

OLD NORSE SERIES • VOLUME 9

SIGURD AND RAGNAR

Völsunga saga

Ragnars saga loðbrókar ok sona hans

Sigurd and Ragnar
Two Sagas of the Völsung Line

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation
preserving the original word order

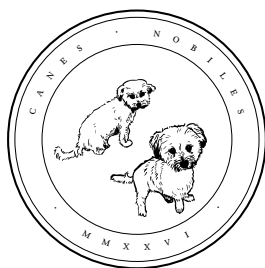


CANES NOBILES · MMXXVI

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Volume 9 of the Canes Nobiles Old Norse interlinear texts

The Old Norse text follows Guðni Jónsson and Bjarni Vilhjálmsson's
normalized text of the Fornaldarsögur Norðurlanda (Reykjavík, 1943–1944)

Set from Heimskringla.no, with corrections

Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench
Artwork by Esther Steves

The spelling is Guðni Jónsson's modernized normalization rather than the classical orthography of the Íslenzk fornrit editions: ö for the hooked o, æ for both front vowels, and -st in the middle voice. The edition prints no chapter rubrics in either saga, so all sixty-two English chapter titles in the book are this press's, as are the summaries under them. An em dash stands under the expletive particle *of*, spelled *um* in three verse lines, which has no English equivalent.

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Völsunga saga

The Saga of the Völsungs

Sigi, said to be a son of Óðinn, envies Skaði's thrall Breði for taking the better hunt and kills him, hiding the body in a snowdrift. Named a wolf in holy places for the murder, he is led out of the land by Óðinn to a fleet of warships, harries until he has won a kingdom, and rules Húnaland. His son by a noble marriage is Rerir.

Hér hefr upp ok segir frá þeim manni, er Sigi er nefndr
Here begins up and tells of that man who Sigi is named
 ok kallaðr, at hétí sonr Óðins. Annarr maðr er nefndr
and called that was-called son of-Odin Another man is named
 til sögunnar, er Skaði hét. Hann var ríkr ok mikill
to the-saga who Skadi was-called He was powerful and great
 fyrir sér, en þó var Sigi þeira enn ríkari ok ættstærri,
for himself but yet was Sigi of-them the more-powerful and higher-born
 at því er menn mæltu í þann tíma. Skaði átti þræl
at that which men said in that time Skadi had a-thrall
 þann, er nokkut verðr at geta við söguna. Hann hét
that-one who somewhat is-worth to mention with the-saga He was-called
 Breði. Hann er fróðr við þat, er hann skyldi at hafast.
Bredi He is knowing at that which he should to busy-himself
 Hann hafði íþróttir ok atgervi jafnframt hinum, er
He had accomplishments and ability alongside to-those who
 meira þóttu verðir, eða umfram nokkura.
more were-thought worthy or beyond some
 Þat er at segja eitthvert sinn, at Sigi ferr á dýraveiði, ok
That is to say some-one time that Sigi goes on a-deer-hunt and
 með honum þrællinn, ok veiða dýr um daginn allt til
with him the-thrall and they-hunt deer through the-day all until
 aptans. En er þeir bera saman veiði sína um aptaninn,
evening But when they bear together (the)-catch their in the-evening

þá hafði Breði veitt miklu fleira ok meira en Sigi, en
then had Bredi caught much more and greater than Sigi but
 honum líkaði stórilla ok segir, at sik undri, at einn
to-him it-pleased very-ill and says that himself it-astonishes that one
 þræll skuli sik yfirbuga í dýraveiði, hleypr því at honum
thrall should himself overcome in a-deer-hunt runs therefore at him
 ok drepr hann; dysjar síðan líkit í snjófönn. Nú ferr
and kills him buries then the-corpse in a-snowdrift Now goes
 hann heim um kveldit ok segir, at Breði hafi riðit frá
he home in the-evening and says that Bredi has ridden from
 honum á skóginn, — “ok var hann senn ór augliti mér,
him into the-wood and was he at-once out-of sight to-me
 ok veit ek ekki til hans.” Skaði grunar sögn Siga ok
and know I nothing of him Skadi suspects (the)-account of-Sigi and
 getr, at vera munu svik hans ok mun Sigi hafa drepit
guesses that he will treachery his and will Sigi have killed
 hann, fær menn til at leita hans, ok lýkr svá leitinni, at
him gets men to to seek him and ends so the-search that
 þeir fundu hann í skafli einum, ok mælti Skaði, at þann
they found him in a-snowdrift one and spoke Skadi that that
 skafi skyldi kalla Breðafönn heðan af, ok hafa menn nú
snowdrift should call Bredi's-drift henceforth from and have men now
 þat eptir síðan ok kalla svá hverja fönn, er mikil er. Þá
that after since and call so every snowdrift which great is Then
 kemr upp, at Sigi hefir drepit þrælinn ok myrðan. Þá kalla
comes up that Sigi has killed the-thrall and murdered Then call
 þeir hann varg í véum, ok má hann nú eigi heima
they him a-wolf in (the)-sanctuaries and may he now not at-home
 vera með feðr sínum. Óðinn fylgir honum nú af landi
be with father his Odin accompanies him now from land
 brott, svá langa leið, at stóru bar, ok eigi létti hann
away so long a-way that greatly it-mattered and not stopped he

fyrr en hann kom honum til herskipa. Nú tekr Sigi at
sooner than he brought him to war-ships Now takes Sigi to
 leggjast í hernað með þat lið, er faðir hans fekk honum,
set-himself in harrying with that force which father his gave to-him
 áðr þeir skildu, ok varð hann sigrsæll í hernaðinum. Ok
before they parted and became he victorious in the-harrying And
 svá kemr hans máli, at hann fekk herjat sér land
so comes his case that he got harried for-himself land
 ok ríki um síðir. Ok því næst fekk hann sér göfugt
and realm in time And that next got he for-himself a-noble
 kvánfang, ok gerðist hann ríkr konungr ok mikill fyrir
marriage and became he a-powerful king and great for
 sér ok réð fyrir Húnalandi ok er inn mesti hermaðr. Hann
himself and ruled over Hunaland and is the greatest warrior He
 á son við konu sinni, er hét Rerir. Hann vex þar upp
has a-son with wife his who was-called Rerir He grows there up
 með feðr sínum ok gerist brátt mikill vexti ok gerviligr.
with father his and becomes soon great in-stature and accomplished

II • THE APPLE OF ÓÐINN

Sigi is killed by his wife's brothers; his son Rerir gathers a force, takes land and kingdom after him, and only then avenges him. Childless, he and his queen pray for a child, Frigg hears their prayer and tells Óðinn, and he sends his wish-maiden, the giant Hrimnir's daughter, in a crow's skin with an apple. Rerir dies on a levy, and the queen, unable to give birth after six years, is cut open. The boy is Völsungr, who marries the wish-maiden Hljóð and has ten sons and one daughter, the twins Sigmundr and Signý eldest of them.

Nú gerist Sigi gamall maðr at aldri. Hann átti sér
Now becomes Sigi an-old man in age He had for-himself
 marga öfundarmenn, svá at um síðir réðu þeir á hendr
many enviers so that in time attacked they against hands
 honum, er hann trúði beztr, en þat váru bræðr konu
him whom he trusted best and that were brothers of-wife
 hans. Þeir gera þá til hans, er hann varir sízt ok
his They make then against him when he is-aware least and
 hann var fáliðr fyrir, ok bera hann ofrliði, ok á
he was few-manned at-hand and bear him by-overwhelming-force and in
 þeim fundi fell Sigi með hirð sinni allri. Sonr hans, Rerir,
that meeting fell Sigi with court his all Son his Rerir
 var ekki í þeim háska, ok fær hann sér mikit lið af
was not in that peril and gets he for-himself great a-force from
 vinum sínum ok landshöfðingjum, svá at hann eignaðist
friends his and land-chieftains so that he gained
 bæði land ok konungdóm eptir Siga, föður sinn. Ok nú er
both land and kingdom after Sigi father his And now when
 hann þykkist hafa fótum undir komizt í ríki sínu, þá
he thinks-himself to-have feet under got in realm his then
 minnst hann á þær sakir, er hann átti við móðurbræðr
remembers he of those causes which he had against mother's-brothers
 sína, er dreptir höfðu föður hans, ok safnar konungr sér
his who killed had father his and gathers (the)-king for-himself
 nú liði miklu ok ferr nú á hendr frændum sínum
now a-force great and goes now against hands kinsmen his
 með þenna her, ok þykkja þeir fyrr gert hafa sakir við
with this army and seem they before done to-have causes against
 sik, þó at hann mæti lítills frændsemi þeira, ok svá
himself though that he might-value little kinship theirs and so
 gerir hann, fyrir því at eigi skilst hann fyrri við en hann
does he for that that not parts he sooner from than he

hafði drepit alla föðurbana sína, þó at óskapliga væri
had killed all father's-slayers his though that unnaturally it-was
 fyrir alls sakir. Nú eignaðist hann lönd ok ríki ok fé.

for all sakes Now gained he lands and realm and property
 Gerist hann nú meiri fyrir sér en faðir hans.

Becomes he now greater for himself than father his

Rerir fekk sér nú herfang mikit ok konu þá, er honum

Rerir got for-himself now war-spoil great and a-wife that-one who to-him

þótti við sitt hæfi, ok eru þau mjök lengi ásamt, ok eigu þau
seemed to his fitness and are they very long together and have they
 engan erfingja ok ekki barn. Þat hugnar þeim báðum illa, ok

no heir and no child That pleases them both ill and

biðja þau goðin með miklum áhuga, at þau gæti sér

pray they the-gods with great eagerness that they might-get for-themselves

barn. Þat er nú sagt, at Frigg heyrir bæn þeira ok segir

a-child That is now said that Frigg hears prayer their and says

Óðni, hvers þau biðja. Hann verðr eigi örþrifráða ok tekr

to-Odin what they pray-for He becomes not without-resource and takes

óskmey sína, dóttur Hrímnis jötuns, ok fær í hönd henni
wish-maiden his daughter of-Hrimnir giant and gives into hand to-her

eitt epli ok biðr hana færa konungi. Hún tók við eplinu ok

one apple and bids her to-bring to-(the)-king She took at the-apple and

brá á sik krákuham ok flýgr til þess, er hún kemr þar,
cast on herself a-crow-shape and flies until that when she comes there

sem konungrinn er ok sat á haugi. Hún lét falla eplit í

where the-king is and sat on a-mound She let to-fall the-apple into

kné konunginum. Hann tók þat epli ok þóttist vita,

(the)-knee to-the-king He took that apple and thought-himself to-know

hverju gegna mundi; gengr nú heim af hauginum ok til sinna

what mean it-would goes now home from the-mound and to his

manna ok kom á fund drottningar, ok etr þat epli sumt.

men and came to a-meeting of-(the)-queen and eats that apple some

Þat er nú at segja, at drottning finnr þat brátt, at hún
That is now to say that (the)-queen finds that soon that she
 mundi vera með barni, ok ferr þessu fram langar stundir,
would be with child and goes this forward long whiles
 at hún má eigi ala barnit. Þá kemr at því, at Rerir skal
that she may not bear the-child Then comes to that that Rerir shall
 fara í leiðangr, sem siðvenja er til konunga, at friða land
go on a-levy as (the)-custom is for kings to pacify land
 sitt. Í þessi ferð var þat til tíðenda, at Rerir tók sótt
his In this journey was that for tidings that Rerir took sickness
 ok því næst bana ok ætlaði at sækja heim Óðin, ok þótti
and that next death and intended to seek home Odin and seemed
 þat mörgum fýsiligt í þann tíma. Nú ferr inu sama fram
that to-many desirable in that time Now goes in-the same forward
 um vanheilsu drottningar, at hún fær eigi alit barnit, ok
about (the)-ill-health of-(the)-queen that she gets not borne the-child and
 þessu ferr fram sex vetr, at hún hefir þessa sótt. Nú
this goes forward six winters that she has this sickness Now
 finnr hún þat, at hún mun eigi lengi lifa, ok bað nú,
finds she that that she will not long live and bade now
 at hana skyldi særa til barnsins, ok svá var gert sem
that her one-should cut for the-child and so was done as
 hún bað. Þat var sveinbarn, ok sá sveinn var mikill vexti,
she bade That was a-boy-child and that boy was great in-stature
 þá er hann kom til, sem ván var at. Svá er sagt, at
then when he came forth as expectation was at So is said that
 sjá sveinn kyssti móður sína, áðr hún dæi. Þessum er nú
this boy kissed mother his before she died To-this-one is now
 nafn gefit ok er kallaðr Völsungr. Hann var konungr yfir
a-name given and is called Volsung He was king over
 Húnaalandi eptir föður sinn. Hann var snemma mikill ok
Hunaland after father his He was early great and

sterkr ok áræðisfullr um þat, er mannaun þótti í ok
strong and daring in that which manhood-trial was-thought in and
karlmennska. Hann gerist inn mesti hermaðr ok sigrsæll í
manliness He becomes the greatest warrior and victorious in
orrostum þeim, sem hann átti í herförum. Nú þá er hann
battles those which he had in war-journeys Now then when he
var alroskinn at aldri, þá sendir Hrímnir honum Hljóð,
was full-grown in age then sends Hrímnir to-him Hljod
dóttur sína, er fyrr er getit, þá er hún fór með eplit
daughter his who before is mentioned then when she went with the-apple
til Reris, föður Völsungs. Nú gengr hann at eiga hana, ok
to Rerir father of-Volsung Now goes he to marry her and
eru þau lengi ásamt, ok eru góðar samfarar þeira. Þau
are they long together and are good (the)-married-lives their They
áttu tíu sonu ok eina dóttur. Inn elzti sonr þeira hét
had ten sons and one daughter The eldest son their was-called
Sigmundr, en Signý dóttir. Þau vóru tvíburar, ok vóru
Sigmund and Signy (the)-daughter They were twins and were
þau fremst ok vænst um alla hluti barna Völsungs
they foremost and finest in all things of-(the)-children of-Volsung
konungs, ok vóru þó allir miklir fyrir sér, sem lengi hefir
king and were yet all great for themselves as long has
uppi verit haft ok at ágætum gert verit, hversu Völsungar
up been held and to fame made been how Volsungs
hafa verit ofrkappsmenn miklir ok hafa verit fyrir flestum
have been over-mettled-men great and have been before most
mönnum, sem getit er í fornsögum, bæði um fróðleik
men as mentioned is in old-sagas both about lore
ok íþróttir ok alls háttar kappgirni. Svá er sagt, at
and accomplishments and of-all kinds ambition So is said that
Völsungr konungr lét gera höll eina ágæta ok með þeim
Volsung king let to-make a-hall one excellent and with that

hætti, at ein eik mikil stóð í höllinni ok limar trésins
fashion that one oak great stood in the-hall and (the)-branches of-the-tree
 með fögrum blómum stóðu út um ræfr hallarinnar, en
with fair blossoms stood out through (the)-roof of-the-hall but
 leggryn stóð niðr í höllina, ok kölluðu þeir þat barnstokk.
the-trunk stood down into the-hall and called they that Barnstokk

III · THE SWORD IN THE BARNSTOKKR

Siggeirr, king of Gautland, asks for Signý. She is unwilling, but leaves the choice to her father. At the wedding a one-eyed old man in a spotted cloak comes into the hall, drives a sword into the tree standing in it, and says it belongs to whoever can draw it. Every man tries and only Sigmundr succeeds. Siggeirr offers three times its weight in gold, is refused, and hides his anger.

Siggeirr hefir konungr heitit. Hann réð fyrir Gautlandi.
Siggeirr has a-king been-called He ruled over Gautland
 Hann var ríkr konungr ok fjölmennr. Hann fór á fund
He was a-powerful king and many-manned He went to a-meeting
 Völsungs konungs, ok bað hann Signýjar til handa sér.
of-Volsung king and asked him for-Signy to hands for-himself
 Þessu tali tekr konungr vel ok svá synir hans, en hún sjálf
To-this speech takes (the)-king well and so sons his but she herself
 var þessa ófús, biðr þó föður sinn ráða sem öðru því,
was of-this unwilling bids yet father her to-decide as about-other that
 sem til hennar tæki. En konunginum sýndist þat ráð at
which to her might-touch But to-the-king seemed that counsel to
 gifta hana, ok var hún föstnuð Siggeiri konungi. En þá
marry-off her and was she betrothed to-Siggeirr king But then
 er sjá veizla ok ráðahagr skal takast, skal Siggeirr konungr
when this feast and marriage shall take-place shall Siggeirr king

sækja veizluna til Völsungs konungs. Konungr bjóst við
seek the-feast to Volsung king (The)-king made-ready for
 veizlunni eptir inum beztum föngum. Ok þá er þessi veizla
the-feast after the best provisions And then when this feast
 var albuin, kómu þar boðsmenn Völsungs konungs ok svá
was fully-made came there guests of-Volsung king and so
 Siggeirs konungs at nefndum degi, ok hefir Siggeirr konungr
of-Siggeir king at (the)-appointed day and has Siggeir king
 marga virðuliga menn með sér. Svá er sagt, at þar váru
many worthy men with himself So is said that there were
 miklir eldar gervir eptir endilangri höllinni, en nú stendr sjá
great fires made along the-full-length the-hall but now stands this
 inn mikli apaldr í miðri höllinni, sem fyrr var nefndr.
the great apple-tree in (the)-middle the-hall as before was named
 Nú er þess við getið, at þá er menn sátu við eldana
Now is of-that at mentioned that then when men sat by the-fires
 um kveldit, at maðr einn gekk inn í höllina. Sá maðr er
in the-evening that a-man one went in into the-hall That man is
 mönnum ókunnr at sýn. Sjá maðr hefir þess háttar búning,
to-men unknown at sight This man has of-that kind clothing
 at hann hefir heklu flekkótta yfir sér. Sá maðr var berfættr
that he has a-cloak spotted over himself That man was bare-footed
 ok hafði knýtt línbrókum at beini. Sá maðr hafði sverð í
and had bound linen-breeches to (the)-leg That man had a-sword in
 hendi ok gengr at barnstokkinum ok hött síðan á höfði.
hand and goes to the-Barnstokk and a-hood down on head
 Hann var hár mjök ok eldiligr ok einsýnn. Hann bregðr
He was tall very and old-looking and one-eyed He draws
 sverðinu ok stingr því í stokkinn, svá at sverðit sökkir
the-sword and thrusts it into the-trunk so that the-sword sinks
 at hjöltum upp. Öllum mönnum fellust kveðjur við þenna
to (the)-hilts up To-all men failed greetings toward this

mann. Þá tekr hann til orða ok mælti: "Sá, er þessu
man Then takes he to words and spoke That-one who this
 sverði bregðr ór stokkinum, þá skal sá þat þiggja at
sword draws out-of the-trunk then shall that-one it receive from
 mér at gjöf, ok skal hann þat sjálfr sanna, at aldri bar hann
me as a-gift and shall he that himself prove that never bore he
 betra sverð sér í hendi en þetta er." Eptir þetta gengr
a-better sword for-himself in hand than this is After this goes
 sjá inn gamli maðr út ór höllinni, ok veit engi, hvern hann
this the old man out out-of the-hall and knows none who he
 er eða hvert hann gengr. Nú standa þeir upp ok metast
is or whither he goes Now stand they up and hold-back
 ekki við at taka sverðit. Þykkist sá bezt hafa, er fyrst
not with to take the-sword Thinks-himself that-one best to-have who first
 nái. Síðan gengu til inir göfgustu menn fyrst, en þá hvern
reaches Then went to the noblest men first and then each
 at öðrum. Engi kemr sá til, er nái, því at engan
after (the)-other None comes that-one to who may-reach because that no
 veg bifast, er þeir taka til. Nú kom til Sigmundr, sonr
way it-stirs when they take to Now came to Sigmund son
 Völsungs konungs, ok tók ok brá sverðinu ór stokkinum,
of-Volsung king and took and drew the-sword out-of the-trunk
 ok var sem laust lægi fyrir honum. Þetta vápn sýndist öllum
and was as loose it-lay before him This weapon seemed to-all
 svá gott, at engi þóttist sét hafa jafngott sverð, ok býðr
so good that none thought-himself seen to-have as-good a-sword and offers
 Siggeirr honum at vega þrjú jafnvægi gulls. Sigmundr segir:
Siggeir to-him to weigh three equal-weights of-gold Sigmund says
 "Þú máttir taka þetta sverð eigi síðr en ek, þar sem þat
Thou mightest take this sword not less than I there where it
 stóð, ef þér sæmdi at bera, en nú fær þú þat aldri, er
stood if to-thee it-beseemed to bear but now gettest thou it never since

þat kom áðr í mína hönd, þótt þú bjóðir við allt þat gull,
it came before into my hand though thou offerest for all that gold
 er þú átt.” Siggeirr konungr reiddist við þessi orð ok þótti
which thou hast Siggeirr king grew-angry at these words and seemed
 sér háðuliga svarat vera. En fyrir því, at honum var svá
to-himself scornfully answered to-be But for that that to-him was so
 varit, at hann var undirhyggjumaðr mikill, þá lætr hann
disposed that he was an-underbanded-man great then behaves he
 nú sem hann hirði ekki um þetta mál, en þat sama kveld
now as he cared nothing about this matter but that same evening
 hugði hann laun fyrir þetta, þau er síðar kómu fram.
thought he a-reward for this that which later came forward

IV · SIGGEIRR'S INVITATION

Siggeirr leaves after one night. Signý warns her father that this marriage will bring them great harm and asks him to break it off, but Völsungr answers that it would be a shame to break faith without cause. Before he goes, Siggeirr invites Völsungr and all his sons to Gautland three months later, with whatever company they wish, and the king promises to come.

Nú er þat at segja, at Siggeirr gengr í rekkju hjá
Now is that to say that Siggeirr goes into bed beside
 Signýju þenna aptan. En næsta dag eptir þá var veðr
Signý this evening But (the)-next day after then was weather
 gott. Þá segir Siggeirr konungr, at hann vill heim fara
good Then says Siggeirr king that he wishes home to-go
 ok bíða eigi þess, er vindr yxi eða sjá gerir
and to-wait not for-that when wind might-grow or (the)-sea makes
 ófæran. Ekki er þess getit, at Völsungr konungr letti
impassable Not is of-that mentioned that Volsung king hindered

hann eða synir hans, allra helst er hann sá, at hann
him or sons his of-all most when he saw that he
 vildi ekki annat en fara frá veizlunni. Nú mælti Signý
wished nothing else than to-go from the-feast Now spoke Signý
 við föður sinn: “Eigi vilda ek á brott fara með Siggeiri,
to father her Not wished I off away to-go with Siggeir
 ok eigi gerir hugr minn hlæja við honum, ok veit ek af
and not makes mind my to-laugh toward him and know I from
 framvísi minni ok af kynfylgju várri, at af þessu ráði
foreknowledge my and from kin-nature our that from this match
 stendr oss mikill ófagnaðr, ef eigi er skjótt brugðit þessum
stands to-us great unhappiness if not is quickly broken this
 ráðahag.” “Eigi skaltu þetta mæla, dóttir,” sagði hann, “því
marriage Not shalt-thou this speak daughter said he because
 at þat er skömm mikil bæði honum ok svá oss at briggja
that that is a-shame great both to-him and so to-us to break
 þessu við hann at saklausu, ok eigum vér þá engan trúnað
this with him at guiltless and have we then no trust
 undir honum né vingan, ef þessu er brugðit, ok mun hann
under him nor friendship if this is broken and will be
 gjalda illu oss, slíkt er hann má, ok samir þat eina at
repay with-ill us such as he may and beseems that alone to
 halda af várri hendi.” Nú býst Siggeirr konungr til
keep from our hand Now makes-ready Siggeir king for
 heimferðar. Ok áðr þeir fóru frá boðinu, þá bauð hann
(the)-home-journey And before they went from the-feast then invited he
 Völsungi konungi, mági sínum, til sín á Gautland
Volsung king kinsman-by-marriage his to himself to Gautland
 ok sonum hans öllum með honum á þriggja mánaða fresti
and sons his all with him at of-three months interval
 ok því öllu liði, sem hann vildi með sér hafa ok honum
and that all force which he wished with him to-have and to-him

væri til vegsemdar. Vill nú Siggeirr konungr gjalda í því,
might-be for honor Wishes now Siggeir king to-repay in that
 þat er á skorti brúðlaups gerðina fyrir þess sakir, er hann
that which on lacked of-wedding the-making for that sake that be
 vildi eigi meir vera en eina nótt, ok er ekki þat siðr
wished not more to-be than one night and is not that (the)-custom
 manna at gera svá. Nú heitr Völsungr konungr ferðinni
of-men to do so Now promises Volsung king the-journey
 ok koma á nefndum degi. Þá skiljast þeir mágar,
and to-come at (the)-appointed day Then part they kinsmen-by-marriage
 ok ferr Siggeirr konungr heim með konu sína.
and goes Siggeir king home with wife his

V · THE WOLF AND THE STOCKS

Völsungr comes to Gautland with three ships. Signý warns them of the army waiting, but her father will not flee, and she is sent back to her husband. Völsungr falls with all his men and his ten sons are taken. At Signý's asking they are set in stocks in the forest instead of killed, and for nine nights an old she-wolf eats one of them. Signý has honey smeared on Sigmundr's face; he bites into the wolf's tongue and holds fast; her wrenching splits the stock, and his grip tears the tongue out by the roots. Some say the wolf was Siggeirr's mother in another shape.

Nú er at segja frá Völsungi konungi ok sonum hans, at þeir
Now is to say of Volsung king and sons his that they
 fara at ákveðinni stundu til Gautlands at boði Siggeirs
go at (the)-appointed time to Gautland at (the)-bidding of-Siggeir
 konungs, mágs síns, ok hafa þrjú skip ór landi
king kinsman-by-marriage his and have three ships out-of (the)-land
 ok öll vel skipuð ok verða vel reiðfara ok koma skipum
and all well manned and become well sped and bring ships

sínum við Gautland, en þat var síð um aptan. En þann
their to Gautland but that was late in evening But that
 sama aptan kom Signý, dóttir Völsungs konungs, ok kallar
same evening came Signy daughter of-Volsung king and calls
 föður sinn á einmæli ok bræður sína, segir nú ætlan
father her to private-speech and brothers her says now (the)-intent
 sína ok Siggeirs konungs, at hann hefir dregit saman
her and of-Siggeir king that he has drawn together
 óvígjan her, — “ok ætlar at svíkja yðr. Nú bið ek yðr,”
an-unconquerable army and intends to betray you Now bid I you
 segir hún, “at þér farið þegar aptr í yðart ríki ok fáid
says she that you go at-once back into your realm and get
 yðr lið sem mest ok farið hingat síðan ok hefnið
for-yourselves a-force as greatest and go hither afterward and avenge
 yðar sjálfir ok gangið eigi í ófæru, því at eigi
yourselves selves and go not into a-hopeless-plight because that not
 missi þér svika af honum, ef eigi taki þér þetta bragð,
may-escape you treacheries from him if not take you this device
 sem ek beiði yðr.” Þá mælti Völsungur konungur: “Þat munu
which I ask of-you Then spoke Volsung king That will
 allar þjóðir at orðum gera, at ek mælta eitt orð óborinn,
all peoples to words make that I spoke one word unborn
 ok strengda ek þess heit, at ek skylda hvárki flýja eld né
and swore I of-that a-vow that I should neither flee fire nor
 járn fyrir hræðslu sakir, ok svá hefi ek enn gert hér til, ok
iron for fear sake and so have I still done here to and
 hvi munda ek eigi efna þat á gamals aldri? Ok eigi skulu
why should I not fulfill that in of-old age And not shall
 meyjar því bregða sonum mínum í leikum, at þeir hræðist
maidens that reproach sons my in games that they fear
 bana sinn, því at eitt sinn skal hverr deyja, en engi má
death their because that one time shall each die but none may

undan komast at deyja um sinn. Er þat mitt ráð, at vér
away get from to-die at a-time Is that my counsel that we
 flýjum hvergi ok gerum af várri hendi sem hreystiligast.
flee nowhere and do from our hand as most-valiantly
 Ek hefi barizt hundrað sinnum, ok hefi ek haft stundum
I have fought a-hundred times and have I had sometimes
 meira lið, en stundum minna, ok hefi ek jafnan sigr haft,
greater force but sometimes less and have I always victory had
 ok eigi skal þat spyrjast, at ek flýja né friðar biðja.”
and not shall that be-heard that I flee nor peace ask
 Nú grætr Signý sárliga ok bað, at hún skyldi eigi koma
Now weeps Signy sorely and bade that she should not come
 til Siggeirs konungs. Völsungr konungr svarar: “Þú skalt at
to of-Siggeir king Volsung king answers Thou shalt for
 vísu fara heim til bónda þíns ok vera samt með honum,
certain go home to husband thy and be together with him
 hversu sem með oss ferr.” Nú gengr Signý heim, en þeir
however as with us it-goes Now goes Signy home but they
 búa eptir um nóttina. Ok um myrgininn, þegar er
stay after through the-night And in the-morning as-soon-as when
 dagar, þá biðr Völsungr konungr upp standa sína menn alla
it-dawns then bids Volsung king up to-stand his men all
 ok ganga á land upp ok búast við bardaga. Nú ganga
and to-go on land up and to-make-ready for battle Now go
 þeir á land upp allir alvápnaðir, ok er eigi langt at bíða,
they on land up all fully-armed and is not long to wait
 áðr þar kemr Siggeirr konungr með allan sinn her, ok
before there comes Siggeir king with all his army and
 verðr þar in harðasta orrosta með þeim, ok eggjar konungr
becomes there the hardest battle between them and eggs (the)-king
 lið sitt til framgöngu sem harðligast, ok er svá sagt, at
force his to advance as most-hardily and is so said that

Völsungr konungr ok synir hans gengu átta sinnum í
Volsung king and sons his went eight times in
 gegnum fylkingar Siggeirs konungs um daginn ok höggva
through (the)-ranks of-Siggeir king in the-day and hew
 á tvær hendr. Ok er þeir ætla enn svá at fara, þá fellr
on two hands And when they intend still so to go then falls
 Völsungr konungr í miðri fylkingu sinni ok þar allt lið
Volsung king in (the)-middle rank his and there all force
 hans með honum nema synir hans tíu, því at miklu meira
his with him except sons his ten because that much greater
 ofrefli var í móti en þeir mætti við standa. Nú eru synir
odds was in against than they might against stand Now are sons
 hans allir teknir ok í bönd reknir ok á brott leiddir.
his all taken and into bonds driven and off away led
 Signý varð vör við, at faðir hennar var drepinn, en bræðr
Signy became aware at that father her was killed and brothers
 hennar höndum teknir ok til bana ráðnir. Nú kallar hún
her by-hands taken and to death doomed Now calls she
 Siggeir konung á einmæli. Nú mælti Signý: “Þess vil ek biðja
Siggeir king to private-speech Now spoke Signy Of-that wish I to-ask
 þik, at þú látir eigi svá skjótt drepa bræðr mína ok látið þá
thee that thou lettest not so quickly to-kill brothers my and let them
 heldr setja í stokk, ok kemr mér at því, sem mælt er, at
rather to-set in a-stock and comes to-me at that as said is that
 unír auga, meðan á sér, ok því bið ek þeim eigi lengra,
is-content (the)-eye while on it-sees and therefore ask I for-them not longer
 at ek ætla, at mér muni ekki tjóa.” Þá svarar Siggeirr: “Ær
that I think that for-me will nothing avail Then answers Siggeir Mad
 ertu ok örvita, er þú biðr bræðrum þínum meira böls en
art-thou and witless when thou askest for-brothers thy more of-bale than

þeir sé höggðir en þó skal þat veita þér, því at þess bettr
they be hewn but yet shall that grant to-thee because that the better
 þykki mér, er þeir þola verra ok hafa lengri kvöl til bana.”
seems to-me when they endure worse and have longer torment to death
 Nú lætr hann svá gera sem hún bauð, ok var tekinn einn mikill
Now lets he so to-do as she bade and was taken one great
 stokkr ok felldr á fætr þeim tíu bræðrum í skógi einhvers
stock and felled on feet those ten brothers in a-wood of-some
 staðar, ok sitja þeir nú þar þann dag allan til nætr. En at
place and sit they now there that day all until night But at
 miðri nótt þá kom þar ylgr ein ór skógi gömul at þeim,
mid night then came there a-she-wolf one out-of a-wood old to them
 er þeir sátu í stokkinum. Hún var bæði mikil ok illilig.
where they sat in the-stock She was both great and evil-looking
 Henni varð þat fyrir, at hún bítr einn þeira til bana. Síðan át
To-her became that first that she bites one of-them to death Then ate
 hún þann upp allan. Eptir þat fór hún í brott. En eptir um
she that-one up all After that went she off away But after in
 morgininn þá sendi Signý mann til bræðra sinna, þann er
the-morning then sent Signy a-man to brothers her that-one whom
 hún trúði beztr, at vita, hvat títt sé. Ok er hann kemr aptr,
she trusted best to know what happened is And when he comes back
 segir hann henni, at dauðr sé einn þeira. Henni þótti þetta
says he to-her that dead is one of-them To-her seemed this
 mikit, ef þeir skulu svá fara allir, en hún mátti ekki duga þeim.
great if they should so fare all but she might nothing avail them
 Skjótt er þar frá at segja. Níu nætr í samt kom sjá in sama
Quickly is there of to say Nine nights in a-row came this the same
 ylgr um miðnætti ok etr einn þeira senn til bana, unz allir
she-wolf at midnight and eats one of-them each-time to death until all
 eru dauðir, nema Sigmundr einn er eptir. Ok nú, áðr tíunda
are dead except Sigmund one is left And now before (the)-tenth

nótt kemr, sendir Signý trúnaðarmann sinn til Sigmundar,
night comes sends Signy trusty-man her to Sigmund
 bróður síns, ok seldi í hönd honum hunang ok mælti, at
brother her and gave into hand to-him honey and spoke that
 hann skyldi ríða á andlit Sigmundar ok leggja í munn
he should smear on face of-Sigmund and to-lay in (the)-mouth
 honum sumt. Nú ferr hann til Sigmundar ok gerir sem honum
to-him some Now goes he to Sigmund and does as to-him
 var boðit ok fór heim síðan. Um nóttina eptir þá kemr sú
was bidden and went home afterward In the-night after then comes that
 in sama ylgr at vanda sínum ok ætlaði at bíta hann til bana
the same she-wolf at custom her and intended to bite him to death
 sem bræðr hans. En nú dregr hún veðrit af honum, þar sem
like brothers his But now draws she the-scent from him there where
 hunangit var á riðit, ok sleikir andlit hans allt með tungu
the-honey was on smeared and licks face his all with tongue
 sér ok réttir síðan tunguna í munn honum. Hann lætr
her and stretches then the-tongue into (the)-mouth to-him He lets
 sér verða óbilt ok beit í tunguna ylginni. Hún
for-himself to-become undismayed and bit into the-tongue of-the-she-wolf She
 bregðr við fast ok hnykkir at sér hart ok rak fætrna í
starts at hard and jerks at herself hard and drove the-feet against
 stokkinn, svá at hann klofnaði allr í sundr, en hann helt
the-stock so that it split all in sunder but he held
 svá fast, at tungan gekk ór ylginni upp í tungurótunum,
so fast that the-tongue went out-of the-she-wolf up in the-tongue-roots
 ok fekk af því bana. En þat er sögn sumra manna, at
and got from that death But that is (the)-saying of-some men that
 sú in sama ylgr væri móðir Siggeirs konungs ok hafi hún
that the same she-wolf might-be mother of-Siggeir king and has she
 brugðit á sik þessu líki fyrir tröllskapar sakir ok fjölkynngi.
cast on herself this shape for of-troll-craft sake and sorcery

Sigmundr makes an underground house in the forest and Signý hides him there. She sends Siggeirr's elder son to him to be tested; the boy will not touch the meal-sack because something living lies in it, and at his mother's word Sigmundr kills him. A winter later the younger brother is sent and goes the same way.

Nú er Sigmundr lauss orðinn, en brotinn er stokkrinn, ok
Now is Sigmund loose become and broken is the-stock and
 hefst Sigmundr þar nú við í skóginum. Enn sendir
keeps-himself Sigmund there now at in the-wood Again sends
 Signý at vita, hvat títt er eða hvárt Sigmundr lifir.
Signy to know what happened is or whether Sigmund lives
 En er þeir koma, þá segir hann þeim allan atburð hvé
And when they come then says he to-them all (the)-event how
 farit hafði með þeim ok ylginni. Nú fara þeir heim ok
gone it-had with them and the-she-wolf Now go they home and
 segja Signýju, hvat títt er. Fór hún nú ok hittir bróður
say to-Signy what happened is Went she now and meets brother
 sinn, ok taka þau þat ráð, at hann gerir þar jarðhús í
her and take they that counsel that he makes there an-earth-house in
 skóginum, ok ferr nú því fram um hríð, at Signý leynir
the-wood and goes now this forward for a-while that Signy hides
 honum þar ok fær honum þat, er hann þurfti at hafa.
him there and gives to-him that which he needed to have
 En Siggeirr konungr ætlar, at þeir sé allir dauðir Völsungar.
But Siggeirr king thinks that they are all dead Volsungs
 Siggeirr konungr átti tvá sonu við konu sinni, ok er frá
Siggeirr king had two sons by wife his and is of
 því sagt, þá er inn ellri sonr hans er tíu vetra, at
that said then when the elder son his is ten of-winters that

Signý sendir hann til móts við Sigmund, at hann skyldi
Signy sends him to a-meeting with Sigmund that he should
 veita honum lið, ef hann vildi nokkut leita við at hefna
give to-him help if he wished at-all to-try at to avenge
 föður síns. Nú færr sveinninn til skógarins ok kemr síð
father his Now goes the-boy to the-wood and comes late
 um aptaninn til jarðhúss Sigmundar, ok tekr hann við
in the-evening to (the)-earth-house of-Sigmund and takes he at
 honum vel at hófi ok mælti, at hann skyldi gera til
him well at measure and spoke that he should make ready
 brauð þeira, “en ek mun sækja eldivið,” — ok selr í hönd
bread their but I will fetch firewood and gives into hand
 honum einn mjölbelg, en hann færr sjálf at sækja viðinn.
to-him one meal-bag but he goes himself to fetch the-wood
 Ok er hann kemr aptr, þá hefir sveinninn ekki at gert
And when he comes back then has the-boy nothing at done
 um brauðgerðina. Nú spyr Sigmundr, hvárt búið sé brauðið.
about the-bread-making Now asks Sigmund whether ready is the-bread
 Hann segir: “Eigi þorð ek at taka mjölbelginn, fyrir því at
He says Not dared I to take the-meal-bag for that that
 þar lá nokkut kykt í í mjölinu.” Nú þykkist Sigmundr
there lay something alive in in the-meal Now thinks-himself Sigmund
 vita, at þessi sveinn mun eigi svá vel hugaðr, at hann
to-know that this boy will not so well minded that he
 vili hann með sér hafa. Nú er þau systkin finnast, segir
wishes him with him to-have Now when they siblings meet says
 Sigmundr, at hann þótti ekki manni at nær, þótt sveinninn
Sigmund that he seemed nothing a-man at nearer though the-boy
 væri hjá honum. Signý mælti: “Tak þú hann þá ok drep
were beside him Signy spoke Take thou him then and kill
 hann. Eigi þarf hann þá lengr at lifa.” Ok svá gerði hann.
him Not needs he then longer to live And so did he

Nú liðr sjá vetr. Ok einum vetri síðar þá sendir Signý
Now passes this winter And one winter later then sends Signý
inn yngra son sinn á fund Sigmundar, ok þarf þar eigi
the younger son her to a-meeting of-Sigmund and needs there not
sögu um at lengja, ok fór sem samt sé, at hann drap
(the)-tale about to lengthen and went as same he that he killed
þenna svein at ráði Signýjar.
this boy at (the)-counsel of-Signý

VII · SINFJÖTLI

Signý changes shapes with a sorceress, comes to the earth-house as a stranger, and lies three nights with her brother, who does not know her. She bears a son, Sinfjötli. She had tested her earlier sons by sewing their sleeves through the flesh; Sinfjötli does not flinch when the skin comes away with the cloth. Sent to Sigmund, he kneads a great venomous serpent into the bread, and Sigmund, who can eat poison unharmed, laughs and forbids him the loaf.

Þess er nú við getit eitthvert sinn, þá er Signý sat
Of-that is now at mentioned some-one time then when Signý sat
í skemmu sinni, at þar kom til hennar ein seiðkona
in bower her that there came to her one witch-woman
fjölunnig harla mjök. Þá talar Signý við hana: “Þat
skilled-in-magic exceedingly much Then talks Signý with her That
vilda ek,” segir hún, “at vit skiptum hömum.” Hún segir
wished I says she that we-two might-change shapes She says
seiðkonan: “Þú skalt fyrir ráða.” Ok nú gerir hún svá af
the-witch-woman Thou shalt for decide And now does she so by
sínnum brögðum, at þær skipta litum, ok sezt seiðkonan
her arts that they change hues and sits-herself the-witch-woman
nú í rúm Signýjar at ráði hennar ok ferr í rekkju hjá
now in place of-Signý at (the)-counsel her and goes into bed beside

konungi um kveldit, ok ekki finnr hann, at eigi sé Signý
(the)-king in the-evening and not finds he that not is Signy
 hjá honum. Nú er þat frá Signýju at segja, at hún ferr til
beside him Now is that of Signy to say that she goes to
 jarðhúss bróður síns ok biðr hann veita sér herbergi um
(the)-earth-house of-brother her and asks him to-give to-her lodging through
 nóttina, "því at ek hefi villzt á skóginum úti, ok veit ek
the-night because that I have strayed in the-wood outside and know I
 eigi, hvar ek fer." Hann mælti, at hún skyldi þar vera, ok
not where I go He spoke that she should there be and
 vildi eigi synja henni vistar, einni konu, ok þóttist vita,
wished not to-refuse to-her lodging to-one woman and thought-himself to-know
 at eigi mundi hún svá launa honum góðan beina at segja
that not would she so repay to-him good hospitality as to-tell
 til hans. Nú ferr hún í herbergi til hans, ok setjast
of him Now goes she into (the)-lodging to him and they-sit-down
 til matar. Honum varð opt litit til hennar ok lízt konan
to food To-him became often looked at her and seems the-woman
 væn ok frið. En er þau eru mett, þá segir hann henni,
fair and comely And when they are sated then says he to-her
 at hann vill, at þau hafi eina rekkju um nóttina, en hún
that he wishes that they have one bed through the-night but she
 brýzt ekki við því, ok leggr hann hana hjá sér þrjár
resists not against that and lays he her beside himself three
 nætr samt. Eptir þat ferr hún heim ok hittir seiðkonuna
nights together After that goes she home and meets the-witch-woman
 ok bað, at þær skipti aptr litum, ok svá gerir hún.
and bade that they might-change back hues and so does she
 Ok er fram liðu stundir, fæðir Signý sveinbarn. Sjá sveinn
And when forward passed times bears Signy a-boy-child This boy
 var Sinfjötli kallaðr. Ok er hann vex upp, er hann bæði
was Sinfjotli called And when he grows up is he both

mikill ok sterkr ok vænn at álitu ok mjök í ætt Völsunga
great and strong and fair in look and much in (the)-kin of-Völsungs
 ok er eigi allra tíu vetra, er hún sendir hann í
and is not fully ten of-winters when she sends him into
 jarðhúsið til Sigmundar. Hún hafði þá raun gert við ína
the-earth-house to Sigmund She had that trial made on the
 fyrri sonu sína, áðr hún sendi þá til Sigmundar, at hún
earlier sons her before she sent them to Sigmund that she
 saumaði at höndum þeim með holdi ok skinni. Þeir þoldu
sewed at hands to-them through flesh and skin They endured
 illa ok krikta um. Ok svá gerði hún Sinfjötla. Hann brást
ill and cried at And so did she to-Sinfjotli He flinched
 ekki við. Hún fló hann þá af kyrtlinum, svá at skinnit
not at She flayed him then off the-tunic so that the-skin
 fylgdi ermum. Hún kvað honum mundu sárt við verða.
followed the-sleeves She said to-him would sore at become
 Hann segir: “Lítit mundi slíkt sárt þykkja Völsungi.” Ok nú
He says Little would such sore seem to-a-Völsung And now
 kemr sveinninn til Sigmundar. Þá bað Sigmundur hann knoða
comes the-boy to Sigmund Then bade Sigmund him to-knead
 ór mjöli þeira, en hann vill sækja þeim eldivið, fær í
out-of meal their but he wishes to-fetch for-them firewood gives into
 hönd honum einn belg. Síðan ferr hann at viðinum. Ok er
hand to-him one bag Then goes he for the-wood And when
 hann kom aptr, þá hafði Sinfjötli lokit at baka. Þá spurði
he came back then had Sinfjotli finished at to-bake Then asked
 Sigmundur, ef hann hafi nokkut fundit í mjölinu. “Eigi er
Sigmund if he had anything found in the-meal Not is
 mér grunlaust,” sagði hann, “at eigi hafi í verit nokkut kykt
to-me without-suspicion said he that not has in been something alive
 í mjölinu, fyrst er ek tók at knoða, ok hér hefi ek með
in the-meal first when I took to knead and here have I with

knoðat þat, er í var.” Þá mælti Sigmundr ok hló við:
kneaded that which in was Then spoke Sigmund and laughed at
 “Eigi get ek þik hafa mat af þessu brauði í kveld, því
Not think I thee to-have food from this bread in evening because
 at þar hefir þú knoðat með inn mesta eitorm.” Sigmundr
that there hast thou kneaded with the greatest venom-serpent Sigmund
 var svá mikill fyrir sér, at hann mátti eta eitr, svá at
was so great for himself that he could eat venom so that
 hann skaðaði ekki, en Sinfjötla hlýddi þat, at eitr kæmi
him harmed not but to-Sinfjotli availed that that venom might-come
 utan á hann, en eigi hlýddi honum at eta þat né drekka.
outside on him but not availed to-him to eat that nor to-drink

VIII · THE WOLF-SKINS, AND THE BURNING OF SIGGEIRR'S HALL

Sigmundr trains Sinfjötli in the woods; they put on the wolf-skins of two spellbound sleepers and cannot take them off until the tenth day. Sinfjötli kills eleven men alone, Sigmundr bites his throat in anger, and a raven brings the leaf that heals him. At Siggeirr's hall Sinfjötli kills Signý's two children, both men are shut in a mound divided by a great slab, and Signý smuggles Sigmundr's sword in with the pork. They cut through the stone and burn the hall, and Signý tells her brother Sinfjötli is his son before walking into the fire. Sigmundr retakes his kingdom, marries Borgbldr, and names their son Helgi.

Þat er nú at segja, at Sigmundi þykkir Sinfjötli of ungr til
That is now to say that to-Sigmund seems Sinfjotli too young for
 hefnda með sér ok vill nú fyrst venja hann með nokkut
vengeance with him and wisbes now first to-train him with some
 harðræði; fara nú um sumrum víða um skóga ok drepa
hard-trial they-go now in summers widely through woods and they-kill
 menn til fjár sér. Sigmundi þykkir hann mjök í ætt
men for wealth for-themselves To-Sigmund seems he much in (the)-kin

Völsunga, ok þó hyggr hann, at hann sé sonr Siggeirs
of-Volsungs and yet thinks he that he is a-son of-Siggeir
 konungs, ok hyggr hann hafa illsku föður síns, en
king and thinks him to-have (the)-wickedness of-father his but
 kapp Völsunga, ok ætlar hann eigi mjök frændrækin, því
(the)-mettle of-Volsungs and reckons him not much kin-mindful because
 at hann minnir oft Sigmund á sína harma ok eggjar mjök
that he reminds often Sigmund of his griefs and eggs much
 at drepa Siggeir konung. Nú er þat eitthvert sinn, at þeir
to kill Siggeir king Now is that some-one time that they
 fara enn á skóginn at afla sér fjár, en þeir finna eitt
go again into the-wood to get for-themselves wealth and they find one
 hús ok tvá menn sofandi í húsinu með digrum gullhringum.
house and two men sleeping in the-house with thick gold-rings
 Þeir höfðu orðit fyrir ósköpum, því at úlfahamir hengu í
They had come under evil-spells because that wolf-skins hung in
 húsinu yfir þeim. It tíunda hvert dægr máttu þeir komast
the-house over them The tenth every day could they get
 ór hömunum. Þeir váru konungasynir. Þeir Sigmundr fóru
out-of the-skins They were kings-sons Those Sigmund went
 í hamina ok máttu eigi ór komast, ok fylgdi sú náttúra,
into the-skins and could not out-of get and followed that nature
 sem áður var, létu ok vargsröddu. Þeir skildu báðir röddina.
as before was they-let also a-wolf-voice They understood both the-voice
 Nú leggjast þeir ok á merkr, ok ferr sína leið hvárr
Now lay-themselves-down they also on forests and goes his way each
 þeira. Þeir gera þann mála með sér, at þeir skuli til
of-them They make that agreement with themselves that they should to
 hætta, þótt sjau menn sé, en eigi framar, en sá láta
risk though seven men be but not further but that-one to-let
 úlfsrödd, er fyrir ófriði yrði. “Bregðum nú eigi af
a-wolf-voice who under hostility might-come Let-us-turn now not from

þessu," segir Sigmundr, "því at þú ert ungr ok áræðisfullr.
this says Sigmund because that thou art young and daring
 Munu menn gott hyggja til at veiða þik." Nú ferr sína
Will men good think about to hunt thee Now goes his
 leið hvárr þeira. Ok er þeir váru skildir, finnr Sigmundr
way each of-them And when they were parted finds Sigmund
 sjau menn ok lætr úlfsröddu. Ok er Sinfjötli heyrir þat,
seven men and lets a-wolf-voice And when Sinfjotli hears that
 ferr hann til þegar ok drepr alla. Þeir skiljast enn. Ok
goes he thither at-once and kills all They part again And
 er Sinfjötli hefir eigi lengi farit um skóginn, finnr hann
when Sinfjotli has not long gone through the-wood finds he
 ellefu menn ok berst við þá, ok ferr svá, at hann drepr
eleven men and fights against them and goes so that he kills
 þá alla. Hann verðr ok sárr mjök, ferr undir eina eik,
them all He becomes also wounded much goes under one oak
 hvílist þar. Eigi beið hann Sigmundar lengi, ok fara báðir
rests-himself there Not waited he for-Sigmund long and go both
 samt um hríð. Hann mælti til Sigmundar: "Þú þátt lið til
together for a-while He spoke to Sigmund Thou tookest help for
 at drepa sjau menn, en ek em barn at aldri hjá þér, ok
to kill seven men but I am a-child in age beside thee and
 kvadda ek eigi liðs at drepa ellefu menn." Sigmundr hleypr
called-for I not help to kill eleven men Sigmund runs
 at honum svá hart, at hann stakar við ok fellr. Sigmundr
at him so hard that he stumbles at-it and falls Sigmund
 bítr í barkann framan. Þann dag máttu þeir eigi komast
bites into the-throat in-front That day could they not get
 ór úlfahömunum. Sigmundr leggur hann nú á bak sér ok
out-of the-wolf-skins Sigmund lays him now on back his and
 berr heim í skálann, ok sat hann yfir honum, en það tröll
bears home into the-hall and sat he over him but bade trolls

taka úlfhamina. Sigmundr sér einn dag, hvar hreysikettir
to-take the-wolf-skins Sigmund sees one day where weasels
 tveir váru, ok bitr annarr í barkann öðrum, ok rann
two were and bites one into the-throat to-(the)-other and ran
 sá til skógar ok hefir eitt blað ok færir yfir sárit, ok
that-one to (the)-wood and has one leaf and brings over the-wound and
 sprettr upp hreysiköttrinn heill. Sigmundr gengr út ok sér,
springs up the-weasel whole Sigmund goes out and sees
 hvar hrafn flýgr með blaðit ok færði honum. Hann dregr
where a-raven flies with the-leaf and brought to-him He draws
 þetta yfir sárit Sinfjötla, en hann sprettr upp þegar heill,
this over the-wound of-Sinfjotli and he springs up at-once whole
 sem hann hefði aldri sárr verit. Eptir þat fara þeir til
as he had never wounded been After that go they to
 jarðhúss ok eru þar, til þess er þeir skyldu fara ór
(the)-earth-house and are there until that when they should go out-of
 úlfhömunum. Þá taka þeir ok brenna í eldi ok báðu engum
the-wolf-skins Then take they and burn in fire and bade to-none
 at meini verða. Ok í þeim ósköpum unnu þeir mörg
to harm to-become And in those evil-spells wrought they many
 frægðarverk í ríki Siggeirs konungs. Ok er Sinfjötli er
famous-deeds in (the)-realm of-Siggeir king And when Sinfjotli is
 frumvaxti, þá þykkist Sigmundr hafa reynt hann mjök.
full-grown then thinks-himself Sigmund to-have tried him much
 Nú liðr eigi langt, áðr Sigmundr vill leita til föðurhefnda,
Now passes not long before Sigmund wishes to-seek for father-vengeance
 ef svá vildi takast. Ok nú fara þeir í brott frá jarðhúsinu
if so it-might succeed And now go they off away from the-earth-house
 einnhvern dag ok koma at bæ Siggeirs konungs síð um
some-one day and come to (the)-farm of-Siggeir king late in
 aptan ok ganga inn í forstofuna, þá er var fyrir höllinni,
evening and go in into the-entry-room that which was before the-hall

en þar váru inni ölker, ok leynast þar. Drottningin
and there were within ale-casks and hide-themselves there The-queen
 veit nú, hvar þeir eru, ok vill hitta þá. Ok er þau
knows now where they are and wishes to-meet them And when they
 finnast, gera þau þat ráð, at þeir leitaði til föðurhefnda,
meet make they that plan that they should-seek for father-vengeance
 er náttáði. Þau Signý ok konungr eigu tvau börn ung
when it-grew-night Those Signy and (the)-king have two children young
 at aldri. Þau leika sér á gólfinu at gulli ok renna
in age They play for-themselves on the-floor with gold and roll
 því eptir gólfinu hallarinnar ok hlaupa þar eptir. Ok einn
it along the-floor of-the-ball and run there after And one
 gullhringr hrýtr utar í húsit, þar sem þeir Sigmundr
gold-ring rolls outward into the-house there where those Sigmund
 eru, en sveinninn hleypr eptir at leita hringins. Nú sér
are and the-boy runs after to seek the-ring Now sees
 hann, hvar sitja tveir menn miklir ok grimmligir ok hafa
he where sit two men great and grim-looking and have
 síða hjálma ok hvítar brynjur. Nú hleypr hann í höllina
long helmets and white mail-coats Now runs he into the-hall
 innar fyrir föður sinn ok segir honum, hvat hann hefir sét.
inward before father his and says to-him what he has seen
 Nú grunar konungr, at vera munu svik við hann. Signý
Now suspects (the)-king that he will treachery against him Signy
 heyrir nú, hvat þeir segja. Hún stendr upp, tekr börnin
bears now what they say She stands up takes the-children
 bæði ok ferr utar í forstofuna til þeira ok mælti, at þeir
both and goes outward into the-entry-room to them and spoke that they
 skyldu þat vita, at þau hefði sagt til þeira, — “ok ræð
should that know that they had told of them and counsel
 ek ykk, at þit drepið þau.” Sigmundr segir: “Eigi vil
I to-you-two that you-two kill them Sigmund says Not wish

ek drepa börn þín, þótt þau hafi sagt til mín.” En Sinfjötli
I to-kill children thy though they have told of me But Sinfjotli
 lét sér ekki feilast ok bregðr sverði ok drepr hvárttveggja
let himself nothing to-falter and draws a-sword and kills each-of-two
 barnit ok kastar þeim innar í höllina fyrir Siggeir konung.
the-child and casts them inward into the-hall before Siggeir king
 Konungr stendr nú upp ok heitr á menn at taka þá
(The)-king stands now up and calls on men to take those
 menn, er leynzt höfðu í forstofunni um kveldit. Nú hlaupa
men who hidden had in the-entry-room in the-evening Now run
 menn utar þangat ok vilja höndla þá, en þeir verja
men outward thither and wish to-lay-hold-of them but they defend
 sik vel ok drengiliga, ok þykkist þá sá verst hafa
themselves well and manfully and thinks-himself then that-one worst to-have
 lengi, er næst er. Ok um síðir verða þeir ofliði
long who nearest is And in time become they by-overwhelming-force
 bornir ok verða handteknir ok því næst í bönd reknir
borne-down and become taken-by-hand and that next into bonds driven
 ok í fjötra settir, ok sitja þeir þar þá nótt alla.
and into fetters set and sit they there that night all
 Nú hyggr konungr at fyrir sér, hvern dauða hann skal fá
Now considers (the)-king at before himself which death he shall give
 þeim, þann er kenndi lengst. Ok er morginn kom, þá
to-them that-one which might-be-felt longest And when morning came then
 lætr konungr haug mikinn gera af grjóti ok torfi. Ok er
lets (the)-king a-mound great to-make of stone and turf And when
 þessi haug er gerr, þá lét hann setja hellu mikla í miðjan
this mound is made then let he to-set a-slab great in (the)-middle
 hauginn, svá at annarr jaðarr hellunnar horfði upp, en
the-mound so that one edge of-the-slab turned up and
 annarr niðr. Hún var svá mikil, at hún tók tveggja vegna,
(the)-other down It was so great that it reached of-two ways

svá at eigi mátti komast hjá henni. Nú lætr hann taka
so that not one-could get past it Now lets he to-take
 þá Sigmund ok Sinfjötla ok setja í hauginn sínum megin
those Sigmund and Sinfjotli and to-set in the-mound his side
 hvárn þeirra, fyrir því at honum þótti þeim þat verra at
each of-them for that that to-him seemed to-them that worse to
 vera eigi báðum saman, en þó mátti heyra hvárr til annars.
he not both together but yet one-could hear each to (the)-other
 Ok er þeir váru at tyrfa hauginn, þá kemr Signý þar at
And when they were at to-turf the-mound then comes Signy there to
 ok hefir hálm í fangi sér ok kastar í hauginn til Sinfjötla
and has straw in arms her and casts into the-mound to Sinfjotli
 ok biðr þrælana leyna konunginn þessu. Þeir já því, ok er
and bids the-thralls to-hide from-the-king this They assent to-it and is
 þá lokit aptr hauginum. Ok er náttu tekur, þá mælti
then closed again the-mound And when to-grow-night takes then spoke
 Sinfjötli til Sigmundar: “Ekki ætla ek okkr mat skorta um
Sinfjotli to Sigmund Not think I us-two food to-lack for
 hríð. Hér hefir drottningin kastat fleski inn í hauginn ok
a-while Here has the-queen cast pork in into the-mound and
 vafit um utan hálmi.” Ok enn þreifir hann um fleskit ok
wrapped about outside in-straw And further gropes he about the-pork and
 finnr, at þar var stungit í sverði Sigmundar, ok kenndi at
finds that there was thrust in a-sword of-Sigmund and knew by
 hjöltunum, er myrkt var í hauginum, ok segir Sigmundi.
the-bilts since dark was in the-mound and says to-Sigmund
 Þeir fagna því báðir. Nú skýtr Sinfjötli blóðreflinum fyrir
They rejoice at-it both Now thrusts Sinfjotli with-the-sword-point before
 ofan helluna ok dregr fast. Sverðit bítr helluna. Sigmundr
above the-slab and draws hard The-sword bites the-slab Sigmund

tekr nú blóðrefilinn, ok ristu nú í milli sín helluna
takes now the-sword-point and they-carved now in between themselves the-slab
 ok léttu eigi, fyrr en lokit er at rista, sem kveðit er:
and leave-off not sooner than done is to carve as sung is

“Ristu af magni

Carved with might

mikla hellu

a-great slab

Sigmundur hjörvi

Sigmund with-a-sword

ok Sinfjötli.”

and Sinfjotli

Ok nú eru þeir lausir báðir saman í hauginum ok rista bæði
And now are they loose both together in the-mound and carve both
 grjót ok járn ok komast svá út ór hauginum. Þeir ganga
stone and iron and get so out out-of the-mound They go
 nú heim til hallarinnar. Eru menn þá í svefni allir. Þeir
now home to the-hall Are men then in sleep all They
 bera við at höllinni ok leggja eld í viðinn, en þeir vakna
bear wood to the-hall and lay fire in the-wood but they wake
 við gufuna, er inni eru, ok þat, at höllin logar yfir þeim.
at the-steam who within are and that that the-hall blazes over them
 Konungur spyr, hverir eldana gerði. “Hér eru vit Sinfjötli,
(The)-king asks who the-fires made Here are we-two Sinfjotli
 systursonr minn,” sagði Sigmundur, “ok ætlum vit nú, at
sister's-son my said Sigmund and intend we-two now that
 þat skulir þú vita, at eigi eru allir Völsungar dauðir.” Hann
that shalt thou know that not are all Volsungs dead He
 biðr systur sína út at ganga ok þiggja af honum góð
bids sister his out to go and to-receive from him good

metorð ok mikinn sóma ok vill svá bæta henni sína harma.
honors and great worth and wishes so to-atone to-her her griefs
 Hún svarar: "Nú skaltu vita, hvárt ek hefi munat Siggeiri
She answers Now shalt-thou know whether I have remembered to-Siggeir
 konungi dráp Völsungs konungs. Ek lét drepa börn
king (the)-slaying of-Volsung king I let to-kill children
 okkur, er mér þóttu of sein til föðurhefnda, ok ek fór í
our who to-me seemed too slow for father-vengeance and I went into
 skóg til þín í völulíki, ok er Sinfjötli okkarr sonr. Hefir
(the)-wood to thee in a-sibyl's-shape and is Sinfjotli our son Has
 hann af því mikit kapp, at hann er bæði sonarsonr ok
he from that great mettle that he is both a-son's-son and
 dóttursonr Völsungs konungs. Hefi ek þar til unnit alla hluti,
a-daughter's-son of-Volsung king Have I there to wrought all things
 at Siggeirr konungr skyldi bana fá. Hefi ek ok svá mikit til
that Siggeir king should death get Have I also so much to
 unnit, at fram kæmist hefndin, at mér er með engum
wrought that forward might-come the-vengeance that for-me is with no
 kosti líft. Skal ek nú deyja með Siggeiri konungi lostig, er
terms livable Shall I now die with Siggeir king willing since
 ek átta hann nauðig." Síðan kyssti hún Sigmund, bróður sinn,
I had him unwilling Then kissed she Sigmund brother her
 ok Sinfjötla ok gekk inn í eldinn ok bað þá vel fara. Síðan
and Sinfjotli and went in into the-fire and bade them well to-fare Then
 fekk hún þar bana með Siggeiri konungi ok allri hirð sinni.
got she there death with Siggeir king and all court his
 Þeir frændr fá sér lið ok skipa, ok heldr Sigmundr
Those kinsmen get for-themselves a-force and ships and holds Sigmund
 til ættleifðar sinnar ok rekr ór landi þann konung, er
to patrimony his and drives out-of (the)-land that king who
 þar hafði í setzt eptir Völsung konung. Sigmundr gerist nú
there had in settled after Volsung king Sigmund becomes now

ríkr konungr ok ágætr, vitr ok stórráðr. Hann átti þá
a-powerful king and excellent wise and ambitious He had then
 konu, er Borghildr hét. Þau áttu tvá sonu. Hét Helgi
a-wife who Borgbild was-called They had two sons Was-called Helgi
 annarr, en annarr Hámundr. Ok er Helgi var fæddr, kómu
one and (the)-other Hamund And when Helgi was born came
 til nornir ok veittu honum formála ok mæltu, at hann
thither norms and gave him a-fate and spoke that he
 skyldi verða allra konunga frægastr. Sigmundr var þá kominn
should become of-all kings most-famous Sigmund was then come
 frá orrostu ok gekk með einum lauki í móti syni sínum,
from battle and went with one leak in against son his
 ok hér með gefr hann honum Helga nafn ok þetta at
and here with gives he to-him Helgi (the)-name and this as
 nafnfesti: Hringstaði ok Sólfjöll ok sverð, ok bað hann vel
name-fastening Hringstadir and Solfjoll and a-sword and bade him well
 fremjast ok verða í ætt Völsunga. Hann gerist stórlyndr
to-prosper and to-become in (the)-kin of-Volsungs He becomes great-minded
 ok vinsæll ok fyrir flestum mönnum öðrum at allri atgervi.
and popular and before most men others in all accomplishment
 Þat er sagt, at hann réðst í hernað, þá er hann var
That is said that he engaged-himself in harrying then when he was
 fimmtán vetra gamall. Var Helgi konungr yfir liðinu, en
fifteen of-winters old Was Helgi king over the-force but
 Sinfjötli var fenginn til með honum, ok réðu báðir liði.
Sinfjotli was got thereto with him and ruled both (the)-force

Helgi kills King Hundigr and afterward four of his sons. Riding from the battle he meets Sigrún, Högni's daughter, who has been promised to Höðbroddr and will not have him; she asks Helgi to come with an army and take her. He gathers a great fleet, and when a storm nearly swamps it Sigrún comes down from the land with a great force and brings the ships to a good harbor. At Gnípalundr the brother of King Höðbroddr comes down to the shore, and he and Sinfjötli trade insults across the water. They meet at Frekasteinn, and in a hard battle Helgi fells Höðbroddr under the banners with the shield-maidens looking on. He takes that realm, marries Sigrún, and is not in this saga again.

Þat er sagt, at Helgi finnr þann konung í hernaði, er
That is said that Helgi meets that king in harrying who
 Hundigr hét. Hann var ríkr konungr ok fjölmennr ok
Hunding was-called He was a-powerful king and of-many-men and
 réð fyrir löndum. Þar tekst orrosta með þeim, ok gengr
ruled over lands There takes-place a-battle between them and goes
 Helgi fast fram, ok lýkst með því sjá bardagi, at Helgi fær
Helgi hard forward and ends with that this battle that Helgi gets
 sigr, en Hundigr konungr fellr ok mikill hluti liðs hans. Nú
victory but Hunding king falls and a-great part of-force his Now
 þykkir Helgi hafa vaxit mikit, er hann hefir fellt svá ríkan
seems Helgi to-have grown much since he has felled so powerful
 konung. Synir Hundings bjóða nú út her í mót Helga
a-king Sons of-Hunding call now out an-army in against Helgi
 ok vilja hefna föður síns. Þeir eiga harða orrostu, ok gengr
and wish to-avenge father their They have a-hard battle and goes
 Helgi í gegnum fylkingar þeira bræðra ok sækir at merkjum
Helgi in through (the)-ranks of-those brothers and makes-for at (the)-banners

sona Hundings konungs ok felldi þessa Hundings sonu:
of-(the)-sons of-Hunding king and felled these of-Hunding sons
 Álf ok Eyjólf, Hervarð ok Hagbarð, ok fekk hér ágætan sigr.
Alf and Eyjolf Herward and Hagbard and got here a-famous victory
 Ok er Helgi ferr frá orrostu, þá fann hann við skóg einn
And when Helgi goes from battle then found he by a-wood one
 konur margar ok virðuligar sýnum, ok bar þó ein af öllum.
women many and worshipful in-looks and bore yet one from all
 Þær riðu með ágætligum búningi. Helgi spyr þá at nafni,
They rode with excellent apparel Helgi asks then at name
 er fyrir þeim var. En hún nefnist Sigrún ok kveðst vera
who before them was And she names-herself Sigrun and says-of-herself to-be
 dóttir Högna konungs. Helgi mælti: “Farið heim með oss, ok
daughter of-Hogni king Helgi spoke Go home with us and
 verið velkomnar.” Þá segir konungsdóttir: “Annat starf liggir
be welcome Then says (the)-king's-daughter Another task lies
 fyrir oss en drekka með þér.” Helgi svarar: “Hvat er þat,
before us than to-drink with thee Helgi answers What is that
 konungsdóttir?” Hún svarar: “Högni konungur hefir heitit mik
king's-daughter She answers Hogni king has promised me
 Höðbroddi, syni Granmars konungs, en ek hefi því heitit, at
to-Hodbrodd son of-Granmar king but I have that vowed that
 ek vil eigi eiga hann heldr en einn krákuunga. En þó mun
I wish not to-have him rather than one crow-chick But yet will
 þetta fram fara, nema þú bannir honum ok komir í mót
this forward go unless thou forbiddest to-him and comest in against
 honum með her ok nemir mik á brott, því at með
him with an-army and takest me off away because that with
 engum konungi vilda ek heldr sætr búa en með þér.” “Ver
no king wished I rather sweet to-dwell than with thee Be
 kát, konungsdóttir,” sagði hann. “Fyrri skulum vit reyna
glad king's-daughter said he Sooner shall we-two try

hreysti okkar en þú sér honum gift, ok reyna skulum
valor ours than thou be to-him married and try shall
 vit áðr, hvárr af öðrum berr, ok hér skal lífit á leggja.”
we-two before which from (the)-other bears and here shall the-life on lay
 Eptir þetta sendir Helgi menn með fégjöfum at stefna at
After this sends Helgi men with money-gifts to summon to
 sér mönnum ok stefnir öllu liðinu til Rauðabjarga. Beið
himself men and summons all the-force to Raudabjorg Waited
 Helgi þar til þess, er mikill flokkur kom til hans ór
Helgi there until that when a-great troop came to him out-of
 Heðinsey, ok þá kom til hans mikit lið ór Nörvasundum
Hedinsey and then came to him a-great force out-of Norvasund
 með fögnum skipum ok stórum. Helgi konungur kallar til
with fair ships and great Helgi king calls to
 sín skipstjórnamann sinn, er Leifr hét, ok spurði, ef
himself ship-captain his who Leif was-called and asked if
 hann hefði talit lið þeira. En hann svarar: “Eigi er hægt at
be had counted force theirs And he answers Not is easy to
 telja, herra, skip þau, er komin eru ór Nörvasundum. Eru
count lord ships those which come are out-of Norvasund Are
 á tólf þúsundir manna, ok er þó hálfu fleira annat.” Þá
on twelve thousands of-men and is yet by-half more (the)-other Then
 mælti Helgi konungur, at þeir skyldu snúa á þann fjörð,
spoke Helgi king that they should turn into that fjord
 er heitir Varinsfjörðr, ok svá gerðu þeir. Nú gerði at þeim
which is-called Varinsfjord and so did they Now made at them
 storm mikinn ok svá stóran sjó, at því var líkast at heyra,
a-storm great and so great a-sea that that was likest to hear
 er bylgjur gnúðu á borðunum, sem þá er björgum lysti
when waves crashed on the-boards as then when rocks struck
 saman. Helgi bað þá ekki óttast ok eigi svipta seglunum,
together Helgi bade them not to-fear and not to-strike the-sails

heldr setja hvert hæra en áðr. Þá var við sjálf, at yfir
rather to-set each higher than before Then was near itself that over
 mundi ganga, áðr þeir kæmi at landi. Þá kom þar
it-would go before they might-come to land Then came there
 Sigrún, dóttir Högna konungs, af landi ofan með miklu
Sigrun daughter of-Hogni king from land down with a-great
 liði ok snýr þeim í góða höfn, er heitir at Gnípalundi.
force and turns them into a-good haven which is-called at Gnípalund
 Þessi tíðendi sá landsmenn, ok kom af landi ofan bróðir
These tidings saw (the)-landsmen and came from land down brother
 Höðbrodds konungs, er þar réð fyrir, er heitir at
of-Hodbrodd king who there ruled over which is-called at
 Svarinshaugi. Hann kallar á þá ok spyrr, hvern stýrði inu
Svarinshaug He calls to them and asks who steered the
 mikla liði. Sinfjötli stendr upp ok hefir hjálm á höfði
great force Sinfjotli stands up and has a-helmet on head
 skyggðan sem gler ok brynju hvíta sem snjó, spjót í
burnished as glass and a-mail-coat white as snow a-spear in
 hendi með ágætligu merki ok gullrenndan skjöld fyrir sér.
hand with an-excellent banner and a-gold-rimmed shield before himself
 Sá kunni at mæla við konunga: “Seg svá, at þú hefir
That-one knew to speak with kings Say so that thou hast
 gefit svinum ok hundum ok þú finnr konu þína, at hér
given swine and dogs and thou meetest wife thy that here
 eru komnir Völsungar, ok mun hér hittast í liðinu Helgi
are come Volsungs and will here be-met in the-force Helgi
 konungr, ef Höðbroddr vill finna hann, ok er þat hans
king if Hodbrodd wishes to-meet him and is that his
 gaman at berjast með frama, meðan þú kyssir ambáttir við
sport to fight with honor while thou kissest bondwomen by
 eld.” Granmarr svarar: “Eigi muntu kunna margt virðuligt
a-fire Granmar answers Not wilt-thou know much worshipful

mæla ok forn minni at segja, er þú lýgr á höfðingja.
speak and old lore to tell when thou liest about chieftains
 Mun hitt sannara, at þú munt lengi hafa fæðzt á mörkum
Will that truer that thou wilt long have been-fed in forests
 úti við vargamat ok drepit bræðr þína, ok er kynligt,
outside on wolves-meat and killed brothers thy and is strange
 er þú þorir at koma í her með góðum mönnum, er
that thou darest to come into an-army with good men who
 margt kalt hræ hefir sogit til blóðs." Sinfjötli svarar: "Eigi
many a-cold corpse hast sucked for blood Sinfjotli answers Not
 muntu glöggt muna nú, er þú vart völvan í Varinsey ok
wilt-thou clearly remember now when thou wert the-sibyl in Varinsey and
 kvaðst vilja mann eiga ok kaust mik til þess embættis
saidst-of-thyself to-wish a-husband to-have and chocest me for that office
 at vera þinn maðr. En síðan vartu valkyrja í Ásgarði, ok
to be thy man But afterward wert-thou a-valkyrie in Asgard and
 var við sjálf, at allir mundu berjast fyrir þínar sakar, ok
was near itself that all would fight for thy sake and
 ek gat við þér níu varga á Láganesi, ok var ek faðir allra."
I begot with thee nine wolves on Laganes and was I father of-all
 Granmarr svarar: "Margt kanntu ljúga. Ek hygg, at engis
Granmar answers Much knowest-thou to-lie I think that of-nothing
 faðir mættir þú vera, síðan þú vart geldr af dætrum
a-father mightest thou be since thou wert gelded by (the)-daughters
 jötunsins á Þrasnesi, ok ertu stjúpsonr Siggeirs konungs
of-the-giant on Thrasnes and art-thou a-stepson of-Siggeir king
 ok látt á mörkum úti með vörgum, ok kómu þér öll
and layest in forests outside with wolves and came to-thee all
 óhöpp senn at hendi. Þú drapt bræðr þína ok gerðir þik at
misbaps at-once at hand Thou killedst brothers thy and madest thee for
 illu kunnan." Sinfjötli svarar: "Hvárt mantu þat, er þú
ill known Sinfjotli answers Whether rememberest-thou that when thou

vart merrin með hestinum Grana, ok reið ek þér á skeið á
wert the-mare with the-horse Grani and rode I on-thee in a-race on
 Brávelli? Síðan vartu geitasveinn Gaulnis jötuns." Granmarr
Bravoll Afterward wert-thou a-goat-boy of-Gaulnir giant Granmar
 segir: "Fyrri vilda ek seðja fugla á hræi þínu en deila
says Sooner wished I to-sate birds on carrion thine than to-contend
 við þik lengr." Þá mælti Helgi konungr: "Betra væri ykkur
with thee longer Then spoke Helgi king Better were for-you-two
 ok meira snjallræði at berjast en mæla slíkt, er skömm er
and more a-wise-counsel to fight than to-speak such as shame is
 at heyra, ok ekki eru Granmars synir vinir mínir, en þó eru
to hear and not are of-Granmar sons friends my but yet are
 þeir harðir menn." Granmarr ríðr nú í brott ok til fundar
they hard men Granmar rides now off away and to a-meeting
 við Höðbrodd konung, þar sem heita Sölfjöll. Hestar þeira
with Hodbrodd king there where are-called Solffoll Horses theirs
 heita Sveipuðr ok Sveggjuðr. Þeir mættust í borgarhliði
are-called Sveipud and Sveggjud They met in a-town-gate
 ok segja honum hersögu. Höðbroddr konungr var í brynju
and tell to-him war-news Hodbrodd king was in a-mail-coat
 ok hafði hjálm á höfði. Hann spyr, hverir þar væri, —
and had a-helmet on head He asks who there might-be
 "eða hvi eru þér svá reiðuligir?" Granmarr segir: "Hér eru
or why are you so wrathful-looking Granmar says Here are
 komnir Völsungar ok hafa tólf þúsundir manna við land ok
come Volsungs and have twelve thousands of-men by land and
 sjau þúsundir við ey þá, er Sök heitir, en þar, sem
seven thousands by an-island that which Sok is-called but there where
 heitir fyrir Grindum, er þó mestr fjöldi, ok hygg ek nú,
is-called before Grindir is yet (the)-greatest multitude and think I now
 at Helgi muni nú berjast vilja." Konungr segir: "Gerum þá
that Helgi will now fight wish (The)-king says Let-us-make then

boð um allt vårt ríki ok sækjum í mót þeim. Siti sá
a-summons over all our realm and let-us-see in against them Let-sit that-one
 engi heima, er berjast vill. Sendum orð Hrings sonum ok
none at-home who to-fight wishes Let-us-send word of-Hring sons and
 Högna konungi ok Álf inum gamla. Þeir eru bardagamenn
to-Hogni king and to-Alf the old They are battle-men
 miklir.” Fundust þeir þar, er heitir Frekasteinn, ok tókst
great Met they there where is-called Frekastein and took-place
 þar hörð orrosta. Helgi gengr fram í gegnum fylkingar. Þar
there a-hard battle Helgi goes forward in through (the)-ranks There
 varð mikit mannfall. Þá sá þeir skjaldmeyjaflokk mikinn,
became great man-fall Then saw they a-shield-maiden-troop great
 svá sem í loga sæi. Þar var Sigrún konungsdóttir.
so as into a-flame one-saw There was Sigrun (the)-king's-daughter
 Helgi konungr sótti í mót Höðbroddi konungi ok fellir
Helgi king made-for in against Hodbrodd king and fells
 hann undir merkjum. Þá mælti Sigrún: “Haf þökk fyrir
him under (the)-banners Then spoke Sigrun Have thanks for
 þetta þrekvirki. Skipt mun nú löndum. Er mér þetta mikill
this deed-of-valor Divided will now (the)-lands Is to-me this a-great
 tímadagr, ok muntu fá af þessu veg ok ágæti, er þú hefir
lucky-day and wilt-thou get from this honor and fame that thou hast
 svá ríkan konung felldan.” Þat ríki tók Helgi konungr ok
so powerful a-king felled That realm took Helgi king and
 dvaldist þar lengi ok fekk Sigrúnar ok gerðist frægr konungr
stayed there long and got Sigrun and became a-famous king
 ok ágætr, ok er hann hér ekki síðan við þessa sögu.
and excellent and is he here not afterward in this saga

Sinfjötli kills Borghildr's brother in a quarrel over a woman. She demands his banishment; Sigmundr offers gold instead, and she holds her brother's funeral feast. Three times she carries Sinfjötli a horn; twice Sigmundr drinks it for him, and the third time, told to strain it through his mustache, Sinfjötli drinks and dies. Sigmundr carries the body to a firth, where a ferryman takes it aboard and is gone. He drives Borghildr from the kingdom.

Völsungar fara nú heim ok hafa enn mikit aukit sitt ágæti.

Volsungs go now home and have still much increased their fame

Sinfjötli leggst nú í hernað af nýju. Hann sér eina fagra

Sinfjotli lays-himself now in harrying from anew He sees one fair

konu ok girnist mjök at fá hennar. Þeirar konu það ok

woman and desires much to get her For-that woman asked also

bróðir Borghildar, er átti Sigmundr konungr. Þeir þreyta

brother of-Borghild whom had Sigmund king They contest

þetta mál með orrostu, ok fellir Sinfjötli þenna konung.

this matter with battle and falls Sinfjotli this king

Hann herjar nú víða ok á margar orrostur ok hefir ávallt

He harries now widely and has many battles and has always

sigr. Gerist hann manna frægstr ok ágætastr ok kemur

victory Becomes he of-men most-famous and most-excellent and comes

heim um haustit með mörgum skipum ok miklu fé.

home in the-autumn with many ships and great wealth

Hann segir feðr sínum tíðendin, en hann segir drottningu.

He tells father his the-tidings but he tells (the)-queen

Hún biðr Sinfjötla fara brott ór ríkinu ok læzt eigi

She bids Sinfjotli to-go away out-of the-realm and says-of-herself not

vilja sjá hann. Sigmundr kveðst eigi láta hann í brott

to-wish to-see him Sigmund says-of-himself not to-let him off away

fara ok býðr at bæta henni með gulli ok miklu fé, þótt

to-go and offers to atone to-her with gold and great wealth though

hann hefði engan fyrri bætt mann, kvað engi frama at sakast

he had no earlier atoned man said no honor to quarrel

við konur. Hún má nú þessu eigi á leið koma. Hún mælti:

with women She may now this not to a-way to-bring She spoke

“Þér skuluð ráða, herra, þat samir.” Hún gerir nú erfi

You shall rule lord that beseems She makes now a-funeral-feast

bróður síns með ráði konungs, býr nú þessa vezilu

of-brother her with (the)-counsel of-(the)-king prepares now this feast

með inum beztum föngum ok bauð þangat mörgu stórmenni.

with the best provisions and invited thither many great-men

Borghildr bar mönnum drykk. Hún kemr fyrir Sinfjötla með

Borghild bore to-men drink She comes before Sinfjotli with

miklu horni. Hún mælti: “Drekk nú, stjúpsonr.” Hann tók

a-great horn She spoke Drink now stepson He took

við ok sá í hornit ok mælti: “Görótt er drykkinn.”

at and looked into the-horn and spoke Cloudy is the-drink

Sigmundr mælti: “Fá mér þá.” Hann drakk af. Drottningin

Sigmund spoke Give to-me then He drank off The-queen

mælti: “Hví skulu aðrir menn drekka fyrir þik öl?” Hún kom

spoke Why shall other men drink for thee ale She came

í annat sinn með hornit: “Drekk nú,” ok frýði honum með

in a-second time with the-horn Drink now and taunted him with

mörgum orðum. Hann tekr við horninu ok mælti: “Flærðr

many words He takes at the-horn and spoke Adulterated

er drykkinn.” Sigmundr mælti: “Fá mér þá.” It þriðja sinn

is the-drink Sigmund spoke Give to-me then The third time

kom hún ok bað hann drekka af, ef hann hefði hug

came she and bade him to-drink off if he had (the)-mettle

Völsunga. Sinfjötli tók við horninu ok mælti: “Eitr er í

of-Volsungs Sinfjotli took at the-horn and spoke Venom is in

drykknum.” Sigmundr svarar: “Lát grön síá, sonr,”

the-drink Sigmund answers Let (the)-mustache to-strain son

sagði hann. Þá var konungr drukinn mjök, ok því sagði
said he Then was (the)-king drunk much and therefore said
 hann svá. Sinfjötli drekkir ok fellr þegar niðr. Sigmundr ríss
he so Sinfjotli drinks and falls at-once down Sigmund rises
 upp ok gekk harmr sinn nær bana ok tók líkit í fang
up and went grief his near death and took the-corpse into arms
 sér ok ferr til skógar ok kom loks at einum firði. Þar
his and goes to (the)-wood and came at-last to one fjord There
 sá hann mann á einum báti litlum. Sá maðr spyrr, ef
saw he a-man in one boat little That man asks if
 hann vildi þiggja at honum far yfir fjörðinn. Hann játtar
he wished to-receive from him passage over the-fjord He assents
 því. Skipit var svá lítit, at þat bar þá eigi, ok var líkit
to-it The-ship was so little that it bore them not and was the-corpse
 fyrst flutt, en Sigmundr gekk með firðinum. Ok því næst
first ferried but Sigmund went along the-fjord And that next
 hvarf Sigmundi skipit ok svá maðrinn. Ok eptir þat snýr
vanished from-Sigmund the-ship and so the-man And after that turns
 Sigmundr heim, rekr nú í brott drottningina, ok litlu síðar
Sigmund home drives now off away the-queen and a-little later
 dó hún. Sigmundr konungr ræðr nú enn ríki sínu ok þykkir
died she Sigmund king rules now still realm his and is-thought
 verit hafa inn mesti kappi ok konungr í fornum sið.
been to-have the greatest champion and king in old custom

Sigmundr and Lyngvi, Hundings's son, both come courting Eylimi's daughter Hjördís, and she is given the choice and takes Sigmundr. Lyngvi and his brothers raise an army and come to Húnaland. Hjördís is driven to the woods with a bondwoman while the battle is fought. Sigmundr fights all day until a one-eyed man in a blue cloak sets his spear against the sword, and it breaks in two; then Sigmundr and Eylimi fall.

Eylimi hefir konungr heitit, ríkr ok ágætr. Dóttir hans
 Eylimi has a-king been-called powerful and excellent Daughter his
 hét Hjördís, allra kvenna vænst ok vitrust. Ok þat spyrr
 was-called Hjördís of-all women fairest and wisest And that bears
 Sigmundr konungr, at hún var við hans æði eða engi ella.
 Sigmund king that she was to his mind or none otherwise
 Sigmundr sækir heim Eylimu konung. Hann gerir veizlu í
 Sigmund seeks home Eylimu king He makes a-feast in
 mót honum mikla, ef hann hefði eigi herferð þangat.
 against him great if he had not a-war-journey thither
 Fara nú boð þeira í milli, at með vinsemd var nú
 Go now messages theirs in between that with friendship was now
 farit, en eigi með herskap. Veizla þessi var ger með inum
 gone but not with warfare Feast this was made with the
 beztum föngum ok með miklu fjölmenni. Sigmundi konungi
 best provisions and with great multitude To-Sigmund king
 var hvarvetna sett torg ok annarr farargreiði; koma nú til
 was everywhere set a-market and other travel-provision come now to
 veizlu, ok skipa báðir konungar eina höll. Þar var ok kominn
 (the)-feast and take both kings one hall There was also come
 Lyngvi konungr, sonr Hundings konungs, ok vill hann ok
 Lyngvi king son of-Hunding king and wishes he also
 mægjast við Eylimu konung. Hann þykkist sjá, at þeir
 to-ally-by-marriage with Eylimu king He thinks-himself to-see that they

munu eigi hafa eitt erendi, þykkist ok vita, at ófriðar
will not have one errand thinks-himself also to-know that of-strife
mun af þeim ván, er eigi fær. Nú mælti konungr við
will from them expectation who not gets Now spoke (the)-king to
dóttur sína: “Þú ert vitr kona, en ek hefi þat mælt, at þú
daughter his Thou art a-wise woman and I have that said that thou
skalt þér mann kjósa. Kjós nú um tvá konunga, ok
shalt for-thyself a-husband choose Choose now between two kings and
er þat mitt ráð hér um, sem þitt er.” Hún svarar: “Vant
is that my counsel here about as thine is She answers Hard
sýnist mér þetta mál, en þó kýs ek þann konung, er
seems to-me this matter but yet choose I that king who
frægstr er, en þat er Sigmundr konungr, þótt hann sé mjök
most-famous is and that is Sigmund king though he be much
aldri orpinn.” Ok var hún honum gefin, en Lyngvi konungr
in-age cast And was she to-him given but Lyngvi king
fór í brott. Sigmundr kvángaðist ok fekk Hjördísar. Var
went off away Sigmund married and got Hjordis Was
þar annan dag öðrum betr veitt eða með meira kappi.
there one day than-another better entertained or with greater zeal
Eptir þat fór Sigmundr konungr heim í Húnaland ok
After that went Sigmund king home into Hunaland and
Eylimi konungr, mágr hans, við honum ok gætir
Eylimi king kinsman-by-marriage his with him and guards
nú ríkis síns. En Lyngvi konungr ok bræðr hans safna nú
now realm his But Lyngvi king and brothers his gather now
her at sér ok fara nú á hendr Sigmundi konungi,
an-army to themselves and go now against hands to-Sigmund king
því at þeir höfðu jafnan minna hlut ór málum, þótt
because that they had always a-lesser part out-of dealings though
þetta biti nú fyrir. Vilja þeir nú fyrir koma kappi
this might-bite now first Wish they now before to-come (the)-mettle

Völsunga; koma nú í Húna-land ok senda Sigmundi
of-Völsungs come now into Hunaland and send to-Sigmund
 konungi orð ok vilja eigi stelast á hann, en þykkjast
king word and wish not to-steal on him but think-themselves
 vita, at hann mun eigi flýja. Sigmundr konungr kveðst
to-know that he will not flee Sigmund king says-himself
 koma mundu til orrostu. Hann dró saman her, en Hjördísi
to-come would to battle He drew together an-army but to-Hjördís
 var ekit til skógar við eina ambátt, ok mikit fé fór með
was driven to (the)-wood with one bondswoman and much wealth went with
 þeim. Hún var þar, meðan þeir börðust. Víkingar hljópu frá
them She was there while they fought Vikings ran from
 skipum við óvígjan her. Sigmundr konungr ok Eylimi
ships with an-unconquerable army Sigmund king and Eylimi
 settu upp merki sín, ok var þá blásit í lúðra. Sigmundr
set up banners their and was then blown into trumpets Sigmund
 konungr lætr nú við kveða sitt horn, er faðir hans hafði
king lets now at to-sound his horn which father his had
 átt, ok eggjar sína menn. Hafði Sigmundr lið miklu
owned and urges his men Had Sigmund a-force much
 minna. Tekst þar nú hörð orrosta, ok þótt Sigmundr
smaller Takes-place there now a-hard battle and though Sigmund
 væri gamall, þá barðist hann nú hart ok var jafnan fremstr
were old then fought he now hard and was always foremost
 sinna manna. Helzt hvárki við honum skjöldr né brynja,
of-his men Held neither against him a-shield nor a-mail-coat
 ok gekk hann jafnan í gegnum lið óvina sinna á þeim
and went he always in through (the)-force of-foes his on that
 degi, ok engi mátti sjá, hversu fara mundi þeira í millum.
day and none could see how go it-would theirs in between
 Margt spjót var þar á lopti ok örvar. En svá hlífðu
Many a-spear was there in (the)-air and arrows But so shielded

honum hans spádísir, at hann varð ekki sárr, ok engi
him his fate-goddesses that he became not wounded and none
 kunni töl, hversu margr maðr fell fyrir honum. Hann
knew (the)-count how many a-man fell before him He
 hafði báðar hendr blóðgar til axlar. Ok er orrosta
had both hands bloody to (the)-shoulder And when battle
 hafði staðit um hrið, þá kom maðr í bardagann með
had stood for a-while then came a-man into the-fight with
 síðan hött ok heklu blá. Hann hafði eitt auga ok geir
a-long hood and a-cloak blue He had one eye and a-spear
 í hendi. Þessi maðr kom á mót Sigmundi konungi ok
in hand This man came on against to-Sigmund king and
 brá upp geirinum fyrir hann. Ok er Sigmundr konungr
cast up the-spear before him And when Sigmund king
 hjó fast, kom sverðit í geirinn ok brast í sundr
bewed hard came the-sword against the-spear and burst in sunder
 í tvá hluti. Síðan sneri mannfallinu, ok váru Sigmundi
into two parts Then turned the-man-fall and were to-Sigmund
 konungi horfin heill, ok fell mjök liðit fyrir honum.
king vanished (the)-luck and fell much the-force before him
 Konungrinn hlífði sér ekki ok eggjar mjög liðit. Nú er
The-king shielded himself not and urges much the-force Now is
 sem mælt, at eigi má við margnum. Í þessari orrostu
as said that not one-may against the-many In this battle
 fell Sigmundr konungr ok Eylimi konungr, mágr
fell Sigmund king and Eylimi king kinsman-by-marriage
 hans, í öndverðri fylkingu ok mestr hluti liðs hans.
his in (the)-front rank and (the)-greatest part of-force his

Hjördís searches the field at night and finds Sigmundr alive. He refuses healing, saying Óðinn no longer wills that he draw sword, and tells her that she carries a son who will be the foremost of their kin; she is to keep the pieces of the sword, from which Gramr will be made. He dies at dawn. Álfr, son of King Hjálprékr, comes with ships; Hjördís and her maid exchange clothes, and a question about how they tell the hour when they cannot see the heavenly bodies shows Álfr which of the two is the king's daughter.

Lyngvi konungr sækir nú til konungsbæjarins ok ætlar at
 Lyngvi king seeks now to the-king's-town and intends to
 taka þar konungsdóttur, en þat brást honum. Fekk hann þar
 take there (the)-king's-daughter but that failed for-him Got he there
 hvárki konu né fé. Hann ferr nú yfir landit ok skipar þar
 neither wife nor wealth He goes now over the-land and sets there
 sínum mönnum ríkit; þykkist nú hafa drepit alla ætt
 his men the-realm thinks-himself now to-have killed all (the)-kin
 Völsunga ok ætlar þá eigi munu þurfa at óttast heðan frá.
 of-Völsungs and thinks then not will need to fear henceforth from
 Hjördís gekk í valinn eptir orrostuna um nóttina ok kom
 Hjördís went into the-slain after the-battle in the-night and came
 at þar, sem Sigmundr konungr lá, ok spyr, ef hann væri
 to there where Sigmund king lay and asks if he were
 græðandi. En hann svarar: “Margr lifnar ór litlum vánum,
 bealable But he answers Many revives out-of little hopes
 en horfin eru mér heill, svá at ek vil eigi láta græða
 but vanished are for-me (the)-luck so that I wish not to-let to-heal
 mik. Vill Óðinn ekki, at vér bregðum sverði, síðan er nú
 me Wishes Odin not that we draw a-sword since when now
 brotnaði. Hefi ek haft orrostur, meðan honum líkaði.” Hún
 it-broke Have I had battles while to-him it-pleased She

mælti: "Einkis þætti mér ávant, ef þú yrðir græddr
spoke Of-nothing would-seem to-me lacking if thou mightest-become healed
 ok hefndir föður míns." Konungr segir: "Öðrum er þat
and avengedst father my (The)-king says For-another is that
 ætlat. Þú ferr með sveinbarn ok fæð þat vel ok vandliga,
appointed Thou goest with a-boy-child and rear that well and carefully
 ok mun sá sveinn ágætr ok fremstr af várri ætt. Varðveit ok
and will that boy excellent and foremost of our kin Keep also
 vel sverðsbrotin. Þar af má gera gott sverð, er heita
well the-sword-fragments There from one-may make a-good sword which be-called
 mun Gramr ok sonr okkarr mun bera ok þar mörg stórverk
will Gram and son ours will bear and there many great-deeds
 með vinna, þau er aldri munu fyrnast, ok hans nafn mun
with to-work those which never will grow-old and his name will
 uppi, meðan veröldin stendr. Uni nú við þat, en mik
up while the-world stands Be-content now with that but me
 mæða sár ok ek mun nú vitja frænda várra framgenginna."
weary wounds and I will now visit kinsmen ours departed
 Hjördís sitr nú yfir honum, unz hann deyr, ok þá lýsir
Hjordis sits now over him until he dies and then it-dawns
 af degi. Hún sér, at mörg skip eru komin við land. Hún
from day She sees that many ships are come to land She
 mælti til ambáttarinnar: "Vit skulum skipta klæðum, ok
spoke to the-bondwoman We-two shall change clothes and
 skaltu nefnast nafni mínu, ok segst konungsdóttir." Ok
shalt-thou name-thyself with-name mine and say-thyself a-king's-daughter And
 þær gera svá. Víkingar geta at líta mikit mannfall ok svá,
they do so Vikings get to see a-great man-fall and so
 hvar konurnar fóru til skógar, skilja, at stórtíðendum mun
where the-women went to (the)-wood understand that great-tidings will
 gegna, ok hlaupa af skipum. En fyrir þessu liði réð Álf,
mean and run from ships But over this force ruled Alf

sonr Hjalpreks konungs af Danmörk. Hann hafði farit fyrir
son of-Hjalprek king of Denmark He had gone along
land fram með her sínum; koma nú í valinn. Þar sjá þeir
land forward with army his come now into the-slain There see they
mikit mannfall. Konungrinn biðr nú at leita at konunum,
a-great man-fall The-king bids now to seek for the-women
ok svá gerðu þeir. Hann spyr, hverjar þær væri, en þar
and so did they He asks who they might-be but there
skiptir eigi at líkendum til. Ambáttin hefir svör fyrir þeim
differs not at likelihood to The-bondwoman has answers for them
ok segir fall Sigmundar konungs ok Eylima konungs ok
and tells (the)-fall of-Sigmund king and of-Eylimí king and
margs annars stórmennis ok svá, hverir gert hafa. Konungr
of-much other great-folk and so who done have (The)-king
spurði, hvort þær vissi, hvar fé konungs væri fólgt.
asked whether they knew where (the)-wealth of-(the)-king were hidden
Ambáttin svarar: “Meiri ván, at vér vitim,” ok vísar til
The-bondwoman answers More expectation that we might-know and points to
fjárins. Ok finna þeir auð mikinn, svá at eigi þóttust
the-wealth And find they riches great so that not thought-themselves
menn sét hafa jafnmikit saman koma í einn stað eða fleiri
men seen to-have as-much together to-come into one place or more
gersimar; bera til skipa Álfis konungs. Hjördís fylgdi honum
treasures bear to ships of-Alf king Hjordis followed him
ok svá ambáttin. Hann ferr nú heim í ríki sitt, en lætr,
and so the-bondwoman He goes now home into realm his but declares
at þar sé fallnir þeir konungar, er frægstir váru. Konungr
that there be fallen those kings who most-famous were (The)-king
sezt við stjórn, en þær sátu í fyrirrúmi á skipinu.
sits-himself at (the)-helm but they sat in (the)-fore-cabin on the-ship
Hann á tal við þær ok leggur virðing á ræður þeira.
He has talk with them and lays value on speeches theirs

Konungr kom heim í ríki sitt við miklu fé. Álf var
(The)-king came home into realm his with great wealth Alf was
 manna gerviligastr. Ok er þau hafa skamma stund heima
of-men most-accomplished And when they have a-short while at-home
 verit, spyr drottningin Álf, son sinn: “Hví hefir in fegri
been asks the-queen Alf son her Why has the fairer
 kona færi hringa eða verra búnað, ok virðist mér, at sú
woman fewer rings or worse apparel and seems to-me that that-one
 muni æðri, er þér hafið minna yfir látit?” Hann svarar:
will nobler whom you have less over let He answers
 “Grunat hefir mik þat, at eigi sé ambáttarmót á henni,
Suspected has me that that not is a-bondwoman's-look on her
 ok þá er vér fundumst, þá tókst henni vel at fagna
and then when we met then succeeded for-her well to greet
 tignum mönnum, ok hér til skal gera eina raun.” Þat er
noble men and here to shall make one trial That is
 nú eitt sinn við drykkju, at konungr sezt á tal við þær
now one time at drinking that (the)-king sits-himself at talk with them
 ok mælti: “Hvat hafi þér at marki um dægfar, þá er
and spoke What have you for a-mark about (the)-day-course then when
 nótt eldir, ef þér sjáið eigi himintungl?” Hún svarar: “Þat
night wanes if you see not (the)-sky-lights She answers That
 mark höfum vér hér til, at ek var því vön í æsku at
mark have we here to that I was that accustomed in youth to
 drekka mjök í óttu, ok er ek lét af því, vöknudú
drink much in (the)-small-bours and when I left off that woke
 vér eptir því síðan, ok er þat mitt mark.” Konungr brosti
we after that afterward and is that my mark (The)-king smiled
 at ok mælti: “Illa var konungsdóttir vönd.” Hann hittir
at and spoke Ill was a-king's-daughter accustomed He meets
 þá Hjördísi ok spyr hana slíks ins sama. Hún svarar
then Hjordis and asks her of-such the same She answers

honum: “Faðir minn gaf mér eitt gull lítit við náttúru. Þat
to-him Father my gave to-me one gold little with a-nature It
 kólnar í óttu á fingri mér. Þat er mitt mark hér
cools in (the)-small-hours on finger my That is my mark here
 um.” Konungur svarar: “Gnótt var þar gulls, er ambáttir
about (The)-king answers Plenty was there of-gold when bondwomen
 báru, ok munu þér ærit lengi leynzt hafa fyrir mér, ok svá
bore and will you enough long hidden have from me and so
 munda ek til þín gert hafa sem vit værim eins konungs
would I toward thee done have as we-two were of-one king
 börn bæði, þótt þú hefðir þetta sagt, ok enn skal gera
children both though thou hadst this said and still shall do
 verðleikum betr við þik, því at þú skalt vera mín kona,
than-deserts better toward thee because that thou shalt be my wife
 ok skal ek gjalda mund við þér, þá er þú hefir barn
and shall I pay a-bride-price for thee then when thou hast a-child
 getit.” Hún svarar ok segir allt it sanna um sitt ráð. Er
begotten She answers and tells all the truth about her case Is
 hún þar nú í miklum sóma ok þykkir in virðuligasta kona.
she there now in great honor and is-thought the worthiest woman

XIII • SIGURÐR AND GRANI

Hjörðís bears a son, and Hjálprekr, seeing his keen eyes, has him named Sigurðr. Reginn, Hreiðmarr's son, fosters him, teaches him games, runes, and many tongues, and goads him for living as the kings' stable-boy. Told to choose a horse, Sigurðr meets an old man with a long beard who has him drive the stud into the river Busiltjörn; the one horse that does not make for land is Grani, of Sleipnir's stock. Reginn then tells him of Fáfnir's gold on Gnitabeiðr and taunts him into bearing the tale.

Þat er nú sagt, at Hjördis fæðir sveinbarn, ok er sveinninn
That is now said that Hjördis bears a-boy-child and is the-boy
 fæðr Hjálpreki konungi. Konunggrinn varð glaðr við, er hann
brought to-Hjálprek king The-king became glad at when he
 sá þau in hvössu augu, er hann bar í höfði, ok sagði hann
saw those the keen eyes which he bore in head and said him
 engum mundu líkan verða eða samjafnan, ok var hann vatni
to-none would like become or equal and was he with-water
 ausinn með Sigurðar nafni. Frá honum segja allir eitt, at um
sprinkled with of-Sigurd (the)-name Of him say all one that in
 atferð ok vöxt var engi hans maki. Hann var þar fæddr með
bearing and growth was none his match He was there reared with
 Hjálpreki konungi af mikilli ást. Ok þá er nefndir eru allir
Hjálprek king with great love And then when named are all
 inir ágæztu menn ok konungar í fornsögum, þá skal Sigurðr
the most-excellent men and kings in old-sagas then shall Sigurd
 fyrir ganga um afl ok atgervi, kapp ok hreysti, er hann hefir
before go in strength and prowess mettle and valor which he has
 haft um hvern mann fram annarra í norðrálfa heimsins.
had beyond every man forward of-others in (the)-northern-quarter of-the-world
 Sigurðr óx þar upp með Hjálpreki, ok unni hvert barn honum.
Sigurd grew there up with Hjálprek and loved every child him
 Hann fastnaði Álfí konungi Hjördísi ok mælti henni mund.
He betrothed to-Alf king Hjördis and appointed for-her a-bride-price
 Reginn hét fóstri Sigurðar ok var Hreiðmars son.
Regin was-called foster-father of-Sigurd and was of-Hreidmar son
 Hann kenndi honum íþróttir, tafl ok rúnar ok tungur
He taught to-him accomplishments chess and runes and tongues
 margar at mæla, sem þá var títt konungasonum, ok
many to speak as then was customary for-kings-sons and
 marga hluti aðra. Eitt sinn spurði Reginn Sigurð, er þeir
many things other One time asked Regin Sigurd when they

váru báðir saman, ef hann vissi, hversu mikit fé faðir
were both together if he knew how much wealth father
 hans hefði átt eða hverir þat varðveittu. Sigurðr svarar ok
his had owned or who it kept Sigurd answers and
 segir, at konungar varðveittu. Reginn mælti: “Trúir þú þeim
says that kings kept Regin spoke Trustest thou them
 allvel?” Sigurðr svarar: “Þat samir, at þeir varðveiti, þar til
very-well Sigurd answers That beseems that they keep there until
 er oss hallkvæmist, því at þeir kunnu betr at gæta en
when to-us it-becomes-suitable because that they know better to guard than
 ek.” Annat sinni kemr Reginn at máli við Sigurð ok mælti:
I A-second time comes Regin to speech with Sigurd and spoke
 “Kynligt er þat, er þú vilt vera hestasveinn konunga eða
Strange is that that thou wishest to-be a-horse-boy of-kings or
 fara sem hlauparar.” Sigurðr svarar: “Eigi er þat, því at
to-go like runners Sigurd answers Not is that because that
 vér ráðum öllu með þeim. Er oss ok heimilt þat, er vér
we rule all with them Is to-us also free that which we
 viljum hafa.” Reginn mælti: “Bið hann gefa þér einn hest.”
wish to-have Regin spoke Ask him to-give to-thee one horse
 Sigurðr svarar: “Þegar mun þat, er ek vil.” Sigurðr hittir
Sigurd answers At-once will that which I wish Sigurd meets
 nú konunga. Þá mælti konungr við Sigurð: “Hvat viltu
now (the)-kings Then spoke (the)-king to Sigurd What wishest-thou
 af oss þiggja?” Sigurðr svarar: “Einn hest viljum vér þiggja
from us to-receive Sigurd answers One horse wish we to-receive
 oss til skemmtanar.” Konungrinn mælti: “Kjós þér sjálf
for-us for pleasure The-king spoke Choose for-thyself thyself
 hest ok slíkt, er þú vill hafa af várri eigu.” Annan
a-horse and such as thou wishest to-have from our property (The)-next
 dag eptir fór Sigurðr til skógar ok mætir einum gömlum
day after went Sigurd to (the)-wood and meets one old

manni með síðu skeggi. Sá var honum ókunnigr. Hann
man with a-long beard That-one was to-him unknown He
 spyrr, hvert Sigurðr skyldi fara. Hann svarar: “Hest skyldum
asks whither Sigurd should go He answers A-horse should
 vér kjósa. Ráð um með oss.” Hann mælti: “Förum ok
we choose Counsel about with us He spoke Let-us-go and
 rekum til árinna, er Busiltjörn heitir.” Þeir reka hrossin
let-us-drive to the-river which Busiltjorn is-called They drive the-horses
 út á djúp árinna, ok leggjast at landi nema einn hestr.
out into (the)-deep of-the-river and lay-themselves to land except one horse
 Hann tók Sigurðr. Hann var grár at lit ok ungr at aldri,
Him took Sigurd He was gray in hue and young in age
 mikill vexti ok vænn. Engi hafði honum á bak komit.
great in-stature and fair None had him on back come
 Skeggmaðrinn mælti: “Þessi hestr er kominn frá Sleipni, ok
The-beard-man spoke This horse is come from Sleipnir and
 skal hann vandliga upp fæða, því at hann verðr hverjum
shall him carefully up rear because that he becomes than-every
 hesti betri.” Maðrinn hverfr þá. Sigurðr kallar hestinn Grana,
horse better The-man vanishes then Sigurd calls the-horse Grani
 ok hefir sá hestr beztr verit. Óðinn hafði hann hittan.
and has that horse best been Odin had him met
 Enn mælti Reginn til Sigurðar: “Oflítit fé eigu þér. Þat
Again spoke Regin to Sigurd Too-little wealth own you That
 harmar oss, er þér hlaupið sem þorpara sveinar, en ek
grieves us that you run like of-churls boys but I
 veit mikla féván at segja þér, ok er þat meiri ván,
know a-great wealth-prospect to tell to-thee and is that more expectation
 at þat sé sómi at sækja ok virðing, ef þú næðir.”
that that be an-honor to seek and worth if thou mightest-reach
 Sigurð spyrr, hvar væri eða hvern varðveitti. Reginn svarar:
Sigurd asks where it-were or who kept Regin answers

“Sá heitir Fáfnir, er hér liggr skammt heðan á brott.
That-one is-called Fafnir who here lies a-short-way hence off away
 Þat heitir Gnitahiðr. Ok er þú kemr þar, þá muntu þat
That is-called Gnitabeath And when thou comest there then wilt-thou that
 mæla: Aldri sattu meira fé í gulli í einum stað, ok
say Never sawest-thou more wealth in gold in one place and
 eigi þarftu meira, þótt þú verðir allra konunga ellstr ok
not needest-thou more though thou becomest of-all kings oldest and
 frægstr.” Sigurðr svarar: “Kann ek kyn þessa orms, þótt
most-famous Sigurd answers Know I (the)-kind of-this serpent though
 vér séum ungir, ok hefi ek spurt, at engi þorir at koma á
we be young and have I heard that none dares to come in
 mót honum fyrir vaxtar sakir ok illsku.” Reginn svarar:
against him for of-growth sake and of-wickedness Regin answers
 “Þat er ekki. Sá vöxtr er eptir hætti lyngorma, ok er
That is nothing That growth is after (the)-fashion of-beath-serpents and is
 gert af miklu meira en er, ok svá mundi þótt hafa inum
made from much more than is and so would seemed have to-the
 fyrrum frændum þínum. Ok þótt Völsunga ætt sé at þér,
former kinsmen thine And though of-Völsungs kin be in thee
 þá mun þú eigi hafa þeira skaplyndi, er fyrst eru taldir
then wilt thou not have their temper who first are counted
 til alls frama.” Sigurðr svarar: “Vera má, at eigi höfum
for all honor Sigurd answers Be may that not have
 vér mikit af þeira kappi eða snilld, en eigi berr nauðsyn
we much of their mettle or prowess but not bears necessity
 til at frýja oss, er vér erum enn lítt af barnsaldri. Eða
to to taunt us when we are still little from child-age Or
 hví eggjar þú þessa svá mjök?” Reginn svarar: “Saga er til
why eggst thou this so much Regin answers A-tale is for
 þess, ok mun ek segja þér.” Sigurðr mælti: “Lát mik heyra.”
that and will I tell to-thee Sigurd spoke Let me to-hear

Reginn tells his story. His brother Otr, who went in an otter's shape, was killed by Loki, and Hreiðmarr demanded the skin filled and covered with gold. Loki took Rán's net, caught the dwarf Andvari in pike's shape, and stripped him of his hoard; Andvari kept one ring back and Loki took that from him too, and the dwarf laid a curse on it. Óðinn gave up Andvaranaut to hide one whisker. Fáfnir then killed his father, took all of it, and became a serpent. Sigurðr asks Reginn to forge him a sword.

“Þat er upphaf sögu þessar, at Hreiðmarr hét faðir minn,
That is (the)-beginning of-tale this that Hreiðmar was-called father my
 mikill ok auðigr. Sonr hans hét Fáfnir, en annarr hét
great and rich Son his was-called Fáfnir and (the)-other was-called
 Otr ok var ek inn þriði, ok var ek minnstr fyrir mér um atgervi
Otr and was I the third and was I least for myself in prowess
 ok yfirlát. Kunna ek af jární gera ok af silfri ok gulli, ok
and display Knew I from iron to-make and from silver and gold and
 hverjum hlut gerða ek nokkut nýtt. Otr, bróðir minn, hafði
of-every thing made I something useful Otr brother my had
 aðra iðn ok náttúru. Hann var veiðimaðr mikill ok um fram
another craft and nature He was a-hunter great and beyond forward
 aðra menn ok var í otrs líki um daga ok var jafnan í
other men and was in of-an-otter shape through days and was always in
 ánni ok bar upp fiska með munni sér. Veiðiföngin færði hann
the-river and bore up fish with mouth his The-catches brought he
 feðr sínum, ok var honum þat mikill styrkr. Mjök hefir hann
to-father his and was to-him that great support Much has he
 otrs líki á sér, kom síð heim ok át blundandi ok einn
of-an-otter shape on himself came late home and ate dozing and one

saman, því at hann mátti eigi sjá, at þyrri. Fáfnir var miklu
alone because that he could not see that it-lesened Fafnir was much
 mestr ok grimmastr ok vildi sitt eitt kalla láta allt þat, er var.
greatest and grimmest and wished his alone to-call to-let all that which was
 Einn dvergr hét Andvari,” segir Reginn. “Hann var jafnan
One dwarf was-called Andvari says Regin He was always
 í forsinum, er Andvarafors heitir, í geddu líki ok fekk
in the-waterfall which Andvarafors is-called in of-a-pike shape and got
 sér þar matar, því at þar var fjöldi fiska í þeim
for-himself there food because that there was a-multitude of-fish in that
 forsi. Otr, bróðir minn, fór jafnan í þenna fors ok bar
waterfall Otr brother my went always into this waterfall and bore
 upp fiska í munni sér ok lagði einn senn á land. Óðinn,
up fish in mouth his and laid one at-a-time on land Odin
 Loki, Hænir fóru leiðar sinnar ok kómu til Andvarafors. Otr
Loki Hoenir went way their and came to Andvarafors Otr
 hafði þá tekit einn lax ok át blundandi á árbakkanum. Loki
had then taken one salmon and ate dozing on the-river-bank Loki
 tók einn stein ok laust otrinn til bana. Æsir þóttust
took one stone and struck the-otter to death (The)-Aesir thought-themselves
 mjök heppnir af veiði sinni ok flógu belg af otrinum. Þat
much lucky from catch their and flayed (the)-skin off the-otter That
 kveld kómu þeir til Hreiðmars ok sýndu honum veiðina. Þá
evening came they to Hreidmar and showed to-him the-catch Then
 tóku vér þá höndum ok sögðum á þá gjald ok fjörlausn,
took we them by-bands and declared on them a-payment and life-ransom
 at þeir fylldi belginn af gulli ok hyldi hann utan með
that they should-fill the-skin with gold and should-cover it outside with
 rauðu gulli. Þá sendu þeir Loka at afla gullsins. Hann kom til
red gold Then sent they Loki to get the-gold He came to

Ránar ok fekk net hennar, fór þá til Andvarafors ok kastaði

Ran and got net her went then to Andvarafors and cast

netinu fyrir gedduna, en hún hljóp í netit. Þá mælti Loki:

the-net before the-pike but she leapt into the-net Then spoke Loki

“Hvat er þat fiska,

What is that of-fish

er rinnr flóði í,

which runs flood in

kannat sér við víti varask?

knows-not for-itself against harm to-beware

Höfuð þitt leystu

Head thine redeem-thou

helju ór

bel out-of

ok finn mér lindar loga.”

and find for-me of-(the)-spring (the)-flame

“Andvari ek heiti,

Andvari I am-called

Óinn hét minn faðir,

Oinn was-called my father

margan hefi ek fors of farit.

many have I a-waterfall — traversed

Aumlig norn

A-wretched norn

skóp oss í árdaga,

shaped us in early-days

at ek skylda í vatni vaða.”

that I should in water wade

Loki sér gull þat, er Andvari átti. En er hann hafði fram
Loki sees gold that which Andvari owned And when he had forward
 reitt gullit, þá hafði hann eptir einn hring, ok tók Loki hann
paid the-gold then had he behind one ring and took Loki it
 af honum. Dvergrinn gekk í steininn ok mælti, at hverjum
from him The-dwarf went into the-stone and spoke that to-each
 skyldi at bana verða, er þann gullhring ætti ok svá allt gullit.
should for death to-become who that gold-ring owned and so all the-gold
 Æsirnir reiddu Hreiðmari féit ok tráðu upp otrbelginn ok
The-Aesir paid to-Hreidmar the-wealth and stuffed up the-otter-skin and
 settu á fætr. Þá skyldu Æsirnir hlaða upp hjá gullinu ok
set on feet Then should the-Aesir heap up beside the-gold and
 hylja utan. En er þat var gert, þá gekk Hreiðmarr fram
to-cover outside And when that was done then went Hreidmar forward
 ok sá eitt granahár ok bað hylja. Þá dró Óðinn hringinn
and saw one whisker-hair and bade to-cover Then drew Odin the-ring
 af hendi sér, Andvaranaut, ok huldi hárit. Þá kvað Loki:
from hand his Andvaranaut and covered the-hair Then spoke Loki

“Gull er þér nú reitt,

Gold is to-thee now paid

en þú gjöld hefir

and thou payment hast

mikil míns höfuðs.

great of-my head

Syni þínum verðrat

To-son thine becomes-not

sæla sköpuð,

happiness shaped

þat er ykkarr beggja bani.”

that is of-you-two both (the)-bane

Síðan drap Fáfnir föður sinn,” segir Reginn, “ok myrði hann,
Then killed Fafnir father his says Regin and murdered him
 ok náða ek engu af fénu. Hann gerðist svá illr, at hann
and got I nothing of the-wealth He became so evil that he
 lagðist út ok unni engum at njóta fjárens nema sér ok varð
laid-himself out and granted to-none to enjoy the-wealth except himself and became
 síðan at inum versta ormi ok liggr nú á því fé. Síðan fór
afterward into the worst serpent and lies now on that wealth Then went
 ek til konungs, ok gerðumst ek smiðr hans. Ok er þessi ræða
I to (the)-king and became I smith his And is this speech
 til minnar sögu, at ek missi föðurarfsins ok bróðurgjaldanna.
for my tale that I lack the-father-inheritance and the-brother-payments
 Gullit er síðan kallat otrsgjöld ok hér dæmi af tekin.” Sigurðr
The-gold is since called otter-payment and here examples from taken Sigurd
 svarar: “Mikit hefir þú látit, ok stórrillir hafa þínir frændr verit.
answers Much hast thou lost and very-evil have thy kinsmen been
 Ger nú eitt sverð af þínum hagleik, þat er ekki sé jafngott
Make now one sword from thy craft that which not be as-good
 gert ok ek mega vinna stórverk, ef hugr dugir, ef þú vilt,
made and I may work great-deeds if courage avails if thou wishest
 at ek drepa þenna inn mikla dreka.” Reginn segir: “Þat geri
that I kill this the great dragon Regin says That do
 ek með trausti, ok muntu mega drepa Fáfni með því sverði.”
I with confidence and wilt-thou be-able kill Fafnir with that sword

XV • THE FORGING OF GRAMR

Reginn forges two swords and Sigurðr breaks both on the anvil, telling him he is as faithless as his kin. He goes to his mother for the pieces of Sigmundur's sword and she gives them up. Reginn forges them into a blade whose edges seem to burn; Sigurðr strikes the anvil and splits it to the base, and a tuft of wool floating down the river is cut in two against the edge. Reginn asks him to keep his promise about Fáfnir.

Reginn gerir nú eitt sverð ok fær í hönd Sigurði. Hann tók
Regin makes now one sword and gives into hand to-Sigurd He took
við sverðinu ok mælti: “Þetta er þitt smíði, Reginn,” ok höggur
at the-sword and spoke This is thy smithing Regin and hews
í steðjann, ok brotnaði sverðit. Hann kastar brandinum ok
into the-anvil and broke the-sword He casts the-brand and
bað hann smíða annat betra. Reginn gerir annat sverð ok fær
bade him to-forge another better Regin makes another sword and gives
Sigurði. Hann leit á. “Þetta mun þér líka, en vant mun
to-Sigurd He looked on This will to-thee please but hard will
yðr at smíða.” Sigurðr reynir þetta sverð ok brýtr sem it
for-you to forge Sigurd tries this sword and breaks like the
fyrri. Þá mælti Sigurðr til Regins: “Þú munt líkr vera inum
former Then spoke Sigurd to Regin Thou wilt like be to-the
fyrirum frændum þínum ok vera ótrúr.” Gekk nú til móður
former kinsmen thine and to-be untrue Went now to mother
sinnar. Hún fagnar honum vel; talast nú við ok drekka. Þá
his She greets him well they-talk now together and drink Then
mælti Sigurðr: “Hvárt höfum vér rétt til spurt, at Sigmundr
spoke Sigurd Whether have we rightly to heard that Sigmund
konungr seldi yðr sverðit Gram í tveim hlutum?” Hún
king gave to-you the-sword Gram in two parts She
svarar: “Satt er þat.” Sigurðr mælti: “Fá mér í hönd, ek vil
answers True is that Sigurd spoke Give to-me into hand I wish
hafa.” Hún kvað hann líkligan til frama ok fær honum sverðit.
to-have She said him likely for honor and gives to-him the-sword
Sigurðr hittir nú Regin ok bað hann þar gera af sverð
Sigurd meets now Regin and bade him there to-make from a-sword
eptir efnum. Reginn reiddist ok gekk til smiðju með
after (the)-materials Regin grew-angry and went to (the)-smithy with
sverðsbrotin ok þykkir Sigurðr framgjarn um smiðina.
the-sword-fragments and seems Sigurd forward about the-smithing

Reginn gerir nú eitt sverð. Ok er hann bar ór aflinum,
Regin makes now one sword And when he bore out-of the-forge
 sýndist smiðjusveinum sem eldar brynni ór eggjunum; biðr
it-seemed to-smithy-boys as fires burned out-of the-edges bids
 nú Sigurð við taka sverðinu ok kveðst eigi kunna sverð at
now Sigurd at to-take the-sword and says-himself not to-know a-sword to
 gera, ef þetta bilar. Sigurðr hjó í steðjann ok klauf niðr í
make if this fails Sigurd hewed into the-anvil and clove down into
 fótinn, ok brast eigi né brotnaði. Hann lofaði sverðit mjök
the-foot and burst not nor broke He praised the-sword much
 ok fór til árinna með ullarlagð ok kastar í gegn straumi,
and went to the-river with a-wool-flock and casts in against (the)-stream
 ok tók í sundr, er hann brá við sverðinu. Gekk Sigurðr
and took in sunder when he drew at the-sword Went Sigurd
 þá glaðr heim. Reginn mælti: “Efna muni þér heit yður
then glad home Regin spoke Fulfill will you promise your
 nú, er ek hefi gert sverðit, ok hitta Fáfnir.” Sigurðr svarar:
now when I have made the-sword and to-meet Fafnir Sigurd answers
 “Efna munu vér ok þó annat fyrr, at hefna föður míns.”
Fulfill will we and yet another sooner to avenge father my
 Sigurðr varð því ástsælli, sem hann var ellri, af öllu fólki,
Sigurd became that more-beloved as he was older by all people
 svá at hvert barn unni honum hugástum.
so that every child loved him with-heart-love

XVI • GRÍPIR'S PROPHECY

Sigurðr goes to his mother's brother Grípir, who is foreknowing and sees the fates of men. Grípir is long unwilling, but at Sigurðr's urging tells him his whole life as it afterward went. Sigurðr rides home, and when Reginn presses him again about Fáfnir he answers that another thing must come first: the avenging of Sigmundr and the kinsmen who fell with him.

Grípir hét maðr ok var móðurbróðir Sigurðar. En litlu
Gripir was-called a-man and was mother's-brother of-Sigurd And a-little
 síðar en sverðit var gert, fór hann á fund Grípis, því
later than the-sword was made went he to a-meeting of-Gripir because
 at hann var framviss ok vissi fyrir örlög manna. Sigurðr
that he was foreknowing and knew before (the)-fates of-men Sigurd
 leitar eptir, hversu ganga mun ævi hans. En hann var þó
seeks after how go will life his But he was yet
 lengi fyrir ok sagði þó loksins við ákaflega bæn Sigurðar
long unwilling and told yet at-last at (the)-eager prayer of-Sigurd
 öll forlög hans, eptir því sem eptir gekk síðan. Ok þá er
all destinies his after that as after went afterward And then when
 Grípir hafði þessa hluti sagða, sem hann beiddi, þá reið
Gripir had these things told as he asked then rode
 hann heim. Ok brátt eptir þat finnst þeir Reginn. Þá mælti
he home And soon after that meet they Regin Then spoke
 hann: “Drep Fáfni, sem þér hétuð.” Sigurðr svarar: “Gera
be Kill Fafnir as you promised Sigurd answers Do
 skal þat ok þó annat fyrr, at hefna Sigmundar konungs
shall that and yet another sooner to avenge Sigmund king
 ok annarra frænda várar, er þar fellu í þeirri orrostu.”
and other kinsmen ours who there fell in that battle

XVII · HNIKARR ON THE HEADLAND

Sigurðr asks the kings for ships and men to seek out Hundingr's sons, and they give him everything he asks. In a storm he will not have the sails taken in but set higher, and as they run past a headland a man hails the ship and asks who commands. He names himself in verse — Hnikarr once, when he gladdened Huginn; now they may call him the old man of the rock, Fengr, or Fjölnir — and asks for passage. They put in and take him aboard, the weather drops, and when they make land he is gone. Sigurðr harries Hundingr's sons' kingdom, kills Lyngvi and his brothers, and goes home with a great victory.

Nú hittir Sigurðr konunga ok mælti til þeira: “Hér höfum vér
Now meets Sigurd (the)-kings and spoke to them Here have we
 verit um hrið, ok eigum vér yðr ástsemd at launa ok mikla
been for a-while and owe we to-you affection to repay and great
 virðing. En nú viljum vér ór landi fara ok finna Hundings
honor But now wish we out-of (the)-land to-go and to-meet of-Hunding
 sonu, ok vilda ek, at þeir vissi, at Völsungar væri eigi
sons and wished I that they might-know that Volsungs were not
 allir dauðir. Viljum vér hafa þar til yðarn styrk.” Konungar
all dead Wish we to-have there to your strength (The)-kings
 kváðust allt vilja til fá, þat er hann beiddist.

said-themselves all to-wish thereto to-give that which he asked

Er nú búit lið mikit ok allt vandat sem mest,
Is now made-ready a-force great and all carefully-made as most
 skip ok allr herbúnaðr, svá at hans ferð væri þá vegligri
ships and all war-gear so that his journey were then more-splendid
 en áðr. Sigurðr stýrir dreka þeim, er mestr var ok
than before Sigurd steers a-dragon-ship that which greatest was and
 ágætligastr. Segl þeira váru mjök vönduð ok ítarlig at sjá.
most-excellent Sails theirs were much carefully-made and splendid to see
 Sigla þeir nú góðan byr. Ok er fá dægr váru liðin, þá
Sail they now a-good fair-wind And when few days were passed then
 kom á veðr mikit með stormi, en svá var sjárin sem í
came on weather great with a-storm and so was the-sea as into
 roðru sæi. Eigi bað Sigurðr svipta seglunum, þótt rifnuðu,
blood one-saw Not bade Sigurd to-strike the-sails though they-tore
 heldr bað hann hæra setja en áðr. Ok er þeir sigldu fram
rather bade he higher to-set than before And when they sailed forward
 fyrir bergnös nokkura, þá kallaði maðr upp á skipit ok
past a-crag some then called a-man up onto the-ship and
 spyrr, hvern fyrir liðinu eigi at ráða. Honum var sagt, at
asks who over the-force has to rule To-him was said that

þar var höfðingi Sigurðr Sigmundarson, er nú er frægstr
there was chieftain Sigurd Sigmund's-son who now is most-famous
 ungra manna. Maðrinn svarar: “Allir segja þar eitt frá
of-young men The-man answers All say there one of
 honum, at eigi megi konungasynir jafnast við hann. Vilda
him that not may kings-sons match with him Wisbed
 ek, at þér felldið seglin á nokkuru skipinu ok tæki
I that you might-lower the-sails on some the-ship and might-take
 þér við mér.” Þeir spurðu hann at nafni. Hann svarar:
you at me They asked him at name He answers

“Hnikar hétu mik,

Hnikar they-called me

þá er ek Hugin gladda,

then when I Hugin gladdened

Völsungr ungi,

Volsung young

ok vegit hafða.

and slain bad

Nú máttu kalla

Now mayest-thou call

karl af bjargi

a-carle from (the)-rock

Feng eða Fjölni.

Feng or Fjolnir

Far vil ek þiggja.”

Passage wish I to-receive

Þeir viku at landi ok tóku karl á skip sín. Þá tók

They turned to land and took (the)-carle onto ships their Then took

af veðrit, ok fara, unz þeir koma at landi í ríki

off the-weather and go until they come to land into (the)-realm

Hundings sona. Þá hvarf Fjölnir. Þeir láta þegar geisa
of-Hunding sons Then vanished Fjolnir They let at-once to-rage
 eld ok járn, drepa menn, en brenna byggðina ok eyða
fire and iron to-kill men and to-burn the-settlement and to-waste
 þar, sem þeir fara. Stökkur fjöldi undan á fund Lyngva
there where they go Flees a-multitude away to a-meeting of-Lyngvi
 konungs ok segja, at herra er kominn í landit ok ferr
king and say that an-army is come into the-land and goes
 með meira geysingi en dæmi finnst til; kváðu Hundings
with greater fury than examples are-found for said of-Hunding
 sonu eigi langsóma, þá er þeir sögðust eigi mundu
sons not far-sighted then when they said-themselves not would
 hræðast Völsunga, — “en nú stýrir þessum her Sigurðr
fear Volsungs but now steers this army Sigurd
 Sigmundarson.” Lyngvi konungur lætr nú fara um allt sitt
Sigmund's-son Lyngvi king lets now to-go over all his
 ríki herboð; vill eigi á flóttu leggjast, stefnir til sín
realm a-war-summons wishes not on flight to-lay-himself summons to himself
 öllum þeim mönnum, er honum vilja lið veita; kemr nú á
all those men who to-him wish help to-give comes now in
 mót Sigurði með allmikinn her ok bræðr hans með honum.
against to-Sigurd with a-very-great army and brothers his with him
 Tekst þar in harðasta orrosta með þeim. Mátti þar á
Takes-place there the hardest battle between them One-could there in
 lopti sjá margt spjót ok örvar margar, öxi hart reidda,
(the)-air see many a-spear and arrows many an-axe hard swung
 skjöldu klofna ok brynjur slitnar, hjálma skýfða, hausa klofna
shields cloven and mail-coats torn helmets sborn skulls cloven
 ok margan mann steypast til jarðar. Ok er orrostan hefir
and many a-man to-plunge to earth And when the-battle has
 svá staðit mjök langa hríð, sækir Sigurðr fram um merkin
so stood a-very long while presses Sigurd forward past the-banners

ok hefir í hendi sverðit Gram. Hann höggr bæði menn ok
and has in hand the-sword Gram He hews both men and
 hesta ok gengr í gegnum fylkingar ok hefir báðar hendr
horses and goes in through (the)-ranks and has both hands
 blóðgar til axlar, ok stökk undan fólki, þar sem hann
bloody to (the)-shoulder and sprang away (the)-folk there where he
 fór, ok helzt hvárki við hjálmr né brynja, ok engi maðr
went and held neither against a-helmet nor a-mail-coat and no man
 þóttist fyrr sét hafa þvilíkan mann. Þessi orrosta stóð
thought-himself before seen to-have such-a man This battle stood
 lengi með miklu mannfalli ok ákafri sókn. Ferr þar, sem
long with great man-fall and fierce assault Goes there as
 sjaldnar kann henda, þá er landherrinn sækir til, at þat
more-seldom can happen then when the-land-army seeks to that that
 kom fyrir ekki. Fell þar svá margt fyrir Hundings sonum,
came to nothing Fell there so much before of-Hunding sons
 at engi maðr vissi töl á. Ok Sigurðr var framarla í
that no man knew count of And Sigurd was forward in
 fylkingu. Þá koma á mót honum synir Hundings konungs.
(the)-rank Then come in against him sons of-Hunding king
 Sigurðr höggr til Lyngva konungs ok klýfr hjálm hans ok
Sigurd hews at Lyngvi king and cleaves helmet his and
 höfuð ok brynjaðan búk, ok síðan höggr hann Hjörvarð,
head and mail-clad trunk and then hews he Hjorvard
 bróður hans, sundr í tvá hluti, ok þá drap hann alla
brother his asunder into two parts and then killed he all
 Hundings sonu, er eptir lifðu, ok mestan hluta liðs þeira.
of-Hunding sons who after lived and (the)-greatest part of-force theirs
 Ferr Sigurðr nú heim með fögnum sigri ok miklu fé ok
Goes Sigurd now home with a-fair victory and great wealth and
 ágæti, er hann hafði fengit í þessi ferð. Váru nú veizlur
fame which he had got in this journey Were now feasts

gervar í mót honum heima í ríkinu. Ok er Sigurðr hefir
made in against him at-home in the-realm And when Sigurd has
 skamma stund heima verit, kemr Reginn at máli við Sigurð ok
a-short while at-home been comes Regin to speech with Sigurd and
 segir: “Nú munu þér vilja steypa hjálminum Fáfnis, svá sem
says Now will you wish to-overtthrow the-helmet of-Fafnir so as
 þér hétuð, því at nú hefir þú hefnt föður þíns ok annarra
you promised because that now hast thou avenged father thy and other
 frænda þinna.” Sigurðr svarar: “Efna munu vér þat, sem vér
kinsmen thine Sigurd answers Fulfill will we that as we
 höfum þar um heitit, ok ekki fellr oss þat ór minni.”
have there about promised and not falls to-us that out-of memory

XVIII · THE KILLING OF FÁFNIR

Sigurðr and Reginn ride up to the heath where Fáfnir crawls down to water. Reginn tells him to dig one pit, sit in it, and thrust at the serpent's heart, then goes away frightened; an old man with a long beard tells him to dig several pits so the blood can run off. When the serpent crawls over him Sigurðr sets his sword under its left shoulder. Dying, Fáfnir warns him that the gold will be the death of him and of every other man who owns it, and Sigurðr answers that every brave man wants wealth to his last day.

Nú riða þeir Sigurðr ok Reginn upp á heiðina á þann
Now ride they Sigurd and Regin up onto the-heath on that
 farveg, er Fáfnir var vanr at skríða, er hann fór til
track which Fafnir was accustomed to crawl when he went to
 vatns, ok þat er sagt, at sá hamarr var þrítugr, er hann
water and that is said that that crag was thirty-fathoms when he
 lá at vatni, þá er hann drakk. Þá mælti Sigurðr: “Þat sagðir
lay at water then when he drank Then spoke Sigurd That saidst

þú, Reginn, at dreki sjá væri eigi meiri en einn lyngormr,
thou Regin that dragon this were not greater than one beath-serpent
 en mér sýnast vegar hans ævar miklir.” Reginn mælti:

but to-me seem tracks his exceedingly great Regin spoke
 “Ger gröf eina ok sezt þar í. Ok þá er ormrinn skríðr
Make a-pit one and sit-thyself there in And then when the-serpent crawls
 til vatns, legg þá til hjarta honum ok vinn honum svá bana.

to water thrust then to heart to-him and work to-him so death
 Þar fyrir fær þú mikinn frama.” Sigurðr mælti: “Hversu
There for gettest thou great honor Sigurd spoke How
 mun þá veita, ef ek verð fyrir sveita ormsins?” Reginn
will then avail if I become under (the)-blood of-the-serpent Regin
 svarar: “Eigi má þér ráð ráða, er þú ert við hvatvetna
answers Not may to-thee counsel counsel when thou art at everything
 hræddr. Ok ertu ólíkr þínum frændum at hughreysti.”

afraid And art-thou unlike thy kinsmen in courage
 Nú ríðr Sigurðr á heiðina, en Reginn hverfr í brott
Now rides Sigurd onto the-beath but Regin turns off away
 yfrit hræddr. Sigurðr gerði gröf eina. Ok er hann er
exceedingly afraid Sigurd made a-pit one And when he is
 at þessu verki, kemr at honum einn gamall maðr með
at this work comes to him one old man with
 síðu skeggi ok spyrr, hvat hann gerir þar. Hann segir. Þá
a-long beard and asks what he does there He says Then
 svarar inn gamli maðr: “Þetta er óráð. Ger fleiri grafar
answers the old man This is bad-counsel Make more pits
 ok lát þar í renna sveitann, en þú sit í einni ok legg
and let there in to-run the-blood but thou sit in one and thrust
 til hjartans orminum.” Þá hvarf sá maðr á brottu. En
to the-heart to-the-serpent Then vanished that man off away But
 Sigurðr gerir grafar eptir því, sem fyrir var sagt. Ok er
Sigurd makes pits after that as before was said And when

ormrinn skreið til vatns, varð mikill landskjálfti, svá at öll
the-serpent crawled to water became a-great earthquake so that all
 jörð skalf í nánd. Hann fnýsti eitri alla leið fyrir sik
earth shook in nearness He snorted venom all (the)-way before himself
 fram, ok eigi hræddist Sigurðr né óttast við þann gný. Ok
forward and not feared Sigurd nor dreads at that din And
 er ormrinn skreið yfir gröfina, þá leggr Sigurðr sverðinu
when the-serpent crawled over the-pit then thrusts Sigurd with-the-sword
 undir bægslit vinstra, svá at við hjöltum nam. Þá hleypr
under the-shoulder left so that at (the)-bills it-stopped Then leaps
 Sigurðr upp ór gröfinni ok kippir at sér sverðinu ok
Sigurd up out-of the-pit and jerks to himself the-sword and
 hefir allar hendr blóðgar upp til axlar. Ok er inn mikli
has all hands bloody up to (the)-shoulder And when the great
 ormr kenndi síns banasárs, þá laust hann höfðinu ok
serpent felt his death-wound then struck he with-the-head and
 sporðinum, svá at allt brast í sundr, er fyrir varð. Ok
with-the-tail so that all burst in sunder which before came And
 er Fáfnir fekk banasár, spurði hann: “Hverr ertu, eða
when Fafnir got a-death-wound asked he Who art-thou or
 hverr er þinn faðir, eða hver er ætt þín, er þú vart svá
who is thy father or which is kin thine when thou wert so
 djarfr, at þú þorir at bera vápn á mik?” Sigurðr svarar:
bold that thou dardest to bear a-weapon on me Sigurd answers
 “Ætt mín er mönnum ókunnig. Ek heiti göfugt dýr, ok
Kin mine is to-men unknown I am-called a-noble beast and
 á ek engan föður né móður, ok einn saman hefi ek farit.”
have I no father nor mother and one alone have I gone
 Fáfnir svarar: “Ef þú átt engan föður né móður, af hverju
Fafnir answers If thou hast no father nor mother from what
 undri ertu þá alinn? Ok þótt þú segir mér eigi þitt nafn
wonder art-thou then born And though thou tellest to-me not thy name

á banadægri mínu, þá veiztu, at þú lýgr nú." Hann
on death-day mine then knowest-thou that thou liest now He
 svarar: "Ek heiti Sigurðr, en faðir minn Sigmundur." Fáfñir
answers I am-called Sigurd and father my Sigmund Fafnir
 svarar: "Hverr eggjaði þik þessa verks, eða hvi létstu at
answers Who egged thee of-this deed or why lettest-thou to
 eggjast? Hafðir þú eigi frétt þat, hversu allt fólk er hrætt
be-egged Hadst thou not heard that how all folk is afraid
 við mik ok við minn ægishjálms? Inn frányegi sveinn, þú
of me and of my terror-helm The flashing-eyed boy thou
 áttir föðr snarpan." Sigurðr svarar: "Til þessa hvatti mik
hadst a-father keen Sigurd answers To this urged me
 inn harði hugr, ok stoðaði til, at gert yrði, þessi in
the hard mind and helped to that done might-be this the
 sterka hönd ok þetta it snarpa sverð, er nú kenndir þú,
strong hand and this the keen sword which now felt thou
 ok fár er gamall harðr, ef hann er í bernsku blautr." Fáfñir
and few is old hard if he is in childhood soft Fafnir
 segir: "Veit ek, ef þú vex upp með frændum þínum, at
says Know I if thou growest up with kinsmen thine that
 þú mundir kunna at vega reiðr, en þetta er meiri furða,
thou wouldest know to fight angry but this is a-greater wonder
 er einn bandingi hertekinn skal þorat hafa at vega at mér,
that one captive war-taken shall dared have to fight at me
 því at fár hernuminn er frækn til vígs." Sigurðr mælti:
because that few war-taken is valiant for battle Sigurd spoke
 "Bregðr þú mér, at ek væra fjarri mínum frændum? En
Reproachest thou to-me that I were far-from my kinsmen But
 þótt ek væra hernuminn, þá var ek þó eigi heptr, ok þat
though I were war-taken then was I yet not fettered and that
 fanntu, at ek var lauss." Fáfñir svarar: "Heiptyrði tek
foundest-thou that I was loose Fafnir answers Hate-words takest

þú hvetvetna því, er ek mæli. En gull þetta mun þér
thou everything that which I speak But gold this will to-thee
 at bana verða, er ek hefi átt.” Sigurðr svarar: “Hverr
for death to-become which I have owned Sigurd answers Each
 vill fé hafa allt til ins eina dags, en eitt sinn skal
wishes wealth to-have all until the one day but one time shall
 hverr deyja.” Fáfnir mælti: “Fátt vill þú at mínum dæmum
each die Fáfnir spoke Little wishes thou at my examples
 gera, en drukkna muntu, ef þú ferr um sjá óvarliga, ok
to-do but drown wilt-thou if thou goest over sea unwarily and
 bið heldr á landi, unz logn er.” Sigurðr mælti: “Seg þú
wait rather on land until calm is Sigurd spoke Say thou
 þat, Fáfnir, ef þú ert fróðr mjök: Hverjar eru þær nornir,
that Fáfnir if thou art wise much Which are those norns
 er kjósa mögu frá mæðrum?” Fáfnir svarar: “Margar eru
who choose sons from mothers Fáfnir answers Many are
 þær ok sundrlausar, sumar eru Ása ættar, sumar eru álfa
they and sundry-in-kind some are of-Aesir kin some are of-elves
 ættar, sumar eru dætr Dvalins.” Sigurðr mælti: “Hve heitir
kin some are daughters of-Dvalin Sigurd spoke How is-called
 sá hólmr, er blanda hjörlegi Surtr ok Æsir saman?”
that isle where mingle with-sword-blood Surt and (the)-Aesir together
 Fáfnir svarar: “Hann heitir Óskaptr.” Ok enn mælti Fáfnir:
Fáfnir answers It is-called Oskapt And further spoke Fáfnir
 “Reginn, bróðir minn, veldr mínum dauða, ok þat hlægir
Regin brother my causes my death and that gladdens
 mik, er hann veldr ok þínum dauða, ok ferr þá sem
me that he causes also thy death and goes then as
 hann vildi.” Enn mælti Fáfnir: “Ek bar ægishjálmi yfir öllu
he wished Further spoke Fáfnir I bore a-terror-helm over all
 fólki, síðan ek lá á arfi míns bróður, ok svá fnýsta
folk since I lay on (the)-inheritance of-my brother and so snorted

ek eitri alla vega frá mér í brott, at engi þorði at koma
I venom all ways from me off away that none dared to come
 í nánd mér, ok engi vápn hræddumst ek, ok aldri fann
into nearness to-me and no weapons feared I and never found
 ek svá margan mann fyrir mér, at ek þættumst eigi miklu
I so many a-man before me that I thought-myself not much
 sterkari, en allir váru hræddir við mik." Sigurðr mælti: "Sá
stronger but all were afraid of me Sigurd spoke That
 ægishjálmr, er þú sagðir frá, gefr fám sigr, því at
terror-helm which thou toldest of gives to-few victory because that
 hverr sá, er með mörgum kemr, má þat finna eitthvert
each that-one who with many comes may that find some-one
 sinn, at engi er einna hvatastr." Fáfnir svarar: "Þat ræð ek
time that none is of-all boldest Fafnir answers That counsel I
 þér, at þú takir hest þinn ok ríðir á brott sem skjótast,
to-thee that thou takest horse thy and ridest off away as most-quickly
 því at þat hendir oft, at sá, er banasár fær, hefnir
because that that happens often that that-one who a-death-wound gets avenges
 sín sjálf." Sigurðr svarar: "Þetta eru þín ráð, en annat
himself himself Sigurd answers These are thy counsels but another
 mun ek gera. Ek mun ríða til þíns bóls ok taka þar þat
will I do I will ride to thy lair and to-take there that
 it mikla gull, er frændr þínir hafa átt." Fáfnir svarar:
the great gold which kinsmen thine have owned Fafnir answers
 "Ríða muntu þar til, er þú finnr svá mikit gull, at
Ride wilt-thou there until when thou findest so much gold that
 ærit er um þína daga, ok þat sama gull verður þinn bani
enough is for thy days and that same gold becomes thy bane
 ok hvers annars, er þat á." Sigurðr stóð upp ok mælti:
and of-each other who that owns Sigurd stood up and spoke
 "Heim munda ek ríða, þótt ek missta þessa ins mikla fjár,
Home would I ride though I lost this the great wealth

ef ek vissu, at ek skylda aldri deyja, en hverr frækn maðr
if I knew that I should never die but each valiant man
 vill fé ráða allt til ins eina dags. En þú, Fáfnir, ligg
wishes wealth to-rule all until the one day But thou Fafnir lie
 í fjörbrotum, þar er þik Hel hafi.” Ok þá deyr Fáfnir.
in death-throes there where thee Hel may-have And then dies Fafnir

XIX · THE NUTHATCHES, AND FÁFNIR'S HOARD

Reginn comes to Sigurðr, praises the deed, and then says that Sigurðr has killed his brother and that Reginn himself can hardly be guiltless of it. Sigurðr cuts the heart out of the serpent, and Reginn drinks Fáfnir's blood and asks him to roast the heart. Testing whether it is done, Sigurðr touches it with his finger and puts the finger in his mouth, and at once understands the nuthatches in the branches, who say that Reginn means to betray him. He cuts off Reginn's head, eats part of the heart, and rides to Fáfnir's iron-doored lair, where he takes the gold into two great chests, with the sword Hrotti, the helm of terror, and the golden mail-coat; Grani will not be led, so he mounts and spurs him, and the horse runs as though he were free.

Eptir þetta kom Reginn til Sigurðar ok mælti: “Heill, herra
After this came Reginn to Sigurd and spoke Hail lord
 minn, mikinn sigr hefir þú unnit, er þú hefir drepit Fáfni,
my a-great victory hast thou won that thou hast killed Fafnir
 er engi varð fyrr svá djarfr, at á hans götu þorði sitja,
when none became before so bold that on his path dared to-sit
 ok þetta fremdarverk mun uppi, meðan veröldin stendr.” Nú
and this deed-of-prowess will up while the-world stands Now
 stendr Reginn ok sér niðr í jörðina langa hrið. Ok þegar
stands Reginn and looks down into the-earth a-long while And at-once
 eptir þetta mælti hann af miklum móði: “Bróður minn
after this spoke he from great wrath Brother my
 hefir þú drepit, ok varla má ek þessa verks saklauss vera.”
hast thou killed and hardly may I of-this deed guiltless be

Nú tekr Sigurðr sitt sverð, Gram, ok þerrir á grasinu ok
Now takes Sigurd his sword Gram and wipes on the-grass and
 mælti til Regins: “Fjarri gekk þú þá, er ek vann þetta
spoke to Regin Far wentest thou then when I wrought this
 verk ok ek reynda þetta snarpa sverð með minni hendi
deed and I tried this keen sword with my hand
 ok mínu afli. Átta ek við orms megin, meðan þú
and my strength Had I against of-a-serpent might while thou
 látt í einum lyngrunni, ok vissir þú eigi, hvárt er var
layest in one beath-bush and knewest thou not whether which was
 himinn eða jörð.” Reginn svarar: “Þessi ormr mætti lengi
heaven or earth Regin answers This serpent might long
 liggja í sínu bóli, ef eigi hefðir þú notit sverðs þess, er
lie in his lair if not hadst thou enjoyed of-sword that which
 ek gerða þér minni hendi, ok eigi hefðir þú þetta enn
I made for-thee with-my hand and not hadst thou this yet
 unnit ok engi annarra.” Sigurðr svarar: “Þá er menn koma
wrought nor none of-others Sigurd answers Then when men come
 til vígs, þá er manni betra gott hjarta en hvasst sverð.”
to battle then is for-a-man better a-good heart than a-keen sword
 Þá mælti Reginn við Sigurð af áhyggju mikilli: “Þú drapt
Then spoke Regin to Sigurd from anxiety great Thou killedst
 minn bróður, ok varla má ek þessa verks saklauss.” Þá
my brother and hardly may I of-this deed guiltless Then
 skar Sigurðr hjartat ór orminum með því sverði, er
cut Sigurd the-heart out-of the-serpent with that sword which
 Riðill hét. Þá drakk Reginn blóð Fáfnis ok mælti: “Veit
Ridil was-called Then drank Regin blood of-Fafnir and spoke Grant
 mér eina bæn, er þér er litit fyrir: Gakk til elds með
to-me one boon which for-thee is little before Go to a-fire with
 hjartat ok steik ok gef mér at eta.” Sigurðr fór ok steikti
the-heart and roast and give to-me to eat Sigurd went and roasted

á steini. Ok er freyddi ór, þá tók hann fingri sínum
on a-stone And when it-frothed out then took he with-finger his
 á ok skynjaði, hvárt steikt væri. Hann brá fingrinum í
on and tested whether roasted it-were He put the-finger into
 munn sér. Ok er hjartablóð ormsins kom á tungu
mouth his And when (the)-heart-blood of-the-serpent came on tongue
 honum, þá skyldi hann fuglarödd. Hann heyrði, at igður
to-him then understood he a-bird-voice He heard that nuthatches
 klökuðu á hrísinu hjá honum: “Þar sitr Sigurðr ok
chattered on the-bruswood beside him There sits Sigurd and
 steikir Fáfnis hjarta. Þat skyldi hann sjálfr eta. Þá mundi
roasts of-Fafnir (the)-heart That should he himself eat Then would
 hann verða hverjum manni vitrari.” Önnur segir: “Þar
he become than-every man wiser (The)-second says There
 liggir Reginn ok vill véla þann, sem honum trúir.” Þá
lies Regin and wishes to-betray that-one who to-him trusts Then
 mælti in þriðja: “Höggvi hann þá höfuð af honum, ok
spoke the third Let-hew he then (the)-head off him and
 má hann þá ráða gullinu því inu mikla einn.” Þá mælti
may he then rule over-the-gold that the great alone Then spoke
 in fjórða: “Þá væri hann vitrari, ef hann hefði þat, sem
the fourth Then were he wiser if he had that as
 þær höfðu ráðit honum, ok riði síðan til bóls Fáfnis
they had counseled to-him and rode then to (the)-lair of-Fafnir
 ok tæki þat it mikla gull, er þar er, ok riði síðan upp
and took that the great gold which there is and rode then up
 á Hindarfjall, þar sem Brynhildr sefr, ok mun hann nema
onto Hindarfjall there where Brynild sleeps and will he take
 þar mikla speki, ok þá væri hann vitr, ef hann hefði yður
there great wisdom and then were he wise if he had your
 ráð ok hygði hann um sína þurft, ok þar er mér úlfsins
counsel and thought he about his need and there is to-me of-the-wolf

ván, er ek eyrun sá." Þá mælti in fimmta: "Eigi er
expectation where I the-ears saw Then spoke the fifth Not is
 hann svá horskr sem ek ætla, ef hann vægir honum, en
he so prudent as I think if he spares him but
 drepit áðr bróður hans." Þá mælti in sétta: "Þat væri
killed before brother his Then spoke the sixth That were
 snjallræði, ef hann dræpi hann ok réði einn fénu."

a-wise-counsel if he might-kill him and might-rule alone over-the-wealth
 Þá mælti Sigurðr: "Eigi munu þau ósköp, at Reginn sé
Then spoke Sigurd Not will those ill-fates that Regin be
 minn bani, ok heldr skulu þeir fara báðir bræðr einn veg."
my bane and rather shall they go both brothers one way
 Bregðr nú sverðinu Gram ok höggr höfuð af Regin.

Draws now the-sword Gram and hews (the)-head off Regin
 Ok eptir þetta etr hann suman hlut hjartans ormsins, en
And after this eats he some part of-the-heart of-the-serpent but
 sumt hirðir hann; hleypr síðan á hest sinn ok reið eptir
some keeps he leaps then on horse his and rode after
 slóð Fáfnis ok til hans herbergis ok fann, at þat var opit
(the)-track of-Fafnir and to his lodging and found that it was open
 ok af járnri hurðirnar allar ok þar með allr dyraumbúningrinn
and of iron the-doors all and there with all the-doorway-frame
 ok af járnri allir stokkar í húsinu ok grafit í jörð niðr.
and of iron all beams in the-house and dug into earth down
 Sigurðr fann þar stórmikit gull ok sverðit Hrotta, ok þar
Sigurd found there very-great gold and the-sword Hrotti and there
 tók hann ægishjalm ok gullbrynjuna ok marga dýrgripi.

took he a-terror-helm and the-gold-mail-coat and many treasures
 Hann fann þar svá mikit gull, at honum þótti ván, at
He found there so much gold that to-him seemed expectation that
 eigi mundi meira bera tveir hestar eða þrír. Þat gull tekr
not would more bear two horses or three That gold takes

hann allt ok berr í tvær kistur miklar, tekr nú í tauma
he all and bears into two chests great takes now at (the)-reins
 hestinum Grana. Hestrinn vill nú eigi ganga, ok ekki tjáir
the-horse Grani The-horse wishes now not to-go and nothing avails
 at keyra. Sigurðr finnr nú, hvat hestrinn vill, hleypr hann á
to drive Sigurd finds now what the-horse wishes leaps he on
 bak ok lýstr hann sporum, ok rennr sjá hestr sem lauss væri.
back and strikes him with-spurs and runs this horse as loose it-were

XX · BRYNHILDR ON HINDARFJALL

Sigurðr rides to Hindarfjall, sees from far off a light as though a fire were burning, and comes to a wall of shields with a banner above it, and within a sleeper lying in full war-gear; he takes the helmet off first and sees that it is a woman, then cuts the mail open from the neck down, for it sat as though grown to the flesh. She is Brynhildr, who felled Hjalmgunnarr after Óðinn had promised him victory, and whom Óðinn pricked with a sleep-thorn in return, saying she should never have victory again but should marry; she vowed to marry no man who could feel fear. She fills a cup for him, wishes the gods may give them a good day, and teaches Sigurðr the runes — of victory, ale, birth, sea, speech, mind, and healing — and how they were shaved off and scattered among gods, elves, and men.

Sigurðr ríðr nú langar leiðir ok allt til þess, er hann kemr
Sigurd rides now long ways and all until that when he comes
 upp á Hindarfjall, ok stefndi á leið suðr til Frakklands. Á
up onto Hindarfjall and turned on way south to Frakkland On
 fjallinu sá hann fyrir sér ljós mikit, sem eldr brynni,
the-mountain saw he before himself a-light great as a-fire burned
 ok ljómaði af til himins. En er kom at, stóð þar fyrir
and it-shone from to heaven And when came at stood there before
 honum skjaldborg ok upp ór merki. Sigurðr gekk í
him a-shield-wall and up out-of a-banner Sigurd went into

skjaldborgina ok sá, at þar svaf maðr ok lá með öllum
the-shield-wall and saw that there slept a-person and lay with all
 hervápnunum. Hann tók fyrst hjálminn af höfði honum ok sá,
war-weapons He took first the-helmet off head to-him and saw
 at þat var kona. Hún var í brynju, ok var svá föst sem
that it was a-woman She was in a-mail-coat and was so tight as
 hún væri holdgróin. Þá reist hann ofan ór höfuðsmátt ok
it were flesh-grown Then cut he down out-of (the)-neck-opening and
 í gegnum niðr ok svá út í gegnum báðar ermar, ok beit
in through down and so out in through both sleeves and it-bit
 sem klæði. Sigurðr kvað hana helzti lengi sofit hafa. Hún
as cloth Sigurd said her far-too long slept to-have She
 spurði, hvat svá var máttugt, er beit brynjuna — “ok brá
asked what so was mighty that bit the-mail-coat and broke
 mínum svefni, eða mun hér kominn Sigurðr Sigmundarson,
my sleep or will here come Sigurd Sigmund's-son
 er hefir hjálm Fáfnis ok hans bana í hendi?” Þá svarar
who has (the)-helmet of-Fafnir and his bane in hand Then answers
 Sigurðr: “Sá er Völsunga ættar, er þetta verk hefir gert,
Sigurd That-one is of-Volsungs kin who this deed has done
 ok þat hefi ek spurt, at þú ert ríks konungs dóttir,
and that have I heard that thou art of-a-powerful king daughter
 ok þat sama hefir oss sagt verit frá yðrum vænleik ok
and that same has to-us said been about your fairness and
 vitru, ok þat skulu vér reyna.” Brynhildr segir, at tveir
wisdom and that shall we try Brynild says that two
 konungar börðust. Hét annarr Hjálmgunnarr. Hann var
kings fought Was-called one Hjalmgunnar He was
 gamall ok inn mesti hermaðr, ok hafði Óðinn honum
old and the greatest warrior and had Odin to-him
 sigri heitit, en annarr Agnarr eða Auðabróðir. “Ek fellda
victory promised and (the)-other Agnar or Auda-brother I felled

Hjálmgunnar í orrostu, en Óðinn stakk mik svefnþorni í
Hjalmgunnar in battle but Odin stuck me with-a-sleep-thorn in
 hefnd þess ok kvað mik aldri síðan skyldu sigr hafa ok
vengeance of-that and said me never afterward should victory have and
 kvað mik giftast skulu. En ek strengda þess heit þar í
said me marry should But I swore of-that a-vow there in
 mót at giftast engum þeim, er hræðast kynni.” Sigurðr
against to marry to-none to-that-one who to-fear might-know Sigurd
 mælti: “Kenn oss ráð til stórra hluta.” Hún svarar: “Þér
said Teach to-us counsel for great things She answers You
 munuð betr kunna, en með þökkum vil ek kenna yðr,
will better know but with thanks wish I to-teach to-you
 ef þat er nokkut, er vér kunnum, þat er yðr mætti
if that is anything which we know that which to-you might
 líka, í rúnum eða öðrum hlutum, er liggja til hvers
please in runes or other things which pertain to of-every
 hlutar, ok drekkum bæði saman, ok gefi goðin okkr
thing and let-us-drink both together and may-give the-gods to-us-two
 góðan dag, at þér verði nyt ok frægð at mínum vitrleik
a-good day that to-thee become use and fame from my wisdom

ok þú munir eptir, þat er vit ræðum." Brynhildr

and thou mayest-remember after that which we-two discuss Brynhild

fylldi eitt ker ok færði Sigurði ok mælti:

filled one cup and brought to-Sigurd and said

“Bjór færík þér,

Beer bring-I to-thee

brynþings apaldr,

of-(the)-mail-thing apple-tree

magni blandinn

with-might blended

ok megingtíri;

and with-great-glory

fullr er ljóða

full is of-songs

ok líknstafa,

and of-healing-staves

góðra galdra

of-good spells

ok gamanrúna.

and of-joy-runes

Sigrúnar skaltu kunna,

Victory-runes shalt-thou know

ef þú vilt snotr vera,

if thou wishest wise to-be

ok rísta á hjalti hjörs,

and to-carve on (the)-hilt of-a-sword

á vettrimum

on (the)-blade-ridges

ok á valböstum

and on (the)-guard-plates

ok nefna tysvar Tý.

and to-name twice Tyr

Brimrúnar skaltu gera,

Surf-runes shalt-thou make

ef þú vilt borgit hafa

if thou wishest saved to-have

á sundi seglmörum.

on (the)-sea (the)-sail-steeds

Á stafni skal þær rísta

On (the)-stem shall them carve

ok á stjórnar blaði

and on of-(the)-rudder (the)-blade

ok leggja eld í ár.

and lay fire in an-oar

Fellrat svá brattr breki

Falls-not so steep a-breaker

né blár unnir,

nor dark waves

þó kemstu heill af hafi.

yet comest-thou whole from sea

Málrúnar skaltu kunna,

Speech-runes shalt-thou know

ef þú vilt, at manngi þér

if thou wishest that no-one to-thee

heiptum gjaldi harm.

with-batreds may-repay harm

Þær um vindr,

Them — one-winds

þær um vefr,

them — one-weaves

þær um setr allar saman

them — one-sets all together

á því þingi,

at that assembly

er þjóðir skulu

where peoples shall

í fulla dóma fara.

into full courts go

Ölrúnar skaltu kunna,

Ale-runes shalt-thou know

ef þú vilt, at annars kván

if thou wishest that of-another (the)-wife

vélit þik í tryggð, ef þú trúir.

may-not-betray thee in trust if thou trustest

Á horni skal þær rísta

On a-horn shall them carve

ok á handarbaki

and on (the)-hand-back

ok merkja á nagli nauð.

and to-mark on a-nail need

Full skaltu signa

(The)-cup shalt-thou bless

ok við fári sjá

and against harm look

ok verpa lauk í lög.

and to-cast a-leek into (the)-liquor

Þá ek þat veit,

Then I that know

at þér verðr aldri

that to-thee becomes never

meinblandinn mjöðr.

harm-blended mead

Bjargrúnar skaltu nema,

Help-runes shalt-thou learn

ef þú vilt borgit fá

if thou wishest saved to-get

ok leysa kind frá konu.

and to-loose a-child from a-woman

Á lófa skal þær rísta

On a-palm shall them carve

ok um liðu spenna

and about (the)-joints clasp

ok biðja dísir duga.

and to-ask (the)-disir to-avail

Limrúnar skaltu kunna,

Limb-runes shalt-thou know

ef þú vilt lækni vera

if thou wishest a-healer to-be

ok kunna sár at sjá.

and to-know wounds to see

Á berki skal þær rísta,

On bark shall them carve

ok á barri viðar

and on needles of-a-tree

þess, er lúti austr limar.

of-that which bend east (the)-branches

Hugrúnar skaltu nema,

Mind-runes shalt-thou learn

ef þú vilt hverjum vera

if thou wishest than-every to-be

geðhorskari guma.

wiser-in-heart of-men

Þær of réð,

Them — read

þær of reist,

them — carved

þær of hugði Hroptr.

them — thought Hropt

Á skildi váru ristnar,

On a-shield were carved

þeim er stendr fyr skínanda guði,

that which stands before (the)-shining god

á eyra Árvakrs

on (the)-ear of-Arvak

ok á Alsvinnns hófi

and on of-Alsvinn (the)-hoof

ok á því hveli, er stendr

and on that wheel which stands

undir reið Rögnis,

under (the)-chariot of-Rognir

á Sleipnis tönnum

on of-Sleipnir (the)-teeth

ok á sleða fjötrum,

and on of-a-sledge (the)-fastenings

á bjarnar hrammi

on of-a-bear (the)-paw

ok á Braga tungu,

and on of-Bragi (the)-tongue

á úlfs klóm

on of-a-wolf (the)-claws

ok á arnar nefi,

and on of-an-eagle (the)-beak

á blóðgum vængjum

on bloody wings

ok á brúar sporði,

and on of-a-bridge (the)-end

á lausnar lófa

on of-release (the)-palm

ok á líknar spori,

and on of-mercy (the)-track

á gleri ok á gulli

on glass and on gold

ok á góðu silfri,

and on good silver

í víni ok í virtri

in wine and in wort

ok á völu sessi,

and on of-a-sibyl (the)-seat

í guma holdi,

in of-a-man flesh

á Gungnis oddi

on of-Gungnir (the)-point

ok á gýgjar brjósti,

and on of-a-giantess (the)-breast

á nornar nagli

on of-a-norn (the)-nail

ok á nefi uglu.

and on (the)-beak of-an-owl

Allar váru af skafnar,

All were off scraped

þær er á váru ristnar,

those which on were carved

ok hrærðar við inn helga mjöð

and stirred with the holy mead

ok sendar á víða vegu.

and sent on wide ways

Þær eru með álfum,

They are with elves

sumar með Ásum

some with (the)-Aesir

ok með vísum Vönum.

and with wise Vanir

Sumar hafa mennskir menn.

Some have human men

Þat eru bókrúnar

Those are book-runes

ok bjargrúnar

and help-runes

ok allar ölrúnar

and all ale-runes

ok mærar meginrúnar,

and glorious might-runes

hverjum, er þær kná

to-each who them can

óvilltar ok óspilltar

unmarred and unspoiled

sér at heillum hafa.

for-himself for good-luck to-have

Njóttu, ef þú namt,

Enjoy-thou if thou learnedst

unz rjúfast regin.

until break-themselves (the)-powers

Nú skaltu kjósa,

Now shalt-thou choose

alls þér er kostur of boðinn,

since to-thee is a-choice — offered

hvassra vápna hlynur.

of-keen weapons maple

Sögn eða þögn

Speech or silence

haf þú þér sjálfur of hug.

have thou for-thyself thyself — mind

Öll eru mál of metin.”

All are matters — measured

Sigurðr svarar:

Sigurd answers

“Munkat ek flæja,

Will-I-not I flee

þótt mik feigan vitir.

though me doomed thou-knowest

Emkat ek með bleyði borinn.

Am-I-not I with cowardice born

Ástráð þín

Loving-counsels thine

vil ek öll of hafa,

wish I all — to-have

svá lengi sem ek lifi.”

so long as I live

XXI • BRYNHILDR’S COUNSEL

Brynhildr gives Sigurðr her counsel: to bear well with kinsmen and avenge little; to beware the love of maidens and of other men’s wives; not to quarrel with fools at crowded meetings; to keep clear of lodging near the road where evil creatures live; not to dispute with drunken men; to swear no false oath; to bury the dead carefully; and never to trust the young son of a man he has killed, for there is often a wolf in a young son. They bind their pledge with oaths.

Sigurðr mælti: “Aldri finnst þér vitrari kona í veröldu, ok

Sigurd said Never is-found to-you wiser woman in world and

kenn ek fleiri spekiráð.” Hún svarar: “Heimilt er þat at gera

know I more wise-counsels She answers Free is that to do

at yðrum vilja ok gefa heilræði fyrir yðra eptirleitan ok

after your wish and give good-counsel for your inquiry and

vitrleik." Þá mælti hún: "Ver vel við frændr þína ok hefn
wisdom Then said she Be well toward kinsmen thine and avenge
 lítt mótgerða við þá ok ber við þol, ok tekr þú þar við
little offenses against them and bear with patience and takest thou there with
 langæligt lof. Sé við illum hlutum, bæði við meyarjar ást
long-lasting praise Beware with evil things both with maiden's love
 ok manns konu. Þar stendr opt illt af. Verð lítt mishugi
and man's wife There stands often evil from Become little wrong-minded
 við óvittra menn á fjölmennum mótum. Þeir mæla opt verra
with unwise men at crowded meetings They speak often worse
 en þeir viti, ok ertu þegar bleyðimaðr kallaðr, ok ætlar,
than they know and art-thou at-once coward called and thinkest
 at þú sér sönnu sagðr. Drep hann annars dags ok gjalt
that thou art truly said Kill him another day and repay
 honum svá heiptyrði. Ef þú ferr þann veg, er vándar
him so hate-words If thou farest that way where evil
 vættir byggja, ver varr um þik. Tak þér ekki herbergi
creatures dwell be wary about thee Take for-thee no lodging
 nær götu, þótt þik nátti, því at opt búa þar illar
near road though thee night-overtakes because that often dwell there evil
 vættir, þær menn villa. Lát eigi tæla þik fagrar konur,
creatures which men lead-astray Let not seduce thee fair women
 þótt þú sjáir at veizlum, svá at þat standi þér fyrir svefni
though thou seest at feasts so that that stand to-thee before sleep
 eða þú fáir af því hugarekka. Teyg þær ekki at þér með
or thou gettest from that heart-sorrow Draw them not to thee with
 kossum eða annarri blíðu. Ok ef þú heyrir heimslig orð
kisses or other tenderness And if thou bearest foolish words
 drukkinna manna, deil eigi við þá, er víndrukknir eru
of-drunken men quarrel not with those who wine-drunk are
 ok tapa viti sínu. Slíkir hlutir verða mörgum at miklum
and lose wit their Such things become for-many to great

móðtrega eða bana. Berst heldr við óvini þína en þú sér
grief-of-mind or death Fight rather with enemies thine than thou art
 brenndr. Ok sver eigi rangan eið, því at grimm hefnd
burned And swear not false oath because that grim vengeance
 fylgir griðrofi. Ger rækiliga við dauða menn, sótt dauða eða
follows truce-breaking Do carefully with dead men sick-dead or
 sædauða eða vápndauða. Búðu vandliga um lík þeira.
sea-dead or weapon-dead Prepare-thou carefully about corpse their
 Ok trú ekki þeim, er þú hefir felldan fyrir föður eða
And trust not him whom thou hast felled for father or
 bróður eða annan náfrænda, þótt ungr sé. Opt er úlfr í
brother or other near-kinsman though young be Often is wolf in
 ungum syni. Sé vandliga við vélráðum vina þinna. En
young son Beware carefully with treacheries of-friends thine But
 lítt megu vér sjá fyrir um yðart líf, en eigi skyldi mága
little can we see ahead about your life but not should of-in-laws
 hatr á þik koma.” Sigurðr mælti: “Engi finnst þér vitrari
hatred on thee come Sigurd said None is-found to-you wiser
 maðr, ok þess sver ek, at þik skal ek eiga, ok þú ert við
man and this swear I that thee shall I have and thou art with
 mitt æði.” Hún svarar: “Þik vil ek helzt eiga, þótt ek kjósa
my temper She answers Thee wish I rather to-have though I choose
 um alla menn.” Ok þetta bundu þau eiðum með sér.
among all men And this bound they with-oaths between them

Sigurðr rides away with a dragon graven on shield, helm, saddle, and surcoat, so that anyone who has heard of Fáfnir's killing may know him. His hair is brown and falls in great locks, his beard short and thick, his nose hooked, and his face broad; his eyes are so keen few dare look under his brows, and his shoulders are as broad as two men's. He girds Gramr, seven spans long, and when he wades the grown rye the chape touches the standing ears; he is skilled in every weapon, and never knows fear.

Nú riðr Sigurðr á brott. Hans skjöldr var margfaldr ok
Now rides Sigurd off away His shield was manifold and
 laugaðr í rauðu gulli ok skrifaðr á einn dreki. Hann var
washed in red gold and drawn on a dragon It was
 dökkbrúnaðr it efra, en fagrrauðr it neðra, ok þann veg var
dark-brown the upper and fair-red the lower and that way was
 markaðr hans hjálmr ok söðull ok vápnrokkr. Hann hafði
marked his helmet and saddle and weapon-coat He had
 gullbrynjuna, ok öll hans vápn váru gulli búin. Ok því
the-gold-mail-coat and all his weapons were with-gold adorned And therefore
 var dreki markaðr á hans vápnum öllum, at er hann er
was dragon marked on his weapons all that when he is
 sénn, má vita, hverr þar ferr, af öllum þeim, er frétt hafa,
seen may know who there fares by all those who heard have
 at hann drap þann mikla dreka, er Væringar kalla Fáfnir.
that he killed that great dragon whom Varangians call Fafnir
 Ok fyrir því eru vápn hans öll gulli búin ok brún at
And for that are weapons his all with-gold adorned and brown of
 lit, at hann er langt umfram aðra menn at kurteisi ok
hue that he is far beyond other men in courtliness and
 allri hæversku ok nálíga at öllum hlutum. Ok þá er taldir
all courtesy and nearly in all things And then when counted
 eru allir inir stærstu kappar ok inir ágæztu höfðingjar,
are all the greatest champions and the most-excellent chieftains

þá mun hann jafnan fremstr taldr, ok hans nafn gengr í
then will he always foremost counted and his name goes in
 öllum tungum fyrir norðan Grikklands haf, ok svá mun vera,
all tongues to north-of Greece's sea and so will be
 meðan veröldin stendr. Hár hans var brúnt at lit ok fagrt
while the-world stands Hair his was brown of hue and fair
 at líta ok fór í stórlokka. Skeggit var þykkt ok skammt
to look-at and went in great-locks The-beard was thick and short
 ok með sama lit. Hánefjaðr var hann ok hafði breitt andlit
and with same hue Hook-nosed was he and had broad face
 ok stórbeinótt. Augu hans váru svá snör, at fár einn þorði
and big-boned Eyes his were so keen that few one dared
 at líta undir hans brún. Herðar hans váru svá miklar sem
to look under his brow Shoulders his were so great as
 tveir menn væri á at sjá. Hans líkami var skapaðr allr við
two men were on to look His body was shaped all to
 sik á hæð ok digrleik ok þann veg, sem bezt má sama. Ok
itself in height and thickness and that way as best may befit And
 er þat mark um hans hæð, at þá er hann gyrði sik
is that mark about his height that then when he girded himself
 sverðinu Gram, en þat var sjau spanna hátt, ok er hann
with-the-sword Gram and that was seven spans high and when he
 óð rúgagrinn fullvaxinn, þá tók niðr döggskórinn á
waded the-rye-field full-grown then reached down the-chape on
 sverðinu akrinn uppstandanda. Ok hans afl er meira en
the-sword the-field standing-up And his strength is more than
 vöxtr. Vel kann hann sverði at beita ok spjóti at skjóta
growth Well knows he with-sword to wield and with-spear to shoot
 ok skapti at verpa ok skildi at halda, boga at spenna
and with-shaft to hurl and with-shield to hold bow to bend
 eða hesti at ríða ok margs konar kurteisi nam hann í
or horse to ride and many kinds-of courtliness learned he in

æsku. Hann var vitr maðr, svá at hann vissi fyrir óorðna
youth He was wise man so that he knew ahead unhappened
 hluti. Hann skildi fuglsrödd. Ok af slíkum hlutum kómu
things He understood bird-speech And from such things came
 honum fáir hlutir á óvart. Hann var langtalaðr ok málsnjallr,
to-him few things by surprise He was long-spoken and eloquent
 svá at ekki tók hann þat erendi at mæla, at hann mundi
so that not took he that errand to speak that he would
 fyrr hætta en svá sýnist öllum sem enga leið muni eiga at
sooner stop than so seems to-all as no way may have to
 vera nema svá sem hann segir. Ok þat er hans skemmtan at
be except so as he says And that is his pleasure to
 veita lið sínum mönnum ok reyna sjálfan sik í stórræðum
give help to-his men and to-test self himself in great-deeds
 ok taka fé af sínum óvinum ok gefa sínum vinum.
and to-take wealth from his enemies and to-give to-his friends
 Eigi skorti hann hug, ok aldri varð hann hræddr.
Not lacked he courage and never became he afraid

XXIII • THE HOUSEHOLD OF HEIMIR

Sigurðr comes to the household of Heimir, who has married Brynbildr's sister Bekkhildr; their son is Alsviðr, the most courteous of men. Four men lift the gold off the horse and a fifth takes charge of the horse. Sigurðr stays there long in great honor, and his killing of the serpent is now spoken of over all lands. He and Alsviðr are loyal to one another and pass the time trimming their weapons, shafting arrows, and flying their hawks.

Sigurðr ríðr nú, þar til er hann kemr at einum miklum
Sigurðr rides now there to when he comes at a great
 bæ. Þar réð fyrir einn mikill höfðingi, sá er Heimir hét.
farm There ruled over a great chieftain that who Heimir was-called

Hann átti systur Brynhildar, er Bekkhildr hét, því at
He had sister of-Brynbild who Bekkbild was-called because that
 hún hafði heima verit ok numit hannyrði, en Brynhildr fór
she had at-home been and learned handicraft but Brynbild went
 með hjálm ok brynju ok gekk at vígum. Var hún því
with helmet and mail-coat and went to battles Was she therefore
 kölluð Brynhildr. Heimir ok Bekkhildr áttu einn son, er
called Brynbild Heimir and Bekkbild had a son who
 Alsviðr hét, manna kurteisast. Þar léku menn úti. Ok
Alsvið was-called of-men most-courtly There played men outside And
 er þeir sjá reið mannsins at bænum, hætta þeir leiknum
when they see riding of-the-man to the-farm stop they the-play
 ok undrast manninn, því at þeir höfðu engan slíkan sét;
and wonder-at the-man because that they had none such seen
 gengu í mót honum ok fögnuðu honum vel. Alsviðr býðr
went in against him and greeted him well Alsvið offers
 honum með sér at vera ok af sér at þiggja slíkt, er
him with him to be and from himself to receive such which
 hann vill. Hann þiggir þat. Honum er ok skipat vegliga at
he wants He receives that To-him is also appointed honorably to
 þjóna. Fjórir menn hófu gullit af hestinum, inn fimmti tók
serve Four men lifted the-gold off the-horse the fifth took
 við honum. Þar mátti sjá marga góða gripi ok fáséna.
with him There might see many good treasures and seldom-seen
 Var þat at skemmtan haft at sjá brynjur ok hjálma ok stóra
Was that for pleasure had to see mail-coats and helmets and great
 hringa ok undarliga mikil gullstauþ ok alls konar hervápn.
rings and wondrously great gold-cups and of-all kinds war-weapons
 Sigurðr dvelst þar lengi í mikilli sæmd. Spyrst nú þetta
Sigurd stays there long in great honor Is-beard now this
 frægðarverk um öll lönd, er hann hafði drepit þann inn
famous-deed about all lands that he had killed that the

ógurliga dreka. Þeir undu sér nú vel, ok var hvárr
terrible dragon They were-content themselves now well and was each
 öðrum hollr. Þat höfðu þeir sér at skemmtan at búa
to-other loyal That had they for-themselves for pleasure to prepare
 vápn sín ok skepta örvar sínar ok beita haukum sínum.
weapons their and to-shaft arrows their and to-fly hawks their

XXIV · THE BOWER AND THE HAWK

Brynhildr has come home to Heimir and sits in a bower working Sigurðr's deeds into a tapestry in gold. Sigurðr's hawk flies to a high tower, and going after it he sees her and can take no pleasure in company afterward. Alsviðr warns him that no man has ever had a seat beside her, but Sigurðr goes to the bower, is given wine, and kisses her. She answers that it is not ordained for them to live together, and that he will have Guðrún Gjúkadóttir; he swears by the gods to have her or no woman, and they swear their oaths anew.

Þá var heim komin til Heimis Brynhildr, fósttra hans.
Then was home come to Heimir Brynhild foster-daughter his
 Hún sat í einni skemmu við meyjar sínar. Hún kunni
She sat in a bower with maidens her She knew
 meira hagleik en aðrar konur. Hún lagði sinn borða með
more skill than other women She laid her tapestry with
 gulli ok saumaði á þau stórmerki, er Sigurðr hafði gert,
gold and sewed on those great-deeds which Sigurd had done
 dráp ormsins ok upptöku fjárens ok dauða Regins.
killing of-the-serpent and taking of-the-treasure and death of-Regin
 Ok einn dag er frá því sagt, at Sigurðr reið á skóg við
And one day is from that told that Sigurd rode to forest with
 hundum sínum ok haukum ok miklu fjölmenni. Ok er hann
bounds his and hawks and great company And when he

kom heim, fló hans haukr á hávan turn ok settist við einn
came home flew his hawk on high tower and settled at a
 glugg. Sigurðr fór eptir haukinum. Þá sér hann eina fagra
window Sigurd went after the-hawk Then sees he a fair
 konu ok kennir, at þar er Brynhildr. Honum þykkir um
woman and recognizes that there is Brynild To-him seems about
 vert allt saman, fegrð hennar ok þat, er hún gerir; kemr
worth all together beauty her and that which she does comes
 í höllina ok vill enga skemmtan við menn eiga. Þá mælti
into the-hall and wants no entertainment with men to-have Then said
 Alsviðr: “Hví eru þér svá fálátir? Þessi skipan þín harmar
Alsvið Why are you so silent This change thine grieves
 oss ok þína vini. Eða hví máttu eigi gleði halda? Haukar
us and thy friends Or why canst-thou not joy hold Hawks
 þínir hnípa ok svá hestrinn Grani, ok þessa fám vér seint
thine droop and so the-horse Grani and of-this get we slowly
 bót.” Sigurðr svarar: “Góðr vinr, heyr, hvat ek hugsa. Minn
remedy Sigurd answers Good friend hear what I think My
 haukr fló á einn turn, ok er ek tók hann, sá ek eina
hawk flew on a tower and when I took him saw I a
 fagra konu. Hún sat við einn gulligan borða ok las þar
fair woman She sat at a golden tapestry and embroidered there
 á mín liðin ok fram komin verk.” Alsviðr svarar: “Þú hefir
on my past and forth come deeds Alsvið answers Thou hast
 sét Brynhildi Buðladóttur, er mestr skörungr er.” Sigurðr
seen Brynild Budli's-daughter who greatest paragon is Sigurd
 svarar: “Þat mun satt vera. Eða hversu löngu kom hún hér?”
answers That will true be Or how long-ago came she here
 Alsviðr svarar: “Þess var skammt í milli ok þér kómuð.”
Alsvið answers Of-that was short in between and you came
 Sigurðr segir: “Þat vissu vér fyrir fám dögum; sú kona hefir
Sigurd says That knew we before few days that woman has

oss bezt sýnzt í veröldu." Alsviðr mælti: "Gef ekki gaum at
to-us best seemed in world Alsviðr said Give not heed to
 einni konu, þvílíkr maðr. Er þat illt at sýta, er maðr fær
one woman such man Is that ill to mourn what one gets
 eigi." "Hana skal ek hitta," sagði Sigurðr, "ok gefa henni
not Her shall I meet said Sigurd and give her
 gull ok ná hennar gamni ok jafnaðarþokka." Alsviðr svarar:
gold and obtain her delight and equal-affection Alsviðr answers
 "Engi fannst sá enn um aldr, er hún léði rúms hjá sér
None was-found that yet in age whom she granted room beside her
 eða gæfi öl at drekka. Hún vill sik í herskap hafa ok
or gave ale to drink She wants herself in warfare to-have and
 alls konar frægð at fremja." Sigurðr mælti: "Vér vitum eigi,
of-all kinds fame to achieve Sigurd said We know not
 hvárt hún svarar oss eða eigi eða lér oss sess hjá sér."
whether she answers us or not or grants us seat beside her
 Ok annan dag eptir gekk Sigurðr til skemmunnar. En Alsviðr
And second day after went Sigurd to the-bower But Alsviðr
 stóð hjá skemmunni úti ok skepti örvar sínar. Sigurðr
stood by the-bower outside and shafted arrows his Sigurd
 mælti: "Sit heil, frú, eða hversu megi þér?" Hún svarar:
said Sit hale lady or how may you She answers
 "Vel megu vér, frændr lifa ok vinir, en háttung er í, hverja
Well may we kinsmen live and friends but risk is in what
 giftu menn bera til síns endadags." Hann sezt hjá henni.
luck men bear to their end-day He sits beside her
 Síðan ganga þar inn fjórar konur með stórum borðkerum
Then go there in four women with great table-vessels
 af gulli ok með inu bezta víni ok standa fyrir þeim. Þá
of gold and with the best wine and stand before them Then
 mælti Brynhildr: "Þetta sæti mun fám veitt vera, nema
said Brynhildr This seat will to-few granted be unless

faðir minn komi." Hann svarar: "Nú er veitt þeim, er
father my come He answers Now is granted to-him whom
 oss líkar." Herbergit var tjaldat af inum dýrstum tjöldum
us pleases The-chamber was hung with the costliest hangings
 ok þakit klæðum allt gólfitt. Sigurðr mælti: "Nú er þat fram
and covered with-cloths all the-floor Sigurd said Now is that forth
 komit, er þér hétuð oss." Hún svarar: "Þér skuluð hér
come which you promised us She answers You shall here
 velkomnir." Síðan reis hún upp ok fjórar meyjar með henni
welcome Then rose she up and four maidens with her
 ok gekk fyrir hann með gullker ok bað hann drekka. Hann
and went before him with gold-cup and bade him to-drink He
 réttir í mót höndina kerinu ok tók hönd hennar með ok
reaches in against the-hand the-cup and took hand her with and
 setti hana hjá sér. Hann tók um háls henni ok kyssti hana
set her beside him He took about neck her and kissed her
 ok mælti: "Engi kona hefir þér fegri fæðzt." Brynhildr
and said No woman has than-thee fairer been-born Brynild
 mælti: "Vitrlligra ráð er þat at leggja eigi trúnað sinn á
said Wiser counsel is that to lay not trust one's on
 konu vald, því at þær rjúfa jafnan sín heit." Hann mælti:
woman's power because that they break always their vows He said
 "Sá kæmi beztr dagr yfir oss, at vér mættim njótast."
That would-come best day over us that we might enjoy-each-other
 Brynhildr svarar: "Eigi er þat skipat, at vit búum saman.
Brynild answers Not is that ordained that we-two dwell together
 Ek em skjaldmær, ok á ek með herkonungum hjálm,
I am shield-maiden and have I among war-kings helmet
 ok þeim mun ek at liði verða, ok ekki er mér leitt at
and to-them will I at help become and not is to-me loathsome to
 berjast." Sigurðr svarar: "Þá frjóumst vér mest, ef vér búum
fight Sigurd answers Then thrive we most if we dwell

saman, ok meira er at þola þann harm, er hér liggr
together and more is to endure that grief which here lies
 á, en hvöss vápn." Brynhildr svarar: "Ek mun kanna lið
on than sharp weapons Brynhild answers I will survey force
 hermanna, en þú munt eiga Guðrúnu Gjúkadóttur." Sigurðr
of-warriors but thou wilt have Gudrun Gjuki's-daughter Sigurd
 svarar: "Ekki tælir mik eins konungs dóttir, ok ekki lér
answers Not entices me one king's daughter and not grants
 mér tveggja huga um þetta, ok þess sver ek við guðin,
to-me of-two minds about this and this swear I by the-gods
 at ek skal þik eiga eða enga konu ella." Hún mælti slíkt.
that I shall thee have or no woman else She said such
 Sigurðr þakkar henni þessi ummæli ok gaf henni gullhring,
Sigurd thanks her these words and gave her gold-ring
 ok svorðu nú eiða af nýju, ok gengr hann í brott til
and swore now oaths of new and goes he off away to
 sinna manna ok er þar um hríð með miklum blóma.
his men and is there for while with great flourishing

XXV · THE GJÚKUNGS, AND GUÐRÚN'S DREAM

King Gjuki rules south of the Rhine with his sons Gunnarr, Högni, and Guttormr, his daughter Guðrún, and his queen Grimbildr the sorceress. Guðrún cannot be glad for her dreams and goes with her women to Brynhildr's hall to have them read. She dreamed of a fair hawk on her hand and of a golden-haired hart that she alone caught and that was shot down before her knees, and of a wolf-cub that sprinkled her with her brothers' blood. Brynhildr reads them: Guðrún will have Sigurðr and soon lose him, marry Atli, lose her brothers, and kill Atli.

Gjúki hét konungr. Hann hafði ríki fyrir sunnan Rín.
Gjúki was-called king He had realm to south-of Rhine
 Hann átti þrjá sonu, er svá hétu: Gunnarr, Högni, Guttormr.
He had three sons who so were-called Gunnar Hogni Guttorm
 Guðrún hét dóttir hans. Hún var frægst mæ. Báru þau
Gudrun was-called daughter his She was most-renowned maiden Bore those
 börn mjök af öðrum konunga börnum um alla atgervi,
children much from other kings' children in all accomplishment
 bæði um vænleik ok vöxt. Þeir váru jafnan í hernaði ok unnu
both in beauty and stature They were always in warfare and did
 mörg ágætisverk. Gjúki átti Grímhildi ina fjölkunngu. Buðli
many excellent-deeds Gjuki had Grimbild the sorcerous Budli
 hét konungr. Hann var ríkari en Gjúki ok þó báðir ríkir.
was-called king He was mightier than Gjuki and yet both mighty
 Atli hét bróðir Brynhildar. Atli var grimmr maðr, mikill
Atli was-called brother of-Brynhild Atli was grim man great
 ok svartr ok þó tíguligr ok inn mesti hermaðr. Grímhildr var
and swarthy and yet lordly and the greatest warrior Grimbild was
 grimmhuguð kona. Ráð Gjúkunga stóð með miklum blóma
grim-minded woman State of-the-Gjukungs stood with great flourishing
 ok mest fyrir sakir barna hans, er mjök váru um fram flesta.
and most for sake of-children his who much were about beyond most
 Eitt sinn segir Guðrún meyjum sínum, at hún má eigi glöð
One time says Gudrun to-maidens her that she may not glad
 vera. Ein kona spyr hana, hvat henni sé at ógleði. Hún
be One woman asks her what to-her is at unhappiness She
 svarar: "Eigi fengum vér tíma í draumum. Er því harmr í
answers Not got we luck in dreams Is therefore grief in
 hjarta mér. Ráð drauminn, þar er þú fréttir eptir." Hún svarar:
heart to-me Read the-dream there as thou askest after She answers
 "Seg mér ok lát þik eigi hryggja, því at jafnan dreymir
Say to-me and let thee not grieve because that always dreams

fyrir veðrum." Guðrún svarar: "Þetta er ekki veðr. Þat dreyndi
before weathers Gudrun answers This is not weather That dreamed
 mik, at ek sá einn fagran hauk mér á hendi. Fjaðrar hans
me that I saw a fair hawk to-me on hand Feathers his
 váru með gulligum lit." Konan svarar: "Margir hafa spurt af
were with golden hue The-woman answers Many have heard of
 yðrum vænleik, vizku ok kurteisi. Nokkurs konungs sonr mun
your beauty wisdom and courtliness Some king's son will
 biðja þín." Guðrún svarar: "Engi hlutr þótti mér haukinum
ask for-thee Gudrun answers No thing seemed to-me than-the-hawk
 betri, ok allt mitt fé vilda ek heldr láta en hann." Konan
better and all my wealth wished I rather to-lose than him The-woman
 svarar: "Sá, er þú fær, mun vera vel mennt, ok muntu unna
answers He whom thou gettest will be well accomplished and wilt-thou love
 honum mikit." Guðrún svarar: "Þat angrar mik, at ek veit eigi,
him much Gudrun answers That grieves me that I know not
 hvern hann er, ok skulum vér hitta Brynhildi. Hún mun vita."
who he is and shall we meet Brynhild She will know
 Þær bjuggust með gulli ok mikilli fegrð ok fóru með
They prepared-themselves with gold and great splendor and went with
 meyjum sínum, unz þær kómu at höll Brynhildar. Sú höll
maidens their until they came to hall of-Brynhild That hall
 var búin með gulli ok stóð á einu bergi. Ok er sén
was adorned with gold and stood on a rock And when seen
 er ferð þeira, þá er Brynhildi sagt, at margar konur óku
is journey their then is to-Brynhild said that many women drove
 at borginni með gylltum vögnum. "Þar mun vera Guðrún
to the-stronghold with gilded wagons There will be Gudrun
 Gjúkadóttir," segir hún. "Mik dreyndi um hana í nótt,
Gjuki's-daughter says she Me dreamed about her in night
 ok göngum út í mót henni. Ekki sækja oss fríðari konur
and let-us-go out in against her Not visit us fairer women

heim." Þær gengu út í móti þeim ok fögnuðu vel. Þær
home They went out in against them and greeted well They
 gengu inn í þá ina fögru höll. Salrinn var skrifaðr innan
went in into that the fair hall The-hall was painted within
 ok mjök silfri búinn. Klæði váru breidd undir fætr þeim,
and much with-silver adorned Cloths were spread under feet to-them
 ok þjónuðu allir þeim. Þær höfðu margs konar leika. Guðrún
and served all them They had many kinds-of games Gudrun
 var fáorð. Brynhildr mælti: "Hví megi þér eigi gleði bella?
was few-worded Brynild said Why may you not joy show
 Ger eigi þat, skemmtum oss allar saman ok ræðum um
Do not that let-us-amuse us all together and let-us-speak about
 ríka konunga ok þeira stórvirki." "Gerum þat," segir Guðrún.
mighty kings and their great-works Let-us-do that says Gudrun
 "Eða hverja veiztu fremsta konunga verit hafa?" Brynhildr
Or which knowest-thou foremost kings been to-have Brynild
 svarar: "Sonu Hámundar, Haka ok Hagbarð. Þeir unnu mörg
answers Sons of-Hamund Haki and Hagbard They did many
 frægðarverk í hernaði." Guðrún svarar: "Miklir váru þeir ok
famous-deeds in warfare Gudrun answers Great were they and
 ágætir en þó nam Sigarr systur þeira, en hefir aðra inni
excellent but yet took Sigar sister their and has other inside
 brennda, ok eru þeir seinir at hefna. Eða hví nefnir þú
burned and are they slow to avenge Or why namest thou
 eigi bræðr mína, er nú þykkja fremstir menn?" Brynhildr
not brothers mine who now seem foremost men Brynild
 segir: "Þat er í góðum efnum, en eigi eru þeir enn mjök
says That is in good state but not are they yet much
 reyndir, ok veit ek einn mjök af þeim bera, en þat er
tested and know I one much from them to-bear and that is
 Sigurðr, sonr Sigmundar konungs. Hann var þá barn, er
Sigurd son of-Sigmund king He was then child when

hann drap sonu Hundings konungs ok hefndi föður síns
he killed sons of-Hunding king and avenged father his
 ok Eylima, móðurföður síns." Guðrún mælti: "Hvat var til
and Eylimi mother's-father his Gudrun said What was for
 merkja um þat? Segir þú hann borinn, þá er faðir hans
tokens about that Sayest thou him born then when father his
 fell?" Brynhildr svarar: "Móðir hans gekk í valinn ok fann
fell Brynhild answers Mother his went into the-slain and found
 Sigmund konung sáran ok bauð at binda sár hans, en
Sigmund king wounded and offered to bind wounds his but
 hann kveðst of gamall síðan at berjast, en bað hana við þat
he says-himself too old thereafter to fight but bade her with that
 huggast, at hún mundi æðstan son ala, ok var þar spá
comfort-herself that she would noblest son bear and was there prophecy
 spaks geta. Ok eptir andlát Sigmundar konungs fór hún
of-wise-man guess And after death of-Sigmund king went she
 með Álf konungi, ok var Sigurðr þar upp fæddr í mikilli
with Alf king and was Sigurd there up reared in great
 virðingu, ok vann hann mörg afreksverk á hverjum degi,
honor and did he many deeds-of-prowess on every day
 ok er hann ágæztr maðr í veröldu." Guðrún mælti: "Af
and is he most-excellent man in world Gudrun said From
 ást hefir þú fréttum til hans haldit. En af því kom ek hér
love hast thou tidings of him kept But for that came I here
 at segja þér drauma mína, er mér fengu mikillar áhyggju."
to tell thee dreams mine which to-me caused of-great anxiety
 Brynhildr svarar: "Lát þik eigi slíkt angra. Ver með frændum
Brynhild answers Let thee not such grieve Be with kinsmen
 þínum, er allir vilja þik gleðja." "Þat dreymdi mik," sagði
thine who all wish thee to-gladden That dreamed me said
 Guðrún, "at vér gengum frá skemmu margar saman ok sám
Gudrun that we went from bower many together and saw

einn mikinn hjört. Hann bar langt af öðrum dýrum. Hár
a great hart He bore far from other beasts Hair
 hans var af gulli. Vér vildum allar taka dýrit, en ek ein
his was of gold We wished all to-take the-beast but I alone
 náða. Dýrit þótti mér öllum hlutum betra. Síðan skauztu
got The-beast seemed to-me in-all things better Then shottest-thou
 dýrit fyrir knjám mér. Var mér þat svá mikill harmr, at
the-beast before knees to-me Was to-me that so great grief that
 ek máttu trautt bera. Síðan gaftu mér einn úlfhvelp. Sá
I could scarcely bear Then gavest-thou to-me a wolf-cub That
 dreifði mik blóði bræðra minna." Brynhildr svarar: "Ek
sprinkled me with-blood of-brothers mine Brynbild answers I
 mun ráða sem eptir mun ganga: Til ykkar mun koma
will interpret as after will go To you-two will come
 Sigurðr, sá er ek kaus mér til manns. Grímhildr gefr
Sigurd he whom I chose for-me for husband Grimbild gives
 honum meinblandinn mjöð, er öllum oss kemr í mikit
him harm-blended mead which to-all us brings into great
 stríð. Hann muntu eiga ok hann skjótt missa. Þú munt
strife Him wilt-thou have and him quickly lose Thou wilt
 eiga Atla konung. Missa muntu bræðra þinna, ok þá muntu
have Atli king Lose wilt-thou brothers thine and then wilt-thou
 Atla vega." Guðrún svarar: "Ofrharmr er oss þat at vita
Atli slay Gudrun answers Over-great-grief is to-us that to know
 slíkt." Ok fara þær nú í brott ok heim til Gjúka konungs.
such And go they now off away and home to Gjuki king

Sigurðr rides with the gold to Gjúki's hall and is taken in with honor. Grimbildr sees how much he loves Brynbildr and gives him a horn to drink; with that drink he remembers nothing of her. He is made a son of the house, sworn brother to Gunnarr and Högni, and marries Guðrún, and they ride widely and win great fame. Grimbildr then urges Gunnarr to woo Brynbildr and to take Sigurðr with him.

Sigurðr ríðr nú í brott með þat mikla gull. Skiljast þeir nú
Sigurd rides now off away with that great gold Part they now
 vinir. Hann ríðr Grana með öllum sínum herbúnaði ok farmi.
friends He rides Grani with all his war-gear and load
 Hann ríðr, þar til er hann kom at höll Gjúka konungs;
He rides there to when he came to hall of-Gjuki king
 ríðr nú í borgina, ok þat sér einn af konungsmönnum
rides now into the-stronghold and that sees one of the-king's-men
 ok mælti: "Þat hygg ek, at hér fari einn af goðunum. Þessi
and said That think I that here fares one of the-gods This
 maðr er allr við gull búinn. Hestr hans er miklu meiri en
man is all with gold adorned Horse his is much greater than
 aðrir hestar, ok afburðarvænn vápnabúnaðr. Hann er langt
other horses and outstanding weapon-gear He is far
 um aðra menn fram, en sjálfr berr hann þó mest af öðrum
about other men beyond but himself bears he yet most from other
 mönnum." Konungrinn gengr út með hirð sína ok kvaddi
men The-king goes out with retinue his and greeted
 manninn ok spyr: "Hverr ertu, er ríðr í borgina, er
the-man and asks Who art-thou who ridest into the-stronghold which
 engi þorði nema at leyfi sona minna?" Hann svarar: "Ek
none dared except by leave of-sons mine He answers I
 heiti Sigurðr, ok em ek sonr Sigmundar konungs." Gjúki
am-called Sigurd and am I son of-Sigmund king Gjuki

konungr mælti: “Vel skaltu hér kominn með oss, ok þigg
king said Well shalt-thou here come with us and receive
 hér slíkt, sem þú vilt.” Ok hann gengr inn í höllina,
here such as thou wishest And he goes in into the-hall
 ok váru allir lágir hjá honum, ok allir þjónuðu honum,
and were all low beside him and all served him
 ok var hann þar í miklu yfirlæti. Þeir ríða allir saman,
and was he there in great esteem They ride all together
 Sigurðr ok Gunnarr ok Högni, ok þó er Sigurðr fyrir
Sigurd and Gunnar and Hogni and yet is Sigurd before
 þeim um alla atgervi, ok eru þó allir miklir menn fyrir
them in all accomplishment and are yet all great men for
 sér. Þat finnr Grímhildr, hvé mikit Sigurðr ann Brynhildi
themselves That finds Grimbild how much Sigurd loves Brynbild
 ok hvé oft hann getr hennar; hugsar fyrir sér, at þat
and how often he mentions her thinks for herself that that
 væri meiri gífta, at hann staðfestist þar ok ætti dóttur
were greater luck that he settled there and had daughter
 Gjúka konungs, ok sá, at engi mátti við hann jafnast, sá
of-Gjúki king and saw that none could with him equal saw
 ok, hvert traust at honum var, ok hafði ofr fjár, miklu
also what support in him was and had excess of-wealth much
 meira en menn vissi dæmi til. Konungr var við hann
more than men knew examples of King was toward him
 sem við sonu sína, en þeir virðu hann framar en sik.
as toward sons his and they esteemed him more than themselves
 Eitt kveld, er þeir sátu við drykk, ríss drottning upp ok
One evening when they sat at drink rises (the)-queen up and
 gekk fyrir Sigurð ok kvaddi hann ok mælti: “Fögnuðr er oss
went before Sigurd and greeted him and said Joy is to-us
 á þinni hérvist, ok allt gott viljum vér til yðar leggja. Tak
in thy being-here and all good wish we toward you to-lay Take

hér við horni ok drekk." Hann tók við ok drakk af. Hún
here with horn and drink He took with and drank from She
 mælti: "Þinn faðir skal vera Gjúki konungr, en ek móðir,
said Thy father shall be Gjuki king and I mother
 bræðr þínir Gunnarr ok Högni ok allir, er eiða vinnið, ok
brothers thine Gunnar and Hogni and all who oaths swear and
 munu þá eigi yðrir jafningjar fást." Sigurðr tók því vel, ok
will then not your equals be-found Sigurd took that well and
 við þann drykk mundi hann ekki til Brynhildar. Hann
with that drink remembered he nothing of Brynild He
 dvaldist þar um hríð. Ok eitt sinn gekk Grímhildr fyrir
stayd there for while And one time went Grimild before
 Gjúka konung ok lagði hendr um háls honum ok mælti:
Gjuki king and laid hands about neck to-him and said
 "Hér er nú kominn inn mesti kappi, er finnst mun í
Here is now come the greatest champion who be-found will in
 veröldu. Væri at honum mikit traust. Gift honum dóttur
world Were in him great support Marry to-him daughter
 þína með miklu fé ok slíku ríki sem hann vill, ok
thine with much wealth and such realm as he wishes and
 mætti hann hér yndi nema." Konungr svarar: "Fátítt er
might be here contentment take King answers Uncommon is
 þat at bjóða fram dætr sínar, en meiri vegr er at bjóða
that to offer forth daughters one's but greater honor is to offer
 honum en aðrir biði." Ok eitt kveld skenkir Guðrún.
to-him than others should-ask And one evening pours Gudrun
 Sigurðr sér, at hún er væn kona ok at öllu in kurteisasta.
Sigurd sees that she is fair woman and in all the most-courty
 Fimm misseri var Sigurðr þar, svá at þeir sátu með frægð
Five half-years was Sigurd there so that they sat with fame
 ok vingan, ok ræðast konungar nú við. Gjúki konungr
and friendship and speak-together kings now with Gjuki king

mælti: “Margt gott veitir þú oss, Sigurðr, ok mjök hefir
said Much good grantest thou to-us Sigurd and much hast
 þú styrkt vart ríki.” Gunnarr mælti: “Allt viljum vér til
thou strengthened our realm Gunnar said All wish we to
 vinna, at þér dvelizt hér lengi, bæði ríki ok vára systur
do that you stay here long both realm and our sister
 með boði, en eigi mundi annarr fá, þótt bæði.” Sigurðr
with offer and not would another get though should-ask Sigurd
 svarar: “Hafið þökk fyrir yðra sæmd, ok þetta skal þiggja.”
answers Have thanks for your honor and this shall accept
 Þeir sverjast nú í bræðralag, sem þeir sé sambornir
They swear-together now into brotherhood as they were same-born
 bræðr. Nú er ger ágætlig veizla ok stóð marga daga.
brothers Now is made splendid feast and stood many days
 Drekkir Sigurðr nú brúðlaup til Guðrúnar. Mátti þar sjá
Drinks Sigurd now wedding to Gudrun Might there see
 margs konar gleði ok skemmtan, ok var hvern dag veitt
many kinds-of joy and entertainment and was every day entertained
 öðrum betr. Þeir fóru nú víða um lönd ok vinna mörg
than-another better They went now widely about lands and do many
 frægðarverk, drápu marga konungasonu, ok engir menn
famous-deeds killed many kings'-sons and no men
 gerðu slík afrek sem þeir; fara nú heim með miklu herfangi.
did such deeds as they fare now home with much war-booty
 Sigurðr gaf Guðrúnu at eta af Fáfnis hjarta, ok síðan var
Sigurd gave to-Gudrun to eat of Fafnir's heart and afterward was
 hún miklu grimmari en áðr ok vitrari. Þeira sonr hét
she much grimmer than before and wiser Their son was-called
 Sigmundr. Ok eitt sinn gekk Grímhildr at Gunnari, syni
Sigmund And one time went Grimbild to Gunnar son
 sínun, ok mælti: “Yðart ráð stendr með miklum blóma fyrir
her and said Your state stands with great flourishing for

utan einn hlut, er þér eruð kvánlausir. Biðið Brynhildar.

outside one thing that you are wifeless Ask-for Brynild

Þat er göfgast ráð, ok mun Sigurðr ríða með yðr." Gunnarr

That is noblest match and will Sigurd ride with you Gunnar

svarar: "Víst er hún væn, ok eigi em ek þessa ófúss," ok segir

answers Surely is she fair and not am I of-this unwilling and says

nú feðr sínum ok bræðrum ok Sigurði, ok eru allir fýsandi.

now to-father his and to-brothers and to-Sigurd and are all urging

XXVII · THE RIDING OF THE FLAME

Buðli and Heimir leave the choice to Brynhildr, who will have only the man who rides the flame around her hall. Gunnarr's horse will not face it, nor will Grani carry him, so Gunnarr and Sigurðr change shapes. Sigurðr rides the fire on Grani, names himself Gunnarr, lies three nights with the drawn Gramr between them, and takes back the ring Andvaranaut. Brynhildr tells Heimir that only Sigurðr could have ridden it and leaves their daughter Áslaug with him; after the wedding feast Sigurðr remembers his oaths to her and keeps silent.

Þeir búa nú ferð sína listuliga, ríða nú fjöll ok dali til

They prepare now journey their elegantly ride now mountains and dales to

Buðla konungs; bera upp bónorðit. Hann tók því vel, ef hún

Budli king bear up the-suit He took that well if she

vill eigi níta, ok segir hana svá stóra, at þann einn mann

wishes not to-refuse and says her so proud that that one man

mun hún eiga, er hún vill. Þá ríða þeir í Hlymdali.

will she have whom she wishes Then ride they into Hlymdalir

Heimir fagnar þeim vel. Segir Gunnarr nú erendin. Heimir

Heimir greets them well Says Gunnar now the-errands Heimir

kvað hennar kör vera, hvern hún skal eiga; segir þar sal

said her choice to-be whom she shall have says there hall

hennar skammt frá ok kvaðst þat hyggja, at þann einn
her short from and said-of-himself that to-think that that one
 mundi hún eiga vilja, er riði eld brennanda, er sleginn
would she to-have wish who rode fire burning which struck
 er um sal hennar. Þeir finna salinn ok eldinn ok sjá þar
is about hall her They find the-hall and the-fire and see there
 borg gulli bysta, ok brann eldr um utan. Gunnarr reið
stronghold with-gold ridged and burned fire about outside Gunnar rode
 Gota, en Högni Hölkvi. Gunnarr keyrir hestinn at eldinum,
Goti and Hogni Holkvir Gunnar drives the-horse at the-fire
 en hann hopar. Sigurðr mælti: “Hví hopar þú, Gunnarr?”
but he shrinks-back Sigurd said Why shrinkest thou Gunnar
 Hann svarar: “Eigi vill hestrinn hlaupa þenna eld,” ok biðr
He answers Not wishes the-horse to-leap this fire and asks
 Sigurðr ljá sér Grana. “Heimilt er þat,” segir Sigurðr.
Sigurd to-lend to-him Grani Free is that says Sigurd
 Gunnarr ríðr nú at eldinum, ok vill Grani eigi ganga.
Gunnar rides now at the-fire and wishes Grani not to-go
 Gunnarr má nú eigi ríða þenna eld; skipta nú litum,
Gunnar may now not ride this fire exchange now hues
 sem Grímhildr kenndi þeim Sigurði ok Gunnari. Síðan ríðr
as Grimhild taught them Sigurd and Gunnar Then rides
 Sigurðr ok hefir Gram í hendi ok bindr gullspora á fætr
Sigurd and has Gram in hand and binds gold-spurs on feet
 sér. Grani hleypr fram at eldinum, er hann kenndi sporans.
his Grani leaps forward at the-fire when he felt the-spur
 Nú verðr gnýr mikill, er eldrinn tók at æsast, en jörð tók
Now becomes din great when the-fire began to rage and earth began
 at skjálfa. Loginn stóð við himin. Þetta þorði engi at gera
to shake The-flame stood at heaven This dared none to do

fyr, ok var sem hann riði í myrkva. Þá lægðist eldrinn,
before and was as he rode into darkness Then sank the-fire
 en hann gekk af hestinum inn í salinn. Svá er kveðit:
and he went off the-horse in into the-hall So is sung

“Eldr nam at æsast,

Fire began to rage

en jörð at skjálfa

and earth to shake

ok hár logi

and high flame

við himni gnæfa.

at heaven to-tower

Fár treystist þar

Few trusted-himself there

fylkis rekka

of-king warriors

eld at ríða

fire to ride

né yfir stíga.

nor over to-step

Sigurðr Grana

Sigurd Grani

sverði keyrði.

with-sword drove

Eldr slökknæði

Fire went-out

fyr öðlingi,

before the-prince

logi allr lægðist

flame all sank

fyr lofgjörnum.

before the-praise-eager

Bliku reiði,

Gleamed trappings

er Reginn átti.”

which Regin owned

Ok er Sigurðr kom inn um logann, fann hann þar eitt

And when Sigurd came in through the-flame found he there a

fagrt herbergi, ok þar sat í Brynhildr. Hún spyr, hvern sá

fair chamber and there sat in Brynhild She asks who that

maðr er. En hann nefndist Gunnarr Gjúkason. — “Ertu

man is But he named-himself Gunnar Gjukason Art-thou

ok ætluð mín kona með jáyrði föður þíns, ef ek ríða þinn

also intended my wife with consent of-father thine if I ride thy

vafroga, ok fóstura þíns með yðru atkvæði.” “Eigi veit

flickering-flame and of-foster-father thine with your decision Not know

ek gerla, hversu ek skal þessu svara,” segir hún. Sigurðr

I clearly how I shall to-this answer says she Sigurd

stóð rétt á gólfinu ok studdist á sverðshjöltin ok mælti

stood straight on the-floor and leaned on the-sword-hilt and spoke

til Brynhildar: “Þér í mót skal ek gjalda mikinn mund í

to Brynhild To-thee in against shall I pay great bride-price in

gulli ok góðum gripum.” Hún svarar af áhyggju af sínu

gold and good treasures She answers from anxiety from her

sæti sem álp af báru ok hefir sverð í hendi ok hjálm

seat as swan from wave and has sword in hand and helmet

á höfði ok var í brynju: “Gunnarr,” segir hún, “ræð ekki

on head and was in mail-coat Gunnar says she speak not

slíkt við mik, nema þú sér hverjum manni fremri, ok þá
such with me unless thou art than-every man greater and then
 skaltu drepa, er mín hafa beðit, ef þú hefir traust til. Ek
shalt-thou kill who for-me have asked if thou hast courage to I
 var í orrostu með Garðakonungi, ok váru vápn vár lituð í
was in battle with the-Gardar-king and were weapons our colored in
 mannablóði, ok þess girnumst vér enn." Hann svarar: "Mörg
men's-blood and of-that desire we still He answers Many
 stórvirki hafi þér unnit, en minnizt nú á heit yður, ef þessi
great-works have you done but remember now on vow your if this
 eldr væri riðinn, at þér mundið með þeim manni ganga, er
fire were ridden that you would with that man go who
 þetta gerði." Hún finnr nú hér sönn svör ok merki þessa
this did She finds now here true answers and tokens of-this
 máls, stendr upp ok fagnar honum vel. Þar dvelst hann
matter stands up and greets him well There stays he
 þrjár nætr, ok búa eina rekkju. Hann tekur sverðit Gram ok
three nights and occupy one bed He takes the-sword Gram and
 leggur í meðal þeira bert. Hún spyr, hví þat sætti. Hann
lays in between them bare She asks why that meant He
 kvað sér þat skipat, at svá gerði hann brúðlaup til konu
said to-him that ordained that so made he wedding to wife
 sinnar eða fengi ella bana. Hann tók þá af henni
his or would-get otherwise death He took then from her
 hringinn Andvaranaut, er hann gaf henni, en fekk henni
the-ring Andvaranaut which he gave her and gave her
 nú annan hring af Fáfnis arfi. Eptir þetta riðr hann
now another ring from of-Fafnir inheritance After this rides he
 brott í þann sama eld til sinna félaga, ok skipta þeir aptur
away into that same fire to his companions and exchange they back
 litum ok riða síðan í Hlymdali ok segja, hvé farit hafði.
bues and ride then into Hlymdalir and tell how gone had

Þann sama dag fór Brynhildr heim til föstra síns ok segir
That same day went Brynhild home to foster-father her and tells
 honum af trúnaði, at til hennar kom einn konungr — “ok
him in confidence that to her came a king and
 reið minn vafrloga ok kvaðst kominn til ráða við mik
rode my flickering-flame and said-of-himself come for marriage with me
 ok nefndist Gunnarr. En ek sagða, at þat mundi Sigurðr
and named-himself Gunnar But I said that that would Sigurd
 einn gera, er ek vann eiða á fjallinu, ok er hann minn
alone do with-whom I swore oaths on the-mountain and is he my
 frumverr.” Heimir kvað nú svá búit vera mundu. Brynhildr
first-husband Heimir said now so settled to-be would Brynhild
 mælti: “Dóttur okkar Sigurðar, Áslaugu, skal hér upp fæða
said Daughter of-us-two of-Sigurd Aslaug shall here up rear
 með þér.” Fara konungar nú heim, en Brynhildr fór til föður
with thee Fare kings now home and Brynhild went to father
 síns. Grímhildr fagnar þeim vel ok þakkar Sigurði sína fylgd.
her Grimhild greets them well and thanks Sigurd his support
 Er þar búizt við veizlu. Kom þar mikill mannfjöldi. Þar kom
Is there prepared for feast Came there great multitude There came
 Buðli konungr með dóttur sína ok Atli, sonr hans, ok hefir
Budli king with daughter his and Atli son his and has
 þessi veizla staðit marga daga. Ok er lokit er þessi veizlu,
this feast stood many days And when ended is this feast
 minnir Sigurð alla eiða við Brynhildi ok lætr þó vera kyrrt.
remembers Sigurd all oaths with Brynhild and lets yet be quiet
 Brynhildr ok Gunnarr sátu við skemmtan ok drukku gott vín.
Brynhild and Gunnar sat at entertainment and drank good wine

Bathing in the Rhine, Brynhildr wades further out and says her husband is the greater man. Guðrún answers that it was Sigurðr who killed Fáfnir and rode the flame Brynhildr took for Gunnarr, and shows her the ring Andvaranaut, taken from her own hand. Brynhildr turns pale and goes home without a word. Next morning the two women quarrel again in the bower until Brynhildr says plainly that she was betrayed and will avenge it, and that Sigurðr's killing of the serpent is worth more than all Gunnarr's kingdom.

Þat er einn dag, er þær gengu til árinna Rína at þvá
That is one day when they went to the-river Rhine to wash
 sér, þá óð Brynhildr lengra út á ána. Guðrún spýrr,
themselves then waded Brynhild farther out into the-river Gudrun asks
 hví þat gegndi. Brynhildr segir: “Hví skal ek um þetta
why that meant Brynhild says Why shall I in this
 jafnast við þik heldr en um annat? Ek hugða, at minn faðir
equal with thee rather than in other I thought that my father
 væri ríkari en þinn ok minn maðr unnit mörg snilldarverk
were mightier than thine and my man done many valiant-deeds
 ok riði eld brennanda, en þinn bóndi var þræll Hjalpreks
and rode fire burning but thy husband was thrall of-Hjalprek
 konungs.” Guðrún svarar með reiði: “Þá værir þú vitrari,
king Gudrun answers with anger Then wert thou wiser
 ef þú þegðir en lastaðir mann minn. Er þat allra manna
if thou wert-silent than didst-blame man mine Is that of-all men
 mál, at engi hafi slíkr komit í veröldina fyrir hversvetna
word that none has such come into the-world for of-everything
 sakir, ok eigi samir þér vel at lasta hann, því at hann
sakes and not befits thee well to blame him because that he
 er þinn frumverr, ok drap hann Fáfni ok reið vafilogann,
is thy first-husband and killed he Fafnir and rode the-flickering-flame

er þú hugðir Gunnar konung, ok hann lá hjá þér ok
when thou thoughtest Gunnar king and he lay beside thee and
 tók af hendi þér hringinn Andvaranaut, ok máttu nú
took off hand from-thee the-ring Andvaranaut and canst-thou now
 hér hann kenna.” Brynhildr sér nú þenna hring ok kennir.
here it recognize Brynhild sees now this ring and recognizes
 Þá fölnar hún, sem hún dauð væri. Brynhildr fór heim ok
Then pales she as she dead were Brynhild went home and
 mælti ekki orð um kveldit. Ok er Sigurðr kom í rekkju,
spoke no word in the-evening And when Sigurd came into bed
 spyr Guðrún: “Hví er Brynhildr svá ókát?” Sigurðr svarar:
asks Gudrun Why is Brynhild so unhappy Sigurd answers
 “Eigi veit ek glögg, en grunar mik, at vér munum vita
Not know I clearly but suspects me that we shall know
 brátt nokkuru gerr.” Guðrún mælti: “Hví unir hún eigi
soon somewhat more-fully Gudrun said Why is-content she not
 auð ok sælu ok allra manna lofi, ok fengit þann mann,
wealth and happiness and of-all men praise and gotten that man
 sem hún vildi?” Sigurðr mælti: “Hvar var hún þá, er hún
whom she wished Sigurd said Where was she then when she
 sagði þat, at hún þættist inn æðsta eiga eða þann,
said that that she thought-herself the noblest to-have or him
 er hún vildi helst eiga?” Guðrún svarar: “Ek skal eptir
whom she wished most to-have Gudrun answers I shall after
 spyrja á morgin, hvern hún vill helst eiga.” Sigurðr svarar:
ask in morning whom she wishes most to-have Sigurd answers
 “Þess let ek þik, ok iðrast muntu, ef þú gerir þat.”
Of-that dissuade I thee and repent wilt-thou if thou doest that
 Ok um morgininn sátu þær í skemmu sinni, ok var
And in the-morning sat they in bower their and was
 Brynhildr hljóð. Þá mælti Guðrún: “Ver kát Brynhildr.
Brynhild silent Then said Gudrun Be cheerful Brynhild

Angrar þik okkart viðtal? Eða hvat stendr þér fyrir
Grieves thee our-two talk Or what stands to-thee before
 gamni?" Brynhildr svarar: "Illt eitt gengr þér til þessa, ok
pleasure Brynhild answers Evil alone goes to-thee to this and
 hefir þú grimmt hjarta." "Virð eigi svá," segir Guðrún, "ok
hast thou grim heart Deem not so says Gudrun and
 seg heldr." Brynhildr svarar: "Spyr þess eina, at betr sé,
say rather Brynhild answers Ask of-that alone that better is
 attu vitir. Þat samir ríkum konum. Ok er gott góðu
that-thou knowest That befits mighty women And is good with-good
 at una, er yðr gengr allt at óskum." Guðrún svarar:
to be-content when for-you goes all at wishes Gudrun answers
 "Snemmt er því enn at hæla, ok er þetta nokkur sú forspá.
Early is that yet to boast and is this some that prophecy
 Hvat reki þér at oss? Vær gerðum yðr ekki til angrs."
What drive you at us We did you nothing to grief
 Brynhildr svarar: "Þess skaltu gjalda, er þú átt Sigurð, ok
Brynhild answers For-that shalt-thou pay that thou hast Sigurd and
 ek ann þér eigi hans at njóta né gullsins mikla." Guðrún
I grant thee not him to enjoy nor of-the-gold great Gudrun
 svarar: "Eigi víska ek yður ummæli, ok vel mætti faðir minn
answers Not knew I your words and well might father my
 sjá ráð fyrir mér, þóttu værir ekki at hitt." Brynhildr
see match for me though-thou wert not at consulted Brynhild
 svarar: "Ekki höfum vér launmæli haft, ok þó höfum vit
answers Not have we secret-speech had and yet have we-two
 eiða svarit, ok vissu þér þat, at þér véltuð mik, ok þess
oaths sworn and knew you that that you betrayed me and for-that
 skal hefna." Guðrún svarar: "Þú er betr gefin en makligt
shall avenge Gudrun answers Thou art better married than deserved
 er, ok þinn ofsi mun illa sjatna, ok þess munu margir
is and thy arrogance will ill subside and for-that will many

gjalda.” “Una mundu vér,” segir Brynhildr, “ef eigi ættir
pay Be-content would we says Brynhild if not badst
 þú göfgara mann.” Guðrún svarar: “Áttu svá göfgan mann,
thou nobler man Gudrun answers Hast-thou so noble man
 at óvíst er, hvern meiri konung er, ok gnótt fjár ok
that uncertain is who greater king is and abundance of-wealth and
 ríkis.” Brynhildr svarar: “Sigurðr vát at Fáfni, ok er þat meira
of-realm Brynhild answers Sigurd slew at Fafnir and is that more
 vert en allt ríki Gunnars konungs,” — svá sem kveðit er:
worth than all realm of-Gunnar king so as sung is

“Sigurðr vát at ormi,

Sigurd slew at serpent

en þat síðan mun

and that afterward will

engum fyrnast,

for-none grow-old

meðal öld lifir.

while age lives

En hlýri þinn

But brother thine

hvarki þorði

neither dared

eld at ríða

fire to ride

né yfir stíga.”

nor over to-step

Guðrún svarar: “Grani rann eigi eldinn undir Gunnari

Gudrun answers Grani ran not the-fire under Gunnar

konungi, en hann þorði at ríða, ok þarf honum eigi hugar

king but he dared to ride and needs him not of-courage

at frýja." Brynhildr svarar: "Dyljumst *to taunt Brynhild answers* *Let-us-conceal-ourselves* *not with that I* *think to-Grimbild not well Gudrun answers* *Blame her not* *því at hún er til þín sem til dóttur sinnar.*" Brynhildr svarar: "Hún veldr öllum upphöfum þess böls, er oss bítr. *answers She causes all beginnings of-that bale which us bites* *Hún bar Sigurði grimmt öl, svá at* *She bore to-Sigurd grim ale so that not remembered he my* *nafn.*" Guðrún svarar: "Margt rangt orð mælir þú, ok mikil *name Gudrun answers Many wrong word speakest thou and great* *lygi er slíkt.*" Brynhildr svarar: "Njóti þér svá Sigurðar sem *lie is such Brynhild answers Enjoy you so of-Sigurd as* *þér hafið mik eigi svikit, ok er yðart samveldi ómakligt, ok* *you have me not betrayed and is your joint-rule undeserved and* *gangi yðr svá sem ek hygg.*" Guðrún svarar: "Betr mun ek *go for-you so as I think Gudrun answers Better will I* *njóta en þú mundir vilja, ok engi gat þess, at hann* *enjoy than thou wouldst wish and none mentioned of-that that he* *ætti of gott við mik né eitt sinn.*" Brynhildr svarar: "Illa *had too good with me nor one time Brynhild answers Ill* *mælir þú, ok er af þér rennr, muntu iðrast, ok hendum* *speakest thou and when off thee runs wilt-thou repent and let-us-catch* *eigi heiptyrði.*" Guðrún segir: "Þú kastaðir fyrri heiptarorðum *not hate-words Gudrun says Thou castedst first hate-words* *á mik. Lætr þú nú sem þú munir yfir bæta, en þó býr* *on me Makest thou now as thou wilt over amend but yet dwells* *grimmt undir.*" "Leggjum niðr ónýtt hjal," segir Brynhildr. *grim beneath Let-us-lay down useless chatter says Brynhild* *"Ek þagða lengi yfir mínum harmi, þeim er mér bjó í* *I was-silent long over my grief that which to-me dwelt in*

brjósti, en ek ann þínum bróður at eins, ok tókum annat
breast but I love thy brother at only and let-us-take other
 tal.” Guðrún segir: “Langt sér hugr þinn um fram.” Ok
talk Gudrun says Far sees mind thine about beyond And
 þar af stóð mikill ófagnaðr, er þær gengu á ána ok
there from stood great misfortune when they went to the-river and
 hún kenndi hringinn ok þar af varð þeira viðræða.
she recognized the-ring and there from became their conversation

XXIX · BRYNHILDR TAKES TO HER BED

Brynhildr takes to her bed. To Gunnarr, who presses her, she tells how she was won by fraud and that she will be the contriver of his death; after that she will speak to no one, Gunnarr and Högni each come to her and get nothing, and Sigurðr, asked to go, gives no answer. Sigurðr comes at last, and to him she says the sorest of her griefs is that a sharp sword is not reddened in his blood. He offers her all his wealth to live, and to put away Guðrún and take her; she refuses both, and he goes out with his sides so swollen that the mail-rings burst. She tells Gunnarr that Sigurðr, or Gunnarr, or she herself must die.

Eptir þetta tal leggst Brynhildr í rekkju, ok kómu þessi
After this talk lays-herself Brynhild in bed and came these
 tíðendi fyrir Gunnar konung, at Brynhildr er sjúk. Hann
tidings before Gunnar king that Brynhild is sick He
 hittir hana ok spyr, hvat henni sé, en hún svarar engu
meets her and asks what to-her is but she answers nothing
 ok liggir sem hún sé dauð. Ok er hann leitar eptir fast,
and lies as she were dead And when he seeks after hard
 þá svarar hún: “Hvat gerðir þú af hring þeim, er ek
then answers she What didst thou with ring that which I
 selda þér, er Buðli konungr gaf mér at efsta skilnaði, er
gave to-thee which Budli king gave to-me at last parting when

þér Gjúki konungr kómuð til hans ok hétuð at herja eða
you Gjuki king came to him and threatened to harry or
 brenna, nema þér næðið mér? Síðan leiddi hann mik á tal
to-burn unless you got me Then led he me to talk
 ok spyrr, hvern ek köra af þeim, sem komnir váru, en ek
and asks whom I chose of those who come were but I
 buðumst til at verja landit ok vera höfðingi yfir þriðjungi
offered-myself to to defend the-land and to-be chieftain over third
 liðs. Váru þá tveir kostir fyrir hendi, at ek munda þeim
of-force Were then two choices before hand that I should to-him
 verða at giftast, sem hann vildi, eða vera án alls fjár ok
have to marry whom he wisbed or to-be without of-all wealth and
 hans vináttu; kvað þó sína vináttu mér mundu betr gegna
his friendship said yet his friendship to-me would better serve
 en reiði. Þá hugsaða ek með mér, hvárt ek skylda hlýða
than anger Then thought I with myself whether I should obey
 hans vilja eða drepa margan mann. Ek þóttumst vanfær til
his wish or kill many man I thought-myself unable to
 at þreyta við hann, ok þar kom, at ek hétumst þeim,
to contend with him and there came that I promised-myself to-him
 er riði hestinum Grana með Fáfnis arfi ok riði minn
who rode the-horse Grani with Fafnir's inheritance and rode my
 vafurloga ok dræpi þá menn, er ek kvað á. Nú treystist
flickering-flame and killed those men whom I named on Now dared
 engi at ríða nema Sigurðr einn. Hann reið eldinn, því at
none to ride except Sigurd alone He rode the-fire because that
 hann skorti eigi hug til. Hann drap orminn ok Regin ok
him lacked not courage for He killed the-serpent and Regin and
 fimm konunga, en eigi þú, Gunnarr, er þú fölnaðir sem
five kings but not thou Gunnar who thou didst-pale as
 nár, ok ertu engi konungr né kappi. Ok þess strengda ek
corpse and art-thou no king nor champion And of-that made I

heit heima at föður míns, at ek munda þeim einum unna,
vow at-home at father's mine that I should to-him alone love
 er ágæztr væri alinn, en þat er Sigurðr. Nú erum vér
who most-excellent were born and that is Sigurd Now are we
 eiðrofa, er vér eigum hann eigi, ok fyrir þetta skal ek
oath-breakers since we have him not and for this shall I
 ráðandi þíns dauða. Ok eigum vér Grímhildi illt at launa.
contriver of-thy death And have we to-Grimhild evil to repay
 Henni finnst engi kona huglausari né verri." Gunnarr svarar,
Than-her is-found no woman more-craven nor worse Gunnar answers
 svá at fáir heyrðu: "Mörg flærðarorð hefir þú mælt, ok
so that few heard Many deceit-words hast thou spoken and
 ertu illúðig kona, er þú ámælis þeiri konu, er mjök er
art-thou evil-minded woman that thou blamest that woman who much is
 um þik fram, ok eigi undi hún verr sínu, svá sem þú
about thee beyond and not was-content she worse with-hers so as thou
 gerir, eða kvaldi dauða menn, ok engan myrði hún ok lifir
doest or tormented dead men and none murdered she and lives
 við lof." Brynhildr svarar: "Ekki höfum vér launþing haft
with praise Brynhild answers Not have we secret-meeting had
 né ódádír gert, ok annat er vart eðli, ok fúsari værim vér
nor misdeeds done and other is our nature and more-eager were we
 at drepa yðr." Síðan vildi hún drepa Gunnar konung, en
to kill you Then wished she to-kill Gunnar king but
 Högni setti hana í fjötra. Gunnarr mælti þá: "Eigi vil ek,
Hogni set her in fetters Gunnar said then Not wish I
 at hún búi í fjötrum." Hún svarar: "Hirð eigi þat, því
that she dwell in fetters She answers Care not that because
 at aldri sér þú mik glaða síðan í þinni höll eða drekka
that never seest thou me glad afterward in thy hall or to-drink
 né teffa né hugat mæla né gulli leggja góð klæði né
nor to-play-tables nor thoughtfully to-speak nor with-gold to-lay good clothes nor

yðr ráð gefa." Kvað hún sér þat mestan harm, at hún
to-you counsel to-give Said she to-her that greatest grief that she
 átti eigi Sigurð. Hún settist upp ok sló sinn borða, svá
had not Sigurd She sat up and struck her tapestry so
 at sundr gekk, ok bað svá lúka skemmudyrum, at langa
that asunder went and bade so to-open bower-doorway that long
 leið mætti heyra hennar harmtölur. Nú er harmr mikill, ok
way might hear her lamentations Now is grief great and
 heyrir um allan bæinn. Guðrún spyr skemmumeyjar sínar,
is-heard about all the-farm Gudrun asks bower-maidens her
 hví þær sé svá ókátar eða hryggar — "eða hvat er yðr,
why they are so cheerless or sorrowful or what is to-you
 eða hví fari þér sem vitlausir menn, eða hverr gyzki er
or why fare you as witless men or what portent is
 yðr orðinn?" Þá svarar hirðkona ein, er Svafrlöð hét:
to-you become Then answers court-woman one who Svafrlod was-called
 "Þetta er ótímadagr. Vár höll er full af harmi." Þá mælti
This is ill-hour-day Our hall is full of grief Then said
 Guðrún til sinnar vinkonu: "Stattu upp, vér höfum lengi
Gudrun to her friend Stand-thou up we have long
 sofit. Vek Brynhildi, göngum til borða ok verum kátar."
slept Wake Brynhild let-us-go to tapestry and let-us-be cheerful
 "Þat geri ek eigi," sagði hún "at vekja hana né við hana
That do I not said she to wake her nor with her
 mæla, ok mörg dægr drakk hún eigi mjöð né vín, ok
to-speak and many days drank she not mead nor wine and
 hefir hún fengit goða reiði." Þá mælti Guðrún til Gunnars:
has she gotten of-gods anger Then said Gudrun to Gunnar
 "Gakk at hitta hana," segir hún, "ok seg oss illa kunna
Go to meet her says she and say us ill to-take
 hennar meini." Gunnarr svarar: "Þat er mér bannat at hitta
her hurt Gunnar answers That is to-me forbidden to meet

hana eða hennar fé at skipta.” Þó ferr Gunnarr at hitta
her or her wealth to divide Yet fares Gunnar to meet
 hana ok leitar marga vega málsenda við hana ok fær ekki
her and seeks many ways of-conversation with her and gets nothing
 af um svörin; gengr nú á brott ok hittir Högna ok biðr
from about the-answers goes now off away and meets Hogni and bids
 hann finna hana. En hann kveðst vera ófúss ok ferr þó
him to-find her But he says-himself to-be unwilling and fares yet
 ok fekk ekki af henni. Ok er hittr Sigurðr ok beðinn at
and got nothing from her And is met Sigurd and asked to
 finna hana. Hann svarar engu, ok er svá búit um kveldit.
find her He answers nothing and is so left in the-evening
 Ok annan dag eptir, er hann kom heim af dýraveiði,
And second day after when he came home from deer-hunting
 hitti hann Guðrúnu ok mælti: “Þann veg hefir fyrir mik
met he Gudrun and said That way has before me
 borit sem þetta muni til mikils koma hrollr sjá, ok mun
borne as this will to much come shudder this and will
 Brynhildr deyja.” Guðrún svarar: “Herra minn, mikil kynsl
Brynhild die Gudrun answers Lord my great wonders
 fylgja henni. Hún hefir nú sofit sjau dægr, svá at engi
follow her She has now slept seven days so that none
 þorði at vekja hana.” Sigurðr svarar: “Eigi sefr hún, hún
dared to wake her Sigurd answers Not sleeps she she
 hefir stórræði með höndum við okkr.” Þá mælti Guðrún
has great-designs with hands against us-two Then said Gudrun
 með gráti: “Þat er mikill harmr at vita þinn bana. Far
with weeping That is great grief to know thy death Go
 heldr ok finn hana ok vit, ef sjatni hennar ofsi, gef
rather and find her and know if subsides her arrogance give
 henni gull ok mýk svá hennar reiði.” Sigurðr gekk út
her gold and soften so her anger Sigurd went out

ok fann opinn salinn. Hann hugði hana sofa ok brá af
and found open the-hall He thought her to-sleep and drew off
 henni klæðum ok mælti: “Vaki þú, Brynhildr, sól skinn um
her clothes and said Wake thou Brynhild sun shines about
 allan bæinn, ok er ærit sofit. Hritt af þér harmi ok tak
all the-farm and is enough slept Cast off thee grief and take
 gleði.” Hún mælti: “Hví sætir þinni dirfð, er þú ferr mik
joy She said Why is-cause of-thy boldness that thou farest me
 at hitta? Mér var engi verri í þessum svikum.” Sigurðr
to meet To-me was none worse in these betrayals Sigurd
 spyr: “Hví mælir þú eigi við menn, eða hvat angrar þik?”
asks Why speakest thou not with men or what grieves thee
 Brynhildr svarar: “Þér skal ek segja mína reiði.” Sigurðr
Brynhild answers To-thee shall I tell my anger Sigurd
 mælti: “Heilluð ertu, ef þú ætlar grimman minn hug við
said Bewitched art-thou if thou thinkest grim my mind toward
 þik, ok er sjá þinn maðr, er þú kaust.” “Nei,” segir
thee and is this thy man whom thou chosest No says
 hún, “eigi reið Gunnarr eldinn til vár, ok eigi galt hann
she not rode Gunnar the-fire to us and not paid he
 mér at mundi felldan val. Ek undruðumst þann mann, er
to-me as bride-price felled slain I wondered-at that man who
 kom í minn sal, ok þóttumst ek kenna yður augu, ok
came into my hall and thought-myself I to-know your eyes and
 fekk ek þó eigi víst skilit fyrir þeiri huldu, er á lá
got I yet not surely distinguished before that veil which on lay
 á minni hamingju.” Sigurðr segir: “Ekki erum vér göfgari
on my fortune Sigurd says Not are we nobler
 menn en synir Gjúka. Þeir drápu Danakonung ok mikinn
men than sons of-Gjuki They killed Dane-king and great
 höfðingja, bróður Buðla konungs.” Brynhildr svarar: “Margt
chieftain brother of-Budli king Brynhild answers Many

illt eigum vér þeim upp at inna, ok minn oss ekki á
evil have we to-them up to recount and remind us not on
 harma vára. Þú, Sigurðr, vatt orminn ok reitt eldinn ok of
griefs our Thou Sigurd slewest the-serpent and rodest the-fire and for
 mína sök, ok váru þar eigi synir Gjúka konungs." Sigurðr
my sake and were there not sons of-Gjuki king Sigurd
 svarar: "Ekki varð ek þinn maðr, ok vartu mín kona,
answers Not became I thy man and wert-thou my wife
 ok galt við þér mund ágætr konungr." Brynhildr svarar:
and paid for thee bride-price excellent king Brynhild answers
 "Eigi sá ek svá Gunnar, at minn hugr gerði hlæja við
Not saw I so Gunnar that my mind did laugh toward
 honum, ok grimm em ek við hann þótt ek hylma yfir
him and grim am I toward him though I conceal over
 fyrir öðrum." "Þat er ógurligt," segir Sigurðr, "at unna eigi
before others That is terrible says Sigurd to love not
 slíkum konungi, eða hvat angrar þik mest? Mér sýnist sem
such king or what grieves thee most To-me seems as
 hans ást sé þér gulli betri." Brynhildr svarar: "Þat er
his love is to-thee than-gold better Brynhild answers That is
 mér sárast minna harma, at ek fæ eigi því til leiðar
to-me sorest of-my griefs that I get not that to accomplishment
 komit, at bitrt sverð væri roðit í þínu blóði." Sigurðr
brought that sharp sword were reddened in thy blood Sigurd
 svarar: "Kvið eigi því. Skammt mun at bíða, áðr bitrt
answers Dread not that Short will to wait before sharp
 sverð mun standa í mínu hjarta, ok ekki muntu þér
sword will stand in my heart and not wilt-thou for-thee
 verra biðja, því at þú munt eigi eptir mik lifa. Munu
worse ask because that thou wilt not after me live Will
 ok fáir várir lífsdagar heðan í frá." Brynhildr svarar: "Eigi
also few our life-days hence in from Brynhild answers Not

standa þín orð af litlu fári, síðan þér svikuð mik frá
stand thy words from little malice since you betrayed me from
 öllu yndi, ok ekki hirði ek um lífit.” Sigurðr svarar: “Lif
all delight and not cares I about the-life Sigurd answers Live
 þú ok unn Gunnari konungi ok mér, ok allt mitt fé
thou and love Gunnar king and me and all my wealth
 vil ek til gefa, at þú deyir eigi.” Brynhildr svarar: “Eigi
wish I to give that thou die not Brynhild answers Not
 veizt þú gerla mitt eðli. Þú berr af öllum mönnum,
knowest thou fully my nature Thou bearest from all men
 en þér hefir engi kona orðit leiðari en ek.” Sigurðr
but to-thee has no woman become more-bateful than I Sigurd
 svarar: “Annat er sannara: Ek unna þér betr en mér, þótt
answers Other is truer I loved thee better than myself though
 ek yrða fyrir þeim svikum, ok má því nú ekki bregða,
I came before those betrayals and may that now not change
 því at ávallt, er ek gáða míns geðs, þá harmaði mik
because that always when I heeded my mind then grieved me
 þat, er þú vart eigi mín kona. En af mér bar ek sem ek
that that thou wert not my wife But off me bore I as I
 máttu, þat er ek var í konungshöll, ok unda ek því
could that when I was in king's-hall and was-content I with-that
 þó, at vér várum öll saman. Kann ok verða, at fram
yet that we were all together May also become that forth
 verði at koma þat, sem fyrir er spát, ok ekki skal því
must to come that which before is prophesied and not shall that
 kvíða.” Brynhildr svarar: “Of seinat hefir þú at segja, at
dread Brynhild answers Too late hast thou to say that
 þik angrar minn harmr, en nú fám vér enga líkn.” Sigurðr
thee grieves my grief but now get we no mercy Sigurd
 svarar: “Gjarna vilda ek, at vit stigim á einn beð bæði
answers Gladly wished I that we-two stepped into one bed both

ok værir þú mín kona." Brynhildr svarar: "Ekki er slíkt
and wert thou my wife Brynhild answers Not is such
 at mæla, ok eigi mun ek eiga tvá konunga í einni höll,
to speak and not will I have two kings in one hall
 ok fyrr skal ek líf láta en ek svíkja Gunnar konung," —
and sooner shall I life lose than I betray Gunnar king
 ok minnst nú á þat, er þau fundust á fjallinu ok
and remembers now on that when they met on the-mountain and
 sórust eiða, — "en nú er því öllu brugðit, ok vil ek
swore-together oaths but now is that all changed and wish I
 eigi lifa." "Eigi munda ek þitt nafn," sagði Sigurðr, "ok
not to-live Not remembered I thy name said Sigurd and
 eigi kennda ek þik, fyrr en þú vart gift, ok er þetta
not knew I thee sooner than thou wert married and is this
 inn mesti harmr." Þá mælti Brynhildr: "Ek vann eið at
the greatest grief Then said Brynhild I swore oath to
 eiga þann mann, er riði minn vafroga, en þann eið vilda
have that man who rode my flickering-flame and that oath wisbed
 ek halda eða deyja ella." "Heldr en þú deyir, vil ek þik
I to-keep or to-die otherwise Rather than thou die wish I thee
 eiga, en fyrirláta Guðrúnu," segir Sigurðr, en svá þrútnuðu
to-have and to-forsake Gudrun says Sigurd and so swelled
 hans síður, at í sundr gengu brynjuhringar. "Eigi vil ek
his sides that in asunder went mail-rings Not wish I

þik,” sagði Brynhildr, “ok engan annarra.” Sigurðr gekk í
thee said Brynhild and none of-others Sigurd went off
 brott. Svá segir í Sigurðarkviðu:
away So says in Sigurdarkvida

“Út gekk Sigurðr
Out went Sigurd
 andspjalli frá,
conversation from
 hollvinr lofða
true-friend of-men
 ok hnipnaði,
and drooped
 svá at ganga nam
so that to-go began
 gunnarfúsum
for-the-battle-eager
 sundr of síður
asunder about sides
 serkr járnofinn.”
shirt iron-woven

Ok er Sigurðr kom í höllina, spyrr Gunnarr, hvárt hann viti,
And when Sigurd came into the-hall asks Gunnar whether he knows
 hvern meintregi henni væri eða hvárt hún hefir mál sitt. Sigurðr
what harm-grief to-her were or whether she has speech her Sigurd
 kvað hana mæla mega. Ok nú ferr Gunnarr at hitta hana í
said her to-speak to-be-able And now fares Gunnar to meet her in
 annat sinn ok spyrr, hví gegndi hennar meini eða hvárt nokkur
second time and asks why meant her hurt or whether any
 bót mundi til liggja. “Ek vil eigi lifa,” sagði Brynhildr, “því
remedy would to lie I wish not to-live said Brynhild because

at Sigurðr hefir mik vélt ok eigi síðr þik, þá er þú lézt
that Sigurd has me betrayed and not less thee then when thou lettest
 hann fara í mína sæng. Nú vil ek eigi tvá menn eiga senn í
him fare into my bed Now wish I not two men to-have at-once in
 einni höll, ok þetta skal vera bani Sigurðar eða þinn eða minn,
one hall and this shall be death of-Sigurd or thine or mine
 því at hann hefir þat allt sagt Guðrúnu, en hún brigzlar mér.”
because that he has that all told to-Gudrun but she reproaches me

XXX · THE KILLING OF SIGURÐR

Brynhildr tells Gunnarr he shall lose realm, wealth, life, and her unless Sigurðr and his son are killed. Högni holds that they are bound by oaths and that no king is their equal while Sigurðr lives, but Gunnarr will have it; they set on Guttormr, who has sworn nothing, feeding him serpent and wolf's flesh. Twice Sigurðr's eyes turn him back; the third time he thrusts him through as he sleeps, and Sigurðr, waking, throws Gramr after him and cuts him in two. He tells Guðrún that Brynhildr is the cause and that he never broke faith with Gunnarr, and dies.

Eptir þetta gekk Brynhildr út ok settist undir skemmuvegg
After this went Brynhild out and sat under bower-wall
 sinn ok hafði margar harmtölur, kvað sér allt leitt,
her and had many lamentations said to-her all loathsome
 bæði land ok ríki, er hún átti eigi Sigurð. Ok enn kom
both land and realm since she had not Sigurd And again came
 Gunnarr til hennar. Þá mælti Brynhildr: “Þú skalt láta
Gunnarr to her Then said Brynhild Thou shalt lose
 bæði ríkit ok féit, líft ok mik, ok skal ek fara
both the-realm and the-wealth the-life and me and shall I fare
 heim til frænda minna ok sitja þar hrygg, nema þú drepir
home to kinsmen mine and sit there sorrowful unless thou kill

Sigurð ok son hans. Al eigi upp úlfhvelpinn." Gunnarr
Sigurd and son his Rear not up the-wolf-cub Gunnar
 varð nú mjök hugsjúkr ok þóttist eigi vita, hvat helzt
became now very heart-sick and thought-himself not to-know what most
 lá til, alls hann var í eiðum við Sigurð, ok lék ýmist
lay to since he was in oaths with Sigurd and played variously
 í hug, þótti þat þó mest svívirðing, ef konan gengi frá
in mind seemed that yet greatest dishonor if the-woman went from
 honum. Gunnarr mælti: "Brynhildr er mér öllu betri, ok
him Gunnar said Brynild is to-me than-all better and
 frægst er hún allra kvenna, ok fyrr skal ek líf láta en
most-renowned is she of-all women and sooner shall I life lose than
 týna hennar ást," ok kallar til sín Högna, bróður sinn, ok
lose her love and calls to him Hogni brother his and
 mælti: "Fyrir mik er komit vandmæli mikit," segir, at hann
said Before me is come hard-matter great says that he
 vill drepa Sigurð, kvað hann hafa vélt sik í tryggð, —
wants to-kill Sigurd said him to-have betrayed him in trust
 "ráðum vit þá gullinu ok öllu ríkinu." Högni segir: "Ekki
let-us-rule we-two then the-gold and all the-realm Hogni says Not
 samir okkr særin at rjúfa með ófriði. Er oss ok mikit
befits us-two the-oaths to break with enmity Is to-us also great
 traust at honum. Eru engir konungar oss jafnir, ef sjá inn
support in him Are no kings to-us equal if this the
 hýnski konungr lifir, ok slíkan mág fám vér aldri, ok hygg
Hunnish king lives and such in-law get we never and think
 at, hversu gott væri, ef vér ættim slíkan mág ok systursonu,
on how good were if we had such in-law and sister's-sons
 ok sé ek, hversu þetta stentz af. Þat hefir Brynhildr vakit,
and see I how this stands out That has Brynild stirred
 ok hennar ráð koma oss í mikla svívirðing ok skaða."
and her counsels bring us into great dishonor and harm

Gunnarr svarar: “Þetta skal fram fara, ok sé ek ráðit:

Gunnar answers This shall forth go and see I the-plan

Eggjum til Guttorm, bróður okkarn. Hann er ungr ok fás

Let-us-egg to Guttorm brother our-two He is young and of-little

vitandi ok fyrir utan alla eiða.” Högni segir: “Þat ráð lízt

knowing and for outside all oaths Hogni says That counsel seems

mér illa sett, ok þótt fram komi, þá munu vér gjöld fyrir

to-me ill set and though forth come then will we payment for

taka at svíkja slíkan mann.” Gunnarr segir Sigurð deyja

take to betray such man Gunnar says Sigurd die

skulu, — “eða mun ek deyja ella.” Hann biðr Brynhildi

shall or will I die otherwise He bids Brynbild

upp standa ok vera káta. Hún stóð upp ok segir þó, at

up to-stand and to-be cheerful She stood up and says yet that

Gunnarr mun eigi koma fyrr í sama rekkju henni en

Gunnar will not come sooner into same bed with-her than

þetta er fram komit. Nú ræðast þeir við bræðr. Gunnarr

this is forth come Now speak-together those with brothers Gunnar

segir, at þetta er gild banasök, at hafa tekit meydóm

says that this is full death-cause to have taken maidenhood

Brynhildar, — “ok eggjum Guttorm at gera þetta verk,”

of-Brynbild and let-us-egg Guttorm to do this deed

ok kalla hann til sín ok bjóða honum gull ok mikit ríki

and call him to them and offer him gold and great realm

ok vinna þetta til. Þeir tóku orm einn ok af vargsholdi

and do this for They took serpent a and of wolf-flesh

ok létu sjóða ok gáfu honum at eta sem skáldit kvað:

and had to-boil and gave him to eat as the-poet said

“Sumir viðfiska tóku,

Some wood-fish took

sumir vitnishræ skífðu,

some wolf-carrion sliced

sumir Guttormi gáfu

some to-Guttorm gave

gera hold

wolf's flesh

við mungáti

with ale

ok marga hluti

and many things

aðra í tyfrum.”

other in sorceries

Ok við þessa fæðslu varð hann svá æfr ok ágjarn ok allt

And with this feeding became he so frenzied and grasping and all

saman ok fortölur Grímhildar, at hann hét at gera þetta verk.

together and persuasions of-Grimbild that he promised to do this deed

Þeir hétu honum ok mikilli sæmd í móti. Sigurðr vissi eigi

They promised him also great honor in return Sigurd knew not

ván þessa vélræða. Mátti hann ok eigi við sköpum vinna né

expectation of-these treacheries Could he also not against fates strive nor

sínu aldragi. Sigurðr vissi sik ok eigi véla verðan frá þeim.

his life-span Sigurd knew himself also not of-treachery worthy from them

Guttormr gekk inn at Sigurði eptir um morgininn, er
Guttorm went in to Sigurd after in the-morning when
 hann hvíldi í rekkju sinni. Ok er hann leit við honum,
he rested in bed his And when he looked at him
 þorði Guttormr eigi at veita honum tilræði ok hvarf út
dared Guttorm not to give him attack and turned out
 aptr, ok svá ferr í annat sinn. Augu Sigurðar váru svá
back and so fares in second time Eyes of-Sigurd were so
 snör, at fár einn þorði gegn at sjá. Ok it þriðja sinn gekk
keen that few one dared against to look And the third time went
 hann inn, ok var Sigurðr þá sofnaðr. Guttormr brá sverði
he in and was Sigurd then asleep Guttorm drew sword
 ok leggr á Sigurði, svá at blóðrefillinn stóð í dýnum
and thrusts on Sigurd so that the-blade-point stood in bedding
 undir honum. Sigurðr vaknar við sárit, en Guttormr gekk
under him Sigurd wakes at the-wound and Guttorm went
 út til dyranna. Þá tók Sigurðr sverðit Gram ok kastar
out to the-doorway Then took Sigurd the-sword Gram and casts
 eptir honum, ok kom á bakit ok tók í sundr í miðju.
after him and came on the-back and took in asunder in middle
 Fell annan veg fótahlutr, en annan höfuðit ok hendrnar
Fell one way leg-part and other the-head and the-bands
 aptr í skemmuna. Guðrún var sofnuð í faðmi Sigurðar,
back into the-bower Gudrun was asleep in embrace of-Sigurd
 en vaknaði við óumræðiligan harm, er hún flaut í hans
but woke at unspeakable grief when she floated in his
 blóði, ok svá kveinaði hún með grát ok harmtölur, at
blood and so wailed she with weeping and lamentations that
 Sigurðr reis upp við hægendit ok mælti: “Grát eigi,” sagði
Sigurd rose up at the-pillow and said Weep not said
 hann. “Þínir bræðr lifa þér til gamans, en þess til ungan
he Thy brothers live to-thee for pleasure but for-that too young

son á ek, er kann eigi at varast fjáendr sína, ok illa hafa
son have I who knows not to beware-of foes his and ill have
 þeir fyrir sínum hlut sét. Ekki fá þeir slíkan mág at ríða
they for their part seen Not get they such in-law to ride
 í her með sér né systurson, ef sjá næði at vaxa. Ok nú er
in host with them nor sister's-son if this got to grow And now is
 þat fram komit, er fyrir löngu var spát ok vér höfum
that forth come which for long was prophesied and we have
 dulizt við, en engi má við sköpum vinna. En þessu
concealed-from with but none may against fates strive But this
 veldr Brynhildr, er mér ann um hvern mann fram, ok þess
causes Brynhild who me loves about every man beyond and that
 má ek sverja, at Gunnari gerða ek aldri mein, ok þyrmda
may I swear that to-Gunnar did I never harm and spared
 ek okkrum eiðum, ok eigi var ek of mikill vinr hans konu.
I our-two oaths and not was I too great friend his wife
 Ok ef ek hefða vitat þetta fyrir ok stiga ek á mína fætr
And if I had known this before and stepped I on my feet
 með mín vápn, þá skyldu margir týna sínu lífi, áðr en
with my weapons then should many lose their life before than
 ek fella, ok allir þeir bræðr drepnir, ok torveldra mundi
I fell and all those brothers killed and harder would
 þeim at drepa mik en inn mesta vísund eða villigölt.”
to-them to kill me than the greatest bison or wild-boar
 Konungr lét nú líf sitt. En Guðrún blæs mæðiliga öndunni.
King lost now life his But Gudrun blows wearily the-breath
 Þat heyrir Brynhildr ok hló, er hún heyrði hennar andvarp.
That hears Brynhild and laughed when she heard her sigh
 Þá mælti Gunnarr: “Eigi hlær þú af því, at þér sé glatt
Then said Gunnar Not laughest thou from that that to-thee is glad
 um hjartarætr, eða hví hafnar þú þínum lit? Ok mikit forað
about heart-roots or why forsakest thou thy hue And great monster

ertu, ok meiri ván, at þú sér feig, ok engi væri
art-thou and greater expectation that thou art death-doomed and none were
makligri til at sjá Atla konung drepinn fyrir augum þér, ok
more-deserving to to see Atli king killed before eyes to-thee and
ættir þú þar yfir at standa. Nú verðum vér at sitja yfir mági
shouldst thou there over to stand Now must we to sit over in-law
várum ok bróðurbana.” Hún svarar: “Engi frýr, at eigi sé
our and brother's-slayer She answers None taunts that not is
fullvegít, en Atli konungur hirðir ekki um hót yður eða reiði,
fully-slain but Atli king cares not about threats your or anger
ok hann mun yður lengr lifa ok hafa meira vald.” Högni
and he will than-you longer live and have greater power Hogni
mælti: “Nú er fram komit þat, er Brynhildr spáði, ok þetta
said Now is forth come that which Brynhild prophesied and this
it illa verk, er vér fám aldri bót.” Guðrún mælti: “Frændr
the evil deed which we get never remedy Gudrun said Kinsmen
mínir hafa drepit minn mann. Nú munu þér ríða í her fyrst,
mine have killed my man Now will you ride in host first
ok er þér komið til bardaga, þá munu þér finna, at Sigurðr
and when you come to battle then will you find that Sigurd
er eigi á aðra hönd yður, ok munu þér þá sjá, at Sigurðr
is not on other hand to-you and will you then see that Sigurd
var yður gæfa ok styrkr, ok ef hann ætti sér slíka sonu,
was your luck and strength and if he had to-him such sons
þá mætti þér styrkjast við hans afkvæmi ok sína frændr.”
then might you be-strengthened by his offspring and his kinsmen

No one can answer why Brynhildr asked, laughing, for the thing she grieved over with weeping. She tells Gunnarr her dream and all the wrong done. She stabs herself under the arm with a sword, gives away her gold, and foretells what will come: the reconciliation with Guðrún, the birth of Svanbilda, Guðrún's marriage to Atli, Gunnarr in the serpent-pit, the sons Guðrún will bear at Jónakr's burgh, and Svanbilda married to King Jörmunrekr and destroyed by Bikki's counsels. She asks for one pyre for herself, Sigurðr, and those killed with him, with the drawn sword between them. Sigurðr is burned with his three-year-old son and Guttormr, and Brynhildr walks into the flames.

Nú þóttist engi kunna at svara, at Brynhildr beiddi þess
Now thought-himself none to-know to answer that Brynhild asked for-that
 hlæjandi, er hún harmaði með gráti. Þá mælti hún: “Þat
laughing which she mourned with weeping Then said she That
 dreymdi mik, Gunnarr, at ek átta kalda sæng, en þú riðr
dreamed me Gunnar that I had cold bed and thou ridest
 í hendr óvinum þínum, ok öll ætt yður mun illa fara, er
into hands to-enemies thine and all kin your will ill fare since
 þér eruð eiðrofa, ok mundir þú þat óglöggt, er þit
you are oath-breakers and rememberedst thou that dimly when you-two
 blönduðuð blóði saman, Sigurðr ok þú, er þú rétt hann,
mingled blood together Sigurd and thou when thou didst-slay him
 ok hefir þú honum allt illu launat þat, er hann gerði vel
and hast thou to-him all with-ill repaid that which he did well
 til þín ok lét þik fremstan vera, ok þá reyndi þat, er hann
toward thee and let thee foremost to-be and then proved that when he
 kom til vár, hvé hann helt sína eiða, at hann lagði okkar
came to us how he held his oaths that he laid of-us-two
 í milli it snarpeggjaða sverð, þat er eitri var hert.
in between the sharp-edged sword that which with-poison was hardened

Ok snemma réðu þér til saka við hann ok við mik, þá er
And early planned you to offenses with him and with me then when
ek var heima með feðr mínum, ok hafða ek allt þat, er ek
I was at-home with father mine and had I all that which I
vilda, ok ætlaða ek engan yðarn minn skyldu verða, þá er
wished and intended I none of-you mine should become then when
þér riðuð þar at garði þrír konungar. Síðan leiddi Atli mik á
you rode there to court three kings Then led Atli me to
tal ok spyrr, ef ek vilda þann eiga, er riði Grana. Sá var
talk and asks if I wished that-one to-have who rode Grani That was
yðr ekki líkr, ok þá hétumst ek syni Sigmundar konungs
to-you not like and then promised-myself I to-son of-Sigmund king
ok engum öðrum, ok eigi mun yðr farast, þótt ek deyjja.”
and to-none other and not will for-you fare though I die
Þá reis Gunnarr upp ok lagði hendr um háls henni ok
Then rose Gunnar up and laid hands about neck to-her and
bað, at hún skyldi lifa ok þiggja fé, ok allir aðrir löttu
bade that she should live and receive wealth and all others dissuaded
hana at deyjja. En hún hratt hverjum frá sér, er at henni
her from to-die But she thrust everyone from her who to her
kom, ok kvað ekki tjóa mundu at letja hana þess, er
came and said nothing avail would to binder her from-that which
hún ætlaði. Síðan hét Gunnarr á Högna ok spyrr hann
she intended Then called Gunnar on Hogni and asks him
ráða ok bað hann til fara ok vita, ef hann fengi mykt
for-counsel and bade him to fare and to-see if he could soften
skaplyndi hennar, ok kvað nú ærna þörf vera á höndum,
temper her and said now ample need to-be at hands
ef sefast mætti hennar harmr, þar til er frá liði. Högni
if calm might her grief there to when from passed Hogni
svarar: “Leti engi maðr hana at deyjja, því at hún
answers Hinder no man her from to-die because that she

varð oss aldri at gagni ok engum manni, síðan hún kom
became to-us never at profit and to-no man since she came
 hingat." Nú bað hún taka mikit gull ok bað þar koma alla
hither Now bade she to-take much gold and bade there to-come all
 þá, er fé vildu þiggja. Síðan tók hún eitt sverð ok lagði
those who wealth wished to-receive Then took she a sword and laid
 undir hönd sér ok hneig upp við dýnur ok mælti: "Taki
under arm her and sank up against bedding and said Take
 hér nú gull hverr, er þiggja vill." Allir þögðu. Brynhildr
here now gold whoever that to-receive wishes All were-silent Brynhild
 mælti: "Þiggið gullit ok njótið vel." Enn mælti Brynhildr til
said Receive the-gold and enjoy well Again said Brynhild to
 Gunnars: "Nú mun ek segja þér litla stund þat, er eptir
Gunnar Now will I tell thee little while that which after
 mun ganga: Sættast munu þit Guðrún brátt með ráðum
will go Be-reconciled will you-two Gudrun soon with counsels
 Grímhildar innar fjölkunngu. Dóttir Guðrúnar ok Sigurðar
of-Grimbild the sorcerous Daughter of-Gudrun and of-Sigurd
 mun heita Svanhildr, er vænst mun fædd allra kvenna.
will be-called Svanbild who fairest will born of-all women
 Mun Guðrún gefin Atla at sínum óvilja. Oddrúnu muntu
Will Gudrun given to-Atli at her unwillingness Oddrun wilt-thou
 vilja eiga, en Atli mun þat banna. Þá munu þit eiga
wish to-have but Atli will that forbid Then will you-two have
 launfundi, ok mun hún þér unna. Atli mun þik svíkja ok í
secret-meetings and will she thee love Atli will thee betray and in
 ormgarð setja, ok síðan mun Atli drepinn ok synir hans.
serpent-pit to-set and afterward will Atli killed and sons his
 Guðrún mun þá drepa. Síðan munu hana stórar bárur bera
Gudrun will them kill Then will her great waves bear
 til borgar Jónakrs konungs. Þar mun hún fæða ágæta sonu.
to stronghold of-Jonakr king There will she bear excellent sons

Svanhildr mun ór landi send ok gift Jörmunreki konungi.

Svanbild will out-of land sent and married to-formunrek king

Hana munu bíta Bikka ráð. Ok þá er farin öll ætt yður,

Her will bite of-Bikki counsels And then is gone all kin your

ok eru Guðrúnar harmar at meiri. Nú bið ek þik, Gunnarr,

and are of-Gudrun griefs at greater Now ask I thee Gunnar

efstu bænar: Lát gera eitt bál mikit á sléttum velli öllum

last boon Let to-make a pyre great on level field for-all

oss, mér ok Sigurði ok þeim, sem drepnir váru með

us for-me and for-Sigurd and for-those who killed were with

honum. Lát þar tjalda yfir af rauðu mannablóði ok brenna

him Let there to-hang over with red men's-blood and to-burn

mér þar á aðra hönd þenna inn hýnska konung, en á aðra

for-me there on one hand this the Hunnish king and on other

hönd honum mína menn, tvá at höfði, tvá at fótum, ok

hand to-him my men two at head two at feet and

tvá hauka. Þá er at jafnaði skipt. Látíð þar á milli okkar

two hawks Then is at evenness divided Let there in between of-us-two

brugðit sverð sem fyrr, er vit stigum á einn beð ok

drawn sword as before when we-two stepped into one bed and

hétum þá hjóna nafni. Ok eigi fellr honum þá hurð

were-called then of-married-couple by-name And not falls to-him then door

á hæla, ef ek fylgi honum, ok er vár leiðsla þá ekki

on heels if I follow him and is our funeral-train then not

aumlig, ef honum fylgja fimm ambáttir ok átta þjónar, er

wretched if him follow five bondwomen and eight servants whom

faðir minn gaf mér, ok þar brenna ok þeir, er drepnir váru

father my gave to-me and there to-burn also those who killed were

með Sigurði. Ok fleira munda ek mæla, ef ek væra eigi sár,

with Sigurd And more would I speak if I were not wounded

en nú þýtr undin, en sárit opnast, ok sagða ek þó satt.”

but now roars the-wound and the-wound opens and said I yet truly

Nú er búit um lík Sigurðar at fornum sið ok gert mikit
Now is prepared about corpse of-Sigurd in old custom and made great
 bál. Ok er þat er mjök í kynt, þá var þar lagt á ofan lík
pyre And when that is much in kindled then was there laid on above corpse
 Sigurðar Fáfnisbana ok sonar hans þrévetrs, er Brynhildr
of-Sigurd Fafnir's-bane and of-son his three-winters-old whom Brynhild
 lét drepa, ok Guttorms. Ok er bálit var allt loganda, gekk
had to-kill and of-Guttorm And when the-pyre was all flaming went
 Brynhildr þar á út ok mælti við skemmumeyjar sínar, at þær
Brynhild there on out and said to bower-maidens her that they
 tæki gull þat, er hún vildi gefa þeim. Ok eptir þetta deyr
should-take gold that which she wished to-give them And after this dies
 Brynhildr ok brann þar með Sigurði, ok lauk svá þeira ævi.
Brynhild and burned there with Sigurd and ended so their life

XXXII · GUÐRÚN IN DENMARK, AND THE HORN OF FORGETTING

Sigurðr's name, men say, will never grow old while the world stands. Guðrún goes out into the woods and then to King Hálfir in Denmark, where she works old deeds into a tapestry with Þóra Hákonardóttir for seven half-years. Grímhildr finds where she is, rides with her sons and five hundred men, and gives her a horn carved with every kind of stave and reddened with blood, so that she remembers no wrong. Against her will Guðrún is married to Atli, and there is little tenderness in their life together.

Nú segir þat hverr, er þessi tíðindi heyrir, at engi maðr mun
Now says that everyone who these tidings hears that no man will
 þvílíkr eptir í veröldunni ok aldri mun síðan borinn slíkr
such after in the-world and never will afterward born such
 maðr sem Sigurðr var fyrir hversvetna sakar ok hans nafn
man as Sigurd was for of-everything sakes and his name

mun aldri fynrast í þýðverskri tungu ok á Norðrlöndum,
will never grow-old in German tongue and in Northern-lands
 meðan heimrinn stendr. Þat er sagt einnhvern dag, þá er
while the-world stands That is said on-a-certain day then when
 Guðrún sat í skemmu sinni, þá mælti hún: "Betra var þá
Gudrun sat in bower her then said she Better was then
 vart líf, er ek átta Sigurð. Svá bar hann af öllum mönnum
our life when I had Sigurd So bore he from all men
 sem gull af járn eða laukur af öðrum grösum eða hjörtr
as gold from iron or leek from other grasses or hart
 af öðrum dýrum, unz bræðr mínir fyrirmundu mér slíks
from other beasts until brothers mine begrudged me such
 manns, er öllum var fremri. Eigi máttu þeir sofa, áðr þeir
man who than-all was greater Not could they sleep before they
 drápu hann. Mikinn gný gerði Grani, þá er hann sá sáran
killed him Great din made Grani then when he saw wounded
 sinn lánardrottin. Síðan rædda ek við hann sem við mann,
his liege-lord Then spoke I with him as with man
 en hann hnípti í jörðina ok vissi, at Sigurð var fallinn."
but he drooped into the-earth and knew that Sigurd was fallen
 Síðan hvarf Guðrún á brott á skóga ok heyrði alla vega
Then turned Gudrun off away into woods and heard all ways
 frá sér varga þyt ok þótti þá blíðara at deyja. Guðrún fór,
from her of-wolves howling and seemed then pleasanter to die Gudrun went
 unz hún kom til hallar Hálf konungs, ok sat þar með Þóru
until she came to hall of-Half king and sat there with Thora
 Hákonardóttur í Danmörku sjau misseri ok var þar í miklum
Hakon's-daughter in Denmark seven half-years and was there in great
 fagnaði ok sló borða yfir henni ok skrifaði þar á mörg
welcome and struck tapestry over her and drew there on many
 ok stór verk ok fagra leika, er tíðir váru í þann tíma,
and great deeds and fair games which customary were in that time

sverð ok brynjur ok allan konungs búnað, skip Sigmundar
swords and mail-coats and all king's gear ships of-Sigmund
 konungs, er skriðu fyrir land fram. Ok þat byrðu þær,
king which glided along land forth And that embroidered they
 er þeir börðust Sigarr ok Siggeirr á Fjöni suðr. Slíkt var
when they fought Sigar and Siggeir on Fyn south Such was
 þeira gaman, ok huggaðist Guðrún nú nokkut harms síns.
their pastime and comforted-herself Gudrun now somewhat of-grief her
 Þetta spyrr Grimhildr, hvar Guðrún er niðr komin, heimtir á
This learns Grimild where Gudrun is down come calls to
 tal sonu sína ok spyrr, hverju þeir vilja bæta Guðrúnu son
talk sons her and asks with-what they wish to-compensate Gudrun son
 sinn ok mann; kvað þeim þat skylt. Gunnarr segir, kveðst
her and husband said to-them that due Gunnar says says-himself
 vilja gefa henni gull ok bæta henni svá harma sína; senda
to-wish to-give her gold and to-amend to-her so grieves her to-send
 eptir vinum sínum ok búa hesta sína, hjálma, skjöldu, sverð
after friends their and to-prepare horses their helmets shields swords
 ok brynjur ok alls konar herklæði. Ok var þessi ferð búin it
and mail-coats and of-all kinds war-clothing And was this journey prepared the
 kurteisligsta, ok engi sá kappi, er mikill var, sat nú heima.
most-courtly and no that champion who great was sat now at-home
 Hestar þeira váru brynjaðir, ok hvern riddari hafði annathvart
Horses their were mailed and every knight had either
 gylltan hjálm eða skyggðan. Grimhildr ræðst í ferð með þeim
gilded helmet or burnished Grimild sets-out on journey with them
 ok segir þeira erendi svá fremi fullgert munu verða, at hún siti
and says their errand so far fully-done will become that she sit
 eigi heima. Þeir höfðu alls fimm hundruð manna. Þeir höfðu
not at-home They had in-all five hundred of-men They had
 ok ágæta menn með sér. Þar var Valdamarr af Danmörk ok
also excellent men with them There was Valdamar from Denmark and

Eymóðr ok Jarisleifr. Þeir gengu inn í höll Hálf konungs.

Eymod and Jarisleif They went in into hall of-Half king

Þar váru Langbarðar, Frakkar ok Saxar. Þeir fóru með öllum

There were Lombards Franks and Saxons They went with all

herbúnaði ok höfðu yfir sér loða rauða, sem kveðit er:

war-gear and had over them cloaks red as sung is

“Stuttar brynjur,

Short mail-coats

steypa hjálma,

cast helmets

skálmum gyrðir,

with-swords girt

ok höfðu skarar jarpar.”

and had locks chestnut

Þeir vildu velja systur sinni góðar gjafir ok mæltu vel við

They wished to-choose for-sister their good gifts and spoke well with

hana, en hún trúði engum þeira. Síðan færði Grímhildr henni

her but she trusted none of-them Then brought Grimbild to-her

meinsamligan drykk, ok varð hún við at taka ok mundi

harmful drink and had she at to take and remembered

síðan engar sakar. Sá drykkur var blandinn með jarðar

afterward no offenses That drink was mingled with of-earth

magni ok sæ ok dreyra sonar hennar, ok í því horni váru
strength and sea and blood of-son her and in that horn were
 ristnir hvers kyns stafir ok roðnir með blóði, sem hér segir:
carved of-every kind letters and reddened with blood as here says

“Váru í því horni
Were in that horn
 hvers kyns stafir
of-every kind letters
 ristnir ok roðnir,
carved and reddened
 ráða ek né máttak:
to-read I nor could-I
 lyngfiskr lagar,
heather-fish of-sea
 lands Haddingja
of-land of-Haddings
 ax óskorit,
ear-of-corn uncut
 innleið dyra.
in-way of-beasts

Váru þeim bjóri
Were in-that beer
 böl mörg saman:
banes many together
 urt alls viðar
herb of-all wood
 ok akarn brunnin,
and acorns burned

umbdögg arins,

soot-dew of-heart

iðrar blótnar,

entrails sacrificed

svíns lifr soðin,

of-swine liver boiled

því at sakar deyfði.”

because that offenses it-dulled

Ok eptir þat, er vili þeira kom saman, gerðist fagnaðr

And after that when wishes their came together became rejoicing

mikill. Þá mælti Grímhildr, er hún fann Guðrúnu: “Vel

great Then said Grimild when she found Gudrun Well

verði þér, dóttir, ek gef þér gull ok alls konar gripi at

be to-thee daughter I give thee gold and of-all kinds treasures to

þiggja eptir þinn föður, dýrlega hringa ok ársal hýnskra

receive after thy father precious rings and bed-hangings of-Hunnish

meyja, þeira er kurteisastar eru, þá er þér bættr þinn

maidens those who most-courtly are then is to-thee compensated thy

maðr. Síðan skal þik gifta Atla konungi inum ríka. Þá muntu

husband Then shall thee marry to-Atli king the mighty Then wilt-thou

ráða hans auði, ok lát eigi frændr þína fyrir sakir eins manns

rule his wealth and let not kinsmen thine for sakes of-one man

ok ger heldr sem vér biðjum.” Guðrún svarar: “Aldri vil ek

and do rather as we ask Gudrun answers Never wish I

eiga Atla konung, ok ekki samir okkr ætt saman at auka.”

to-have Atli king and not befits us-two kin together to increase

Grímhildr svarar: “Eigi skaltu nú á heiptir hyggja ok lát

Grimild answers Not shalt-thou now on hatreds think and let

sem lifi Sigurðr ok Sigmundr, ef þú átt sonu.” Guðrún segir:

as live Sigurd and Sigmund if thou hast sons Gudrun says

“Ekki má ek af honum hyggja; hann var öllum fremri.”

Not may I from him think he was than-all greater

Grímhildr segir: “Þenna konung mun þér skipat at eiga, en

Grimbild says This king will to-thee ordained to have and

engan skaltu elligar eiga.” Guðrún segir: “Bjóði þér mér eigi

none shalt-thou otherwise have Gudrun says Offer you to-me not

þenna konung, er illt eitt mun af standa þessi ætt, ok

this king whom evil alone will from stand to-this kin and

mun hann sonu þína illu beita, ok þar eptir mun honum

will he sons thine with-ill treat and there after will to-him

grimmu hefnt vera.” Grímhildi varð við hennar fortölur illa

grimly avenged be To-Grimbild became at her arguments ill

við um sonu sína ok mælti: “Ger sem vér beiðum, ok

about concerning sons her and said Do as we ask and

muntu þar fyrir taka mikinn metnað ok vára vináttu ok

wilt-thou there for take great honor and our friendship and

þessa staði, er svá heita: Vinbjörg ok Valbjörg.” Hennar

these places which so are-called Vinbjorg and Valbjorg Her

orð stóðust svá mikit, at þetta varð fram at ganga. Guðrún

words prevailed so much that this had forth to go Gudrun

mælti: “Þetta mun verða fram at ganga ok þó at mínum

said This will become forth to go and yet at my

óvilja, ok mun þat lítt til yndis, heldr til harma.” Síðan

unwillingness and will that little for delight rather for griefs Then

stíga þeir á hesta sína, ok eru konur þeira settar í vagna,

mount they on horses their and are women their set in wagons

ok fóru svá sjau daga á hestum, en aðra sjau á skipum ok

and went so seven days on horses and other seven on ships and

ina þriðju sjau enn landveg, þar til er þeir kómu at einni

the third seven again land-way there to when they came to a

hári höll. Henni gekk þar í mót mikit fjölmenni, ok var þar

high hall To-her went there in against great multitude and was there

búin ágætlig veizla, sem áðr höfðu orð í milli farit, ok fór
prepared splendid feast as before had words in between gone and went
 hún fram með sæmd ok mikilli prýði. Ok at þessi veizlu
it forth with honor and great magnificence And at this feast
 drekkir Atli brúðlaup til Guðrúnar. En aldri gerði hugr hennar
drinks Atli wedding to Gudrun But never did mind her
 við honum hlæja, ok með lítilli blíðu var þeira samvista.
toward him laugh and with little tenderness was their life-together

XXXIII · ATLI'S DREAMS, AND THE TWISTED RUNES

Atli dreams of a sword laid in him, of two reed-shoots torn up and reddened, of two hawks flying prey-less to hell and their hearts eaten with honey, and of whelps whose carrion he ate; Guðrún reads the first away as fire, but says the rest are not good dreams and will come to pass. Atli, who wants the gold that Sigurðr owned, sends Vingi to invite Gunnarr and Högni to a feast. Guðrún cuts runes of warning and knots a wolf's hair into a gold ring, but Vingi alters the runes on the way, and drunken Gunnarr promises to come.

Nú er þat sagt einhverja nótt, at Atli konungr vaknar ór
Now is that said on-a-certain night that Atli king wakes out-of
 svefni. Mælti hann við Guðrúnu: “Þat dreymdi mik,” segir
sleep Said he to Gudrun That dreamed me says
 hann, “at þú legðir á mér sverði.” Guðrún réð drauminn
he that thou didst-thrust at me with-sword Gudrun read the-dream
 ok kvað þat fyrir eldi, er járn dreymdi, — “ok dul þeir,
and said that for fire when iron was-dreamed and conceit that
 er þú ætlar þik öllum fremra.” Atli mælti: “Enn dreymdi
which thou thinkest thee than-all greater Atli said Again dreamed
 mik sem hér væri vaxnir tveir reyrtænar, ok vilda ek aldri
me as here were grown two reed-shoots and wished I never

skeðja. Síðan váru þeir rifnir upp með rótum ok roðnir í
to-harm Then were they torn up with roots and reddened in
 blóði ok bornir á bekki ok boðnir mér at eta. Enn dreymdi
blood and borne on benches and offered to-me to eat Again dreamed
 mik, at haukar tveir flygi mér af hendi ok væri bráðalausir
me that hawks two flew to-me off hand and were prey-less
 ok fóru til heljar. Þótti mér þeira hjörtum við hunang blandit,
and went to hell Seemed to-me their hearts with honey mingled
 ok þóttumst ek eta. Síðan þótti mér sem hvelpar fagrir lægi
and thought-myself I to-eat Then seemed to-me as whelps fair lay
 fyrir mér ok gullu við hátt, ok át ek hræ þeira at mínum
before me and howled at loud and ate I carrion their at my
 óvilja." Guðrún segir: "Eigi eru draumar góðir, en eptir
unwillingness Gudrun says Not are dreams good but after
 munu ganga. Synir þínir munu vera feigir, ok margir hlutir
will go Sons thine will be death-doomed and many things
 þungir munu oss at hendi koma." "Þat dreymdi mig enn,"
heavy will to-us at hand come That dreamed me again
 segir hann, "at ek lægja í kör ok væri ráðinn bani minn."
says he that I lay in sick-bed and were contrived death my
 Nú líðr þetta, ok er þeira samvista fálíg. Nú íhugar Atli
Now passes this and is their life-together cold Now ponders Atli
 konung, hvar niðr mun komit þat mikla gull, er átt
king where down will come that great gold which owned
 hafði Sigurðr, en þat veit nú Gunnarr konung ok þeir
had Sigurd but that knows now Gunnar king and those
 bræðr. Atli var mikill konung ok ríkr, vitr ok fjölmennr;
brothers Atli was great king and mighty wise and of-many-men
 gerir nú ráð við sína menn, hversu með skal fara. Hann
makes now counsel with his men how with shall go He
 veit, at þeir Gunnarr eigu miklu meira fé en né einir
knows that those Gunnar own much more wealth than nor any

menn megi við þá jafnast; tekr nú þat ráð at senda menn
men may with them equal takes now that counsel to send men
 á fund þeira bræðra ok bjóða þeim til veizlu ok at sæma
to meeting of-those brothers and to-invite them to feast and to honor
 þá mörgum hlutum. Sá maðr var fyrir þeim, er Vingi er
them with-many things That man was before them who Vingi is
 nefndr. Drottningin veit nú þeira einmæli ok grunar, at vera
named The-queen knows now their private-talk and suspects that be
 muni vélar við bræðr hennar. Guðrún rístr rúnar, ok hún
will treacheries against brothers her Gudrun carves runes and she
 tekr einn gullhring ok knýtti í vargshár ok fær þetta í
takes a gold-ring and knotted in wolf's-hair and gives this into
 hendr sendimönnum konungs. Síðan fóru þeir eptir konungs
hands of-messengers of-king Then went they after king's
 boði. Ok áðr þeir stigi á land, sá Vingi rúnarnar ok sneri
bidding And before they stepped on land saw Vingi the-runes and turned
 á aðra leið ok at Guðrún fýsti í rúnum, at þeir kæmi
to other way and that Gudrun urged in runes that they should-come
 á hans fund. Síðan kómu þeir til hallar Gunnars konungs,
to his meeting Then came they to hall of-Gunnar king
 ok var tekit við þeim vel ok gervir fyrir þeim eldar stórir.
and was taken with them well and made before them fires great
 Ok síðan drukku þeir með gleði inn bezta drykk. Þá mælti
And then drank they with joy the best drink Then said
 Vingi: "Atli konungr sendir mik hingat ok vildi, at þit
Vingi Atli king sends me hither and wished that you-two
 sættið hann heim með miklum sóma ok þægið af honum
visit him home with great honor and receive from him
 mikinn sóma, hjálma ok skjöldu, sverð ok brynjur, gull ok
great honor helmets and shields swords and mail-coats gold and
 góð klæði, herlið ok hesta ok mikit lén, ok ykkir lézt
good clothes war-troop and horses and great fief and to-you-two said

hann bezt unna síns ríkis." Þá brá Gunnarr höfði ok mælti
he best to-grant of-his realm Then turned Gunnar head and spoke
 til Högna: "Hvat skulum vit af þessu boði þiggja? Hann
to Hogni What shall we-two of this offer receive He
 býðr okkr at þiggja mikit ríki, en enga konunga veit ek
offers us-two to receive great realm but no kings know I
 jafnmikit gull eiga sem okkr, því at vit höfum þat gull
as-much gold to-own as us-two because that we-two have that gold
 allt, er á Gnitabeiði lá, ok eigum við stórar skemmur
all which on Gnitabeath lay and own we-two great storehouses
 fullar af gulli ok inum beztum höggvopnum ok alls konar
full of gold and the best hewing-weapons and of-all kinds
 herklæðum. Veit ek minn hestinn beztan ok sverðit hvassast,
war-clothing Know I my the-horse best and the-sword sharpest
 gullit ágætast." Högni svarar: "Undrumst ek boð hans, því
the-gold most-excellent Hogni answers Wonder-at I offer his because
 at þat hefir hann sjaldan gert, ok óráðligt mun vera at fara
that that has he seldom done and unadvisable will be to fare
 á hans fund, ok þat undrumst ek, er ek sá gersimar þær,
to his meeting and that wonder I that I saw treasures those
 er Atli konungr sendi okkr, at ek sá vargshári knýtt í
which Atli king sent us-two that I saw with-wolf's-hair knotted in
 einn gullhring, ok má vera, at Guðrúnu þykki hann úlfshug
a gold-ring and may be that to-Gudrun seems he wolf's-mind
 við okkr hafa ok vili hún eigi, at vit farim." Vingi sýnir
toward us-two to-have and wishes she not that we-two go Vingi shows
 honum nú rúnarnar þær, er hann kvað Guðrúnu sent hafa.
him now the-runes those which he said Gudrun sent to-have
 Nú gengr alþýða at sofa, en þeir drukku við nokkura menn.
Now goes (the)-company to sleep but they drank with some men
 Þá gekk at kona Högna, er hét Kostbera, kvenna fríðust,
Then came up wife of-Hogni who was-called Kostbera of-women fairest

ok leit á rúnarnar. Kona Gunnars hét Glaumvör, skörungur
and looked on the-runes Wife of-Gunnar was-called Glaumvor paragon
mikill. Þær skenktu. Konungar gerðust allmjök drukknir. Þat
great They poured (The)-kings became very-much drunk That
finnr Vingi ok mælti “Ekki er því at leyna, at Atli konungur
notices Vingi and said Not is that to conceal that Atli king
er þungfærr mjök ok gamlaðr mjök at verja sitt ríki, en synir
is heavy-moving much and aged much to defend his realm and sons
hans ungir ok til eingis færir. Nú vill hann gefa yðr vald yfir
his young and for nothing capable Now wishes he to-give you power over
ríkinu, meðan þeir eru svá ungir, ok ann yðr best at njóta.” Nú
the-realm while they are so young and grants you best to enjoy Now
var bæði, at Gunnarr var mjök drukinn, en boðit mikit ríki,
was both that Gunnar was much drunk and offered great realm
mátti ok eigi við sköpum vinna, heitr nú ferðinni ok segir
could also not against fates strive promises now the-journey and tells
Högna, bróður sínum. Hann svarar: “Yðart atkvæði mun standa
Hogni brother his He answers Your decision will stand
hljóta, ok fylgja mun ek þér, en ófúss em ek þessarar ferðar.”
must and follow will I thee but unwilling am I of-this journey

XXXIV · KOSTBERA’S READING

Kostbera, Högni’s wife, makes out the staves and sees that other runes have been carved over what lay beneath. She tells Högni the journey is ill-advised, and that either his sister missed a stave or someone else has spoiled them. She tells her dreams — a fierce river breaking the beams of the hall, a second breaking their feet, his coverlet burning, a bear that broke up the king’s high-seat, shook its paws, and had them all in its mouth at once, and an eagle that spattered them with blood — and Högni answers every one of them away.

Ok er menn höfðu drukkit sem líkaði, þá fóru þeir at
And when men had drunk as pleased then went they to
sofa. Tekr Kostbera at líta á rúnarnar ok innti stafina
sleep Takes Kostbera to look on the-runes and made-out the-letters
ok sá, at annat var á ristit, en undir var, ok villtar váru
and saw that other was on carved than beneath was and confused were
rúnirnar. Hún fekk þó skilit af vizku sinni. Eptir þat
the-runes She got yet understood by wisdom her After that
ferr hún til rekkju hjá bónda sínum. Ok er þau vöknud, *fares she to bed beside husband her*
mælti hún til Högni: “Heiman ætlar þú, ok er þat óráðligt.
said she to Hogni From-home intendest thou and is that unadvisable
Far heldr í annat sinn, ok eigi muntu vera glöggrýnn,
Fare rather in another time and not wilt-thou be keen-of-runes
ef þér þykkir sem hún hafi í þetta sinn boðit þér, systir
if to-thee seems as she has in this time invited thee sister
þín. Ek réð rúnarnar, ok undrumst ek um svá vitra konu,
thine I read the-runes and wonder I about so wise woman
er hún hefir villt ristit, en svá er undir sem bani yðarr
that she has confusedly carved but so is beneath as death your
liggi á, en þar var annathvart, at henni varð vant stafs,
lies on but there was either that to-her became lacking of-letter
eða elligar hafa aðrir villt. Ok nú skaltu heyra draum
or otherwise have others confused And now shalt-thou hear dream
minn: Þat dreymdi mik, at mér þótti hér falla inn á,
my That dreamed me that to-me seemed here to-fall in river
harðla ströng, ok bryti upp stokka í höllinni.” Hann svarar:
very strong and broke up beams in the-hall He answers
“Þér eruð oft illúðgar, ok á ek ekki skap til þess at fara
You are often ill-minded and have I no temper to that to go
illu í mót við menn, nema þat sé makligt. Mun hann
with-ill in against with men unless that is deserved Will be

oss vel fagna." Hún segir: "Þér munuð reyna, en eigi mun
us well greet She says You will find-out but not will
 vinátta fylgja boðinu. Ok enn dreymdi mik, at önnur á
friendship follow the-invitation And again dreamed me that another river
 felli hér inn ok þyti grimmliga ok bryti upp alla palla í
fell here in and roared grimly and broke up all daises in
 höllunni ok bryti fætr ykkra beggja bræðra, ok mun þat
the-ball and broke feet of-you-two both brothers and will that
 vera nakkvat." Hann svarar: "Þar munu renna akrar, er þú
be something He answers There will run fields where thou
 hugðir ána, ok er vér göngum akrinn, nema opt stórar
thoughtest the-river and when we walk the-field catch often great
 agnir fætr vára." "Þat dreymdi mik," segir hún, "at blæja
awns feet our That dreamed me says she that coverlet
 þín brynni ok hryti eldrinn upp af höllunni." Hann svarar:
thine burned and burst the-fire up from the-ball He answers
 "Þat veit ek gerla, hvat þat er: Klæði vár liggja hér lítt
That know I clearly what that is Clothes our lie here little
 rækt, ok munuð þau þar brenna, er þú hugðir blæjuna."
cared-for and will they there burn where thou thoughtest the-coverlet
 "Björn hugða ek hér inn koma," segir hún, "ok braut upp
Bear thought I here in to-come says she and broke up
 konungs hásetit ok hristi svá hrammana, at vér urðum öll
king's high-seat and shook so the-paws that we became all
 hrædd, ok hafði oss öll senn sér í munni, svá at ekki
afraid and had us all at-once for-itself in mouth so that nothing
 máttum vér, ok stóð þar af mikil ógn." Hann svarar: "Þar
could we and stood there from great terror He answers There
 mun koma veðr mikit, er þú ætlaðir hvítabjörn." "Örn
will come storm great where thou thoughtest white-bear Eagle
 þótti mér hér inn koma," segir hún, "ok eptir höllunni ok
seemed to-me here in to-come says she and along the-ball and

dreifði mik blóði ok oss öll, ok mun þat illt vita, því
sprinkled me with-blood and us all and will that ill portend because
 at mér þótti sem þat væri hamr Atla konungs." Hann
that to-me seemed as that were shape of-Atli king He
 svarar: "Opt slátrum vér örliga ok höggum stór naut oss
answers Often slaughter we lavishly and bew great cattle for-us
 at gamni, ok er þat fyrir yxnum, er örnu dreymir, ok
at pleasure and is that for oxen when eagles are-dreamed and
 mun heill hugr Atla við oss." Ok nú hætta þau þessu tali.
will whole mind of-Atli toward us And now cease they this talk

XXXV · GLAUMVÖR'S DREAMS, AND THE SAILING

Glaumvör dreams the same way: a bloody sword borne into the hall and Gunnarr run through with wolves howling at both ends, and mournful women choosing him for a husband. Gunnarr reads them away as well. Gunnarr calls for the good wine, saying it may be their last feast, and they row so hard that the oar-handles and thole-pins break. They leave the ships unmoored, ride to the burgh, and Vingi tells them the gallows is what he brought them for and is beaten to death with axe-hammers.

Nú er at segja frá Gunnari, at þar er sams dæmi, er
Now is to tell of Gunnar that there is of-same instance when
 þau vakna, at Glaumvör, kona Gunnars, segir drauma sína
they wake that Glaumvor wife of-Gunnar tells dreams her
 marga, þá er henni þóttu líkligir til svika, en Gunnarr
many those which to-her seemed likely to betrayals but Gunnar
 réð alla því á móti. "Þessi var einn af þeim," sagði hún,
read all that in against This was one of them said she
 "at mér þótti blóðugt sverð borit hér inn í höllina, ok
that to-me seemed bloody sword borne here in into the-hall and

vartu sverði lagðr í gegnum, ok emjuðu úlfar á báðum
wert-thou with-sword pierced in through and howled wolves at both
 endum sverðsins.” Konungrinn svarar: “Smáir hundar vilja
ends of-the-sword The-king answers Small dogs wish
 oss þar bíta, ok er oft hundagnöll fyrir vápnum með blóði
us there to-bite and is often dog-howling for weapons with blood
 lituðum.” Hún mælti: “Enn þótti mér hér inn koma konur,
colored She said Again seemed to-me here in to-come women
 ok váru daprligar, ok þik kjósa sér til manns. Má vera,
and were mournful and thee to-choose for-them for husband May be
 at þínar dísir hafi þat verit.” Hann svarar: “Vant gerist nú
that thy disir have that been He answers Hard becomes now
 at ráða, ok má ekki forðast sitt aldrag, en eigi ólíkt, at
to interpret and may not escape one's life-span and not unlikely that
 vér verðum skammæir.” Ok um morgininn spretta þeir upp
we become short-lived And in the-morning spring they up
 ok vilja fara, en aðrir löttu. Síðan mælti Gunnarr við þann
and wish to-go but others dissuaded Then said Gunnar to that
 mann, er Fjörnir hét: “Statt upp ok gef oss at drekka
man who Fjornir was-called Stand up and give us to drink
 af stórum kerum gott vín, því at vera má, at sjá sé vár
from great vessels good wine because that be may that this is our
 in síðasta veizla, ok nú mun inn gamli úlfrinn komast at
the last feast and now will the old the-wolf get at
 gullinu, ef vér deyjum, ok svá björninn mun eigi spara at
the-gold if we die and so the-bear will not spare to
 bíta sínum vígtönnum.” Síðan leiddi liðit þá út með gráti.
bite with-his war-teeth Then led the-force them out with weeping
 Sonr Högna mælti: “Farið vel ok hafið góðan tíma.” Eptir
Son of-Hogni said Fare well and have good time Behind
 var meiri hlutr liðs þeira. Sólar ok Snævarr, synir Högna,
was greater part of-force their Solar and Snaevar sons of-Hogni

fóru ok einn kappi mikill, er Orkningr hét. Hann var
went also a champion great who Orkning was-called He was
 bróðir Beru. Fólkit fylgdi þeim til skipa, ok löttu allir
brother of-Bera The-people followed them to ships and dissuaded all
 þá fararinnar, en ekki tjóaði. Þá mælti Glaumvör: "Vingi,
them of-the-journey but nothing availed Then said Glaumvor Vingi
 segir hún, "meiri ván, at mikil óhamingja standi af
says she greater expectation that great misfortune stands from
 þinni kvámu, ok munu stórtíðendi gerast í för þinni."
thy coming and will great-tidings happen in journey thy
 Hann svarar: "Þess sver ek, at ek lýg eigi, ok mik taki
He answers Of-that swear I that I lie not and me take
 hár gálgi ok allir gramir, ef ek lýg nakkvat orð." Ok lítt
high gallows and all fiends if I lie any word And little
 eirði hann sér í slíkum orðum. Þá mælti Bera: "Farið
spared he himself in such words Then said Bera Fare
 vel ok með góðum tíma." Högni svarar: "Verið kátar, hversu
well and with good time Hogni answers Be cheerful however
 sem með oss ferr." Þar skiljast þau með sínum forlögum.
as with us goes There part they with their fates
 Síðan reru þeir svá fast ok af miklu afli, at kjölrinn
Then rowed they so hard and with great strength that the-keel
 gekk undan skipinu mjök svá hálf. Þeir knúðu fast árar
went from-under the-ship very so half They drove hard oars
 með stórum bakföllum, svá at brotnuðu hlumir ok háir.
with great back-strokes so that broke oar-handles and thole-pins
 Ok er þeir kómu at landi, festu þeir ekki skip sín. Síðan
And when they came to land fastened they not ships their Then
 riðu þeir sínum ágætum hestum myrkvan skóg um hríð. Nú
rode they on-their excellent horses dark wood for while Now
 sjá þeir konungsbæinn. Þangat heyra þeir mikinn gný ok
see they the-king's-farm Thither hear they great din and

vápnabrák ok sjá þar mannfjölda ok mikinn viðrbúnað, er
weapon-clash and see there multitude and great preparation which
 þeir höfðu, ok öll borgarhlið váru full af mönnum. Þeir
they had and all stronghold-gates were full of men They
 ríða at borginni, ok var hún byrgð. Högni braut upp hliðit,
ride to the-stronghold and was it shut Hogni broke up the-gate
 ok ríða nú í borgina. Þá mælti Vingi: “Þetta mættir
and ride now into the-stronghold Then said Vingi This mightest
 þú vel ógert hafa, ok bíðið nú hér, meðan ek saki yðr
thou well undone have and wait now here while I fetch for-you
 gálgatré. Ek bað yðr með blíðu hér koma, en flátt bjó
gallows-tree I bade you with kindness here to-come but deceit dwelt
 undir. Nú mun skammt at bíða, áðr þér munuð upp festir.”
beneath Now will short to wait before you will up hanged
 Högni svarar: “Eigi munu vér fyrir þér vægja, ok lítt hygg
Hogni answers Not will we before thee yield and little think
 ek, at vér hrykkim þar, er menn skyldu berjast, ok ekki
I that we flinch there where men should fight and nothing
 tjóar þér oss at hræða, ok þat mun þér illa gefast.”
avails to-thee us to frighten and that will for-thee ill turn-out
 Hrundu honum síðan ok börðu hann öxarhömrum til bana.
Thrust him then and beat him with-axe-hammers to death

XXXVI • THE BATTLE IN ATLI'S BURG

Atli asks for the gold that Sigurðr owned and Guðrún now owns; Gunnarr answers that he will get valiant men instead. When the fighting starts Guðrún throws off her cloak, goes out and kisses her brothers, then puts on a mail-coat, takes a sword, and fights beside them. Nineteen of Atli's champions fall, and in the lull he and Högni count over their grievances against each other.

Þeir ríða nú at konungshöllinni. Atli konungr skipar liði sínu
They ride now to the-king's-hall Atli king arranges force his
 til orrostu, ok svá vikust fylkingar, at garðr nokkurr varð í
for battle and so turned battle-lines that fence some was in
 millum þeira. “Verið velkomnir með oss,” segir hann, “ok fáðið
between them Be welcome with us says he and give
 mér gull þat it mikla, er vér erum til komnir, þat fé,
to-me gold that the great which we are for come that wealth
 er Sigurðr átti, en nú á Guðrún.” Gunnarr segir: “Aldri
which Sigurd owned but now owns Gudrun Gunnar says Never
 fær þú þat fé, ok dugandi menn munu þér hér fyrir
gettest thou that wealth and valiant men will you here before
 hitta, áðr vér látim lífit, ef þér bjóðið oss ófrið. Kann vera,
meet before we lose the-life if you offer us strife May be
 at þú veitir þessa vezlu stórmannliga ok af lítilli eymd
that thou grantest this feast magnificently and with little stinginess
 við örn ok úlf.” “Fyrir löngu hafða ek þat mér í hug,”
toward eagle and wolf For long had I that to-me in mind
 segir Atli, “at ná yðru lífi, en ráða gullinu ok launa yðr
says Atli to take your life and to-rule the-gold and to-repay you
 þat níðingsverk, er þér svikuð yðarn inn bezta mág, ok skal
that villainy that you betrayed your the best in-law and shall
 ek hans hefna.” Högni svarar: “Þat kemr yðr verst at haldi
I him avenge Hogni answers That comes to-you worst at bold
 at liggja lengi á þessu ráði, en eruð þó at engu búnir.”
to lie long on this plan and are yet at nothing ready
 Nú slær í orrostu harða, ok er fyrst skothrið. Ok nú
Now strikes into battle hard and is first shot-storm And now
 koma fyrir Guðrúnu tíðendin. Ok er hún heyrir þetta,
come before Gudrun the-tidings And when she hears this
 verðr hún við gneyp ok kastar af sér skikkjunni. Eptir þat
becomes she at grim and casts off herself the-cloak After that

gekk hún út ok heilsaði þeim, er komnir váru, ok kyssti
went she out and greeted those who come were and kissed
 bræðr sína ok sýndi þeim ást, ok þessi var þeira kveðja in
brothers her and showed to-them love and this was their greeting the
 síðasta. Þá mælti hún: “Ek þóttumst ráð hafa við sett,
last Then said she I thought-myself counsel to-have against set
 at eigi kæmi þér, en engi má við sköpum vinna.” Þá
that not should-come you but none may against fates strive Then
 mælti hún: “Mun nokkut tjóa at leita um sættir?” En
said she Will anything avail to seek about reconciliations But
 allir neituðu því þverliga. Nú sér hún, at sárt er leikit við
all refused that flatly Now sees she that sorely is played with
 bræðr hennar; hyggur nú á harðræði, fór í brynju ok tók
brothers her thinks now on hard-measures went into mail-coat and took
 sér sverð ok barðist með bræðrum sínum ok gekk svá fram
for-her sword and fought with brothers her and went so forth
 sem inn hraustasti karlmaðr, ok þat sögðu allir á einn veg,
as the bravest man and that said all on one way
 at varla sæi meiri vörn en þar. Nú gerist mikit mannfall,
that hardly one-saw greater defense than there Now becomes great slaughter
 ok berr þó af framganga þeira bræðra. Orrostan stendr nú
and bears yet away advance of-those brothers The-battle stands now
 lengi fram, allt um miðjan dag. Gunnarr ok Högni gengu í
long forth all about middle day Gunnar and Hogni went in
 gegnum fylkingar Atla konungs, ok svá er sagt, at allr völlr
through battle-lines of-Atli king and so is said that all field
 flaut í blóði. Synir Höгна ganga nú hart fram. Atli konungr
floated in blood Sons of-Hogni go now hard forth Atli king
 mælti: “Vér höfum lið mikit ok frítt ok stóra kapp, en
said We have force great and fair and great champions but
 nú eru margir af oss fallnir, ok eigum vér yðr illt at launa,
now are many of us fallen and have we you evil to repay

drepit níttján kappá mína, en ellefu einir eru eptir." Ok verðr
killed nineteen champions mine and eleven only are left And becomes
 hvíld á bardaganum. Þá mælti Atli konungur: "Fjórir váru vér
rest in the-battle Then said Atli king Four were we
 bræðr, ok em ek nú einn eptir. Ek hlaut mikla mægð, ok
brothers and am I now alone left I got great in-law-tie and
 hugða ek mér þat til frama. Konu átta ek væna ok vitra,
thought I for-me that for advancement Wife had I fair and wise
 stórlynda ok harðuðga, en ekki má ek njóta hennar vizku,
great-minded and hard-hearted but not may I enjoy her wisdom
 því at sjaldan váru vit sátt. Þér hafið nú drepit marga
because that seldom were we-two at-peace You have now killed many
 mína frændr, en svikit mik frá ríkinu ok fénu, ráðit systur
my kinsmen and betrayed me from the-realm and the-wealth destroyed sister
 mína, ok þat harmar mik mest." Högni segir: "Hví getr
mine and that grieves me most Hogni says Why mentionest
 þú slíks? Þér brugðuð fyrri friði. Þú tókt mína frændkonu
thou of-such You broke first peace Thou tookest my kinswoman
 ok sveltir í hel ok myrðir ok tókt féit, ok var þat
and starvedst to death and murderedst and tookest the-wealth and was that
 eigi konungligt, ok hlægligt þykkir mér, er þú tínir þinn
not kingly and laughable seems to-me that thou recountest thy
 harm, ok goðunum vil ek þat þakka, er þér gengr illa."
grief and to-the-gods wish I that to-thank that for-thee goes ill

All the brothers' men fall and the two of them are taken. Gunnarr will tell where the gold is only when he has seen his brother's heart bloody; the thrall Hjalli's heart is cut out first and Gunnarr knows it by its trembling. Högni laughs while his own is taken. Then Gunnarr says the Rhine shall keep the gold sooner than the Huns wear it. He is set in a serpent-pit with his hands bound, plays the harp Guðrún sends him with his toes until every serpent sleeps but one, and dies of its bite.

Nú eggjar Atli konungr liðit at gera harða sókn; berjast nú
Now urges Atli king the-force to make hard attack fight now
 snarpliga, ok sækja Gjúkungar at svá fast, at Atli konungr
sharply and press the-Gjukungs on so hard that Atli king
 hrökkkr inn í höllina, ok berjast nú inni, ok var orrostan
recoils in into the-ball and fight now inside and was the-battle
 allhörð. Sjá bardagi varð með miklu mannspelli ok lýkr svá,
very-hard This fight became with great man-loss and ends so
 at fellr allt lið þeira bræðra, svá at þeir standa tveir upp,
that falls all force of-those brothers so that they stand two up
 ok fór áðr margr maðr til heljar fyrir þeira vápnum. Nú
and went before many man to hell before their weapons Now
 er sótt at Gunnari konungi, ok fyrir sakir ofreflis
is pressed at Gunnar king and for sakes of-overwhelming-force
 var hann höndum tekinn ok í fjötra settr. Síðan barðist
was he by-hands taken and in fetters set Then fought
 Högni af mikilli hreysti ok drengskap ok felldi ina stærstu
Hogni with great valor and manliness and felled the greatest
 kappa Atla konungs tuttugu. Hann hratt mörgum í þann
champions of-Atli king twenty He thrust many into that
 eld, er þar var gerr í höllunni. Allir urðu á eitt sáttir,
fire which there was made in the-ball All became on one agreed
 at varla sæi slíkan mann. En þó varð hann at lyktum
that hardly one-saw such man But yet became he at last

ofrliði borinn ok höndum tekinn. Atli konungr mælti:
by-overwhelming-force borne and by-hands taken Atli king said
 “Mikil furða er þat, hve margr maðr hér hefir farit fyrir
Great wonder is that how many man here has gone before
 honum. Nú skeri ór honum hjartat, ok sé þat hans bani.”
him Now let-cut out-of him the-heart and let-be that his death
 Högni mælti: “Geri sem þér líkar. Glæðliga mun ek hér
Hogni said Let-do as to-thee pleases Gladly will I here
 biða þess, er þér vilið at gera, ok þat muntu skilja, at
await that which you wish to do and that wilt-thou understand that
 eigi er hjarta mitt hrætt, ok reynt hefi ek fyrr harða hluti,
not is heart my afraid and tried have I before hard things
 ok var ek gjarn at þola mannraun, þá er ek var ósárr.
and was I eager to endure man-trial then when I was unwounded
 En nú eru vér mjök sárir, ok muntu einn ráða várum
But now are we much wounded and wilt-thou alone rule our
 skiptum.” Þá mælti ráðgjafi Atla konungs: “Sé ek betra ráð:
dealings Then said counselor of-Atli king See I better plan
 Tökum heldr þrælinn Hjalla, en forðum Höгна. Þræll þessi
Let-us-take rather the-thrall Hjalli and let-us-spare Hogni Thrall this
 er skapdauði. Hann lifir eigi svá lengi, at hann sé eigi
is fate-doomed He lives not so long that he is not
 dáligr.” Þrællinn heyrir ok æpir hátt ok hleypr undan, hvert
wretched The-thrall hears and shrieks loud and runs away wherever
 er honum þykkir skjóls ván, kveðst illt hljóta af ófriði
that to-him seems of-shelter expectation says-himself ill to-get from strife
 þeira ok váss at gjalda; kveðr þann dag illan vera, er
their and of-hardship to pay calls that day ill to-be when
 hann skal deyja frá sínum góðum kostum ok svína geymslu.
he shall die from his good conditions and of-swine keeping
 Þeir þrifu hann ok brugðu at honum knífi. Hann æpti hátt,
They seized him and drew at him knife He shrieked loud

áðr hann kenndi oddsins. Þá mælti Högni, sem færum er
before he felt of-the-point Then said Hogni as for-few is
 títt, þá er í mannraun koma: Hann árnaði þrælinum lífs
usual then when into man-trial come He obtained for-the-thrall of-life
 ok kveðst eigi vilja skræktun heyra, kvað sér minna fyrir
and says-himself not to-wish shrieking to-bear said to-him less before
 at fremja þenna leik. Þrællinn varð feginn ok þá fjörít.
to perform this game The-thrall became glad and received the-life
 Nú eru þeir báðir í fjötra settir, Gunnarr ok Högni. Þá
Now are they both in fetters set Gunnar and Hogni Then
 mælti Atli konungr til Gunnars konungs, at hann skyldi
said Atli king to Gunnar king that he should
 segja til gullsins, ef hann vill lífit þiggja. Hann svarar: “Fyrr
tell of the-gold if he wishes the-life to-receive He answers Sooner
 skal ek sjá hjarta Högna, bróður míns, blóðugt.” Ok nú þrifu
shall I see heart of-Hogni brother my bloody And now seized
 þeir þrællinn í annat sinn ok skáru ór honum hjartat ok
they the-thrall in second time and cut out-of him the-heart and
 báru fyrir konunginn Gunnar. Hann svarar: “Hjarta Hjalla má
bore before the-king Gunnar He answers Heart of-Hjalli may
 hér sjá ins blauða ok er ólíkt hjarta Högna ins frækna, því
here see the craven and is unlike heart of-Hogni the valiant because
 at nú skelfr mjök, en hálfu meir, þá er í brjósti honum
that now trembles much but by-half more then when in breast to-him
 lá.” Nú gengu þeir eptir eggjun Atla konungs at Högna ok
lay Now went they after urging of-Atli king at Hogni and
 skáru ór honum hjartat. Ok svá var mikill þróttr hans, at
cut out-of him the-heart And so was great strength his that
 hann hló, meðan hann beið þessa kvöl, ok allir undruðust
he laughed while he awaited this torment and all wondered-at
 þrek hans, ok þat er síðan at minnum haft. Þeir sýndu
fortitude his and that is since at memories held They showed

Gunnari hjarta Högna. Hann svarar: "Hér má sjá hjarta
to-Gunnar heart of-Hogni He answers Here may see heart
Högnar ins frækna ok er ólíkt hjarta Hjalla ins blauða, því
of-Hogni the valiant and is unlike heart of-Hjalli the craven because
at nú hrærist lítt, en miðr, meðan í brjósti honum lá. Ok
that now stirs little but less while in breast to-him lay And
svá muntu, Atli, láta þitt líf, sem nú látum vér. Ok nú veit
so wilt-thou Atli lose thy life as now lose we And now know
ek einn, hvar gullit er, ok mun eigi Högni segja þér. Mér
I alone where the-gold is and will not Hogni tell thee To-me
lék ýmist í hug, þá er vit lifðum báðir, en nú hefi
played variously in mind then when we-two lived both but now have
ek einn ráðit fyrir mér. Skal Rín nú ráða gullinu, fyrr en
I alone decided for myself Shall Rhine now rule the-gold sooner than
Hýnir beri þat á höndum sér." Atli konungr mælti: "Farið
Huns bear that on hands their Atli king said Fare
á brott með bandingjann." Ok svá var gert. Guðrún kveðr
off away with the-prisoner And so was done Guðrun calls
nú með sér menn ok hittir Atla ok segir: "Gangi þér nú
now with her men and meets Atli and says May-go for-thee now
illa ok eptir því, sem þér hélduð orð við mik ok Gunnar."
ill and after that as you kept word with me and Gunnar
Nú er Gunnarr konungr settr í einn ormgarð. Þar váru
Now is Gunnar king set in a serpent-pit There were
margir ormar fyrir, ok váru hendr hans fast bundnar. Guðrún
many serpents before and were hands his fast bound Guðrun
sendi honum hörpu eina, en hann sýndi sína list ok sló
sent to-him harp a and he showed his skill and struck
hörpuna með mikilli list, at hann drap strengina með tánum
the-harp with great skill that he struck the-strings with the-toes
ok lék svá vel ok afbragðliga, at fáir þóttust heyrt hafa
and played so well and outstandingly that few thought-themselves heard to-have

svá með höndum slegit, ok þar til lék hann þessa íþrótt,
so with hands struck and there to played he this art
 at allir sofnuðu ormarnir, nema ein naðra mikil ok illilig
that all fell-asleep the-serpents except one adder great and evil-looking
 skreið til hans ok gróf inn sínum rana, þar til er hún
crawled to him and dug in with-its snout there to when it
 hjó hans hjarta, ok þar lét hann sitt líf með mikilli hreysti.
struck his heart and there lost he his life with great valor

XXXVIII · THE VENGEANCE OF GUÐRÚN

Atli boasts of his victory and offers Guðrún compensation; she asks instead for a great funeral feast and makes herself gentle in words. She kills Atli's two sons at their play, has their skulls made into cups and their blood mixed with the wine, and roasts their hearts for their father to eat. Then with Högni's son Niflungr she thrusts a sword into Atli as he sleeps, promises him a stately grave, and sets fire to the hall over all his retinue.

Atli konungr þóttist nú hafa unnit mikinn sigr ok
Atli king thought-himself now to-have won great victory and
 sagði Guðrúnu svá sem með nokkuru spotti eða svá sem
told Gudrun so as with some mockery or so as
 hann hældist: “Guðrún,” segir hann, “misst hefir þú nú
he boasted Gudrun says he lost hast thou now
 bræðra þinna, ok veldr þú því sjálf.” Hún svarar: “Vel líkar
brothers thine and causest thou that thyself She answers Well pleases
 þér nú, er þú lýsir vígum þessum fyrir mér, en vera má,
thee now when thou declarest slayings these before me but be may
 at þú iðrist, þá er þú reynir þat, er eptir kemr, ok sú
that thou repent then when thou provest that which after comes and that
 mun erfðin lengst eptir lifa at týna eigi grimmdinni, ok
will the-inheritance longest after live to lose not the-grimness and

mun þér eigi vel ganga, meðan ek lifi." Hann svarar: "Vít
will for-thee not well go while I live He answers We-two
 skulum nú gera okkra sætt, ok vil ek bæta þér bræðr
shall now make our-two peace and wish I to-compensate thee brothers
 þína með gulli ok dýrum gripum eptir þínum vilja." Hún
thine with gold and precious treasures after thy wish She
 svarar: "Lengi hefi ek eigi verit hæg viðreignar, ok mátti um
answers Long have I not been easy of-dealing and might about
 hræfa, meðan Högni lifði. Muntu ok aldri bæta bræðr mína
bear while Hogni lived Wilt-thou also never compensate brothers mine
 svá, at mér hugni, en opt verðu vér konurnar ríki bornar
so that to-me pleases but often are we the-women by-power borne
 af yðru valdi. Nú eru mínir frændr allir dauðir, ok muntu
by your might Now are my kinsmen all dead and wilt-thou
 nú einn við mik ráða. Mun ek nú þenna kost upp taka, ok
now alone with me rule Will I now this choice up to-take and
 látum gera mikla veizlu, ok vil ek nú erfa bræðr
let-us to-make great feast and wish I now to-hold-funeral-feast brothers
 mína ok svá þína frændr." Gerir hún sik nú blíða í orðum,
mine and so thy kinsmen Makes she herself now gentle in words
 en þó var samt undir raunar. Hann var talhlýðinn ok trúði
but yet was same beneath in-truth He was credulous and believed
 á hennar orð, er hún gerði sér létt um ræður. Guðrún
on her words when she made for-her light about speeches Gudrun
 gerir nú erfi eptir sína bræðr ok svá Atli konungr
makes now funeral-feast after her brothers and so Atli king
 eptir sína menn, ok þessi veizla var við mikla svörfun.
after his men and this feast was with great tumult
 Nú hyggr Guðrún á harma sína ok sitr um þat at veita
Now thinks Gudrun on griefs her and sits about that to give
 konungi nokkura mikla skömm. Ok um kveldit tók hún
to-king some great shame And in the-evening took she

sonu þeira Atla konungs, er þeir léku við stokki. Sveinarnir
sons of-them of-Atli king when they played at beam The-boys
 glúpnúðu ok spurðu, hvat þeir skyldu. Hún svarar: “Spyrið
grew-downcast and asked what they should She answers Ask
 eigi at. Bana skal ykkur báðum.” Þeir svöruðu: “Ráða
not at Death shall to-you-two both They answered Rule
 muntu börnum þínum sem þú vilt. Þat mun engi banna
wilt-thou children thine as thou wishest That will none forbid
 þér. En þér er skömm í at gera þetta.” Síðan skar hún
thee But to-thee is shame in to do this Then cut she
 þá á háls. Konungrinn spurði eptir, hvar synir hans væri.
them on throat The-king asked after where sons his were
 Guðrún svarar: “Ek mun þat segja þér ok glaða þitt hjarta:
Gudrun answers I will that tell thee and gladden thy heart
 Þú vaktir við oss mikinn harm, þá er þú drapt bræðr
Thou stirredst with us great grief then when thou killedst brothers
 mína. Nú skaltu heyra mína ræðu: Þú hefir misst þinna
mine Now shalt-thou hear my speech Thou hast lost thy
 sona, ok eru þeira hausar hér at borðkerum hafðir, ok sjálfr
sons and are their skulls here for table-vessels had and thyself
 drakktu þeira blóð við vín blandit. Síðan tók ek hjörtu
drankest-thou their blood with wine mingled Then took I hearts
 þeira ok steikta ek á teini, en þú ázt.” Atli konungr svarar:
their and roasted I on spit and thou atest Atli king answers
 “Grimm ertu, er þú myrðir sonu þína ok gaft mér þeira
Grim art-thou that thou murderedst sons thine and gavest to-me their
 hold at eta, ok skammt lætr þú illt í milli.” Guðrún segir:
flesh to eat and short lettest thou of-ill in between Gudrun says
 “Væri minn vili til at gera þér miklar skammir, ok verðr
Were my wishes to to do to-thee great shames and becomes
 eigi fullilla farit við slíkan konung.” Konungr mælti: “Verra
not fully-ill done with such king King said Worse

hefir þú gert en menn viti dæmi til, ok er mikil óvizka í
hast thou done than men know examples of and is great folly in
 slíkum harðræðum, ok makligt, at þú værir á báli brennd
such hard-deeds and deserved that thou wert on pyre burned
 ok barin áðr grjóti í hel, ok hefðir þú þá þat, er þú
and beaten before with-stones to death and hadst thou then that which thou
 ferr á leið." Hún svarar: "Þú spár þat þér sjálfum, en ek
farest on way She answers Thou prophesiest that for-thee thyself but I
 mun hljóta annan dauða." Þau mæltust við mörg heiptarorð.
will get other death They spoke-together with many hate-words
 Högni átti son eptir, er Niflung hét. Hann hafði mikla
Hogni had son left who Niflung was-called He had great
 heipt við Atla konung ok sagði Guðrúnu, at hann vildi
hatred against Atli king and said to-Gudrun that he wished
 hefna föður síns. Hún tók því vel, ok gera ráð sín. Hún
to-avenge father his She took that well and make plans their She
 kvað mikit happ í, ef þat yrði gert. Ok of kveldit, er
said great luck in if that were done And in the-evening when
 konungur hafði drukkit, gekk hann til svefns. Ok er hann
king had drunk went he to sleep And when he
 var sofnaðr, kom Guðrún þar ok sonr Högna. Guðrún tók
was asleep came Gudrun there and son of-Hogni Gudrun took
 eitt sverð ok leggr fyrir brjóst Atla konungi. Vela þau um
a sword and thrusts before breast to-Atli king Contrive they about
 bæði ok sonr Högna. Atli konungur vaknar við sárit ok
both and son of-Hogni Atli king wakes at the-wound and
 mælti: "Eigi mun hér þurfa um at binda eða umbúð at veita,
said Not will here need about to bind or dressing to give
 eða hverr veitir mér þenna áverka?" Guðrún segir: "Ek veld
or who gives to-me this wound Gudrun says I cause
 nokkuru um, en sumu sonr Högna." Atli konungur mælti:
somewhat about and some son of-Hogni Atli king said

“Eigi sæmndi þér þetta at gera, þó at nokkur sök væri til,
Not befitted thee this to do though that some cause were for
 ok vartu mér gift at frænda ráði, ok mund galt ek við
and wert-thou to-me married at of-kinsmen counsel and bride-price paid I for
 þér, þrjá tigu góðra riddara ok sæmiligra meyja ok marga
thee three tens of-good knights and of-honorable maidens and many
 menn aðra, ok þó léztu þér eigi at hófi, nema þú
men other and yet lettest-thou for-thee not at moderation unless thou
 réðir löndum þeim, er átt hafði Buðli konungr, ok þína
ruledst lands those which owned had Budli king and thy
 sværu léztu opt með gráti sitja.” Guðrún mælti: “Margt
mother-in-law lettest-thou often with weeping to-sit Gudrun said Much
 hefir þú mælt ósatt, ok ekki hirði ek þat, ok opt var ek
hast thou spoken untruly and not care I that and often was I
 óhæg í mínu skapi, en miklu jók þú á. Hér hefir verit opt
difficult in my temper but much addedst thou on Here has been often
 mikil styrjöld í þínum garði, ok börðust opt frændr ok vinir,
great turmoil in thy court and fought often kinsmen and friends
 ok ýfðist hvat við annat ok var betri ævi vár þá, er ek var
and chafed each with other and was better life ours then when I was
 með Sigurði, drápum konunga ok réðum um eignir þeira
with Sigurd we-killed kings and ruled over possessions their
 ok gáfum grið þeim, er svá vildu, en höfðingjar gengu á
and gave quarter to-those who so wished and chieftains went on
 hendr oss, ok létum þann ríkan, er svá vildi. Síðan misstum
hands to-us and let that-one mighty who so wished Then lost
 vér hans, ok var þat lítit at bera ekkjunafn, en þat harmar
we him and was that little to bear widow-name but that grieves
 mik mest, er ek kom til þín, en átt áðr inn ágætza
me most that I came to thee but had before the most-excellent
 konung, ok aldri komtu svá ór orrostu, at eigi bærir þú
king and never camest-thou so out-of battle that not borest thou

inn minna hlut." Atli konungr svarar: "Eigi er þat satt, ok
the lesser part Atli king answers Not is that true and
við slíkar fortölur batnar hvárigra hluti, því at vér höfum
with such arguments improves of-neither part because that we have
skarðan. Ger nú til mín sómasamliga ok lát búa um
diminished Do now toward me honorably and let to-prepare about
lík mitt til ágætis." Hún segir: "Þat mun ek gera at láta
corpse my for distinction She says That will I do to let
þér gera vegligan gröft ok gera þér virðuliga steinþró
for-thee to-make stately grave and to-make for-thee honorable stone-coffin
ok vefja þik í fögrum dúkum ok hyggja þér hverja þörf."
and to-wrap thee in fair cloths and to-consider for-thee every need
Eptir þat deyr hann. En hún gerði sem hún hét. Síðan lét hún
After that dies he But she did as she promised Then let she
slá eldi í höllina. Ok er hirðin vaknaði við óttann, þá
to-strike fire into the-hall And when the-retinue woke at the-terror then
vildu menn eigi þola eldinn ok hjuggust sjálfir ok fengu
wished men not to-endure the-fire and bewed-one-another themselves and got
svá bana. Lauk þar ævi Atla konungs ok allrar hirðar hans.
so death Ended there life of-Atli king and of-all retinue his
Guðrún vildi nú eigi lifa eptir þessi verk, en endadagr
Gudrun wished now not to-live after these deeds but end-day
hennar var eigi enn kominn. Völsungar ok Gjúkungar, at því
her was not yet come Volsungs and Gjukungs at that
er menn segja, hafa verit mestir ofrhugar ok ríkismenn,
which men say have been greatest men-of-daring and men-of-power
ok svá finnst í öllum fornkvæðum. Ok nú stöðvaðist þessi
and so is-found in all old-poems And now stopped this
ófriðr með þeima hætti at liðnum þessum tíðendum.
strife with this manner at passed these tidings

Guðrún's daughter by Sigurðr is Svanhildr, fairest of women, with her father's keen eyes. Guðrún takes stones in her arms and walks into the sea to drown, but great waves carry her to the burgh of King Jónakr, who marries her. Their sons are Hamðir, Sörli, and Erpr, and Svanhildr is brought up there.

Guðrún átti dóttur við Sigurði, er Svanhildr hét. Hún var
Guðrun had daughter by Sigurd who Svanbild was-called She was
 allra kvenna vænst ok hafði snör augu sem faðir hennar, svá at
of-all women fairest and had keen eyes as father her so that
 fár einn þorði at sjá undir hennar brýnn. Hún bar svá mjök af
few one dared to look under her brows She bore so much from
 öðrum konum um vænleik sem sól af öðrum himintunglum.
other women in beauty as sun from other heaven-bodies
 Guðrún gekk eitt sinn til sævar ok tók grjót í fang sér ok
Guðrun went one time to sea and took stones in arms her and
 gekk á sæinn út ok vildi tapa sér. Þá hófu hana stórar
went on the-sea out and wished to-destroy herself Then lifted her great
 báru fram eptir sjánum, ok fluttist hún með þeira fulltingi
waves forth along the-sea and was-carried she with their help
 ok kom um síðir til borgar Jónakrs konungs. Hann var ríkr
and came at last to stronghold of-Jonakr king He was mighty
 konungr ok fjölmennr. Hann fekk Guðrúnar. Þeira börn váru
king and of-many-men He married Guðrun Their children were
 þeir Hamðir ok Sörli ok Erpr. Svanhildr var þar upp fædd.
those Hamdir and Sorli and Erp Svanbild was there up reared

King Jörmunrekr sends his son Randvér and his counselor Bikki to ask for Svanhildr. On the ship Bikki tells Randvér that so fair a woman would better suit him than an old man, and afterward tells the king that his son has her love. Randvér is hanged, plucking a hawk bare and sending it to his father as a token, and the king's order to take him down comes too late. At Bikki's word Svanhildr is bound in the burgh-gate to be trampled, and the horses will not tread her until her eyes are covered.

Jörmunrekr hefir konungr heitit. Hann var ríkr konungr
Jormunrek has king been-called He was mighty king
 í þann tíma. Hans sonr hét Randvér. Konungr heimtír
in that time His son was-called Randver King calls
 á tal son sinn ok mælti: “Þú skalt fara mína sendiför til
to talk son his and said Thou shalt fare my embassy to
 Jónakrs konungs ok minn ráðgjafi, er Bikki heitir. Þar er
Jonakr king and my counselor who Bikki is-called There is
 upp fædd Svanhildr, dóttir Sigurðar Fáfnisbana, er ek veit
up reared Svanbild daughter of-Sigurd Fafnir's-bane whom I know
 fegrsta mey undir heimsólu. Hana vilda ek helzt eiga, ok
fairest maiden under world-sun Her wished I rather to-have and
 hennar skaltu biðja til handa mér.” Hann segir: “Skylt er
for-her shalt-thou ask to hands for-me He says Due is
 þat, herra, at ek fara yðra sendiför.” Lætr nú búa ferð
that lord that I fare your embassy Lets now to-prepare journey
 þeira sæmiliga. Fara þeir nú, unz þeir koma til Jónakrs
their honorably Fare they now until they come to Jonakr
 konungs, sjá Svanhildi, þykkir mikils um vert hennar fríðleik.
king see Svanbild seems of-much about worth her beauty
 Randvér heimti konung á tal ok mælti: “Jörmunrekr konungr
Randver called king to talk and said Jormunrek king
 vill bjóða yðr mægi sitt. Hefir hann spurn til Svanhildar,
wishes to-offer you alliance his Has he report of Svanbild

ok vill hann kjósa hana sér til konu, ok er ósýnt, at
and wishes he to-choose her for-him for wife and is uncertain that
 hún sé gefin ríkara manni en hann er.” Konungr segir,
she is given to-mightier man than he is King says
 at þat var virðuligt ráð ok er hann mjök frægr. Guðrún
that that was honorable match and is he very renowned Gudrun
 segir: “Valt er hamingjunni at treystast, at eigi bresti hún.”
says Fickle is in-the-luck to trust that not fails it
 En með fýsing konungs ok öllu því, er á lá, er þetta nú
But with urging of-king and all that which on lay is this now
 ráðit, ok ferr nú Svanhildr til skips með virðuligu föruneysi
decided and fares now Svanhild to ship with honorable retinue
 ok sat í lyptingu hjá konungs syni. Þá mælti Bikki til
and sat in poop beside of-king son Then said Bikki to
 Randvés: “Sannligt væri þat, at þér ættið svá fríða konu,
Randver Fitting were that that you should-have so fair woman
 en eigi svá gamall maðr.” Honum fellst þat vel í skap
and not so old man To-him fell that well in mind
 ok mælti til hennar með blíðu ok hvárt til annars; koma
and spoke to her with tenderness and each to other come
 heim í land ok hitta konung. Bikki mælti: “Þat samir,
home into land and meet king Bikki said That befits
 herra, at vita, hvat títt er um, þótt vant sé upp at
lord to know what happened is about though hard is up to
 bera, en þat er um vélar þær, er sonr þinn hefir fengit
bear and that is about treacheries those which son thine has gotten
 fulla ást Svanhildar, ok er hún hans frilla, ok lát slíkt eigi
full love of-Svanhild and is she his mistress and let such not
 óhegnt.” Mörg ill ráð hafði hann honum áður kennt, þó
unpunished Many evil counsels had he to-him before taught yet
 at þetta biti fyrir of hans ráð ill. Konungr hlýddi hans
that this bit before over his counsels evil King listened-to his

mörgum vándum ráðum. Hann mælti ok mátti eigi stilla
many wicked counsels He said and could not restrain
sik af reiði, at Randvé skyldi taka ok á gálga festa.
himself from anger that Randver should take and on gallows fasten
Ok er hann var til leiddr gálgans, þá tók hann hauk
And when he was to led the-gallows then took he hawk
einn ok plokkaði af honum allar fjaðrirnar ok mælti, at
a and plucked off it all the-feathers and said that
sýna skyldi feðr hans. Ok er konungurinn sá, mælti hann:
show should to-father his And when the-king saw said he
“Þar má nú sjá, at honum þykkir ek þann veg hniginn
There may now see that to-him seems I that way fallen
sæmdinni sem haukrinn fjöðrunum,” — ok biðr hann taka
from-the-honor as the-hawk from-the-feathers and bids him to-take
af gálganum. Bikki hafði þar um vélt á meðan, ok var
off the-gallows Bikki had there about contrived on meanwhile and was
hann dauðr. Enn mælti Bikki: “Engum manni áttu verri
be dead Again said Bikki To-no man hast-thou worse
at vera en Svanhildi. Lát hana deyja með skömm.” Konungur
to be than to-Svanbild Let her to-die with shame King
svarar: “Þat ráð munu vér taka.” Síðan var hún bundin
answers That counsel will we take Then was she bound
í borgarhliði ok hleypt hestum at henni. En er hún brá
in stronghold-gate and driven with-horses at her But when she drew
í sundr augum, þá þorðu eigi hestarnir at sporna hana.
in asunder eyes then dared not the-horses to trample her
Ok er Bikki sá þat, mælti hann, at belg skyldi draga
And when Bikki saw that said he that bag should draw
á höfuð henni, ok svá var gert, en síðan lét hún líf sitt.
on head to-her and so was done and then lost she life her

Guðrún taunts her sons for sitting still while their sister is trampled. Hamðir answers that she praised Gunnarr and Högni little when they killed Sigurðr, and that her own vengeance was to kill her sons, but that they cannot stand against her goading. She gives them drink and chooses mail-coats and war-gear for them, and Hamðir says they will part for the last time. Alone in her bower Guðrún tells over her three marriages and her griefs and calls on Sigurðr to come to her out of hell.

Guðrún spýrr nú líflát Svanhildar ok mælti við sonu sína:
Guðrún learns now death of-Svanbild and spoke to sons her
 “Hví siti þér kyrrir eða mælið gleðiorð, þar sem Jörmunrekr
Why sit you still or speak glad-words there where Jormunrek
 drap systur ykkra ok trað undir hesta fótum með svívirðing?
killed sister of-you-two and trod under horses' feet with dishonor
 Ok ekki hafið þit líkt skaplyndi Gunnari eða Högna. Hefna
And not have you-two like temper to-Gunnar or to-Hogni Avenge
 mundu þeir sinnar frændkonu.” Hamðir svarar: “Lítt lofaðir þú
would they their kinswoman Hamdir answers Little praisedst thou
 Gunnar ok Högna, þá er þeir drápu Sigurð ok þú vart roðin
Gunnar and Hogni then when they killed Sigurd and thou wert reddened
 í hans blóði, ok illar váru þínar bræðra hefndir, er þú drapt
in his blood and evil were thy of-brothers vengeance when thou killedst
 sonu þína, ok betr mættim vér allir saman drepa Jörmunrek
sons thine and better might we all together kill Jormunrek
 konung. Ok eigi munu vér standast frýjuorð, svá hart sem vér
king And not will we withstand taunt-words so hard as we
 erum eggjaðir.” Guðrún gekk hlæjandi ok gaf þeim at drekka
are egged Guðrún went laughing and gave them to drink
 af stórum kerum. Ok eptir þat valdi hún þeim stórar
from great vessels And after that chose she for-them great
 brynjur ok góðar ok önnur herklæði. Þá mælti Hamðir:
mail-coats and good and other war-clothes Then said Hamdir

“Hér munu vér skilja efsta sinni, ok spyrja muntu tíðendingin,

Here will we part last time and hear wilt-thou the-tidings

ok muntu þá erfi drekka eptir okkr ok Svanhildi.”

and wilt-thou then funeral-feast drink after us-two and Svanbild

Eptir þat fóru þeir. En Guðrún gekk til skemmu, harmi

After that went they But Gudrun went to bower with-grief

aukin, ok mælti: “Þrimr mönnum var ek gift, fyrst Sigurði

increased and said To-three men was I married first to-Sigurd

Fáfnisbana, ok var hann svikinn, ok var þat mér inn

Fafnir's-bane and was he betrayed and was that to-me the

mesti harmr. Síðan var ek gefin Atla konungi, en svá var

greatest grief Then was I given to-Atli king but so was

grimmt mitt hjarta við hann, at ek drap sonu okkra í

grim my heart toward him that I killed sons our-two in

harmi. Síðan gekk ek á sjáinn, ok hóf mik at landi með

grief Then went I on the-sea and lifted me to land with

bárum, ok var ek nú gefin þessum konungi. Síðan gifta

waves and was I now given to-this king Then married

ek Svanhildi af landi í brott með miklu fé, ok er mér

I Svanbild from land off away with much wealth and is to-me

þat sárast minna harma, er hún var troðin undir hrossa

that sorest of-my griefs that she was trodden under horses'

fótum, eptir Sigurð. En þat er mér grimmast, er Gunnarr

feet after Sigurd But that is to-me grimmest that Gunnar

var í ormgarð settr, en þat harðast, er ór Högna var

was in serpent-pit set and that hardest that out-of Hogni was

hjarta skorit, ok betr væri, at Sigurðr kæmi mér á móti

heart cut and better were that Sigurd came to-me in against

ok færa ek með honum. Hér sitr nú eigi eptir sonr né

and would-go I with him Here sits now not behind son nor

dóttir mik at hugga. Minnstu nú, Sigurðr, þess, er vit

daughter me to comfort Remember now Sigurd of-that which we-two

mæltum, þá er vit stigum á einn beð, at þú mundir
spoke then when we-two stepped into one bed that thou wouldst
 mín vitja ok ór helju bíða.” Ok lýkr þar hennar harmtölur.
me visit and out-of hell wait And ends there her lamentations

XLII · JÖRMUNREKR, AND THE STONES

Guðrún has so prepared her sons' war-gear that iron will not bite it, and warns them to harm no one with stones. On the road they meet their brother Erpr, who says he will help them as one hand helps the other, and they kill him; then each stumbles and is saved by hand and foot, and they see what they have done. They hew off Jörmunrekr's hands and feet, and say the head would be off if Erpr lived. A tall one-eyed man tells the king's men to stone them, and so they die.

Þat er nú at segja frá sonum Guðrúnar, at hún hafði svá
That is now to tell of sons of-Gudrun that she had so
 búit þeira herklæði, at þá bitu eigi járn, ok hún bað þá
prepared their war-clothes that them bit not iron and she bade them
 eigi skeðja grjóti né öðrum stórum hlutum ok kvað þeim
not to-harm with-stones nor other great things and said to-them
 þat at meini mundu verða, ef eigi gerði þeir svá. Ok er þeir
that at harm would become if not did they so And when they
 váru komnir á leið, finna þeir Erp, bróður sinn, ok spyrja,
were come on way meet they Erp brother their and ask
 hvat hann mundi veita þeim. Hann svarar: “Slíkt sem hönd
what he would give them He answers Such as hand
 hendi eða fótir fæti.” Þeim þótti þat ekki vera ok drápu
to-hand or foot to-foot To-them seemed that nothing to-be and killed
 hann. Síðan fóru þeir leiðar sinnar ok litla hríð, áðr Hamðir
him Then went they of-way their and little while before Hamdir
 rataði ok stakk niðr hendi ok mælti: “Erpr mun satt hafa
stumbled and thrust down hand and said Erp will truly have

sagt. Ek munda falla nú, ef eigi styddumst ek við höndina.”

said I would fall now if not supported-myself I with the-hand

Litlu síðar ratar Sörli ok brást á fótinn ok fekk staðizt ok

Little later stumbles Sorli and staggered on the-foot and got withstood and

mælti: “Falla munda ek nú, ef eigi stydda ek mik við báða

said Fall would I now if not supported I me with both

fætr.” Kváðust þeir nú illa hafa gert við Erp, bróður sinn;

feet Said-themselves they now ill to-have done with Erp brother their

fóru nú, unz þeir kómu til Jörmunreks konungs, ok gengu

went now until they came to Jormunrek king and went

fyrir hann ok veittu honum þegar tilræði. Hjó Hamðir af

before him and gave him at-once attack Hewed Hamdir off

honum hendr báðar, en Sörli fætr báða. Þá mælti Hamðir:

him hands both and Sorli feet both Then said Hamdir

“Af mundi nú höfuðit, ef Erpr lifði, bróðir okkarr, er vit

Off would now the-head if Erp lived brother ours whom we-two

vágum á leiðinni, ok sáam vit þat of síð,” sem kveðit er:

slew on the-way and saw we-two that too late as sung is

“Af væri nú höfuðit,

Off were now the-head

ef Erpr lifði

if Erp lived

bróðir okkarr inn böðfrækni,

brother ours the battle-bold

er vit á braut vágum.”

whom we-two off away slew

Í því höfðu þeir af brugðit boði móður sinnar, er þeir höfðu

In that had they off broken bidding of-mother their that they had

grjóti skatt. Nú sækja menn at þeim, en þeir vörðust

with-stones harmed Now press men at them but they defended-themselves

vel ok drengiliga ok urðu mörgum manni at skaða. Þá
well and manfully and became to-many man at harm Them
 bitu eigi járn. Þá kom at einn maðr, hár ok eldiligr, með
bit not iron Then came up a man tall and aged with
 eitt auga ok mælti: “Eigi eru þér vísir menn, er þér kunnið
one eye and said Not are you wise men that you know
 eigi þeim mönnum bana at veita.” Konungrinn svarar: “Gef
not to-those men death to give The-king answers Give
 oss ráð til, ef þú kannt.” Hann mælti: “Þér skuluð berja
us counsel for if thou knowest He said You shall beat
 þá grjóti í hel.” Svá var ok gert, ok þá flugu ór
them with-stones to death So was also done and then flew out-of
 öllum áttum steinar at þeim, ok varð þeim þat at aldragi.
all directions stones at them and became for-them that at life-end

Ragnars saga loðbrókar ok sona hans

The Saga of Ragnar Lodbrok and His Sons



Heimir hears that Sigurðr and Brynhildr are dead, and their daughter Áslaug, his foster-child, is three winters old. He has a harp made great enough to hold her with much gold, and travels north as a beggar, opening it beside streams to wash and feed her and playing when she cries. At Spangarheiðr in Norway the old woman Gríma sees gold under his rags and goads her husband Áki into killing him in his sleep. They break the harp, find the child, and rear her as their own, shaven, smeared with tar, and hooded, and call her Kráka; because she never answers they think she cannot speak.

Heimir í Hlymdölum spýrr nú þessi tíðendi, at dauðr er
 Heimir in Hlymdalir learns now these tidings that dead is
 Sigurðr ok Brynhildr. En Áslaug, dóttir þeira, en fóstura
 Sigurd and Brynhild But Aslaug daughter of-them and foster-daughter
 Heimis, var þá þrétvetr. Veit hann nú, at eptir mun
 of-Heimir was then three-winters-old Knows he now that after will
 leitast at týna meyjunni ok ætt hennar. Er honum svá mikill
 sought to destroy the-maiden and kin her Is to-him so great
 harmr eptir Brynhildi, fósturu sína, at hann gætti ekki
 grief after Brynhild foster-daughter his that he heeded not
 ríkis síns né fjár, sér nú, at hann fær eigi meyjunni þar
 realm his nor wealth sees now that he can not the-maiden there
 leynt; lætr nú gera eina hörpu svá mikla, at þar lét hann
 bidden has now to-make a harp so great that there let he
 meyna Áslaugu í koma ok margar gersimar í gulli ok
 the-maiden Aslaug in to-come and many treasures in gold and
 silfri ok gengr á brott síðan víða um lönd ok um síðir
 silver and goes off away then widely about lands and about at-last
 hingat á Norðrlönd. Svá var harpa hans hagliga ger, at hana
 hither to Northern-lands So was harp his skillfully made that it
 mátti taka í sundr ok saman at fellingum, ok var hann
 might take in asunder and together at joints and was he

því vanr um daga, þá er hann fór í hjá vatnföllum
to-that accustomed in days then when he went in beside streams
 ok hvergi í nánd bæjum, at hann tók hörpuna í sundr ok
and nowhere in nearness to-farms that he took the-harp in asunder and
 þó meyjunni, ok hann hafði vínlauk einn ok gaf henni at
wasbed the-maiden and he had wine-leek a and gave her to
 eta. En þat er náttúra þess lauks, at maðr má lengi lifa,
eat But that is nature of-that leek that man may long live
 þótt hann hafi enga aðra fæðu. Ok þá er mærin grét, sló
though he has no other food And then when the-maiden wept struck
 hann hörpuna, ok þagnaði hún þá, fyrir því at Heimir var
he the-harp and fell-silent she then for that that Heimir was
 vel at íþróttum búinn, þeim er þá váru tíðar. Hann hafði
well in arts equipped those which then were customary He had
 ok mörg klæði dýrlig hjá henni í hörpunni ok mikit gull.
also many clothes precious beside her in the-harp and much gold
 Ok nú ferr hann þangat til, unz hann kemr í Noreg ok
And now fares he thither to until he comes into Norway and
 kemir til eins býjar lítils, þess er heitir á Spangareiði, ok
comes to a farm little that which is-called at Spangarbeath and
 bjó þar karl sá, er Áki hét. Hann átti konu, ok hét
dwelt there man that who Aki was-called He had wife and was-called
 hún Gríma. Þar var eigi fleira manna en þau. Þann dag
she Grima There was not more of-men than they That day
 var karl farinn í skóg, en kerling var heima, ok heilsar
was the-man gone into wood and the-woman was at-home and greets
 hún Heimi ok spyr, hvat manna hann væri. Hann kveðst
she Heimir and asks what of-men he were He says-himself
 vera einn stafkarl ok bað kerlingu húsa. Hún segir, at
to-be a beggar and asked the-woman for-lodging She says that
 eigi kæmi þar fleira en svá, at hún kveðst mundu vel við
not came there more than so that she says-herself would well with

honum taka, ef hann þættist þurfa þar at vera. En er
him take if he thought-himself to-need there to be But when
 á leið, þá segir hann, at honum þætti þat mest beinabót,
on passed then says he that to-him seemed that greatest hospitality-boon
 at eldr væri kveyktr fyrir honum ok síðan væri honum
that fire were kindled before him and then were him
 fylgt til svefnhúss, þar er hann skyldi sofa. Ok þá er
accompanied to sleeping-house there where he should sleep And then when
 kerling hafði kveykt eldinn, þá setr hann hörpuna upp í
the-woman had kindled the-fire then sets he the-harp up in
 set hjá sér, en kerling var óðamálug. Opt varð henni litit
bench beside him and the-woman was fast-talking Often became to-her looked
 til hörpunnar, fyrir því at trefr á einu dýrliku klæði kómu
to the-harp for that that fringes on a precious cloth came
 út á hörpunni. Ok er hann bakaðist við eldinn, þá sér
out on the-harp And when he warmed-himself at the-fire then sees
 hún einn dýrigan gullhring koma fram undan tötrum hans,
she a precious gold-ring to-come forth from-under rags his
 því at hann var illa klæddr. Ok er hann hafði bakazt
because that he was ill clad And when he had warmed-himself
 sem hann kunni sér þörf til, þá hafði hann náttverð. En
as he knew for-him need for then had he supper But
 eptir þat bað hann kerlingu fylgja sér þangat til, sem
after that asked he the-woman to-accompany him thither to where
 hann skyldi sofa um nóttina. Þá segir kerling, at honum
he should sleep in the-night Then says the-woman that for-him
 mundi betra vera úti en inni, — “því at vit karl
would better be outside than inside because that we-two husband
 minn erum opt málug, er hann kemr heim.” Hann biðr
my are often talkative when he comes home He bids
 hana ráða, gengr nú út ok svá hún. Hann tekur hörpuna
her to-decide goes now out and so she He takes the-harp

ok hefir með sér. Kerling gengr út ok færr þar til, er
and has with him The-woman goes out and fares there to where
 bygghlaða ein er, ok fylgir honum þar til ok mælti, at
barley-barn a is and accompanies him there to and said that
 hann skyldi þar um búast, ok kveðst þess vænta, at hann
he should there about settle and says-herself of-that to-expect that he
 mundi þar njóta svefns síns. Ok nú gengr kerling í brott
would there enjoy sleep his And now goes the-woman off away
 ok annast þat, er hún þurfti, en hann gerir sér svefn.
and attends-to that which she needed and he makes for-him sleep
 Karl kemr heim, er aptanninn líðr, en kerling hefir fátt
The-man comes home when the-evening passes and the-woman has little
 unnit þat, er hún þurfti, en hann var móðr, er hann
done that which she needed and he was weary when he
 kom heim, ok illr viðskiptis, er allt var óbúið þat, er
came home and ill of-dealing when all was undone that which
 hún skyldi annast hafa. Sagði karl, at mikill væri munr
she should attended-to have Said the-man that great were difference
 sælu, er hann vann hvern dag meira en hann mátti,
of-fortune that he worked every day more than he could
 en hún vildi til einkis taka þess, er gagn var at. “Ver
and she wished to of-nothing take of-that which use was at Be
 eigi reiðr, karl minn,” sagði hún, “fyrir því at þat kann
not angry husband my said she for that that that may
 at vera, at þú mættir nú skamma stund vinna til þess,
to be that thou mightest now short while work to that
 at vit værim sæl alla ævi.” “Hvat er þat?” segir karl.
that we-two were happy all life What is that says the-man
 Kerling svarar: “Hér er kominn til herbergis okkars einn
The-woman answers Here is come to lodging our-two a
 maðr, ok ætla ek, at hann hafi allmikil fé með at fara,
man and think I that he has very-much wealth with to go

ok er hniginn á efra aldr ok mun verit hafa inn mesti
and is sunk into upper age and will been have the greatest
 kappi ok er nú þó móðr mjök, ok eigi þykkjumst ek hans
champion and is now yet weary much and not think-myself I his
 maka sét hafa, ok þó ætla ek hann mæddan ok syfjaðan.”
match seen to-have and yet think I him worn and sleepy
 Þá segir karl: “Þat sýnist mér óráðligt at svíkja þá ina
Then says the-man That seems to-me unadvisable to betray those the
 fá, sem hér koma.” Hún svarar: “Því muntu lengi lítill
few who here come She answers Therefore wilt-thou long little
 fyrir þér, at þér vex allt í augu, ok ger nú annathvært,
for thyself that to-thee grows all in eyes and do now either
 at þú drep hann, eða ek tek hann mér til manns, ok
that thou kill him or I take him for-me for husband and
 munu vit reka þik í brott. Ok segja kann ek þér þá
will we-two drive thee off away And tell can I thee that
 ræðu, er hann mælti við mik í gærkveld, en litils mun
speech which he spoke with me in yester-evening but of-little will
 þér þykkja um vert. Hann mælti kvensamliga við mik, ok
to-thee seem about worth He spoke amorously with me and
 þat mun mitt ráð vera at taka hann mér til manns, en
that will my plan be to take him for-me for husband and
 reka þik í brott eða drepa, ef þú vill eigi eptir því gera,
to-drive thee off away or to-kill if thou wishes not after that to-do
 sem ek vil.” Ok er þat sagt, at karl hafði kvánríki, ok
as I wish And is that said that the-man had wife-rule and
 telr hún um þangat til, er hann lætr at eggjan hennar,
urges she about thither to when he yields to urging her
 tekr öxi sína ok snarbrýnir mjök. Ok er hann er búinn,
takes axe his and sharply-wbets much And when he is ready
 fylgir kerling honum þar til, er Heimir sefr, ok var þar
accompanies the-woman him there to where Heimir sleeps and was there

hrytr mikill. Þá mælti kerling til karls, at hann skyldi
snoring great Then said the-woman to the-man that he should
 láta verða tilræði sem bezt, — “ok skunda brott með hlaupi,
let become attack as best and hasten away with running
 því at ekki máttu standast lát hans ok óp, ef hann
because that not couldst-thou withstand noise his and cry if he
 fær þik höndum tekit.” Hún tekr hörpuna ok hleypr á
gets thee by-hands taken She takes the-harp and runs off
 brott með. Nú gengr karl þar til, er Heimir sefr. Hann
away with Now goes the-man there to where Heimir sleeps He
 höggr til hans, ok verðr þat mikit sár, ok verðr honum
hews at him and becomes that great wound and becomes to-him
 laus öxin. Hann hleypr þegar í brott sem hann mátti
loose the-axe He runs at-once off away as he could
 hraðast. Nú vaknar hann við áverkann, ok vannst honum
fastest Now wakes he at the-wound and sufficed to-him
 at fullu. Ok þat er sagt, at svá mikill gnýr varð í hans
at full And that is said that so great din became in his
 fjörbrotum, at undan gengu súlur í húsinu ok ofan fell
death-throes that from-under went pillars in the-house and down fell
 húsit allt ok varð landskjálfti mikill, ok lýkr þar hans ævi.
the-house all and became earthquake great and ends there his life
 Nú kom karl þar, sem kerling var, segir nú, at hann
Now came the-man there where the-woman was says now that he
 hefir drept hann, — “ok þó var þat of hríð, er ek vissi
has killed him and yet was that for while when I knew
 eigi, hvé fara mundi, ok þessi maðr var furðu mikill fyrir
not how go would and this man was wondrously great for
 sér, en þó væntir mik, at hann sé nú í helju.” Kerling
himself but yet expects me that he is now in hel The-woman
 mælti, at hann skyldi hafa þökk fyrir verkit, — “ok væntir
said that he should have thanks for the-deed and expects

mik, at nú hafim vit ærit fé, ok skulum vit reyna,
me that now have we-two enough wealth and shall we-two test
 hvárt ek hefi satt sagt.” Nú kveykja þau eld, en kerling
whether I have truly said Now kindle they fire and the-woman
 tekr hörpuna ok vildi upp koma ok mátti eigi annars kostar
takes the-harp and wished up to-get and could not otherwise of-choice
 en hún varð at brjóta, því at hún hafði eigi hagleik til.
than she had to break because that she had not skill for
 Ok nú fær hún upp komit hörpunni, ok þar sér hún eitt
And now gets she up gotten the-harp and there sees she a
 meybarn, at hún þóttist ekki slíkt sét hafa, ok þó var
girl-child that she thought-herself nothing such seen to-have and yet was
 mikit fé í hörpunni. Nú mælti karl: “Þat mun nú verða
much wealth in the-harp Now said the-man That will now become
 sem oft, at illa mun gefast at svíkja þann, er honum trúir.
as often that ill will turn-out to betray him who him trusts
 Sýnist mér sem komin muni ómegð á hendr okkr.”
Seems to-me as come will dependent-burden on hands to-us-two
 Kerling svarar: “Eigi er þetta eptir því, sem ek ætla, en þó
The-woman answers Not is this after that as I intend but yet
 skal nú ekki um sakast.” Ok nú spyr hún, hvernar ættar
shall now not about blame And now asks she of-what kin
 hún væri. En þessi in unga mæir svarar engu, svá sem hún
she were But this the young maiden answers nothing so as she
 hefði eigi mál numit. “Nú ferr sem mik varði, at okkart
had not speech learned Now goes as me expected that our-two
 ráð mundi illa fara,” segir karl. “Vit höfum unnit glæp
plan would ill go says the-man We-two have done crime
 mikinn. Hvat skulum vit sjá fyrir barni þessu?” “Auðvitat
great What shall we-two provide for child this Obvious
 er þat,” sagði Gríma. “Hún skal eptir móður minni heita
is that said Grima She shall after mother mine be-called

Kraka." Nú mælti karl: "Hvat skulum vit sjá fyrir barni
Kraka Now said the-man What shall we-two provide for child
 þessu?" Kerling svarar: "Ek sé gott ráð til: Vit skulum
this The-woman answers I see good plan for We-two shall
 segja hana okkra dóttur ok upp fæða." "Því mun engi
say her our-two daughter and up rear That will none
 trúa," sagði karl. "Miklu er barn þetta geðsligra en vit.
believe said the-man By-much is child this more-comely than we-two
 Erum allóvæn bæði, ok munu engi líkendi á þykkja, at
Are very-ugly both and will no likelihood on seem that
 vit munum eiga því líkt barn, svá endemlig sem vit
we-two shall have to-that like child so monstrous as we-two
 erum bæði." Nú mælti kerling: "Eigi veiztu, nema ek hafa
are both Now said the-woman Not knowest-thou but I have
 í nokkur brögð, at þetta meg eigi óvænt þykkja. Ek mun
in some tricks that this may not unlikely seem I will
 láta gera henni koll ok ríða í tjöru ok öðru, er
have make for-her shaven-head and smear in tar and other-thing which
 vænst er, at sízt komi hár upp. Hún skal eiga hött síðan.
likeliest is that least comes hair up She shall have hood afterward
 Eigi skal hún ok vel klædd vera. Mun þá saman draga vár
Not shall she also well clad be Will then together draw our
 yfirlit. Má vera, at menn trúi því, at ek hafa mjök væn
appearances May be that men believe that that I have very fair
 verit, þá er ek var ung. Hún skal ok vinna þat, er verst
been then when I was young She shall also do that which worst
 er." En þat hugðu þau karl ok kerling, at hún mætti ekki
is But that thought those the-man and the-woman that she could not
 mæla, er hún svarar þeim aldri. Nú er þat gert, sem kerling
speak since she answers them never Now is that done as the-woman
 hefir fyrir hugat. Nú vex hún þar upp í miklu fátæki.
has before thought Now grows she there up in great poverty

Earl Herruðr of Gautland has a daughter, Þóra, called Borgarhjörtr because she stood out among women as a hart among beasts. He gives her a little heather-serpent, and she keeps it in a box on gold. Serpent and gold grow together until it lies coiled outside her bower with head and tail meeting and needs an ox at a meal, and no one dares come near. The earl vows to give his daughter and the gold under it to whoever kills it.

Herruðr hét jarl ríkr ok ágætr á Gautlandi. Hann var
Herrud was-called earl mighty and excellent in Gautland He was
 kvángaðr. Dóttir hans hét Þóra; hún var allra kvenna
married Daughter his was-called Thora she was of-all women
 fríðust sýndum ok kurteisust at sér um alla hluti, þat er
fairest in-looks and most-courtly in herself in all things that which
 til handa má bera ok betra er at hafa en án vera. Þat var
to hands may bear and better is to have than without to-be That was
 hennar kenningarnafn, at hún var kölluð borgarhjörtr, fyrir
her by-name that she was called stronghold-hart for
 því at svá bar hún af öllum konum at fegrð sem hjörtr
that that so bore she from all women in beauty as hart
 af öðrum dýrum. Jarlinn unni mikit dóttur sinni. Hann
from other beasts The-earl loved much daughter his He
 lét gera henni eina skemmu skammt frá höll konungs, ok
had to-make for-her a bower short from hall of-king and
 um þá skemmu var skíðgarðr. Þat lagði jarl í vanda sinn
about that bower was stockade That laid the-earl in custom his
 at senda dóttur sinni hvern dag nokkut til skemmtanar, en
to send to-daughter his every day something for pleasure and
 þat mælti hann, at því mundi hann fram halda. Frá því
that said he that in-that would be forth hold Of that
 er sagt, at hann lét færa henni litinn lyngorm einnhvern
is said that he had to-bring her little heather-serpent on-a-certain

dag, ákafliga fagan, ok þessi ormr þótti henni góðr ok lét
day exceedingly fair and this serpent seemed to-her good and put
 hann í sitt eski ok bar undir hann gull. Skamma stund var
it in her box and laid under it gold Short while was
 hann þar, áðr hann óx mikit ok svá gullit undir honum.
it there before it grew much and so the-gold under it
 Þar kemr, at eigi hefir hann rúm í eskinu, ok liggr nú
There comes that not has it room in the-box and lies now
 í hring um eskit utan. Ok þar kemr of síðir, at eigi hefir
in ring about the-box outside And there comes at last that not has
 hann rúm í skemmunni, ok gullit vex undir honum jafnt
it room in the-bower and the-gold grows under it equally
 sem ormrinn sjálf. Nú liggr hann utan um skemmuna,
as the-serpent itself Now lies it outside about the-bower
 svá at saman tók höfuð ok sporðr, ok illr gerist hann
so that together took head and tail and ill becomes it
 viðreignar, ok þorir engi maðr at koma til skemmunnar
of-dealing and dares no man to come to the-bower
 fyrir þessum ormi nema sá einn, er honum færir fæðslu,
for this serpent except that one who to-it brings food
 ok oxa þarf hann í mál. Jarli þykkir mikit mein á
and ox needs it in meal To-the-earl seems great harm in
 þessu ok strengir þess heit, at hann mun þeim manni
this and binds of-that vow that he will to-that man
 gefa dóttur sína, hvat manna sem hann er, ef at bana
give daughter his what of-men soever he is if at death
 yrði orminum, ok gull þat, er undir honum er, skal vera
became to-the-serpent and gold that which under it is shall be
 hennar heimanfylgja. Þessi tíðendi spyrjast víða of land,
her dowry These tidings are-heard widely about land
 en þó treystist engi til at ráða fyrir þessum mikla ormi.
but yet dared none to to make-away with this great serpent

Sigurðr bringr rules Denmark; his son Ragnarr has become a great warrior. Hearing of the earl's vow, he has shaggy breeches and cloak made and boiled in pitch, lays his ship in a hidden bay, rolls in the sand, takes the rivet from his spear, and thrusts twice at the serpent, leaving the head in the wound. His clothes save him from the blood, and to Þóra he answers only with a verse about killing the earth-fish at fifteen. She counsels an assembly where the claimant must bring the spear-shaft.

Í þann tíma réð fyrir Danmörku Sigurðr hringr. Hann
In that time ruled over Denmark Sigurd Ring He
 var ríkr konungr ok er frægr orðinn af þeirri orrostu,
was mighty king and is renowned become from that battle
 er hann barðist við Harald hilditönn á Brávelli ok fyrir
where he fought against Harald War-tooth at Bravoll and before
 honum fell Haraldr, sem kunnigt er orðit of alla norðrálfu
him fell Harald as known is become about all north-part
 heimsins. Sigurðr átti einn son, er Ragnarr hét. Hann
of-the-world Sigurd had a son who Ragnar was-called He
 var mikill vexti, vænn yfirlits ok vel viti borinn, stórlýndr
was great in-stature fair of-look and well in-wit born great-minded
 við sína menn, en grimmr sínum óvinum. Þegar hann
toward his men but grim his enemies As-soon-as he
 hafði aldr til, fær hann sér liðs ok herskipa, ok gerist
had age for gets he for-him of-force and of-war-ships and becomes
 hann inn mesti hermaðr, svá at varla fæst hans maki.
he the greatest warrior so that hardly is-found his match
 Hann spyr þetta, er Herruðr jarl hafði um mælt; gefr
He learns this that Herrud earl had about spoken gives
 hann at engan gaum ok lætr sem hann viti eigi. Hann lætr
he at no heed and acts as he knew not He has
 gera sér föt með undarligum hætti, þat eru loðbrækr
to-make for-him clothes with strange fashion that are shaggy-breeches

ok loðkápa, ok nú er ger eru, þá lætr hann þau vella
and shaggy-cloak and now when made are then has he them to-boil
 í biki. Síðan hirðir hann þau. Þat er eitthvert sumar, er
in pitch Then keeps he them That is on-a-certain summer when
 hann heldr her sínum til Gautlands ok leggr í leynivág einn
he holds host his to Gautland and lays in hidden-bay a
 skip sitt ok var skammt þaðan, þat er jarl réð fyrir. Ok
ship his and was short thence that which earl ruled over And
 er Ragnarr hafði þar eina nótt verit, vaknar hann snemma
when Ragnar had there one night been wakes he early
 um morgininn, ríss upp ok tekr þessi in sömu vápnföt, er
in the-morning rises up and takes these the same war-clothes which
 áðr var frá sagt, ok ferr í ok tekr spjót mikit í hönd
before was of told and goes in and takes spear great in hand
 sér ok gengr af skipunum einn saman ok þar, er sandr
his and goes from the-ships alone together and there where sand
 er, ok nú veltist hann í sandinum. Ok áðr hann gengr í
is and now rolls he in the-sand And before he goes off
 brott, tekr hann geirnagla ór spjóti sínu ok ferr nú einn
away takes he spear-rivet out-of spear his and goes now alone
 frá skipunum til borgarhliðs jarls ok kemr þar snemma
from the-ships to strongbold-gate of-earl and comes there early
 dags, svá at allir menn váru í svefni. Nú stýrir hann til
of-day so that all men were in sleep Now steers he to
 skemmunnar. Ok er hann kemr í skíðgarðinn, þar sem
the-bower And when he comes into the-stockade there where
 ormrinn var, leggr hann til hans með spjóti sínu, ok þá
the-serpent was thrusts he at it with spear his and then
 kippir hann at sér spjótinu. Ok annat sinn leggr hann. Þat
jerks he to him the-spear And second time thrusts he That
 lag kemr í hrygg orminum, ok nú vinzt hann við hratt,
thrust comes into back to-the-serpent and now twists it about fast

svá at spjótit gekk af skaptinu, ok verðr svá mikill gnýr
so that the-spear went off the-shaft and becomes so great din
 í hans fjörbrotum, at skemman skelfr öll. Ok nú snýr
in its death-throes that the-bower shakes all And now turns
 Ragnarr á brott. Þá kemr blóðbogi milli herða honum, ok
Ragnar off away Then comes blood-jet between shoulders to-him and
 þat sakar hann eigi, svá hlífa honum klæði þau, sem hann
that harms him not so shield him clothes those which he
 lét gera. En þeir, er í skemmunni váru, vakna við gnýinn
had to-make But those who in the-bower were wake at the-din
 ok ganga út ór skemmunni. Nú sér Þóra ganga einn mann
and go out out-of the-bower Now sees Thora to-go a man
 mikinn frá skemmunni ok spyrr hann at nafni eða hvern
great from the-bower and asks him at name or whom
 hann vili nú finna. Hann nemr staðar ok kvað vísu þessa:
he wishes now to-find He takes place and spoke verse this

“Hætt hefík leyfðu lífi,

Risked have-I praised life

litfögr kona, vetra

bright-hued woman of-winters

vák at foldar fiski

I-slew at of-earth fish

fimmtán gamall, mínu;

fifteen old my

hafa skalk, bōl nema bítí,

have shall-I bane unless bites

bráðrakinn mér dauða,

swiftly-driven to-me death

heiðar lax til hjarta

of-beath salmon to heart

hringleginn, vel, smýgra."

ring-coiled well pierces-not

Ok nú gengr hann á brott ok mælti ekki fleira við hana.

And now goes he off away and spoke not more with her

En spjótit stóð í sárinu eptir, en hann hefir skaptit með

But the-spear stood in the-wound behind and he has the-shaft with

sér. Nú er hún hefir þessa vísu heyrða, skildi hún, hvat

him Now when she has this verse heard understood she what

hann sagði til um sitt erendi ok svá hvé gamall hann var.

he said of about his errand and so how old he was

Ok nú hyggir hún at fyrir sér, hverr hann mundi vera, ok

And now thinks she at for herself who he would be and

þykkist hún eigi vita, hvárt hann er mennskr maðr eða

thinks-herself she not to-know whether he is human man or

eigi, fyrir því at henni þykkir vöxtr hans vera svá mikill

not for that that to-her seems stature his to-be so great

sem sagt er frá óvættum á þeim aldri, sem hann hafði, ok

as said is of monsters at that age which he had and

snýr hún inn í skemmuna ok sofnar. Ok er menn koma

turns she in into the-bower and falls-asleep And when men come

út um morgininn, verða menn þess varir, at ormrinn var

out in the-morning become men of-that aware that the-serpent was

dauðr ok hann var lagðr með einu miklu spjóti ok þat stóð

dead and it was pierced with a great spear and that stood

fast í sárinu. Nú lætr jarl þat í brott taka þaðan, ok
fast in the-wound Now has the-earl that off away to-take thence and
 var þat svá mikit, at fám var vápnhæft. Nú íhugar jarl,
was that so great that for-few was weapon-wieldable Now ponders the-earl
 hvat hann hafði um mælt við þann mann, er orminum
what he had about spoken with that man who to-the-serpent
 yrði at bana, ok þykkist eigi vita, hvárt mennskr maðr
became at death and thinks-himself not to-know whether human man
 veldr þessu eða eigi, ok réðst nú um við vini sína ok
causes this or not and consulted now about with friends his and
 dóttur, hvé hann skal eptir leita, ok þykkir á því líkendi,
daughter how he shall after seek and seems on that likelihood
 at sá mun eptir leita at hafa verðkaupit, er til hefir unnit.
that he will after seek to have the-reward who to has earned
 Þat réð hún at láta kveðja þings fjölmenns, — “ok
That counseled she to have to-summon of-assembly crowded and
 bið þá svá, at þangat komi allir þeir menn, er eigi vilja
bid them so that thither should-come all those men who not wish
 hafa reiði jarls ok nokkurs kostar mega sækja þingstefnu,
to-have anger of-earl and of-any manner may attend assembly-meeting
 ok ef sá er nokkurr, er við gengr banasári ormsins,
and if that is any who with goes to-death-wound of-the-serpent
 skal hafa þat spjótskapt þangat, er fylgt hefir spjótinu.”
shall have that spear-shaft thither which accompanied has the-spear
 Þetta lízt jarli vænligt ok lætr nú þings kveðja. Ok
This seems to-the-earl promising and has now of-assembly to-summon And
 er at þeim degi kemr, er vera skal þingit, kemr jarl
when at that day comes when he shall the-assembly comes the-earl
 ok margir höfðingjar aðrir. Þar verðr mikit fjölmenni.
and many chieftains other There becomes great multitude

The earl calls a crowded assembly and has the spear-head carried before every man, so that whoever owns the matching shaft may claim his promise. No one else has it; when the spear is brought at last to Ragnarr he owns it, and the two pieces fit. He is famous over all the north for the deed, asks for Þóra and marries her at a great feast, and rules his kingdom. Their sons are Eirekr and Agnarr. Þóra sickens and dies, and Ragnarr leaves the kingdom to others and goes back to raiding.

Þetta spyrst til skipa Ragnars, at þaðan skammt var þing
This is-heard to ships of-Ragnar that thence short was assembly
 stefnt. Ok nú ferr Ragnarr frá skipum nálíga með allan
summoned And now fares Ragnar from ships nearly with all
 her sinn til þingsins. Ok er þeir koma þar, nema þeir
host his to the-assembly And when they come there take they
 staðar nakkvat frá öðrum mönnum, því at Ragnarr sér
place somewhat from other men because that Ragnar sees
 nú, at komit var fjölmenni mikit frá því, sem vani var til.
now that come was multitude great from that as custom was for
 Þá stendr jarl upp ok kveðr sér hljóðs ok talar, biðr
Then stands the-earl up and calls for-him of-bearing and speaks bids
 menn hafa þökk fyrir, er vel hafa skipazt við hans
men to-have thanks for that well have arranged-themselves with his
 orðsending, ok segir síðan atburð þann, sem orðinn er, fyrst
message and tells then event that which become is first
 frá því, hversu hann hafði um mælt við þann mann, er
of that how he had about spoken with that man who
 orminum yrði at bana, síðan, at — “ormrinn er nú dauðr,
to-the-serpent became at death then that the-serpent is now dead
 ok sá hefir látit eptir standa spjótit í sárinu, er unnit
and he has let behind to-stand the-spear in the-wound who done
 hefir þetta frægðarverk. Ok ef nokkurr er sá hér kominn
has this famous-deed And if any is that here come

til þingsins, er þat skapt hafi, er þessu spjóti hæfi, beri
to the-assembly who that shaft has which to-this spear fits let-bear
 hann þat fram ok sanni svá sögn sína, þá skal ek þat allt
he that forth and let-prove so statement his then shall I that all
 enda, er ek hefi um mælt, hvárt sem hann er af meirum
fulfill which I have about spoken whether as he is of greater
 stigum eða minnum.” Ok lýkr hann svá sínu máli, at hann
degrees or lesser And ends he so his speech that he
 lætr bera spjótit fyrir hvern mann, er á er þinginu, ok biðr
has to-bear the-spear before every man who on is the-assembly and bids
 sér segja, hvern sá er, er við þessu gengr eða þat skapt
to-him to-tell who that is who with this goes or that shaft
 hefir, er hér hæfir til. Nú er svá gert. Eigi finnst sá né
has which here fits for Now is so done Not is-found that nor
 einn, er þat skapt hafi. Nú er komit þar, sem Ragnarr er,
one who that shaft has Now is come there where Ragnar is
 ok sýnt honum spjótit, ok gengr hann við, at hann mun
and shown to-him the-spear and goes he with that he will
 eiga, ok þar hæfir hvárt eptir öðru, skaptit ok spjótit. Nú
own and there fits each after other the-shaft and the-spear Now
 þykkjast menn vita, at hann mun hafa orðit orminum
think-themselves men to-know that he will have become to-the-serpent
 at bana, ok verðr hann af þessu verki harðla mjök frægr
at death and becomes he from this deed exceedingly much renowned
 of öll Norðrlönd, ok biðr hann nú Þóru, dóttur jarls, ok
about all Northern-lands and asks he now for-Thora daughter of-earl and
 hann tektr því vel, ok nú er hún honum gift, ok er fengit
he takes that well and now is she to-him married and is prepared
 at mikilli veizlu með inum beztum föngum í því ríki. At
at great feast with the best provisions in that realm At
 þessi veizlu kvángast Ragnarr. Ok er lokit er veizlunni, ferr
this feast marries Ragnar And when ended is the-feast fares

Ragnarr til ríkis síns ok réð fyrir ok ann mikit Þóru. Þau
Ragnar to realm his and ruled over and loves much Thora They
 eiga tvá sonu; hét Eirekr inn ellri, en Agnarr inn yngri.
have two sons was-called Eirek the elder and Agnar the younger
 Þeir váru miklir vexti ok fríðir sýnum. Sterkari váru þeir
They were great in-stature and fair in-looks Stronger were they
 miklu en aðrir menn flestir, er þá váru uppi. Þeir námu
much than other men most who then were about They learned
 alls konar íþróttir. Þat var eitthvert sinn, at Þóra kenndi
of-all kinds arts That was on-a-certain time that Thora felt
 sér sóttar, ok andast hún ór þessi sótt. En Ragnari þótti
in-her of-sickness and dies she out-of this sickness But to-Ragnar seemed
 þetta svá mikit, at hann vill eigi ráða ríkinu ok tekr aðra
this so great that he wishes not to-rule the-realm and takes other
 menn til at ráða ríkinu með sonum sínum. En hann tekr nú
men to to rule the-realm with sons his But he takes now
 til iðnar sinnar innar sömu, sem hann hafði fyrr haft, ok
to occupation his the same which he had before had and
 ræðst nú í hernað, ok hvar sem hann ferr, fær hann sigr.
sets-out now on warfare and wherever as he fares gets he victory

V • KRÁKA COMES TO THE SHIPS

Ragnarr's ships lie off Spangarbeiðr, and Kráka, seeing them, washes herself against the old woman's ban; the cooks stare at her and let the bread burn. Ragnarr sends men with a task: she must come neither clothed nor unclothed, neither fed nor unfed, not alone, and with no man beside her. She comes wrapped in a fishing-net under her hair, having tasted one leek, with the old man's bound at her side, and answers in verse. She boards only on a promise of quarter for herself and her companion; the hound bites Ragnarr and is killed, but he seats her beside him and they trade verses.

Nú er þat eitt sumar, at hann heldr skipum sínum til
Now is that one summer that he holds ships his to
 Noregs, því at hann átti þar marga frændr ok vini ok
Norway because that he had there many kinsmen and friends and
 vill þá hitta. Hann kemr skipum sínum um kveldit í
wishes them to-meet He brings ships his in the-evening into
 höfn eina litla, en þar var bær skammt þaðan, er hét
harbor a little and there was farm short thence which was-called
 á Spangarheiði, ok lágu þeir þar í höfn þá nótt. Ok er
at Spangarbeatb and lay they there in harbor that night And when
 morginn kom, skyldu matsveinar fara á land at baka brauð.
morning came should cooks go on land to bake bread
 Þeir sjá, at bær er skammt frá þeim, ok þótti þeim sér
They see that farm is short from them and seemed to-them for-them
 þat betr gegna at fara til húss ok vera þar at. Ok er þeir
that better to-suit to go to house and to-be there at And when they
 kómu til þess ins litla bæjar, þá hitta þeir einn mann at
came to that the little farm then meet they a person at
 máli, ok er þat kerling, ok spurðu, hvárt hún væri húsfreyja
speech and is that old-woman and asked whether she were housewife
 eða hvat hún hét. Hún segir, at hún sé húsfreyja, —
or what she was-called She says that she is housewife
 “ok nafn mitt óvant, ek heiti Gríma, eða hverir eru þér?”
and name my uncommon I am-called Grima or who are you
 Þeir sögðu, at þeir væri þjónustumenn Ragnars loðbrókar,
They said that they were servants of-Ragnar Shaggy-Breeches
 ok vilja þeir færa fram sýslu sína, — “ok viljum vér, at
and wish they to-carry forth task their and wish we that
 þú vinnir með oss.” Kerling svarar, at hendr hennar
thou workest with us The-old-woman answers that hands her
 váru stíðar mjök. “En verit hafði þat fyrrum, at ek kunna
were stiff much But been had that formerly that I knew

bjargvel sýslu mína, ok á ek mér dóttur þá, er at mun
right-well task mine and have I for-me daughter that who at will
 vera með yðr ok mun heim koma brátt ok heitir Kráka.
be with you and will home come soon and is-called Kraka
 Er nú svá komit, at ek kem trautt ráði við hana." Ok nú
Is now so come that I bring hardly counsel with her And now
 er Kráka at fé farin um myrgininn ok sér, at skip váru
is Kraka at cattle gone in the-morning and sees that ships were
 komin við land mörg ok stór, ok nú tekr hún ok þvær
come at land many and great and now takes she and washes
 sér. En kerling hafði henni þat bannat, því at hún
herself But the-old-woman had to-her that forbidden because that she
 vildi eigi, at menn sæi fegrð hennar, því at hún var
wished not that men saw beauty her because that she was
 allra kvenna vænst, en hár hennar var svá mikit, at tók
of-all women fairest and hair her was so great that reached
 jörð um hana, ok svá fagrt sem silki þat, er fegrst verðr.
earth about her and so fair as silk that which fairest becomes
 Ok nú kemr Kráka heim. En þeir matsveinar höfðu gert
And now comes Kraka home But those cooks had made
 eld, ok nú sér Kráka, at þar eru menn komnir, þeir er
fire and now sees Kraka that there are men come those whom
 hún hefir eigi fyrr sét. Hún hyggir at þeim ok svá þeir at
she has not before seen She looks at them and so they at
 henni. Ok nú spyrja þeir Grímu: "Hvart er sjá þín dóttir,
her And now ask they Grima Whether is this thy daughter
 in fagra mæri?" "Eigi er til þess logit," segir Gríma, "at sjá
the fair maiden Not is to that lied says Grima that this
 er mín dóttir." "Furðu ólíkar máttu þit verða," segja þeir,
is my daughter Wondrously unlike may you-two become say they
 "svá illilígg sem þú ert. En vér höfum eigi jafnvæna mey
so ugly as thou art And we have not as-fair maiden

sét, ok enga sjám vér hana hafa þína mynd, því at þú
seen and no see we her to-have thy form because that thou
 ert it mesta ferlíki.” Gríma svarar: “Eigi má nú á mér sjá.
art the greatest monstrosity Gríma answers Not may now on me see
 Brugðit er nú mínum yfirlitum ór því, sem var.” Nú ræða
Changed is now my appearance out-of that which was Now speak
 þeir þetta, at hún vinni með þeim. Hún spyr: “Hvat
they this that she should-work with them She asks What
 skal ek vinna?” Þeir kváðust vilja, at hún teygði brauð,
shall I work They said-themselves to-wish that she kneaded bread
 en þeir mundi baka eptir. Ok tekr hún síðan til sinnar
and they would bake after And takes she then to her
 iðju, ok vinnst henni vel. En þeir horfðu á hana ávallt,
work and goes for-her well But they gazed on her always
 svá at þeir gáðu eigi sýslu sinnar ok brenndu brauðit. Ok
so that they heeded not task their and burned the-bread And
 er þeir höfðu lokit verki sínu, fóru þeir til skipa. Ok
when they had ended work their went they to ships And
 þá er þeir skyldu brjóta upp vistir sínar, mæltu allir,
then when they should break up provisions their said all
 at þeir hefði aldri jafnilla unnit ok væri hegningar fyrir
that they had never as-badly worked and were of-punishment for
 vert. Ok nú spyr Ragnarr, hví þeir hefði þanninn matbúit.
worth And now asks Ragnar why they had thus cooked
 Þeir kváðust sét hafa konu svá væna, at þeir gáðu
They said-themselves seen to-have woman so fair that they heeded
 eigi sinnar sýslu, ok ætluðu þeir, at engi mundi henni
not their task and thought they that none would than-her
 vænni vera í veröldu. Ok er þeir tóku svá mikit af of
fairer be in world And when they took so much off about
 hennar fegrð, þá segir Ragnarr ok kveðst þat vita, at
her beauty then says Ragnar and says-himself that to-know that

sjá mundi eigi jafnvæn sem Þóra hafði verit. Þeir kváðu
this would not as-fair as Thora had been They said
 hana eigi óvænni. Þá mælti Ragnarr: “Nú mun ek senda
her not less-fair Then said Ragnar Now will I send
 þá menn, er gerla kunni at sjá. Ef svá er sem þér segið,
those men who clearly know to see If so is as you say
 þá er þetta athugaleysi yðr upp gefit, en ef konan er
then is this carelessness to-you up given but if the-woman is
 at nokkurum hlut óvænni en þér segið frá, munu þér taka
in any thing less-fair than you say of will you take
 hegning mikla á yðr.” Ok nú sendir hann menn sína til
punishment great on you And now sends he men his to
 fundar við þessa ina fögru mey, en andviðri var svá mikit,
meeting with this the fair maiden but head-wind was so great
 at þeir máttu eigi fara þann dag, ok mælti Ragnarr við
that they could not go that day and said Ragnar to
 sína sendimenn: “Ef yðr lízt þessi in unga mæðr svá væn
his messengers If to-you seems this the young maiden so fair
 sem oss er sagt, biðið hana fara á minn fund, ok vil ek
as to-us is said bid her to-go to my meeting and wish I
 hitta hana; vil ek, at hún sé mín. Hvárki vil ek, at hún
to-meet her wish I that she be mine Neither wish I that she
 sé klædd né óklædd, hvárki mett né ómett, ok fari hún
be clothed nor unclothed neither fed nor unfed and let-go she
 þó eigi ein saman, ok skal henni þó engi maðr fylgja.”
yet not alone together and shall her yet no man accompany
 Nú fóru þeir, þar til er þeir koma til húss, ok hyggja
Now went they there to when they come to house and look
 at Kráku vandliga, ok lízt þeim sjá kona svá væn, at þeir
at Kraka carefully and seems to-them this woman so fair that they
 hugðu enga aðra jafnvæna. Ok nú segja þeir orð herra síns,
thought no other as-fair And now say they words of-lord their

Ragnars, ok svá, hversu hún skyldi búin vera. Kráka hugði
of-Ragnar and so how she should prepared be Kraka considered
 at, hversu konungr hafði mælt ok hvé hún skyldi búast, en
at how king had spoken and how she should prepare but
 Grímu þótti engan veg svá mega vera ok kveðst vita, at
to-Grima seemed no way so to-be-able be and says-herself to-know that
 sjá konungr mundi eigi vera vitr. Kráka segir: “Því mun
this king would not be wise Kraka says Therefore will
 hann svá mælt hafa, at svá mun vera mega, ef vér skiljum
he so spoken have that so will be be-able if we understand
 eptir því, sem hann ætlar til. En víst eigi má ek í yðarri
after that as he intends for But surely not may I in your
 ferð vera þenna dag, en ek mun koma snemma á morgin
journey be this day but I will come early on morning
 til yðarra skipa.” Nú fóru þeir í brott ok segja Ragnari
to your ships Now went they off away and tell Ragnar
 svá búit, at hún mundi koma til fundar þeira. Ok nú er
so settled that she would come to meeting of-them And now is
 hún heima þá nótt. En um myrgininn snemma segir Kráka
she at-home that night But in the-morning early says Kraka
 karli, at þá mundi hún fara á fund Ragnars. “En þó
to-the-man that then would she go to meeting of-Ragnar But yet
 mun ek verða at breyta búnaði mínum nokkut; þú átt
will I have to change attire mine somewhat thou hast
 aurriðanet, ok mun ek þat vefja at mér, en þar yfir utan
trout-net and will I that wrap at me and there over outside
 læt ek falla hár mitt, ok mun ek þá hvergi ber. En ek
let I to-fall hair my and will I then nowhere bare And I
 mun bergja á einum lauk, ok er þat lítill matr, en þó má
will taste on a leek and is that little food but yet may
 þat kenna, at ek hefi bergt. Ok ek mun láta fylgja mér
that perceive that I have tasted And I will let accompany me

hund þinn, ok fer ek þá eigi ein saman, en þó fylgir
hound thine and go I then not alone together but yet accompanies
 mér engi maðr." Ok er kerling heyrir hennar fyrirætlan,
me no man And when the-old-woman hears her plan
 þykkir henni hún mikit vit hafa. Ok er Kráka er búin,
seems to-her she great wit to-have And when Kraka is ready
 ferr hún leiðar sinnar, þar til er hún kemr til skipa, ok
fares she of-way her there to when she comes to ships and
 var fögr tilsýndar, er hár hennar var bjart ok sem á gull
was fair to-look-at as hair her was bright and as on gold
 eitt sæi. Ok nú kallar Ragnarr á hana ok spyr, hver hún
alone one-saw And now calls Ragnar on her and asks who she
 væri eða hvern hún vildi finna. Hún svarar ok kvað vísu:
were or whom she wished to-find She answers and spoke verse

"Þorik eigi boð brjóta,
Dare-I not bidding to-break
 er báðuð mik ganga,
which you-bade me to-go
 né ræsis kvöð rjúfa,
nor of-prince summons to-break
 Ragnarr, við þik stefnum;
Ragnar with thee meeting
 manngi er mér í sinni,
no-man is to-me in company
 mitt er bert hörund eigi,
my is bare skin not
 fylgi hefi ek fullgott,
escort have I full-good
 fer ek ein saman, mínu."
go I alone together with-mine

Nú sendir hann menn at móti henni ok lætr fylgja
Now sends he men at against her and has to-accompany
 henni á skip sín. En hún kveðst eigi fara vilja, nema henni
her on ship his But she says-herself not to-go to-wish unless to-her
 sé grið gefin ok förunaut hennar. Nú er henni fylgt
be quarter given and to-companion her Now is her accompanied
 á konungs skip, ok er hún kemr í fyrirrúm, seilist
on king's ship and when she comes into fore-room reaches
 hann í mót henni, en hundrinn beit í hönd honum. Þeir
he in against her but the-bound bit in hand to-him Those
 menn hans hlaupa til ok drepa hundinn ok reka bogastreng
men his run to and kill the-bound and drive bow-string
 at hálsi honum, ok fær hann af því bana, ok er eigi betr
at neck to-it and gets it from that death and is not better
 griðum haldit við hana en svá. Nú leggr Ragnarr hana í
quarter kept with her than so Now sets Ragnar her in
 lypting hjá sér ok hjalar við hana, ok varð honum vel í
poop beside him and chats with her and became to-him well in
 skap við hana ok var blíðr við hana. Hann kvað vísu:
mind toward her and was kind toward her He spoke verse

“Mundi víst, ef væri

Would surely if were

vörðr föður jarðar

guardian of-father of-land

mætri mildri snótu,

with-worthy generous lady

á mér taka höndum.”

on me take with-hands

Hún kvað:

She spoke

“Vammlausa skalt, vísi,

Blameless shalt prince

ef vilt griðum þyrma,

if wishest quarter to-spare

heim höfum hilmi sóttan,

home have ruler visited

heðan mik fara láta.”

hence me go let

VI • THE GOLD-SEWN SHIFT

Ragnarr offers her the gold-sewn shift that Þóra owned; she answers in verse that such clothes do not befit a woman called Kráka who has walked the stones in coal-black rags. She goes home first, tells the old couple that she knows they killed Heimir, and lays it on them that each day shall be worse than the last. At home the wedding ale is drunk. She asks for three nights apart lest their child be born maimed, and Ragnarr will not wait.

Nú segir hann, at honum lízt vel á hana ok ætlar víst, at

Now says he that to-him seems well on her and intends surely that

hún skyli með honum fara. Þá kvað hún eigi svá vera mega.

she should with him go Then said she not so be to-be-able

Þá kvaðst hann vilja, at hún væri þar um nótt á skipi.

Then said-of-himself he to-wish that she were there in night on ship

Hún segir, at eigi skal þat vera, fyrr en hann kemr heim ór

She says that not shall that be sooner than he comes home out-of

þeiri ferð, sem hann hafði ætlat, — “ok má vera, at þá sýnist

that journey which he had intended and may be that then seems

yðr annat." Þá kallar Ragnarr á féhirði sinn ok bað hann
to-you other Then calls Ragnar on treasurer his and bade him
 taka serk þann, er Þóra hefir átt ok var allr gullsauaðr,
to-take shirt that which Thora has owned and was all gold-embroidered
 ok færa sér. Þá býðr Ragnarr Kráku á þá lund:
and to-bring to-him Then offers Ragnar to-Kraka on that manner

"Viltu þenna þiggja,
Wishest-thou this receive
 er Þóra hjörtr átti,
which Thora Hart owned
 serk við silfr of merkðan;
shirt with silver — marked
 sama allvel þér klæði;
befit very-well to-thee clothes
 fóru hendr hvítar
went hands white
 hennar um þessar gervar;
her about these made
 sú var buðlungi bragna
she was to-prince of-men
 blíðum þekk til dauða."
to-kind pleasing to death

Kráka kvað á móti:

Kraka spoke in against

“Þorik eigi þann þiggja,

Dare-I not that to-receive

er Þóra hjörtr átti,

which Thora Hart owned

serk við silfr of merkðan;

shirt with silver — marked

sama ælig mér klæði;

befit wretched to-me clothes

því em ek Kráka kölluð,

therefore am I Kraka called

í kolsvörtum váðum,

in coal-black garments

at ek hefi grjót of gengit

that I have stones — walked

ok geitr með sjá reknar.”

and goats along sea driven

“Ok vil ek víst eigi taka við serknum,” segir hún. “Vil ek

And wish I surely not to-take with the-shirt says she Wish I

ekki í skraut búast, meðan ek em hjá karli. Kann vera,

not in finery dress-myself while I am beside the-man May be

at yðr lítist betr á mik, ef ek búumst betr, ok vil ek nú

that to-you seems better on me if I dress-myself better and wish I now

fara heim. En þá máttu gera menn eptir mér, ef þér er

to-go home But then mayest-thou send men after me if to-thee is

þá samt í hug ok vilir þú, at ek fara með þér.” Ragnarr

then same in mind and wishest thou that I go with thee Ragnarr

segir, at eigi mun hugr hans skipast, ok ferr hún heim. En

says that not will mind his change and fares she home But

þeir fóru, sem þeir höfðu ætlat, þegar þeim gaf byr, ok
they went as they had intended as-soon-as to-them gave fair-wind and
 lýkr hann sínum erendum, eptir því sem hann hafði ætlat.
ends he his errands after that as he had intended
 Ok er hann ferr aþtr, kemr hann sér í ina sömu höfn,
And when he fares back brings he himself into the same harbor
 sem hann hafði fyrr haft, þá er Kráka kom til hans. Ok
which he had before had then when Kraka came to him And
 þat it sama kveld sendir hann menn á fund hennar at
that the same evening sends he men to meeting of-her to
 segja orð Ragnars, at hún færi nú alfari. En hún segir,
say words of-Ragnar that she should-go now for-good But she says
 at hún mun eigi fara fyrr en um morgininn. Ríss Kráka
that she will not go sooner than in the-morning Rises Kraka
 upp snemma ok gengr til rekkju þeira karls ok kerlingar
up early and goes to bed of-them of-the-man and of-the-woman
 ok spyr, hvárt þau vaki. Þau kváðust vaka ok spurðu,
and asks whether they wake They said-themselves to-wake and asked
 hvat hún vildi. En hún segir, at hún ætlaði á brott ok
what she wished But she says that she intended off away and
 vera þar ekki lengr. “En ek veit, at þit drápuð Heimi,
to-be there not longer But I know that you-two killed Heimir
 fóstra minn, ok á ek engum manni verra at launa en
foster-father my and have I to-no man worse to repay than
 ykk. Ok fyrir þá sök vil ek ykk ekki illt gera láta,
to-you-two And for that cause wish I to-you-two not evil to-do let
 at ek hefi lengi með ykk verit, en nú vil ek þat um
that I have long with you-two been but now wish I that about
 mæla, at annarr dagr sé ykk öðrum verri, er yfir ykk
to-speak that one day is to-you-two than-other worse which over you-two
 kemr, en inn síðasti verstr, ok munu vér nú skilja.” Þá
comes and the last worst and will we now part Then

gengr hún leiðar sinnar til skipa, ok er þar vel við henni
goes she of-way her to ships and is there well with her
 tekit. Gefr þeim vel veðr. Þann aptan inn sama, er menn
taken Gives to-them well weather That evening the same when men
 skulu rekkja undir sér, þá segir Ragnarr, at hann vill, at
shall go-to-bed under them then says Ragnar that he wishes that
 þau Kráka hvíli bæði saman. Hún segir, at eigi mátti svá
they Kraka rest both together She says that not might so
 vera, — “ok vil ek, at þú drekkir brúðlaup til mín, þá
be and wish I that thou drinkest wedding to me then
 er þú kemr í ríki þitt, ok þykki mér þat mín virðing
when thou comest into realm thy and seems to-me that my honor
 sem þín ok okkarra erfingja, ef vit eigum nokkura.” Hann
as thine and of-our-two heirs if we-two have any He
 veitti henni sína bæn, ok ferst þeim vel. Kemr Ragnarr
granted her his boon and goes for-them well Comes Ragnar
 nú heim í land sitt, ok er dýrlig veizla búin í mót
now home into land his and is splendid feast prepared in against
 honum, ok nú er bæði drukkit fagnaðaröl í móti honum
him and now is both drunk welcome-ale in against him
 ok brúðlaup hans. Ok inn fyrsta aptan, er þau koma í
and wedding his And the first evening when they come into
 eina rekkju, vill Ragnarr eiga hjúskaparfar við konu sína,
one bed wishes Ragnar to-have marriage-intercourse with wife his
 en hún biðst undan, því at hún segir, at á baki mundi
but she begs-off away because that she says that on back would
 bera nokkut, ef hún réði eigi. Ragnarr kvaðst ekki trúá
bear something if she ruled not Ragnar said-of-himself not to-believe

mundu á þat, kvað þau ekki framvís karl ok kerlingu.

would on that said them not fore-seeing man and woman

Hann spurði, hvé lengi svá skyldi vera. Þá kvað hún:

He asked how long so should be Then said she

“Þrjár vit skulum þessar,

Three we-two shall these

ok þó saman, byggja

and yet together dwell

hvárt sér nætr í höllu,

each apart nights in hall

áðr heilug goð blótím;

before holy gods we-sacrifice-to

þá munut mein á mínum

then will harm on my

megi til löng of verða;

son too long — become

heldr ert bráðr at byrja

rather art hasty to begin

þann, er bein hefir engi.”

him who bone has none

Ok þó hún kvæði þetta, gaf Ragnarr at því engan gaum

And though she spoke this gave Ragnar at that no heed

ok brá á sitt ráð.

and turned on his plan

Their first son is Ívarr, born with gristle where bone should be, the fairest and wisest of men, carried everywhere on poles because he cannot walk. Then come Björn, Hvítserkr, and Rögnvaldr. Ragnarr's older sons Eirekr and Agnarr are already famous raiders. Ívarr asks his brothers how long they mean to sit at home, gets ships and men from their father, wins wherever he goes, and then names a harder place: Hvítabær, where the sacrifices are and where Ragnarr himself had to turn away.

Nú liða stundir fram, ok var samför þeira góð ok miklar
Now pass times forth and was life-together of-them good and great
 ástir. En Kráka kennir sér sóttar ok verðr léttari ok elr
loves But Kraka feels in-her of-sickness and becomes lighter and bears
 sveinbarn, ok var sveinninn vatni ausinn ok nafn gefit
boy-child and was the-boy with-water sprinkled and name given
 ok kallaðr Ívarr. En sá sveinn var beinlauss ok sem brjósk
and called Ivar But that boy was boneless and as gristle
 væri þar, sem bein skyldu vera. Ok þá er hann var ungr,
were there where bones should be And then when he was young
 var hann vexti svá mikill, at engir váru hans jafningjar.
was he in-stature so great that none were his equals
 Hann var allra manna fríðastr sýnum ok svá vitr, at eigi er
He was of-all men fairest in-looks and so wise that not is
 víst, hvern meiri spekingr hefir verit en hann. Þeim verðr
certain who greater sage has been than he To-them becomes
 enn fleiri barna auðit. Annarr sonr þeira hét Björn,
yet more of-children granted Second son their was-called Björn
 inn þriðji Hvítserkr, inn fjórði Rögnvaldr. Þeir váru miklir
the third Hvítserk the fourth Rognvald They were great
 menn allir ok inir fræknustu, ok þegar þeir máttu nokkut
men all and the most-valiant and as-soon-as they could anything
 at hafast, námu þeir alls konar íþróttir. Ok hvert sem þeir
at undertake learned they of-all kinds arts And wherever as they

fóru, lét Ívarr bera sik á stöngum, því at hann mátti
went had Ivar to-bear himself on poles because that he could
 eigi ganga, ok skyldi hann hafa ráð fyrir þeim, hvat
not walk and should he have counsel for them whatever
 sem þeir höfðust at. Nú eru þeir Eirekr ok Agnarr, synir
as they undertook at Now are those Eirek and Agnar sons
 Ragnars, miklir menn fyrir sér, svá at trautt finnast
of-Ragnar great men for themselves so that hardly are-found
 þeira jafningjar, ok búa þeir á herskipum hvert sumar ok
their equals and dwell they on war-ships every summer and
 eru ágætir af sínum hernaði. Ok nú er þat einn dag,
are famous from their warfare And now is that one day
 at Ívarr ræðir við bræðr sína, Hvítserk ok Björn, hvé lengi
that Ivar speaks with brothers his Hvitserk and Bjorn how long
 svá skal fram fara, at þeir skyli heima sitja ok leita sér
so shall forth go that they should at-home sit and seek for-them
 engrar frægðar. En þeir segja, at þeir skyli hans ráðum
of-no fame But they say that they should his by-counsels
 fram fara um þat sem annat. “Nú vil ek,” segir Ívarr, “at
forth go about that as other Now wish I says Ivar that
 vér biðim, at oss sé fengin skip ok lið, svá at þau sé vel
we ask that to-us are given ships and force so that they are well
 skipuð, ok síðan vil ek, at vér aflim oss fjár ok ágætis,
manned and then wish I that we gain for-us of-wealth and of-fame
 ef svá vill upp takast.” Ok er þeir höfðu þetta ráðit með
if so wishes up turn-out And when they had this decided with
 sér, segja þeir Ragnari, at þeir vilja, at hann fái þeim
them say they to-Ragnar that they wish that he give them
 skip ok skipi liði því, er reynt sé at herfangi ok búit
ships and man with-force that which tried is at war-booty and equipped
 vel fyrir alls sakir. Ok gerir hann þat eptir því, sem þeir
well for of-all sakes And does he that after that as they

beiddu. Ok nú er þetta lið er búit, fara þeir ór landi.
asked And now when this force is ready go they out-of land
 En þar sem þeir berjast við menn, fá þeir meira hlut ok
But there where they fight with men get they greater part and
 fá sér nú bæði mikit lið ok fé. Ok nú segir Ívarr, at
get for-them now both great force and wealth And now says Ivar that
 hann vildi, at þeir heldi þar til, er meira ofrefli
he wished that they should-hold there to where greater overubelming-force
 er fyrir, ok reyndi svá sinn hraustleik. Ok nú spyrja þeir,
is before and should-test so their valor And now ask they
 hvar hann vissi þess ván. Ok nú nefnir hann einn stað,
where he knew of-that expectation And now names he a place
 þann er heitir Hvítabær, en þar höfðu verit blót, —
that which is-called White-town and there had been sacrifices
 “ok margir hafa til leitast at vinna, ok hafa engir sigrazt,”
and many have to sought to conquer and have none prevailed
 ok hafði Ragnarr komit þar ok varð frá at hverfa ok fekk
and had Ragnar come there and had from to turn and got
 ekki at gert. “Hvart er þat lið svá mikit,” segja þeir, “ok
nothing at done Whether is that force so great say they and
 svá harðfengt, eða eru þar önnur torveldi?” Ívarr segir, at
so hardy or are there other difficulties Ivar says that
 bæði var fjölmenni mikit ok blótstaðr mikill ok þat hafði
both was multitude great and sacrifice-place great and that had
 öllum fyrir komit ok engir höfðu staðizt. Ok nú mæla
for-all before come and none had withstood And now say
 þeir, at hann skyldi fyrir ráða, hvart þeir skyldu þangat
they that he should for decide whether they should thither
 halda eða eigi. En hann segir, at hann vill heldr hætta á,
bold or not But he says that he wishes rather to-risk on
 hvart meira má þeim harðfengi eða blótskapr landsmanna.
whether more avails to-them hardiness or sacrifice-power of-the-landsmen

Rögnvaldr, being young, is left to guard the ships. The townsmen loose two sacred heifers that no army has been able to face for their bellowing and witchcraft, and Ívarr, carried on his shield, calls for a bow and kills both. Rögnvaldr will not stay behind, goes ashore, presses too far, and falls. The brothers get into the town, the townsmen are put to flight and pursued, and Björn speaks a verse as they turn back; then they take all the loose goods, burn every house, and break down the walls.

Nú halda þeir þangat, ok er þeir koma þar í land, búast
Now hold they thither and when they come there to land prepare
 þeir til uppgöngu. Ok nú þykkir þeim þurfa, at liðit
they for landing And now seems to-them to-need that the-force
 gæti sumt skipanna. En Rögnvaldr, bróðir þeira, var þá
should-guard some of-the-ships But Rognvald brother their was then
 ungr, at þeim þótti hann eigi til færri vera í svá mikilli
young so-that to-them seemed he not for capable to-be in so great
 mannaun at vera sem þeim þótti líklegt, at vera mundi,
man-trial to be as to-them seemed likely to be would
 ok láta hann gæta skipa með sumu liði. En áðr þeir færi
and let him guard ships with some force But before they went
 frá skipum, segir Ívarr, at þeir borgarmenn eigu naut tvau,
from ships says Ivar that those town-men own cattle two
 ok eru þat kvígenti, ok menn höfðu því frá horfit, at
and are those heifers and men had that from turned that
 eigi mátti standast lát þeira ok tröllskap. Þá mælti Ívarr:
not could withstand noise their and witchcraft Then said Ivar
 “Verðið við sem best þótt yðr bjóði nokkurn ótta, því
Become at as best though to-you offers some terror because
 at eigi mun til saka.” Nú fylkja þeir liði sínu. Ok er
that not will to harm Now array they force their And when
 þeir nálgast borgina, verða þeir varir við, er byggja staðinn,
they approach the-town become they aware with who inhabit the-place

taka nú at leysa út naut þessi, er þeir trúðu á. Ok er
begin now to loose out cattle these which they believed on And when
kvígendingin eru laus látin, hlaupa þau hart ok láta illa. Nú
the-beifers are loose let run they hard and behave ill Now
sér Ívarr þetta, þar sem hann er borinn á skildi, ok biðr
sees Ivar this there where he is borne on shield and bids
fá sér boga, ok svá var gert. Nú skýtr hann þessi in illu
to-give him bow and so was done Now shoots he these the evil
kvígendi, svá at hvárttveggja fekk bana, ok var nú af hendi
beifers so that each-of-two got death and was now off hand
leyst þessi ófriðr, er mönnum þótti mestr ótti at. Nú
loosed this trouble which to-men seemed greatest terror at Now
tekr Rögnvaldr til orða at skipum ok mælti við lið sitt,
takes Rognvald to words at ships and spoke with force his
at þeir menn væri sælir, er slíka skemmtan skyldu hafa
that those men were happy who such sport should have
sem þeir bræðr hans hafa. “Ok gengr þeim ekki annat til,
as those brothers his have And goes to-them nothing other for
er ek skylda eptir vera, en þeir einir vilja hafa virðing af.
that I should behind be than they alone wish to-have honor from
Nú skulu vér ganga upp gervallir.” Ok nú gera þeir svá. Ok
Now shall we go up one-and-all And now do they so And
þá er þeir koma eptir liðinu, gengr Rögnvaldr hart fram
then when they come after the-force goes Rognvald hard forth
í bardagann, ok lýkr svá, at hann fellr. En þeir komast
into the-battle and ends so that he falls But those get
í borgina bræðr, ok tekst nú bardagi af nýju, ok lýkr
into the-town brothers and begins now battle of new and ends

svá, at borgarmenn komast á flóttu, en þeir reka flóttann.

so that town-men get on flight and they drive the-flight

Ok er þeir hverfa aptr til borgarinnar, kveðr Björn vísu:

And when they turn back to the-town speaks Björn verse

“Upp hrundu vér ópi,

Up raised we with-shout

ór bitu meira en þeira,

our bit more than theirs

satt mun ek til þess segja,

truly will I to that say

sverð, í Gnípafirði;

swords in Gnípa-fjord

knátti hverr, er vildi,

could each who wished

fyr Hvítabæ útan,

before White-town outside

né sitt spari sveinar

nor their let-spare lads

sverð, mannsbani verða.”

sword man's-slayer become

Ok er þeir koma aptr í borgina, taka þeir allt lausafé,

And when they come back into the-town take they all loose-wealth

en brenna hvert hús, er í var borginni, ok brjóta alla

and burn every house which in was the-town and break all

borgarveggi. Ok nú halda þeir skipum sínum þaðan.

town-walls And now hold they ships their thence

Eysteinn of Sweden keeps at Uppsälir a cow, Sibilja, so sacrificed to that no enemy can stand her bellowing. Ragnarr, feasting with him, is betrothed to his daughter Ingibjörg and forbids his men on pain of death to speak of it. Kráka meets him with the news, saying three birds told her, and reveals that she is Áslaug, daughter of Sigurðr Fáfnisbani and Brynhildr. The proof she offers is the son she carries, in whose eye a serpent will seem to lie, and so it is: Sigurðr ormr í auga.

Eysteinn hefir konungr heitit, er réð fyrir Svíþjóðu. Hann
 Eystein has king been-called who ruled over Sweden He
 var kvángaðr ok átti eina dóttur. Sú hét Ingibjörg. Hún
 was married and had one daughter She was-called Ingibjorg She
 var allra kvenna fríðust ok vænst sýnum. Eysteinn konungr
 was of-all women fairest and handsomest in-looks Eystein king
 var ríkr ok fjölmennr, illgjarn ok þó vitr. Hann hafði atsetu
 was mighty and of-many-men malicious and yet wise He had residence
 at Uppsölum. Hann var blótmaðr mikill, ok at Uppsölum
 at Uppsala He was sacrificer great and at Uppsala
 váru blót svá mikil í þann tíma, at hvergi hafa verit
 were sacrifices so great in that time that nowhere have been
 meiri á Norðrlöndum. Þeir höfðu átrúnað mikinn á einni
 greater in Northern-lands They had belief great on a
 kú, ok kölluðu þeir hana Sibilju. Hún var svá mjök blótin,
 cow and called they her Sibilja She was so much sacrificed-to
 at menn máttu eigi standast lát hennar. Ok því var
 that men could not withstand noise her And to-that was
 konungr vanr, þá er hers var ván, at þessi kýr in
 king accustomed then when of-host was expectation that this cow the
 sama var fyrir fylkingum, ok svá mikill djöfuls kraptr fylgdi
 same was before battle-lines and so great of-devil power followed
 henni, at óvinir hans urðu svá ærir, þegar þeir heyrðu til
 her that enemies his became so frantic as-soon-as they heard to

hennar, at þeir börðust sjálfir ok gáðu sín eigi, ok fyrir
her that they fought themselves and heeded themselves not and for
 þá sök var óherskátt á Svíþjóð, at menn treystust eigi við
that cause was un-raided in Sweden that men dared not with
 slíkt ofrefli at etja. Eysteinn konungur átti vingott við
such overwhelming-force to contend Eystein king had friendship with
 marga menn ok höfðingja, ok er þat sagt, at í þann tíma
many men and chieftains and is that said that in that time
 var vinátta mikil með þeim Ragnari ok Eysteini konungi
was friendship great with those Ragnar and Eystein king
 ok þeir váru því vanir, at sitt sumar skyldi sækja veizlu
and they were to-that accustomed that his summer should seek feast
 hvárr þeira til annars. Nú kemr at því, at Ragnarr skal
each of-them to other Now comes at that that Ragnar shall
 sækja veizlu til Eysteins konungs. Ok er hann kemr til
seek feast to Eystein king And when he comes to
 Uppsala, var honum vel fagnat ok liði hans. Ok þá er
Uppsala was to-him well welcomed and to-force his And then when
 þeir drekka inn fyrsta aptan, lætr konungur dóttur sína byrja
they drink the first evening has king daughter his to-pour
 sér ok Ragnari. Ok þat mæltu menn Ragnars með sér,
for-him and for-Ragnar And that said men of-Ragnar with them
 at engi væri annarr til en hann bæði dóttur Eysteins
that none were other for than he should-ask for-daughter of-Eystein
 konungs, en hann ætti eigi lengr karlsdóttur. Ok nú
king and he should-have not longer man's-daughter And now
 verðr til einnhverr hans manna at tjá þetta fyrir honum,
becomes to some-one of-his men to declare this before him
 ok því lýkr svá, at honum er heitit konunni, ok skyldi
and that ends so that to-him is promised the-woman and should
 hún þó sitja í festum mjök lengi. En þá er þeiri veizlu
she yet sit in betrothal very long But then when that feast

var lokit, býst Ragnar heim, ok ferst honum vel, ok er
was ended prepares Ragnar home and goes for-him well and is
 ekki sagt frá ferð hans, fyrr en hann á skammt til
nothing said of journey his sooner than he has short to
 borgarinnar, ok liggr leið hans um skóg einn. Þeir koma
the-town and lies way his through wood a They come
 í eitt rjóðr, er var í skóginum. Þá lætr Ragnar nema
into a clearing which was in the-wood Then has Ragnar to-take
 staðar lið sitt ok kvaddi sér hljóðs ok biðr þá menn
place force his and called for-him of-hearing and bids those men
 alla, er í hans ferð höfðu verit til Svíþjóðar, at engi
all who in his journey had been to Sweden that none
 skyldi segja hans fyrirætlan, er stofnuð var um ráðahag við
should tell his intention which established was about marriage with
 dóttur Eysteins konungs. Nú leggr hann svá ríkt við þetta,
daughter of-Eystein king Now lays he so strictly on this
 ef sá er nokkurr, er of þetta geti, at hann skal engu
if that is any who about this mentions that he shall nothing
 fyrir týna nema lífinu. En nú er hann hafði talað slíkt er
for lose except the-life But now when he had spoken such as
 hann vildi, fór hann heim til bæjarins. Ok nú verða menn
he wished went he home to the-town And now become men
 fegnir, er hann kemr aptr, ok þá var drukkitt fagnaðaröl
glad when he comes back and then was drunk welcome-ale
 í móti honum. Ok er hann kemr í hásetit ok hefir
in against him And when he comes into the-high-seat and has
 setit eigi lengi, áðr Kráka kemr í höllina fyrir Ragnar
sat not long before Kraka comes into the-hall before Ragnar
 ok sezt í kné honum ok leggr hendr um háls honum
and sits on knee to-him and lays hands about neck to-him
 ok spyrr: "Hvat er tíðenda?" En hann kveðst engi kunna
and asks What is of-tidings But he says-himself none to-know

at segja. Ok er á leið kveldit, taka menn til drykkju,
to tell And when on passed the-evening take men to drinking
 ok síðan fara menn til svefns. Ok er þau koma í eina
and then go men to sleep And when they come into one
 rekkju Ragnar ok Kráka, spyr hún hann enn tíðenda, en
bed Ragnar and Kraka asks she him again of-tidings but
 hann kveðst engi vita. Nú vill hún hjala margt, en hann
he says-himself none to-know Now wishes she to-chat much but he
 kveðst vera syfjaðr mjök ok farmóðr. “Nú mun ek segja
says-himself to-be sleepy much and travel-weary Now will I tell
 þér tíðendi,” segir hún, “ef þú vilt mér engi segja.” Hann
thee tidings says she if thou wishest to-me none to-tell He
 spyr, hver þau væri. “Þat kalla ek tíðendi,” segir hún, “ef
asks what they were That call I tidings says she if
 konungi er heitit konu, en þat er þó sumra manna mál,
to-king is promised woman and that is yet of-some men word
 at hann eigi sér aðra áðr.” “Hverr sagði þér þetta?” segir
that he has for-him another before Who told thee this says
 Ragnar. “Halda skulu menn þínir lífi ok limum, því at
Ragnar Keep shall men thine life and limbs because that
 engi sagði mér þinna manna,” segir hún. “Þér munduð sjá,
none told to-me of-thy men says she You would see
 at fuglar þrír sátu í trénu hjá yðr. Þeir sögðu mér þessi
that birds three sat in the-tree beside you They told to-me these
 tíðendi. Þess bið ek, at þú vitir eigi ráða þessa, sem
tidings Of-that ask I that thou undertake not match this as
 ætlat er. Nú mun ek segja þér, at ek em konungs dóttir,
intended is Now will I tell thee that I am king's daughter
 en eigi karls, ok faðir minn var svá ágætr maðr, at eigi
and not man's and father my was so excellent man that not
 fekkst hans jafningi, en mín móðir var allra kvenna fríðust
was-found his equal and my mother was of-all women fairest

ok vitrust, ok hennar nafn mun uppi, meðan veröldin
and wisest and her name will up while the-world
 stendr." Nú spyr hann, hverr faðir hennar var, ef hún
stands Now asks he who father her was if she
 væri eigi dóttir þess ins fátæka karls, er á Spangarheiði
were not daughter of-that the poor man who at Spangarheath
 var. Hún segir, at hún var dóttir Sigurðar Fáfnisbana ok
was She says that she was daughter of-Sigurd Fafnir's-bane and
 Brynhildar Buðladóttur. "Þat þykki mér allólíkligt, at þeira
of-Brynbild Budli's-daughter That seems to-me very-unlikely that their
 dóttir mundi Kráka heita eða þeira barn mundi í slíku
daughter would Kraka be-called or their child would in such
 fátæki upp vaxa sem á Spangarheiði var." Þá svarar hún:
poverty up grow as at Spangarheath was Then answers she
 "Saga er til þess," ok nú segir hún ok hefr þar upp
Story is to that and now tells she and begins there up
 sögu, sem þau hittust á fjallinu Sigurðr ok Brynhildr ok
story where they met on the-mountain Sigurd and Brynbild and
 hún var byrjuð. "Ok er Brynhildr varð léttari, var mér
she was begotten And when Brynbild became lighter was to-me
 nafn gefit, ok var ek kölluð Áslaug." Ok nú segir hún allt,
name given and was I called Aslaug And now tells she all
 sem farit hafði frá því, er þau karl hittust. Þá svarar
as gone had from that when they the-man met Then answers
 Ragnar: "Þessum mun ek við bregða Áslaugar órunum,
Ragnar To-these will I with change of-Aslaug the-ravings
 er þú mælir." Hún svarar: "Þú veizt, at ek em eigi heill
which thou speakest She answers Thou knowest that I am not whole
 maðr, ok mun þat vera sveinbarn, er ek geng með, en á
person and will that be boy-child which I go with and on
 þeim sveini mun vera þat mark, at svá mun þykkja sem
that boy will be that mark that so will seem as

ormr liggi um auga sveininum. Ok ef þetta gengr eptir,
serpent lies about eye to-the-boy And if this goes after
 bið ek þess, at þú komir eigi til Svíþjóðar þeirar tíðar,
ask I of-that that thou come not to Sweden of-that time
 at þú fáir dóttur Eysteins konungs. En ef þetta rýfst, far
that thou get daughter of-Eystein king But if this fails go
 þú með sem þú vilt. En ek vil, at sjá sveinn sé heitinn
thou with as thou wishest But I wish that this boy is named
 eptir feðr mínum, ef í hans auga er þetta frægðarmark,
after father mine if in his eye is this fame-mark
 sem ek ætla, at vera muni.” Nú kemr at þeiri stundu, er
which I expect to be will Now comes at that hour when
 hún kennir sér sóttar ok verðr léttari ok elr sveinbarn.
she feels in-her of-sickness and becomes lighter and bears boy-child
 Nú tóku þjónustukonur sveinninn ok sýndu henni. Þá mælti
Now took serving-women the-boy and showed her Then said
 hún, at bera skyldi til Ragnars ok láta hann sjá. Ok nú
she that bear should to Ragnar and let him to-see And now
 er svá gert, at sá inn ungi maðr var borinn í höllina
is so done that that the young man was borne into the-hall

ok lagðr í skikkjuskaut Ragnars. En er hann sér sveininn,
and laid in cloak-lap of-Ragnar But when he sees the-boy
 var hann spurðr, hvat heita skyldi. Hann kvað vísu:
was he asked what be-called should He spoke verse

“Sigurðr mun sveinn of heitinn,

Sigurd will boy — named

sá mun orrostur heyja,

he will battles wage

mjök líkr vera móður

much like be to-mother

ok mögr föður kallaðr;

and son of-father called

sá mun Óðins ættar

he will of-Odin of-kin

yfirbátr vera heitinn,

chief-one be named

þeim er ormr í auga,

to-him who serpent in eye

er annan lét svelta.”

who other let to-starve

Nú dregr hann gull af hendi sér ok gefr sveininum at

Now draws he gold off hand his and gives to-the-boy as

nafnfesti. Ok þá er hann réttir höndina með gullinu,

name-fastening And then when he reaches the-hand with the-gold

kemr við bak sveininum, en þat virðir Ragnarr svá sem
comes against back to-the-boy and that judges Ragnar so as
 hann vildi hata gullinu. Ok nú kvað hann vísu:
he wished hate the-gold And now spoke he verse

“Brynhildar lízt brögnum

Of-Brynhild seems to-men

brúnstein hafa fránan

brow-stone to-have flashing

dóttur mögr inn dýri

of-daughter son the precious

ok dyggligast hjarta;

and most-faithful heart

sjá berr alla ýta

this bears all men

undleygs boði magni,

of-wound-flame bidder in-strength

Buðla niðr, er baugi

of-Budli kinsman who ring

bráðgerr, hatar rauðum.”

early-grown hates red

Ok enn kvað hann:

And again spoke he

“Sá ek engum sveini

Saw I in-no boy

nema Sigurði einum

except in-Sigurd alone

í brúnsteinum brúna

in brow-stones of-brows

barðhjarls tauma lagða;

of-shield-land reins laid

sjá hefir dagryrir dýja,

this has day-diminisher of-shaking

dælt er hann at því kenna,

easy is him at that to-know

hvass í hvarmatúni

keen in eyelid-field

hring myrkviðar fengit.”

ring of-dark-wood gotten

Nú mælti hann, at þann svein skyldi bera í skemmu út.

Now said he that that boy should bear into bower out

En þá var því lokit, at hann mundi til Svíþjóðar fara. Ok

But then was that ended that he would to Sweden go And

nú kemr upp ætt Áslaugar, svá at þat veit hverr maðr, at

now comes up lineage of-Aslaug so that that knows every man that

hún er dóttir Sigurðar Fáfnisbana ok Brynhildar Buðladóttur.

she is daughter of-Sigurd Fafnir's-bane and of-Brynhild Budli's-daughter

Ragnarr never comes to the appointed feast, so Eysteinn holds himself and his daughter dishonored and the kings' friendship is at an end; hearing of it, Eirekr and Agnarr gather a great force and harry Sweden. Sibilja is loosed before the Swedish army and only the two brothers keep their wits; Agnarr falls and Eirekr is taken. He refuses both quarter and the king's daughter, asks to be lifted up on spears, and sends his ring to Áslaug. Hearing it she weeps tears like blood, and when Ívarr refuses the expedition it is Sigurðr, three winters old, who promises it within three nights, and his brothers then agree to go.

Nú er sú stund var liðin, er á var kveðit, at Ragnarr
Now when that time was passed which on was appointed that Ragnarr
 skyldi veizluna sækja til Uppsala ok kom hann eigi, þótti
should the-feast seek to Uppsala and came he not seemed
 Eysteini konungi ger til sín svívirðing ok dóttur sinnar,
to-Eystein king done to himself dishonor and daughter his
 ok nú var lokit vinfengi þeira konunganna. Ok þá er þeir
and now was ended friendship of-those of-the-kings And then when those
 Eirekr ok Agnarr, synir Ragnars, spyrja þetta, þá ræddu
Eirekr and Agnarr sons of-Ragnarr learn this then spoke
 þeir með sér, at þeir mundu fá sér lið mikit, sem
they with themselves that they would get for-them force great as
 þeir mætti mest, ok mundu herja á Svíþjóð. Ok nú draga
they might most and would harry on Sweden And now draw
 þeir saman lið mikit ok búa skip sín, en þótti mikit
they together force great and prepare ships their and seemed much
 undir, at vel tækist til, þá er skip skyldi fram setja. Nú
beneath that well turned-out for then when ships should forth set Now
 verðr þat, at skip Agnars skauzt af hlunni, ok varð þar
becomes that that ship of-Agnarr shot off roller and became there
 maðr fyrir, ok fær sá bana, ok kölluðu þeir þat hlunnroð.
man before and gets he death and called they that roller-reddening

Nú þótti þeim eigi vel til takast í fyrstu ok vildu ekki
Now seemed to-them not well to turn-out at first and wished not
 láta standa þat fyrir ferð sinni. Ok þá er lið þeira var
to-let stand that before journey their And then when force their was
 búit, fara þeir með lið sitt til Svíþjóðar, ok þar, er þeir
ready go they with force their to Sweden and there where they
 koma fyrst í ríki Eysteins konungs, fóru þeir herskildi
come first into realm of-Eystein king went they with-war-shield
 yfir. En landsmenn urðu varir við ok fóru til Uppsala ok
over But landsmen became aware of and went to Uppsala and
 segja Eysteini konungi, at herr var kominn í landit. En
tell to-Eystein king that host was come into the-land But
 konungurinn lætr fara örvarboð um ríki sitt ok dregr svá
the-king lets to-go arrow-summons about realm his and draws so
 mikinn her saman, at furða var at. Ok þann her flytr
great host together that wonder was at And that host moves
 hann, þar til er hann kemr í skóg einn, ok setr þar
be there to when he comes into wood a and sets there
 sínar herbúðir, ok hefir hann nú með sér kúna Sibilju, ok
his war-camps and has he now with him the-cow Sibilja and
 mjök er hún nú blótin, áðr en hún vildi fara. Ok er
much is she now sacrificed-to before than she wished to-go And when
 þeir eru í skóginum, mælti Eysteinn konungur: “Frétt hefi
they are in the-wood said Eystein king Heard have
 ek til,” segir hann, “at synir Ragnars eru á völlum fyrir
I of says he that sons of-Ragnar are on the-fields before
 framan skóginum, en þat er mér sannliga sagt, at þeir hafi
in-front-of the-wood and that is to-me truly said that they have
 eigi einn þriðjung liðs við oss. Nú skulu vér skipa várar
not one third of-force against us Now shall we array our
 fylkingar til at berjast, ok skal þriðjung liðs várs fara
battle-lines for to fight and shall third of-force our go

í mót þeim, ok eru þeir svá harðfengnir, at þeir munu
in against them and are they so hardy that they will
 þykkjast hafa ráð vart í hendi, ok þegar eptir skulum
think-themselves to-have counsel our in hand and at-once after shall
 vér öllum megin koma at þeim, ok kýrin skal fara fyrir
we from-all sides come at them and the-cow shall go before
 liðinu, ok væntir mik, at eigi skuli þeir haldast við fyrir
the-force and expects me that not shall they hold-out with before
 lát hennar.” Ok nú er svá gert. Ok þegar er þeir bræðr
noise her And now is so done And as-soon-as as those brothers
 sjá lið Eysteins konungs, þótti þeim sér ekki ofrefli
see force of-Eystein king seemed to-them for-them no overwhelming-force
 við at eiga ok ætla eigi meira liðit vera munu. Ok þegar
with to have and think not more the-force be will And at-once
 hér eptir kemr allt liðit ór skóginum, ok kýrin er laus
here after comes all the-force out-of the-wood and the-cow is loose
 látin, ok hleypr hún fyrir liðinu ok lætr grimmliga, ok
let and runs she before the-force and bellows grimly and
 varð svá mikill gnýr at þeim hermönnum, er heyrðu, at
became so great din to those warriors who heard that
 þeir börðust sjálfir, nema þeir bræðr tveir fengu staðizt.
they fought themselves except those brothers two got withstood
 En sú in illa vættr vá með hornum sínum margan mann
But that the evil creature slew with horns its many man
 þann dag. Ok þótt synir Ragnars væri miklir fyrir sér,
that day And though sons of-Ragnar were great for themselves
 þá máttu þeir eigi bæði standast ofrefli fjölmennis ok
then could they not both withstand overwhelming-force of-numbers and
 blótskap, ok þó veittu þeir harða viðtöku ok vörðust
sacrifice-power and yet gave they hard resistance and defended-themselves
 vel ok drengiliga ok af mikilli frægð. Þeir Eirekr ok
well and manfully and with great fame Those Eirek and

Agnarr váru í öndverðri fylkingu þann dag, ok opt gengu
Agnar were in foremost battle-line that day and often went
 þeir í gegnum fylkingar Eysteins konungs. Ok nú fell
they in through battle-lines of-Eystein king And now fell
 Agnarr. Nú sér Eirekr þat ok berst nú allra fræknligast ok
Agnar Now sees Eirek that and fights now of-all most-valiantly and
 hirðir nú eigi, hvárt hann kemst í brott eða eigi. Ok nú
cares now not whether he gets off away or not And now
 verðr hann ofrliði borinn ok handtekinn. Ok nú
becomes he by-overwhelming-force borne and hand-taken And now
 mælti Eysteinn, at stöðva skyldi bardagann, ok bauð Eireki
said Eystein that stop should the-battle and offered to-Eirek
 grið. “Ok þat mun ek til leggja,” segir hann, “við þik, at
quarter And that will I to add says he with thee that
 ek mun gifta þér dóttur mína.” Eirekr segir ok kvað vísu:
I will marry to-thee daughter mine Eirek says and spoke verse

“Vilkat boð fyr bróður

Wish-I-not offer for brother

né baugum mey kaupa,

nor with-rings maiden buy

Eystein kveða orðinn

Eystein they-say become

Agnars bana, heyra;

of-Agnar slayer they-bear

grætr eigi mik móðir,
weeps not me mother
 munk efstr of val deyja,
shall-I highest over slain die
 ok geirtré í gögnum
and spear-trees in through
 gerr, látið mik standa.”
fully let me to-stand

Nú segir hann, at hann vill, at þeir menn hafi grið ok fari
Now says he that he wishes that those men have quarter and go
 hvert er þeir vilja, er þeim hafa fylgt. “En ek vil, at spjót
wherever that they wish who them have followed But I wish that spears
 sé tekin sem flest ok sé stungit spjótunum í völl niðr, ok
be taken as most and be thrust the-spears into field down and
 þar vil ek mik láta hefja á upp, ok þar vil ek láta lífit.”
there wish I me to-let lift on up and there wish I to-lose the-life
 Nú segir Eysteinn konungr, at eptir því skal gera, sem hann
Now says Eystein king that after that shall do as he

beiðir, þótt hann kjósi þat, er verr gegnir hvárumtveggjum.

asks though he chooses that which worse suits to-both

Nú eru spjótin niðr sett, ok kvað Eirekr vísu:

Now are the-spears down set and spoke Eirek verse

“Munat eins konungs efni,

Will-not of-one king makings

svát ek vita dæmi,

so-that I know examples

á dýrra beð deyja,

on costlier bed die

til dögurðar hrafni;

for breakfast to-raven

mun blóði þá bráðir

will with-blood then morsels

ok brátt yfir gjalla

and soon over scream

bræðra beggja slíta

of-brothers of-both tear

blár, þótt illa launi.”

the-dark though ill repays

Ok nú gengr hann þar til, er spjótin eru niðr sett, ok tekr
And now goes he there to where the-spears are down set and takes
 hring af hendi sér ok kastar til þeira, er honum höfðu fylgt
ring off hand his and casts to those who him had followed
 ok þá váru grið gefin, ok sendir þá til Áslaugar ok kvað visu:
and then were quarter given and sends them to Aslaug and spoke verse

“Þau berið orð it efra,
Those bear words the upper
 eru austrfarar liðnar,
are east-journeys ended
 at mæð hafi mína
that maiden has my
 mjó, Áslaugu, bauga;
slender Aslaug rings
 þá mun mest af móði,
then will most from grief
 er mik spyrja dauðan,
when me they-bear dead
 mín stjúp móðir mildum
my step-mother to-generous
 mögum sínum til segja.”
sons her to tell

Ok nú er hann hafinn upp á spjótin. Þá sér hann, hvar

And now is he lifted up on the-spears Then sees he where

hrafni flýgr, ok enn kvað hann:

raven flies and again spoke he

“Hlakkar már of höfði

Screams gull over head

hér mínu nú sára,

here mine now of-wounds

krefr unda valr augna

demands of-wounds falcon of-eyes

ósýnna hér minna;

unseen here mine

veizt, ef hrafni ór höfði

knowest if raven out-of head

höggbrúnsteina mína,

hews brow-stones mine

launar unda valr Ekkils

repays of-wounds falcon of-Ekkil

illa marga fylli.”

ill many fill

Nú lætr hann líf sitt með mikilli hreysti. En sendimenn hans

Now loses he life his with great valor But messengers his

fóru heim ok létta eigi fyrr en þeir koma þar, er Ragnarr átti

went home and cease not sooner than they come there where Ragnar had

atsetu. Ok þá var hann farinn í konungastefnu. Þeir váru ok

residence And then was he gone to kings'-meeting They were also

eigi heim komnir synir Ragnars ór hernaði. Nú eru þeir þar

not home come sons of-Ragnar out-of warfare Now are they there

þrjár nætr, áðr þeir gangi til fundar við Áslaugu. Ok þá er

three nights before they go to meeting with Aslaug And then when

þeir koma fyrir hásetit Áslaugar, kveðja þeir hana virðuliga,
they come before the-high-seat of-Aslaug greet they her honorably
 ok tekur hún kveðju þeira, ok hafði hún einn línúð fyrir knjám
and takes she greeting their and had she a linen-cloth before knees
 sér ok ætlaði at kemba sér, ok hárit hafði hún leyst. Nú spyr
her and intended to comb herself and the-hair had she loosed Now asks
 hún, hverir þeir væri, fyrir því at hún hafði þá eigi fyrr sét.
she who they were for that that she had them not before seen
 Sá, er orð hafði fyrir þeim, sagði, at þeir höfðu verit liðsmenn
He who word had for them said that they had been followers
 þeira Eireks ok Agnars, sona Ragnars. Þá kvað hún vísu:
of-those of-Eirek and of-Agnar sons of-Ragnar Then spoke she verse

“Hvat segið ér ór yðru,

What say you out-of your

eru Svíar í landi

are Swedes in land

eða elligar úti,

or otherwise out

allnýs konungs spjalli?

of-very-new king friend

Fregit hefk hitt, at fóru,

Heard have-I that that went

en fremr vitum eigi,

but further we-know not

ok hildingar höfðu

and warriors had

hlunnroð, Danir sunnan.”

roller-reddening Danes from-south

Hann kvað vísu í mót:

He spoke verse in against

“Þér segjum vér, þínum,

To-thee say we to-thy

þat er nauð, kona, dauða,

that which distress woman dead

ill eru einkar manni,

ill are exceedingly to-man

örlög, sonu Þóru;

fates sons of-Thora

þung spjöll vitum önnur

heavy tidings we-know other

eigi nýjari en þessi;

not newer than these

nú hefk fram komit fréttum,

now have-I forth brought of-tidings

flaug örn of ná dauðan.”

flew eagle over corpse dead

Nú spyrr hún, hvé farit hafði. Ok nú kvað hann þá vísu,

Now asks she how gone had And now spoke he that verse

er Eirekr hafði kveðit, er hann sendi henni hringinn.

which Eirek had spoken when he sent her the-ring

Nú sjá þeir, at hún felldi tár, en þat var sem blóð væri

Now see they that she shed tears and that was as blood were

álits, en hart sem haglkorn. Þat hafði engi maðr sét,

of-appearance and hard as hail-stone That had no man seen

at hún hefði tár fellt, hvárki áðr né síðan. Nú segir hún,

that she had tears shed neither before nor since Now says she

at hún má ekki til hefnda sýsla, fyrr en heim koma aðrir

that she may nothing for vengeance arrange sooner than home come other

hvárir, Ragnarr eða synir hans. “En þér skuluð vera hér þar
either Ragnar or sons his But you shall be here there
 til, en ekki skal af spara at eggja til hefnda, jafnt sem
to but nothing shall off spare to urge to vengeance equally as
 þeir væri mínir synir.” Nú eru þeir þar. En svá gefr til, at
they were my sons Now are they there But so gives to that
 þeir Ívarr koma fyrri heim en Ragnarr, ok eru þeir eigi
those Ivar come sooner home than Ragnar and are they not
 lengi heima, áðr Áslaug ferr at finna sonu sína, en Sigurðr
long at-home before Aslaug fares to find sons her and Sigurd
 var þá þrívetr. Hann ferr með móður sinni. Ok þá er
was then three-winters-old He fares with mother his And then when
 hún kemr í höll þá, er þeir réðu fyrir bræðr, fagna þeir
she comes into hall that where they ruled over the-brothers greet they
 henni vel, ok spyrja hvárir aðra tíðenda, ok segja þeir fyrri
her well and ask each others of-tidings and tell they first
 fall Rögnvalds, sonar hennar, ok frá þeim atburðum, er
fall of-Rognvald son her and of those events which
 þar höfðu orðit. En ekki fær henni þat mikils ok kvað:
there had happened But nothing moves to-her that of-much and spoke

“Kaga létu mik mínir

To-gape let me my

mávangs synir löngum,

of-gull-field sons long

ér eruð heim ok heiman

you are home and from-home

húsgangs meðalfærir;

of-house-going middling-capable

Rögnvaldr tók at rjóða

Rognvald began toadden

rönd í gumna blóði;

shield in of-men blood

hann kom yngstr til Óðins

he came youngest to Odin

ógndjarfr sona minna.

terror-bold of-sons mine

Ek kann eigi þat at sjá," segir hún, "at hann mundi til

I can not that to see says she that he would to

meiri frægðar lifa." Nú spyrja þeir, hvat hún segi tíðenda.

greater fame live Now ask they what she says of-tidings

Hún svarar: "Fall þeira Eireks ok Agnars, bræðra yðarra, en

She answers Fall of-those of-Eirek and of-Agnar brothers your and

stjúpsona minna, þeira manna, er ek ætla, at inir beztu

step-sons mine of-those men whom I think that the best

drengir hafi verit. Ok er þat ókynligt, at þér þolið slíkt

men have been And is that not-strange that you endure such

eigi ok hefnið miklu. Ok þess vil ek biðja yðr ok í öllum

not and avenge greatly And of-that wish I to-ask you and in all

atbeina vera með yðr, at þessa verði meir hefnt en miðr." Nú

support be with you that of-this becomes more avenged than less Now

segir Ívarr, at — "þat er víst, at til Svíþjóðar kem ek aldri

says Ivar that that is certain that to Sweden come I never

þeirar tíðar, at ek berjumst við Eystein konung ok þann

of-that time that I fight against Eystein king and that

blótskap, er þar er.” Hún fylgir þessu vel, en Ívarr hefir orð
sacrifice-power which there is She presses this well but Ivar has word
 fyrir þeim ok synjar ávallt fararinnar. Ok nú kvað hún vísu:
for them and refuses always of-the-journey And now spoke she verse

“Eigi mundi yðar

Not would of-you

óhefnt vera bræðra

unavenged be of-brothers

eitt misseri eptir,

one half-year after

ef ér dæið fyrri;

if you died sooner

litt hirðik því leyna,

little care-I that to-conceal

ef líf hafa knætti

if life have they-could

Eirekr sitt ok Agnarr,

Eirek his and Agnar

óbornir mér niðjar.”

unborn to-me kinsmen

“Eigi er víst,” segir Ívarr, “hvárt þat stoðar nakkvat, þótt
Not is certain says Ivar whether that avails anything though
 þú kveðir aðra vísu at annarri, eða hvé gerla veiztu, hvern
thou speakest one verse at another or how clearly knowest-thou what
 fastgarðr þar er fyrir?” “Eigi veit ek þat víst,” segir hún,
stronghold there is before Not know I that surely says she
 “eða hvat kanntu at segja, hver torveldi þar er á?” Ívarr
or what canst-thou to tell what difficulties there are on Ivar
 segir, at þar er blótskapr svá mikill, at hvergi kvaðst
says that there is sacrifice-power so great that nowhere said-of-himself

hann spurdaga hafa, at þvílíkr mundi vera. "Ok sá konungur
he report to-have that such would be And that king
 er bæði ríkr ok illgjarn." "Hvat er þat, er hann trúir mest
is both mighty and malicious What is that which he believes most
 á í blótum?" Hann segir: "Þat er kýr ein mikil, ok er hún
on in sacrifices He says That is cow a great and is she
 kölluð Síbilja. Hún er svá mjök mögnuð, at þegar er menn
called Sibilja She is so much empowered that as-soon-as that men
 heyra lát hennar, hafa óvinir hans engir staðizt, ok er trautt
bear noise her have enemies his none withstood and is hardly
 sem berjast skuli við menn at eins, heldr má til þess ætla,
as fight should against men at only rather may to that reckon
 at fyrri skal tröllskapnum mæta en konunginum, ok vil ek
that sooner shall the-witchcraft meet than the-king and wish I
 hvárki hætta þar til mér né liði mínu." Hún segir: "Á hitt
neither to-risk there to me nor force mine She says On that
 máttu líta, at þú munt eigi bæði mega heita mestr maðr
mayest-thou look that thou wilt not both be-able be-called greatest man
 ok vinna ekki til." Ok nú er henni þykkir fyrir ván komit,
and do nothing for And now when to-her seems before hope come
 ætlar hún í brott; þótti henni þeir eigi mikils meta sín orð.
intends she off away seemed to-her they not of-much to-value her words
 Þá mælti Sigurðr ormr í auga: "Segja má ek þér, móðir,"
Then said Sigurd serpent in eye Tell may I thee mother

segir hann, “hvat mér er í hug, en eigi má ek ráða þeira
says he what to-me is in mind but not may I rule their
 svörum.” “Heyra vil ek þat,” segir hún. Nú kvað hann vísu:
answers To-hear wish I that says she Now spoke he verse

“Þat skal þriggja náttu,

That shall of-three nights

ef þik tregar, móðir,

if thee grieves mother

leið eigu vér langa,

way have we long

leiðangr búinn verða;

levy prepared become

skal Uppsölum eigi,

shall Uppsala not

þótt ófafé bjóði,

though huge-wealth he-offers

ef oss duga eggjar,

if us avail edges

Eysteinn konungr ráða.”

Eystein king rule

Ok er hann hafði þessa vísu kveðit, skipast nokkut hugr

And when he had this verse spoken changes somewhat mind

þeira bræðra. Ok nú mælti Áslaug: “Yfir lýsir þú nú,

of-those brothers And now said Aslaug Over declarest thou now

sonr minn, at þú vilt gera minn vilja. En þó má ek

son my that thou wishest to-do my wish But yet may I

eigi yfir sjá, at vit komim þessu á leið, ef vit höfum

not over see that we-two bring this to way if we-two have

eigi fullting bræðra þinna, en þat mætti svá verða, at mér

not support of-brothers thine but that might so become that to-me

mætti bezt þykkja, at þessa yrði hefnt, ok vel þykki mér
might best seem that of-this became avenged and well seems to-me
 þér fara, sonr minn." Ok nú kvað Björn vísu:

thee to-go son my And now spoke Bjorn verse

“Duga mun hugr ok hjarta

Avail will mind and heart

í hauksnöru brjósti,

in hawk-keen breast

þótt minnr um þat mæli,

though less about that speaks

manni innan rifja;

to-man within ribs

eigi er oss í augum

not is to-us in eyes

ormr né fránir snákar,

serpent nor flashing snakes

bræðr glöddu mik mínir,

brothers gladdened me my

mank stjúpsonu þína.”

remember-I step-sons thy

Ok nú kvað Hvitserkr vísu:

And now spoke Hvitserk verse

“Hyggjum at, áðr heitim,

Let-us-think at before we-vow

at hefnt megí verða,

that avenged may become

látum ýmsa illu,

let-us-let various ill

Agnars bana, fagna;

of-Agnar slayer to-greet

skjótum huf á hrannir,

let-us-shoot hull on waves

höggum ís fyr barði,

let-us-hew ice before prow

sjám á hitt, hvé snekkjur

let-us-see on that how warships

snemmt vér fáim búnar.”

soonest we may-get prepared

En Hvitserkr ræddi því um þat, at ís skyldi höggva,

But Hvitserk spoke therefore about that that ice should hew

at frost váru á mikil, ok váru skip þeira inni frerin. Ok

that frosts were on great and were ships their inside frozen And

nú tók Ívarr til orða ok segir, at þá var þar komit, er
now took Ivar to words and says that then was there come when
 hann mundi nokkurn hlut í eiga, ok nú kvað hann vísu:
he would some part in have and now spoke he verse

“Hafið ofrhuga ærinn

You-have over-daring ample

ok áræði bæði,

and boldness both

þess mundi þá þurfa,

of-that would then need

at þrá mikit fylgdi;

that stubbornness great followed

bera mun mik fyr bragna

bear will me before men

beinlausan fram verða,

boneless forth become

þó gatk hönd til hefnda,

yet got-I hand for vengeance

at hváriga nýtak.

though neither I-use

Ok er hitt nú til,” segir Ívarr, “at vér leggjum á slíkan

And is that now for says Ivar that we lay on such

hug sem vér megum of skipabúnað ok um samdrátt

mind as we may about ship-preparation and about gathering

herliðs, því at vér munum þess við þurfa at spara ekki

of-war-force because that we shall of-that with need to spare nothing

af, ef vér skulum sigrast.” Nú gengr Áslaug í brott.

off if we shall prevail Now goes Aslaug off away

Sigurðr's fleet is ready in three nights, Björn's and Hvitserkr's in five, Ívarr's and Áslaug's in seven. Áslaug will come, and since Ívarr will not have her on the ships she takes command of the force that goes overland; from that day she is called Randalín. The two halves meet where Ívarr appointed, and they go through Eysteinn's kingdom with the war-shield, burning what stands and killing everything alive.

Sigurðr hefir átt sér einn föstra, ok annast sá fyrir hans
Sigurd has had for-him a foster-father and attends-to be for his
 hönd bæði skip at búa ok lið til at fá, svá at þau væri
hand both ships to prepare and force to to get so that they were
 öll skipuð. Ok nú gengr þeim svá skjótt, at þat lið, er
all manned And now goes for-them so swiftly that that force which
 Sigurðr skyldi búit hafa, var búit, er þrjár nætr váru
Sigurd should prepared have was ready when three nights were
 liðnar, ok hafði hann fimm skip ok öll vel skipuð. Ok þá
passed and had he five ships and all well manned And then
 er fimm nætr váru liðnar, hafði Hvitserkr ok Björn búin
when five nights were passed had Hvitserk and Bjorn ready
 fjórtán skip, en Ívarr hafði tíu skip ok Áslaug önnur tíu, þá
fourteen ships and Ivar had ten ships and Aslaug another ten then
 er sjau nætr váru liðnar frá því, er þau höfðu við ræðzt
when seven nights were passed from that when they had together spoken
 ok þeir höfðu heitit ferðinni. Nú hittast þau öll saman, ok
and they had vowed the-journey Now meet they all together and
 segir hvárt þeira öðru, hvé mikit lið hvert hafði fengit. Ok
tells each of-them to-other how great force each had gotten And
 nú segir Ívarr, at hann hafði sent landveg riddaralið. Áslaug
now says Ivar that he had sent by-land-way horse-force Aslaug
 segir: “Ef ek vissi, at þat lið mætti til gagns komast, er
says If I knew that that force might to profit come which

land færi, þá mætta ek mikit lið hafa sent." "Ekki skal
by-land went then might I great force have sent Not shall
 nú at því dveljast," segir Ívarr, "með þetta lið skal nú fara,
now at that delay says Ivar with this force shall now go
 sem vér höfum saman dregit." Nú segir Áslaug, at hún vill
as we have together drawn Now says Aslaug that she wishes
 fara með þeim, — "ok veit ek þá gerst, hver stund á
to-go with them and know I then most-clearly what care on
 er lögð at hefna þeira bræðra." "Þat er víst," segir Ívarr, "at
is laid to avenge those brothers That is certain says Ivar that
 þú kemr eigi á vár skip. Hitt skal vera, ef þú vill, at þú
thou comest not on our ships That shall be if thou wishest that thou
 ráðir fyrir því liði, er landveg ferr." Hún kvað svá vera
rulest over that force which by-land-way goes She said so to-be
 skulu. Nú er breytt nafni hennar ok er nú kölluð Randalín.
shall Now is changed name her and is now called Randalin
 Nú ferr liðit hvárttveggja, ok kvað Ívarr á áðr, hvar þau
Now goes the-force each-of-two and appointed Ivar on before where they
 skyldu finnast. Nú ferst þeim vel hvárumtveggjum ok hittast
should meet Now goes for-them well for-both and meet
 þar, sem ákveðit er. Ok hvar sem þau koma við Svíþjóð í
there where appointed is And wherever as they come at Sweden into
 ríki Eysteins konungs, fara þeir herskildi yfir, svá at þeir
realm of-Eystein king go they with-war-shield over so that they
 brenndu allt þat, er fyrir varð, drápu hvert mannsbarn, ok
burned all that which before came killed every human-child and
 því jóku þeir við, at þeir drápu allt þat, er kvíkt var.
to-that added they with that they killed all that which alive was

XII · THE KILLING OF SÍBILJA

Eysteinn calls out the whole levy and drives Sibilja before it. Ívarr has his men carve a great bow and shafts that no one else could use as a weapon, and draws it as though it were a limp elm-switch, putting an arrow into each of the cow's eyes; then he is thrown onto her back and lies as heavy as a rock until every bone in her breaks. His voice carries over the whole host and the frenzy stops at once. The armies close, Eysteinn falls, and Ívarr will not stay in a kingdom left without a chieftain.

Nú er þat eitthvert sinn, at menn komast undan á fund
Now is that on-a-certain time that men get away to meeting
Eysteins konungs ok segja honum, at í ríki hans var
of-Eystein king and tell him that into realm his was
kominn mikill herr ok svá illr viðskiptis, at þeir létu ekki
come great host and so ill of-dealing that they left nothing
ógert ok þeir höfðu eytt allt þar, er þeir höfðu yfir farit,
undone and they had wasted all there where they had over gone
ok ekki hús stóð upp. Nú er Eysteinn konungr heyrir
and no house stood up Now when Eystein king hears
þessi tíðendi, þykkist hann vita, hverir þeir víkingar munu
these tidings thinks-himself he to-know who those vikings will
vera. Ok nú lætr hann fara örvarboð um allt sitt ríki
be And now has he to-go arrow-summons about all his realm
ok stefnir öllum til, þeim er hans menn eru ok honum
and summons all to those who his men are and to-him
vilja lið veita ok skildi megu valda. “Vér skulum hafa með
wish help to-give and shield may wield We shall have with
oss kúna Sibilju, goð várt, ok láta hana hlaupa fyrir liðinu,
us the-cow Sibilja god our and let her to-run before the-force
ok væntir mik, at enn fari sem fyrr, at þeir megu eigi
and expects me that again goes as before that they may not
standast lát hennar. Vil ek allt lið mitt þess eggja, at
withstand noise her Wish I all force my of-that to-urge that

sem bezt dugi, ok rekum af oss þenna inn mikla her
as best avails and let-us-drive off us this the great host
 ok inn illa." Ok nú er svá gert, at Sibilja er laus látin.
and the evil And now is so done that Sibilja is loose let
 Ok nú sér Ívarr för hennar ok heyrir þau in grimmligu
And now sees Ivar going her and hears those the grim
 læti, er ór henni váru. Mælir hann, at allt liðit
bellowings which out-of her were Says he that all the-force
 skyldi gera óhljóð mikit, bæði af vápnum ok herópi, at
should make noise great both from weapons and war-cry that
 þeir heyri sem sízt rödd hennar, þess ins illa kykvendis,
they hear as least voice her of-that the evil creature
 er fór í móti þeim. Ívarr mælti við sína burðarmenn, at
which went in against them Ivar spoke with his bearers that
 þeir skyldu bera hann á móti, svá sem þeir mætti framast.
they should bear him in against so as they might farbest
 "Ok þá er sjá kýr kemr at oss, kastið mér at henni, ok
And then when this cow comes at us cast me at her and
 mun þá vera annathvart, er ek skal láta mitt líf, eða hún
will then be either that I shall lose my life or she
 skal fá bana. Nú skulu þér taka eitt tré mikit ok telgja á
shall get death Now shall you take a tree great and carve in
 bogamynd ok skeyti með." Ok nú er honum færðr sjá bogi
bow-shape and shafts with And now is to-him brought this bow
 inn sterki ok þau in miklu skeyti, er hann hafði gera
the strong and those the great shafts which he had to-make
 látit, en engum þótti sér vápnhæft annarra. Nú eggjar
caused but to-none seemed for-him weapon-wieldable of-others Now urges
 Ívarr hvern mann, at dugi sem bezt. Nú ferr lið þeira
Ivar every man that avails as best Now goes force their
 með miklum geysingi ok gný, en Ívarr var borinn fyrir
with great rushing and din and Ivar was borne before

fylkingum þeira. Nú verðr svá mikill gnýr, er Sibilja beljar,
battle-lines their Now becomes so great din when Sibilja bellows
 at þeir heyrðu jafngerla sem þeir þegði ok stæði kyrrir.
that they heard as-clearly as they were-silent and stood still
 Nú bregðr þeim svá við þetta, at lið þeira vill berjast allt
Now starts to-them so at this that force their wishes to-fight all
 nema þeir bræðr. Ok er þessi endemi verða, sjá þeir
except those brothers And when these monstrous-things happen see they
 þat, er Ívar báru, at hann dregr svá boga sinn sem hann
that who Ivar bore that he draws so bow his as he
 hefði einn álmsveig veikan, ok við því þótti þeim búit, at
had an elm-switch weak and with that seemed to-them ready that
 hann drægi fyrir odd örvar sínar. Nú heyra þeir, at strengr
he drew beyond point arrows his Now hear they that string
 gellr hans svá hátt, at hann heyrðu þeir aldri svá fyrri.
rings his so loud that it heard they never so before
 Ok nú sjá þeir, at hans örvar flugu svá snart sem hann
And now see they that his arrows flew so swiftly as he
 hefði skotit af inum sterkasta lásboga ok svá gegnt, at
had shot from the strongest cross-bow and so straight that
 í sitt auga kom hvár örin Sibilju. Ok nú fellr hún, ok
into its eye came each the-arrow of-Sibilja And now falls she and
 eptir þat ferr hún höfuðsteypu, ok nú eru læti hennar
after that goes she head-over-heels and now are bellows her
 miklu verri en fyrri. Ok er hún kemr at þeim, biðr hann
much worse than before And when she comes at them bids he
 kasta sér at henni, ok verðr þeim hann svá létt sem þeir
to-cast him at her and becomes to-them he so light as they
 kasti barni litlu, því at þeir váru eigi allnær kúnni, þá
cast child small because that they were not very-near to-the-cow then
 er þeir köstuðu honum. Ok þá kom hann á hrygg kúnni
when they cast him And then came he on back to-the-cow

Síbilju, ok varð hann þá svá þungr sem bjarg eitt felli á
to-Sibilja and became he then so heavy as rock a fell on
 hana, ok hvert bein brotnar í henni, ok fær hún af því
her and every bone breaks in her and gets she from that
 bana. Nú biðr hann menn sik upp taka sem skjótast. Ok
death Now bids he men him up to-take as swiftest And
 nú er hann upp tekinn, ok nú er rödd hans svá hvell, at
now is he up taken and now is voice his so ringing that
 svá þótti öllum herinum, er hann mælti, sem við sjálf
so seemed to-all to-the-host when he spoke as at itself
 væri, þótt fjarri væri staddir, ok it bezta hljóð væri til
were though far were placed and the best hearing were to
 gefit hans erendis. Ok svá lýkr hann sinni tölu, at ófriðr
given his errand And so ends he his speech that turmoil
 sjá, nemst þegar af allr, er yfir þá hafði komit, ok þá
this ceases at-once off all which over them had come and them
 sakaði ekki, því at lið þeira hafði skamma stund barizt.
harmed nothing because that force their had short while fought
 Nú eggjar Ívarr, at þeir skyli vinna sem verst verk á þeim.
Now urges Ivar that they should do as worst work on them
 “Ok nú þykki mér af inn ólmasti, er kýrin er drepin.”
And now seems to-me off the fiercest since the-cow is killed
 Ok nú hafa hvártveggju fylkt liði sínu, ok sígr saman
And now have both arrayed force their and closes together
 orrostan, ok er bardagi svá harðr, at þat mæltu allir Svíar,
the-battle and is fight so hard that that said all Swedes
 at þeir hefði aldri í slíkri mannraun verit. Nú ganga þeir
that they had never in such man-trial been Now go they
 svá hart fram bræðr, Hvítserkr ok Björn, at engi fylking
so hard forth the-brothers Hvítserk and Bjorn that no battle-line
 stendr við. Ok nú fellr svá mjök lið Eysteins konungs,
stands against And now falls so much force of-Eystein king

at minna stendr upp, en sumt kemr á flóttu. Ok nú lýkr
that less stands up and some comes on flight And now ends
 svá þeira bardaga, at Eysteinn konungr fellr, en þeir bræðr
so their fight that Eystein king falls and those brothers
 hafa sigr. Ok nú gefa þeir þeim grið, sem eptir váru. Ok
have victory And now give they to-them quarter who behind were And
 nú segir Ívarr, at hann vildi eigi herja lengr í því landi,
now says Ivar that he wished not to-harry longer in that land
 því at þat land var nú höfðingjalaust. “Ok vil ek heldr,
because that that land was now chieftain-less And wish I rather
 at vit haldim þar til, er meira ofrefli er fyrir.”
that we-two hold there to where greater overwhelming-force is before
 En Randalín fór heim með sumt liðit.
But Randalin went home with some the-force

XIII · VÍFILSBORG

The brothers harry in the southern lands and lay siege to Vífilsborg, which they cannot take for half a month. The townsmen hang velvet and gold over the walls and taunt them, and Ívarr is so shaken that he falls sick, unable to stir, and lies the whole day without a word. Then he has every man bind a bundle of wood, sets fire around the walls until the mortar goes out of them, brings up catapults, and breaks the town open, and it is emptied and burned.

Nú ráða þeir þat með sér, at þeir skulu herja í Suðrríki.
Now decide they that with them that they shall harry in South-realm
 En Sigurðr ormr í auga, sonr hennar, fór með bræðrum
But Sigurd serpent in eye son her went with brothers
 sínum í hverja herför síðan. Í þessi för leggja þeir til
his on every war-expedition afterward On this journey lay they to
 hverrar borgar, er mikil er, ok unnu svá, at ekki stóð við.
every town which great is and won so that nothing stood against

Ok nú spyrja þeir til einnar borgar þeirar, at bæði var
And now hear they of a town that which both was
mikil ok fjölmenn ok harðger. Ok nú segir Ívarr, at hann
great and populous and strong-built And now says Ivar that he
vill þar til stefna. Ok þat var ok sagt, hvat sú borg hét
wishes there to steer And that was also said what that town was-called
ok hverr fyrir ræðr. En sá höfðingi var kallaðr Vífill. Af
and who over rules But that chieftain was called Vifil From
hans nafni var borgin kölluð Vífilsborg. Nú fara þeir svá
his name was the-town called Vifilsborg Now go they so
herskildi yfir, at þeir eyða allar borgir, er fyrir urðu,
with-war-shield over that they lay-waste all towns which before came
þar til er þeir kómu til Vífilsborgar. Höfðinginn var eigi
there to when they came to Vifilsborg The-chieftain was not
heima í borg sinni ok mikit lið með honum. Nú setja þeir
at-home in town his and great force with him Now set they
upp búðir sínar á völlum þeim, er hjá borginni váru, ok
up booths their on fields those which beside the-town were and
eru í kyrrðum þann dag, er þeir kómu til borgarinnar,
are in quiet that day when they came to the-town
ok höfðu mál af borgarmönnum. Þeir buðu þeim, hvárt
and had speech with town-men They offered them whether
þeir vildu heldr gefa upp borgina, ok mundi þá friðr
they wished rather to-give up the-town and would then peace
gefinn öllum mönnum, eða þeir ynni af sínu ofrefli
given to-all men or they should-win by their overwhelming-force
ok harðfengi, ok munu þá engum mönnum grið gefin.
and hardness and will then to-no men quarter given
En þeir leystu skjótt ór ok sögðu, at þá borg fengi þeir
But they answered quickly out and said that that town would-get they
aldrigi unnit, svá at þeir gefi hana upp. “Ok munu þér
never won so that they give it up And will you

verða fyrr at reyna yðr ok sýna oss yðvarn frækneik ok
have sooner to test yourselves and show us your valor and
 kapp.” Líðr nú sú nótt. Ok inn næsta dag eptir leita þeir
zeal Passes now that night And the next day after seek they
 til at vinna borgina ok fá ekki at gert. Sitja þeir um
to to win the-town and get nothing at done Sit they about
 þá borg hálfan mánuð ok leita til hvern dag, at þeir geti
that town half month and seek to every day that they may
 þá borg unnit, ok með ýmsum brögðum. En þat ferr því
that town won and with various devices But that goes the
 firr sem þeir hafa lengr við leitat, ok ætluðu nú frá at
farther as they have longer at sought and intended now away to
 hverfa. Ok þá er borgarmenn verða við þat varir, at þeir
turn And then when town-men become of that aware that they
 ætla frá at hverfa, þá ganga þeir út á borgarveggi ok
intend away to turn then go they out on town-walls and
 breiða guðvefjarpell of alla borgarveggina ok öll klæði þau,
spread velvet-cloths about all the-town-walls and all clothes those
 er fegrst váru í borginni, ok törruðu fyrir þeim gulli
which fairest were in the-town and laid-forth before them with-gold
 ok gersimum þeim, er mestar váru í borginni. Ok nú
and with-treasures those which greatest were in the-town And now
 tekr einn til orða af liði þeira ok mælti: “Vér hugðum, at
takes one to words of force their and said We thought that
 þessir menn, synir Ragnars, ok lið þeira væri harðfengnir
these men sons of-Ragnar and force their were hardy
 menn, en vér megum þat segja, at þeim hefir eigi nær
men but we may that say that to-them has not nearer
 farit en öðrum.” Nú eptir þetta æptu þeir á þá ok börðu
gone than to-others Now after this shouted they at them and beat
 á skjölduna ok eggjuðu at sér sem þeir máttu mest. Ok
on the-shields and challenged at themselves as they could most And

er Ívarr heyrir þetta, brá honum við mjök, svá at hann
when Ivar hears this started to-him at much so that he
 fær af þessu sótt mikla, svá at hann má hvergi hræra,
gets from this sickness great so that he may nowhere stir
 ok verða þeir at bíða, at annathvært batni honum ella hafi
and must they to wait that either mends for-him or has
 hann bana. Hann liggr þenna dag allan til kvelds, svá at
he death He lies this day whole to evening so that
 hann mælti ekki orð. Ok þá mælti hann við þá menn, er
he spoke no word And then said he with those men who
 hjá honum váru, at þeir skyldu segja þeim Birni, Hvítserki
beside him were that they should tell those Bjorn Hvitserk
 ok Sigurði, at hann vildi þeira fund hafa ok allra inna
and Sigurd that he wished their meeting to-have and of-all the
 vitrustu manna. Ok nú er þeir koma allir í einn stað,
wisest men And now when they come all into one place
 er mestir höfðingjar eru í þeira liði, þá spyr Ívarr þá
who greatest chieftains are in their force then asks Ivar them
 eptir, ef þeir hefði nokkur ráð sét, þau er líkari væri til
after if they had any plans seen those which likelier were to
 at sigrast en þau, er þeir höfðu fyrr haft. En þeir svara
to prevail than those which they had before had But they answer
 allir, at þeir hefði eigi vit til þess at sjá þau brögð, er
all that they had not wit to that to see those devices which
 þeim væri sigr í. “Er nú sem optar, at þinna ráða mun
for-them were victory in Is now as often that of-thy counsels will
 njóta verða.” Þá svarar Ívarr: “Mér hefir eitt ráð í hug
enjoy have Then answers Ivar To-me has one plan into mind
 komit, þat er vér höfum eigi freistat. Hér er skógr mikill
come that which we have not tried Here is wood great
 eigi langt í brott, ok nú, er náttar, skulu vér fara ór
not far off away and now when it-nights shall we go out-of

tjöldum várum leyniliga til skógar, en herbúðir várar skulu
tents our secretly to wood but war-camps our shall
 standa eptir, ok er vér komum í mörkina, skal hverr
stand behind and when we come into the-forest shall every
 maðr binda sér byrði. Ok er því er lokit, skulu vér fara
man bind for-him bundle And when that is ended shall we go
 at borginni öllum megin ok slá eldi í viðinn, ok mun
to the-town from-all sides and strike fire into the-wood and will
 þá gerast bál mikit, ok borgarveggir þeira munu þá láta
then become blaze great and town-walls their will then lose
 lím sitt fyrir þeim eldi, ok skulu vér þá bera at valslöngur
mortar their before that fire and shall we then bear up catapults
 ok reyna, hvé harðger hún er.” Ok nú er svá gert, at þeir
and test how strong-built it is And now is so done that they
 fara til skógar, eru þar slíka hrið sem Ívari sýndist. Nú fara
go to wood are there such while as to-Ivar seemed Now go
 þeir at borginni eptir tilskipun hans, ok þá er þeir lustu
they to the-town after direction his and then when they struck
 eldi í viðinn inn mikla, varð bál svá mikit, at veggirnir
fire into the-wood the great became blaze so great that the-walls
 megu eigi standast ok láta lím sitt, ok bera þeir þá
may not withstand and lose mortar their and bear they then
 valslöngur at borginni ok brjóta á hlið mörg, ok tekst nú
catapults to the-town and break on gaps many and begins now
 bardagi. Ok þegar er þeir standa jafnt at vígi, þá fellr lið
fight And as-soon-as that they stand equally at battle then falls force
 borgarmanna, en sumt flýr undan, ok svá lýkr þeira skiptum,
of-town-men and some flees away and so ends their dealings
 at þeir drepa hvert mannsbarn, er í var borginni, ok taka
that they kill every human-child which in was the-town and take
 brott allt fé, en brenna borgina, áðr þeir fari á brott.
away all wealth and burn the-town before they go off away

At Lúna, having broken nearly every town and castle in the southern lands, they mean to go on to Rome, but do not know how far it is. An old wayfarer shows them the iron shoes on his feet, now worn, and a second pair worn out on his back, and says both were new when he set out from that city. Seeing they cannot do it, they turn away with their host and take many towns that had never been taken, whose marks may be seen to this day.

Nú halda þeir í brott þaðan, þar til er þeir koma í þá
Now hold they off away thence there to when they come into that
 borg, er Lúna hét. Þá höfðu þeir hverja borg ok hvern
town which Luna was-called Then had they every town and every
 kastala brotit nálíga í öllu Suðrríki, ok nú eru þeir svá frægir
castle broken nearly in all South-realm and now are they so renowned
 of allan heim, at ekki var svá lítit barn, at eigi kynni
about all world that not was so little child that not knew
 nafn þeira. Nú ætla þeir at létta eigi fyrr en þeir koma til
name their Now intend they to cease not sooner than they come to
 Rómaborgar, af því at sú borg var þeim bæði sögð mikil
Rome-city from that that that city was to-them both said great
 ok fjölmenn ok ágæt ok auðig. En þat vissu þeir eigi gerla,
and populous and excellent and wealthy But that knew they not clearly
 hvé löng leið þangat er, en þeir höfðu svá mikit lið, at eigi
how long way thither is and they had so great force that not
 fengust vistir. Ok nú eru þeir í þeirri borg Lúna ok ræða
were-got provisions And now are they in that town Luna and speak
 með sér of ferð sína. Nú kemr þar maðr einn, gamall ok
with them about journey their Now comes there man a old and
 geðsligr. Þeir spyrja, hvat manna hann væri, en hann segir,
engaging They ask what of-men he were and he says
 at hann sé einn stafkarl ok hafi alla ævi farit yfir land.
that he is a beggar and has all life gone over land

“Þú munt margt kunna tíðenda at segja oss, þat er vér
Thou wilt much know of-tidings to tell us that which we
 viljum vita.” Inn gamli maðr svarar: “Eigi veit ek þat víst,
wish to-know The old man answers Not know I that surely
 af hverjum löndum þér vilið spyrja, þess er ek veit eigi at
of what lands you wish to-ask of-that which I know not to
 segja yðr.” “Þat viljum vér, at þú segir oss, hvé löng leið
tell you That wish we that thou tellest us how long way
 er heðan til Rómaborgar.” Hann svarar: “Ek kann segja yðr
is hence to Rome-city He answers I can tell you
 nokkut til merkja. Þér meguð hér sjá þessa járnskó, er ek
somewhat for tokens You may here see these iron-shoes which I
 hefi á fótum mér, þeir eru nú fornir, ok þá aðra, er ek
have on feet my they are now old and those other which I
 hefi á baki mér, þeir eru nú ok slitnir. En þá er ek fór
have on back my they are now also worn-out But then when I went
 þaðan, batt ek þessa á fætr mér ina slitnu, er ek hefi nú
thence bound I these on feet my the worn-out which I have now
 á baki mér, ok váru þá nýir báðir, ok á þeiri leið hefi ek
on back my and were then new both and on that way have I
 verit ávallt síðan.” En er inn gamli maðr hafði þetta mælt,
been always since But when the old man had this spoken
 þykkjast þeir sjá, at þeir megu eigi þessu á leið koma,
think-themselves they to-see that they may not this on way bring
 er þeir hafa fyrir sér ætlat, til Róms at fara. Ok nú snúa
which they have before them intended to Rome to go And now turn
 þeir frá með her sinn ok unnu margar borgir, þær er aldri
they away with host their and won many towns those which never
 höfðu unnar verit fyrr, ok þess jarteinir sjást enn í dag.
had won been before and of-that tokens are-seen still in day

Ragnarr, hearing that no one is reckoned equal to his sons, has two merchant ships built greater than any in the north. Randalín argues for many small ships and gives him at parting a shirt woven of gray hair, hallowed so that no wound will bleed and no edge bite through it. He wrecks both ships on England, harries, and is taken by King Ella after his whole force falls. No serpent will fasten on him until the shirt is stripped off; then he says that the piglets would grunt if they knew the old boar's plight, and dies. Ella mans a ship to carry the news to the sons, who are turning north from their harrying through emptied towns.

Nú er þar til máls at taka, er Ragnarr sitr heima í ríki
Now is there to speech to take where Ragnar sits at-home in realm
 sínu ok hann veit eigi, hvar synir hans eru né Randalín,
his and he knows not where sons his are nor Randalin
 kona hans. Ok þat heyrði hann hvern tala af sínum
wife his And that heard he everyone to-speak of his
 mönnum, at engir mætti jafnast við sonu hans, ok hugðist
men that none might equal with sons his and thought-itself
 honum svá at, at engir væri jafnfrægir þeim. Nú hyggr
to-him so at that none were as-famous to-them Now thinks
 hann at því, hvernar frægðar hann mætti þess leita, er eigi
he at that of-what fame he might of-that seek which not
 væri skemmr uppi. Nú hyggr hann ráð sitt ok fær sér
were shorter up Now considers he plan his and gets for-him
 smiða ok lætr fella mörk til tveggja skipa mikilla, ok þat
smiths and has to-fell forest for two ships great and that
 skildu menn, at þat váru knerrir tveir svá miklir, at
understood men that those were merchant-ships two so great that
 engir höfðu slíkir verit gervir á Norðrlöndum, ok þar með
none had such been made in Northern-lands and there with
 lætr hann hafa of allt sitt ríki mikinn vápnabúnað. Ok
has he to-have about all his realm great weapon-gear And

með þessi breytni skilja menn þat, at hann mun ætla
with this behavior understand men that that he will intend
 nokkura herferð fyrir sér ór landinu. Þetta spyrst víða
some war-expedition before him out-of the-land This is-beard widely
 á lönd þau, er næst váru. Ok nú ugga menn þat ok allir
in lands those which nearest were And now fear men that and all
 konungar, er fyrir landi réðu, at þeir mundu eigi í löndum
kings who over land ruled that they would not in lands
 sínum eða ríkjum vera mega. Ok nú lætr hverr þeira vera
their or realms be be-able And now has each of-them to-be
 varðhöld um lönd sín, ef nokkur beri hann at. Þat er eitt
watches about lands their if any bears him at That is one
 sinn, er Randalín spurði Ragnar, hverja för hann ætlaði
time when Randalin asked Ragnar what journey he intended
 fyrir sér. Hann segir henni, at hann ætlaði til Englands ok
before him He says to-her that he intended to England and
 hafa eigi fleiri skip en tvá knörru ok þat lið, sem á
to-have not more ships than two merchant-ships and that force which on
 þeim má fara. Þá segir Randalín: “Sú för lízt mér óvarlig,
them may go Then says Randalin That journey seems to-me unwary
 er nú ætlar þú. Mér þætti þér ráðligra at hafa
which now intendest thou To-me would-seem for-thee more-advisable to have
 fleiri skip ok smæri.” “Þat er ekki ágæti,” segir hann, “þótt
more ships and smaller That is no glory says he though
 menn fái unnit land með mörgum skipum. En til þessa eru
men get won land with many ships But to this are
 eigi dæmi, at með tveimr skipum hafi unnit verit slíkt land
no examples that with two ships has won been such land
 sem England er. En ef ek fæ ósigr, þess betr sem ek hefi
as England is But if I get defeat the better as I have
 færi skip ór landi.” Þá svarar Randalín: “Mér sýnist sjá
fewer ships out-of land Then answers Randalin To-me seems this

eigi minni fékostnaðr, áðr þessi skip sé búin, en þótt þú
no less money-cost before these ships are ready than though thou
 hefðir langskip mörg til þessarar ferðar. En þú veizt þat,
hadst long-ships many for this journey But thou knowest that
 at illt er skipum at halda at Englandi, ok ef svá verðr, at
that ill is ships to hold at England and if so becomes that
 skip þín týndist, þótt menn komist á land, þá eru þeir
ships thine were-lost though men get on land then are they
 þegar upp gefnir, ef landherra kemr at, en betra er at halda
at-once up given if land-lord comes at and better is to hold
 langskipum til hafna en knörrum." Nú kveðr Ragnar vísu:
long-ships to harbors than merchant-ships Now speaks Ragnar verse

"Spari manngi röf Rínar,

Let-spare no-man amber of-Rhine

ef röskva vill hermenn,

if valiant wishes warriors

verr samir horskum hilmi

worse befits to-wise ruler

hringa fjöld en drengja;

of-rings abundance than of-men

illt er í borgglið baugi

ill is in town-gate with-ring

brandrauðum fram standa;

with-fire-red forth to-stand

allmarga veit ek jöfra,

very-many know I princes

þá er auðr lifir, dauða."

those whom wealth outlives dead

Nú lætr hann skip sín búa ok fær sér lið, svá at
Now has he ships his to-prepare and gets for-him force so that
 þeir knerrir eru mjök skipaðir. Nú er fjölrætt um hans
those merchant-ships are much manned Now is much-spoken about his
 fyrirætlan. Ok enn kvað hann vísu:
intention And again spoke he verse

“Hvat er þats baugs ór björgum
What is that-which of-ring out-of rocks
 brjótr heyrir nú þjóta,
breaker hears now to-roar
 at muni mundelds meiðir
that will of-hand-fire injurer
 mars sviðr ófni hafna?
of-sea wise serpent refuse
 Þó skal þeira ráða,
Yet shall of-those rule
 þorn-Bil, ef goð vilja,
thorn-Bil if gods wish
 ægir alnar leygjar
terrifier of-forearm of-flame
 ókvíðandi bíða.”
undreading wait

Ok er skip hans eru búin ok þat lið, er honum skyldi
And when ships his are ready and that force which him should
 fylgja, ok þá er þat veðr kemr, er honum þótti sér
follow and then when that weather comes which to-him seemed for-him
 vel koma, segir Ragnarr, at þá mundi hann fara til skipa.
well to-come says Ragnar that then would he go to ships
 Ok er hann var búinn, leiddi hún hann til skipa. Ok áðr
And when he was ready led she him to ships And before

þau skiljast, kjeðst hún mundu launa honum serk þann,
they part said-herself she would repay him shirt that
 er hann hafði gefit henni. Hann spyr, með hverjum
which he had given her He asks with what
 hætti þat væri. En hún kvað vísu:
manner that were And she spoke verse

“Þér annk serk inn síða

To-thee grant-I shirt the long

ok saumaðan hvergi,

and sewn nowhere

við heilan hug ofnu

with whole mind woven

ór hársíma gránu;

out-of hair-thread gray

mun eigi ben blæða,

will not wound bleed

né bíta þik eggjar

nor bite thee edges

í heilagri hjúpu,

in holy covering

var hún goðum signuð.”

was it to-gods consecrated

Hann segir, at hann vill þessi ráð þiggja. En þá er

He says that he wishes these counsels to-accept But then when

þau skildust, var auðsætt, at henni þótti mikit fyrir þeira

they parted was easy-seen that to-her seemed much before their

skilnaði.

parting

Nú heldr Ragnarr skipum sínum til Englands, sem hann
Now holds Ragnar ships his to England as he
 hafði ætlat. Honum gaf byri hvassa, svá at við England
had intended To-him gave winds sharp so that at England
 brýtr hann báða knörru sína, en á land komst allt lið
breaks he both merchant-ships his but on land got all force
 hans, ok heldu klæðum sínum ok vápnum. Ok þar, sem
his and kept clothes their and weapons And there where
 hann kemr við þorp ok borgir ok kastala, þá vinnr hann.
he comes at villages and towns and castles then wins he
 En konungr sá hét Ella, er þá réð Englandi. Hann
But king that was-called Ella who then ruled England He
 hafði haft fréttir til Ragnars, er hann fór ór landi.
had had reports of Ragnar when he went out-of land
 Hann hafði sett menn fyrir, at hann skyldi þegar vita,
He had set men before that he should at-once know
 er herrinn kæmi við land. Nú fóru þeir menn til fundar
when the-host came at land Now went those men to meeting
 við Ellu konung ok segja honum hersögu. Nú lætr hann
with Ella king and tell him war-news Now has he
 senda boð um allt sitt ríki ok bað til sín koma hvern
to-send summons about all his realm and bade to him to-come every
 mann, er skildi má valda ok hesti ríða ok þori at berjast,
man who shield may wield and horse ride and dares to fight
 ok dregr hann saman svá mikinn her, at furða var at. Nú
and draws he together so great host that wonder was at Now
 búast þeir til bardaga Ella konungr. Þá mælti Ella konungr
prepare they for battle Ella king Then said Ella king
 við lið sitt: “Ef vér sigrumst í bardaga þessum ok verði
to force his If we prevail in battle this and become
 þér við þat varir, at Ragnarr er kominn, þá skulu þér
you of that aware that Ragnar is come then shall you

eigi bera vápn á hann, því at hann á þá sonu eptir,
not bear weapon on him because that he has those sons behind
 er aldri munu af oss ganga, ef hann fellr." Ragnarr býst
who never will off us go if he falls Ragnar prepares
 nú til bardaga, ok hann hafði þat klæði, er Randalín
now for battle and he had that garment which Randalin
 hafði gefit honum at skilnaði, fyrir brynju ok þat spjót
had given him at parting for mail-coat and that spear
 í hendi, er hann vann at orminum, er lá um sal
in hand which he wrought at the-serpent which lay about hall
 Þóru, ok engi þorði annarra, ok hann hafði enga hlíf
of-Thora and none dared of-others and he had no protection
 nema hjálm. En þá er þeir hittast tókst bardagi. Ragnarr
except helmet But then when they meet began battle Ragnar
 hafði miklu minna lið. Bardaginn hafði eigi lengi verit, áðr
had much less force The-battle had not long been before
 lið Ragnars fell mjök. En þar, sem hann fór, varð rýrt
force of-Ragnar fell much But there where he went became thin
 fyrir, ok gekk hann í gegnum fylkingar þann dag, ok þar,
before and went he in through battle-lines that day and there
 sem hann hjó eða lagði í skjöldu, brynjur eða hjálma,
where he hewed or thrust into shields mail-coats or helmets
 þá váru svá stór högg hans, at ekki vetta stóð við, en
then were so great blows his that no thing stood against and
 aldri var svá til hans höggvit eða skotit, at né eitt vápn
never was so at him hewn or shot that nor one weapon
 yrði honum at meini, ok fekk hann aldri sár, en hann
became to-him at harm and got he never wound and he
 drap mikinn fjölda af liði Ellu konungs. En þó lauk svá
killed great multitude of force of-Ella king But yet ended so
 bardaga þeira, at allt lið Ragnars fell, en at honum váru
battle their that all force of-Ragnar fell and at him were

bornir skildir ok svá handtekinn. Nú var hann spurðr, hvat
borne shields and so hand-taken Now was he asked what
 manna hann var, en hann þagði við ok svaraði engu.

of-men he was but he was-silent at and answered nothing

Þá mælti Ella konungr: “Sjá maðr mun verða at koma í

Then said Ella king This man will have to come into

meiri mannraun, ef hann vill eigi segja oss, hverr hann er.

greater man-trial if he wishes not to-tell us who he is

Nú skal kasta honum í einn ormgarð ok láta hann þar

Now shall cast him into a serpent-pit and let him there

sitja mjök lengi, ok ef hann mælir nakkvat þat, er vér

to-sit very long and if he speaks anything that which we

megim skilja, at hann sé Ragnarr, þá skal hann í brott

may understand that he is Ragnar then shall him off away

taka sem skjótast.” Nú er honum þangat fylgt, ok hann

take as swiftest Now is him thither accompanied and he

sitr þar mjök lengi, svá at hvergi festast ormar við hann.

sits there very long so that nowhere fasten serpents on him

Þá mæltu menn: “Þessi maðr er mikill fyrir sér; hann

Then said men This man is great for himself him

bitu eigi vápn í dag, en nú granda honum eigi ormar.”

bit not weapons in day and now harm him not serpents

Þá mælti Ella konungr, at hann væri flettr af klæði því,

Then said Ella king that he were stripped of garment that

er hann hafði yzt, ok nú var svá gert, ok hengu ormar

which he had outermost and now was so done and hung serpents

öllum megin á honum. Þá mælti Ragnarr: “Gnyðja mundu

from-all sides on him Then said Ragnar Grunt would

nú grísir, ef þeir vissi, hvat inn gamli þyldi.” Ok þótt

now piglets if they knew what the old-one suffered And though

hann mælti slíkt, þá vissu þeir eigi at gerr, at Ragnarr
he spoke such then knew they not at more-fully that Ragnar
 væri þat heldr en annarr konungr. Nú kvað hann vísu:
were that rather than another king Now spoke he verse

“Orrostur hefk áttar,
Battles have-I had
 þærs ágætar þóttu,
those-which excellent seemed
 gerða ek mörgum mönnum
did I to-many men
 mein, fimm tigi ok eina;
harm five tens and one
 eigi hugðak orma
not thought-I serpents
 at aldragi mínu;
at life-end mine
 verður mjök mörgu sinni,
becomes much many time
 þats minnst varir sjálfan.”
that-which least expects oneself

Ok enn kvað hann:

And again spoke he

“Gnyðja mundu grísir,

Grunt would piglets

ef galtar hag vissi,

if of-boar plight they-knew

mér er gnótt at grandí,

to-me is abundance at harm

grafa inn rönum sínum

dig in with-snouts their

ok harðliga hváta,

and harshly thrust

hafa mik sogit, ormar;

have me sucked serpents

nú munk nár af bragði

now shall-I corpse from moment

ok nær dýrum deyja.”

and near beasts die

Nú lætr hann líf sitt, ok er hann nú færðr á brott þaðan.

Now loses he life his and is he now carried off away thence

En Ella konungr þykkist vita, at Ragnarr hefir líf sitt

But Ella king thinks-himself to-know that Ragnar has life his

látit. Nú hyggir hann fyrir sér, hvé hann skyldi þess verða

lost Now thinks he before him how he should of-that become

varr eða með fara, at hann mætti halda ríki sínu eða vita,

aware or with go that he might hold realm his or know

hvé þeim brygði við sonum Ragnars, er þeir spyrja. Hann

how to-them started at to-sons of-Ragnar when they hear He

tekr þat til ráðs, at hann lætr búa skip eitt ok fær þann

takes that to counsel that he has to-prepare ship a and gets that

mann til fyrir at ráða, er bæði var vitr ok harðfengr, ok þar
man to over to rule who both was wise and hardy and there
 fær hann menn til, svá at þat skip var vel skipat, ok segir,
gets he men to so that that ship was well manned and says
 at hann vill þá senda á fund Ívars ok þeira bræðra ok
that he wishes them to-send to meeting of-Ivar and of-those brothers and
 segja þeim fall föður þeira. En sjá för lízt flestum óvænlig,
to-tell them fall of-father their But this journey seems to-most unpromising
 svá at fáir vildu fara. Þá mælti konungur: "At því skulu þér
so that few wisbed to-go Then said king At that shall you
 vandliga hyggja, hversu hverjum þeira bræðra bregðr við þessi
carefully attend how to-each of-those brothers starts at these
 tíðendi. Farit þá leiðar yðarrar síðan, er yðr gefr veðr." Svá
tidings Go then of-way your then when to-you gives weather So
 lætr hann búa ferð þeira, at þeir þurftu at engu annarra.
has he to-prepare journey their that they needed at nothing of-others
 Ok nú fara þeir, ok ferst þeim vel. En synir Ragnars höfðu
And now go they and goes for-them well But sons of-Ragnar had
 herjat of Suðrríki. Þá sneru þeir á Norðrlönd ok ætluðu
barried about South-realm Then turned they to Northern-lands and intended
 at vitja ríkis síns, þess er Ragnarr réð fyrir. En þeir vissu
to visit realm their that which Ragnar ruled over But they knew
 eigi herför hans, hversu hún hafði orðit, ok þó er
not war-expedition his how it had turned-out and yet is
 þeim mikil forvitni á, hversu hún hafði orðit. Nú fara þeir
to-them great curiosity on how it had turned-out Now go they
 sunnan of land. En hvarvetna, er menn fréttu til fara þeira
from-south about land But everywhere that men hear of goings of-those
 bræðra, eyddu menn borgir sínar ok færðu fé sitt á brott
brothers emptied men towns their and carried wealth their off away

ok flýðu undan, svá at trautt fengu þeir liði sínu mat.

and fled away so that hardly got they for-force their food

Þat er einn morgin, at Björn járnsíða vaknar ok kvað vísu:

That is one morning that Bjorn Iron-side wakes and spoke verse

“Hér flýgr hverjan morgin

Here flies every morning

hress of borgir þessar,

brisk about towns these

læzt heill munu af hungri,

says-itself whole will from hunger

heiðir vals, of deyja;

beath-dweller of-slain — die

hann fari suðr um sanda,

it let-go south over sands

sára hvar vér létum,

of-wounds where we left

þar fær dauðs manns dreyra,

there gets of-dead man's blood

dögg ór skýlihöggum.”

dew out-of gaping-gashes

Ok enn kvað hann:

And again spoke he

“Þat var fyrst, er fórum,

That was first when we-went

Freys leika tókk heyja,

of-Frey games began-I to-wage

þars andvíga áttum

where opposing we-had

öld, í Rómaveldi;

people in Rome-realm

þar létk of grön grána,

there let-I — mustache to-gray

gall örn of valfalli,

screamed eagle over slain-fall

at mannskæðu morði

at man-destroying slaughter

mitt sverð dregit verða.”

my sword drawn to-become

XVI • THE NEWS AT THE FEAST

Ella's messengers find the brothers at a feast. Björn crushes his spear-shaft until his handprint is left in it and shakes it apart; Hvitserkr squeezes a chess-piece till blood springs from under every nail; Sigurðr, paring a nail, cuts to the bone without flinching; Ívarr changes color by turns and asks after every detail. He forbids killing the messengers. In counsel he says Ragnarr brought it on himself and offers to take compensation; he holds back every ship he commands but the one he owns, so his brothers sail with a much smaller force and are beaten by Ella; Ívarr takes no part in the battle, and asks only for as much of England as an ox-hide will cover.

Nú berr svá til, at þeir koma fyrri í Danaveldi en
Now bears so to that they come sooner into Dane-realm than
 sendimenn Ellu konungs ok sitja nú kyrrir með lið sitt.
messengers of-Ella king and sit now still with force their
 En sendimenn koma með lið sitt til þeirar borgar, er
But messengers come with force their to that town where
 synir Ragnars þiggja veizlu, ok ganga í þá höll, er þeir
sons of-Ragnar receive feast and go into that hall where they
 drekka, ok fyrir hásæt, er Ívarr liggir í Sigurðr ormr í
drink and before the-high-seat where Ivar lies in Sigurd serpent in
 auga ok Hvítserkr hvati sitja at hneftaflí, en Björn járnsíða
eye and Hvitserk the-bold sit at chess and Bjorn Iron-side
 skefr spjótskepti á hallargólfinu. Ok er sendimenn Ellu
shaves spear-shaft on the-hall-floor And when messengers of-Ella
 konungs koma fyrir Ívar, kveðja þeir hann virðuliga. En
king come before Ivar greet they him honorably And
 hann tekr kveðju þeira ok spyrr, hvaðan þeir sé eða hvat
he takes greeting their and asks whence they are or what
 þeir segja tíðenda. Ok sá, er fyrir þeim var, segir, at þeir
they say of-tidings And he who before them was says that they
 váru enskir menn ok þá hefir Ella konungr þangat senda
were English men and them has Ella king thither sent
 með þau tíðendi at segja fall Ragnars, föður þeira. Hvítserkr
with those tidings to tell fall of-Ragnar father their Hvitserk
 ok Sigurðr láta þegar falla niðr tafli ok hyggja at vandliga
and Sigurd let at-once to-fall down the-game and to-attend at carefully
 þessi tíðenda sögn. Björn stendr á hallargólfinu ok studdist
this of-tidings telling Bjorn stands on the-hall-floor and leaned
 við spjótskepti sitt. En Ívarr spurði þá vandliga, með
on spear-shaft his But Ivar asked them carefully with
 hverjum atburð líflát hans hafði verit. En þeir sögðu allt sem
what event death his had been And they told all as

farit hafði þaðan frá, er hann kom við England ok til þess,
gone it-had thence from when he came at England and to that
 er hann lét líf sitt. Ok nú er þessi sögu var þar komit,
when he lost life his And now when this story was there come
 er hann hafði þetta mælt: “Gnyðja mundu grísir,” —
where he had this spoken Grunt would piglets
 þokar Björn höndum sínum á spjótskaptinu, ok svá hafði
moves Bjorn with-hands his on the-spear-shaft and so had
 hann tekit fast, at handastaðinn sá á eptir. Þá er
he taken fast that the-hand-print was-seen on after Then when
 sendimenn luku frásögn þessi, hristir Björn spjótit í sundr,
messengers ended narration this shakes Bjorn the-spear in asunder
 svá at stökk í tvá hluti. En Hvitserkr hélt töfl einni, er
so that sprang into two parts And Hvitserk held piece a which
 hann hafði drepit, ok hann kreisti hana svá fast, at blóð
he had taken and he squeezed it so fast that blood
 stökk undan hverjum nagli. En Sigurðr ormr í auga hafði
sprang from-under every nail And Sigurd serpent in eye had
 haldit á knífi einum ok skóf nagl sinn, er þessi tíðendi
beld on knife a and pared nail his when these tidings
 váru sögð, ok hugði svá vandliga at þessum tíðendum, at
were told and attended so carefully to these tidings that
 hann kenndi eigi fyrr en knífrinn stóð í beini, ok brást
he felt not sooner than the-knife stood in bone and started
 hann ekki við. En Ívarr spyr at öllu sem gerst, en litr
he not at But Ivar asks at all as most-fully and hue
 hans var stundum rauðr, en stundum blár, en lotum var
his was sometimes red and sometimes blue and by-fits was
 hann bleikr, ok hann var svá þrútin, at hans hörund var
he pale and he was so swollen that his skin was
 allt blásit af þeim grimmleik, er í brjósti hans var. Nú
all puffed from that fierceness which in breast his was Now

tekr Hvítserkr til orða ok sagði, at svá mætti hefndina
takes Hvítserk to words and said that so might the-vengeance
bráðast upp hefja at drepa sendimenn Ellu konungs. Ívarr
soonest up begin to kill messengers of-Ella king Ivar
segir: “Þat skal eigi vera. Þeir skulu fara í friði, hvert er
says That shall not be They shall go in peace wherever that
þeir vilja, ok ef nokkurr hlutr er sá, at þá skorti, skulu
they wish and if any thing is that which them lacks shall
þeir mér til segja, ok skal ek fá þeim.” Ok nú er þeir
they to-me to tell and shall I get for-them And now when they
hafa lokit erendi sínu, snúa þeir utar eptir höllunni ok til
have ended errand their turn they outward along the-hall and to
skips síns. Ok er þeim gefr byr, láta þeir í haf, ok
ship their And when to-them gives fair-wind let they into sea and
ferst þeim vel, þar til er þeir koma á fund Ellu konungs,
goes for-them well there to when they come to meeting of-Ella king
ok segja honum frá, hversu hverjum þeira hefir við brugðit
and tell him of how to-each of-them has at started
þessa tíðenda sögn. Ok er Ella konungr heyrir þetta, þá
of-these of-tidings telling And when Ella king hears this then
mælti hann: “Þess er ván, at annathvart munu vér Ívar
said be Of-that is expectation that either shall we Ivar
þurfa at óttast eða engan ella, at því er þér segið frá
need to fear or none otherwise at that which you say of
honum, ok mundi þeim gott innan rifja, ok haldit munu vér
him and would to-them good within ribs and held shall we
fá ríki váru fyrir þeim.” Nú lætr hann varðhöld hafa um
get realm our before them Now has he watches to-have about
allt sitt ríki, svá at eigi mátti herr komast á óvart honum.
all his realm so that not could host come on unawares to-him

En er sendimenn Ellu konungs váru brott farnir, ganga
But when messengers of-Ella king were away gone go
 þeir bræðr á málstefnu, hversu þeir skyldu með fara of
those brothers to conference how they should with go about
 hefnd eptir Ragnar, föður sinn. Þá mælti Ívarr: “Engan
vengeance after Ragnar father their Then said Ivar No
 hlut mun ek í eiga ok eigi fá lið til, því at Ragnarr
part will I in have and not to-get force for because that Ragnarr
 fór sem mik varði. Hann bjó illa sína sök til í upphafi.
went as me expected He prepared ill his cause for at outset
 Hann átti engar sakir við Ellu konung, ok hefir þat opt
He had no quarrels with Ella king and has that often
 orðit, ef maðr ætlar ofrkapp fyrir sér með rangendum, at
happened if man intends over-zeal before him with wrongs that
 hann hefir því óvirðuligar niðr komit. Ok vil ek þiggja
he has the-more dishonorably down come And wish I to-accept
 fébætr af Ellu konungi, ef hann vill til leggja við
money-compensation from Ella king if he wishes to offer with
 mik.” En er þeir heyra þetta bræðr hans, verða þeir reiðir
me But when they hear this brothers his become they angry
 mjök ok segja, at aldri skyldu þeir svá at klækjum verða,
much and say that never should they so at disgraces to-become
 þótt hann vildi svá. “Munu þat margir mæla, at oss sé
though he wished so Will that many say that to-us are
 mislagðar hendr í kné, ef vér skulum eigi hefna föður várs,
ill-laid hands in knee if we shall not avenge father our
 en vér höfum víða farit um heim með herskildi ok drepit
and we have widely gone about world with war-shield and killed
 margan mann saklausan. Ok enn skal eigi þat verða, heldr
many man guiltless And still shall not that be rather
 skal búa hvert skip, er sæfært er í Danaveldi. Skal svá
shall prepare every ship which sea-worthy is in Dane-realm Shall so

gersamliga safna liði, at hverr maðr, er skjöld má bera
completely gather force that every man who shield may bear
 í mót Ellu konungi, skal fara.” En Ívarr segir, at hann
in against Ella king shall go But Ivar says that he
 mundi eptir sitja ok þau skip, er hann á fyrir at ráða, —
would behind sit and those ships which he has over to rule
 “nema þat eitt, er ek á sjálfr.” Ok er þetta spyrst, at
except that one which I own myself And when this is-heard that
 Ívarr leggr enga stund á, fá þeir miklu minna lið ok fara
Ivar lays no care on get they much less force and go
 þó eigi at síðr. Ok þegar er þeir kómu við England, verðr
yet not at less And as-soon-as that they came at England becomes
 Ella konungr varr við ok lætr þegar lúðr sinn við gjalla
Ella king aware of and has at-once trumpet his at to-sound
 ok býðr til sín öllum mönnum, er honum vilja fylgja. Ok
and bids to him to-all men who him wish to-follow And
 nú fær hann svá mikit lið, at engi maðr mátti tölu á
now gets he so great force that no man could count on
 koma, ok ferr í mót þeim bræðrum. Ok er þeir finnast,
bring and goes in against those brothers And when they meet
 var Ívarr ekki í þeim bardaga. Ok svá lýkr þeira bardaga,
was Ivar not in that battle And so ends their battle
 at synir Ragnars koma á flóttu, en Ella konungr hefir sigr.
that sons of-Ragnar come on flight and Ella king has victory
 Ok er hann var at at reka flóttann, segir Ívarr, at hann
And when he was at to drive the-flight says Ivar that he
 ætlar ekki aptr at hverfa til lands síns, — “ok vil ek reyna,
intends not back to turn to land his and wish I to-test
 hvárt Ella konungr vill mér nokkurrar sæmdar unna eða
whether Ella king wishes to-me of-any honor to-grant or
 engrar, ok þykki mér sá betri at þiggja yfirbót af honum
of-none and seems to-me that better to accept amends from him

en fara slíkar ófarar fleiri sem nú fóru vér." Hvitserkr
than to-go such misfortunes more as now went we Hvitserk
 segir, at eigi mátti hlut í eiga með honum ok hann yrði
says that not could part in have with him and he should
 at fara með sín efni sem hann vill, — "en aldri skulu
to go with his means as he wishes but never shall
 vér fé taka eptir föður várn." Ívarr segir, at þar mundi
we money take after father our Ivarr says that there would
 skilja með þeim, ok bað þá ráða ríki því, er þeir áttu
part with them and bade them to-rule realm that which they owned
 allir saman, — "en þér skuluð senda mér lausafé, sem ek
all together and you shall send to-me loose-wealth as I
 kveð á." En er hann hafði mælt, bað hann þá vel fara.
appoint on And when he had spoken bade he them well to-fare
 En hann snýr aptr sinni ferð á fund Ellu konungs. Ok
But he turns back his journey to meeting of-Ella king And
 er hann kemr fyrir hann, kveðr hann konunginn virðuliga
when he comes before him greets he the-king honorably
 ok hefr svá mál sitt: "Ek em kominn á fund yðarn, ok
and begins so speech his I am come to meeting your and
 vil ek mæla til sætta við þik ok slíkrar sæmdar sem þú
wish I to-speak to terms with thee and such honor as thou
 vilt gert hafa til mín. Ok nú sé ek þat, at ek hefi
wishest done to-have to me And now see I that that I have
 ekki við þér, ok þykki mér þat betra at þiggja af yðr
nothing against thee and seems to-me that better to accept from you
 slíka sæmd sem þú vilt mér veita en láta mína menn
such honor as thou wishest to-me to-grant than to-lose my men
 fleiri fyrir yðr eða sjálfan mik." Þá svarar Ella konungr:
more before you or self me Then answers Ella king
 "Þat kalla sumir menn, at eigi sé hægt at trúá þér ok þú
That call some men that not is easy to trust thee and thou

mælir þá oft fagrt, er þú hyggr flátt, ok mun oss vera
speakest then often fair when thou thinkest falsely and will for-us be
 vant at sjá við þér eða bræðrum þínum.” “Ek mun til
hard to look against thee or brothers thine I will to
 lítills mæla við þik, ef þú lætr þat til. Skal ek þat sverja
little speak with thee if thou grantest that for Shall I that swear
 þér á mót, at ek skal aldri vera í mót þér.” Nú spyr
thee in return that I shall never be in against thee Now asks
 konungr, til hvers hann mælti of yfirbætr. “Ek vil,” segir
king to what he spoke about amends I wish says
 Ívarr, “at þú gefir mér þat af landi þínu, er uxahúð tekr
Ivar that thou givest to-me that of land thy which ox-hide takes
 yfir, en þar utan um skal grundvöll gera, ok mun ek eigi
over and there outside about shall foundation make and will I not
 til meira mæla við þik, ok þat sé ek, at þú vilt mér
to more speak with thee and that see I that thou wishest to-me
 engrar sæmdar unna, ef þú vilt eigi þetta.” “Eigi veit ek,”
of-no honor to-grant if thou wishest not this Not know I
 segir konungr, “at oss megi þetta at meini verða, þótt
says king that to-us may this at harm to-become though
 þú hafir þetta ór mínu landi, ok at visu mun ek fá þér
thou hast this out-of my land and at surely will I give thee
 þetta, ef þú vilt þat sverja mér at berjast eigi í mót
this if thou wishest that swear to-me to fight not in against
 mér, ok eigi uggi ek bræðr þína, ef þú ert mér trúr.”
me and not fear I brothers thine if thou art to-me true

Ívarr soaks and stretches an old ox-hide and has it cut into one thong so long that nobody had thought it possible, marks out a town-wall with it, and builds London. He gives away everything he owns, settles men's suits so that all are pleased, and draws the chief men of the country from Ella. Then he sends for his brothers, and when Ella is beaten and taken Ívarr has the eagle cut on his back and reddened with his blood. He gives his brothers their common kingdom and keeps England.

Nú ráða þeir þetta með sér, at Ívarr sverr honum eiða, at
Now decide they this with them that Ivar swears him oaths that
 hann skyldi eigi skjóta í mót honum ok eigi ráð leggja
he should not shoot in against him and not counsel to-lay
 til meins honum, en hann skal eignast af Englandi þat,
to of-harm to-him and he shall gain of England that
 sem uxahúð tekr yfir, er hann fengi mesta til. Nú fær
which ox-hide takes over which he might-get greatest for Now gets
 Ívarr sér öldungshúð eina, ok nú lætr hann hana bleyta,
Ivar for-him old-ox-hide a and now has he it to-soak
 ok þrisvar lætr hann hana þenja. Nú lætr hann rista hana
and thrice has he it to-stretch Now has he to-cut it
 sem mjóst alla í sundr, ok þá lætr hann renna sér
as narrowest all in asunder and then has he to-run for-itself
 hvárt, háram eða holdrosu. Ok er þessu var lokit, var
each hair-side or flesh-side And when this was ended was
 þvengr sjá svá langr, at furða var at, ok engum kom í
thong this so long that wonder was at and to-none came into
 hug, at svá mætti verða. Ok þá lætr hann breiða á einum
mind that so might become And then has he to-spread on a
 velli, en þat var svá vítt land, at þat var mikil borgarvidd,
field and that was so wide land that that was great town-breadth
 ok þar fyrir utan lætr hann marka grundvöll sem til mikilla
and there for outside has he to-mark foundation as for great

borgarveggja. Ok þá fær hann sér smiði marga ok lætr
town-walls And then gets he for-him builders many and has
 reisa hús mörg á þeim velli, ok þar lætr hann gera
to-raise houses many on that field and there has he to-make
 borg eina mikla, ok er sú kölluð Lundúnaborg. Hún er
town a great and is that called London-town It is
 allra borga mest ok ágæzt of öll Norðrlönd. Ok nú
of-all towns greatest and most-excellent about all Northern-lands And now
 er hann hafði borg þessa látit gera, hafði hann lausafé
when he had town this caused to-make had he loose-wealth
 upp gefit. En hann var svá örr, at hann gaf á tvær
up given But he was so generous that he gave on two
 hendr, ok þótti svá mikit um speki hans, at allir sóttu
hands and seemed so much about wisdom his that all sought
 hann at sínum ráðum ok vandamálum. Ok svá skipaði hann
him at their counsels and hard-cases And so arranged he
 öllum málum sem hverjum þótti sér best gegna, ok gerist
all matters as to-each seemed for-him best to-suit and becomes
 hann vinsæll, svá at hann á undir hverjum manni vin,
he popular so that he has under every man friend
 ok er Ellu konungi mikit lið at honum fyrir landráða
and is to-Ella king great help in him for land-governance
 sakir, svá at konungur lætr hann mörgum ráðum ok málum
sakes so that king lets him many counsels and matters
 skipa ok þarf eigi til at koma sjálf. Ok er Ívarr hafði
to-arrange and needs not to to come himself And when Ivar had
 svá komit ráði sínu, at þar þykkir til allrar spektar at sjá,
so brought plan his that there seems to of-all wisdom to look
 sendir hann menn á fund bræðra sinna þess erendis, at
sends he men to meeting of-brothers his of-that errand that
 þeir sendi honum gull ok silfr svá mikit sem hann kvað
they send him gold and silver so much as he appointed

á. En er þessir menn koma á fund þeira bræðra, segja
on And when these men come to meeting of-those brothers tell
 þeir sín erendi ok svá, hvar þá var komit hans ráð, því
they their errands and so where then was come his plan because
 at menn þóttust þat eigi vita, yfir hverjum brögðum
that men thought-themselves that not to-know over what devices
 hann bjó. Ok svá skildu þeir bræðr, at hann hafði ekki
he brooded And so understood those brothers that he had no
 skapsmuni eptir því, sem hann var vanr. Nú senda þeir
temper after that as he was accustomed Now send they
 slíkt fé sem hann á kvæði. Ok er þeir koma til Ívars,
such wealth as he on appointed And when they come to Ivar
 gefr hann þau öll fé inum stærstum mönnum í landinu
gives he those all wealth to-the greatest men in the-land
 ok dregr svá lið undan Ellu konungi, ok allir hétu því,
and draws so force from-under Ella king and all promised that
 at kyrrir mundu sitja, þótt hann gerði þangat herför.
that still they-would sit though he made thither war-expedition
 Ok er Ívarr hefir svá lið dregit undir sik, þá sendir hann
And when Ivar has so force drawn under him then sends he
 menn á fund bræðra sinna at segja þeim, at vildi hann,
men to meeting of-brothers his to tell them that wished he
 at þeir byði út leiðangri of þau lönd öll, er þeira ríki
that they called out levy about those lands all which their realm
 stóð yfir, ok þeir skoraði hverjum manni, er þeir fengi.
stood over and they should-summon every man that they might-get
 Ok þá er þessi orðsending kom til þeira bræðra, kennast
And then when this message came to those brothers recognize
 þeir við skjótt, skilja, at nú mundi honum þykkja mjök
they with quickly understand that now would to-him seem very
 vænligt um, at nú mundi þeir fá sigr. Nú safna þeir
promising about that now would they get victory Now gather they

liði um alla Danmörk ok Gautland ok öll þau ríki, er
force about all Denmark and Gautland and all those realms which
 þeira völd váru yfir, ok draga óvígán her saman ok hafa
their powers were over and draw unconquerable host together and have
 almenning úti. Þá halda þeir skipum sínum til Englands
general-levy out Then hold they ships their to England
 bæði nótt ok dag ok vildu nú sem sízt láta fara njósn fyrir
both night and day and wished now as least to-let to-go spying before
 þeim. Nú er sjá hersaga sögð Ellu konungi. Nú safnar hann
them Now is this war-news told to-Ella king Now gathers he
 sér liði ok fær lítit, fyrir því at Ívarr hafði mikit lið
for-him force and gets little for that that Ivar had great force
 undan honum dregit. Nú ferr Ívarr í mót Ellu konungi
from-under him drawn Now goes Ivar in against Ella king
 ok segir, at hann mundi enda þat, er hann hafði svarit.
and says that he would fulfill that which he had sworn
 “En eigi má ek ráða tiltekju bræðra minna, en því má ek
But not may I decide undertaking of-brothers mine but that may I
 ráða at finna þá ok vita, ef þeir vili stöðva her sinn ok
decide to find them and to-know if they wish to-stop host their and
 gera eigi meira illt en þeir hafa áður gert.” Nú ferr Ívarr á
to-do not more evil than they have before done Now goes Ivar to
 fund bræðra sinna ok eggjar þá nú mjök, at þeir skyldi
meeting of-brothers his and urges them now much that they should
 sem bezt fram ganga ok sem bráðast láta bardaga verða, —
as best forth go and as soonest to-let battle to-become
 “Því at konungr hefir miklu minna lið.” En þeir svara, at
because that king has much less force But they answer that
 eigi mundi hann þurfa at eggja þá ok þeim var it sama
not would be need to urge them and to-them was the same
 í hug sem fyrr. Nú ferr Ívarr ok hittir Ellu konung ok
in mind as before Now goes Ivar and meets Ella king and

segir honum, at miklu váru þeir ákafari ok óðari en
says to-him that much were they more-eager and more-furious than
 þeir vildi á hans orð hlýða. “Ok þá er ek vilda um grið
they wished on his words to-listen And then when I wished about truce
 leita yðar í milli, æptu þeir í gegn. Nú mun ek enda
to-see of-you in between shouted they in against Now will I fulfill
 mína swardaga, at ek mun eigi berjast í móti þér, ok
my oaths that I will not fight in against thee and
 mun ek vera kyrr hjá ok mitt lið, en bardagi gengr með
will I be still beside and my force but battle goes with
 yðr sem verða má.” Nú sjá þeir Ella konungr lið þeira
you as become may Now see those Ella king force of-those
 bræðra, ok ferr svá geyst, at furða var at. Þá mælti Ívarr:
brothers and goes so furiously that wonder was at Then said Ivar
 “Þat er nú til, Ella konungr, at þú fylkir liði þínu, en ek
That is now for Ella king that thou arrayest force thy and I
 get þess, at þeir veiti þér harða atsókn nokkura hríð.” En
guess of-that that they give thee hard attack some while But
 þegar þeira lið hittist, verðr bardagi mikill, ok ganga þeir
as-soon-as their force meet becomes battle great and go they
 hart fram synir Ragnars í gegnum fylkingar Ellu konungs,
hard forth sons of-Ragnar in through battle-lines of-Ella king
 ok svá eru þeir ákafir, at þeir hyggja at því einu at gera
and so are they eager that they think at that alone to do
 at verkum sem mest, ok sú orrosta var bæði löng ok
at deeds as most and that battle was both long and
 hörð. Ok hér lauk svá, at Ella konungr ok lið hans kom
hard And here ended so that Ella king and force his came
 á flótta ok hann varð handtekinn. Ok þá var Ívarr þar í
on flight and he became hand-taken And then was Ivar there in
 nánd ok mælti, at svá skyldi breyta um líflát hans: “Er
nearness and said that so should order about death his Is

nú þat ráð,” segir hann, “at minnast, hvern dauðdaga hann
now that counsel says he to remember what death he
 valdi föður várum. Nú skal sá maðr, er oddhagastr er,
caused to-father our Now shall that man who most-point-skilled is
 marka örn á baki honum sem inniligast, ok þann örn skal
to-mark eagle on back to-him as most-carefully and that eagle shall
 rjóða með blóði hans.” En sá maðr, er kvaddr var til
redden with blood his And that man who summoned was to
 þessarar sýslu, gerir sem Ívarr bauð honum, en Ella konungr
this task does as Ivarr bade him and Ella king
 var mjök sárr, áðr þessi sýslu lýkr. Lætr hann nú líf
was very wounded before this task ends Loses he now life
 sitt, ok þykkjast þeir nú hefnt hafa föður síns, Ragnars.
his and think-themselves they now avenged to-have father their of-Ragnar
 Ívarr segir, at hann vill þeim gefa ríki þat, er þeir
Ivarr says that he wishes to-them to-give realm that which they
 áttu allir saman, en hann kveðst ráða vilja fyrir Englandi.
owned all together but he says-himself to-rule to-wish over England

XVIII • THE DEATH OF HVÍTSEKR, AND WHAT CAME AFTER

Hvítserkr, taken in the East-way, chooses to be burned on a pyre of men's heads, and Randalín speaks two verses over him. Sigurðr ormr í auga's daughter Ragnbilda was the mother of Haraldr hárfagri. Ívarr ruled England to his death and was laid in a mound where the coast was open to raiders, saying he expected that no army landing there would win; Haraldr Sigurðarson landed there and fell, and William the Bastard won only after breaking the mound, finding him undecayed, and burning him. From Björn járnsíða a great kin is descended.

Eptir þetta fara þeir Hvítserkr ok Björn heim til ríkis síns ok
After this go those Hvitserk and Bjorn home to realm their and
 Sigurðr, en Ívarr er eptir ok ræðr Englandi. Þaðan frá halda
Sigurd but Ivar is behind and rules England Thence from hold
 þeir miðr saman liði sínu ok herjuðu á ýmsi lönd. En Randalín,
they less together force their and harried on various lands But Randalin
 móðir þeira, varð gömul kona. En Hvítserkr, sonr hennar, hafði
mother their became old woman But Hvitserk son her had
 herjat eitthvert sinn í Austrveg, ok kom svá mikít ofrefli
harried on-a-certain time in East-way and came so great overwhelming-force
 í mót honum, at hann mátti eigi rönd við reisa, ok varð
in against him that he could not shield against raise and became
 hann handtekinn. En hann kaus sér þann dauðdaga, at bál
he hand-taken But he chose for-him that death that pyre
 skyldi gera af mannahöfðum; þar skyldi hann brenna, ok svá lét
should make of men's-heads there should he burn and so lost
 hann líf sitt. Ok er Randalín spýrr þetta, þá kvað hún vísu:
he life his And when Randalin learns this then spoke she verse

“Sonr beið einn, sás áttak,

Son met one whom had-I

í Austrvegi dauða,

in East-way death

Hvítserkr var sá heitinn,

Hvitserk was he called

hvergi gjarn at flýja;

nowhere eager to flee

hitnaði hann af höfðum

grew-hot he from heads

höggvins vals at rómu,

of-beun slain at battle

kaus þann bana þengill

chose that death prince

þróttarsnjallr, áðr felli.”

valor-bold before he-fell

Ok enn kvað hún:

And again spoke she

“Höfðum létu of hrundit

With-heads they-let — heaped

hundmörgum gram undir,

hundred-many prince under

at feigum bör folka

that to-doomed tree of-hosts

fingi eldr yfir syngja;

might-get fire over to-sing

hvat skyldi beð inn betra

what should bed the better

böðheggr und sik leggja;

battle-tree under him lay

olli, deyr við orðstír

caused dies with fame

allvaldr, jöfurr falli.”

all-ruler prince fall

En frá Sigurði orm í auga er mikill ættbogi kominn. Hans
But from Sigurd serpent in eye is great lineage come His
 dóttir hét Ragnhildr, móðir Haralds ins hárfagra, er fyrstr
daughter was-called Ragnbild mother of-Harald the Fair-haired who first
 réð öllum Noregi einn. En Ívarr réð fyrir Englandi allt til
ruled all Norway alone But Ivar ruled over England all to
 dauðadags ok varð sótt dauðr. Ok þá er hann lá í banasótt,
death-day and became sickness-dead And then when he lay in death-sickness
 mælti hann, at hann skyldi þangat færa, er herskátt væri,
said he that him should thither carry where raid-prone were
 ok þess kvaðst hann vænta, at þeir mundi eigi sigr fá,
and of-that said-of-himself he to-expect that they would not victory get
 er þar kæmi at landinu. Ok er hann andast, var svá gert
who there came at the-land And when he dies was so done
 sem hann mælti fyrir, ok var þá í haug lagiðr. Ok þat segja
as he directed before and was then in mound laid And that say
 margir menn, þá er Haraldr konungr Sigurðarson kom til
many men then when Harald king Sigurdsson came to
 Englands, at hann kæmi þar at, er Ívarr var fyrir, ok fellr
England that he came there at where Ivar was before and falls
 hann í þeiri för. Ok er Vilhjálmr bastardr kom í land,
he in that journey And when William Bastard came into land
 fór hann til ok braut haug Ívars ok sá Ívar ófúinn. Þá lét
went he to and broke mound of-Ivar and saw Ivar undecayed Then had
 hann gera bál mikit ok lætr Ívar brenna á bálinu, ok eptir
he to-make pyre great and has Ivar to-burn on the-pyre and after
 þat berst hann til landsins ok fær gagn. En frá Birni járnsideu
that fights he for the-land and gets success But from Bjorn Iron-side
 er komit margt manna. Frá honum er komin mikil ætt: Þórðr,
is come many of-men From him is come great kin Thord
 er bjó at Höfða á Höfðaströnd, mikill höfðingi. En þá er
who dwelt at Hofdi on Hofdastrand great chieftain But then when

synir Ragnars váru allir líflátnir, dreifðist lið þeira á ýmsa
sons of-Ragnar were all put-to-death scattered force their on various
 vega, er þeim hafði fylgt, ok þótti þeim öllum, er verit
ways which them had followed and seemed to-them all who been
 höfðu með sonum Ragnars, einkis vert um aðra höfðingja.
had with sons of-Ragnar of-nothing worth about other chieftains
 Þeir váru tveir menn, er fóru víða um lönd at leita, ef
They were two men who went widely about lands to seek if
 þeir fyndi nokkurn höfðingja þann, er þeim þætti sér
they might-find some chieftain that whom to-them seemed for-them
 eigi svivirðing í at þjóna, ok fóru þeir eigi báðir saman.
no dishonor in to serve and went they not both together

XIX · THE TWO STRANGERS AT THE FUNERAL ALE

A king's two sons hold a funeral feast for their father and bid every man who hears of it within three winters. Two huge men in long hoods come, one after the other, and are given the higher bench, and between them they take the room of five. They trade taunting verses about which of them has done more — where each stood when the ships ran on the surf, whose sword fattened the wolf — until they own that they both followed Björn and Ragnarr, recognize one another, and stay for the feast.

Sá atburður hefir verit út í löndum, at einn konungur átti
That event has been out in lands that a king had
 tvá sonu, ok tók hann sótt ok andaðist, en synir hans
two sons and took he sickness and died and sons his
 vilja drekka erfi eptir hann. Þeir bjóða til þessar veizlu
wish to-drink funeral-feast after him They invite to this feast
 svá, at allir menn skyldu koma þangat, þeir er á þrimr
so that all men should come thither those who in three
 vetrum inum næstum spyrja þetta. Nú spyrst þetta víða
winters the nearest hear this Now is-heard this widely

um lönd. Ok á þessum þrimr vetrum búast þeir við þessi
about lands And in these three winters prepare they for this
 veizlu. Ok er þat sumar kemr, er erfi skyldi drekka,
feast And when that summer comes when funeral-feast should drink
 ok sú stund, er ákveðin var, þá verðr svá mikit fjölmenni,
and that hour which appointed was then becomes so great multitude
 at engi vissi dæmi til, hvé mikit var, ok váru margar
that none knew examples of how great it-was and were many
 stórar hallir skipaðar ok mörg tjöld úti. Ok er leið mjök
great balls filled and many tents outside And when passed much
 it fyrsta kveld, kemr maðr einn til hallar þessarar. Þessi
the first evening comes man a to hall this This
 maðr er mikill, svá at þar var engi jafnmikill, ok þat sá á
man is great so that there was none as-great and that saw on
 búnaði hans, at hann hafði hjá tignum mönnum verit. Ok
gear his that he had beside noble men been And
 er hann kemr í höllina, gengr hann fyrir þá bræðrna ok
when he comes into the-hall goes he before those the-brothers and
 kveðr þá ok spyr, hvar þeir vísi honum til sætis. Peim
greet them and asks where they direct him to seat To-them
 leizt vel á hann ok báðu hann sitja á inn æðra bekk.
seemed well on him and bade him to-sit on the higher bench
 Hann þurfti tveggja manna rúm. Ok þegar hann hafði
He needed of-two men's room And as-soon-as he had
 niðr sett, var honum borin drykkja sem öðrum mönnum,
down sat was to-him borne drink as to-other men
 ok ekki horn var svá mikit, at eigi drykki hann af í
and no horn was so great that not drank he from in
 einum drykk, ok þat þóttust allir sjá, at honum þótti
one draft and that thought-themselves all to-see that to-him seemed
 engis um vert um alla aðra. Svá verðr enn, at annarr
of-nothing about worth about all others So becomes again that another

maðr kemr til þessarar veizlu. Sá var heldr meiri en inn
man comes to this feast He was rather greater than the
 fyrri. Þessir menn hafa síða höttu. Ok er þessi maðr kemr
former These men have long hoods And when this man comes
 fyrir hásetit inna ungu konunga, kveðr hann þá listuliga
before the-high-seat of-the young kings greets he them courteously
 ok biðr þá vísa sér til sætis. Þeir mæltu, at þessi maðr
and bids them to-direct himself to seat They said that this man
 skyldi innar sitja á inn æðra bekk. Nú gengr hann til sætis
should further-in sit on the higher bench Now goes he to seat
 síns, ok eru þeir svá miklir í rúmi báðir saman, at fimm
his and are they so great in room both together that five
 menn hafa upp risit fyrir þeim. En sá, er fyrr kom, er þó
men have up risen before them But he who earlier came is yet
 minni drykkjumaðr. En inn síðari drakk svá skjótt, at hann
less drinker But the latter drank so swiftly that he
 hellti nálíga í sik af hverju horni, ok eigi finna menn
poured nearly into himself from every horn and not find men
 þó, at hann verði drukkinn, ok heldr lætr hann óþokkuliga
yet that he becomes drunk and rather behaves he ungraciously
 við sínum sessunautum ok snýr baki við þeim. Sá, er fyrri
with his seat-mates and turns back to them He who earlier

kom, bað, at þeir skyldi eiga gaman saman, — “ok mun
came asked that they should have sport together and will
 ek fyrri.” Hann stakk við honum hendi ok kvað vísu:

I first He poked at him with-hand and spoke verse

“Seg frá þegnsköpum þínum,

Tell of manly-deeds thine

þik ráðumst ek spyrja:

thee undertake I to-ask

hvar sáttu hrafn á hríslu

where sawest-thou raven on branch

hrolla dreyra fullan?

to-shiver of-blood full

Optar þáttu at öðrum,

Oftenert wert-thou at other

í öndvegi fundinn,

in high-seat found

en dreyrug hræ drægir

than bloody carrion thou-draggedst

í dal fyr valfugla.”

in dale before slain-birds

Nú þykkir þeim, er utar sat, til leitat við sik í slíku

Now seems to-him who further-out sat at aimed at himself in such

tilkvæði ok kvað vísu í móti:

address and spoke verse in return

“Þegi heimdregi heitinn,

Be-silent stay-at-home called

hvat er þik vesallátan,

what is thee wretched-mannered

hefir aldri unnit,

hast never worked

er ek mega þrotna;

when I may fail

feitaðir sverðs né sólar

thou-fattenedst of-sword nor of-sun

sæki-tík at leiki,

seeking-bitch at play

gafta hálu hesti,

thou-gavest to-witch's horse

hvat rækir þú, drykkju.”

what beedest thou drinking

Nú svarar hinn, er fyrri kom:

Now answers that-one who earlier came

“Hafs létum vér hesta

Of-sea let we horses

hlýr stinn á brim renna,

bow stiff on surf to-run

meðan á bjartar brynjur

while on bright mail-coats

blóði dreif um síður;

with-blood spattered about sides

ylgr gein, arnar, mönnum,

she-wolf gaped of-eagle at-men

eyddist gráðr, of svíra,

was-spent hunger about necks

harðmeldr gátum heiðan

hard-meal we-got bright

hveðnu, blóði roðna.”

of-Hvedna with-blood to-redden

Ok nú kvað sá, er síðar kom:

And now spoke he who later came

“Alls engi sák yðarn,

At-all none saw-I of-you

þars upp lokinn fundum

where up opened we-found

Heita vang fyr hvítum

of-Heiti field before white

hesti máva rastar;

horse of-gulls of-current

ok við lasi lúðrar
and at damage trumpets
 fyr landi vér undum
before land we lay
 hallar ríka mollu
of-ball mighty dust
 hrafns fyr rauðum stafni.”
of-raven before red prow

Ok enn kvað sá, er fyrr kom:
And again spoke he who earlier came

“Samira okkr at öldrum
Befits-not us-two at ale-feasts
 í öndvegi þræta,
in high-seat to-wrangle
 hvat okkarr hefir unnit
what of-us-two has worked
 hvaðarr framar öðrum;
which-of-two further than-other
 þú stótt, þars bar bára
thou stoodest where bore wave
 brandahjört at sundi,
brand-hart at strait
 en ek sat, þars rá reiddi
but I sat where yard swung
 rauðan stafn til hafnar.”
red prow to harbor

Nú svarar sá, er síðar kom:

Now answers he who later came

“Fylgdum Birni báðir

We-followed Bjorn both

at brandagný hverjum,

at brand-din every

váru reyndir rekkar,

were tried warriors

en Ragnari stundum;

and Ragnar sometimes

vark, þars bragnar börðust,

was-I where men fought

á Bolgaralandi

in Bulgar-land

því bark sár á síðu,

therefore bore-I wound on side

sit innar meir, granni.”

sit further-in more neighbor

Enda kenndust þeir þá við of síðir ok váru þar síðan

And recognized-each-other they then with at last and were there afterward

at veizlu.

at feast

Ögmundr the Dane lies with five ships at Munarvágr off Sámsey. His men, walking in the wood, find an ancient wooden figure forty ells high and grown over with moss, and talk it over among themselves, wondering who can have sacrificed to so great a god. The wooden man answers them in verse: long ago the sons of Loðbrók set him up in the south of the island to be sacrificed to for the death of men, and he has stood there in the rain ever since, with neither flesh nor clothing to shelter him.

Ögmundr er maðr nefndr, er kallaðr var Ögmundr inn
 Ogmund is man named who called was Ogmund the
 danski. Hann fór eitthvert sinn með fimm skipum ok lá
 Danish He went on-a-certain time with five ships and lay
 við Sámsey í Munarvági. Þá er þat sagt, at matsveinar
 at Sámsey in Munarvag Then is that said that cooks
 fóru á land at gera mat til, en aðrir menn fóru í skóg
 went on land to make food for and other men went into wood
 at skemmta sér, ok þar fundu þeir einn trémann fornan,
 to amuse themselves and there found they a wooden-man ancient
 ok var fertugr at hæð ok mosavaxinn, ok sá þó öll deili
 and was forty at height and moss-grown and saw yet all features

á honum, ok ræddu nú um með sér, hverr blótat
on it and spoke now about with themselves who sacrificed
 mundi hafa þetta it mikla goð. Ok þá kveðr trémaðrinn:
would have this the great god And then speaks the-wooden-man

“Þat var fyr löngu,

That was for long

er í leið megir

when on way sons

Hæklings fóru

of-Hækling went

hlunnalungum

with-roller-steeds

fram um salta

forth over salty

slóð birtinga,

track of-salmon

þá varðk þessa

then became-I of-this

þorps ráðandi.

hamlet ruler

Ok því settumk

And therefore set-me

svarðmerðlingar

(the)-scalp-netters

suðr hjá salti,

south beside salt

synir Loðbrókar;

sons of-Shaggy-Breeches

þá vark blótinn
then was-I sacrificed-to
 til bana mönnum
for death to-men
 í Sámseyju
in Samsey
 sunnanverðri.
southward-lying

Þar báðu standa,
There they-bade to-stand
 meðan strönd þolir
while shore endures
 mann hjá þyrni
man beside thorn
 ok mosa vaxinn;
and with-moss grown
 nú skýtr á mik
now shoots on me
 skýja gráti,
of-clouds weeping
 hlýr hvárki mér
shelters neither me
 hold né klæði.”
flesh nor clothes

Ok þetta þótti mönnum undarligt ok sögðu síðan frá

And this seemed to-men wondrous and told afterward of

öðrum mönnum.

to-other men
