámer**-móde,  
           **hêlag**-feraha: · was im iro **hêrron** dôð  
 2802      **swíðo** an **sorgun**. · Ge·witun im **sókjan** þó  
           an þeru **wóstunni** · **waldandes** sunu,  
 2804      **kraftigana** **Krist** · endi imu **kūð** gi·dedun  
           **gódes** mannes for·gang, · hwó habde þe **Judeono** kuning  
 2806      **manno** þene **márjostan** · **mákjas** eggjun  
           **hôvdu** bi·hauwan: · hé ni welde is ênigen **harm** spreken,

2808 sunu drohtines; · hé wisse þat þiu seole was  
 hêlag gi·halden · wiðer hettjandjon,  
 2810 an friðe wiðer fiundun. · Þó só gi·frági warð  
 aftar þem land-skepjun · lérjandero bêtst  
 2812 an þeru wóstunni: · werod samnode,  
 fôr folkun tó: · was im firi-wit mikil  
 2814 wísaro wordo; · imu was ôk willjo só samo,  
 sunje drohtines, · þat hé su·lik ge·siðo folk  
 2816 an þat liot godes · laðoan mósti,  
 wēnnjen mid willjon. · Waldand lērde  
 2818 allan langan dag · liudi managa,  
 ęli-þeodige man, · ant-tat an ávand sêg  
 2820 sunne te sedle. · Þó géngun is ge·siðos twe-livi,  
 gumon te þemu godes barne · ęndi sagdun iro gódumu hêrron,  
 2822 mid hwi-liku arvedju þar þea erlos livdin, · kwáðun þat sie is êra  
 bi·þorftin,  
 weros an þemu wóstjon lande: · „sie ni mugun sie hér mid wihti  
 ant·hēbbjen,  
 2824 hęliðos bi hungres ge·þwinge. · Nu lát þú sie, hêrro þe gódo,  
 siðon, þar sie sęliða fiðen. · Náh sind hér ge·setana burgi  
 2826 managa mid męgin-þiodun: · þar fiðad sie męti te kôpe,  
 weros aftar þem wíkjon.“ · Þó sprak eft waldand Krist,  
 2828 þioda drohtin, · kwað þat þes êniga þuruftri ni wárin,  
 „þat sie þurh męti-lôsi · mína far·látan  
 2830 leov·líka lêra. · Gevad gi þesun liudjun gi·nóg,  
 wēnnjad sie hér mid willjon.“ · Þó habde eft is word garu  
 2832 Philippus fród gumo, · kwað þat þar só filu wári  
 manno męnigi: · „þoh wí hér te męti habdin  
 2834 garu im te gevanne, · só wí mahtin far·gelden mêt,  
 ef wí hér gi·saldin · silýver-skatto  
 2836 twê hund samad, · tweho wári is noh þan,  
 þat iro ênig þar · ênes gi·námi:  
 2838 só luttik wári þat þesun liudjun.“ · Þó sprak eft þe landes ward  
 ęndi frágode sie · firi-wit-líko,  
 2840 manno drohtin, · hwat sie þar te męti habdin  
 wistes ge·wunnin. · Þó sprak imu eft mid is wordun an·gęgin  
 2842 Andreas fora þem erlun · ęndi þemu alo-waldon  
 selvumu sagde, · þat sie an iro gi·siðje þan mêt  
 2844 garowes ni habdin, · „bi·útan girstin brôð  
 fivi an úsaru fęrdi · ęndi fiskos twêne.

2846 Hwat mag þat þoh þesaru mēnigi?“ · Þó sprak imu eft mahtig Krist,  
 þe gódo godes sunu, · ęndi hét þat gumono folk  
 2848 skęrjen ęndi skēðen · ęndi hét þea skola sęttjen,  
 erlos aftar þeru erðu, · irmin-þioda  
 2850 an grase grunimu, · ęndi þó te is jungarun sprak,  
 allaro barno bętst, · hét imu þiu brôd halon  
 2852 ęndi þea fiskos forð. · Þat folk stillo bēd,  
 sat ge·sīði mikil; · undar þiu hé þurh is selves kraft,  
 2854 manno drohtin, · þene męti wihide,  
 hēlag heven-kuning, · ęndi mid is handun brak,  
 2856 gaf it is jungarun forð, · ęndi it sie undar þemu gum-skępje hét  
 dragan ęndi dēljen. · Sie lęstun iro drohtines word,  
 2858 is geva gerno drógun · gumono gi·hwemu,  
 hēlaga helpa. · It undar iro handun wóhs,  
 2860 męti manno gi·hwemu: · þeru męgin-þiodu warð  
 líf an lustun, · þea liudi wurðun alle,  
 2862 sade sálig folk, · só hwat só þar gi·samnod was  
 fan allun wíðun wegūn. · Þó hét waldand Krist  
 2864 gangen is jungaron · ęndi hét sie gōmjēn wel,  
 þat þiu léva þar · far·loren ni wurði;  
 2866 hét sie þó samnon, · þó þar sade wárun  
 man-kunnjes manag. · Þar móses warð,  
 2868 brôdes te lévu, · þat man birilos gi·las  
 twe-livi fulle: · þat was tēkan mikil,  
 2870 grôt kraft godes, · hwand þar was gumono gi·tald  
 áno wíf ęndi kind, · werodes at·samme  
 2872 fif þúsundig. · Þat folk al far·stód,  
 þea man an iro móde, · þat sie þar mahtigna  
 2874 hēreron habdun. · Þó sie heven-kuning,  
 þea liudi lovodun, · kwáðun þat gio ni wurði an þit lioht kuman  
 2876 wísaro wár-sago, · efþa þat hé gi·wald mid gode  
 an þesaru middil-gard · méron habdi,  
 2878 ên-faldaran hugi. · Alle gi·sprákun,  
 þat hé wári wirðig · welono ge·hwi-likes,  
 2880 þat hé erð-ríki · êgan mósti,  
 wíðene wer-old-stól, · „nu hé su·lik ge·wit havad,  
 2882 só grôte kraft mid gode.“ · Þea gumon alle gi·warð,  
 þat sie ine gi·hóvin · te hêrosten,  
 2884 gi·kurin ine te kuninge: · þat Kriste ni was  
 wihtes wirðig, · hwand hé þit wer-old-ríki,



2886 erðe ęndi up-himil · þurh is ênes kraft  
 selvo gi·warhte · ęndi siðor gi·held,  
 2888 land ęndi liud-skepi, · —þoh þes ênigan gi·lôvon ni dedin  
 wrêðe wiðer-sakon— · þat al an is gi·walde stád,  
 2890 kuning-ríkjo kraft · ęndi kêsur-dómes,  
 męgin-þiodo mahal. · Be·þiu ni welde hé þurh þero manno spráka  
 2892 hebbjan ênigan hêr-dóm, · hêlag drohtin,  
 wer-old-kuninges namon; · ni hé þó mid wordun stríd  
 2894 ni af·hóf wið þat folk furður, · ak fôr imu þó, þar hé welde,  
 an ên ge·birgi uppan: · flóh þat barn godes  
 2896 gêlaro gelp-kwidi · ęndi is jungaron hét  
 ovar ênne sêo siðon · ęndi im selvo gi·bôd,  
 2898 hwar sie im eft te·gęgnes · gangen skoldin.  
 Þó te·lét þat liud-werod · aftar þemu lande allumu,  
 2900 te·fôr folk mikil, · siðor iro frâho gi·wêt  
 an þat ge·birgi uppan, · barno ríkjost,  
 2902 waldand an is willjon. · Þó te þes watares staðe  
 samnodun þea ge·siðos Kristes, · þe hé imu habde selvo gi·korane,  
 2904 sie twelivi þurh iro trewa góda: · ni was im tweho nigijan,  
 nevu sie an þat godes þionost · gerno weldin  
 2906 ovar þene sêo siðon. · Þó létun sie swiðjan strôm,  
 hôh hurnid-skip · hluttron üðjon,  
 2908 skêðan skír water. · Skrêd lioht dages,  
 sunne warð an sedle; · þe sêo-líðandjan  
 2910 naht nevulo bi·warp; · náðidun erlos  
 forð-wardes an flód; · warð þiu fiorðe tíð  
 2912 þera nahtes kuman · —nęrjendo Krist  
 warode þea wág-líðand—: · þó warð wind mikil,  
 2914 hôh wedęr af·haven: · hlamodun üðjon,  
 strôm an stamne; · strídjun fęridun  
 2916 þea weros wiðer winde, · was im wrêð hugi,  
 sevo sorgono ful: · selvon ni wándun  
 2918 lagu-líðandja · an land kumen  
 þurh þes wederes ge·win. · Þó gi·sáhun sie waldand Krist  
 2920 an þemu sêe uppan · selvun gangan,  
 faran an fäðjon: · ni mahte an þene flód innan,  
 2922 an þene sêo sinkan, · hwand ine is selves kraft  
 hêlag ant·habde. · Hugi warð an forhtun,  
 2924 þero manno mód-sevo: · and-rédun þat it im mahtig fiund  
 te gi·droge dádi. · Þó sprak im iro drohtin tó,

- 2926 hêlag heven-kuning, · ɛndi sagde im þat hé iro hêrro was  
 mári ɛndi mahtig: · „nu gí módes skulun  
 2928 fastes fâhen; · ne sí iu forht hugi,  
 gi·bárjad gi bald-líko: · ik bium þat barn godes,  
 2930 is selves sunu, · þe iu wið þesumu sêe skal,  
 mundon wið þesan męri-strôm.“ · Þó sprak imu ên þero manno  
 an·gęgin  
 2932 ovar bord skipes, · bar-wirðig gumo,  
 Petrus þe gódo · —ni welde píne þolon,  
 2934 watares wíti—: · „ef þú it waldand sís“, kwað hé,  
 „hêrro þe gódo, · só mi an mínumu hugi þunkit,  
 2936 hêt mí þan þarod gangan te þí · ovar þesen gevenes strôm,  
 drokno ovar diap water, · ef þú mín drohtin sís,  
 2938 managoro mund-boro.“ · Þó hét ine mahtig Krist  
 gangan imu te·gęnes. · hé warð garu sáno,  
 2940 stôp af þemu stamne · ɛndi stríðjun géng  
 forð te is frôjan. · Þiu flód ant·habde  
 2942 þene man þurh maht godes, · an-tat hé imu an is móde bi·gan  
 and-ráden diap water, · þó hé dríven gi·sah  
 2944 þene wég mid windu: · wundun ina uðjon,  
 hôh strôm umbi·hring. · Reht só hé þó an is hugi twehode,  
 2946 só wêk imu þat water under, · ɛndi hé an þene wág innan,  
 sank an þene sêo-strôm, · ɛndi hé hriop sán aftar þiu  
 2948 gáhon te þemu godes sunje · ɛndi gerno bad,  
 þat hé ine þó ge·nęridi, · þó hé an nôðjun was,  
 2950 þegān an ge·þwinge. · Þiodo drohtin  
 ant·feng ine mid is faðmun · ɛndi frágode sána,  
 2952 te hwí hé þó ge·twehodi: · „Hwat þú mahtes ge·trúojan wel,  
 witen þat te wárun, · þat þi watares kraft  
 2954 an þemu sêe innen · þínes siðes ni mahte,  
 lagu-strôm gi·lęttjen, · só lango só þú habdes ge·lôvon te mi  
 2956 an þínumu hugi hardo. · Nu willju ik þi an helpun wesen,  
 nęrjen þi an þesaru nôði“. · Þó nam ine alo-mahtig,  
 2958 hêlag bi handun: · þó warð imu eft hlutter water  
 fast under fótun, · ɛndi sie an fāði samad  
 2960 bêðja géngun, · an-tat sie ovar bord skipes  
 stópun fan þemu strôme, · ɛndi an þemu stamne ge·sat  
 2962 allaro barno bętst. · Þó warð brêd water,  
 strômos ge·stillid, · ɛndi sie te staðe kwámun,  
 2964 lagu-líðandja · an land samen

þurh þes wateres ge·win, · sagdun þo waldande þank,  
 2966 diurden iro drohtin · dádjun ęndi wordun,  
 fellun imu te fótun · ęndi filu sprákun  
 2968 wísaro wordo, · kwáðun þat sie wissin garo,  
 þat hé wári selvo · sunu drohtines  
 2970 wár an þesaru wer-oldi · ęndi ge·wald habdi  
 ovar middil-gard, · ęndi þat hé mahti allaro manno gi·hwes  
 2972 feræhe gi·formon, · al só hé im an þemu flóde dede  
 wið þes watares ge·win. · Þó gi·wêt imu waldand Krist  
 2974 siðon fan þemu sêe, · sunu drohtines,  
 ênag barn godes. · E̅li-þioda kwam imu,  
 2976 gumon te·gęgnes: · wárun is gódun werk  
 ferran ge·frági, · þat hé só filu sagde  
 2978 wároro wordo: · imu was willjo mikil,  
 þat hé su·lik folk-skępi · frummjen mósti,  
 2980 þat sie simla gerno · gode þionodin,  
 wárin ge·hōrige · heven-kuninge  
 2982 man-kunnjes manag. · Þó gi·wêt hé imu over þea marka Judeono,  
 sóhte imu Sidono burg, · habde ge·siðos mid imu,  
 2984 góde jungaron. · Þar imu te·gęgnes kwam  
 ên idis fan áðrom þiodun; · siu was iru aðali-ge·burdjo,  
 2986 kunnjes fan Kananeo lande; · siu bad þene kraftagan drohtin,  
 hêlagna, þat hé iru helpe ge·rédi, · kwað þat iru wári harm gi·standen,  
 2988 soręga at iru selvaru dohter, · kwað þat siu wári mid suhtjun  
 bi·fangen:  
 „be·drogan habbjad sie dęrnja wihti. · Nú is iro dōd at hęndi,  
 2990 þea wrêðon habbjad sie ge·wittju be·numane. · Nu biddju ik þi,  
 waldand frô min,  
 selvo sunu Dawides, · þat sie af su·likum suhtjun a·tómjes,  
 2992 þat þú sie só arma · ê-gróht-fullo  
 wam-skaðon bi·weri.“ · Ni gaf iru þó noh waldand Krist  
 2994 ênig and-wordi; · siu imu aftar géng,  
 folgode fruokno, · an-tat siu te is fótun kwam,  
 2996 grótte ina greatandi. · Jungaron Kristes  
 bádun iro hêrron, · þat hé an is hugja mildi  
 2998 wurði þemu wíve. · Þó habde eft is word garu  
 sunu drohtines · ęndi te is ge·siðun sprak:  
 3000 „êrist skal ik Israheles · avoron werðen,  
 folk-skępi te frumu, · þat sie ferhtan hugi  
 3002 hębbjan te iro hêrron: · im is helpono þarf,

þea liudi sind far·lorane, · far·lāten habbjad  
 3004 waldandes word, · þat werod is ge·twīflid,  
 drīvad im dērnjan hugi, · ne willjad iro drohtine hōrjen  
 3006 Israhelo erl-skēpi, · un-gi·lōviga sind  
 hēliðos iro hērron: · þoh skal þanen helpe kumen  
 3008 allun ēli-þiodun.“ · Agalēto bad  
 þat wīf mid iro wordun, · þat iru waldand Krist  
 3010 an is mōd-sevon · mildi wurði,  
 þat siu iro barnes forð · brúkan mósti,  
 3012 hēbbjan sie hēle. · Þó sprak iru hērro an·gēgin,  
 mári ēndi mahtig: · „nis þat“, kwað hé, „mannes reht,  
 3014 gumono nig·ēnum · gód te gi·frummjenne  
 þat hé is barnun · brōdes af·tíhe,  
 3016 wērnje im ovar willjon, · lāte sie wíti þoljan,  
 hungar hēti-grimmen, · ēndi fódje is hundos mid þiu.“  
 3018 „Wár is þat, waldand“, · kwað siu, „þat þú mid þínun wordun sprikis,  
 sōð-líko sagis: · Hwat þoh oft an sēli innen  
 3020 undar iro hērron diske · hwelpos hwervad  
 brosmoño fulle · þero fan þemu biode niðer  
 3022 ant·fallat iro frōjan.“ · Þó gi·hōrde þat friðu-barn godes  
 willjan þes wíves · ēndi sprak iru mid is wordun tó:  
 3024 „wela þat þú wíf haves · willjan góden!  
 Mikil is þín gi·lōvo · an þea maht godes,  
 3026 an þene liudjo drohtin. · Al wirðid gi·lēstid só  
 umbi þínes barnes líf, · só þú bádi te mi.“  
 3028 Þó warð siu sán gi·hēlid, · só it þe hēlago ge·sprak  
 wordun wár-fastun: · þat wíf fagonode,  
 3030 þes siu iro barnes forð · brúkan móste;  
 habde iru gi·holpen · hēljando Krist,  
 3032 habde sie far·fangane · fiundo kraftu,  
 wam-skaðun bi·wērid. · Þó gi·wēt imu waldand forð,  
 3034 barno þat bētste, · sóhte imu burg öðre,  
 þiu só þikko was · mid þeru þiodu Judeono,  
 3036 mid sūðar-liudjun gi·seten. · Þar gi·fragn ik þat hé is ge·sīðos grótte,  
 þe jungaron þe hé imu habde be is góde gi·korane, · þat sie mid imu  
 gerno ge·wunodun,  
 3038 weros þurh is wíson spráka: · „alle skal ik iu“, kwað hé, „mid wordun  
 frágon,  
 jungaron míne: · hwat kweðat þese Judeo liudi,  
 3040 mári megin-þioda, · hwat ik manno sí?“

Imu and·wordidun frô·líko · is friund an·gëgin,  
 3042 jungaron síne: · „nis þit Judeono folk,  
 erlos ên·wordje: · sum sagad þat þú Elias sís,  
 3044 wís wár-sago, · þe hér giu was lango,  
 gód undar þesumu gum-skëpje, · sum sagad þat þú Johannes sís,  
 3046 diur-lík drohtines bodo, · þe hér dôpte iu  
 werod an watere; · alle sie mid wordun sprekad,  
 3048 þat þú ên-hwi-lik sís ·   ilero manno,  
 þero wár-sagono, · þe hér mid wordun giu  
 3050 lêrdun þese liudi, ·  ndi þat þú sís eft an þit lioht kumen  
 te wísjanne þesumu werode.“ · Þó sprak eft waldand Krist:  
 3052 „hwe kwe  ad gi, þat ik sí“, · kwa   hé, „jungaron míne,  
 liovon liud-weros?“ · Þó te lat ni war    
 3054 Símón Petrus: · sprak sán an·gëgin  
 êno for im allun · —habde imu  lljen gód,  
 3056 þristja gi·þáhti, · was is þeodone hold—:  
 „þú bist þe wáro · waldandes sunu,  
 3058 libbjendes godes, · þe þit lioht gi·skóp,  
 Krist kuning êwig: · só willjad wí kwe  en alle,  
 3060 jungaron þíne, · þat þú sís god selvo,  
 h ljandero b tst.“ · Þó sprak imu eft is h rro an·gëgin:  
 3062 „sálig bist þú Símón“, kwa   hé, „sunu Jonases; · ni mahtes þú þat  
 selvo ge·huggjan,  
 gi·markon an þínun mó  -gi·þáhtjun, · ne it ni mahte þi mannes  
 tunge  
 3064 wordun ge·wísjen, · ak dede it þi waldand selvo,  
 fader allaro friho barno, · þat þú só for   gi·spráki,  
 3066 só diapo bi drohtin þínen. · Diur-líko skalt þú þes l n ant·fáhen,  
 hluttro havas þú an þínan h rron gi·l von, · hugi-sk fti sind þíne  
 st ne ge·líka,  
 3068 só fast bist þú só felis þe hardo; · h ten skulun þi friho barn  
 sankte Péter: · ovar þemu st ne skal man mínen s li wirkjan,  
 3070 h lag h s godes; · þar skal is h wiski t   
 sálig samnon: · ni mugun wi   þem þínun swi  jun krafte  
 3072 an·þebbj n h llje portun. · Ik far·givu þi himil-ríkjas slutilas,  
 þat þú móst aftar mi · allun gi·waldan  
 3074 kristinum folke; · kumad alle te þi  
 gumono g stos; · þú have gr te gi·wald,  
 3076 hwene þú hér an er  u ·  ldi-barno  
 ge·binden willjes: · þemu is b   ju gi·duan,

3078 himil-ríki bi·loken, · ęndi hęllje sind imu opana,  
 brinnandi fiur; · só hwene só þú eft ant·binden wili,  
 3080 an·þeftjen is hęndi, · þemu is himil-ríki,  
 ant·loken liohto męst · ęndi líf ęwig,  
 3082 gróni godes wang. · Mid su·likaru ik þi gevu willju  
 lônnon þinen gi·lôvon. · Ni willju ik, þat gí þesun liudjun noh,  
 3084 márjen þesaru męnigi, · þat ik bium mahtig Krist,  
 godes ęgan barn. · Mi skulun Judeon noh,  
 3086 un·skuldigna · erlos binden,  
 węgjan mi te wundrun · —dót mi wítjes filo—  
 3088 innan Jerusalem · gêres ordun,  
 áhtjen mínes aldres · ęggjun skarpun,  
 3090 bi·lôsjen mi lívu. · Ik an þesumu liohte skal  
 þurh ęses drohtines kraft · fan dôde a·standen  
 3092 an þriddjumu dage“. · Þó warð þegno bętst  
 swiðo an sorgun, · Símon Petrus,  
 3094 warð imu hugi hriwig, · ęndi te is hêrron sprak  
 rink an rúnun: · „ni skal þat ríki god“, kwað hé,  
 3096 „waldand willjen, · þat þú eo su·lik wíti mikil  
 gi·þolos undar þesaru þiod: · nis þes þarf nigijan,  
 3098 hêlag drohtin.“ · Þó sprak imu eft is hêrro an·gęgin,  
 mári mahtig Krist · —was imu an is móde hold—:  
 3100 „Hwat þú nú wiðer-ward bist“, · kwað hé, „willjon mínes,  
 þegno bętsto! · Hwat þú þesaro þiodo kanst  
 3102 męnniskan sidu: · þú ni wêst þe maht godes,  
 þe ik gi·frummjen skal. · Ik mag þi filu sęggjan  
 3104 wárun wordun, · þar hér undar þesumu werode standad  
 ge·siðos míne, · þea ni mótun swelten êr,  
 3106 hwerven an hinen-fard · êr sie himiles lioht,  
 godes ríki sehat.“ · Kôs imu jungarono þó  
 3108 sán aftar þiu · Símon Petrus,  
 Jakob ęndi Johannes, · ea gumon twêne,  
 3110 bêðja þea gi·bróðer, · ęndi imu þó uppen þene berg gi·wêt  
 sunder mid þem ge·siðun, · sálíg barn godes,  
 3112 mid þem þegnun þrim, · þiodo drohtin,  
 waldand þesaro wer-oldes: · welde im þar wundres filu,  
 3114 tēkno tōgjan, · þat sie gi·trúodin þiu bet,  
 þat hé selvo was · sunu drohtines,  
 3116 hêlag heven-kuning. · Þó sie an hôhan wall  
 stigun stên ęndi berg, · an-tat sie te þeru stędi kwámun,

3118 weros wiðer wolkan, · þar waldand Krist,  
 kuningo kraftigost · gi·koren habde,  
 3120 þat hé is god-kundi · jungarun sínun  
 þurh is ênes kraft · ógjan welde,  
 3122 berht-lík biliði. · Þó imu þar te bedu gi·hnêg,  
 þó warð imu þar uppe · ôðar-líkora  
 3124 wliti êndi gi·wádi: · wurðun imu is wangun liohte,  
 blíkandi só þiu berhte sunne: · só skên þat barn godes,  
 3126 liuhte is lík-hamo: · liomon stóðun  
 wánamo fan þemu waldandes barne; · warð is ge·wádi só hwít  
 3128 só snêw te sehanne. · Þó warð þar seld-lík þing  
 gi·ôgid aftar þiu: · Elias êndi Moyses  
 3130 kwámun þar te Kriste · wið só kraftagne  
 wordun wehsljan. · Þar warð só wun-sam spráka,  
 3132 só gód word undar gumun, · þar þe godes sunu  
 wið þea márjan man · mahljen welde,  
 3134 só blíði warð uppan þemu berge: · skên þat berhte lioht,  
 was þar gard gód-lík · êndi gróni wang,  
 3136 Paradise ge·lík. · Petrus þó gi·mahalde,  
 hēlið hard-módig · êndi te is hêrron sprak,  
 3138 grótte þene godes sunu: · „gód is it hér te wesanne,  
 ef þú it gi·kiosan wili, · Krist alo-waldo,  
 3140 þat man þí hér an þesaru hôhe · ên hús ge·wirkja,  
 már-líko ge·mako · êndi Moysesese ôðer  
 3142 êndi Eliase þriddja: · þit is ôðas hêm,  
 welono wun-samost.“ · Reht só hé þó þat word ge·sprak,  
 3144 só ti·lét þiu luft an twê: · lioht wolkan skên,  
 glítandi glímo, · êndi þea gódun man  
 3146 wliti-skôni be·warp. · Þó fan þemu wolkne kwam  
 hêlag stemne godes, · êndi þem hēliðun þar  
 3148 selvo sagde, · þat þat is sunu wári,  
 libbjendero liovost: · „an þemu mí líkod wel  
 3150 an mínun hugi-skēftjun. · Þemu gí hōrjen skulun,  
 ful·gangad imu gerno.“ · Þó ni mahtun þea jungaron Kristes  
 3152 þes wolknes wliti · êndi word godes,  
 þea is mikilon maht · þea man ant·standen,  
 3154 ak sie bi·fellun þó forð-wardes: · ferhes ni wáundun,  
 lēngiron līves. · Þó géng im tó þe landes ward,  
 3156 be·hrên sie mid is handun · hēljandero bēstst,  
 hét þat sie im ni an·drédin: · „ni skal iu hér derjen eo·wiht,

- 3158 þes gí hér seld-líkes · gi·sehen habbjad,  
 mérjaro þingo.“ · Þó eft þem mannun warð  
 3160 hugi at iro herton · ęndi gi·hêlid mód,  
 gi·bade an iro breostun: · gi·sáhun þat barn godes  
 3162 ênna standen, · was þat ôðer þó,  
 be·hliden himiles lioht. · Þó gi·wêt imu þe hêlago Krist  
 3164 fan þemu berge niðer; · gi·bôd aftar þiu  
 jungarun sínun, · þat sie ovar Judeono folk  
 3166 ni sagdin þea gi·sioni: · „er þan ik selvo hér  
 swíðo diur-líko · fan dôðe a·stande,  
 3168 a·ríse fan þeru restu: · siðor mugun gí it rēkkjen forð,  
 márjen ovar middil-gard · managun þiodun  
 3170 wído aftar þesaru wer-oldi.“ · Þó gi·wêt imu waldand Krist  
 eft an Galileo land, · sóhte is gadulingos,  
 3172 mahtig is mágo hêm, · sagde þar manages hwat  
 berhtero biliðjo, · ęndi þat barn godes  
 3174 þem is sáligun ge·siðun · sorg-spell ni for·hal,  
 ak hé im open-líko · allun sagde,  
 3176 þem is gódun jungarun, · hwó ine skolde þat Judeono folk  
 wêgjan te wundrun. · Þes wurðun þar wíse man  
 3178 swíðo an sorgun, · warð im sêr hugi,  
 hriwig umbi iro herte: · gi·hôrdun iro hêrron þó,  
 3180 waldandes sunu · wordun tēlljen,  
 hwat hé undar þeru þiodu · þolojan skolde,  
 3182 willjendi undar þemu werode. · Þó gi·wêt imu waldand Krist,  
 gumo fan Galilea, · sóhte imu Judeono burg,  
 3184 kwámun im te Kafarnaum. · Þar fundun sie ênan kuninges þegan  
 wlankan undar þemu werode: · kwað þat hé wári gi·wēldig bodo  
 3186 aðal-kêsure; · hé grótte aftar þiu  
 Símon Petrusen, · kwað þat hé wári gi·sęndid þarod,  
 3188 þat hé þar gi·manodi · manno ge·hwi-likan  
 þero hôvid-skatto, · þe sie te þemu hove skoldin  
 3190 tinsi gelden: · „nis þes tweho ênig  
 gumono ni-gj·ênumu, · ne sie ina far·gelden sán  
 3192 mēðmo kustjon, · bi·úten iuwe mēster êno  
 havad it far·látan. · Ni skal þat líkon wel  
 3194 mínumu hêrron, · só man it imu at is hove kúðid,  
 aðal-kêsure.“ · Þó géng aftar þiu  
 3196 Símon Petrus, · welde it sęggjan þó  
 hêrron sínumu: · hé was is an is hugi iu þan,



3198 gi·waro waldand Krist: · —imu ni mahte word ênig  
 bi·holen werðen, · hé wisse hugi-skęfti  
 3200 manno ge·hwi-likes—: · hét þó þene is mārjan þegan,  
 Sīmon Petrus · an þene sêo innen  
 3202 angul werpen: · „su·liken só þú þar êrist mugis  
 fisk gi·fāhen“, · kwað hé, „só teoh þú þene fan þemu flóde te þi,  
 3204 ant·klēmmi imu þea kinni: · þar maht þú undar þem kaflon nimen  
 guldine skattos, · þat þú far·gelden maht  
 3206 þemu manne te gi·módja · mīnen ęndi þinen  
 tinsjo só hwi-likan, · só hé ős tó sókid.“  
 3208 Hé ni þorfte imu þó aftar þiu · ôðaru wordu  
 furður gi·bioden: · géng fiskari gód,  
 3210 Sīmon Petrus, · warp an þene sêo innen  
 angul an ûðjon · ęndi up gi·tôh  
 3212 fisk an flóde · mid is folmun twēm,  
 te·klóf imu þea kinni · ęndi undar þem kaflun nam  
 3214 guldine skattos: · dede al, só imu þe godes sunu  
 wordun ge·wīse. · Þar was þó waldandes  
 3216 męgin-kraft gi·márid, · hwó skal allaro manno ge·hwi-lik  
 swiðo willjendi · is wer-old-hêrron  
 3218 skuldi ęndi skattos, · þea imu gi·skęride sind,  
 gerno gelden: · ni skal ine far·gúmon eo·wiht,  
 3220 ni far·muni ine an is móde, · ak wese imu mildi an is hugi,  
 þiono imu þio-líko: · an þiu mag hé þiod-godes  
 3222 willjan ge·wirkjan · ęndi ôk is wer-old-hêrron  
 huldi habben. · Só lērde þe hêlago Krist  
 3224 þea is gódon jungaron: · „ef ênig gumono wið iu“, kwað hé,  
 „sundja ge·wirkja, · þan nim þú ina sundar te þi,  
 3226 þene rink an rúna · ęndi imu is rád saga,  
 wísi imu mid wordun. · Ef imu þan þes werð ne sí,  
 3228 þat hé þi gi·hôrje, · hala þi þar ôðara tó  
 gódaro gumono, · ęndi lah imu is grimmun werk,  
 3230 sak ina sôð-wordun. · Ef imu þan is sundja aftar þiu,  
 lôs-werk ni lêðon, · gi·duo it ôðrun liudjun küð,  
 3232 mári it þan for męnegi · ęndi lát manno filu  
 witen is far·wurhti: · óðo be·ginnad imu þan is werk tregan,  
 3234 an is hugi hrewen, · þan hé it gi·hôrid hęliðo filu,  
 ahton ęldi-barn · ęndi imu is uvilon dád  
 3236 węrtjad mid wordun. · Ef hé þan ôk węndjen ne wili,  
 ak far·módat su·lika męnegi, · þan lát þú þene man faren,

3238       hava ina þan far hêðinen · ęndi lát ina þi an þínumu hugi lêðen,  
           míð is an þínumu móde, · ne sí þat imu eft mildi god,  
 3240       hêr heven-kuning · helpe far·líhe,  
           fader allaro friho barno.“ · Þó frágode Petrus,  
 3242       allaro þegno bętst · þeodan sínan:  
           „hwó oft skal ik þem mannun, · þe wið mí habbjad  
 3244       lêð-werk gi·duan, · leovo drohtin,  
           skal ik im sivun sīðun · iro sundja a·lāten,  
 3246       wrêðaro werko, · êr þan ik is êniga wrêka frummje,  
           lêðes te lône?“ · Þó sprak eft þe landes ward,  
 3248       an·gęgin þe godes sunu · gódumu þegne:  
           „ni sęggju ik þi fan sivunjun, · só þú selvo sprikis,  
 3250       mahlis mid þínu müðu, · ik duom þi mēra þar tó:  
           sivun sīðun sivun-tig · só skalt þú sundja ge·hwemu,  
 3252       lêðes a·lāten: · só willju ik þi te lêrun geven  
           wordun wár-fastun. · Nu ik þí su·lika gi·wald far·gaf,  
 3254       þat þú mínes híwiskes · hêrost wáris,  
           manages mann-kunnjes, · nu skalt þú im mildi wesen,  
 3256       liudjun líði.“ · Þó þar te þemu lērjande kwam  
           ên jung man an·gęgin · ęndi frágode Jesu Krist:  
 3258       „mêster þe gódo“, · kwað hé, „hwat skal ik manages duan,  
           an þiu þe ik heven-ríki · ge·halan móti?“  
 3260       Habde imu ôd-welon · allen ge·wunnen,  
           mêðom-hord manag, · þoh hé mildjan hugi  
 3262       bári an is breostun. · Þó sprak imu þat barn godes:  
           „hwat kwiðis þú umbi gódon? · nis þat gumono ênig  
 3264       bi·útan þe êno, · þe þar al ge·skóp,  
           wer-old ęndi wunnja. · Ef þú is willjan havas,  
 3266       þat þú an lioht godes · líðan mótis,  
           þan skalt þú bi·halden · þea hêlagon lêra,  
 3268       þe þar an þemu aldon · êwa ge·biudid,  
           þat þú man ni slah, · ni þú mēnes ni sweri,  
 3270       far·legar-nessi far·lát · ęndi luggi ge·wit-skępi,  
           stríd ęndi stulina; · ne wis þú te stark an hugi,  
 3272       ne nīðin ne hatul, · ni nôd-róf ni fręmi;  
           av·unst alla far·lát; · wis þínun ęldirun gód,  
 3274       fader ęndi móder, · ęndi þínun friundun hold,  
           þem náhistun gi·nāðig. · Þan þú þi gi·niodon móst  
 3276       himilo ríkjas, · ef þú it bi·halden wili,  
           ful-gangan godes lêrun.“ · Þó sprak eft þe jungo man

3278 „al hebbju ik só gi·lêstid“, · kwað hé, „só þú mi lêris nu,  
 wordun wísis, · só ik is eo wiht ni far·lét  
 3280 fan mínero kindiski.“ · Þó bi·gan ina Krist sehan  
 an mid is ôgun: · „ên is þar noh nu“, kwað hé,  
 3282 „wan þero werko: · ef þú is willjon havas,  
 þat þú þurh·frëmid · þionon mótis  
 3284 hêrron þinumu, · þan skalt þú þat þín hord nimen,  
 skalt þínan ôd·welon · allan far·kôpjen,  
 3286 diurje mêðmos, · êndi dêljen hét  
 armun mannun: · þan havas þú aftar þiu  
 3288 hord an himile; · kum þi þan gi·halden te mi,  
 folgo þi mínaro fërdi: · þan havas þú friðu siður.“  
 3290 Þó wurðun Kristes word · kind·jungumu manne  
 swiðo an sorgun, · was imu sêr hugi,  
 3292 mód umbi herte: · habde mêðmo filu,  
 welono ge·wunnen; · wënde imu eft þanen,  
 3294 was imu un·óðo · innan breostun,  
 an is sevon swáro. · Sah imu aftar þó  
 3296 Krist alo·waldo, · kwað it þó, þar hé welde,  
 te þem is jungarun gegin·wardun, · þat wári an godes ríki  
 3298 un·óði ôdagumu manne · up te kumanne:  
 „óður mag man olvundjon, · þoh hé sí un·met grôt,  
 3300 þurh náðlan gat, · þoh it sí naru swiðo,  
 sáftur þurh·slópjen, · þan mugi kuman þiu siole te himile  
 3302 þes ôdagan mannes, · þe hér al havad  
 gi·wëndid an þene wer·old·skat · willjon sínen,  
 3304 mód·gi·þáhti, · êndi ni hugid umbi þie maht godes.“  
 Imu and·wordjade · êr·þungan gumo,  
 3306 Símon Petrus, · êndi seggjan bad  
 leovan hêrron: · „Hwat skulun wí þes te lône nimen“, kwað hé,  
 3308 „gódes te gelde, · þes wí þurh þín jungar·dóm  
 êgan êndi ęrvi · al far·létun  
 3310 hovor êndi híwiski · êndi þi te hêrron gi·kurun,  
 folgodun þínaru fërdi: · hwat skal ús þes te frumu werðen,  
 3312 langes te lône?“ · Liudjo drohtin  
 sagde im þó selvo: · „Þan ik sittjen kumu“, kwað hé,  
 3314 „an þie mikilan maht · an þemu márjan dage,  
 þar ik allun skal · irmin·þiodun  
 3316 dómos a·dêljen, · þan mótun gi mid iuwomu drohtine þar  
 selvon sittjen · êndi mótun þera saka waldan:

- 3318 mótun gí Israhelo · ęđili-folkun  
 a·dêljen aftar iro dádjun: · só mótun gi þar gi·diuride wesen.  
 3320 Þan sęggju ik iu te wáran: · só hwe só þat an þesaru wer-oldi gi·duot,  
 þat hé þurh mína minnja · mágo ge·sidli  
 3322 liof far·létid, · þes skal hi hér lôn niman  
 tehan siðun tehin-fald, · ef hé it mid trewon duot,  
 3324 mid hluttru hugi. · Ovar þat havad hé ôk himiles lioht,  
 open êwig líf.“ · Bi·gan imu þó aftar þiu  
 3326 allaro barno bętst · ên biliði sęggjan,  
 kwað þat þar ên ôdag man · an êr-dagun  
 3328 wári undar þemu werode: · „þe habde welono ge·nóg,  
 sinkas gi·samnod · ęndi imu simlun was  
 3330 garu mid goldu · ęndi mid godo-wębbju,  
 fagaŕun fratahun · ęndi imu so filu habde  
 3332 gódes an is gardun · ęndi imu at gômun sat  
 allaro dago ge·hwi-likes: · habde imu diur-lík líf,  
 3334 blíðsja an is bęnkjun. · Þan was þar eft ên biddjendi man,  
 gi·lévod an is lík-hamon, · Lazarus was hé hêten,  
 3336 lag imu dago ge·hwi-likes · at þem durun foren,  
 þar hé þene ôdagan man · inne wisse  
 3338 an is gęst-sęli · gôme þiggjan,  
 sittjen at sumble, · ęndi hé simlun bêd  
 3340 gi·armod þar úte: · ni móste þar in kuman,  
 ne hé ni mahte ge·biddjen, · þat man imu þes brôdes þarod  
 3342 gi·dragan weldi, · þes þar fan þemu diske niðer  
 ant·fel undar iro fôti: · ni mahte imu þar ênig fruma werðen  
 3344 fan þemu hêroston, þe þes húses gi·weld, · bi·útan þat þar géngun is  
 hundos tó,  
 likkodun is lík-wundon, · þar hé liggjandi  
 3346 hungar þolode; · ni kwam imu þar te helpu wiht  
 fan þemu ríkjon manne. · Þó gi·fragn ik þat ina is regano-gi·skapu,  
 3348 þene armon man · is ên-dago  
 gi·manoda mahtjun swíð, · þat hé manno drôm  
 3350 a·geven skolde. · Godes ęngilos  
 ant·fęngun is ferh · ęndi lêddun ine forð þanen,  
 3352 þat sie an Abrahames barm · þes armon mannes  
 siole gi·sęttun: · þar móste hé simlun forð  
 3354 wesen an wunnjun. · Þó kwámun ôk wurde-gi·skapu,  
 þemu ôdagan man · or·lag-hwíle,  
 3356 þat hé þit lioht far·lét: · lêða wihti

be·sinkodun is siole · an þene swarton hēl,  
 3358 an þat fern innen · fiundun te willjan,  
 be·gróvun ine an gramono hēm. · þanen mahte hé þene góðan  
 skawon,  
 3360 Abraham ge·sehen, · þar hé uppe was  
 líves an lustun, · ęndi Lazarus sat  
 3362 blíði an is barme, · berht lôn ant·féng  
 allaro is arm-ódjo, · ęndi lag þe ôdago man  
 3364 hêto an þeru hęllju, · hriop up þanen:  
 „fader Abraham“, · kwað hé, „mí is firinun þarf,  
 3366 þat þú mí an þínumu mód-sevon · mildi werðes,  
 líði an þesaru lognu: · sęndi mi Lazarus herod,  
 3368 þat hé mí ge·fórja · an þit fern innan  
 kaldes wateres. · Ik hér kwik brinnu  
 3370 hêto an þesaru hęllju: · nu is mi þínaro helpono þarf,  
 þat hé mí a·lęskje · mid is luttikon fingru  
 3372 tungon míne, · nu siu tēkan havad,  
 uvil arvedi. · Inwid-rádo,  
 3374 lêðaro spráka, · alles is mi nu þes lôn kumen.“  
 Imu and·wordjade þó Abraham · —þat was ald-fader—:  
 3376 „ge·hugi þú an þínumu herton“, · kwað hé, „hwat þú habdes iu  
 welono an wer-oldi. · Hwat þú þar alle þíne wunnja far·sliti,  
 3378 gódes an gardun, · só hwat só þi giviðig forð  
 werðen skolde. · Wíti þolode  
 3380 Lazarus an þemu liohte, · habde þar lêðes filu,  
 wítjas an wer-oldi. · Be·þiu skal hé nu welon ęgan,  
 3382 libbjen an lustun: · þú skalt þea logna þolan,  
 brinnendi fiur: · ni mag is þi ęnig bóte kumen  
 3384 hinana te hęllju: · it havad þe hêlago god  
 só gi·fastnod mid is faðmun: · ni mag þar faren ęnig  
 3386 þegno þurh þat þiustri: · it is hér só þikki undar ús.“  
 Þó sprak eft Abrahame · þe erl te·gegnes  
 3388 fan þeru hêtan hęll · ęndi helpono bad,  
 þat hé Lazarus · an liudjo drôm  
 3390 selvon sandi: · „þat hé ge·sęggja þar  
 bróðarun mínun, · hwó ik hér brinnendi  
 3392 þrá·werk þolon; · si þar undar þeru þiodu sind,  
 si fívi undar þemu folke: · ik an forhtun bium,  
 3394 þat sie im þar far·wirkjen, · þat sie skulin ôk an þit wíti te mi,  
 an só grádag fiur.“ · Þó imu eft te·gegnes sprak

- 3396 Abraham ald-fader, · kwað þat sie þar êo godes  
an þemu land-skępi, · liudi habdin,  
3398 Moyseses gi·bôd · ęndi þar managaro tó  
wár-saguno word: · „ef sie is willige sind,  
3400 þat sie þat bi·halden, · þan ni þurvun sie an þea hęll innen,  
an þat fern faren, · ef sie ge·frummjad só,  
3402 só þea ge·biodad, · þe þea bók lesat  
þem liudjun te lêrun. · Ef sie þes þan ni willjad lêstjen wiht,  
3404 þanne ni hôrjad sie ôk · þemu þe hinan a·stád,  
man fan dôðe. · Láte man sie an iro mód-sevon  
3406 selvon keosen, · hweðer im swótjera þunkje  
te gi·winnanne, · só lango só sie an þesaru wer-oldi sind,  
3408 þat sie eft uvil etþa gód · aftar habbjēn.“  
Só lêrde hé þó þea liudi · liohton wordon,  
3410 allaro barno bętst, · ęndi biliði sagde  
manag man-kunnje · mahtig drohtin,  
3412 kwað þat imu ên sálig gumo · samnon bi·gunni  
man an morgen, · „ęndi im méda gi·hét,  
3414 þe hêrosto þes híwiskjas, · swíðo \*hold-lík lôn“,  
kwað þat hie iro allaro gi·hwem · ênna gávi  
3416 silōvrinna skat. · „Þuo samnodun managa  
weros an is wín-gardon, · —ęndi hie im werk bi·falah—  
3418 ádro an úhtan. · Sum kwam þar ôk an undorn tuo,  
sum kwam þar an middjan dag, · man te þem werke,  
3420 sum kwam þar te nónu, · þuo was þiu niguða tíð  
sumar-landes dages; · sum þar ôk siðor kwam  
3422 an þia ęlliftun tíð. · Þuo géng þar ávand tuo,  
sunna ti sedle. · Þuo hie selvo gi·bôd  
3424 is ambahtjon, · erlo drohtin,  
þat man þero manno gi·hwem · is meoda for·guldi,  
3426 þem erlon arvid-lôn; · hiet þiem at êrist gevan.  
þia þar at lętst wárun, · liudi kumana,  
3428 weros te þem werke, · ęndi mid is wordon gi·bôd,  
þat man þem mannon iro · mieda for·guldi  
3430 alles at aftan, · þem þar kwámun at êrist tuo  
willendi te þem werke. · Wándun sia swíðo,  
3432 þat man im mēra lôn · gi·makod habdi  
wið iro aravedje: · þan man im allon gaf,  
3434 þem liudjon gi·líko. · Lêð was þat swíðo,  
allon þem ando, · þem þar kwámun at êrist tuo:

3436 „wí kwámun hier an morāgan“, · kwāðun sia, „ęndi þolodun hier  
manag te dage  
aravid-werko, · hwílon un-met hét,  
3438 skínandja sunna: · nu ni givis þú ús skattes þan mēr,  
þie þú þem öðron duos, · þia hier ęna hwíla  
3440 wáron an þínon werke.“ · Þuo habda eft is word garo  
þie hērosto þes híwiskes, · kwað þat hie im ni habdi gi·hétan þan mēr  
3442 werðes wið iro werke: · „Hwat ik gi·wald hębbju“, kwat-hie,  
„þat ik iu allon gi·líko · muot lôn for·geldan,  
3444 iuwes werkes werð.“ · Þan waldandi Krist  
mēnda im þoh mēra þing, · þoh hie ovar þat manno folk  
3446 fan þem wín-gardon só · wordon spráki,  
hwó þar un·efno · erlos kwámun,  
3448 weros te þem werke. · Só skulun fan þero wer-oldi duon  
mann-kunnjes barn · an þat mārjo liot,  
3450 gumon an godes wang: · sum bi·ginnit ina giriwan sán  
an is kindiski, · havit im gi·koranan muod,  
3452 willjon guodan, · wer-old-saka míðit,  
far·látit is lústa; · ni mag ina is lík-hamo  
3454 an un·spuod for·spanan: · spáhiða línót,  
godes ęw, · gramono for·látit,  
3456 wrēðaro willjon, · duot im só te is wer-oldi forð,  
lēstit só an þeson liohte, · ant-þat im is líves kumit,  
3458 aldres ávand; · gi·wítit im þan up-wegos:  
þar wirðit im is aravedi · all gi·lônót,  
3460 far·goldan mid guodu · an godes ríkje.  
Þat mēndun þia wuruhtjon, · þia an þem wín-gardon  
3462 ádro an úhta · arvid-líko  
werk bi·gunnun · ęndi þuru·wonodun forð,  
3464 erlos unt ávand. · Sum þar ôk an undern kwam,  
habda þuo far·męrrid, · þia morāgan-stunda  
3466 þes dag-werkes for·duolon; · só duot doloro filo,  
gi·mēdaro manno: · drívít im mis-lík þing  
3468 gerno an is juguði, · —havit im gelp-kwidi  
lēða gi·línót · ęndi lôs-word manag—,  
3470 ant-þat is kindiski · far·kuman wirðit,  
þat ina after is juguði · godes anst manot  
3472 blíði an is brioston; · fāhit im te bęteron þan  
wordon ęndi werkon, · lēdit im is wer-old mid þiu,  
3474 is aldar ant þena ęndi: · kumit im alles lôn

- an godes ríkje, · góðaro werko.  
 3476 Sum mann þan mid-firi · mên far·látid,  
 swára sundjun, · fáhit im an sálig þing,  
 3478 bi·ginnit im þuru godes kraft · guodaro werko,  
 buotit balo-spráka, · látit im is bittrun dád  
 3480 an is hugje hrewan; · kumit im þiu helpa fon gode,  
 þat im gi·lêstid þie gi·lôvo, · só lango só im is líf warod;  
 3482 farit im forð mid þiu, · ant·fáhit is mieda,  
 guod lôn at gode; · ni sindun êniga geva bēteran.  
 3484 Sum bi·ginnit þan ôk furðor, · þan hie ist fruodot mêt,  
 is aldares af·hêldit, · —þan bi·ginnat im is uvilon werk  
 3486 lēðon an þeson liohte, · þan ina lêra godes  
 gi·manod an is muode: · wirðit im mildera hugi,  
 3488 þuru·gēngit im mid guodu · ėndi geld nimit,  
 hôh himil-ríki, · þan hie hinan wēndit,  
 3490 wirðit im is mieda só sama, · só þem man \*nun warð,  
 þea þar te nónu dages, · an þea nigunda tíð,  
 3492 an þene wín-gardon · wirkjan kwámun.  
 Sum wirðid þan só swiðo ge·fródot, · só hé ni wili is sundja bótjen,  
 3494 ak hé ôkid sie mid uvilu ge·hwi-liku, · an-tat imu is ávand náhid,  
 is wer-old ėndi is wunnja far·slítid; · þan be·ginnid hé imu wíti  
 and-réden,  
 3496 is sundjon werðad imu sorga an móde: · ge·hugid hwat hé selvo  
 ge·frumide  
 grimmes þan lango, þe hé móste is juguðjo neoten; · ni mag þan mid  
 ôðru góðu gi·bótjen  
 3498 þea dádi, þea hé só dērvja ge·frumide, · ak hé slēhit allaro dago  
 ge·hwi-likes  
 an is breost mid bēðjun handun · ėndi wópit sie mid bittrun trahnun,  
 3500 hlúdo hé sie mid hofnu kúmid, · bidid þene hēlagon drohtin  
 mahtigne, þat hé imu mildi werðe: · ni látid imu siðor is mód  
 gi·twífljen;  
 3502 só ê-gróht-ful is, þe þar alles ge·wēldid: · hé ni wili ênigumu  
 irmin-manne  
 far·wērnjen willjan sínes; · far·givid imu waldand selvo  
 3504 hēlag himil-ríki: · þan is imu gi·holpen siður.  
 Alle skulun sie þar êra ant·fáhen, · þoh sie þarod te ênaru tídi  
 3506 ni kumen, þat kunni manno, · þoh wili imu þe kraftigo drohtin,  
 gi·lônnon allaro liudjo só hwi-likumu, · só hér is gi·lôvon ant·fáhit:  
 3508 ên himil-ríki · givid hé allun þeodun,



mannun te médu. · Þat mēnde mahtig Krist,  
 3510 barno þat bētste, · þó hé þat biliði sprak,  
 hwó þar te þem wīn-gardun · wurhtjon kwámin,  
 3512 man mis-líko: · þoh nam is méde ge·hwe  
 fulle te is frōjan. · Só skulun firiho barn  
 3514 at gode selvumu · geld ant·fáhen,  
 swíðo leov-lik lôn, · þoh sie sume só late werðan.  
 3516 Hét imu þó þea is góðan · jungaron náhor  
 twe-livi gangan · —þea wárun imu triuwiston  
 3518 man ovar erðu—, · sagde im mahtig selvo  
 ôðer-siðu, · hwi-lik imu þar arvedi  
 3520 tó-ward wárun: · „þes ni mag ênig tweho werðen“, kwað hé;  
 kwað þat sie þó te Jerusalem · an þat Judeono folk  
 3522 líðan skoldin: · „þar wirðid all gi·lêstid só,  
 ge·frumid undar þemu folke, · só it an furn-dagun  
 3524 wíse man be mí · wordun ge·sprákon.  
 Þar skulun mi far·kôpon · undar þea kraftigon þiod,  
 3526 heðios te þeru hêri; · þar werðat mína hendi ge·bundana,  
 faðmos werðad mi þar ge·fastnod; · filu skal ik þar gi·þolojan,  
 3528 hoskes gi·hōrjen · endi harm-kwidi,  
 bismerspráka · endi bi·hêt-word manag;  
 3530 sie wêgjat mi te wundron · wápnas eggjun,  
 bi·lōsjad mi lívu: · ik te þesumu liohte skal  
 3532 þurh drohtines kraft · fan dôðe a·standen  
 an þriddjon dage. · Ni kwam ik undar þesa þeoda herod  
 3534 te þiu, þat mín eldi-barn · arved habdin,  
 þat mi þionodi þius þiod: · ni willju ik is sie þiggjen nu,  
 3536 fergon þit folk-skēpi, · ak ik skal imu te frumu werðen,  
 þeonon imu þeo-líko · endi for alla þesa þeoda geven  
 3538 seole míne. · Ik willju sie selvo nu  
 lōsjen mid mínu lívu, · þea hér lango bidun,  
 3540 man-kunnjes manag, · mínara helpa.“  
 Fór imu þó forð-wardes · —habde imu fasten hugi,  
 3542 blíðjan an is breostun · barn drohtines—  
 welda im te Jerusalem · Judeo folkes  
 3544 willjon wísan: · hé konste þes werodes só garo  
 heði-grimmen hugi · endi hardan stríd,  
 3546 wrêðan willjon. · Werod siðode  
 furi Jerikho-burg; · was þe godes sunu,  
 3548 mahtig undar þero mēnigi. · Þar sátun twēnje man bi wege,

blinde wárun sie bēðje: · was im bótono þarf,  
 3550 þat sie ge·hēldi · hevenes waldand,  
 hwand sie só lango · liohtes þolodun,  
 3552 managa hwíla. · Sie gi·hōrdun þó þat męgin faren  
 ęndi frágodun sán · firi-wit-líko  
 3554 ręgini-blindun, · hwi-lik þar ríki man  
 undar þemu folk-skępi · furista wári,  
 3556 hērost an hōvid. · Þó sprak im ên hęlið an·gęgin,  
 kwað þat þar Jesu Krist · fan Galilea-lande,  
 3558 hēljandero bętst · hērost wári,  
 fóri mid is folku. · Þó warð fráh-mód hugi  
 3560 bēðjun þem blindun mannun, · þó sie þat barn godes  
 wissun under þemu werode: · hreopun im þó mid iro wordun tó,  
 3562 hlúdo te þemu hēlagon Kriste, · bádun þat hé im helpe ge·rédi:  
 „drohtin Dawides sunu: · wis ús mid þínun dádjun mildi,  
 3564 nęri ús af þesaru nōdi, · só þú gi·nóge dós  
 manno kunnjes: · þú bist managun gód,  
 3566 hilpis ęndi hēlis.“ · Þo bi·gan im þat hęliðo folk  
 węrjen mid wordun, · þat sie an waldand Krist  
 3568 só hlúdo ni hriopin. · Si ni weldun im hōrjen te þiu,  
 ak sie simla mēr ęndi mēr · ovar þat manno folk  
 3570 hlúdo hreopun. · Hēljand ge·stód,  
 allaro barno bętst, · hét sie þó brengjen te imu,  
 3572 lēdjen þurh þea liudi, · sprak im listjun tó  
 mild-líko for þeru męnegi: · „hwat willjad git mínaro hér“, kwað hé,  
 3574 „helpono habbjen?“ · Sie bádun ina hēlagna,  
 þat hé im ira ôgon · opana gi·dádi,  
 3576 far·liwi þeses liohtes, · þat sie liudjo drôm,  
 swigle sunnun skín · gi·sehen móstin,  
 3578 wliiti-skônje wer-old. · Waldand frumide,  
 hrên sie þó mid is handun, · dede is helpe þar tó,  
 3580 þat þem blindun þó · bēðjum wurðun  
 ôgon gi·oponod, · þat sie erðe ęndi himil  
 3582 þurh kraft godes · ant·kiennjen mahtun,  
 lioht ęndi liudi. · Þó sagdun sie lof gode,  
 3584 diurdun úsan drohtin, · þes sie dages liohtes  
 brúkan móstun: · ge·witun im bēðje mid imu,  
 3586 folgodun is fęrdi: · was im þiu fruma giviðig,  
 ęndi ôk waldandes werk · wído ge·kúðid,  
 3588 managun gi·márid. · Þar was só mahtig-lík

3590 biliði gi·bôknid, · þar þe blindon man  
 bi þemu wege sátun, · wíti þolodun,  
 3592 liohtes lôse: · þat mênid þoh liudjo barn,  
 al man-kunni, · hwó sie mahtig god  
 an þemu ana·ginne · þurh is ênes kraft  
 3594 sin·híun twê · selvo gi·warhte,  
 Á·Adam êndi Ê·wan: · far·gaf im up·wegos,  
 3596 himilo ríki; · ak þó warð im þe hatola te náh,  
 fiund mid fêknu · êndi mid firin·werkun,  
 3598 bi·swêk sie mid sundjun, · þat sie sin·skôni,  
 lioht far·létun: · wurðun an lêðaron stêdi,  
 3600 an þesen middil·gard · man far·worpen,  
 þolodun hér an þiustrju · þiod·arvedi,  
 3602 wunnun wrak·siðos, · welon þarvodun:  
 far·gátun godes ríkjes, · gramon þeonodun,  
 3604 fiundo barnun; · sie guldun is im mid fiuru lôn  
 an þeru hêton hêllju. · Be·þiu wárun siu an iro hugi blinda  
 3606 an þesaru middil·gard, · mēnniskono barn,  
 hwand siu ine ni ant·kiendun, · kraftagne god,  
 3608 himiliken hêrron, · þene þe sie mid is handun gi·skóp,  
 gi·warhte an is willjon. · Þius wer·old was þó só far·hwervid,  
 3610 bi·þwungen an þiustrje, · an þiod·arvidi,  
 an dôðes dalu: · sátun im þó bi þeru drohtines strátun  
 3612 jámar·móde, · godes helpe bidun:  
 siu ni mahte im þó êr werðen, · êr þan waldand god  
 3614 an þesan middil·gard, · mahtig drohtin,  
 is selves sunu · sêndjen weldi  
 3616 þat hé lioht ant·luki · liudjo barnun,  
 oponodi im êwig lif, · þat sie þene alo·waldon  
 3618 mahtin ant·kēnnjen wel, · kraftagna god.  
 Ôk mag ik giu gi·tēlljen, · of gí þar tó willjad  
 3620 huggjen êndi hōrjen, · þat gí þes hêljandes mugun  
 kraft ant·kēnnjen, · hwó is kumi wurðun  
 3622 an þesaru middil·gard · managun te helpu,  
 ia hwat hé mid þem dádjun · drohtin selvo  
 3624 manages mēnde, · ia be·hwiu þiu mārje burg  
 Jerikho hêtid, · þiu þar an Judeon stád  
 3626 gi·makod mid múrun: · þiu is aftar þemu mánen gi·nēmnid,  
 aftar þemu torhten tungle: · hé ni mag is tídi be·míðen,  
 3628 ak hé dago ge·hwi·likes · duod ôðer·hweðer,

- wanod ohþo wahsid. · Só dód an þesaro wer-oldi hér,  
 3630 an þesaru middil-gard · mēnniskono barn:  
 farad ęndi folgod, · fróde stervad,  
 3632 werðad eft junga · aftar kumane,  
 weros a·wahsane, · unt-tat sie eft wurd far·nimid.  
 3634 Þat mēnde þat barn godes, · þó hé fon þeru burgi fór,  
 þe gódo fan Jerikho, · þat ni mahte êr werðen gumono barnun  
 3636 þiu blindja gi·bótíd, · þat sie þat berhte lioht,  
 gi·sáhin sin-skôni, · êr þan hé selvo hér  
 3638 an þesaru middil-gard · mēnniski ant·fēng,  
 flêsk ęndi lik-hamon. · Þó wurðun þes firiho barn  
 3640 gi·war an þesaru wer-oldi, · þe hér an wítje êr,  
 sátun an sundjun · gi·siunjes lôse,  
 3642 þolodun an þiustrje, · —sie af·sóvun þat was þesaru þiod kuman  
 hêljand te helpu · fan heven-ríkje,  
 3644 Krist allaro kuningo best; · sie mahtun is ant·kēnnjen sán,  
 gi·fóljen is fardjo. · Þó sie só filu hriopun,  
 3646 þe man te þemu mahtigon gode, · þat im mildi aftar þiu  
 waldand wurði. · Þan wēridun im swíðo  
 3648 þia swárun sundjon, · þe sie im êr selvon gi·dádun,  
 lettun sie þes gi·lôbon. · Sie ni mahtun þem liudjun þoh  
 3650 bi·wērjen iro willjon, · ak sie an waldand god  
 hlúdo hriopun, · an-tat hé im iro hêli far·gaf,  
 3652 þat sie sin-líf · gi·sehen móstin,  
 open êwig lioht · ęndi an faren  
 3654 an þiu berhtun bú. · Þat mēndun þea blindun man,  
 þe þar bi Jerikho-burg · te þemu godes barne  
 3656 hlúdo hriopun, · þat hé im iro hêli far·lihi,  
 liohtes an þesumu līve: · þan im þea liudi só filu  
 3658 wēridun mid wordun, · þea þar an þemu wege fórun  
 bi·foren ęndi bi·hinden: · só dót þea firin-sundjon  
 3660 an þesaru middil-gard · man-kunnje.  
 hôrjad nu hwó þie blindun, · siðour im gi·bótíd warð,  
 3662 þat sie sunnun lioht · ge·sehen móstun,  
 hwó si þó dádun: · ge·witun im mid iro drohtine samad,  
 3664 folgodun is fērði, · sprákun filu wordo  
 þemu landes hirdje te love: · só dód im noh liudjo barn  
 3666 wído aftar þesaru wer-oldi, · siðour im waldand Krist  
 ge·liuhte mid is lêrun · ęndi im líf êwig,  
 3668 godes ríki far·gaf · gódun mannun,

3670 hōh himiles lioht · ɛndi is helpe þar tó,  
 só hwemu só þat gi·werkod, · þat hé móti þemu is wege folgon.  
 Þó náhide · nɛrjendo Krist,  
 3672 þe gódo te Jerusalem. · Kwam imu þar te·gɛgnes filu  
 werodes an willjon · wel huggendjes,  
 3674 ant·fɛngun ina fagaro · ɛndi imu bi·foren strɛidun  
 þene weg mid iro gi·wádjun · ɛndi mid wurtjun só same,  
 3676 mid berhtun blómun · ɛndi mid bômo tógun,  
 þat feld mid fagaɾon palmun, · al só is fard ge·buride,  
 3678 þat þe godes sunu · gangan welde  
 te þeru mǎrjan burg. · Hwarf ina mɛgin umbi  
 3680 liudjo an lustun, · ɛndi lof-sang a·hóf  
 þat werod an willjon: · sagdun waldande þank,  
 3682 þes þar selvo kwam · sunu Dawides  
 wíson þes werodes. · Þó ge·sah waldand Krist  
 3684 þe gódo te Jerusalem, · gumono bɛtsta,  
 blíkan þene burges wal · ɛndi bú Judeono,  
 3686 hōha horn-sɛli · ɛndi ôk þat hús godes,  
 allaro wího wun-samost. · Þó wel imu an innen  
 3688 hugi wið is herte: · þó ni mahte þat hêlage barn  
 wópu a·wísjen, · sprak þó wordo filu  
 3690 hriwig-líko · —was imu is hugi sêreg—:  
 „wê warð þi, Jerusalem“, · kwað hé, „þes þú te wárun ni wêst  
 3692 þea wurde-gi·skɛfti, · þe þi noh gi·werðen skulun,  
 hwó þú noh wirðis be·habd · hɛrjes kraftu  
 3694 ɛndi þi bi·sittjad · slíð-móde man,  
 fiund mid folkun. · Þan ni havas þú friðu hwɛrgin,  
 3696 mund-burd mid mannun: · lédjad þi hér manage tó  
 ordos ɛndi eggja, · or-legas word,  
 3698 far·fiop þín folk-skɛpi · fiures liomon,  
 þese wíki a·wóstjad, · wallos hōha  
 3700 fɛlljad te foldun: · ni af·stád is felis nígijan,  
 stên ovar ôðrumu, · ak werðad þesa stɛdi wóstja  
 3702 umbi Jerusalem · Judeo liudjo,  
 hwand sie ni ant·kɛnnjad, · þat im kumana sind  
 3704 iro tídi tó-wardes, · ak sie habbjad im twífljen hugi,  
 ni witun þat iro wísad · waldandes kraft.“  
 3706 Gi·wêt imu þó mid þeru mɛnegi · manno drohtin  
 an þea berhton burg. · Só þó þat barn godes  
 3708 innan Jerusalem · mid þiu gumono folku,

sêg mid þiu ge·siðu, · þó warð þar allaro sango mêt,  
 3710 hlúd stemnje af·haven · hêlagun wordun,  
 lovodun þene landes ward · liudjo męnegi,  
 3712 barno þat bętste; · þiu burg warð an hróru,  
 þat folk warð an forhtun · ęndi frágodun sán,  
 3714 hwe þat wári, · þat þar mid þiu werodu kwam,  
 mid þeru mikilon męnegi. · Þó sprak im ên man an·gęgin,  
 3716 kwað þat þar Jesu Krist · fan Galileo lande,  
 fan Nazareth-burg · nęrjand kwámi,  
 3718 witig wár-sago · þemu werode te helpu.  
 Þó was þem Judiun, · þe imu êr grame wárun,  
 3720 un·holde an hugi, · harm an móde,  
 þat imu þea liudi só filu · lof-sang warhtun,  
 3722 diurdun iro drohtin. · Þó gęngun dol-móde,  
 þat sie wið waldand Krist · wordun sprákun,  
 3724 bádun þat hé þat ge·siði · swígon hėti,  
 letti þea liudi, · þat sie imu lof só filu  
 3726 wordun ni warhtin: · „it is þesumu werode lêð“, kwáðun sie,  
 „þesun burg-liudjun.“ · Þó sprak eft þat barn godes:  
 3728 „ef gi sie a·męrrjad“, · kwað hé, „þat hér ni mótin manno barn  
 waldandes kraft · wordun diurjen,  
 3730 þan skulun it hrópen þoh · harde stēnos  
 for þesumu folk-skępi, · felisos starka,  
 3732 êr þan it eo be·líve, · nevo man is lof spreke  
 wído aftar þesaru wer-oldi.“ · Þó hé an þene wíh innen,  
 3734 gęng an þat godes hús: · fand þar Judeono filu,  
 mis-like man, · manage at·samne,  
 3736 þea im þar kôp-stędi · gi·kōran habdun,  
 mangodun im þar mid manages hwi: · munitęrjas sátun  
 3738 an þemu wíhe innan, · habdun iro wesl gi·dago  
 garu te gevanne. · Þat was þemu godes barne  
 3740 al an andun: · drêf sie út þanen  
 rúmo fan þemu rakude, · kwað þat wári rehtara dád,  
 3742 þat þar te bedu fórin · barn Israheles  
 „ęndi an þesumu mínumu húse · helpono biddjan,  
 3744 þat sia sigi-drohtin · sundjono tuomje,  
 þan hér þeovas · an þing-stędi halden,  
 3746 þea far·warhton weros · wehsal drívan,  
 un-reht ên-fald. · Ne gi êniga êra ni witun  
 3748 þeses godes húses, · Judeo liudi.“

3750 Sô rûmde hé þó ęndi rekode, · ríki drohtin,  
 þat hêlaga hús · ęndi an helpun was  
 managumu man-kunnje, · þem þe is mikilon kraft  
 3752 ferrene ge·frugnun · ęndi þar gi·faran kwámun  
 ovar langan weg. · Warð þar léf so manag,  
 3754 halt gi·hêlid · ęndi háf só same,  
 blindun gi·bótíd. · Sô dede þat barn godes  
 3756 willjendi þemu werode, · hwand al an is gi·wêldi stéd  
 umbi þesaro liudjo líf · ęndi ôk umbi þit land só same.  
 3758 Stód imu þó fora þemu wíhe · waldandjo Krist,  
 liof landes ward, · ęndi imu þero liudjo hugi,  
 3760 iro willjon aftar·warode: · gi·sah werod mikil  
 an þat márje hús · mêðmos fórjen,  
 3762 gevon mid goldu · ęndi mid godu·wêbbju,  
 diurjun fratahun. · Þat al drohtin Krist  
 3764 warode wís-líko. · Þó kwam þar ôk ên widowa tó,  
 idis arm-skapen, · ęndi te þemu alaha géng  
 3766 ęndi siu an þat tresur-hús · twêne lęgde  
 êríne skattos: · was iru ên-fald hugi,  
 3768 willjan gódes. · Þó sprak waldand Krist,  
 þe gumo wið is jungaron, · kwað þat siu þar geva bráhti  
 3770 mêron mikilu þan ęlkor · ênig mannes sunu:  
 „ef hér ôdaga man“, · kwað hé, „êra bráhtun,  
 3772 mêðom-hord manag, · sie létun im mêr at hús  
 welona ge·wunnen. · Ni dede þius widowa só,  
 3774 ak siu te þesumu alahe gaf · al þat siu habde  
 welono ge·wunnen, · só siu iru wiht ni far·lét  
 3776 gódes an iro gardun. · Be·þiu sind ira geva mêron,  
 waldande werða, · hwand siu it mid su·likumu willjon dede  
 3778 te þesumu godes húse. · Þes skal siu geld niman,  
 swíðo lang-sam lôn, · þes siu su·likan gi·lôvon havad.“  
 3780 Sô gi·fragn ik þat þar an þemu wíhe · waldandjo Krist  
 allaro dago ge·hwi-likes, · drohtin manno,  
 3782 wísde mid wordun. · Stód ine werod umbi,  
 grôt folk Judeono, · gi·hôrdun is gódan word,  
 3784 swótja sęggjan. · Sum só sálig warð  
 manno undar þeru mēnegi, · þat it bi·gan an is mód hladen;  
 3786 línodun im þea lēra, · þe þe landes ward  
 al be biliðjun sprak, · barn drohtines.  
 3788 Sumun wárun eft so lēða · lēra Kristes,

waldandes word: · was im wiðer-mód hugi  
 3790 allun þem, þe an þemu hēri-skēpi · hērost wárun,  
 furiston an þemu folke: · fáres hugdun  
 3792 wrêða mid iro wordun · —habdun im wiðer-sakon  
 gi·haloden te helpu, · þes hēroston man,  
 3794 Erodeses þegan, · þe þar and-ward stód  
 wrêðes willjan, · þat hé iro word ovar-hôrdi—  
 3796 ef sie ina for·fēngin, · þat sie ina þan feteros an,  
 þea liudi liðo-bēndi · lēggjen móstin,  
 3798 sundja lôsan. · Þó géngun im þea ge·sīðos tó  
 bittra gi·hugde, · þat sie wið þat barn godes,  
 3800 wrêða wiðer-sakon · wordun sprákun:  
 „Hwat þú bist êo-sago“, · kwáðun sie, „allun þiodun,  
 3802 wísis wáres só filu: · nis þi werð eo·wiht  
 te bi·míðanne · manno ni-ênumu  
 3804 umbi is ríki-dóm, · nevo þú simlun þat reht sprikis  
 ėndi an þene godes weg · gumono ge·sīði  
 3806 lêdis mid þinun lêrun: · ni mag þi laster man  
 fiðan undar þesumu folke. · Nu wí þi frágon skulun.  
 3808 ríki þiodan, · hwi-lik reht havad  
 þe kêsúr fan Rúmu, · þe imu te þesumu kunnje herod  
 3810 tinsi sókid · ėndi gi·tald havad,  
 hwat wí imu gelden skulin · géro ge·hwi-likes  
 3812 hôvid-skatto. · Saga hwat þi þes an þinumu hugi þunkja:  
 is it reht þe nis? · Rád for þinun  
 3814 land-mégun wel: · ús is þínaro lêrono þarf.“  
 Sie weldun þat hé it ant·kwáði: · þan mahte hé þoh ant·kēnnjen wel  
 3816 iro wrêðon willjon: · „te hwi gi wár-logon“, kwað hé,  
 „fandot mín só frókno? · Ni skal iu þat te frumu werðen,  
 3818 þat gi dreogerjas · darnungo nu  
 willjad mi far·fáhen.“ · Hét hé þó forð dragan  
 3820 te skawonne þe skattos, · „þe gí skuldige sind  
 an þat geld geven.“ · Judeon drógun  
 3822 ênna siluvinna forð: · sáhun manage tó,  
 hwó hé was ge·munitod: · was an middjen skín  
 3824 þes kêsures biliði · —þat mahtun sie ant·kēnnjen wel—,  
 iro hêrron hôvid-mál. · Þó frágode sie þe hêlago Krist,  
 3826 aftar hwemu þiu ge·lík-nessi · gi·legid wári.  
 Sie kwáðun þat it wári · wer-old-kêsures  
 3828 fan Rúmu-burg, · „þes þe alles þeses ríkes havad



ge·wald an þesaru wer·oldi.“ · „Þan willju ik iu te wárun hér“, kwað  
 hé,  
 3830 „selvo seggjan, · þat gi imu sín gevad,  
 wer·old-hêrron is ge·wunst, ·  ndi waldand gode  
 3832 se lljad, þat þar s n ist: · þat skulun iuwa seolon wesen,  
 gumono g stos.“ · Þ  warð þero Judeono hugi  
 3834 ge·minsod an þemu mahle: · ni mahtun þe m n-skaðon  
 wordun ge·winnen, · s  iro willjo g ng,  
 3836 þat sie ina far·f ngin, · hwand imu þat fri u-barn godes  
 wardode wið þe wr  on ·  ndi im w r an·ge gin,  
 3838 s  -spel sagde, · þoh sie ni w rin s  s lige te þiu,  
 þat sie it s  far·f ngin, · s  it iro fruma w ri.  
 3840 Sie ni weldun it þoh far·l ten, · ak h tun þar l djen for   
  n w f for þemu werode, · þiu habde wam ge·frumid,  
 3842 un-reht  n-fald: · þiu idis was bi·fangen  
 an far·legar-nessi, · was iro l ves skolo,  
 3844 þat sie friho barn · fer hu bi·n min,  
  htin iro aldres: · s  was an iro  w ge·skriven.  
 3846 Sie bi·gunnun ina þ  fr gon, · fruokne liudi,  
 wr  a mid iro wordun, · hwat sie skoldin þemu w ve duan,  
 3848 hwe er sie sie kw lidin, · þe sie sie kwika l tin,  
 þe hwat h  umbi su·lika d di · a·d ljen weldi:  
 3850 „þ  w st, hw  þesaru m negi“, · kw  un sie, „Moyses gi·b d  
 w run wordun, · þat allaro w vo ge·hwi-lik  
 3852 an far·legar-nessi · l ves far·warhti  
  ndi þat sie þan a·wurpin · weros mid handun,  
 3854 starkun st n n: · nu maht þ  sie sehan standen hér  
 an sundjun bi·fangan: · saga hwat þ  is willjes.“  
 3856 weldun ine þea wi er-sakon · wordun far·f hen,  
 ef h  þat gi·kw  i, · þat sie sie kwika l tin,  
 3858 fri odi ira fer he, · þan weldi þat folk Judeono  
 kwe en, þat h  iro aldiron ·  o wi er-sagdi,  
 3860 þero liudjo land-reht; · ef h  sie þan h ti l vu bi·nimen,  
 þea maga  fur þeru m negi, · þan weldin sie kwe en, þat h  s   
 mildjene hugi  
 3862 ni b ri an is breostun, · s  skoldi habbj n barn godes:  
 weldun sie s  hwe eres · h lagne Krist  
 3864 þero wordo ge·w tnon, · s  h  þar for þemu werode ge·spr ki,  
 a·d ldi te d me. · Þan wisse drohtin Krist  
 3866 þero manno s  garo · m d-gi·þ hti,

iro wrêðon willjon; · þó hé te þemu werode sprak,  
 3868 te allun þem erlun: · „só hwi-lik só iuwar áno sí“, kwað hé,  
 „slíðja sundjon, · só ganga iru selvo tó  
 3870 ęndi sie at êrist · erl mid is handun  
 stên ana werpe.“ · Só stóðun Judeon,  
 3872 þáhtun ęndi þagodun: · ni mahte þegān nigijan  
 wið þem word-kwidi · wiðer-saka finden:  
 3874 ge·hugde manno ge·hwi-lik · mēn-gi·þāhti,  
 is selves sundja: · ni was iro só sikur ênig,  
 3876 þat hé bi þemu worde · þemu wíve ge·dorsti  
 stên an werpen, · ak létun sie standen þar  
 3878 ênan þar inne · ęndi im út þanen  
 gęngun gram-harde · Judeo liudi,  
 3880 ên aftar ôðrumu, · an-tat iro þar ênig ni was  
 þes fiundo folkes, · þe iro ferhes þó,  
 3882 þeru idis aldar-lago · áhtjen weldi.  
 Þó gi·fragn ik þat sie frágode · friðu-barn godes,  
 3884 allaro gumono bętst: · „hwar kwámun þit Judeono folk“, kwað hé,  
 „þine wiðer-sakon, · þea þi hér wrógdun te mi?  
 3886 Ne sie þi hiudu wiht · harmes ne gi·dádun,  
 þea liudi lêðes, · þe þi weldun lívu be·niman,  
 3888 węgjan te wundrun?“ · Þó sprak imu eft þat wíf an·gęgin,  
 kwað þat iru þar nio·man · þurh þes nęrjandan  
 3890 hêlaga helpa · harm ne gi·frumidi  
 wammes te lône. · Þó sprak eft waldand Krist,  
 3892 drohtin manno: · „ne ik þi geþ ni dęrju n·eo·wiht“, kwað hé,  
 „ak gang þi hêl hinen, · lát þi an þínumu hugi sorga,  
 3894 þat þú nio sīð aftar þius · sundig ni werðes.“  
 Habde iru þó gi·holpen · hêlag barn godes,  
 3896 ge·friðot iro ferāhe. · Þan stód þat folk Judeono  
 uviles an-mód · só fan êristan,  
 3898 wrêðes willjan, · hwó sie word-hęti  
 wið þat friðu-barn godes · frummjen móstin.  
 3900 Habdun þea liudi an twê · mid iro gi·lôvon gi·fangan:  
 was þiu smale þioda · sínes willjan  
 3902 gernora mikilu, · þes godes barnes word  
 te ge·frummjenne, · só im iro frāho gi·bôd:  
 3904 rómodun te rehta · bet þan þie ríkjon man,  
 habdun ina far iro hêrron · ia far heven-kuning,  
 3906 ful·gęngun imu gerno. · Þó gi·wêt imu þe godes sunu

an þene wíh innan: · hwarf ina werod umbi,  
 3908 mēgin-þíodo gi·mang. · hé an middjen stód,  
 lêrde þea liudi · liohtun wordun,  
 3910 hlúdero stemnun: · was hlust mikil,  
 þagode þegan manag, · ęndi hé þeru þíod gi·bôd,  
 3912 só hwe só þar mid þurstu · bi·þwungan wári,  
 „só ganga imu herod drinkan te mi“, · kwað hé, „dago ge·hwi-likes  
 3914 swótjes brunnan. · Ik mag sęggjan iu,  
 só hwe só hér gi·lôvid te mi · liudjo barno  
 3916 fasto undar þesumu folke, · þat imu þan flioten skulun  
 fan is lík-hamon · libbjendi flód,  
 3918 irnandi water, · aho-spring mikil,  
 kumad þanen kwika brunnon. · Þesa kwidi werðad wára,  
 3920 liudjun gi·lêstid, · só hwemu só hér gi·lôvid te mi.“  
 Þan mēnde mid þiu wataru · waldandjo Krist,  
 3922 hēr heven-kuning · hêlagna gēst,  
 hwó þene firiho barn · ant·fāhen skoldin,  
 3924 lioht ęndi listi · ęndi líf êwig,  
 hōh heven-ríki · ęndi huldi godes.  
 3926 wurðun þó þea liudi · umbi þea lêra Kristes,  
 umbi þiu word an ge·winne: · stódun wlanka man,  
 3928 gēl-móde Judeon, · sprákun gelp mikil,  
 habdun it im te hoska, · kwaðun þat sie mahtin gi·hōrjen wel,  
 3930 þat imu mahlidin fram · módaga wihti,  
 un-holde út: · „nu hé an avu lêrid“, kwáðun sie,  
 3932 „wordu ge·hwi-liku.“ · Þó sprak eft þat werod ôðar:  
 „ni þurvun gi þene lêrjand lahan“, · kwáðun sie: „kumad líves word  
 3934 mahtig fan is múde; · hé wirkid manages hwat,  
 wundres an þesaru wer-oldi: · nis þat wrêðaro dád,  
 3936 fíundo kraftes: · nio it þan te su·likaru frumu ni wurði,  
 ak it gegnungo · fan gode alo-waldon,  
 3938 kumid fan is krafte. · Þat mugun gi ant·kēnnjen wel  
 an þem is wárun wordun, · þat hé gi·wald havad  
 3940 alles ovar erðu.“ · Þó weldun ina þe and-sakon þar  
 an stędi fāhen · efþa stēn ana werpen,  
 3942 ef sie im þero manno · mēnigi ni and-rédin,  
 ni forhtodin þat folk-skępi. · Þó sprak þat friðu-barn godes:  
 3944 „ik tōgju iu gódes só filu“, · kwað hé, „fan gode selvumu,  
 wordo ęndi werko: · nu willjad gi mi wítnon hér  
 3946 þurh iuwan starkan hugi, · stēn ana werpen,

bi·lôsjen mi lívu.“ · Þó sprákun imu eft þea liudi an·gegin,  
 3948 wrêða wiðer-sakon: · „ne wí it be þínun werkun ni duat“, kwáðun sia,  
 „þat wí þí aldres · tó áhtjen willjad,  
 3950 ak wí duat it be þínun wordun, · hwand þú su·lik wáh sprikis,  
 \*hwand þú þik só máris · ęndi su·lik mēn sagis,  
 3952 gi·his for þeson Judeon, · þat þú síš god selvo,  
 mahtig drohtin, · ęndi bist þi þoh man só wi,  
 3954 kuman fan þeson kunnje.“ · Krist alo-waldo  
 ne wolda þero Judeono þuo lęng · gelpes hōrjan,  
 3956 wrêðaro willjon, · ak hie im af þem wíhe fuor  
 ovar Jordanes strōm; · habda jungron mid im,  
 3958 þia is sáligun gi·siðos, · þia im simlon mid im  
 willjon wonodun: · suohta werod öðer,  
 3960 deda þar só hie gi·wonoda, · drohtin selvo,  
 lērda þia liudi: · gi·lōvda þie wolda  
 3962 an is hēlagun word. · Þat skolda sinnon wel  
 manno só hwi·likon, · só þat an is muod gi·nam.  
 3964 Þuo gi·frang ik þat þar te Kriste · kumana wurðun  
 bodon fan Bethaniu · ęndi sagdun þem barne godes,  
 3966 þat sia an þat ārundi þarod · idisi sęndin,  
 Maria ęndi Martha, · magað frí-líka,  
 3968 swiðo wun-sama wíf; · þia wissa hie bēðja,  
 wárun im gi·swester twá, · þia hie selvo ēr  
 3970 minnjoda an is muode · þuru iro mildjan hugi,  
 þiu wíf þuru iro willjon guodan. · Sia im te wáron þuo  
 3972 an·budun fon Bethaniu, · þat iro bruoðer was  
 Lazarus legar-fast · ęndi þat sia is līves ni wándun;  
 3974 bádun þat þarod kwámi · Krist alo-waldo  
 hēlag te helpu. · Reht só hie sia gi·hōrda þuo  
 3976 sęggjan fan só siekon, · só sprak hie sán an·gegin,  
 kwað þat Lazaruses · legar ni wári  
 3978 gi·duan im te dōðe, · „ak þar skal drohtines lof“, kwat-hie,  
 „gi·frumid werðan: · nis it im te öðron frēson gi·duan.“  
 3980 was im þar þuo selvo · suno drohtines  
 twá naht ęndi dagas. · Þiu tíd was þuo ge·náhit,  
 3982 þat hie eft te Jerusalem · Judeo liudjo  
 wíson welda, · só hie gi·wald habda.  
 3984 Sagda þuo is gi·siðon · suno drohtines,  
 þat hie eft ovar Jordan · Judeo liudi  
 3986 suokjan welda. · Þuo sprákun im sán an·gegin

3988 jungron sína: · „te hwí bist þú só gern þarod“, kwaðun sia,  
 „frô mín, te faranne? · Ni þat nu furn ni was,  
 þat sia þik þínero wordo · wítnon hogdun,  
 3990 weldun þi mid stênon starkan a·werpan? · nu þú eft undar þia  
 strídigun þioda  
 fundos te faranne, · þar ist fíondo gi·nuog,  
 3992 erlos ovar-muoda?“ · Þuo ên þero twe-livjo,  
 Þuomas gi·málda · —was im gi·þungan mann,  
 3994 diur-lik drohtines þegan—: · „ne skulun wí im þia dád lahan“,  
 kwat-hie,  
 „ni wernjan wí im þes willjen, · ak wita im wonjan mid,  
 3996 þuolojan mid ússon þiodne: · þat ist þegnes kust,  
 þat hie mid is frâhon samad · fasto gi·stande,  
 3998 dôje mid im þar an duome. · Duan ús alla só,  
 folgon im te þero ferdí: · ni látan úse ferah wið þiu  
 4000 wihtes wirðig, · neva wí an þem werode mid im,  
 dôjan mid úson drohtine. · Þan lêvot ús þoh duom after,  
 4002 guod word for gumon.“ · Só wurðun þuo jungron Kristes,  
 erlos aðal-borana · an ên-falden hugje,  
 4004 hêrren te willjen. · Þuo sagda hêlag Krist  
 selvo is gi·siðon · þat a·slápan was  
 4006 Lazarus fan þem legare, · „havit þit lioht a·gevan,  
 an·swevit ist an selmon. · Nu wí an þena sið faran  
 4008 endi ina a·wëkkjan, · þat hie muoti eft þesa wer-old sehan,  
 libbjandi lioht: · þan wirðit iuwa gi·lôvo after þiu  
 4010 forð-werd gi·fëstid.“ · Þuo gi·wêt hie im ovar þia fluod þanan,  
 þie guodo godes suno, · an-þat hie mid is jungron kwam  
 4012 þar te Bithaniu, · barn drohtines  
 selvo mid is gi·siðon, · þar þia gi·swester twá,  
 4014 Maria endi Martha · an muod-karon  
 sêraga sátun. · Was þar gi·samnot filo  
 4016 fan Jerusalem · Judeo liudo,  
 þia þiu \*wif weldun · wordun fruovrjan,  
 4018 þat sie só ni karodin · kind-jungas dôð,  
 Lazaruses far·lust. · Só þó þe landes ward  
 4020 géng an þiu gardos, · só wurðun þes godes barnes  
 kumi þar gi·küðid, · þat hé só kraftig was  
 4022 bi þeru burg úten. · Þó im bêðjun was,  
 þem wíun su·lik willjo, · þat sie im waldand tó,  
 4024 þat friðu-barn godes, · farandjen wissun.

Þó þem wíwun was · willjono mēsta  
 4026 kumi drohtines · ęndi Kriſtes word  
 te gi·hōrjenne. · Heovandi gęng  
 4028 Martha mōd-karag · wið só mahtigne  
 wordun wehslan · ęndi wið waldand ſprak  
 4030 an iro hugi hriwig: · „Þar þú mí, hērro mín“, kwað ſiu,  
 „nęrjendero bętst, · náhor wáris,  
 4032 hęljand þe gódo, · þan ni þorfti ik nú su·lik harm þolon,  
 bittra breost-kara, · þan ni wári nú mín bróðer dōd,  
 4034 Lazarus fan þesumu liohte, · ak hé imu mahti libbjen forð  
 ferahes ge·fullid. · Ik þoh, frō mín, te þi  
 4036 liohto gi·lōvju, · lęrjandero bętst,  
 só hwes só þú biddjen wili · berhton drohtin,  
 4038 þat hé it þi sán far·givid, · god alo-mahtig,  
 gi·werðot þínan willjan.“ · Þó ſprak eft waldand Kriſt  
 4040 þeru idis and-wordi: · „Ni lát þú þi an innan þes“, kwað hé,  
 „þínan ſevon ſwerkan: · ik þi ſęggjan mag  
 4042 wárun wordun, · þat þes nis gi·wand ênig,  
 nevu þín bróðer skal · þurh gi·bod godes,  
 4044 þurh drohtines kraft · fan dōðe a·ſtanden  
 an is lík-hamon.“ · „All hębbju ik gi·lōvon só“, kwað ſiu,  
 4046 „þat it só gi·werðen skal, · só hwan só þius wer-old ęndjod  
 ęndi þe márjo dag · ovar man fęrid,  
 4048 þat hé þan fan erðu skal · up a·ſtanden  
 an þemu dómes daga, · þan werðad fan dōðe kwika  
 4050 þurh maht godes · man-kunnjes ge·hwi-lik,  
 a·rísad fan reſtu.“ · Þó ſagde ríkjo Kriſt  
 4052 þeru idis alo-mahtig · oþonun wordun,  
 þat hé ſelvo was · ſunu drohtines,  
 4054 bęðju ia líf ia lioht · liudjo barnon  
 te a·ſtandanne: · „nio þe ſterven ni skal,  
 4056 líf far·liosn, · þe hér gi·lōvid te mi:  
 þoh ina ęldi-barn · erðu bi·þękkjen,  
 4058 diapo bi·delven, · nis hé dōd þiu mēr:  
 þat flęsk is bi·folhen, · þat ferah is gi·halden,  
 4060 is þiu ſiola gi·ſund.“ · Þó ſprak imu eft sán an·gęgin  
 þat wíf mid iro wordun: · „ik gi·lōvju þat þú þe wáro biſt“, kwað ſiu,  
 4062 „Kriſt godes ſunu: · þat mag man ant·kennjen wel,  
 witen an þínun wordun, · þat þú gi·wald haves  
 4064 þurh þiu hęlagon gi·ſkapu · himiles ęndi erðun.“

Þó ge·fragn ik þat þar þero iðisjo kwam · öðar gangan  
 4066 Maria mód-karag: · géngun iro managa aftar  
 Judeo liudi. · Þó siu þemu godes barne  
 4068 sagde sêrag-mód, · hwat iru te sorgun gi·stód  
 an iro hugi harmes: · hofnu kúmde  
 4070 Lazaruses far·lust, · liaves mannes,  
 griat gornundi, · an-tat þemu godes barne  
 4072 hugi warð gi·hrórid: · hête trahni  
 wópu a·wellun, · ęndi þó te þem wívun sprak,  
 4074 hét ina þó lêdjén, · þar Lazarus was  
 foldu bi·folhen. · Lag þar ên felis bi·ovan,  
 4076 hard stên be·hliden. · Þó hét þe hêlago Krist  
 ant·lúkan þea léia, · þat hé mósti þat lík sehan,  
 4078 hrêo skawojen. · Þó ni mahte an iro hugi miðan  
 Marþa for þeru męnegi, · wið mahtigne sprak:  
 4080 „frô mín þe gódo“, · kwað siu, „ef man þene felis nimid,  
 þene stên ant·lúkid, · þan wániu ik þat þanen stank kume,  
 4082 un·swóti swek, · hwand ik þi sęggjan mag  
 wárun wordun, · þat þes nis gi·wand ênig,  
 4084 þat hé þar nu bi·folhen was · fiuwar naht ęndi dagos  
 an þemu erð-grave.“ · And-wordi gaf  
 4086 waldand þemu wíve: · „Hhwat ni sagde ik þi te wárun êr“, kwað hé,  
 „ef þú gi·lôvjén wili, · þan nis nu lang te þiu,  
 4088 þat þú hér ant·kęnnjen skalt · kraft drohtines,  
 þe mikilon maht godes?“ · Þó géngun manage tó,  
 4090 af·hóvun harden stên. · Þó sah þe hêlago Krist  
 up mid is ôgun, · ǫ·lát sagde  
 4092 þemu þe þese wer-old gi·skóp, · „þes þú mín word gi·hôris“, kwað hé,  
 „sigi-drohtin selvo; · ik wêt þat þú só simlun duos,  
 4094 ak ik duom it be þesumu grôton · Judeono folke,  
 þat sie þat te wárun witin, · þat þú mi an þese wer-old sęndes  
 4096 þesun liudjun te lêrun.“ · Þó hé te Lazaruse hriop  
 starkaru stemnju · ęndi hét ina standen up  
 4098 ia fan þemu grave gangan. · Þó warð þe gêst kumen  
 an þene lík-hamon: · hé bi·gan is liði hrórjen,  
 4100 ant·warp undar þemu gi·wêdje: · was imo só be·wunden þó noh,  
 an hrêo-będdjon bi·helid. · Hét imu helpen þó  
 4102 waldandjo Krist. · Weros géngun tó,  
 ant·wundun þat ge·wádi. · Wánum up a·rês  
 4104 Lazarus te þesumu liohte: · was imu is líf far·geven,

þat hé is aldar-lagu · égan mósti,  
 4106 friðu forð-wardes. · Þó fagonadun bêðja,  
 Maria ęndi Martha: · ni mag þat man öðrumu  
 4108 gi·seggjan te sððe, · hwó þea ge·swester twó  
 męndjodun an iro móde. · Maneg wundrode  
 4110 Judeo liudjo, · þó sie ina fan þemu grave sahun  
 siðon ge·sunden, · þene þe ér suht far·nam  
 4112 ęndi sie bi·dulvun · diapo undar erðu  
 líves lðsen: · þó móste imu libbjen forð  
 4114 hêl an hêmun. · Só mag heven-kuninges,  
 þiu mikile maht godes · manno ge·hwi-likes  
 4116 feræhe gi·formon · ęndi wið fiundo nið  
 hêlag helpen, · só hwemu só hé is huldi far·givid  
 4118 Þó warð þar só managumu manne · mód aftar Kriste,  
 gi·hworven hugi-skęfti, · siðor sie is hêlagon werk  
 4120 selvon gi·sahun, · hwand eo ér su·lik ni warð  
 wunder an wer-oldi. · Þan was eft þes werodes só filu,  
 4122 só mód-starke man: · ni weldon þe maht godes  
 ant·kęnnjen kũð-líko, · ak sie wið is kraft mikil  
 4124 wunnun mid iro wordun: · wárun im waldandes  
 lêra so lêða: · sóhtun im liudi öðra  
 4126 an Jerusalem, · þar Judeono was  
 hêri hand-mahal · ęndi hôvid-stędi,  
 4128 rôl gum-skępi · grimmaro þioda.  
 Sie kũðdun im þó Kristes werk, · kwáðun þat sie kwikan sáhin  
 4130 þene erl mid iro ôgun, · þe an erðu was,  
 foldu bi·folhen · fiuwar naht ęndi dagos,  
 4132 dðd bi·dolven, · an-tat hé ina mid is dádjun selvo,  
 mid is wordun a·wękide, · þat hé mósti þese wer-old sehan.  
 4134 Þó was þat só wiðer-ward · wlankun mannun,  
 Judeo liudjun: · hétun iro gum-skępi þó,  
 4136 werod samnojan · ęndi warvos fáhen,  
 męgin-þioda gi·mang, · an mahtigna Krist  
 4138 riedun an rúnun: · „nis þat rád ênig“, kwáðun sie,  
 „þat wí þat gi·þolojan: · wili þesaro þioda te filu  
 4140 gi·lövjen aftar is lêrun. · Þan ús liudi farad,  
 an eo-rid-folk, · werðat úsa ovar-hôvdun  
 4142 rinkos fan Rúmu. · Þan wí þeses ríkjes skulun  
 lðse libbjen · efþa wí skulun úses líves þolon,  
 4144 hęliðos úsaro hôvdo.“ · Þó sprak þar ên gi·hêrod man



4146 ovar warf wero, · þe was þes werodes þó  
 an þeru burg innan · biskop þero liudjo  
 —Kaiphaz was hé hêten; · habdun ina gi·koreanen te þiu  
 4148 an þeru gēr-talu · Judeo liudi,  
 þat hé þes godes húses · gômjen skoldi,  
 4150 wardon þes wíhes—: · „Mí þunkid wunder mikil“, kwað hé,  
 „mári þioda, · —gí kunnun manages gi·skêð—  
 4152 hwí gí þat te wárun ni witin, · werod Judeono,  
 þat hér is bētera rád · barno ge·hwi-likumu,  
 4154 þat man hér ênne man · aldru bi·lôse  
 4156 ęndi þat hé þurh iuwa dādi · drôreg sterve,  
 for þesumu folk-skępi · ferah far·lāte,  
 þan al þit liud-werod · far·loren werðe.“  
 4158 Ni was it þoh is willjan, · þat hé só wár ge·sprak,  
 só forð for þemu folke, · frume man-kunnjes  
 4160 gi·mēnde for þeru męnegi, · ak it kwam imu fan þeru maht godes  
 þurh is hēlagan hēd, · hwand hé þat hús godes  
 4162 þar an Jerusalem · bi·gangan skolde,  
 wardon þes wíhes: · be·þiu hé só wár gi·sprak,  
 4164 biskop þero liudjo, · hwó skoldi þat barn godes  
 alla irmin-þiod · mid is ênes ferhe,  
 4166 mid is lívu a·lôsen: · þat was allaro þesaro liudjo rád,  
 hwand hé gi·halode · mid þiu hēðina liudi,  
 4168 weros an is willjon · waldandio Krist.  
 Þó wurðun ên-wordje · ovar-módje man,  
 4170 werod Judeono, · ęndi an iro warve gi·sprákon,  
 mári þioda, · þat sie im ni létin iro mód twehon:  
 4172 só hwe só ina undar þemu folke · finden mahti,  
 þat ina sán gi·fęngi · ęndi forð bráhti  
 4174 an þero þiodo þing; · kwáðun þat sie ni mahtin gi·þolojan lęng,  
 þat sie þe êno man · só alla weldi,  
 4176 werod far·winnen. · þan wisse waldand Krist  
 þero manno só garo · mód-gi·þáhti,  
 4178 hęti-grimmon hugi, · hwand imu ni was bi·holen eo·wiht  
 an þesaru middil-gard: · hé ni welde þó an þie męnigi innen  
 4180 siður open-líko, · under þat erlo folk,  
 gangan under þea Judeon: · bēd þe godes sunu  
 4182 þero torhtjon tíd, · þe imu tó-ward was,  
 þat hé far þesa þioda · þolojan welde,  
 4184 far þit werod wíti: · wisse imu selvo

þat dag-þingi garo. · Þó gi·wêt imu ùse drohtin forð  
 4186 ęndi imu þó an Effrem · alo-waldo Krist  
 an þeru hôhon burg · hêlag drohtin  
 4188 wunode mid is werodu, · an-tat hé an is willjan hwarf  
 eft te Bethania · brahtmu þiu mikilun,  
 4190 mid þiu is gódum gum-skępi. · Judeon bi·sprákun þat  
 wordu ge·hwi-liku, · þó sie imu su·lik werod mikil  
 4192 folgon gi·sáhun: · „nis frume ênig“, kwáðun sie,  
 „ûses ríkjes gi·rádi, · þoh wí reht sprekan,  
 4194 ni þíhit ûses þinges wiht: · þius þiod wili  
 węndjen after is willjan; · imu all þius wer-old folgot,  
 4196 liudi bi þem is lêrun, · þat wí imu lêðes wiht  
 for þesumu folk-skępi · gi·frummjen ni mótun.“  
 4198 Gi·wêt imu þó þat barn godes · innan Bethania  
 sehs nahtun êr, · þan þiu samnunga  
 4200 þar an Jerusalem · Judeo liudjo  
 an þem wih-dagun · werðen skolde,  
 4202 þat sie skoldun haldan · þea hêlagon tídi,  
 Judeono paskha. · Béd þe godes sunu,  
 4204 mahtig under þeru męnegi: · was þar manno kraft,  
 werodes bi þem is wordun. · Þar géngun ina twê wif umbi,  
 4206 Maria ęndi Martha, · mid mildju hugi,  
 þionodun imu þeo-líko. · Þiodo drohtin  
 4208 gaf im lang-sam lôn: · lét sea lêðes gi·hwes,  
 sundjono sikora, · ęndi selvo gi·bôd,  
 4210 þat sea an friðe fôrin · wiðer fiundo níð,  
 þea idisa mid is orlovu gódu: · habdun iro ambaht-skępi  
 4212 bi·węndid an is willjon. · Þó gi·wêt imu waldand Krist  
 forð mid þiu folku, · firiho drohtin,  
 4214 innan Jerusalem, · þar Judeono was  
 hęte-lík hard-buri, · þar sie þea hêlagon tíd  
 4216 warodun at þemu wihe; · was þar werodes só filu,  
 kraftigaro kunnjo, · þie ni weldun Kristes word  
 4218 gerno hôrjen · ni te þemu godes barne  
 an iro mód-sevon · minnje ni habdun,  
 4220 ak wárun im só wrêða · wlanka þioda,  
 módeg man-kunni, · habdun im morð-hugi,  
 4222 in-wid an innan: · an avuh far·fęngun  
 Kristes lêre, · weldun ina kraftigna  
 4224 wítnon þero wordo; · ak was þar werodes só filu,

umbi **erl**-skēpi · **ant**-langana dag,  
 4226 habde ine þiu **smale** þiod · þurh is **swót**jun word  
**werodu** bi·**worpen**, · þat ine þie **wiðer**-sakon  
 4228 under þemu **folk**-skēpi · **fāhen** ne gi·dorstun,  
 ak **miðun** is bi þeru **mēnegi**. · Þan stód **mahtig** Krist  
 4230 an þemu **wihe** innan, · sagde **word** manag  
**firiho** barnun te **frumu**. · Was þar **folk** umbi  
 4232 allan **langan** dag, · an-tat þiu **liohte** gi·wēt  
**sunne** te **sedle**. · Þó te **sēliðun** fōr  
 4234 **man**-kunnjes **manag**. · Þan was þar ên **mári** berg  
 bi þeru **burg** úten, · þe was **brêd** êndi hôh,  
 4236 **gróni** êndi skôni: · hétun ina **Judeo** liudi  
**Oliueti** bi namon. · Þar imu **up** gi·wēt  
 4238 **nē**řjendjo Krist, · só ina þiu **naht** bi·fēng,  
 was imu þar mid is **jungarun**, · só ine þar **Judeono** ênig  
 4240 ni **wisse** ti **wárun**, · hwand hé an þemu **wihe** stód,  
**liudjo** drohtin, · só **lioht** ôstene kwam,  
 4242 ant·fēng þat **folk**-skēpi · êndi im **filu** sagde  
**wároro** **wordo**, · só nis an þesaru **wer**-oldi ênig,  
 4244 an þesaru **middil**-gard · **manno** só spáhi,  
**liudjo** barno nig·ên, · þat þero **lêrono** mugi  
 4246 **ēndi** gi·tēlljen, · þe hé þar an þemu **alahe** gi·sprak,  
**waldand** an þemu **wihe**, · êndi simlun mid is **wordun** gi·bôd,  
 4248 þat sie sie **gē**řewidin · te **godes** ríkje,  
 allaro **manno** ge·hwi-lik, · þat sie móstin an þemu **márjon** daga  
 4250 iro **drohtines** · **diuriða** ant·fāhen.  
 Sagde im hwat sie it **sundjun** frumidun · êndi **simlun** gi·bôd,  
 4252 þat sie þea a·lēskidin; · hét sie **lioht** godes  
**minnjon** an iro **móde**, · **mên** far·láten,  
 4254 **avoha** **ovar**-hugdi, · ôd-módi niman,  
**hlaðen** þat an iro **hertan**; · kwað þat im þan wári **heven**-ríki,  
 4256 **garu** **gódo** mēst. · Þó warð þar **gumono** só filu  
 gi·wēndid aftar is **willjon**, · siðour sie þat **word** godes  
 4258 **hêlag** gi·hôrdun, · **heven**-kuninges,  
 ant·kēndun **kraft** mikil, · **kumi** drohtines,  
 4260 **hêrron** **helpe**, · ia þat **heven**-ríki was,  
**nē**řjendi gi·**náhid** · êndi **náða** godes  
 4262 **manno** barnun. · Sum só **módeg** was  
**Judeo** folkes, · habdun **grimman** hugi,  
 4264 **slíð**-móden **sevon** · [...],

ni weldun is worde gi·lôvjen, · ak habdun im ge·win mikil  
 4266 wið þea Kristes kraft: · kumen ni móstun  
 þea liudi þurh lêðen stríd, · þat sie gi·lôvon te imu  
 4268 fasto gi·féngin; · ni was im þiu frume giviðig,  
 þat sie heven-ríki · habbjen móstin.  
 4270 Géng imu þó þe godes sunu · ęndi is jungaron mid imu,  
 waldand fan þemu wihe, · all só is willjo géng,  
 4272 iak imu uppen þene berg gi·stêg · barn drohtines:  
 sat imu þar mid is ge·siðun · ęndi im sagde filu  
 4274 wároro wordo. · Sí bi·gunnun im þó umbi þene wih sprekan,  
 þie gumon umbi þat godes hús, · kwáðun þat ni wári gód-líkora  
 4276 alah ovar erðu · þurh erlo hand,  
 þurh mannes gi·werk · mid megin-kraftu  
 4278 rakud a·rihtid. · Þó þe ríkjo sprak,  
 hêr heven-kuning · —hôrdun þe ôðra—:  
 4280 „ik mag iu gi·têlljen“, · kwað hé, „þat noh wirðid þiu tíð kumen,  
 þat is af·standen ni skal · stên ovar ôðrumu,  
 4282 ak it fallid ti foldu · ęndi fiur nimid,  
 grádag logna, · þoh it nu só gód-lík sí,  
 4284 só wis-líko gi·warht, · ęndi só dód all þesaro wer-oldes gi·skapu,  
 te·glídid gróni wang.“ · Þó géngun imu is jungaron tó,  
 4286 frágodun ina só stillo: · „hwó lango skal standen noh“, kwáðun sie,  
 „þius wer-old an wunnjun, · êr þan þat gi·wand kume,  
 4288 þat þe lasto dag · liohtes skíne  
 þurh wolkan-skion, · efþo hwan is þín eft wán kumen  
 4290 an þene middil-gard, · manno kunnje  
 te a·dêljenne, · dôdun ęndi kwikun?  
 4292 frô mín þe gódo, · ús is þes firi-wit mikil,  
 waldandjo Krist, · hwan þat gi·werðen skuli.“  
 4294 Þó im and·wordi · alo-waldo Krist  
 gód-lík far·gaf · þem gumun selvo:  
 4296 „þat havad só bi·dêrnid“, · kwað hé, „drohtin þe gódo,  
 iak só hardo far·holen · himil-ríkjes fader,  
 4298 waldand þesaro wer-oldes, · só þat witen ni mag  
 ênig mannisk barn, · hwan þiu márje tíð  
 4300 gi·wirðid an þesaru wer-oldi, · ne it ôk te wáran ni kunnun  
 godes ęngilos, · þie for imu gegin-warde  
 4302 simlun sindun: · sie it ôk gi·seggjan ni mugun  
 te wáran mid iro wordun, · hwan þat gi·werðen skuli,  
 4304 þat hé willje an þesan middil-gard, · mahtig drohtin,

firiho fandon. · Fader wêt it êno  
 4306 hêlag fan himile: · elkur is it bi·holen allun,  
 kwikun êndi dôdun, · hwan is kumi werðad.  
 4308 Ik mag iu þoh gi·têlljen, · hwi-lik hér tēkan bi·foran  
 gi·werðad wunder-lik, · êr þan hé an þese wer-old kume  
 4310 an þemu mārjon daga: · þat wirðid hér êr an þemu mánon skín  
 iak an þeru sunnon só same; · gi·swerkad siu bêðju,  
 4312 mid finistre werðad bi·fangan; · fallad sterron,  
 hwit heven-tungal, · êndi hrisid erðe,  
 4314 bivod þius brêde wer-old · —wirðid su·likaro bôkno filu—:  
 grimmid þe grôto sêo, · wirkid þie gevenes strôm  
 4316 egison mid is ûðjun · erð-búandjun.  
 Þan þorrot þiu þiod · þurh þat ge·þwing mikil,  
 4318 folk þurh þea forhta: · þan nis friðu hwergin,  
 ak wirðid wīg só maneg · ovar þese wer-old alla  
 4320 hēte-lík af·haben, · êndi hēri lêdid  
 kunni ovar ôðar: · wirðid kuningo gi·win,  
 4322 megin-fard mikil: · wirðid managoro kwalm,  
 open ur-lagi · —þat is egis-lík þing,  
 4324 þat io su·lik morð · skulun man af·hëbbjen—,  
 wirðid wól só mikil · ovar þese wer-old alle,  
 4326 man-stervono mêt, · þero þe gio an þesaru middil-gard  
 swulti þurh suhti: · liggjad seoka man,  
 4328 driosat êndi dôjat · êndi iro dag êndjad,  
 fulljad mid iro ferahu; · fërid un·met grôt  
 4330 hungar hēti-grim · ovar hëliðo barn,  
 mēti-gêðjono mêt: · nis þat minniste  
 4332 þero wítjo an þesaru wer-oldi, · þe hér gi·werðen skulun  
 êr dómes dage. · Só hwan só gi þea dádi gi·sehan  
 4334 gi·werðen an þesaru wer-oldi, · só mugun gi þan te wáran  
 far·standen,  
 þat þan þe latsto dag · liudjun náhid  
 4336 mári te mannun · êndi maht godes,  
 himil-kraftes hróri · êndi þes hêlagon kumi,  
 4338 drohtines mid is diuriðun. · Hwat gí þesaro dádjo mugun  
 bi þesun bômun · biliði ant·kennjen:  
 4340 þan sie brustjad êndi blójat · êndi bladu tōgjat,  
 lóf ant·lúkad, · þan witun liudjo barn,  
 4342 þat þan is sán after þiu · sumer gi·náhid  
 warm êndi wun-sam · êndi wedeþ skôni.

- 4344 Só witin gi ôk bi þesun tēknun, · þe ik iu talde hér,  
 hwan þe latsto dag · liudjun náhid.  
 4346 Þan seggjo ik iu te wáran, · þat êr þit werod ni mót,  
 te·faran þit folk-skēpi, · êr þan werðe ge·fullid só,  
 4348 mínu word gi·wárod. · Noh gi·wand kumid  
 himiles çndi erðun, · çndi stéid mín hêlag word  
 4350 fast forð-wardes · çndi wirðid al ge·fullod só,  
 gi·lêstid an þesumu liohte, · só ik for þesun liudjun ge·spriku.  
 4352 wakot gí war-líko: · iu is wis-kumo  
 duom-dag þe márjo · çndi iuwes drohtines kraft,  
 4354 þiu mikilo mēgin-strengi · çndi þiu márje tíð,  
 gi·wand þesaro wer-oldes. · Fora þiu gi wardon skulun,  
 4356 þat hé iu slápanðje · an swef-restu  
 fārungo ni bi·fāhe · an firin-werkun,  
 4358 mēnes fulle. · Mút-spelli kumit  
 an þiustrja naht, · al só þiof fērid  
 4360 darno mid is dádjun, · só kumid þe dag mannun,  
 þe latsto þeses liohtes, · só it êr þese liudi ni witun,  
 4362 só samo só þiu flód deda · an furn-dagun,  
 þe þar mid lagu-strômun · liudi far·tēride  
 4364 bi Nóeas tíðjun, · bi·útan þat ina nēride god  
 mid is hīwiskja, · hêlag drohtin,  
 4366 wið þes flódes fārm: · só warð ôk þat fiur kuman  
 hêt fan himile, · þat þea hôhon burgi  
 4368 umbi Sodomu land · swart logna bi·féng  
 grim çndi grádag, · þat þar n·ênig gumono ni gi·nas  
 4370 bi·útan Loth êno: · ina ant·lêddun þanen  
 drohtines çngilos · çndi is dohter twá  
 4372 an ênan berg uppen: · þat ôðar al brinnandi fiur,  
 ia land ia liudi · logna far·tēride:  
 4374 só fārungo warð þat fiur kumen, · só warð êr þe flód só samo:  
 só wirðid þe latsto dag. · For þiu skal allaro liudjo ge·hwi-lik  
 4376 þenkjan fora þemu þinge; · þes is þarf mikil  
 manno ge·hwi-likumu: · be·þiu látad iu an iuwan mód sorga.  
 4378 Hwand só hwan só þat ge·wirðid, · þat waldand Krist,  
 mári mannes sunu · mid þeru maht godes,  
 4380 kumit mid þiu kraftu · kuningo ríkjost  
 sittjan an is selves maht · çndi samod mid imu  
 4382 alle þea çngilos, · þe þar uppa sind  
 hêlaga an himile, · þan skulun þarod hēliðo barn,

4384 elli-þeoda kuman · alla te·samne  
 libbjandero liudjo, · só hwat só io an þesumu liohte warð  
 4386 firiho a·fódid. · Þar hé þemu folke skal,  
 allumu man-kunnje · mári drohtin  
 4388 a·dêljen aftar iro dádjun. · Þan skêðid hé þea far·duanan man,  
 þea far·warhton weros · an þea winistron hand:  
 4390 só duot hé ôk þea sáligon · an þea swíðeron half;  
 grótid hé þan þea gódun · çndi im te·gëgnes sprikid:  
 4392 „Kumad gi“, kwiðid hé, „þea þar gi·korene sindun, · çndi ant·fáhad  
 þit kraftiga ríki,  
 þat góde, þat þar gi·gërewid stëndid, · þat þar warð gumono barnun  
 4394 gi·warht fan þesaro wer-oldest çndje: · iu havad ge·wíhid selvo  
 fader allaro firiho barno: · gi mótun þesaro frumono neotan,  
 4396 ge·waldon þeses widon ríkjas, · hwand gi oft mínan willjon frumidun,  
 ful·gëngun mí gerno · çndi wárun mí iuwaro gevo mildje,  
 4398 þan ik bi·þwungan was · þurstu çndi hungru,  
 frostu bi·fangan · efþo an feteron lag,  
 4400 bi·klëmmid an karkare: · oft wurðun mí kumana þarod  
 helpa fan iuwun handun: · gí wárun mí an iuwomu hugi mildje,  
 4402 wísodun mín werð-liko.“ · Þan sprikid imu eft þat werod an·gëgin:  
 „Frô mín þe gódo“, · kweðat sie, „hwan wári þú bi·fangan só,  
 4404 be·þwungan an su·likun þarævun, · só þú fora þesaru þiod tēlis,  
 mahtig mēnis? · Hwan gi·sah þí man ênig  
 4406 be·þwungen an su·likun þarævun? · Hwat þú haves allaro þiodo  
 gi·wald  
 iak só samo þero mēðmo, · þero þe io manno barn  
 4408 ge·wunnun an þesaro wer-oldi.“ · Þan sprikid im eft waldand god:  
 „só hwat só gí dádun“, · kwiðit hé, „an iuwes drohtines namon,  
 4410 gódes far·gávun · an godes êra  
 þem mannun, þe hér minniston sindun, · þero nu undar þesaru  
 mēnegi standad  
 4412 çndi þurh ôð-módi · arme wárun  
 weros, hwand sie mínan willjon frëmidun · —só hwat só gí im  
 iuwaro welono far·gávun,  
 4414 gi·dádun þurh diuriða, · þat ant·fëng iuwa drohtin selvo,  
 þiu helpe kwam te heven-kuninge. · Be·þiu wili iu þe hêlago drohtin  
 4416 lônnon iuwan gi·lôvon: · givid iu lif êwig.“  
 Wëndid ina þan waldand · an þea winistron hand,  
 4418 drohtin te þem far·duanan mannun, · sagad im þat sie skulin þea dád  
 ant·gelden,

- þea man iro mēn-gi-werk: · „nu gí fan mī skulun“, kwiðit hé,  
 4420 „faran só for·flókane · an þat fiur êwig,  
 þat þar gi·garewid warð · godes and-sakun,  
 4422 fiundo folke · be firin-werkun,  
 hwand gí mī ni hulpun, · þan mī hunger ęndi þurst  
 4424 wēgde te wundrun · efþa ik ge·wádjes lōs  
 gēng jámer-mód, · was mī grōtun þarf,  
 4426 þan ni habde ik þar ênige helpe, · þan ik ge·hęftid was,  
 an liðo-kospun bi·lokan, · efþa mi legar bi·fēng,  
 4428 swára suhti: · þan ni weldun gí mín siokes þar  
 wíson mid wihti: · ni was iu werð eo·wiht,  
 4430 þat gí mín ge·hugdin. · Be·þiu gí an hęllje skulun  
 þolon an þiustre.“ · Þan sprikid imu eft þiu þiod an·gęgin:  
 4432 „Wola waldand god“, · kweðad sie, „hwí wilt þú só wið þit werod  
 sprekan,  
 mahljen wið þese męnegi? · Hwan was þi io manno þarf,  
 4434 gumono gódes? · Hwat sie it al be þínun gevun êgun,  
 welon an þesaro wer-oldi“. · Þan sprikid eft waldand god:  
 4436 „þan gí þea armostun“, · kwiðid hé, „ęldi-barno,  
 manno þea minniston · an iuwomu mód-sevon  
 4438 hęliðos far·hugdun, · létun sea iu an iuwomu hugi lêðe,  
 be·dēldun sie iuwaro diurða, · þan dádun gí iuwana drohtin só sama,  
 4440 gi·węrnidun imu iuwaro welono: · be·þiu ni wili iu waldand god,  
 ant·fáhen fader iuwa, · ak gí an þat fiur skulun,  
 4442 an þene diopun dōð, · diuwlun þionon,  
 wrēðun wiðer-sakun, · hwand gí só warhtun bi·foran.“  
 4444 Þan aftar þem wordun skēðit · þat werod an twē,  
 þea gódun ęndi þea uvilon: · farad þea far·griponon man  
 4446 an þea hētan hęl · hriwig-móde,  
 þea far·warhton weros, · wíti ant·fáhat,  
 4448 uvil ęndi-lōs. · Lēdid up þanen  
 hēr heven-kuning · þea hluttaron þeoda  
 4450 an þat lang-same lioht: · þar is lif êwig,  
 gi·garewid godes ríki · góðaro þiado.“  
 4452 Só ge·fragn ik þat þem rínkun þó · ríki drohtin  
 umbi þesaro wer-oldes gi·wand · wordun talde,  
 4454 hwó þiu forð fęrid, · þan lango þe sie friho barn  
 ardon mótun, · ia hwó siu an þemu ęndje skal  
 4456 te·glíden ęndi te·gangen. · hé sagde ôk is jungarun þar  
 wárun wordun: · „Hwat gí witun alle“, kwað hé,



4458 „þat nu ovar **twá** naht · sind **tídi** kumana,  
 Judeono paskha, · þat sie skulun iro **gode** þionon,  
 4460 **weros** an þemu **wíhe**. · Þes nis ge·**wand** ênig,  
 þat þar wirðid **mannes** sunu · te þeru **męgin**-þiodu  
 4462 **kraftag** far·**kôpot** · ęndi an **krúke** a·slagan,  
 þolod þiad-kwála.“ · Þó warð þar þegan manag  
 4464 **slíð**-mód gi·samnod, · **sūðar**-liudjo,  
 Judeono **gum**-skępi, · þar sie skoldun iro **gode** þionon.  
 4466 wurðun **êo**-sagon · **alle** kumane,  
 an **warf** **weros**, · þe sie þó **wísostun**  
 4468 undar þeru **męnegi** · **manno** taldun,  
**kraftag** **kuni**-burd. · Þar **Kaiphas** was,  
 4470 **biskop** þero liudjo. · Sie **rédun** þó an þat **barn** godes,  
 hwó sie ina a·**sluogin** · **sundja** lōsan,  
 4472 kwáðun þat sie ina an þemu **hêlagon** daga · **hrínen** ni skoldin  
 undar þero **manno** **męnegi**, · „þat ni werðe þius **męgin**-þioda,  
 4474 **hęliðos** an **hróru**, · hwand ina þit **hęri**-skępi wili  
 far·**standen** mid **strídu**. · **Wí** só **stillo** skulun  
 4476 **frêson** is **ferahes**, · þat þit **folk** Judeono  
 an þesun **wíh**-dagun · **wróht** ni af·hębbjen.“  
 4478 Þó géng imu þar **Júdas** forð, · **jungaro** Kristes,  
**ên** þero twe-livjo, · þar þat **aðali** sat,  
 4480 Judeono **gum**-skępi; · kwað þat hé is im **gódan** rád  
**sęggjan** mahti: · „hwat willjad gí mí **sęlljen** hér“, kwað hé,  
 4482 „**mêðmo** te **médu**, · ef ik iu þene **man** givu  
 áno **wíg** ęndi áno **wróht**?“ · Þó warð þes **werodes** hugi,  
 4484 þero **liudjo** an **lustun**: · „ef þú wili gi·lêstjen só“, kwáðun sie,  
 „þín **word** gi·**wáron**, · þan þú gi·**wald** haves,  
 4486 hwat þú at þesaru þiodu · þiggjan willjes  
**gódar**o **mêðmo**.“ · Þó gi·hét imu þat **gum**-skępi þar  
 4488 an is **selves** dóm · **siluvar**-skatto  
**þrí**-tig at·samne, · ęndi hé te þeru þiodu gi·sprak  
 4490 **dęręvjun** wordun, · þat hé gávi is **drohtin** wið þiu.  
**wende** ina þó fan þemu **werode**: · was im **wrêð** hugi,  
 4492 **talode** im só **treu**-lôs, · hwan êr wurði imu þiu **tíd** kuman,  
 þat hé ina mahti far·**wísjen** · **wrêðaro** þiodo,  
 4494 **fiundo** folke. · Þan wisse þat **friðu**-barn godes,  
**wár** waldand Krist, · þat hé þese **wer**-old skolde,  
 4496 a·**geven** þese **gardos** · ęndi sókjen imu **godes** ríki,  
 gi·**faren** is **fader**-óðil. · Þó ni gi·sah ênig **firiho** barno

4498 mēron minnje, · þan hé þó te þem mannun gi·nam,  
 te þem is gódun jungaron: · gôme warhte,  
 4500 sætte sie swás-líko · ęndi im sagde filu  
 wároro wordo. · Skrêd westę dag,  
 4502 sunne te sedle. · Þó hé selvo gi·bôd,  
 waldand mid is wordun, · hét im water dragan  
 4504 hluttar te handun, · ęndi rês þó þe hêlago Krist,  
 þe gódo at þem gômun · ęndi þar is jungarono þwóg  
 4506 fôti mid is folmun · ęndi swarf sie mid is fanon aftar,  
 druknide sie diur-líka. · Þó wið is drohtin sprak  
 4508 Símon Petrus: · „Ni þunkid mí þit sómi þing“, kwað hé,  
 „frô mín þe gódo, · þat þú míne fôti þwahes  
 4510 mid þem þínun hêlagun handun.“ · Þó sprak imu eft is hêrro  
 an·gęgin,  
 waldand mid is wordun: · „Ef þú is willjan ni haves“, kwað hé,  
 4512 „te ant·fáhanne, · þat ik þíne fôti þwahe  
 þurh su·líka minnja, · só ik þesun ôðrun mannun hér  
 4514 dóm þurh diurða, · þan ni haves þú ênigan dêl mid mí  
 an heven-ríkja.“ · Hugi warð þó gi·węndid  
 4516 Símon Petruse: · „Þú hava þí selvo gi·wald“, kwað hé,  
 „frô mín þe gódo, · fôto ęndi hando  
 4518 ęndi mínes hôvdes só sama, · handun þínun,  
 þiadan, te þwahanne, · te þiu þak ik móti þína forð  
 4520 huldi hębbjan · ęndi heven-ríkjes  
 su·lík gi·dêli, · só þú mí, drohtin, wili  
 4522 far·geven þurh þína gódi.“ · Jungaron Kristes,  
 þene ambaht-skępi · erlos þolodun,  
 4524 þęgnos mid gi·þuldjon, · só hwat só im iro þiodan dede,  
 mahtig þurh þea minnja, · ęndi mēnde imu al méra þing  
 4526 firihon te gi·frummjenne. · friðu-barn godes  
 géng imu þó eft gi·sittjen · under þat ge·siðo folk  
 4528 ęndi im sagda filu lang-samna rád. · Warð eft lioht kuman,  
 morgen te mannun. · Mahtigne Krist  
 4530 gróttun is jungaron ęndi frágodun, · hwar sie is gôma þó  
 an þemu wíh-dage · wirkjen skoldin,  
 4532 hwar hé weldi halden · þea hêlagon tídi  
 selvo mid is ge·siðun. · Þó hé sie sókjen hét,  
 4534 þea gumon Jerusalem: · „só gí þan gangan kumad“, kwað hé,  
 „an þea burg innan · —þar is braht mikil,  
 4536 męgin-þiodo gi·mang—, · þar mugun gí ênan man sehan

an is handun dragen · hluttres watares  
 4538 ful mid folmun. · Þemu gí folgon skulun  
 an só hwi-like gardos, · só gí ina gangan gi·sehat,  
 4540 ia gí þan þemu hêrron, · þe þie hovers êgi,  
 selvon sêggjad, · þat ik iu sênde þarod  
 4542 te gi·garuwenne mína gôma. · Þan tôgid hé iu ên gód-lík hús,  
 hôhan sóleri, · þe is bi·hangen al  
 4544 fagarun fratahun. · Þar gí frummjen skulun  
 werd-skêpi mínan. · Þar bium ik wis-kumo  
 4546 selvo mid mínun ge·siðun.“ · Þó wurðun sán aftar þiu  
 þar te Jerusalem · jungaron Kristes  
 4548 forð-ward an fêrði, · fundun all só hé sprak  
 word-têkan wár: · ni was þes gi·wand ênig.  
 4550 Þar gçrêwidun sie þea gôma. · Warð þe godes sunu,  
 hêlag drohtin · an þat hús kuman,  
 4552 þar sie þe land-wíse · lêstjen skoldun,  
 ful·gangan godes gi·bode, · al só Judeono was  
 4554 êo êndi ald-sidu · an êr-dagun.  
 Gi·wêt imu þó an þemu ávande · alo-waldand Krist  
 4556 an þene sêli sittjen; · hét þar is ge·siðos te imu  
 twe-livi gangan, · þea im gi·triwiston  
 4558 an iro mód-sevon · manno wárun  
 bi wordun êndi bi wísun: · wisse imu selvo  
 4560 iro hugi-skêfti · hêlag drohtin.  
 Grôtte sie þó ovar þem gômun: · „Gern bium ik swíðo“, kwað hé,  
 4562 „þat ik samad mid iu · sittjen móti,  
 gômono neoten, · Judeono paskha  
 4564 dêljén mid iu só diurjun. · Nu ik iu iuwes drohtines skal  
 willjon sêggjan, · þat ik an þesaro wer-oldi ni mót  
 4566 mid mannun mêt · móses an·bítén  
 furður mid firihun, · êr þan gi·fullod wirðid  
 4568 himilo ríki. · Mí is an handun nú  
 wíti êndi wundêr-kwále, · þea ik for þesumu werode skal,  
 4570 þolon for þesaru þiodu.“ · Só hé þó só te þem þegnun sprak,  
 hêlag drohtin, · só warð imu is hugi dróvi,  
 4572 warð imu gi·sworcen sevo, · êndi eft te þem ge·siðun sprak,  
 þe gódo te þem is jungarun: · „Hwat ik iu godes ríki“, kwað hé,  
 4574 „gi·hét himiles lioht, · êndi gí mí hold-líko  
 iuwan þegān-skêpi. · Nú ni willjat gí a·þengjan só,  
 4576 ak wēnkjat þero wordo. · Nú sēggju ik iu te wāran hér,

þat wili iuwar t̥we-livjo ên · t̥rewana swíkan,  
 4578 wili mi far·kôpon · undar þit kunni Judeono,  
 gi·selljen wiðer sil̥v̥re, · ̥ndi wili imu þar sink niman,  
 4580 diurje mēðmos, · ̥ndi geven is drohtin wið þiu,  
 holdan hērran. · Þat imu þoh te harme skal,  
 4582 werðan te wítje; · be þat hé þea wurdi far·sihit  
 ̥ndi hé þes arvedjes · ̥ndi skawot,  
 4584 þan wēt hé þat te wáran, · þat imu wári wóðjera þing,  
 b̥etera mikilu, · þat hé gio gi·boran ni wurði  
 4586 libbjendi te þesumu liohte, · þan hé þat lôn nimid,  
 uvil arvedi · in-wid-rádo.“  
 4588 Þó bi·gan þero erlo ge·hwi-lik · te ôðrumu skawon,  
 sorgondi sehan; · was im sēr hugi,  
 4590 hriwig umbi iro herta: · gi·hōrdun iro hērron þó  
 gorn-word sprekan. · Þea gumon sorgodun,  
 4592 hwi-likan hé þero t̥we-livjo · te þiu t̥elljen weldi,  
 skuldigna skaðon, · þat hé habdi þea skattos þar  
 4594 ge·þingod at þeru þiod. · Ni was þero þegno ênigumu  
 su·likes in-widdjes · ôði te gehanne,  
 4596 mēn-gi·þāhtjo · —ant·suok þero manno ge·hwi-lik—,  
 wurðun alle an forhtun, · frāgon ne gi·dorstun,  
 4598 êr þan þó ge·bōknide · bar-wirðig gumo,  
 Símon Petrus · —ne gi·dorste it selvo sprekan—  
 4600 te Johanne þemu gódon: · hé was þemu godes barne  
 an þem dagun · þegno liovost,  
 4602 mēst an minnjun · ̥ndi móste þar þó an þes mahtiges Kristes  
 barme restjen · ̥ndi an is breostun lag,  
 4604 hlinode mid is hōvdu: · þar nam hé só manag hēlag ge·rúni,  
 diapa gi·þāhti, · ̥ndi þó te is drohtine sprak,  
 4606 be·gan ina þó frāgon: · „hwe skal þat, frô mín, wesen“, kwað hé,  
 „þat þi far·kôpon wili, · kuningo ríkjost,  
 4608 undar þínaro fiundo folk? · Ús wári þes firi-wit mikil,  
 waldand, te witanne.“ · Þó habde eft is word garu  
 4610 hēljando Krist: · „seh þi, hwemu ik hér an hand geve  
 mínes móses for þesun mannun: · þe haved mēn-gi·þāht,  
 4612 birid bittran hugi; · þe skal mi an banono ge·wald,  
 fiundun bi·felhen, · þar man mínes ferhes skal,  
 4614 aldres áhtjen.“ · Nam hé þó aftar þiu  
 þes móses for þem mannun · ̥ndi gaf is þemu mēn-skaðen,  
 4616 Judase an hand · ̥ndi imu te·gegnes sprak

selvo for þem is ge·siðun · ęndi ina sniumo hét  
 4618 faran fan þemu is folke: · „frumi só þú þenkis“, kwað hé,  
 „dó þat þú duan skalt: · þú ni maht bi·dęrnjen lęng  
 4620 willjon þinan. · Þiu wurd is at handun,  
 þea tídi sind nu gi·náhid.“ · Só þó þe treu·logo  
 4622 þat mós ant·féng · ęndi mid is müðu an·bêt,  
 só af·gaf ina þó þiu godes kraft, · gramon in ge·witun  
 4624 an þene lík·hamon, · lēða wihti,  
 warð imu Satanas · sēro bi·tengi,  
 4626 hardo umbi is herte, · siður ine þiu helpe godes  
 far·lét an þesumu liohte. · Só is þena liudjo wê,  
 4628 þe só undar þesumu himile skal · hêrron wehslon.  
 Gi·wêt imu þó út þanen · in·widjas gern  
 4630 Judas gangan: · habde imu grimmen hugi  
 þegan wið is þiodan. · Was þó iu þiustri naht,  
 4632 swiðo gi·sworcen. · Sunu drohtines  
 was ima at þem gômun forð · ęndi is jungarun þar  
 4634 waldand wín ęndi brôð · wíhide bēðju,  
 hêlagode heven·kuning, · mid is handun brak,  
 4636 gaf it undar þem is jungarun · ęndi gode þankode,  
 sagde þem ǫ·lát, · þe þar al gi·skóp,  
 4638 wer·old ęndi wunnja, · ęndi sprak word manag:  
 „gi·lôvjot gí þes liohto“, · kwað hé, „þat þit is mín lík·hamo  
 4640 ęndi mín blód só same: · givu ik iu hér bēðju samad  
 etan ęndi drinkan. · Þit ik an erðu skal  
 4642 gevan ęndi geotan · ęndi iu te godes ríkje  
 lôsjen mid mínu lík·hamen · an líf êwig,  
 4644 an þat himiles lioht. · Gi·huggjat gí simlun,  
 þat gí þiu ful·gangan, · þiu ik an þesun gômun dón;  
 4646 márjad þit for męnegi: · þit is mahtig þing,  
 mid þius skulun gí iuwomu drohtine · diuriða frummjen,  
 4648 habbjad þit mín te gi·hugdjun, · hêlag biliði,  
 þat it ęldi·barn · aftar lēstjen,  
 4650 waron an þesaru wer·oldi, · þat þat witin alle,  
 man ovar þesan middil·gard, · þat it is þurh mína minnja gi·duan  
 4652 hêrron te huldi. · Ge·huggjad gí simlun,  
 hweo ik iu hér ge·biudu, · þat gí iuwan bróðer·skepi  
 4654 fasto frummjad: · habbjad ferhtan hugi,  
 minnjod iu an iuwomu móde, · þat þat manno barn  
 4656 ovar irmin·þiod · alle far·standen,

þat gi sind gegnungo · jungaron míne.  
 4658 Ôk skal ik iu kûðjen, · hwó hér wili kraftag fiund,  
 hettjand heru-grim, · umbi iuwan hugi niusjen,  
 4660 Satanas selvo: · hé kumid iuwaro seolono herod  
 frókno frêson. · Simlun gi fasto te gode  
 4662 berad iuwa breost-gi·þáht: · ik skal an iuwaru bedu standen,  
 þat iu ni mugi þe mên-skaðo · mód ge·twífljan;  
 4664 ik ful-lêstju iu wiðer þemu fiunde. · Ôk kwam hé herod giu frêson  
 mín,  
 þoh imu is willjon hér · wiht ne gi·stódi,  
 4666 lioves an þemu mínumu lík-hamon. · Nu ni willju ik iu lęng helen,  
 hwat iu hér nú sniumo skal · te sorgu gi·standen:  
 4668 gí skulun mí ge·swíkan, · ge·sīðos míne,  
 iuwes þegān-skepjes, · êr þan þius þiustrje naht  
 4670 liudi far·líða · ęndi eft lioht kume,  
 morgan te mannun.“ · Þó warð mód gumon  
 4672 swíðo gi·sworken · ęndi sêr hugi,  
 hriwig umbi iro herte · ęndi iro hêrron word  
 4674 swíðo an sorgun. · Símon Petrus þó,  
 þegān wið is þiodan · þrist-wordun sprak  
 4676 bí huldi \*wið is hêrron: · „þoh þi all þit hęliðo folk“, kwat-hie,  
 „gi·swíkan þína gi·sīðos, · þoh ik sinnon mid þi  
 4678 at allon þarāvon · þolojan willju.  
 Ik biun garo sinnon, · ef mi god látið,  
 4680 þat ik an þínon ful-lêstje · fasto gi·stande;  
 þoh sia þi an karkarjes · klústron hardo,  
 4682 þesa liudi bi·lúkan, · þoh ist mi luttil tweho,  
 ne ik an þem bęndjon mid þi · bídan willje,  
 4684 liggjan mid þi só lieven; · ef sia þínes líves þan  
 þuru ęggja níð · áhtjan willjad,  
 4686 frô mín þie guodo, · ik givu mín ferāh furi þik  
 an wápnō spil: · nis mi werð iowiht  
 4688 te bi·míðanne, · só lango só mi mín warod  
 hugi ęndi hand-kraft.“ · Þuo sprak im eft is hêrro an·gęgin:  
 4690 „Hwat þú þik bi·wánis“, · kwat-hie, „wissaro trewono,  
 þrístero þingo: · þú havis þegnes hugi,  
 4692 willjon guodan. · Ik mag þi sęggjan, hwó it þoh gi·werðan skal,  
 þat þú wirðis só wêk-muod, · þoh þú nu ni wánjes só,  
 4694 þat þú þínes þiadnes te naht · þríwo far·lôgnis  
 êr hano·krádi endi kwiðis, · þak ik þín hêrro ni sí,

4696 ak þú far·manst mína mund-burd.“ · Þuo sprak eft þie man an·gëgin:  
 „ef it gio an wer-oldi“, · kwat-hie, „gi·werðan muosti,  
 4698 þat ik samad midi þi · sweltan muosti,  
 dôjan diur-líko, · þan ne wurði gio þie dag kuman,  
 4700 þat ik þín far·lôgnidi, · lievo drohtin,  
 gerno for þeson Juðeon.“ · Þuo kwáðun alla þia jungron só,  
 4702 þat sia þar an þem þingon mid im · þoljan weldin  
 Þuo im eft mid is wordon gi·bôd · waldand selvo,  
 4704 hêr hevan-kuning, · þat sia im ni lietin iro hugi twífljan,  
 hiet þat sia ni weldin [...] · diopa gi·þáhti:  
 4706 „Ne druovje iuwa herta · þuru iuwes drohtines word,  
 ne forøhtjat te filo: · ik skal fader úsan  
 4708 selvan suokjan · ęndi iu sęndjan skal  
 fan hevan-ríkje · hêlagna gêst:  
 4710 þie skal iu eft gi·fruofrjan · ęndi te frumu werðan,  
 manon iu þero mahlo, · þie ik iu manag hębbju  
 4712 wordon gi·wísid. · Hie givit iu gi·wit an briost,  
 lust-sama lêra, · þat gi lêstjan forð  
 4714 þiu word ęndi þiu werk, · þia ik iu an þesaro wer-oldi gi·bôd.“  
 A·rêš im þuo þe ríkjo · an þemo rakode innan,  
 4716 nęrjendo Krist · ęndi gi·wêt im nahtes þanan  
 selvo mid is gi·siðon: · sêrago géngun  
 4718 swiðo gornondja · jungron Kristes,  
 hriwig-muoda. · Þuo hie im an þena hôhan gi·wêt  
 4720 Oliueti-berg: · þar was hie up gi·wuno  
 gangan mid is jungron. · Þat wissa Judas wel,  
 4722 balo-hugdig man, · hwand hie was oft an þem berege mid im.  
 Þar gruotta þie godes suno · jûgron sína:  
 4724 „Gí sind nú só druovja“, · kwat-hie, „nú gí mínan dôð witun;  
 nu gornonð gí ęndi griotand, · ęndi þesa Juðeon sind an luston,  
 4726 męndit þius męnigi, · sindun an iro muode fráha,  
 þius wer-old ist an wunnjon. · Þes wirðit þoh gi·wand kuman  
 4728 sniumo tulgo: · þan wirðit im sêr hugi,  
 þan mornjat sia an iro móde, · ęndi gi męndjan skulun  
 4730 after te êwon-dage, · hwand gio ęndi ni kumið,  
 iuwes wel-líves gi·wand: · be·þiu ne þurvun iu þius werk tregan,  
 4732 hrewan mín hin-fard, · hwand þanan skal þiu helpa kuman  
 gumono barnon.“ · Þuo hiet hie is jungron þar  
 4734 bídan uppan þemo berge, · kwað þat hie ti bedu weldi  
 an þiu holm-klivu · hôhor stígan;

4736 hiet þuo þria mid im · þegnos gangan,  
 Jakobe ęndi Johanneſe · ęndi þena guodan Petruse,  
 4738 þriſt-muodjan þegan. · Þuo ſia mid iro þiedne ſamad  
 gerno gęgun. · Þuo hiet ſia þie godes ſuno  
 4740 an berge uppan · te bedu hnigan,  
 hiet ſia god gruoſjan, · \*gerno biddjan,  
 4742 þat hę im þero koſtondero · kraft far·ſtodi,  
 wręðaro willjon, · þat im þe wiðer·ſako,  
 4744 ni mahti þe męn·ſkaðo · mód gi·twiſſjan,  
 iak imu þó ſelvo gi·hnęg · ſunu drohtines  
 4746 kraftag an knio·beda, · kuningo ríkjoſt,  
 forð·ward te foldu: · fader alo·þiado  
 4748 gódan grótte, · gorn·wordun ſprak  
 hriwig·líko: · was imu is hugi dróvi,  
 4750 bi þeru męnniſki · mód gi·hrórid,  
 is flęſk was an forhtun: · fellun imo trahni,  
 4752 dróp is diur·lík swět, · al só drór kumid  
 wallan fan wundun. · Was an ge·winne þó  
 4754 an þemu godes barne · þe gęſt ęndi þe lík·hamo:  
 oðar was fúſid · an forð·wegos,  
 4756 þe gęſt an godes ríki, · oðar jámar stód,  
 lík·hamo Kriſtes: · ni welde þit lioht a·geven,  
 4758 ak dróvde for þemu dōðe. · Simla hę hreop te drohtine forð  
 þiu mēr aftar þiu · mahtigna grótte,  
 4760 hōhan himil·fader, · hēlagna god,  
 waldand mid is wordun: · „ef nu werðen ni mag“, kwað hę,  
 4762 „man·kunni ge·nęrid, · ne ſí þat ik mínan geve  
 liovan lík·hamon · for liudjo barn  
 4764 te węgjanne te wundrun, · it ſí þan þín willjo só,  
 ik willju is þan gi·koſton: · ik nimu þene kęlik an hand,  
 4766 drinku ina þi te diurðu, · drohtin frō mín,  
 mahtig mund·boro. · Ni ſeh þú mínes hēr  
 4768 flęſkes gi·fórjes. · Ik fullon ſkal  
 willjon þínen: · þú haves ge·wald ovar al.“  
 4770 Gi·wēt imu þó gangen, · þar hę ęr is jungaron lét  
 bídan uppan þemu berge; · fand ſie þat barn godes  
 4772 ſlápen ſorgandje: · was im ſēr hugi,  
 þes ſie fan iro drohtine · dēljen ſkoldun.  
 4774 Só ſind þat mód·þraka · manno ge·hwi·likumu,  
 þat hę far·láten ſkal · liavane hērnon,



4776 af·geven þene só gódene. · Þó hé te is jungarun sprak,  
 wahte sie waldand · ęndi wordun grótte:  
 4778 „Hwí willjad gi só slápen?“ · kwað hé; „ni mugun samad mid mí  
 wakon êne tíð? · Þiu wurd is at handun,  
 4780 þat it só gi·gangen skal, · só it god fader  
 gi·markode mahtig. · Mí nis an mínumu móde tweho:  
 4782 mín gêst is garu · an godes willjan,  
 fûs te faranne: · mín flêsk is an sorgun,  
 4784 lętid mik mín lík-hamo: · lêð is imu swíðo  
 wíti te þolonne. · Ik þoh willjan skal  
 4786 mínes fader ge·frummjen; · hębbjad gi fasten hugi.“  
 Gi·wêt imu þó eft þanan · ôðer-siðu  
 4788 an þene berg uppen · te bedu gangan,  
 mári drohtin, · ęndi þar só manag gi·sprak  
 4790 góđoro wordo. · Godes ęngil kwam  
 hêlag fan himile, · is hugi fastnode,  
 4792 bęldide te þem bęndjun. · hé was an þeru bedu simla  
 forð an flíte · ęndi is fader grótte,  
 4794 waldand mid is wordun: · „ef it nu wesen ni mag“, kwað hé,  
 „mári drohtin, · nevu ik for þit manno folk  
 4796 þiod-kwále þoloje, · ik an þínan skal  
 willjan wonjan.“ · Gi·wêt imu þó eft þanen  
 4798 sókjan is ge·siðos: · fand sie slápanðje,  
 grótte sie gáhun. · Géng imu eft þanen  
 4800 þriddjon siðu te bedu · ęndi sprak þiod-kuning  
 al þiu selvon word, · sunu drohtines,  
 4802 te þemu alo-waldon fader, · só hé êr dede,  
 manode mahtigna · manno frumana  
 4804 swíðo niud-líko · nęrjando Krist,  
 géng imu þó eft te þem is jungarun, · grótte sie sáno:  
 4806 „slápad gí ęndi ręstjad“, · kwað hé, „nú wirðid sniumo herod  
 kuman mid kraftu, · þe mi far·kôpot havad,  
 4808 sundja lôsan gi·sald.“ · Ge·siðos Kristes  
 wakodun þó aftar þem wordun · ęndi gi·sáhun þó þat werod kuman  
 4810 an þene berg uppen · brahtmu þiu mikilon,  
 wrêða wápan-berand. · Wíside im Judas,  
 4812 gram-hugdig man; · Judeon aftar sigun,  
 fiundo folk-skępi; · dróg man fiur an gi·mang,  
 4814 logna an lioht-fatun, · lédde man faklon  
 brinnandja fan burg, · þar sie an þene berg uppan

- 4816 **st**igun mid **str**ídu. · þea **st**ędi wisse Judas wel,  
 hwar hé þea **li**udi · tó **l**ędjan skolde.  
 4818 Sagde imu þó te **t**ękne, · þó sie þar **t**ó fórun  
 þemu **f**olke bi·**f**oran, · te þiu þat sie ni far·**f**ęgin þar,  
 4820 **er**los **o**ðren man: · „ik gangu imu at **ę**rist tó“, kwað hé,  
 „**k**ussju ine ęndi **k**waddju: · þat is **K**rist selvo.  
 4822 Þene gi **f**áhen skulun · **f**olko kraftu,  
**b**inden ina uppan þemu **ber**ge · ęndi ina te **burg** hinan  
 4824 **l**ędjen undar þea **li**udi: · hé is **l**ives havad  
 mid is **w**ordun far·**w**erkod.“ · **W**erod siðode þó,  
 4826 an-tat sie te **K**riste · **k**umane wurðun,  
**g**rim folk **J**udeono, · þar hé mid is **j**ungarun stód,  
 4828 **m**ári drohtin: · będ **met**odo-gi·skapu,  
**tor**htero **t**ídjo. · Þó gęng imu **treu**-lós man,  
 4830 **J**udas te·**g**ęgnes · ęndi te þemu **g**odes barne  
**hn**ęg mid is **h**ovdu · ęndi is **h**ęrron kwędde,  
 4832 **k**uste ina **k**raftagne · ęndi is **k**widi lęste,  
**w**ísde ina þemu **w**erode, · al só hé ęr mid **w**ordun ge·hét.  
 4834 Þat þolode al mid gi·þuldjun · þiодо drohtin,  
**w**aldand þesara **w**er-olde · ęndi sprak imu mid is **w**ordun tó,  
 4836 **fr**ágode ine **fr**ókno: · „be·hwí kumis þú só mid þius **f**olku te mí,  
 be·hwí **l**ędis þú mí só þese **li**udi tó · ęndi mi te þesare **l**ęðan þiоde  
 sprekan,  
 4838 far·**k**ôpos mid þínu **k**ussu · under þit **k**unni **J**udeono,  
**m**eldos mi te þesaru **m**ęnegi?“ · Gęng imu þó wið þea **man**  
 4840 wið þat **w**erod oðar · ęndi sie mid is **w**ordun fragn,  
 hwene sie mid þiu ge·**s**iðju · **s**ókjan kwámin  
 4842 só **ni**ud-liko an **na**ht, · „so gí willjan **n**ôd frummjen  
**man**no hwi-likumu.“ · Þó sprak imu eft þiu **m**ęnegi an·gęgin,  
 4844 kwáðun þat im **h**ęljand · þar an þemu **hol**me uppan  
 ge·**w**ísid **w**ári, · „þe þit gi·**w**er frumid  
 4846 **J**udeo liudjun · ęndi ina **g**odes sunu  
**sel**von hętid. · Ina kwámun wí **s**ókjan herod,  
 4848 weldin ina **g**erno bi·**g**eten: · hé is fan **Gal**ileo lande,  
 fan **N**azareth-burg.“ · Só im þó þe **n**ęrjendjo **K**rist  
 4850 sagde te **s**oðan, · þat hé it **sel**vo was,  
 só wurðun þó an **for**htun · **f**olk **J**udeono,  
 4852 wurðun under·**ba**dode, · þat sie under **bak** fellun  
**alle** **e**fno sán, · **e**rðe gi·sóhtun,  
 4854 wiðer·**w**ardes þat **w**erod: · ni mahte þat **w**ord godes,

4856 þie stemnje ant·standan: · wárun þoh só strídige man,  
 a·hliopun eft up an þemu holme, · hugi fastnodun,  
 4858 bundun briost-gi·þáht, · gi·bolgane géngun  
 náhor mid níðu, · ant-tat sie þene nęrjendjon Krist  
 werodo bi·wurpun. · Stódun wíse man,  
 4860 swíðo gornundje · jungaron Kristes  
 bi·foran þeru dęręvjon dádi · ęndi te iro drohtine sprákun:  
 4862 „wári it nu þín willjo“, · kwáðun sie, „waldand frô mín,  
 þat sie ùs hér an speres ordun · spildjen móstin  
 4864 wápnun wunde, · þan ni wári ùs wiht só gód,  
 só þat wí hér for ùsumu drohtine · dóan móstin  
 4866 bęniðjun blêka“. · Þó gi·bolgan warð  
 snel swerd-þegā, · Símon Petrus,  
 4868 well imu innan hugi, · þat hé ni mahte ênig word sprekan:  
 só harm warð imu an is hertan, · þat man is hêrron þar  
 4870 binden welde. · Þó hé gi·bolgan géng,  
 swíðo þrist-mód þegā · for is þiodan standen,  
 4872 hard for is hêrron: · ni was imu is hugi twífli,  
 blóð an is breostun, · ak hé is bil a·tôh,  
 4874 swerd bi sídu, · slóg imu te·gęgnes  
 an þene furiston fiund · folmo krafto,  
 4876 þat þó Malkhus warð · mākjas ęggjun,  
 an þea swíðaron half · swerdu gi·málod:  
 4878 þiu hlust warð imu far·hawan, · hé warð an þat hôvid wund,  
 þat imu heru-drôrag · hlear ęndi ôre  
 4880 bęni-wundun brast: · blóð aftar sprang,  
 well fan wundun. · Þó was an is wangun skard  
 4882 þe furisto þero fiundo. · Þó stód þat folk an rúm:  
 an-drédun im þes billes biti. · Þó sprak þat barn godes  
 4884 selvo te Símon Petruse, · hét þat hé is swerd dedi  
 skarp an skêðja: · „ef ik wið þesa skola weldi“, kwað hé,  
 4886 „wið þeses werodes ge·win · wíg-saka frummjen,  
 þan manodi ik þene mārjon · mahtigne god,  
 4888 hêlagne fader · an himil-ríkja,  
 þat hé mi só managan ęngil herod · ovana sandi  
 4890 wíges só wísen, · só ni mahtin iro wápan-þręki  
 man a·dógen: · iro ni stódi gio su·lik męgin samad,  
 4892 folkes gi·fastnod, · þat im iro ferh aftar þiu  
 werðen mahti. · Ak it havad waldand god,  
 4894 alo-mahtig fader · an ôðar gi·markot,

þat wí gi·þolojan skulun, · só hwat só ús þius þioda tó  
 4896 bittres brengit: · ni skulun ús belgan wiht,  
 wrêðjan wið iro ge·winne; · hwand só hwe só wápno níð,  
 4898 grimman gêr-hęti wili · gerno frummjen,  
 hé swiltit imu · eft swerdes ęggjun,  
 4900 dóit im bi·drôregan: · wí mid úsun dádjun ni skulun  
 wiht a·wêrdjan.“ · Géng hé þó te þemu wundon manne,  
 4902 lęgde mid listjun · lik te·samne,  
 hôvid-wundon, · þat siu sán gi·hêlid warð,  
 4904 þes billes biti, · ęndi sprak þat barn godes  
 wið þat wrêðe werod: · „mí þunkid wunder mikil“, kwað hé,  
 4906 „ef gí mí lêðes wiht · lęstjen weldun,  
 hwí gí mí þó ni fęngun, · þan ik undar iuwomu folke stód,  
 4908 an þemu wíhe innan · ęndi þar word manag  
 sôð-lik sagde. · Þan was sunnon skín,  
 4910 diur-lik dages lioht, · þan ni weldun gí mí dóan eo·wiht  
 lêðes an þesumu liohte, · ęndi nu lédjad mí iuwa liudi tó  
 4912 an þiustrje naht, · al só man þiove dót,  
 þan man þene fāhan wili · ęndi hé is ferhes havad  
 4914 far·werkot, wam-skaðo.“ · werod Judeono  
 gripun þó an þene godes sunu, · grimma þioda,  
 4916 hatandjero hóp, · hwurvun ina umbi  
 módag manno folk · —mênes ni sáhun—,  
 4918 hęftun heru-bęndjun · handi te·samne,  
 faðmos mid fiterjun. · Im ni was su·likaro firin-kwála  
 4920 þarf te gi·þolonne, · þiod-arvedjes,  
 te winnanne su·lik wíti, · ak hé it þurh þit werod deda,  
 4922 hwand hé liudjo barn · lôsjen welda,  
 halon fan hęllju · an himil-ríki,  
 4924 an þene wídon welon: · be·þiu hé þes wiht ne bi·sprak,  
 þes sie imu þurh in-wid-níð · ógjan weldun.  
 4926 Þó wurðun þes só malske · módag folk Judeono,  
 þiu hêri warð þes só hrómeg, · þes sie þena hêlagon Krist  
 4928 an liðo-bęndjon · lédjan muostun,  
 fôrjan an fiterjun. · Þie fiund eft ge·witun  
 4930 fan þemu berge te burg. · Géng þat barn godes  
 undar þemu hêri-skepi · handun ge·bunden,  
 4932 drúvondi te dale. · Wárun imu þea is diurjon þó  
 ge·siðos ge·swikane, · al só hé im êr selvo gi·sprak:  
 4934 ni was it þoh be ênigaru blóði, · þat sie þat barn godes,

lioven far·létun, · ak it was só lango bi·foren  
 4936 wár-sagono word, · þat it skoldi gi·werðen só:  
 be·þiu ni mahtun sie is be·míðan. · Þan aftar þeru męnegi géngun  
 4938 Johannes ęndi Petrus, · þie gumon twêne,  
 folgodun ferrane: · was im firi-wit mikil,  
 4940 hwat þea grimmon Judeon · þemu godes barne,  
 weldin iro drohtine dóen. · Þó sie te dale kwámun  
 4942 fan þemu berge te burg, · þar iro biskop was,  
 iro wíhes ward, · þar lêddun ina wlanke man,  
 4944 erlos undar ederos. · Þar was êld mikil,  
 fiur an fríd-hove · þemu folke te·gęgnes,  
 4946 ge·warht for þemu werode: · þar géngun sie im węrmjen tó,  
 Judeo liudi, · létun þene godes sunu  
 4948 bídun an bęndjun. · Was þar braht mikil,  
 gêl-módigaro galm. · Johannes was êr  
 4950 þemu hêroston kũð: · be·þiu móste hé an þene hof innan  
 þringan mid þeru þioda. · Stód allaro þegno bętsto,  
 4952 Petrus þar úte: · ni lét ina þe portun ward  
 folgon is frôen, · êr it at is friunde a·bad,  
 4954 Johannes at ênumu Judeon, · þat man ina gangan lét  
 forð an þene fríd-hof. · Þar kwam im ên fêkni wíf  
 4956 gangan te·gęgnes, · þiu ênas Judeon was,  
 iro þeodanes þiw, · ęndi þó te þemu þegne sprak  
 4958 magað un·wán-lík: · „Hwat þú mahtis man wesan“, kwað siu,  
 „jungaro fan Galilea, · þes þe þar genower stéd  
 4960 faðmun gi·fastnod.“ · Þó an forhtun warð  
 Símón Petrus sán, · slak an is móde,  
 4962 kwað þat hé þes wíves · word ni bi·konsti  
 ni þes þeodanes · þegan ni wári:  
 4964 mēð is þó for þeru męnegi, · kwað þat hé þena man ni ant·kęndi:  
 „ni sind mí þíne kwidi kũðe“, · kwað hé; was imu þiu kraft godes,  
 4966 þe hęrdislo fan þemu hertan. · Hwarąvondi géng  
 forð undar þemu folke, · an-tat hé te þemu fiure kwam;  
 4968 gi·wêt ina þó warmjen. · Þar im ôk ên wíf bi·gan  
 fęlgjan firin-spráka: · „hér mugun gi“, kwað siu, „an iuwan fiund  
 sehan:  
 4970 þit is gegnungo · jungaro Kristes,  
 is selves ge·sið.“ · Þó géngun imu sán aftar þiu  
 4972 náhor nið-hwata · ęndi ina niud-líko  
 frągodun fiundo barn, · hwi-likes hé folkes wári:

- 4974 “ni bist þú þesoro burg-liudjo“, · kwáðun sie; „þat mugun wí an  
    þínumu gi·bárje gi·sehan,  
 an þínun wordun ęndi an þínaru wíson, · þat þú þeses werodes ni bist,  
 4976 ak þú bist galiléisk man.“ · hé ni welda þes þó gehan eo·wiht,  
 ak stóð þó ęndi strídda · ęndi starkan êð  
 4978 swíð-líko ge·swór, · þat hé þes ge·siðes ni wári.  
 Ni habda is wordo ge·wald: · it skolde gi·werðen só,  
 4980 só it þe ge·markode, · þe man-kunnjes  
 far·wardot an þesaru wer-oldi. · Þó kwam imu ôk an þemu warve tó  
 4982 þes mannes mág-wini, · þe hé êr mid is mákjo gi·héw,  
 swerdu þiu skarpon, · kwað þat hé ina sáhi þar  
 4984 an þemu berge uppan, · „þar wí an þemu bôm-gardon  
 hêrron þínumu · hęndi bundun,  
 4986 fastnodun is folmos.“ · Hé þó þurh forhtan hugi  
 for·lôgnide þes is lioves hêrron, · kwað þat hé weldi wesán þes líves  
    skolo,  
 4988 ef it mahti ênig þar · irmin-manno  
 gi·sęggjan te sôðan, · þat hé þes ge·siðes wári,  
 4990 folgodi þeru fęrdi. · Þó warð an þena formon sið  
 hano-krád af·haven. · Þó sah þe hêlago Krist,  
 4992 barno þat bętste, · þar hé ge·bunden stóð,  
 selvo te Símon Petruse, · sunu drohtines  
 4994 te þemu erle ovar is ahsla. · Þó warð imu an innan sán,  
 Símon Petruse · sêr an is móde,  
 4996 harm an is hertan · ęndi is hugi dróvi,  
 swíðo warð imu an sorgun, · þat hé êr selvo ge·sprak:  
 4998 gi·hugde þero wordo þó, · þe imu êr waldand Krist  
 selvo sagda, · þat hé an þeru swartan naht  
 5000 êr hano-krádi · is hêrron skoldi  
 þríwo far·lôgnjen. · Þes þram imu an innan mód  
 5002 bittro an is breostun, · ęndi géng imu þó gi·bolgan þanen  
 þe man fan þeru męnigi · an mód-karu,  
 5004 swíðo an sorgun, · ęndi is selves word,  
 wam-skęfti weop, · an-tat imu wallan kwámun  
 5006 þurh þea hert-kara · hête trahni,  
 blódage fan is breostun. · hé ni wánde þat hé is mahti gi·bótjen wiht,  
 5008 firin-werko furður · efþa te is frâhon kuman,  
 hêrron huldi: · nis ênig hęliðo só ald,  
 5010 þat io mannes sunu · mêr gi·sáhi  
 is selves word · sêrur hrewan,

5012 karon efþa kúmjen: · „wola krafteg god“, kwað hé,  
 þat ik hebbju mi só for·werkot, · só ik mínaro wer-oldes ni þarf  
 5014 ó·lát sæggjan. · Ef ik nu te aldre skal  
 huldjo þínaro · ęndi heven-ríkjas,  
 5016 þeoden, þolojan, · þan ni þarf mi þes ęnig þank wesan,  
 liovo drohtin, · þat ik io te þesumu liohte kwam.  
 5018 Ni bium ik nu þes wirðig, · waldand frô mín,  
 þat ik under þíne jungaron · gangan móti,  
 5020 þus sundig under þíne ge·sīðos: · ik iro selvo skal  
 mīðan an mínumu móde, · nu ik mi su·lik mēn ge·sprak.“  
 5022 Só gornode · gumono bętsta,  
 hrau im só hardo, · þat hé habde is hērren þó  
 5024 leoves far·lōgnid. · Þan ni þurvun þes liudjo barn,  
 weros wundrojan, · be·hwī it weldi god,  
 5026 þat só lioven man · lēð gi·stódi,  
 þat hé só hōn-líko · hērron sínes  
 5028 þurh þera þiwun word, · þegno snellost,  
 far·lōgnide só lioves: · it was al bi þesun liudjun gi·duan,  
 5030 firiho barnun te frumu. · hé welde ina te furiston dóan,  
 hērost ovar is hīwiski, · hēlag drohtin:  
 5032 lét ina ge·kunnon, · hwi-like kraft havet  
 þe męnniska mód · áno þe maht godes;  
 5034 lét ina ge·sundjon, · þat hé sīðor þiu bet  
 liudjun gi·lōvdi, · hwó liof is þar  
 5036 manno gi·hwi-likumu, · þan hé mēn ge·frumit,  
 þat man ina a·lāte · lēðes þinges,  
 5038 sakono ęndi sundjono, · só im þó selvo dede  
 heven-ríki god · harm-ge·wurhti.  
 5040 Be þiu nis mannes bág · mikilun bi·þęvi,  
 hagu-staldes hróm: · ef imu þiu helpe godes  
 5042 ge·swíkid þurh is sundjon, · þan is imu sán aftar þiu  
 breost-hugi blóðora, · þoh hé ęr bi·hēt spreka,  
 5044 hrómje fan is hildi · ęndi fan is hand-krafti,  
 þe man fan is męgine. · Þat warð þar an þemu mārjon skín,  
 5046 þegno bętston, · þó imu is þiodanes gi·swēk  
 hēlag helpe. · Be·þiu ni skoldi hrómjen man  
 5048 te swiðo fan imu selvon, · hwand imu þar swíkid oft  
 wán ęndi willjo, · ef imu waldand god,  
 5050 hēr heven-kuning · herte ni stęrkit.  
 Þan bēd allaro barno bętst, · bęndi þolode

5052 þurh **man**-kunni. · Hwurvun ina **managa** umbi  
 Judeono liudi, · sprákun **gelp** mikil,  
 5054 **habdun** ina te **hoska**, · þar hé gi·**h**ęftid stód,  
 þolode mid ge·**þ**uldjun, · só hwat só imu þiu **þ**iod deda,  
 5056 liudi **lêðes**. · Þó warð eft **lioht** kuman,  
**morgan** te **mannun**. · **Manag** samnoda  
 5058 **hęri** Judeono: · **habdun** im **hugi** wulvo,  
 in-wid an **innan**. · Warð þar **ê**o-sago  
 5060 an **morgan**-tíd · **manag** gi·samnod  
 irri ęndi **ên**-hard, · in-widjas gern,  
 5062 **wrêðes** **willjan**. · Gégun im an **warf** samad  
**rinkos** an **rúna**, · bi·gunnun im **rádan** þó,  
 5064 hwó sie ge·**wisadin** · mid **wár**-lôsun,  
**mannun** **mên**-ge·witun · an **mahtigna** Krist  
 5066 te gi·**sęggjanne** **sundja** · þurh is **selves** word,  
 þat sie ina þan te **wunder**-kwálu · **węgian** móstin,  
 5068 a·**dêljen** te **dôðe**. · Sie ni mahtun an þemu **dage** finden  
 só **wrêð** ge·**wit**-skępi, · þat sie imu **wíti** be·þiu  
 5070 a·**dêljen** gi·**dorstin** · efþa **dôð** frummjen,  
**lívu** bi·lôsjen. · Þó kwámun þar at **latstan** forð  
 5072 an þena **warf** **wero** · **wár**-lôse man  
**twêne** gangan · ęndi bi·gunnun im **tęlljen** an,  
 5074 **kwáðun** þat sie ina **selvon** · **sęggjan** gi·hôrdin,  
 þat hé mahti te·**werpen** · þena **wih** godes,  
 5076 allaro **húso** **hôhost** · ęndi þurh is **hand**-męgin,  
 þurh is **ênes** kraft · **up** a·rihtjen  
 5078 an **þriddjon** daga, · só is elkor ni þorfti be·**þíhan** man.  
 Hé **þagoda** ęndi **þoloda**: · ni sprak imu io þiu **þ**iod só filu,  
 5080 þea **liudi** mid **luginun**, · þat hé it mid **lêðun** an·gęgin  
**wordun** **wráki**. · Þó þar undar þemu **werode** a·rêš  
 5082 **balu**-hugdig man, · **biskop** þero liudjo,  
 þe **furisto** þes **folkes** · ęndi **frágode** Krist  
 5084 iak ina be imu **selvon** bi·**swór** · **swíðon** êðun,  
**grótte** ina an **godes** namon · ęndi **gerno** bad,  
 5086 þat hé im þat gi·**sagdi**, · ef hé **sunu** wári  
 þes **libbjendjes** godes: · „þes þit **lioht** ge·skóp,  
 5088 **Krist** **kuning** êwig. · **Wí** ni mugun is ant·**kięnnjen** wiht  
 ne an þínun **wordun** ni an þínun **werkun**.“ · Þó sprak imu eft þe **wáro**  
 an·gęgin,  
 5090 þe **gódo** **godes** sunu: · „þú kwiðis it for þesun **Judeon** nu,



sôð-líko segis, · þat ik it selvo bium.  
 5092 Þes ni gi·lôvjad mí þese liudi: · ni willjad mi for·látan be·þiu;  
 ni sind im mín word wirðig. · Nu seggju ik iu te wárun þoh,  
 5094 þat gí noh skulun sittjen gi·sehan · an þe swiðaron half godes  
 márjan mannes sunu, · an megin-krafte  
 5096 þes alo-walden fader, · ęndi þanan eft kuman  
 an himil-wolknun herod · ęndi allumu hęliðo kunnje  
 5098 mid is wordun a·dêljen, · al só iro ge·wurhti sind.“  
 Þo balg ina þe biskop, · habde bittren hugi,  
 5100 wrêðida wið þemu worde · ęndi is gi·wádi slêt,  
 brak for is breostun: · „Nú ni þurvun gí bídan lęng“, kwað hé,  
 5102 „þit werod ge·wit-skepjes, · nu im su·lik word farad,  
 mên-spráka fan is mûðe. · Þat gi·hôrid hér nu manno filu,  
 5104 rinko an þesumu rakude, · þat hé ina só ríkjan telit,  
 gihid þat hé god sí. · Hwat willjad gí Judeon þes  
 5106 a·dêljen te dôme? · Is hé dôðes nú  
 wirðig be su·likun wordun?“ · Þat werod al ge·sprak,  
 5108 folk Judeono, · þat hé wári þes ferhes skolo,  
 wítjes só wirðig. · Ni was it þoh be is ge·wurhtjun gi·dóen,  
 5110 þat ine þar an Jerusalem · Judeo liudi,  
 sunu drohtines · sundja lôsen  
 5112 a·dêldun te dôðe. · Þó was þero dádjo hróm  
 Judeo liudjun, · hwat sie þemu godes barne mahtin  
 5114 só haftemu mêt, · harmes ge·frummjen.  
 Be·wurpun ina þó mid werodu · ęndi ina an is wangon slógun,  
 5116 an is hleor mid iro handun · —al was imu þat te hoske gi·dóen—,  
 fęlgidun imu firin-word · fiundo męnegi,  
 5118 bismerspráka. · Stód þat barn godes  
 fast under fiundun: · wárun imu is faðmos ge·bundene,  
 5120 þolode mid gi·þuldjun, · só hwat só imu þiu þioda tó  
 bittres bráhte: · ni balg ina n·eo·wiht  
 5122 wið þes werodes ge·win. · Þó námon ina wrêðe man  
 só gi·bundanan, · þat barn godes,  
 5124 ęndi ina þó lêddun, · þar þero liudjo was,  
 þere þiade þing-hús. · Þar þegān manag  
 5126 hwurvun umbi iro hęri-togon. · Þar was iro hêrron bodo  
 fan Rúmu-burg, · þes þe þó þes ríkjas gi·weld:  
 5128 kumen was hé fan þemu kêsure, · gi·sęndid was hé undar þat kunni  
 Judeono  
 te rihtjenne þat ríki, · was þar rád-gevo:

5130 Pilatus was hé hêten; · hé was fan **P**onteo lande  
 knósles **k**ennit. · Habde imu **k**raft mikil,  
 5132 an þemu þing-húse · þiod gi·samnod,  
 an warf weros; · wár-lôse man  
 5134 a·gávun þó þena godes sunu, · Judeo liudi,  
 under fiundo folk, · kwáðun þat hé wári þes ferhes skolo,  
 5136 þat man ina wítnodi · wápnes eggjun,  
 skarpun skúrun. · Ni welde þiu skole Judeono  
 5138 þringan an þat þing-hús, · ak þiu þiod úte stód,  
 mahlidun þanen wið þea mēnegi: · ni weldun an þat gi·mang faren,  
 5140 an elli-landige man, · þat sie þar un·reht word,  
 an þemu dage dērvjes wiht · a·dēljan ne gi·hōrdin,  
 5142 ak kwáðun þat sie im só hluttro · hēlaga tídi,  
 weldin iro paskha halden. · Pilatus ant·fēng  
 5144 at þem wam-skaðun · waldandes barn,  
 sundja lōsen. · Þó an sorgun warð  
 5146 Judases hugi, · þó hé a·gevan gi·sah  
 is drohtin te dōðe, · þó bi·gan imu þiu dád aftar þiu  
 5148 an is hugja hrewan, · þat hé habde is hērron êr  
 sundja lōsen gi·sald. · Nam imu þó þat siluvar an hand,  
 5150 þrí-tig skatto, · þat man imu êr wið is þiodane gaf,  
 géng imu þó te þem Judiun · ęndi im is grimmon dád,  
 5152 sundjon sagde, · ęndi im þat siluvar bōd  
 gerno te a·gevanne: · „ik hębbju it só grio-líko“, kwað hé,  
 5154 „mínes drohtines · drôru gi·kōpot,  
 só ik wêt þat it mi ni þíhit.“ · Þiod Judeono  
 5156 ni weldun it þó ant·fáhan, · ak hétun ina forð aftar þiu  
 umbi su·lika sundja · selvon ahton,  
 5158 hwat hé wið is fráhon · ge·frumid habdi:  
 „Þú sáhi þi selvo þes“, · kwaðun sie; „hwat wili þú þes nu sóken te ús?  
 5160 Ne wít þú þat þesumu werode!“ · Þó gi·wêt imu eft þanan  
 Judas gangan · te þemu godes wíhe  
 5162 swíðo an sorgun · ęndi þat siluvar warp  
 an þena alah innan, · ne gi·dorste it êgan lęng;  
 5164 fór imu þó só an forhtun, · só ina fiundo barn  
 módage manodun: · habdun þes mannes hugi  
 5166 gramon under·gripanen, · was imu god a·bolgan,  
 þat hé imu selvon þó · símon warhte,  
 5168 hnêg þó an heru-sêl · an hinginna,  
 warag an wurgil · ęndi wíti ge·kôs,

5170 hard hēllje ge·þwing, · hēt ēndi þiustri,  
 diap dōðes dalu, · hwand hé êr umbi is drohtin swêk.  
 5172 Þan bēd þat barn godes · —bēndi þolode  
 an þemu þing-húse—, · hwan êr þiu þiod under im,  
 5174 erlos ên-wordje · alle wurðin,  
 hwat sie imu þan te ferah-kwálu · frummjan weldin.  
 5176 Þó þar an þem bēnkjun a·rês · bodo kêsures  
 fan Rúmu-burg · ēndi géng imu wið þat ríki Judeono  
 5178 módag mahljen, · þar þiu mēnigi stód  
 aftar þemu hove hwarvon: · ni weldun an þat hús kuman  
 5180 an þemu paskha-dage. · Pilatus bi·gan  
 frókno frágon · ovar þat folk Judeono,  
 5182 mid hwiu þe man habdi · morðes gi·skuldit,  
 wítjes gi·werkot: · „be hwi gi imu só wrêðe sind,  
 5184 an iuwomu hugja hótje?“ · Sie kwáðun þat hé im habdi harmes só filu,  
 lêðes gi·lêstid: · „ni gávin ina þesa liudi þi,  
 5186 þar sie ina êr bi·foran · uvilan ni wissin,  
 wordun far·warhten. · hé havat þeses werodes só filu  
 5188 far·lêdid mid is lêrun · —ēndi þesa liudi mērrid,  
 dóit im iro hugi twífljen—, · þat wí ni mótun te þemu hove kêsures  
 5190 tinsi gelden; · þat mugun wí ina gi·tēlljen an  
 mid wáru ge·wit-skēpi. · hé sprikid ôk word mikil,  
 5192 kwiðit þat hé Krist sí, · kuning ovar þit ríki,  
 be·gihit ina só grôtes.“ · Þó im eft te·gēgnes sprak  
 5194 bodo kêsures: · „ef hé só bar-líko“, kwað hé,  
 „under þesaru mēnigi · mēn-werk frumid,  
 5196 ant·fáhad ina þan eft under iuwe folk-skēpi, · ef hé sí is ferhes skolo,  
 ēndi imu só a·dêljad, · ef hé sí dōðes werð,  
 5198 só it an iuwaro aldrono · êo ge·biode.“  
 Sie kwáðun þó, þat sie ni móstin · manno nig·ênumu  
 5200 an þea hêlagon tíð · te hand-banon,  
 werðen mid wápnun · an þemu wíh-dage.  
 5202 Þó wēnde ina fan þemu werode · wrêð-hugdig man,  
 þegan kêsures, · þe ovar þea þioda was  
 5204 bodo fan Rúmu-burg—: · hét imu þó þat barn godes  
 náhor gangan · ēndi ina niud-líko,  
 5206 frágoda frókno, · ef hé ovar þat folk kuning  
 þes werodes wári. · Þó habde eft is word garu  
 5208 sunu drohtines: · „hweðer þú þat fan þi selvumu sprikis“, kwað hé,  
 „þe it þi ôðre hér · erlos sagdun,

- 5210 kwáðun umbi mínan kuning-duom?“ · Þó sprak eft þe kêsures bodo  
wlank ęndi wrêð-mód, · þar hé wið waldand Krist
- 5212 reðjode an þem rakude: · „ni biu ik þeses ríkjes hinan“, kwað hé,  
„Judeo liudjo, · ni gadoling þín,
- 5214 þesaro manno mág-wini, · ak mi þi þius męnigi bi-falah,  
a·gávun þi þína gadulingos mí, · Judeo liudi,
- 5216 haftan te handun. · Hwat havas þú harmes gi-duan,  
þat þú só bittro skalt · bęndi þolojan,
- 5218 kwalm undar þínumu kunnje?“ · Þó sprak imu eft Krist an·gęgin,  
hêlendero bętst, · þar hé gi·hęftid stód
- 5220 an þemu rakude innan: · „nis mín ríki hinan“, kwað hé,  
„fan þesaru wer-old-stundu. · Ef it þoh wári só,
- 5222 þan wárin só stark-móde · wiðer stríd-hugi,  
wiðer grama þioda · jungaron míne,
- 5224 só man mi ni gávi · Judeo liudjun,  
hęttendjun an hand · an heru-bęndjun
- 5226 te węgjanne te wundrun. · Te þiu warð ik an þesaru wer-oldi  
gi-boran,  
þat ik ge·wit-skępi giu · wáres þinges
- 5228 mid mínun kumjun kúðdi. · Þat mugun ant·kęnnjen wel  
þe weros, þe sind fan wáre kumane: · þe mugun mín word  
far·standen,
- 5230 gi·lôvjen mínun lêrun.“ · Þó ni mahte lasteres wiht  
an þem barne godes · bodo kêsures,
- 5232 findan fêknja word, · þat hé is ferhes be·þiu  
skuldig wári. · Þó géng hé im eft wið þea skola Judeono
- 5234 módag mahljen · ęndi þeru męnigi sagde  
ovar hlust mikil, · þat hé an þemu hafton manne
- 5236 su·lika firin-spráka · finden ni mahti  
for þem folk-skipje, · só hé wári is ferhes skolo,
- 5238 dôðes wirðig. · Þan stóðun dol-móde  
Judeo liudi · ęndi þane godes sunu
- 5240 wordun wrógdun: · kwáðun þat hé gi·wer êrist  
be·gunni an Galileo lande, · „ęndi ovar Judeon fór
- 5242 herod-wardes þanan, · hugi twíflode,  
manno mód-sevon, · só hé is morðes werð,
- 5244 þat man ina wítnoje · wápnes ęggjun,  
ef eo man mid su·likun dádjun mag · dôðes ge·skuldjen.“
- 5246 Só wrógdun ina mid wordun · werod Judeono  
þurh hótjan hugi. · Þó þe hęri-togo,

5248 slíð-módig man · sēggjan gi·hôrde,  
 fan hwi-likumu kunnje was · Krist a·fódid,  
 5250 manno þe bēstto: · hé was fan þeru mārjan þiadu,  
 þe gódo fan Galilea-lande; · þar was gum-skēpi  
 5252 ēðiljero manno; · Erodēs bi·held þar  
 kraftagne kuning-dóm, · só ina imu þe kēsūr far·gaf,  
 5254 þe ríkjo fan Rúmu, · þat hé þar rehto ge·hwi-lik  
 ge·frumidi undar þemu folke · ēndi friðu lēsti,  
 5256 dōmos a·dēldi. · hé was ôk an þemu dage selvo  
 an Jerusalem · mid is gum-skēpi,  
 5258 mid is werode at þemu wíhe: · só was iro wíse þan,  
 þat sie þar þia hēlagun tíð · haldan skoldun,  
 5260 paskha Judeono. · Pilatus gi·bôð þó,  
 þat þena hafton man · hēliðos námin  
 5262 só gi·bundanan, · þat barn godes,  
 hét þat sie ina Erodese, · erlos bráhtin  
 5264 haften te handun, · hwand hé fan is hēri-skēpi was,  
 fan is werodes ge·wald. · Wígand frumidun  
 5266 iro hērron word: · hēlagne Krist  
 fōrdun an fiterjun · for þena folk-togun,  
 5268 allaro barno bēstst, · þero þe io gi·boren wurði  
 an liudjo lioht; · an liðu-bēndjun géng,  
 5270 an-tat sie ina bráhtun, · þar hé an is bēnkja sat,  
 kuning Erodēs: · umbi·hwarf ina kraft wero,  
 5272 wlanke wígandos: · was im willjo mikil,  
 þat sie þar selvon Krist · gi·sehan móstin:  
 5274 wándun þat hé im sum tēkan · þar tōgjan skoldi,  
 mári ēndi mahtig, · só hé managun dede  
 5276 þurh is god-kundi · Judeo \*liudjon.  
 Frágoda ina þuo þie folk-kuning · firi-wit-líko  
 5278 managon wordon, · wolda is muod-sevon  
 forð undar·findan, · hwat hie te frumu mohti  
 5280 mannon gi·markon. · Þan stuod mahtig Krist,  
 þagoda ēndi þoloda: · ne wolda þem þied-kuninge,  
 5282 Erodese ne is erlon · ant-swór gevan  
 wordo nig·ēnon. · Þan stuod þiu wrēða þiod,  
 5284 Judeo liudi · ēndi þena godes suno  
 wurrun ēndi wruogdun, · anþat im warð þie wer-old-kuning  
 5286 an is huge huoti · ēndi all is hēri-skipi,  
 far·muonstun ina an iro muode: · ne ant·kēndun maht godes,

- 5288 himiliskan hêrron, · ak was im iro hugi þiustri,  
 baluwes gi·blandan. · Barn drohtines  
 5290 iro wrêðun werk, · word ęndi dádi  
 þuru ôd-muodi · all gi·þoloda,  
 5292 só hwat só sia im tionono þuo · tuogjan woldun.  
 Sia hietun im þuo te hoske · hwít gi·wádi  
 5294 umbi is liði lęggjan, · þiu mēr hie wurði þem liudjon þar,  
 jungron te gamne. · Judeon faganodun,  
 5296 þuo sia ina te hoske · hębbjan gi·sahun,  
 erlos ovar-muoda. · Þuo sęnda ina eft þanan  
 5298 Erodes se kuning · an þat ôðer folk;  
 a·lêdjan hiet ina lungra mann, · ęndi lastar sprákun,  
 5300 felgidun im firin-word, · þar hie an feteron gęng  
 bi·hlagan mid hosku: · ni was im hugi twíflī,  
 5302 neva hie it þuru ôd-muodi · all gi·þoloda;  
 ne welda iro uvilun word · idug-lônōn,  
 5304 hosk ęndi harm-kwidi. · Þuo bráhtun sia ina eft an þat hús innan,  
 an þia palenkja uppan, · þar Pilatus was  
 5306 an þero þing-stędi. · Þegnos a·gávun  
 barno þat besta · banon te handon  
 5308 sundi-lôsjan, · só hie selvo gi·kôs:  
 welda manno barn · morðes a·tuomjan,  
 5310 nęrjan af nōdi. · Stuodun nið-hwata,  
 Judeon far þem gast-sęlje: · habdun sia gramono barn,  
 5312 þia skola far·skundid, · þat sia ne be·skrivun iowiht  
 grimmera dádjo. · Þuo gi·wêt im gangan þarod  
 5314 þegān kēsures · wið þia þiod sprekan,  
 hard hęri-togo: · „Hwat gí mí þesan haftan mann“, kwat-hie,  
 5316 „an þesan sęli sęndun · ęndi selvon an·budun,  
 þat hie iuwes werodes só filo · a·werdit habdi,  
 5318 far·lêdid mid is lêron. · Nu ik mid þeson liudon ni mag,  
 findan mid þius folku, · þat hie is ferāhes sí  
 5320 furi þesaro skolu skuldig. · Skín was þat hiudu:  
 Erodes mohta, · þie iuwan êo bi·kan,  
 5322 iuwaro liudo land-reht, · hie ni mahta is líves gi·frêson,  
 þat hie hier þuru êniga sundja te dage · sweltan skoldi,  
 5324 líf far·látan. · Nu willju ik ina for þeson liudjon hier  
 gi·þróon mid þingon, · þristjon wordun,  
 5326 buotjan im is briost-hugi, · látan ina brúkan forð  
 ferāhes mid firjon.“ · Folk Judeono

5328 hreopun þuo alla samad · hlúdero stemnu,  
 hietun flít-líko · ferahes áhtjan  
 5330 Krist mid kwalmu · ėndi an krúki slahan,  
 wêgjan te wundron: · „hie mid is wordon havit  
 5332 dôðes gi·skuldid: · sagit þat hie drohtin sí,  
 gegnungo godes suno. · Þat hie a·geldan skal,  
 5334 in-wid-spráka, · só is an úson êwe gi·skrivan,  
 þat man su·lika firin-kwidi · ferahu kôpo.“  
 5336 Þuo warð þie an forah-ton, · þie þes folkes gi·weld,  
 mikilon an is muode, · þuo hie gi·hôrda þia man sprekan,  
 5338 þat sia ina selvon · sêggjan gi·hôrdin,  
 gēhan fur þem gum-skipe, · þat hie wári godes suno.  
 5340 Þuo hwarf im eft þie hēri-togo · an þat hús innan  
 te þero þing-stēdi, · þristjon wordon  
 5342 gruohta þena godes suno · ėndi frágoda, hwat hie gumono wári:  
 „hwat bist þú þu manno?“ · kwat-hie. „Te hwi þú mí só þinan muod hilis,  
 5344 dērnis diop-gi·þáht? · Wést þú þat it all an mínon duome stéd  
 umbi þines lives gi·lagu? · Mí þi hēbbjat þesa liudi far·gevan,  
 5346 werod Judeono, · þat ik gi·waldan muot  
 só þik te spildjanne · an speres orde,  
 5348 só ti kwēlljanne an krúkjum, · só kwikan lātan,  
 só hweðer sí mi selvon · suotera þunkit  
 5350 te gi·frummjanne mid mínu folku.“ · Þuo sprak eft þat friðu-barn  
 godes:  
 „Wést þú þat te wáron“, · kwat-hie, „þat þú gi·wald ovar mik  
 5352 hēbbjan ni mohtis, · ne wári þat it þi hēlag god  
 selvo far·gávi? · Ôk hēbbjat þia sundjono mēr,  
 5354 þia mik þi bi·fulhun · þuru fiond-skipi,  
 gi·saldun an símon haftan.“ · Þuo welda ina sīð after þiu  
 5356 gram-hugdig man · gerno far·lātan,  
 þegan kēsures, · þar hie is havdi for þero þioda gi·wald;  
 5358 ak sia wēridun im þena willjon · wordu gi·hwi-liku,  
 kunni Judeono: · „ne bist þú“, kwáðun sia, „þes kēsures friund,  
 5360 þinon hēren hold, · ef þú ina hinan lātis  
 sīðon gi·sundon: · þat þi noh te soragan mag,  
 5362 werðan te wíte, · hwand só hwe só su·lik word spriket,  
 a·havið ina só hôho, · kwiðit þat hie hēbbjan mugi  
 5364 kuning-duomes namon, · ne sí þat ina im þie kēsurs geve,  
 hie wirrid im is wer-uld-ríki · ėndi is word far·hugid,  
 5366 far·man ina an is muode. · Be·þiu skalt þú su·lik mēn wrekan,

- 5368 **h**osk-word manag, · ef þú umbi þínes **h**êren ruokis,  
 umbi þínes **fr**ôhon **fr**iund-skipi, · þan skalt þú ina þiu **fer**hu  
 be·niman.“  
 Þuo gi·**h**ôrda þie **h**êri-togo · þia **h**êri Judeono  
 5370 **þr**êgjan fan is þiodne; · þuo hie far þero **þ**ing-stêdi géng  
**sel**vo gi·sittjan, · þar gi·samnod was  
 5372 só mikil **war**f **wer**odes, · hiet **w**aldand Krist  
**lê**djan for þia **li**udi. · **L**angoda Judeon,  
 5374 hwan êr sia þat **h**êlaga barn · **h**angon gi·sáwin,  
**k**wêlan an **kr**úkje; · sia kwáðun þat sia **k**uning ôðran  
 5376 ne **h**avdin undar iro **h**êri-skipje, · nevan þena **h**êran kêsar  
 fan **R**úmu-burg; · „þie havit hier **r**íki over ús.  
 5378 Be·þiu ni skalt þú þesan far·látan; · hie havit ús só filo **lê**ðes  
 gi·sprokan,  
 far·duan havit hie im mid is **d**ádjon. · Hie skal **d**ôð þolon,  
 5380 **w**íti êndi **w**undar-kwála.“ · **W**erod Judeono  
 só manag **mis**-lík þing · an **ma**htigna Krist  
 5382 **sag**dun te **sund**jun. · Hie **sw**ígondi stuod  
 þuru **ôð**-muodi, · ne **ant**-wordida n·io·wiht  
 5384 wið iro **wr**êðun **w**ord: · wolda þesa **wer**-old alla  
**lô**sjan mid is **lí**vu: · bi·þiu liet hie ina þia **lê**ðun þiod  
 5386 **wê**gjan te **wund**ron, · all só iro **will**jo géng:  
 ni wolda im **opan**-líko · **allon** kúðjan  
 5388 **J**udeo liudjon, · þat hie was **god** selvo;  
 hwand **wiss**in sia þat te **wá**ron, · þat hie su·lika gi·**wald** havdi  
 5390 ovar þeson **middil**-gard, · þan wurði im iro **muod**-sevo  
 gi·**blôð**it an iro **bri**oston: · þan ne gi·dorstin sia þat **barn** godes  
 5392 **hand**on ant·**hr**ínan: · þan ni wurði **hevan**-ríki,  
 ant·**lokan** **liohto** mêst · **liudjo** barnon.  
 5394 Be·þiu **mêð** hie is só an is **muode**, · ne lét þat **man**no folk  
**witan**, hwat sia **war**ðtun. · Þiu **wurd** náhida þuo,  
 5396 **mári** **maht** godes · êndi **middi** dag,  
 þat sia þia **fer**ah-kwála · **frummjan** skoldun.  
 5398 Þan lag þar ôk an **bênd**jon · an þero **burg** innan  
 ên **ruof** **rêgin**-skaðo, · þie habda under þem **ríke** só filo  
 5400 **morðes** gi·rádan · êndi **man**-slahta gi·frumid,  
 was **mári** **mêgin**-þiof: · ni was þar is gi·**mako** hwêrgin;  
 5402 was þar ôk bi **sín**on · **sundjon** gi·hêftid,  
**Barrabas** was hie hêtan; · hie after þem **burgjon** was  
 5404 þuru is **mên**-dádi · **manogon** gi·kúðid.



5406 Pan was land-wisa · liudjo Judeono,  
 þat sia járo gi·hwen · an godes minnja  
 an þem hêlagon dage · ênna haftan mann  
 5408 a·biddjan skoldun, · þat im iro burges ward,  
 iro folk-togo · ferah far·gávi.  
 5410 Þuo bi·gan þie hêri-togo · þia hêri Judeono,  
 þat folk frágojan, · þar sia im fora stuodun,  
 5412 hweðeron sia þero twejo · tuomjan weldin,  
 ferahes biddjan: · „þia hier an feteron sind  
 5414 haft undar þeson hêri-skipje?“ · Þiu hêri Judeono  
 habdun þuo þia arāmun man · alla gi·spanana,  
 5416 þat sia þemo land-skaðen · lif a·bádin,  
 gi·þingodin þem þiove, · þie oft an þiustrja naht  
 5418 wam gi·warah̥ta, · ęndi waldand Krist  
 kwēlidin an krúkje. · Þuo warð þat küð ovar all,  
 5420 hwó þiu þiod havda duomos a·dēlid. · Þuo skoldun sia þia dád  
 frummjan,  
 hāhan þat hêlaga barn. · Þat warð þem hêri-togen  
 5422 siðor te sorgon, · þat hie þia saka wissa,  
 þat sia þuru nīð-skipi · nęrjendon Krist,  
 5424 hatoda þiu hêri, · ęndi hie im hōrda te þiu,  
 warah̥ta iro willjon: · þes hie wíti ant·fēng,  
 5426 lōn an þeson liohte · ęndi lang after,  
 wói siðor wann, · siðor hie þesa wer-old a·gaf.  
 5428 Þuo warð þas þie wrêðo gi·waro, · wam-skaðono mêt,  
 Satanas selvo, · þuo þiu seola kwam  
 5430 Judases an grund · grimmaro hęlljun—  
 þuo wissa hie te wāren, · þat þat was waldand Krist,  
 5432 barn drohtines, · þat þar gi·bundan stuod;  
 wissa þuo te wáron, · þat hie welda þesa wer-old alla  
 5434 mid is hęnginnja · hęllja gi·þwinges,  
 liudi a·lōsjan · an lioht godes.  
 5436 Þat was Satanase · sêr an muode,  
 tulgo harm an is hugje: · welda is helpan þuo,  
 5438 þat im liudjo barn · lif ne bi·nāmin,  
 ne kwēlidin an krúkje, · ak hie welda, þat hie kwik livdi,  
 5440 te þiu þat firiho barn · fernes ne wurðin,  
 sundjono sikura. · Satanas gi·wêt im þuo,  
 5442 þar þes hêri-togen · híwiski was  
 an þero burg innan. · Hie þero is brúdi bi·gann,

5444 þera idis **o**pan-líko · **un**-hiuri fiond  
 wunder tōgjan, · þat sia an **w**ord-helpon  
 5446 **K**riste wári, · þat hie muosti **k**wik libbjan,  
 drohtin manno · —hie was iu þan te **d**ôðe gi·skęrid—  
 5448 wissa þat te **w**áron, · þat hie im skoldi þia gi·**w**ald bi·niman,  
 þat hie sia ovar þesan **m**iddil-gard · só **m**ikila ni havdi,  
 5450 ovar **w**ída **w**er-old. · Þat **w**íf warð þuo an forąhton,  
**sw**íðo an **s**orogon, · þuo iru þiu gi·**s**iuni kwámun  
 5452 þuru þes **d**ęrnjen **d**ád · an **d**ages liohte,  
 an **h**ęlið-helme bi·**h**elid. · Þuo siu te iru **h**ęrren an·bôd,  
 5454 þat **w**íf mid iro **w**ordon · ęndi im te **w**áren hiet  
 selvon **s**ęggjan, · hwat iro þar te gi·**s**iunjon kwam  
 5456 þuru þena **h**ęlagan mann, · ęndi im **h**elpan bad,  
 formon is **f**erhe: · „ik hębbju hier só **f**ilo þuru ina  
 5458 **s**eld-likes gi·**s**ewan, · só ik wêt, þat þia **s**undjun skulun  
 allaro **e**rlo gi·hwem · **u**vilu gi·þihan,  
 5460 só im **f**ruokno tuo · **f**erąhes áhtið.“  
 Þie **s**ęgg warð þuo an **s**íðe, · an-tat hie **s**ittjan fand  
 5462 þena **h**ęri-togon · an **h**warąve innan  
 an þem **st**ęn-wege, · þar þiu **str**áta was  
 5464 **f**elison gi·**f**uogid. · Þar hie te is **f**rôhon gęng,  
 sagda im þes **w**íves **w**ord. · Þuo warð im **w**rêð hugi,  
 5466 þem **h**ęri-togen, · —**h**warąvoda an innan—,  
 gi·**bl**ôðit **b**riost-gi·þáht: · was im **b**êðjes wê,  
 5468 gie þat sea ina **sl**uogin · **s**undja lôsan,  
 gie it bi þem **li**udjon þuo · for·**l**átan ne gi·dorsta  
 5470 þuru þes **w**erodes word. · Warð im gi·**w**ęndid þuo  
 hugi an **h**erten · after þero **h**ęri Judeono,  
 5472 te **w**erkjanne iro **w**illjon: · ne **w**ardoda im nie-wiht  
 þia **sw**árun **s**undjun, · þia hie im þar þuo **s**elvo gi·deda.  
 5474 Hiet im þuo te is **h**andon dragan · **h**luttran brunnjon,  
 watar an **w**ęgje, · þar hie furi þem **w**erode sat,  
 5476 þwóg ina þar for þero **þ**ioda · þęgan kęsures,  
**h**ard **h**ęri-togo · ęndi þuo fur þero **h**ęri sprak,  
 5478 kwað þat hie ina þero **s**undjono þar · **s**ikoran dádi,  
**w**rêðero **w**erko: · „ne willju ik þes **w**ihtes plegan“, kwat-hie,  
 5480 „umbi þesan **h**ęlagan mann, · ak **h**leotad gi þes alles,  
 gie **w**ordo gie **w**erko, · þes gi im hér te **w**ítje gi·duan.“  
 5482 Þuo **h**reop all saman · **h**ęri-skipi Judeono,  
 þiu **m**ikila **m**ęnigi, · kwáðun þat sia weldin umbi þena **m**an plegan

5484 dęřavoro dádjo: · „fare is drôr ovar ùs,  
 is bluod ėndi is baneði · ėndi ovar ùsa barn só samo,  
 5486 ovar ùsa avaron þar after · —wí willjat is alles plegan“, kwaðun sia,  
 „umbi þena slęgi selvon,— · ef wí þar ėniga sundja gi·duan!“  
 5488 A·gevan warð þar þuo furi þem Judeon · allaro gumono besta  
 hęttendjon an hand, · an heru-bęndjon  
 5490 narawo gi·nôdid, · þar ina nĩð-hwata,  
 fiond ant·fęngun: · folk ina umbi·hwarf,  
 5492 mēn-skaðono męgin. · Mahtig drohtin  
 þoloda gi·þuldjon, · só hwat só im þiu þioda deda.  
 5494 Sia hietun ina þuo filljan, · ėr þan sia im ferāhes tuo,  
 aldres áhtin, · ėndi im undar is ôgun spiwun,  
 5496 dedun im þat te hoske, · þat sia mid iro handon slôgun,  
 weros an is wangun · ėndi im is gi·wádi bi·námun,  
 5498 rôvodun ina þia ręgin-skaðon, · rôdes lakanes  
 dedun im eft ôðer an · þuru un·huldi;  
 5500 hietun þuo hôvid-band · hardaro þorno  
 wundron windan · ėndi an waldand Krist  
 5502 selvon sęttjan, · ėndi géngun im þia gi·siðos tuo,  
 kwęddun ina an kuning-wísu · ėndi þar an knio fellun,  
 5504 hnigun im mid iro hôvdu: · all was im þat te hoske gi·duan,  
 þoh hie it all gi·þolodi, · þiodo drohtin,  
 5506 mahtig þuru þia minnja · manno kunnjes.  
 Hietun sia þuo wirkjan · wápnes ęggjon  
 5508 hęliðos mid iro handon · hardes bômes  
 kraftiga krúki · ėndi hietun sia Kristan þuo,  
 5510 sálig barn godes · selvon fuorjan,  
 dragan hietun sia ùsan drohtin, · þar hie be·drôragad skolda  
 5512 sweltan sundjono lôs. · Siðodun Judeon,  
 weros an willon, · lêddun waldand Krist,  
 5514 drohtin te dôðe. · Þar mohta man þuo dęřevi þing  
 harm-lík gi·hôrjan: · hiovandi þar after  
 5516 géngun wíf mid wópu, · weros gnornodun,  
 þia fan Galilea mid im · gangan kwámun,  
 5518 folgodun ovar ferr-wegos: · was im iro frôhon dôð  
 swíðo an sorāgan. · Þuo hie selvo sprak,  
 5520 barno þat bęsta · ėndi under bak be·sah,  
 hiet þat sia ni wépin: · „ni þarf iu wiht tregan“, kwat-hie,  
 5522 „mínero hin-fęrdjo, · ak gí mid hofnu mugun  
 iuwa wrēðan werk · wópu kúmjan,

- 5524 tornon trahnon. · Noh wirðið þiu tíd kuman,  
þat þia muoder þes · mēdendja sind,  
5526 brúdi Judeono, · þem gio barn ni warð  
ôdan an aldre. · Þan gí iuwa in-wid skulun  
5528 grimmo an·geldan; · þan gí só gerna sind,  
þat iu hier bi·hlídan · hôha bergos,  
5530 diopo be·delvan; · dôð wári iu þan allon  
liovera an þeson lande · þan su·lik liudjo kwalm  
5532 te gi·þoljanne, · só hier þan þesaro þioda kumid.“  
Þuo sia þar an griete · galgon rihtun,  
5534 an þem felde uppan · folk Judeono,  
bôm an berege, · ęndi þar an þat barn godes  
5536 kwēlidun an krúkje: · slógun kald ísarn,  
niwa naglos · níðon skarpa  
5538 hardo mid hamuron · þuru is hęndi ęndi þuru is fuoti,  
bittra bęndi: · is blód ran an erða,  
5540 drôr fan úson drohtine. · Hie ni welda þoh þia dád wrekan  
grimma an þem Judeon, · ak hie þes god fader  
5542 mahtigna bad, · þat hie ni wári þem manno folke,  
þem werode þiu wrēðra: · „hwand sia ni wítun, hwat sia duot“,  
kwat-hie.  
5544 Þuo þia wíganos · gi·wádi Kristes,  
drohtines dēldun, · dęręvja mann,  
5546 þes ríken gi·rôbi. · Þia rinkos ni mahtun  
umbi þena selvon [...] · sam-wurdi gi·sprekan,  
5548 ęr sia an iro hwarąve · hlôtos wurpun,  
hwi-lik iro skoldi hębbjan · þia hēlagun pēda,  
5550 allaro gi·wádjo wun-samost. · Þes werodes hirdi  
hiet þuo, þe hęri-togo, · ovar þem hôvde selves  
5552 Kristes an krúke skrívan, · þat þat wári kuning Judeono,  
Jesus fan Nazareth-burh, · þie þar nęglid stuod  
5554 an niwon galgon · þuru níð-skipi,  
an bômin treo. · Þuo bádun þia liudi  
5556 þat word węndjan, · kwáðun þat hie im só an is willjon spráki,  
selvo sagdi, · þat hie habdi þes gi·sīðes gi·wald,  
5558 kuning wári ovar Judeon. · Þuo sprak eft þie kēsures bodo,  
hard hęri-togo: · „it ist iu só ovar is hôvde gi·skrívan,  
5560 wís-líko gi·writan, · só ik it nu węndjan ni mag.“  
Dádun þuo þar te wítje · werod Judeono  
5562 twēna far·talda man · an twá halva

Kristes an krúki: · lietun sia kwalm þolon  
 5564 an þem warag-trewe · werko te lône,  
 lêðaro dádjo. · Þia liudi sprákun  
 5566 hosk-word manag · hêlagon Kriste,  
 grottun ina mid gelpu: · sáwun allaro gumono þen beston  
 5568 kweþan an þemo krúkje: · „ef þú síš kuning ovar all“, kwáðun sia,  
 „suno drohtines, · só þú havis selvo gi·sprokan,  
 5570 nêri þik fan þero nôdi · êndi níðes a·tuomi,  
 gang þi hêl herod; · þan weþjat an þik hêliðo barn,  
 5572 þesa liudi gi·lôvjan.“ · Sum imo ôk lastar sprak  
 swiðo gêl-hert Judeo, · þar hie fur þem galgon stuod:  
 5574 „Wah warð þesaro wer-oldi“, · kwat-hie, „ef þú iro skoldis gi·wald  
 êgan.  
 Þú sagdas þat þú mahtis an ênon dage · all te·werpan  
 5576 þat hôha hús · hevan-kuninges,  
 stên-werko mêst · êndi eft standan gi·duon  
 5578 an þriddjon dage, · só is elkor ni þorfti bi·þíhan mann  
 þeses folkes furðor. · Sínu hwó þú nu gi·fastnod stés,  
 5580 swiðo gi·sêrid: · ni maht þi selvon wiht  
 balowes gi·buotjan.“ · Þuo þar ôk an þem bændjon sprak  
 5582 þero þeovo ôðer, · all só hie þia þioda gi·hôrda,  
 wrêðon wordon · —ne was is willjo guod,  
 5584 þes þegnes gi·þáht—: · „ef þú síš þiod-kuning“, kwat-hie,  
 „Krist, godes suno, · gang þi þan fan þem krúke niðer,  
 5586 slópi þi fan þem símon · êndi ús samad allon  
 hilf êndi hêli. · Ef þú síš hevan-kuning,  
 5588 waldand þesaro wer-oldes, · gi·duo it þan an þínon werkon skín,  
 mári þik fur þesaro mênigi.“ · Þuo sprak þero manno ôðer  
 5590 an þero hënginna, · þar hie gi·hëftid stuod,  
 wan wunder-kwála: · „be·hwí wilt þú su·lik word sprekan,  
 5592 gruohtis ina mid gelpu? · stés þi hier an galgen haft,  
 gi·brókan an bôme. · Wit hier bêðja þolod  
 5594 sêr þuru unka sundjun: · is unk unkero selvero dád  
 worðan te wítje. · Hie stéd hier wammes lôs,  
 5596 allaro sundjono sikur, · só hie selvo gio  
 firina ni gi·frumida, · botan þat hie þuru þeses folkes nið  
 5598 willendi an þesaro wer-uldi · wíti ant·fáhid.  
 Ik willju þar gi·lôvjan tuo“, · kwat-hie, „êndi willju þena landes ward,  
 5600 þena godes suno · gerno biddjan,  
 þat þú mín gi·huggjes · êndi an helpun síš,

5602 **r**ádendero best, · þan þú an þín **r**íki kumis:  
 wes mi þan gi·**n**áðig.“ · Þuo sprak im eft **n**erjendo Krist  
 5604 wordon te·gëgnes: · „Ik sëggju þí te **w**áron hier“, kwat-hie,  
 „þat þú noh **h**iu-du móst · an **h**imil-ríke  
 5606 mid mí **s**amad · **s**ehan lioht godes,  
 an þemo **P**aradýse, · þoh þú nu an su·likoro **p**ínu sís.“  
 5608 Þan stuod þar ôk **M**aria, · **mu**oder Kristes,  
**bl**ék under þem **b**ôme, · gi·sah iro **b**arn þolon,  
 5610 winnan **w**undę-kwála. · Ôk wárun þar **w**íf mid iro  
 an só **ma**htiges · **min**nja kumana—  
 5612 þan stuod þar ôk **J**ohannes, · **j**ungro Kristes,  
**h**riwi undar is **h**êrren, · was im is **h**ugi sêrag—  
 5614 **dr**úvodun fur þem **d**ôðe. · Þar sprak **dro**htin Krist  
**ma**htig te þero **mu**oder: · „nu ik þí hier **m**ínemo skal  
 5616 **j**ungron be·felhan, · þem þí hier **g**ëgin-ward stéd:  
 wis þí an is gi·**s**ïðje **s**amad: · þú skalt ina furi **s**uno hëbbjan.“  
 5618 **G**rótta hie þuo **J**ohannes, · hiet þat hie iru ful-**g**engi wel,  
**min**njodi sia só **m**ildo, · só man is **mu**oder skal,  
 5620 **i**dis **un**·wamma. · Þuo hie sia an is **ê**ra ant·féng  
 þuru **h**luttran **h**ugi, · só im is **h**êrro gi·bôd.  
 5622 Þuo warð þar an **m**iddjan dag · **ma**htig tēkan,  
**w**undar-lík gi·**war**əht · ovar þesan **w**er-old allan,  
 5624 þuo man þena **g**odes suno · an þena **gal**gon huof,  
**K**rist an þat **kr**úki: · þuo warð it **k**úð ovar all,  
 5626 hwó þiu **s**unna warð gi·**s**workan: · ni mahta **sw**igli lioht  
**sk**ôni gi·**sk**ínan, · ak sia **sk**ado far·féng,  
 5628 þimm ęndi þiustri · ęndi só gi·þrusmod neval.  
 Warð allaro **d**ago **d**ruovost, · **d**unkar swíðo  
 5630 ovar þesan **w**ídun **w**er-uld, · só lango só **w**aldand Krist  
**k**wal an þemo **kr**úkje, · **k**uningo ríkost,  
 5632 ant **nu**on dages. · Þuo þie **ne**val ti·skrêd,  
 þat gi·**s**werk warð þuo te·**s**wungan, · bi·gan **s**unnun lioht  
 5634 **h**êdron an **h**imile. · Þuo **h**reop up te gode  
 allaro **k**uningo **k**raftigost, · þuo hie an þemo **kr**úkje stuod  
 5636 **fa**ðmon gi·**fa**stnot: · „fader alo-mahtig“, kwat-hie,  
 „te hwí þú mik só far·**li**eti, · **lie**vo drohtin,  
 5638 **h**êlag **he**van-kuning, · ęndi þína **he**lpa dedos,  
**full**isti só **f**err? · Ik standu under þeson **f**íondon hier  
 5640 **w**undron gi·**w**êgid.“ · **W**erod Judeono  
**hl**ógun is im þuo te **h**oske: · gi·**h**ôrdun þena **h**êlagun Krist,

5642 drohtin furi þem dōðe · drinkan biddjan,  
 kwað þat ina þurstidi. · Þiu þioda ne latta,  
 5644 wrêða wiðar-sakon: · was im willjo mikil,  
 hwat sia im bittres tuo · bringan mahtin.  
 5646 Habdun im un·swóti · ękid ęndi galla  
 gi·męngid þia mēn-hwaton; · stuod ên mann garo,  
 5648 swiðo skuldig skaðo, · þena habdun sia gi·skęrid te þiu,  
 far·spanan mid sprákon, · þat hie sia en êna spunsja nam,  
 5650 líðo þes lêðosten, · druog it an ênon langan skafte,  
 gi·bundan an ênon bōme · ęndi deda it þem barne godes,  
 5652 mahtigon te mūðe. · Hie an·kęnda iro mirkjun dádi,  
 gi·fuolda iro fęgnes: · furðor ni welda  
 5654 is só bittres an·bitan, · ak hreop þat barn godes  
 hlúdo te þem himiliskon fader: · „ik an þina hęndi be·filhu“,  
 kwat-hie,  
 5656 „mínon gęst an godes willjon; · hie ist nu garo te þiu,  
 fūs te faranne.“ · Firiho drohtin  
 5658 gi·hnęgida þuo is hōvid, · hêlagon áðom  
 liet fan þemo lík-hamen. · Só þuo þie landes ward  
 5660 swalt an þem símon, · só warð sán after þiu  
 wundar-têkan gi·warąht, · þat þar waldandes dōð  
 5662 un·kweðandes só filo · ant·kęnnjan skolda,  
 þiadnes ên-dagon: · erða bivoda,  
 5664 hrisidun þia hōhun bergos, · harda stēnos kluvun,  
 felisos after þem felde, · ęndi þat fêha lakan te·brast  
 5666 an middjon an twê, · þat êr managan dag  
 an þemo wíhe innan · wundron gi·striunid  
 5668 hêl hangoda · —ni muostun hęliðo barn,  
 þia liudi skawon, · hwat under þemo lakane was  
 5670 hêlages be·hangan: · þuo mohtun an þat horð sehan  
 Judeo liudi— · gravu wurðun gi·opanod  
 5672 dōdero manno, · ęndi sia þuru drohtines kraft  
 an iro lík-hamon · libbjandi a·stuodun  
 5674 up fan erðu · ęndi wurðun gi·ôgida þar  
 mannon te márðu. · Þat was só mahtig þing,  
 5676 þat þar Kristes dōð · ant·kęnnjan skoldun,  
 só filo þes gi·fuoljan, · þie gio mid firihon ne sprak  
 5678 word an þesaro wer-oldi. · Werod Judeono  
 sáwun seld-lík þing, · ak was im iro slíði hugi  
 5680 só far·hardod an iro herten, · þat þar io só hêlag ni warð

5682      tēkan gi·tôgid, · þat sia trúodin þiu bat  
 an þia Kristes kraft, · þat hie kuning ovar all,  
 þes werodes wári. · Suma sia þar mid iro wordon gi·sprákon,  
 5684      þia þes hrêwes þar · huodjan skoldun,  
 þat þat wári te wáren · waldandes suno,  
 5686      godes gegnungo, · þat þar an þem galgon swalt,  
 barno þat besta. · Slógun an iro briost filo  
 5688      wópjandero wívo: · was im þiu wunder-kwála  
 harm an iro herten · ĕndi iro hêrren dôð  
 5690      swíðo an sorogon. · Þan was sido Judeono,  
 þat sia þia haftun þuru þena hêlagon dag · hangon ni lietin  
 5692      lęngerun hwíla, · þan im þat lif skriði,  
 þiu seola be·sunki: · slíð-muoda mann  
 5694      géngun im mid níð-skipju náhor, · þar só be·nēglida stuodun  
 þeovos twêna, · þolodun bêðja  
 5696      kwála bi Kriste: · wárun im kwika noh þan,  
 unt-þat sia þia grimmun · Judeo liudi  
 5698      bēnon be·brákon, · þat sia bêðja samad  
 líf far·lietun, · suohtun im lioht ôðer.  
 5700      Sia ni þorftun drohtin Krist · dôðes bēdjan  
 furðor mid ĕnigon firinon: · fundun ina gi·faranan þuo iu:  
 5702      is seola was gi·sęndid · an suôðan weg,  
 an lang-sam lioht, · is liði kuolodun;  
 5704      þat ferah was af þem flêske. · Þuo géng im ĕn þero fiondo tuo  
 an níð-hugi, · druog nēgilid sper  
 5706      hard an is handon, · mid heru-þrummjon stak,  
 liet wápnes ord · wundum sníðan,  
 5708      þat an selves warð · sídu Kristes  
 ant·lokan is lík-hamo. · Þia liudi gi·sáwun,  
 5710      þat þanan bluod ĕndi water · bêðju sprungun,  
 wellun fan þero wundun, · all só is willjo géng  
 5712      ĕndi hie habda gi·markod ĕr · manno kunnje,  
 firiho barnon te frumu: · þuo was it all gi·fullid só.  
 5714      Só þuo gi·ségid warð · seðle náhor  
 hêdra sunna · mid hevan-tunglon  
 5716      an þem druoven dage, · þuo géng im ūses drohtines þegan  
 —was im glau gumo, · jungro Kristes  
 5718      managa hwíla, · só it þar manno filo  
 ne wissa te wáron, · hwand hie it mid is wordon hal  
 5720      Juðeono gum-skipje: · Joseph was hie hêtan,



darnungo was hie üses drohtines jungro: · hie ni welda þero  
 far·duanun þiod  
 5722 folgon te ênigon firin-werkon, · ak hie bêd im under þem folke  
 Judeono,  
 hêlag himilo ríkjes— · hie géng im þuo wið þena hêri-togon mahljan,  
 5724 þingon wið þena þegan kêsures, · þigida ina gerno,  
 þat hie muosti a·lôsjan · þena lik-hamon  
 5726 Kristes fan þemo krúkje, · þie þar gi·kwêlmid stuod,  
 þes guoden fan þem galgen · êndi an graf lëggjan,  
 5728 foldu bi·felahan. · Im ni welda þie folk-togo þuo  
 wêrnjan þes willjen, · ak im gi·wald far·gaf,  
 5730 þat hie só muosti gi·frummjan. · Hie gi·wêt im þuo forð þanan  
 gangan te þem galgon, · þar hie wissa þat godes barn,  
 5732 hrêo hangondi · hêrren sínes,  
 nam ina þuo an þero niwun ruodun · êndi ina fan naglon a·tuomda,  
 5734 ant·fêng ina mid is faðmon, · só man is frôhon skal,  
 lioves lik-hamon, · êndi ina an lîne bi·wand,  
 5736 druog ina diur-lîko · —só was þie drohtin werð—,  
 þar sia þia stêdi havdun · an ênon stêne innan  
 5738 handon gi·hauwan, · þar gio hêliðo barn  
 gumon ne bi·gruovon. · Þar sia þat godes barn  
 5740 te iro land-wîsu, · lîko hêlgost  
 foldu bi·fulhun · êndi mid ênu felisu be·lukun  
 5742 allaro gravo guod-lîkost. · Griotandi sátun  
 idisi arm-skapana, · þia þat all for·sáwun,  
 5744 þes gumen grimman dôð. · Gi·witun im þuo gangan þanan  
 wópjandi wîf · êndi wara námun,  
 5746 hwó sia eft te þem grave · gangan mahtin:  
 havdun im far·sewana · soroga gi·nuogja,  
 5748 mikila muod-kara: · Maria wárun sia hêtana,  
 idisi arm-skapana. · Þuo warð ávand kuman,  
 5750 naht mid neflu. · Níð-folk Judeono  
 warð an moragan eft, · mēnigi gi·samnod,  
 5752 rēkidun an rúnon: · „Hwat þú wêst, hwó þit ríki was  
 þuru þesan ênan man · all gi·twíflid,  
 5754 werod gi·worran: · nu ligid hie wundon siok,  
 diopa bi·dolvan. · Hie sagda simnen, þat hie skoldi fan dôðe  
 a·standan  
 5756 an þriddjan dage. · Þius þiod gi·lôvit te filo,  
 þit werod after is wordon. · Nu þú hier wardon hét,

- 5758 ovar þem grave gômjan, · þat ina is jungron þar  
 ne far·stelan an þemo stêne · ęndi seggjan þan, þat hie a·standan sí,  
 5760 ríki fan raston: · þan wirðit þit rinko folk  
 mēr gi·męrrid, · ef sia it bi·ginnat mārjan hier.“  
 5762 Þuo wurðun þar gi·skęrida · fan þero skolu Judeono  
 weros te þero wahtu: · gi·witun im mid iro gi·wāpnjon þarod  
 5764 te þem grave gangan, · þar sia skoldun þes godes barnes  
 hrēwes huodjan. · Warð þie hêlago dag  
 5766 Judeono far·gangan. · Sia ovar þemo grave sātun,  
 weros an þero wahtun · wannom nahton,  
 5768 bidun undar iro bordon, · hwan êr þie beręhto dag  
 ovar middil-gard · mannon kwāmi,  
 5770 liudon te liohte. · Þuo ni was lang te þiu,  
 þat þar warð þie gēst kuman · be godes krafte,  
 5772 hâlag áðom · undar þena hardon stên  
 an þena lík-hamon. · Lioht was þuo gi·opanol  
 5774 firiho barnon te frumu: · was ferkal manag  
 ant·hęftid fan hęll-doron · ęndi te himile weg  
 5776 gi·warąht fan þesaro wer-oldi. · Wānom up a·stuod  
 friðu-barn godes, · fuor im þuo þar hie welda,  
 5778 só þia wardos þes · wiht ni af·swovun,  
 dęrvja liudi, · hwan hie fan þem dōðe a·stuod,  
 5780 a·rês fan þero rastun. · Rinkos sātun  
 umbi þat graf útan, · Judeo liudi,  
 5782 skola mid iro skildjon. · Skrêd forð-wardes  
 swigli sunnun lioht. · Sîðodun idisi  
 5784 te þem grave gangan, · gum-kunnjes wíf,  
 Mariun muni-líka: · habdun mēðmo filo  
 5786 gi·sald wiðer salvum, · silųvres ęndi goldes,  
 werðes wiðer wurtjon, · só sia mahtun a·winnan mêt,  
 5788 þat sia þena lík-hamon · lioves hêrren,  
 suno drohtines, · salvon muostin,  
 5790 wundun writanan. · Þiu wíf sorągodun  
 an iro sevon swiðo, · ęndi suma sprákun,  
 5792 hwie im þena grôtan stên · fan þemo grave skoldi  
 gi·hwęrevjan an halva, · þe sia ovar þat hrêo sáwun  
 5794 þia liudi lęggjan, · þuo sia þena lík-hamon þar  
 be·fulhun an þemo felise. · Só þiu frí havdun  
 5796 ge·gangan te þem gardon, · þat sia te þem grave mahtun  
 gi·sehan selvon, · þuo þar swógan kwam

5798 ęngil þes alo-waldon · ovana fan radure,  
 faran an feðer-hamon, · þat all þiu folda an skian,  
 5800 þiu erða dunida · ęndi þia erlos wurðun  
 an wêkan hugje, · wardos Juðeono,  
 5802 bi·fellun bi þem forąhton: · ne wándun ira ferąh êgan,  
 líf langerun hwíl. · Lágun þa wardos,  
 5804 þia gi·siðos sám-kwika: · sán up a·hlád  
 þie grôto stên fan þem grave, · só ina þie godes ęngil  
 5806 gi·hweřivida an halva, · ęndi im uppan þem hlêwe gi·sat  
 diur·lík drohtines bodo. · Hie was an is dádjon ge·lík,  
 5808 an is an·siunjon, · só hwem só ina muosta undar is ôgon skawon,  
 só beręht ęndi só blíði · all só bliksmun lioht;  
 5810 was im is gi·wádi · wintar-kaldon  
 snêwe gi·líkost. · Þuo sáwun sia ina sittjan þar,  
 5812 þiu wíf uppan þem gi·węndidan stêne, · ęndi im fan þem wlitje  
 kwámun,  
 þem idison su·lika ęgison te·gęgnes: · all wurðun fan þem grurje  
 5814 þiu frí an forąhton mikilon, · furðor ne gi·dorstun  
 te þemo grave gangan, · êr sia þie godes ęngil,  
 5816 waldandes bodo · wordon gruotta,  
 kwað þat hie iro ârundi · all bi·kunsti,  
 5818 werk ęndi willjon · ęndi þero wívo hugi,  
 hiet þat sia im ne an·drédin: · „ik wêt þat gí iuwan drohtin suokat,  
 5820 nęrjendon Krist · fan Nazareth-burg,  
 þena þi hier kwęlidun · ęndi an krúki slógun  
 5822 Judeo liudi · ęndi an graf lagdun  
 sundi-lôsjan. · Nu nist hie selvo hier,  
 5824 ak hie ist a·standan iu, · ęndi sind þesa stędi lárja,  
 þit graf an þeson griote. · Nú mugun gí gangan herod  
 5826 náhor mikilu · —ik wêt þat is iu ist niud sehan  
 an þeson stêne innan—: · hier sind noh þia stędi skína,  
 5828 þar is lík-hamo lag.“ · Lungra féngun  
 gi·bada an iro brioston · blêka idisi,  
 5830 wlití-skôni wíf: · was im wil-spell mikil  
 te gi·hôrjanne, · þat im fan iro hêrren sagda  
 5832 ęngil þes alo-walden. · Hiet sia eft þanan  
 fan þem grave gangan ęndi faran · te þem jungron Kristes,  
 5834 sęggjan þem is gi·siðon · suoðon wordon,  
 þat iro drohtin was · fan dôðe a·standan.  
 5836 Hiet ôk an sundron · Símon Petruse

will-spell mikil · wordon küðjan,  
 5838 kumi drohtines, · gie þat Krist selvo  
 was an Galileo land, · „þar ina eft is jungron skulun,  
 5840 gi·sehan is gi·siðos, · só hie im êr selvo gi·sprak  
 wárom wordon.“ · Reht só þuo þiu wíf þanan  
 5842 gangan weldun, · só stuodun im te·gegnes þar  
 engilos twêna · an ala-hwítan  
 5844 wánamon gi·wádjom · endi sprákun im mid iro wordon tuo  
 hêlag-líko: · hugi warð gi·blôðid  
 5846 þen idison an eggison: · ne mahtun an þia engilos godes  
 bi þemo wlite skawon: · was im þiu wánami te strang,  
 5848 te swiði te sehanne. · Þuo sprákun im sán an·gëgin  
 waldandes bodun · endi þiu wif frágodun,  
 5850 te hwí sia Kristan þarod · kwikan mid dôdon,  
 suno drohtines · suokjan kwámin  
 5852 ferahes fullan; · „nu gí ina ni findat hier  
 an þeson stên-grave, · ak hie ist a·standan nu  
 5854 an is lík-hamon: · þes gí gi·lôvjan skulun  
 endi gi·huggjan þero wordo, · þe hie iu te wáron oft  
 5856 selvo sagda, · þan hie an iuwon ge·siðja was  
 an Galilea-lande, · hwó hie skoldi gi·gevan werðan,  
 5858 gi·sald selvo · an sundigaro manno,  
 hëttjandero hand, · hêlag drohtin,  
 5860 þat sea ina kwêlidin · endi an krúki slógin,  
 dôdan gi·dádin · endi þat hie skoldi þuruh drohtines kraft  
 5862 an þriddjon dage · þioda te willjan  
 libbjandi a·standan. · Nu havat hie all gi·lêstid só,  
 5864 ge·frumid mid firihon: · íljat gi nu forð hinan,  
 gangat gáh-líko · endi duot it þem is jungron küð.  
 5866 Hie havat sia iu fur·farana · endi ist im forð hinan  
 an Galileo land, · þar ina eft is jungron skulun,  
 5868 gi·sehan is ge·siðos.“ · Þuo warð sán after þiu  
 þem wívon an willjon, · þat sia gi·hôrdun su·lik word sprekan,  
 5870 küðjan þia kraft godes · —wárun im só a·kumana þuo noh  
 gie só forahra ge·frumida—: · gi·witun im forð þanan  
 5872 fan þem grave gangan · endi sagdun þem jungron Kristes  
 seld-lík gi·siuni, · þar sia sorogondi  
 5874 bidun su·likero buota. · Þuo wurðun ôk an þia burg kumana  
 Judeono wardos, · þia ovar þemo grave sátun  
 5876 alla langa naht · endi þes lík-hamen þar,

huodun þes hrêwes. · Sia sagdun þero hêri Judeono,  
 5878 hwi-lika im þar and-warda · ęgison kwámun,  
 seld-lík gi·siuni, · sagdun mid wordon,  
 5880 al só it gi·duan was · an þero drohtines kraft,  
 ni miðun an iro muode. · Þuo budun im mēðmo filo  
 5882 Judeo liudi, · gold ęndi siluvar,  
 saldun im sink manag, · te þiu þat sia it ni sagdin forð,  
 5884 ne máridin þero męnigi: · „ak kweðat þat iu móði hugi  
 an·swevidi mid slápu · ęndi þat þar kwámin is gi·siðos tuo,  
 5886 far·stálin ina an þem stēne. · Simnen wesat gí an stríde mid þiu,  
 forð an flíte: · ef it wirðit þem folk-togen kûð,  
 5888 wí gi·helpat iu wið þena hêrosten, · þat hie iu harmes wiht,  
 lēðes ni gi·lêstid.“ · Þuo námun sia an þem liudon filo  
 5890 diurero mēðmo, · dádun all só sia bi·gunnun  
 —ne gi·weldun iro willjon— · dádun só wído kûð  
 5892 þem liudon after þem lande, · þat sia su·lika lugina woldun  
 a·hębbjan be þan hêlagan drohtin. · Þan was eft gi·hêlid hugi  
 5894 jungron Kristes, · þuo sia gi·hordun þiu guodun wíf  
 márjan þia maht godes; · þuo wárun sia an iro muode fráha,  
 5896 gie im te þem grave bēðja, · Johannes ęndi Petrus  
 runnun ovast-líko: · warð êr kuman  
 5898 Johannes þie guodo, · ęndi im ovar þem grave gi·stuod,  
 ant-at þar sán after kwam · Símon Petrus,  
 5900 erl ęllan-ruof · ęndi im þar in gi·wêt  
 an þat graf gangan: · gi·sah þar þes godes barnes,  
 5902 hrêo-gi·wádi · hêrren sínes  
 línin liggjan, · mid þiu was êr þie lík-hamo  
 5904 fagaþo bi·fangan; · lag þie fano sundar,  
 mit þem was þat hôvid bi·helid · hêlages Kristes,  
 5906 ríkjes drohtines, · þan hie an þesaro rastu was.  
 Þuo géng im ôk Johannes · an þat graf innan  
 5908 sehan seld-lík þing; · warð im sán after þiu  
 ant·lokan is gi·lôvo, · þat hie wissa, þat skolda eft an þit lioht kuman  
 5910 is drohtin diur-líko, · fan dōðe a·standan  
 up fan erðu. · Þuo gi·witun im eft þanan  
 5912 Johannes ęndi Petrus, · ęndi kwámun þia jungron Kristes,  
 þia gi·siðos te·samne. · Þan stuod sêrag-muod  
 5914 ên þera idiso · ôðer-siðu  
 griotandi ovar þem grave, · was iro jámar muod—  
 5916 Maria was þat Magdalena—, · was iro muod-gi·þáht,

- 5918 sevo mit sorogon gi·blandan, · ne wissa hwarod siu sókjan skolda  
 þena hêrron, þar iro wárun at þia helpa gi·langa. · Siu ni mohta þuo  
 hofnu a·wísan,  
 þat wíf ni mahta wóp for·látan: · ne wissa hwarod siu sia wændjan  
 skolda;  
 5920 gi·męrrid wárun iro þes muod-gi·þáhti. · Þuo gi·sah siu þena  
 mahtigan þar  
 Kriste standan, · þuoh siu ina küð-líko  
 5922 ant·kęnnjan ni mohti, · êr þan hie ina küðjan welda,  
 sęggjan þat hie it selvo wári. · Hie frágoda hwat siu só sêro bi·wiepi,  
 5924 só harmo mid hêton trahnin. · Siu kwað, þat siu umbi iro hêrron ni  
 wissi  
 te wáren, hwarod hie werðan skoldi: · „ef þú ina mí gi·wísan mohtis,  
 5926 frô mín, ef ik þik frágon gi·dorsti, · ef þú ina hier an þeson felise  
 gi·námis,  
 wísi ina mí mid wordon þínon: · þan wári mí allaro willjono mēsta,  
 5928 þat ik ina selvo gi·sáhi.“ · Sia ni wissa, þat sia þie suno drohtines  
 gruotta mid gódaro sprákun: · siu wánda þat it þie gardari wári,  
 5930 hof-ward hêrron sínas. · Þuo gruotta sia þie hêlago drohtin,  
 bi namen nęjendero best: · siu géng im þuo náhor sniumo,  
 5932 þat wíf mid willjon guodan, · ant·kęnda iro waldand selvan,  
 míðan siu is þuru þia minnja ni wissa: · welda ina mid iro mundon  
 grípan,  
 5934 þiu fêhmja an þena folko drohtin, · novan þat iro friðu-barn godes  
 węrida mid wordon sínon, · kwað þat siu ina mid wihti ni mósti  
 5936 handon ant·hrínan: · „ik ni stêg noh“, kwat-hie, „te þem himiliskon  
 fader;  
 ak íli þú nu ofst-líko · ęndi þem erlon küði,  
 5938 bruoðron mínon, · þat ik ęser bēðero fader  
 ala-waldan, · iuwan ęndi mínan  
 5940 suóð-fastan god · suokjan willju.“  
 Þat wíf warð þuo an wunnon, · þat siu muosta su·likan willjon  
 küðjan,  
 5942 sęggjan fan im gi·sundon: · warð sán garo  
 þiu idis an þat árundi · ęndi þem erlon bráhta,  
 5944 will-spel weron, · þat siu waldand Krist  
 gi·sundan gi·sáwi, · ęndi sagda hwó hé iru selvo gi·bôð  
 5946 torøhtero tēkno. · Sia ni weldun gi·trúojan þuo noh  
 þes wíves wordon, · þat siu su·lik will-spel bráhte  
 5948 gegnungo fan þemo godes suno, · ak sia sátun im jámor-muoda,

hēliðos hriwonda. · Þuo warð þie hēlago Krist  
 5950 eft opan-líko · ððer-siðu,  
 drohtin gi·tôgid, · siðor hie fan dōðe a·stuod,  
 5952 þan wívon an willjon, · þat hie im þar an wege muotta.  
 kwēdda sia kũð-líko, · ėndi sia te is kneohon hnigun,  
 5954 fellun im tó fuoton. · Hie hét þat sia forāhtan hugi  
 ne bārin an iro brioston: · „ak gí mínon bruoðron skulun  
 5956 þesa kwidi kũðjan, · þat sia kuman after mi  
 an Galileo land; · þar ik im eft te·gēgnes biun.“  
 5958 Þan fuorun im ôk fan Jerusalem · þero jungrono twēna  
 an þem selvon daga · sán an morgan,  
 5960 erlos an iro ârundi: · weldun im te Emaus  
 þat kastel suokan. · Þuo bi·gunnun im kwidi managa  
 5962 under þem weron wahsan, · þar sia after þem wege fuorun,  
 þem hēliðon umbi iro hêrron. · Þuo kwam im þar þie hēlago tuo  
 5964 gangandi godes suno. · Sia ni mahtun ina garo-líko  
 ant·kēnnan kraftigna: · hie ni welda ina þuo noh kũðjan te im;  
 5966 was im þoh an iro gi·siðje samad · ėndi frágoda, umbi hwi-lika sia  
 saka sprákin:  
 „hwí gangat gí só gornondja?“ · kwat-hie; „Ist ink jámer hugi,  
 5968 sevo sorāgono full.“ · Sia sprákun im sán an·gēgin,  
 þia erlos and·wurdi: · „te hwí þú þes êskos só“, kwáðun sia;  
 5970 „bist þi fan Jerusalem · Judeono folkas  
 hēlagumu gēste · fan heven-wange,  
 5972 mid þem grôtun godes kraft.“ · Nam is jungaron þó,  
 erlos góde, · lēdda sie út þanan,  
 5974 an-tat hé sie bráhte · an Bethanía;  
 þar hóf hé is hēndi up · ėndi hēlegoda sie alle,  
 5976 wihida sie mid is wordun. · Gi·wēt imo up þanan,  
 sóhta imo þat hôha himilo ríki · ėndi þena is hēlagon stól:  
 5978 sitit imo þar · an þea swiðron half godes,  
 alo-mahtiges fader · ėndi þanan all ge·sihit  
 5980 waldandjo Krist, · só hwat só þius wer-old be·havet.  
 Þó an þeru selvon stēdi · ge·siðos góde  
 5982 te bedu fellun · ėndi im eft te burg þanan  
 þar te Jerusalem · jungaron Kristes  
 5984 fórun faganondi: · was im fráh-mód hugi,  
 wárun im þar at þemu wíhe. · Waldandes kraft  
 5986 [...]

TODO.

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359 **b**eiðero | The diphthong is original and occurs in which manuscripts? TODO. It also occurs at two other places, viz. TODO and TODO. 1500 **h**ôh | TODO: Critical note (ms. apparently has hô) 2265 **s**krëid | See note to line TODO (b<sub>eið</sub>ero) above. 5848 **i**m **s**án | so C; om. L 5868 **s**án | so L; om. C

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# Muspilli

**Dating:** C9th

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

Found in the margins of a single theological manuscript from the 820s, *CLM 14098*.

The second sound shift is applied consistently. That this was the case at composition is seen by the alliteration between Latin words starting with *p*- and Germanic words which originally began with *b*-:

- l. 16: Germanic *pú* (= OE, ON *bú*) with borrowed *pardísu* (< Latin *paradisum*),
- l. 21: Germanic *piutit* (= OE *biett*, ON *býðr*) with borrowed *pebbes* (< Latin *pix*) and *pína* (< Latin *poena*),
- l. 25: Germanic *prinnan* (= OE *biernan*, ON *brinna*), *palw-* (= OE *bealu*, ON *bǫlv-*) with borrowed *pebbe* (see above).

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1      Sín tak pi·kweme, · daz er touwan skal.  
2      Wanta sár só sih diu sêla · in den sind ar·hēvit,  
      ęnti si den lîh-hamun · likkan lázzit,  
4      só kwimit ęin hęri · fona himil-zungalon;  
      daz andar fona pebbe: · dár págant siu umpi.  
6      Sorgén mak diu sêla, · unzi diu suona ar·gét,  
      za wederemo hęrje · si gi·halót werde.  
8      Wanta ipu sia daz Satanazses · ki·sindi ki·winnit,  
      daz lęitit sia sár · dár iru lęid wirdit,  
10     in fuir ęnti in finstrí: · daz ist rehto virin-lîh ding.  
      Upi sia avar ki·halónt die · die dár fona himile kwemant,  
12     ęnti si dero ęngilo · ęigan wirdit,  
      die pringent sia sár úf in himilo ríhi:  
14     dár ist lîp áno tód, · lioht áno finstrí,  
      sęlida áno sorgun: · dár n·ist neo-man siuh.  
16     Denne der man in pardísu · pú ki·winnit,  
      hús in himile, · dár kwimit imo hilfa ki·nuok.

18 Pi·diu ist durft mihhil allero manno we-líhemo, · daz in es sín muot  
     ki·spane,  
 daz er kotes willun · kerno tuoo  
 20 ęnti hęlla fuir · harto wíse,  
 pehhes pína: · dár piutit der Satanasz altist  
 22 hęizzan lauk. · Só mak hukkan za diu,  
 sorgén dráto, · der sih suntigen węiz.  
 24 Wê demo in vinstri skal · sínó viriná stúén,  
 prinnan in pehhe: · daz ist rehto palwík dink,  
 26 daz der man harét ze gote · ęnti imo hilfa ni kwimit.  
 Wánit sih ki·náda · diu wênaga sêla:  
 28 ni ist in ki·huktin · himiliskin gote,  
 wanta hiar in wer-olti · after ni werkóta.  
 30 Só denne der mahtigo khunink · daz mahal ki·pannit,  
 dara skal kweman · khunno ki·líhaz:  
 32 denne ni ki·tar parno nohheın · den pan furi·sizzan,  
 ni allero manno we-líh · ze demo mahale skuli.  
 34 Dár skal er vora demo ríhhe · az rahhu stantan,  
 pí daz er in wer-olti eo · ki·werkót hapéta.  
 36 Daz hôrt' ih rahhón · dia wer-olt-reht-wíson,  
 daz skuli der anti-khristo · mit Elíase págan.  
 38 Der warkh ist ki·wáfanit, · denne wirdit untar in wík ar·hapan.  
 Khęnfun sint só kreftík; · diu kósa ist só mihhil.  
 40 Elías strítit · pí den êwígon líp,  
 wili dén reht-kernón · daz ríhhi ki·starkan:  
 42 pi·diu skal imo helfan · der himiles ki·waltit.  
 Der Anti-khristo · stét pí demo alt-fiante,  
 44 stét pí demo Satanase, · der inan var·senkan skal:  
 pi·diu skal er in deru wík-stęti · wunt pi·vallen  
 46 ęnti in demo sinde · siga-lôs werdán.  
 Doh wánit des vilo got-manno,  
 48 daz Elías in demo wíge · ar·wartit werde.  
 Só daz Elíases pluot · in erda ki·triufit,  
 50 só in·prinnant die perga, · poum ni ki·stęntit  
 ênihk in erdu, · ahá ar·truknént,  
 52 muor var·swilhit sih, · swilizót lougiu der himil,  
 máno vallit, · prinnit mittila-gart,  
 54 stên ni ki·stęntit, · vęrit denne stúa-tago in lant,  
 vęrit mit diu vuiru · viriho wísón:  
 56 dár ni mak denae mák andremo · helfan vora demo Múspille.

Denne daz pręita wasal · allaz var·prinnit,  
 58 ęnti vuir ęnti luft · iz allaz ar·furpit.  
 Wár ist denne diu marha, · dár man dár eo mit sínén mágon piehk?  
 60 Diu marha ist far·prunna, · diu sêla stét pi·dunga,  
 ni wêiz mit wiu puaze: · só vërit sí za wíze.  
 62 Pi·diu ist demo manne só guot, · denner ze demo mahale kwimit,  
 daz er rahóno we-líha · rehto ar·tëile.  
 64 Denne ni darf er sorgén, · denne er ze deru suonu kwimit.  
 Ni wêiz der wênago man, · wie-líhan wartil er habét,  
 66 denner mit den miatón · marrit daz rehta,  
 daz der tiuval dár pí · ki·tarnit stëntit.  
 68 Der hapét in ruovu · rahóno we-líha,  
 daz der man êr ęnti síd · upiles ki·frumita,  
 70 daz er iz allaz ki·sagét, · denne er ze deru suonu kwimit;  
 ni skolta síd manno nohheín · miatun int·fáhan.  
 72 Só daz himiliska horn · ki·hlútít wirdit,  
 ęnti sih der suanari · ana den sind ar·hëvit  
 74 der dár suanna skal · tôten ęnti lepentén,  
 denne hëvit sih mit imo · hërjo męista,  
 76 daz ist allaz só pald, · daz imo nio-man ki·págan ni mak.  
 Denne vërit er ze deru mahal-stëti, · deru dár ki·markhót ist:  
 78 dár wirdit diu suona, · dia man dár io sagéta.  
 Denne varant ęngila · uper dio marha,  
 80 wëkhant deota, · wíssant ze dinge.  
 Denne skal manno gi·líh · fona deru moltu ar·stén,  
 82 lôssan sih ar dero léwo vazzón: · skal imo avar sín líp pi·kweman,  
 daz er sín reht allaz · ki·rahhón muozzi,  
 84 ęnti imo after sínén tátin · ar·tëilit werde.  
 Denne der gi·sizzit, · der dár suonnan skal  
 86 ęnti ar·tëillan skal · tôten ęnti kwekkhén,  
 denne stét dár umpi · ęngilo męnigí,  
 88 guotero gomóno: · gart ist só mihhil:  
 dara kwimit ze deru rihtungu só vilo · dia dár ar rëstí ar·stént.  
 90 Só dár manno nohheín · wiht pi·mídan ni mak,  
 dár skal denne hant sprehhan, · houpit sagén,  
 92 allero lido we-líhk · unzi in den luzígun vinger,  
 waz er untar desen mannun · mordes ki·frumita.  
 94 Dár ni ist eo só listík man · der dár io·wiht ar·liugan męgi,  
 daz er ki·tarnan męgi · táto dehheína,  
 96 niz al fora demo khuninge · ki·khundit werde,

98      *úzzan* er iz · mit *alamusanu* furi·męgi  
           ęnti mit *fastún* · dio *viriná* ki·puazti.  
           Denne der *paldét* · der gi·puazzit hapét,  
 100      denner ze deru suonu kwimit.  
           Wirdit denne *furi* ki·tragan · daz *frôno* khrúki,  
 102      dár der *hêligo* Khríst · ana ar·hangan ward.  
           Denne augit er dio *másún*, · dio er in deru *męnniskí* an·fénk,  
 104      dio er duruh desse *man-kunnes* · *minna* far·doléta.

TODO: Split into multiple parts. Translate.

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72 ki·hlútít ‘sounds’ | *kilutit* ms.

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50 perga ... poum ‘mountains ...woods’ | Formulaic word-pair; see note to *Muspell* 3.

72 ki·hlútít ‘sounds’ | Restoration of the cluster *hl-* is required by the alliteration.

# The Wessobrunner Hymn

**Dating:** late 700s

**Meter:** *Ancient-words-law*

This text can be split into two parts, the poem and the prayer. Following my principle of including sources rather than excluding (TODO: see Introduction), I here present both.

The first part is a short alliterative poem describing the earliest beginning of the world. The poet describes “the greatest of wonders”, namely that the universe began as a void, where neither earth nor heaven existed. In this void was, however, the almighty God, along with his many spirits (presumably the Heavenly Host or the Angels). While the cosmogony expressed is clearly Jewish-Christian rather than Germanic, the poem does contain two word-pairs also found in Norse Heathen stanzas about the creation of the world (see Notes to ll. 2, 3.), which may point toward a repurposing of older Heathen motifs and expressions in the new, Christian context.

The second part is a thoroughly Christian prayer. The author first thanks God for creating the earth and heaven, this is presumably why the poem was included, and for giving good things to mankind. He then asks for faith, strength and wisdom to help him in his mission.

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2        Dat ga·fregin ih mit firahim · firi·wizzó mę̃sta,  
      dat erdo ni was · noh úf-himil  
      noh paum · noh perek ni was  
4        ni [...] nohh-ę̃inig · noh sunna ni skę̃in  
      noh máno ni liuhta · noh der márjo sę̃o.  
6        Dó dar ni·wiht ni was · ę̃ntjó ni wę̃ntjó,  
      ę̃nti dó was der ę̃ino · al-mahtiko kot,  
8        manno miltisto, · ę̃nti dar wárun auh manaké mit inan  
      kót-líhhé gę̃istá, · ę̃nti kot hę̃ilak.

I have learned among men that greatest of wonders,  
that earth was not nor up-heaven,  
nor wood nor mountain was not,  
nor any [...]; nor did the sun shine,  
nor the moon give off light, nor the glittering sea.  
Then there was nothing, neither of limit nor infinity (TODO: Translation),—  
and then was the One Almighty God:  
the Mildest of Men [= Christ], and there were also many with Him:  
good ghosts, and Holy God.

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2 erdo | *ero* ms.

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2 erdo ... úf-himil 'earth ... up-heaven' | A formulaic merism attested across the Germanic world, expressing the totality of the universe. Cf. especially *Webth* 21, where the god Weden asks the ettin Webthrithner about the origin of "earth and up-heaven", and *Wsp* 3/3, where it is said, about the time before the World existed, that "earth and up-heaven" never existed.

3 paum ... perek 'forest ... mountain' | The same word-pair is found in *Grim* 40 describing the creation of the world from Yimer's body by the Gods, and in *Muspell* 50 describing the Christian destruction of the world prior to the Judgment.

- P1      Kot al-mahtiko, dú himil ėnti erda ga·worahtós, ėnti dú mannun só manak  
 2      kót for·gápi, for·gip mir in dína ga·náda rehta ga·laupa, ėnti kótan willjon;  
      wís-tóm ėnti spáhida ėnti kraft tiuflun za widar·stantanne, ėnti ark za  
 4      pi·wísanne, ėnti dínan willjon za ga·wurkhanne.

O God almighty! Thou didst work heaven and earth and Thou didst give men so much good. Give me in Thy mercy right belief and good will; wisdom and foresight and power to withstand devils and to reproach queerness and to work thy will.

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**Encyclopedia (INCOMPLETE!)**





NOTE: This encyclopedia is both incomplete and inconsistently formatted. New entries will be added, and old ones be corrected and expanded in the future.

## Cultural and religious terms and expressions (C)

- ape** (ON *api*, OE *apa*, OS *apo*, OHG *affo*, PNWGmc. *\*apó*) In the Old Norse the word seems to mean ‘fool, buffoon’, in the other old languages apparently ‘monkey’, though this sense should be a later development of the former; why would the early Germanic tribes have a word for an animal that they had never encountered?
- aught** (ON *étt*, OE *éht* ‘possession, property’) The Nordic (paternal) clan or family line.
- begale** (OHG *bi-galan*) To enchant, bewitch something or someone by singing a **gald**. Transitive of **gale**.
- bigh** (ON *baugr*, OE *béag*, OHG *boug*) Armlets used as currency during the Migration Period. — The giving of rings and armlets in exchange for loyalty (**holdness** being the word used for a warrior’s loyalty towards his lord, and of a lord’s grace towards his servants) was common across all of Germanic Europe, as seen in the many poetic ruler-kennings of the type “breaker of rings” (e.g. *béaga brytta* ‘the breaker of bighs’ in *Beow* ll. 35, 352, 1487). An illustrative example of this is *Hild* 33–35. This is also connected with the oath-ring, and the famous ring-swords. TODO? reference some literature on this.
- bloot** (ON *blót*, OE *blót*, OHG *bluoz*) A sacrifice or a sacrificial feast, one of the best attested Germanic pagan practices. The animals would be sacrificed by the host, cooked in large kettles and eaten communally. See also **bloot-house**.
- bloot-house** (ON *blót-hús*, OHG *bluoz-hús*) A heathen temple. Glosses Latin *fānum* in OHG. See also **harrow**, **hove**, **wigh**.
- Doom** (ON *dómr*, OE *dóm*) Commonly ‘judgement, verdict’ (whence Doomsday, ‘Judgement Day’), in the Norse and Anglo-Saxon poetry often specifically referring to one’s fame or good reputation (that is, how others will judge one’s character and deeds), especially after death. It is clear that this verdict was of utmost importance to the ancient Germanic people. The clearest examples are *Hig* 77 (see there): *I know one that never dies: the **Doom** o’er each man dead.* and *Beow* 1384–1389, where Beowulf consols king Rothgar after Grendle’s mother has slain his trusted advisor Asher (*Æschere*): *Ne sorga, snotor guma! · Sélre bið ég-bwém, / þæt hé his fréond wrece, · þonne hé fela murne. / Ûre éghwylc sceal · ende ge-bídan / worolde lífes; · wyrce sé þe móte / dómes ár déape; · þæt bið driht-guman / un-lifgendum · æfter sélest.* ‘Grieve not, wise man! ’Tis better for each one / that he avenge his friend than that he mourn much. / Each one of us shall suffer the end / of worldly life—win he who might / **Doom** before death: that is for the warrior, / unliving, afterwards the best.’ Other illustrative examples in *Beow* include 884b–887a: [...] *Sige-munde ge-sprong / æfter déað-dæge · dóm un-lýtel / syþðan wíges beard · wyrn á-cwealde / hordes byrde [...]* ‘For **Syemund** sprang up / after his death-day an unlittle [great] **Doom**, / since hard in conflict he defeated the **wyrm**, / the hoard’s herder.’ and 953b–955a: [...] *þú þe self hafast / déðum ge-fræmed · þæt þín dóm lyfað / áwa tó aldre [...]* ‘Thou hast for thyself / by deeds accomplished that thy **Doom** lives / for ever and ever.’
- feather-hame** (ON *fjaðr-hamr*, OE *fēðer-hama*, OS *fēðar-, fēðer-hamo*) A plumage which when donned by the wearer lets him fly like, or become a bird. One is owned by Frow and used by Lock to fly between the homes in *Thrim*. In the Christian *Healend* feather-hames are donned by angels who fly from heaven to earth. See also **hame**.

- fee** (ON *fǣ*, OE *fēoh*) Originally ‘cattle, kine’, however also used in a broader sense to refer to one’s mobile wealth; for that cf. particularly *High*.
- fey** (ON *feigr*, OE *fēge*, OHG *feigi* ‘cowardly’) Being doomed or fated to die, with a sense of predestination and inevitability. Its earliest documented Scandinavian use is on the Rök stone: *aft uamuþ stanta runar þar + n uarin faþi faþir aft faikiq̃n sunu Apt Vamōð standa rúnar þár, en Varinn fǣði, faðir aft feigjan sonu* ‘After Woemood (*Vamōðr*) stand these **runes**, but Warren (*Varinn*) painted, the father after the **fey** son.’ See PCRN HS II:35, p. 928 ff. (TODO)
- feyness** (ON *feigð*) The state of being **fey**.
- fimble-** (ON *fimbul-*) The ultimate, final, greatest. See **Fimblethyle**, **Fimble-winter**.
- five days** (ON *fimm dagar*) The Old Scandinavian (and perhaps Germanic) week was originally five days long, the seven-day week being a later import, as seen by the names of the days, which are obviously calqued from the Latin (*Dies Mercurii* = Weden’s day, et.c.). According to the *Gole* there were six weeks in a month, and “five days” is used as a generic period of time in *High* 51 and 74; in st. 74 it is contrasted with month. Related to this is the legal term *fifþ* (ON *fimmt*, OSw. *fæmt*), a meeting or gathering set to be held at a five-day notice. See *fimt* in CV, Love et al. (2020) for further discussion.
- galder** (ON *galdr*, OE *gealdor*, OHG *galdar*) A magical song or incantation, probably synonymous with **leed**. Verbal noun formed to **gale** ‘to sing, chant’.
- gale** (ON *gala*, OE *galan*, OHG *galan*) To sing, chant, especially of magical songs; verbal root of **galder** ‘something sung, chanted’.
- gand** (ON *gandr*, Latin *gandus*) A witch’s familiar or foul spirit sent out to do her bidding. See PCRN HS I:17, p. 361 and II:26, p. 656. TODO
- gid** (ON *gōði*, OE *Gydda* masc. given name) A heathen priest or master of ceremonies.
- gidden** (ON *gyðja*, OE *gyden* ‘goddess’) The womanly equivalent or wife of a **gid**.
- good of meat** (ON *matar gōðr*, *gōðr matar*) An old formula appearing in *High* 39 and numerous Swedish Wiking Age Runic inscriptions Sm 39, Sm 44, Sö 130, U 703, and U 805. Cf. U 739 which has the related *míldr matar* ‘mild of meat’. Antonyms are *matar illr* ‘evil of meat’ and **meat-nothing**.
- guest** (ON *gestr*, OE *giest*, OS *gast*, OHG *gast*, Got. *gasts*, PGmc. *gastiz*) Guests were often strangers, wanderers, who would come to beg for food and lodgings. The Old Germanic peoples placed great value on hospitality. TODO.
- hame** (ON *hamr*) A skin, shape. People could “shift hames” (ON *skipta hq̃mum*), leaving their human hames behind and instead entering into the shapes of wolves, bears, birds. During this process the original hame, that is, the human body, would be sleeping in a vulnerable state. A concise description of this is found in *IngS* 7: *Óðinn skipti hq̃mum, lá þá búkr’inn sem sofinn eða dauðr, en hann var þá fugl eða dýr, fiskr eða ormr, ok fór á einni svipstund á fjarlæg lǫnd at sínum erendum eða annarra manna*. ‘Weden shifted hames; then lay the trunk of his body as if sleeping or dead, but he was then a fowl or beast, a fish or serpent, and journeyed in a short while to foreign lands with his errands or those of other men.’ See also **feather-hame**, town-rideresses, evening-rideresses.
- harrow** (ON *hǫgr*, OE *hearg*, PNWGmc. *\*harugar*) A hallowed cairn or stone-heap. *Hind* 10 describes the construction of one. The Norwegian laws prescribe the “breaking of harrows and burning of hoves”. See also hove, **wigh**.

**hold** (ON *hollr*, OE *hold*, OS *hold*, OHG *hold*) ‘Favourable, loyal, gracious’, often of a ruler towards his subject (in the sense of ‘gracious, benevolent’) or vice-versa (in the sense of ‘loyal, devoted’). Mirroring these earthly relationships, it is often used to refer to divine grace, both of the Christian God—thus in the *Ecclesiastical Laws of King Cnut* **ALIE I** (p. 372): *Þam byþ witod-líce God hold, þe bið his bláforde rihtlice hold* ‘Indeed God is **hold** towards him who is rightly **hold** to his lord’—but in the oldest Scandinavian material likewise of the Heathen gods. Thus *Lock* 4 (e.): *holl regin ‘hold Reins’*, and *Ordr* 10 (e.):

*Svá hjalpi þér · hollar vettir,*

‘So help thee **hold** wights; **Frie** and **Frow**, and more gods [...]’.

This word is common in old Scandinavian oath formulæ, e.g. in the elder redaction of the West-Geatish Law: *Svá sé mér goð holl* ‘So may the Gods(!) be **hold** towards me,’ in medieval Norwegian laws (**NgL II**[197,397]) and Grey-Goose (TODO: cite): *Guð sé mér hollr ef ek satt segi, gramr ef ek lýg* ‘God be **hold** towards me if I speak truly, wroth if I lie,’ in Grey-Goose (TODO) also: *Sé guð hollr þeim er heldr gríðum, en gramr þeim er gríð rýfr* ‘God be **hold** towards him who keeps the truce, but wroth against him who breaks the truce’. I refer to Löffler (1895) for further discussion on these formulæ.

**holdness** (ON *hylli*, OE *hylðu*, OHG *huldi*) Abstract noun formed to **hold**, meaning ‘favour, loyalty, grace,’ with the same semantics as the adjective.

Notably, this word appears three times in connection with the grace of gods in the poetry, namely in *Grim* 43, where (according to my interpretation) the preparer of food at the blót is said to earn the “**holdness** of **Woulder** and of all the gods;” and *Grim* 53 where the disgraced king Garfrith is said to have been bereft of the support *gengi* of Weden and all the Oneharriers, and of “Weden’s **holdness**” (*Óðins hylli*). “Weden’s holdness” is also mentioned in a stanza by Hallfred (edited as Hfr Lv 7 by Diana Whaley in **SkP V**), who laments that: “The whole race of man has wrought songs to win the **holdness** of Weden; I recall the fully rewarded works of our kinsmen/ancestors.”

From the semantics of this word the Germanic view on heavenly grace is clear: the Gods are **hold** towards those who do good works, which include swearing true oaths, faithfully observing truces, partaking in the blót, following rules of hospitality, and composing poetry—and gram ‘wroth’ towards those who do the opposite.

**Home** (ON *heimr*, OE *hām*, PNWGmc. \**haimar*) In the Norse often referring to a realm in the cosmology (*Wsp* 2: “I remember nine **Homes**”, *Webth* TODO: “From the runes of the **Ettins** and of all the gods I can speak truly, for I have come into each **Home**”). Thus **Ettinham** is the ‘**Home**/realm of the ettins’. When used on its own it means ‘the world (that we inhabit)’. See also Nine Homes, **Thrithham**.

**leat** (ON *blaut*) In some saws explained as the blood drained from the offered animal; the verbal root is *hljóta* ‘to get by lot’ and this word certainly refers to the use of the blood for auguries.

**leat-twig** (ON *blaut-tǣinn*) A twig used to sprinkle the **leat**. The pattern of the blood would presumably be inspected for the augury; cf. *Hyme* 1.

**leed** (ON *ljóð*, OE *léod*) A magical chant or incantation, as seen by *Higb* 153 near-synonymous with **galder**. See also **gale**, **begale**.

**manwit** (ON *man-vit*) Common sense and wits.

**many-cunning** (ON *ffjöl-kunnigr*) Skilled with sorcery or the dark arts.

**meat-nithing** (ON *mat-niðingr*) One who is a **nothing** with food, i.e. one who does not properly furnish his **guest**.

See also **good of meat**.



- thyle** (ON *þulr*, OE *þyle*, PNWGmc. *\*þulir*) A sage who through rote learning has acquired a large amount of mythological lore (cf. **thule** ‘a list in poetic form; a ditty, bad poem’ and **thill** ‘to recite, to chant’). Thus **Weden** is the **Fimblethyle**, being the unbeaten master of lore, as can be seen in his wisdom contests (like *Webth*). Runic inscription DR 248 (Snoldelev) suggests that the thyle may have tied to a specific place, and in *Beow* it seems to have been a court position, with the poet Unferth being described (l. 1456) as the “Rothgar’s thyle”.
- wale** (ON *vplr*) The staff or sceptre of a **wallow**. TODO: archeological finds, mention Sutton Hoo.
- wallow** (ON *vplva*, OE *\*wealwe* (cf. ON *svplva*, OE *swealwe* ‘swallow’)) A sibyl, seeress, oracle. The word derives from the **wale**, a staff or sceptre probably used for ritual purposes.
- wigh** (ON *vé*, OE *wéob*, *wib*, PNWGmc. *\*wibq*) A holy place or sanctuary. It seems that where the **harrow** was a pile of stones or cairn used for carrying out rituals, the **wigh** was an enclosed space. The earliest Norse attestation is the runic inscription Ög N288 (Oklunda), which reads: “Guthur <= Gunnarr> painted these runes, and he fled, charged (with a crime, sought out this wigh, and he fled into this clearing. [...]” The implication seems to be that the wigh was considered so sacred that Guthur could not be apprehended or punished for his crime while in it.
- In OE the word means ‘pagan idol’. It is not immediately clear which meaning is the original one, but in the present edition the Norse sense has been adopted, since the Anglo-Saxon sources are all of a Christian nature. The name *Wighstone* (*Wib-* or *Wéobstān*) as found in *Beow* in any case suggests it is the Norse meaning, since ‘idol-stone’ makes little sense.
- wode** (ON *óðr*, OE *wód*, PNWGmc. *\*wódur*) **Heener**’s gift to men, though the name may suggest it be from **Weden**. The word has several related meanings: ‘mind, (poetic) inspiration, rage’. See also *Woderearer*.
- wyrm** (ON *ormr*, OE *wyrm*, PNWGmc. *\*wurmīr*) A dragon, serpent. The distinction between “wyrm” and “worm; snake” is purely editorial and not made in the original languages.
- yin-** (ON *ginn-*) A rare augmentative prefix. TODO.
- yin-holy** (ON *ginn-heilagr*) High holy, sacrosanct. Used of the Gods in the formula *ginn-heilög goð* ‘yin-holy Gods’.

## Persons and objects (P)

- Attle** (*Attila*, ON *Atli*, OE *Ætla*, MHG. *Etzel*, PNWGmc. *\*Attiló*) The ruler of the **Huns** (historically from 434–453). Husband of **Guthrun**, and with her father of **Earp and Oatle**. and murderer of
- Balder** (ON *Baldr*, OE *Bældæg* (not directly cognate), OHG *Balter*, PWGmc. *\*Baldrar*) The beautiful son of **Weden**, slayed by his brother **Hath**, avenged by his other brother **Wonnell**. Husband of Nan.
- Beadhild** (ON *Bǫðvildr*, OE *Beadobild*) The daughter of the tyrannical king **Nithad**. She is raped by her father’s prisoner, **Wayland**.
- Earp and Oatle** (ON *Erpr ok Eitill*) The sons of **Attle** and **Guthrun**.
- Earth** (ON *ǵrð*, OE *eorþe*, OHG *erda*, PNWGmc. *\*erþu*, PGmc. *\*erþō*) The personified Earth. By **Weden** the mother of **Thunder**.
- Erminric** (ON *Jǫrmunrekr*, OE *Eormanric*, MHG *Ermenrich*) Legendary king of the eastern Gots, based on the historical Ermanaric, who died in 376. TODO: Jordanes.

- Fathomer** (ON *Fáfnir*) The son of Rethmar, brother of Otter and Rein. He turns into a great **wyrm** and is eventually slain by **Siward**, who takes his treasure.
- Fimblethyle** (ON *Fimbulþulr*) The ‘ultimate **thyle**’ or sage; name for **Weden**.
- Foresitter** (ON *Forseti*) An obscure god associated with legal disputes. TODO.
- Free** (ON *Freyr*, OE *fréa* ‘lord’, PNWGmc. *\*Frawjar*) Son of **Nearth**, brother of **Frow**. See also **Ing**.
- Frie** (ON *Frigg*, OE *\*Frige*, OHG *Frija*, PNWGmc. *\*Frijju*) Wife of **Weden**, mother of **Balder**. Related to **Full**, who is either her sister (Second Merseburg Charm, though this may be metaphorical, as in *Hind* 1) or her maid-servant (the Norse sources).
- Frow** (ON *Freyja*) Cat-goddess, daughter of **Nearth**, sister of **Free**, wife of **Wode**. Promised to the Ettin. Possibly = Easter?
- Full** (ON *Fulla*, OHG *Folla*) Maid-servant (or sister?) of **Frie**; see there.
- Guthur** (ON *Gunnarr*, MHG *Gunther*) Brother of **Hain**.
- Guthrun** (ON *Guðrún*) Daughter of king **Yivick**, sister of **Guthur** and **Hain**. The wife of **Attle**.
- Hain** [Hain 1] (ON *Hogni*, OE *Haguna*, *Hagena*, OHG *Hagano*, Ger. *Hagen*, PNWGmc. *\*Hagunó*) A Nivling and **Yivicking**, son of king **Yivick**, brother of **Guthur** and **Guthrun**. In *Attl* he defeats seven warriors before being captured by **Attle**, who has his heart cut out at the request of Guthur.
- Hain 2** [2] A petty king of East Geatland, contemporary with Granmer, the king of Southmanland and Ingeld Illred, the **Ingling** king of Upland.
- Hath** (ON *Hǫðr*) The blind son of **Weden**, the slayer of his brother **Balder**.
- Heener** (ON *Hœnir*, PNWGmc. *Hónijar* ‘the little swan(?)’) An obscure god. Rydberg (1886)[552] has convincingly argued that he is connected with the stork, connecting his name with the Greek κύκνος ‘swan’ and Sanskrit *śakuna* ‘bird of omen’, and noting that his epithets *langi fōtr* ‘long foot’ and *aurkonungr* ‘mud-king’ (both found in *Scold* 22) accurately describe the stork. He gives **wode** TODO.
- Hell** (ON *Hell*) Owneress of **Hell**.
- Hindle** (ON *Hyndla*) A witch awoken by **Frow** in *Hind*.
- Homedal** (ON *Hœimdallr*, OE *\*Hámdall*) The Watchman of the gods, whitest of the **Eese**.
- Hymer** (ON *Hymir*) **Tew**’s father according to *Hyme*.
- Ing** (ON *Yngvi*, OE *Ing*) Probably an older name of **Free**. The legendary ancestor of the **Inglings**. Cf. the Old English Rune Poem.
- Life and Lifethrasher** (ON *Líf ok Líf-þrasir*) The only surviving humans after the **Rakes of the Reins**.
- Lock** (ON *Loki*) The bound Os. TODO.
- Lothar** (ON *Lóðurr*, OS *Logapōre*, PNWGmc. *\*Logapōrjar* ‘Flame-darer(?)’) Gives three gifts to man. The Old Saxon attestation is uncertain.
- Millner** (ON *Mjöllnir*, OE *\*Meldne*, PNWGmc. *\*Meldunjar*) The hammer of **Thunder**.
- Moon** (ON *Máni*) The personified moon. Son of **Mundlefare** and brother of the **Sun** (*Webth* 23). For ritual invocations of the Moon see Note to *Higb* TODO (*beiptum kveða*).
- Mundlefare** (ON *Mundilfari*) The father of **Sun** and **Moon** (*Webth* 23).
- Nearth** (ON *Njǫrðr*) One of the **Wanes**. Father of **Free** and **Frow**.



- Nithad** (ON *Niðuðr*, OE *Níþbad*, PNWGmc. \**Níþa-baduz*) The king that imprisoned **Wayland**, father of **Beadhild** and two unnamed sons (*Wayl*, *Deer*).
- Oughter** (ON *Óttarr*, OE *Óðthere*, PNWGmc. \**Óhta-barjar*) Legendary Swedish king.
- Reading** (ON *Hraudungr*) A king in the prologue to *Grim*.
- Rotholf** (ON *Hrólfr kraki*, OE *Hrōþulf*, PNWGmc. \**Hróþi-wulfar*) A king of the **Shieldings** (see family tree). As foreshadowed in *Beow* 1017–9, 1180–90, he betrays the sons of **Rothgar**, his cousins Rethrich and Rothmund, in order to take the throne for himself. In the later Icelandic tradition this has been forgotten, and he is consistently portrayed as a heroic king.
- Rothgar** (ON *Hróarr*, OE *Hrōþgár*, PNWGmc. \**Hróþi-gairar*) A king of the **Shieldings** (see family tree), one of the main characters in *Beow*.
- Shede** (ON *Skæði*, OE *Scede*(?)), PGmc. \**Skadi*) A female figure, possibly the namesake of Shedeny and the Shedelands, in which case she was in an early period closely associated with, and perhaps thought to guard, the Scandinavian (or properly *Scadinavian*, see Shedeny) peninsula. In the Norse tradition the daughter of **Thedse**, and later wife of **Nearth**. Their marriage is the subject of *Yilv* which preserves.
- Shield** (ON *Skjöldr*, OE *Scyld*, PNWGmc. \**Skelduz*) Legendary Danish king, founder of the **Shieldings**.
- Syemund** (ON *Sig-mundr*, OE *Sige-mund*, MHG. *Sieg-mund*, PNWGmc. \**Sigi-mundur*) In the Norse tradition the son of king Walsing. He begets **Siward**, the slayer of the wyrm **Fathomer**. In *Beow* it is Syemund himself who slays an unnamed wyrm. Connected with his nephew Sinfittle.
- Sithguth** (OHG *Sinthgunt*, PNWGmc. \**Sinþa-gunþir*(?)) Only known from *Mers II* as the sister of **Sun**.
- Siward** (ON *Sigurðr*) A hero of the **Walsings**, slayer of the wyrm **Fathomer**.
- Sun** (ON *Sól*, OHG *Sunna*) The personified Sun, who in the Germanic mythology is a woman. In *Webth* 22 the daughter of **Mundlefare** and sister of **Moon**. In *Mers II* the sister of **Sithguth**.
- Thedse** (ON *Þjatsi*) An ettin slain by the Gods; his myth is told at length in *Hvl*. Father of **Shede**.
- Thrim** (ON *Þrymr*) Ettin who steals Thunder's hammer in *Thrim* and is later killed.
- Thunder** (ON *Þórr*, OE *Þunor*, OHG *Donar*, PNWGmc. \**Þonarar*) Son of **Weden** and **Earth**. Friend of men, guarding of Middenyard.
- Tew** (ON *Týr*, OE *Tiw*) Son of **Hymer**. One-handed god. The name is not identical to Sanskrit *Dyāus*, Greek *Zeus*, Latin *Iuppiter*.
- Wayland** (ON *Vǫlundr*, OE *Weland*, *Wélund*) A legendary smith captured by the tyrannical king **Nithad**. In both the Norse *Wayl* and English *Deer* he takes his revenge by first killing Nithad's unnamed sons and then raping his daughter **Beadhild**. In the Norse version he is married to Harware Elwight.
- Webthritner** (ON *Vafþrúðnir*) An Ettin defeated by Weden in the wisdom contest in *Webth*.
- Weden** (rhymes with *leaden*; ON *Óðinn*, OE *Wóden*, *Wéden*, OHG *Wuotan*, PNWGmc. \**Wóðanar* 'Lord of **wode** (poetry, intelligence)') Chief of the **Eese**, God of Wisdom, Galder, Poetry, War. Husband of **Frie**, and by her father of **Balder**. Father of **Thunder** by **Earth**. Brother of **Heener** and **Lother** or **Will** and **Wigh**.
- Wider** (ON *Víð-arr*, OE \**Wid-here*, PNWGmc. \**Wida-barjar*) Son of **Weden**, who avenges him at the **Rakes of the Reins**.

- Wigh** (ON *Vei*, PNWGmc. \**Wibā* ‘hallower, (heathen) priest’) Brother of **Weden** and **Will**.
- Will** (ON *Vili*, PNWGmc. \**Wiljā*) Brother of **Weden** and **Wigh**.
- Wode** (ON *Óðr*, OE *Wód*) Obscure husband of **Frow**. His name looks to be the same word as **wode**.
- Wonnell** (ON *Váli*, OE \**Wonela*, PNWGmc. \**Wanilô* ‘the little **Wane**?’) Son of **Weden**, who just one night old avenges his brother **Balder** through slaying **Hath**, his half-brother.
- Woulder** (ON *Ullr*, \**Wuldor*, PNWGmc. \**Wulþuz*) A rather obscure god. He is mentioned in connection with oath-rings (TODO) and the setting of ritual fires (*Grim* TODO). These obscure references are likely related to the interesting finds at Lilla Ullevi (‘the small **wigh** of Woulder’) in Upland, Sweden, consisting of several dozen fire striker-shaped iron amulet rings dating to 660–780 (for a detailed description see (af Edholm, 2009)).
- Yimer** (ON *Ymir*, OE \**Yime*) The primeval ancestor of the **Ettins**, probably equivalent to Earyelmer. The first Gods slew Yimer and arranged the world out of his corpse.
- Yivick** (ON *Gjúki*, OE *Gifca*, OHG *Gibicho*, MHG. *Gibeche*) King of the Burgends (historically from late 300s–407) of the Nifling dynasty, ancestor of the **Yivickings**. Father of **Guthrun**, **Guther** and **Hain**.

## Groups and tribes (G)

TODO: Map of rough tribal areas. Genealogies.

- All Gods** (ON *öll goð*) Occurs especially in ritual or ritual-adjacent use (*Grim* 43, *Lock* 11; cf. *HathSp* 18, where the piety of the dead king Hathkin is shown by his being greeted by *rþð öll ok rrgin* ‘all the Redes and **Reins**’, and the prayer in *Syed* 2–3, which collectively invokes the **Eese** and **Ossens**). This suggests a native Germanic conception of Godly Oneness (Divine Unity); see also the **Thing of the Gods**, where the Gods convene and together steer the world.

Similar expressions are found in other pre-Abrahamic religions, e.g. the Vedic *viṣve devāḥ* ‘All Gods’, to Whom are dedicated numerous hymns of *RV*, and the Greek Πάν·θειον, that is, a temple dedicated to All Gods.

The idea of Godly Oneness may have been disputed; an interesting anecdote is given by Saxo (i.7.2). After Woden departs he is usurped by an obscure figure *Mithothin* (perhaps “With-Weden”), who reforms the cult:

*Cuius secessu Mithothyn quidam prestigiis celebrer, perinde ac celesti beneficio vegetatus, occasionem et ipse fingende divinitatis arripuit barbarasque mentes novis erroris tenebris circumfusas prestigiarum fama ad cerimonias suo nomini persolvendas adduxit. Hic deorum iram aut numinum violationem confusis permixtisque sacrificiis expiari negabat ideoque eis vota communiter nuncupari prohibebat, discreta superum cuique libamenta constituens. Qui cum Othino redeunte relicta prestigiarum ope latendi gratia Pheoniam accessisset, concursu incolarum occiditur.*

‘A certain Mithodin, a famous illusionist, was animated at his departure as if by a kindness from heaven and snatched the chance to pretend divinity himself; his reputation for magicianship clouded the barbarians’ minds with the murk of a new superstition and led them to perform holy rites to his name. He asserted that the gods’ wrath and the profanation of their divine authority could not be expiated by confused and mingled sacrifices; so he arranged that they must not be prayed to as a group, but separate offerings (*libamenta*) be made to each deity. When Odin returned, the other no longer resorted to his conjuring but went off to hide in Funen, where he was rushed upon and killed by the inhabitants.’



It is possible that this account reflects an historical attempted religious reform. It does not appear to have been successful.

- Danes** (ON *danir*, OE *dene*, PNWGmc. \**danír*) A tribe in eastern modern-day Denmark and southern Sweden. They probably originated in Scania in southern Sweden, before moving westwards into the Danish isles and eventually Jutland, driving out the Earls and Jutes. Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- Dwarfs** (ON *dvergar*, OE *dweorgas*, OHG *twerca*, PNWGmc. \**dwerǵór*) Earthly (chthonic) supernatural beings, often referred to as living in rocks and mountains. Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- Eese** (rhyming with *geese*; ON *ésir*, OE *ése*, PNWGmc. \**ansiwir*; sg. *os*, ON *óss*, OE *ós*, PNWGmc. \**ansur*) The (male) gods. Snorre has them as a separate tribe from the **Wanes**. See also **Gods**, **Tews**, **Reins**. Noted members: **Weden**, **Thunder**, **Frie**, **Hath** and **Balder** Attestations: TODO
- Elves** (ON *alfar*, OE *ieġfe*, PNWGmc. \**alþír*) Earthly (chthonic) minor deities. Possibly ancestral spirits? Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- Ettins** (ON *jotnar*, OE *eotenas*, PNWGmc. \**etunór*) The fundamental enemies of the Gods, the agents of chaos and disorder. See **Rises**, **Thurses**. Noted members: **Hymer**, **Thrim**, **Webthritner**, **Yimer** Attestations: TODO
- Geats** (ON *gautar*, OE *géatas*, PNWGmc. \**gautór* from \**geut-* ‘to pour’, perhaps ‘the libators’) A tribe in what is today southern-central Sweden. See also **Geatland**, **Swedes**. Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- yin-Reins** (ON *ginn-regin*) **yin-** + **Reins**. The sacrosanct, highest Divine Powers.
- Gods** (ON *goð*, OE *godu*, OHG *gota*, PNWGmc. \**godu*) TODO. Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- Huns** (ON *búni*, OE *Húne*, OHG *Húni*, *Hunni*, PNWGmc. \**búnir*) An invading Asiatic tribe in the Migration Period. In the Scandinavian legends they have been assimilated into the Germanic framework, and are not presented as racially or culturally distinct. Noted members: **Attle**, TODO Attestations: TODO
- Inglings** (ON *ynlingar*, PNWGmc. \**ingwalingór* ‘the descendants of **Ing**’) The oldest known Swedish kingly lineage. The difference between this term and **Shelvings** is a bit unclear; *Beow* knows them only by the latter term, while they seem to be used synonymously in the Norse sources.
- Nears** (ON *njárar -njarar*) An old Swedish tribe mentioned in *Wayl*, where it is ruled by king **Nithad**. The location may allow us to connect them with the Swedish province of Närke, cf. Old Swedish *Nærikjar* ‘inhabitants of Närke’, *Nærisker* ‘belonging to Närke’. The Old Swedish stem *nær-* (with unclear vowel length, though it is probably long) would then be a reduced form of *níar-*, *njár-*.
- Norns** (ON *nornir*) Supernatural women responsible for the fates (**orlays**) of men. Probably synonymous with **Dises**, **Mothers**.
- Ossens** (ON *ósynjur*) The wives of the **Eese**, the goddesses.
- Oneharriers** (ON *ein-herjar*, OE \**án-hergas*) **Weden**’s chosen warriors, probably corresponding to the Vedic *Maruts*. The **Oneharriers** have some agency (*Grim* TODO) and were probably also invoked in rituals. Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- Reins** (ON *rogn*, *regin*) The heavenly powers. Judging from *Webth* TODO the term may be more closely associated with the **Wanes** than the **Eese**.

- Saxons** (ON *saxar*, OE *Seaxan*, *Seaxe*) TODO. Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- Shieldings** (ON *skjöldungar*, OE *Scyldingas*, PNWGmc. *\*skeldungór*) The descendants of **Shield**; the legendary **Danish** royal dynasty. With Harward's death after his slaying of **Rotholf** their rule ended. TODO Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- Shelvings** (ON *skilfingar*, OE *scilfingas*, PNWGmc. *\*skilþingór*) The descendants of Shelf; the legendary **Swedish** royal dynasty. The exact difference between the terms Shelvings and **Ingling**s is unclear, but the first may have referred to the old royal family in Sweden, while the latter to the Norwegian branch which claimed descent from the former. TODO Noted members: TODO Attestations: *Hind* 15, 20
- Swedes** (ON *sviár*, OE *swéon*, PNWGmc. *\*swihanir*) The tribe around the Mälar valley in eastern Sweden. Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- Thurses** (sg. Thurse; ON *þurs*, OE *þyrs*, OS *thuris*, OHG *duris*, PNWGmc. *\*þurisar*) Possibly a poetic synonym for **Ettins**. See also Rime-Thurses. Noted members: TODO Attestations: TODO
- Tews** (ON *tívar*, PNWGmc. *\*tíwór*) A poetic synonym for **Gods**. Attestations: TODO
- Walsings** (ON *vǫlsungar*) The descendants of king Walsing.
- Wanes** (ON *vanir*, OE *wan*?) A subgroup or tribe of the gods, associated with fertility, harvests and the sea. Noted members: **Nearth**, **Free**, **Frow** Attestations: TODO
- Yivickings** (ON *gjúkungar*) The descendants of **Yivick**, including **Guther**, **Guthrun** and **Hain**. Attestations: TODO

## Places and events (L)

- Eastern Way** (ON *Austr-vegr*) In the mythology the eastern lands of the **Ettins**, to which **Thunder** goes to fight the Ettins and protect the realms of Gods and men. Probably the same as **Ettinham**. In Scandinavian (especially Swedish) runic inscriptions this word refers to Eastern Europe and Asia.
- Ettinham** (ON *Jǫtun-heimr*, *Jǫtna-heimar*) The '**Ettin-Home**' or 'home of the Ettins'; the eastern realm of chaotic and inhospitable beings. See also **Eastern Way**, **Outyards**.
- Fimble-winter** (ON *fimbulvetr*) The great winter, which kills all humans apart from **Life** and **Lifethrasher**.
- Geatland** (ON *Gaut-land*, *Gauta-land*) The land of the **Geats**.
- Hell** (ON *hǫl*, PNWGmc. *\*halju*, Got. *halja*) The Underworld, personified as and formally identical to **Hell**. After the arrival of Christianity the word came to refer to the Christian hell-fire (= *Gebenna*), which is the case in all attested languages apart from the Old Norse. See also **Nivelhell**.
- Middenyard** (ON *Mið-garðr*, OE *Middan-geard*, OS *Middil-gard*, OHG *Mittil-gart*, Got. *midjun-gards*) The 'Middle Enclosure'; the realm of men. See also **Osyard**, **Outyards**.
- Nivelhell** (ON *nifl-hǫl*) 'Mist-Hell'. From the poetic evidence it seems like it may originally have been a synonym for **Hell**.
- Osyard** (ON *Ós-garðr*) The 'Enclosure of the **Eese**'; the heavenly realm. See also **Middenyard**, **Outyards**.
- Outyards** (ON *Út-garðar*) Not Eddic. The 'Outer Enclosures', described in *Yǫlv*. See also **Ettinham**, **Middenyard**, **Osyard**.

**Rakes of the Reins** (ON *ragna røk*) The ‘ultimate events of the **Reins**’, euphemism for the destruction of the world.

**Rakes of the Tews** (ON *tíva røk*) See **Rakes of the Reins**.

**Thing of the Gods** (ON *þing goða*) The Divine Council or Assembly, where the Gods convene and make decisions; a conception well known from Near Eastern literature. Like the historical Germanic assemblies, the Thing is only attended by the male **Eese**, whereas the **Ossens** are *á máli* ‘at speech’ (*Bldr* 1, *Thrim* 14). The Thing is held every day at **Ugdrassle’s Ash**; Thunder wades to it, and the other Eese ride to it (*Grim* 29–30). Thirteen Gods were present at the Thing: **Weden, Thunder, Nearth, Free, Tew, Homedal**, Bray, **Wider, Wonnell, Woulder, Heener, Foresitter, Lock** (*Yilv* TODO). With Lock excluded this makes twelve, which corresponds to the Old Germanic jury of twelve men.

The Germanic Thing of the Gods has Near Eastern equivalents, including in the Hebrew Bible. TODO.

Occurrences: *Wsp* 6, 9, etc; *Bldr* 1; *Grim* 29–30; *Thrim* 14; *Hyme* 39.

**Thrithham** (ON *Þrúð-hęimr*) **Thunder’s** home. See thrith.

**Ugdrassle’s Ash** (ON *askr Yggdrasils*) The noblest tree; the site of the **Thing of the Gods**.

**Up-heaven** (ON *upp-biminn*, OE *up-beofon*, OS *upp-bimil*, OHG *uf-bimil*) Highest Heaven; used in **Earth and Up-heaven**.

**Walhall** (ON *Valhöll*, OE *Wælheall*) The Hall of the Slain owned by **Weden** and inhabited by the **Oneharriers**.

## Poetic formulæ (F)

All formulæ are given in English translation, their attested forms and a Proto-Germanic rendition. For those consisting of two words bound together by a conjunction, & is written in its place.

**Earth and Up-heaven** (ON *jörð & uppbiminn*, OE *eorpe & upbeofon*, PGmc. *\*erþō & upbiminaz*) An ancient poetic merism, i.e. “the whole world, cosmos”. It has a particular connection to the creation and destruction of the world, and in prayers. ON: *Wsp* 3/3, *Weib* 20, *Thrim* 2, DR EM85;49 (under Galders), Sö 154 (under Miscellaneous Runic Poetry), *Ordr* 17; OE: *Acreboot*; OS: *Healend* 2886; OHG: *Wessobrunner Hymn* 2.

**Eese and Elves** (ON *ęsir & alfar*, OE *ęse & ielfę*, PNWGmc. *\*alþir & ansiwir*) A merism; both heavenly and earthly spiritual beings. Notably the two words always occur in this order (never ‘Elves and Eese’), even in OE.

**words and works** (ON *orð & verk*, OE *word & weorc*, PGmc. *\*wurdō & werkō*) *Beow* 289, 1100, 1833