

OLD NORSE SERIES • VOLUME 13

GRETTIR'S SAGA

Grettis saga

Grettir's Saga

The Life and Outlawry of Grettir the Strong

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

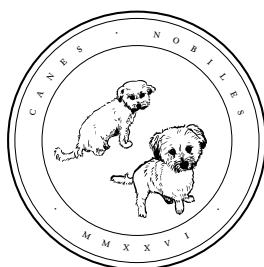


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The Old Norse text follows Valdimar Ásmundarson's edition
of *Grettis saga* in the *Íslendinga sögur* (Reykjavík, 1900)

Set from page scans of the 1900 printing, with the edition's own corrections

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

The spelling is Valdimar Ásmundarson's: ö for the hooked o, æ for both front vowels, -st in the middle voice, *enn* for the conjunction *en*, and a single consonant before another in *alt*, *ilt*, *fanst*, and *kendi*, with the occasional *og* and *svo* he prints beside *ok* and *svá*; the verses keep the older -sk and the clitic 's. Parentheses and square brackets are the edition's own, its stanza numbers are not printed, and an em dash stands under the expletive particle *of* or *um*, which has no English equivalent. The chapters are numbered as Valdimar numbers them, and he prints no rubrics, so every English chapter title in the book is this press's.

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Önundr, son of Ófeigr burlufótr, is kin to Saint Óláfr's mother and has his father's family in Rogaland and Hörðaland. He goes raiding in the west with Báلكi, Ormr the Wealthy, and Hallvarðr, and at Barra they defeat King Kjarvalr and take his ships and goods. They spend three summers raiding Ireland and Scotland, then sail to Norway.

Önundr hét maðr. Hann var Ófeigs son burlufótar,
Onund was-called a-man He was of-Ofeig son Burlufot
 Ívarssonar beytils. Önundr var bróðir Guðbjargar, móður
Ivar's-son Beytil Onund was brother of-Gudbjorg mother
 Guðbrands kúlu, föður Ástu, móður Óláfs konungs hins
of-Gudbrand Ball father of-Asta mother of-Olaf king the
 helga. Önundr var upplenzkr at móðurætt, enn föðurkyn
Holy Onund was of-the-Uplands on (the)-mother's-side but father's-kin
 hans var mest um Rogaland ok Hörðaland. Önundr var
his was most about Rogaland and Hordaland Onund was
 víkingr mikill, ok herjaði vestr um haf. Með honum var í
a-viking great and harried west over (the)-sea With him was in
 hernaði Báلكi Blæingsson af Sótanesi, ok Ormr hinn auðgi;
raiding Balki Blaeing's-son from Sotanes and Orm the Wealthy
 Hallvarðr hét hinn þriði félagi þeira; þeir höfðu fim skip,
Hallvard was-called the third partner their they had five ships
 ok öll vel skipuð. Þeir herjuðu um Suðreyjar; ok er þeir
and all well manned They harried about (the)-Hebrides and when they
 kvámu í Barreyjar, var þar fyrir konungur sá er Kjarvalr
came to (the)-Barra-isles was there before a-king that who Kjarval
 hét; hann hafði ok fim skip. Þeir lögðu til bardaga við
was-called he had also five ships They laid to battle with
 hann, ok varð þar hörð hrið; váru Önundar menn hinir
him and became there a-hard fight were of-Onund men the

áköfustu. Fell margt af hvárumtveggja; enn svá lauk, at
fiercest Fell many of both-sides but so ended that
 konungr flýði einskipa. Tóku menn Önundar þar bæði skip
(the)-king fled with-a-single-ship Took men of-Onund there both ships
 ok fé mikit, ok sátu þar um vetrinn. Þrjú sumur herjuðu
and wealth great and sat there over the-winter Three summers harried
 þeir um Írland ok Skotland; síðan fóru þeir til Noregs.
they about Ireland and Scotland then went they to Norway

II · THE BATTLE OF HAFRSFJÖRÐR

Haraldr lúfa is fighting his way to power in Norway, and Kjötvi the Wealthy and Þórir haklangr gather an army against him. Önundr and his partners join them eager for the hardest fighting, and the kings meet at Hafrsfjörðr, one of the greatest battles in Norway. Haraldr sets his berserks on Þórir's ship, Þórir falls fighting, and a blow below the knee takes off Önundr's leg. The vikings flee west, and Önundr, healed, walks on a wooden leg ever after and is called Tree-foot.

Þenna tíma var ófriðr mikill í Noregi; brauzt þar til
This time was war great in Norway fought-bis-way there to
 ríkis Haraldr lúfa, son Hálfðanar svarta. Hann var áðr
power Harald Tangle-hair son of-Halfðan (the)-Black He was before
 konungr á Upplöndum. Síðan fór hann norðr í land
king in (the)-Uplands Then went he north into (the)-land
 ok átti þar margar orrustur, ok hafði jafnan sigr. Herjaði
and had there many battles and had always victory Harried
 hann svá suðr eftir landinu, ok lagði undir sik, hvar sem
he so south along the-land and laid under himself wherever as
 hann fór; enn er hann kom upp á Hörðaland, kom í
he went but when he came up onto Hordaland came in
 móti honum múgr ok margmenni. Váru þar formenn Kjötvi
against him a-throng and a-multitude Wère there leaders Kjetvi

hinn auðgi ok Þórir haklangr, ok þeir suðr-Rygirnir og
the Wealthy and Thorir Long-chin and they the-South-Rygir and
 Sulki konungr. Geirmundr heljarskinn var þá fyrir vestan
Sulki king Geirmund Hell-skin was then on west-of
 haf, ok var hann eigi við þenna bardaga, ok þó átti
(the)-sea and was he not at this battle and yet owned
 hann ríki á Hörðalandi. Þetta haust kvámu þeir vestan
he a-realm in Hordaland This autumn came they from-the-west
 um haf, Önundr ok hans félagar; enn er þeir fréttu þat,
over (the)-sea Onund and his partners but when they learned that
 Þórir haklangr ok Kjötvi konungr, þá sendu þeir menn til
Thorir Long-chin and Kjetvi king then sent they men to
 móts við þá, ok báðu þá liðs ok hétu þeim sæmdum.
meeting with them and asked them for-help and promised them honors
 Réðust þeir þá í lið með þeim Þóri, því at
Joined they then into company with them Thorir(-and-his) because that
 þeim var mikil forvitni á at reyna sik, ok sögðust
to-them was great curiosity about to test themselves and said-of-themselves
 þeir vildu þar vera, sem ströngust væri orrustan. Fundr
they to-wish there to-be where fiercest were the-battle (The)-meeting
 þeira Haralds konungs varð á Rogalandi, í firði þeim er
of-them of-Harald king happened in Rogaland in a-fjord that which
 heitir í Hafrsfirði; höfðu þeir hvártveggja mikit lið. Þessi
is-called in Hafrsfjord had they both-sides great forces This
 orrusta hefir einhver mest verit í Noregi; koma hér ok við
battle has some-one greatest been in Norway come here also upon
 flestar sögur, því at frá þeim er jafnan flest sagt, er
most sagas because that about those is always most told whom
 sagan er helzt frá ger. Kom þar ok lið um alt land
the-saga is chiefly about made Came there also forces over all (the)-land
 ok margt ór öðrum löndum ok fjöldi víkinga. Önundr
and many out-of other lands and a-multitude of-vikings Onund

lagði skip sitt á annat borð skipi Þóris haklangs; var þat
laid ship his on (the)-other side ship of-Thorir Long-chin was that
mjök í miðjum hernum. Haraldr konungur lagði at skipi
much in (the)-middle-of the-host Harald king laid at ship
Þóris haklangs, því at Þórir var hinn mesti berserkr ok
of-Thorir Long-chin because that Thorir was the greatest berserk and
fullhugi. Var þar hin harðasta orrusta af hvárumtveggja.
dauntless-man Was there the hardest battle on both-sides
Þá hét konungur á berserki sína til framgöngu; þeir váru
Then called (the)-king on berserks his to (the)-onslaught they were
kallaðir Úlfheðnar; þá bitu engi járn; ok er þeir geystust
called Wolf-skins them bit no irons and when they rushed
fram, þá helzt ekki við. Þórir varðist alldjarflega, ok
forth then held nothing against Thorir defended-himself very-boldly and
fell á skipi sínu með mikilli hreysti. Var þá hroðit með
fell on ship his with great valor Was then cleared along
stöfnum skipit ok höggvit ór tengslum; seig þat þá aftur
(the)-stems the-ship and hewn out-of the-lashings drifted it then back
millum skipanna. Lögðu þá konungsmenn at skipi Önundar;
between the-ships Laid then king's-men at ship of-Onund
hann var fram á skipinu ok barðist drengilega. Þá
he was forward on the-ship and fought manfully Then
mæltu konungsmenn: "Sá gengr fast fram í söxin;
spoke king's-men That-one goes hard forth into the-prow-planks
látum hann hafa nökkurar minjar, at hann hafi komit í
let-us-let him have some keepsakes that he have come into
bardagann". Önundr stóð út á borðit öðrum fæti ok hjó
the-battle Onund stood out on the-gunwale with-one foot and hewed
til manns, ok í því var lagt til hans spjóti; ok er
at a-man and in that was thrust at him with-a-spear and when
hann bar af sér lagit, kíknaði hann við. Þá hjó einn
he bore off himself the-thrust buckled he with(-it) Then hewed one

af stafnbúum konungs til Önundar, ok kom á fótinn fyrir
of (the)-prow-men of-(the)-king at Onund and came on the-leg on
 neðan kné, ok tók af fótinn. Önundr varð þegar óvíg.
below (the)-knee and took off the-leg Onund became at-once unfit-to-fight
 Fell þá mestr hluti liðs á skipi hans. Önundi varð
Fell then (the)-greatest part of-(the)-host on ship his Onund was
 komit á skip til þess manns, er Þrándr hét; hann var
got onto a-ship to that man who Thrand was-called he was
 Bjarnarson, bróðir Eyvindar austmanns. Hann var í móti
Bjorn's-son brother of-Eyvind (the)-Norwegian He was in against
 Haraldi konungi, ok lá á annat borð skipi Önundar. Þessu
Harald king and lay on (the)-other side ship of-Onund To-this
 næst brast meginflóttinn. Þeir Þrándr ok aðrir víkingar höfðu
next broke the-main-rout They Thrand and other vikings took
 sik í brott, hverr sem mátti, ok sigldu vestr um haf.
themselves off away each as could and sailed west over (the)-sea
 Önundr fór með honum, ok Bálki ok Hallvarðr súgandi.
Onund went with him and Balki and Hallvard Gust
 Önundr varð græddr, ok gekk við tréfót síðan alla æfi;
Onund was healed and walked with a-tree-foot afterward all (his)-life
 var hann af því kallaðr Önundr tréfótr meðan hann lifði.
was he from that called Onund Tree-foot while he lived

III · ÖNUNDR'S MARRIAGE

Many men who fought King Haraldr now live west over the sea, and he has taken their lands. Önundr and Þrándr offer Geirmundr beljarskinn their following if he will win back his realm, but he says Haraldr is too strong. In the Hebrides they befriend Ófeigr grettir and Þormóðr skafi, who fled Norway. Önundr, gloomy over his loss, speaks a verse. Þrándr urges him to marry, and Önundr is betrothed to Ófeigr's daughter Ása, though her father values his Norwegian lands at little. Þrándr is betrothed to Þormóðr's daughter.

Þá váru fyrir vestan haf margir ágætir menn, þeir er
Then were on west-of (the)-sea many excellent men those who
 flýit höfðu óðul sín ór Noregi fyrir Haraldi konungi;
fled had ancestral-lands their out-of Norway before Harald king
 því at hann gerði alla útlæga, þá er í móti honum
because that he made all outlawed those who in against him
 höfðu barizt, ok tók undir sik eignir þeira. Þá er
had fought and took under himself possessions their Then when
 Önundr var gróinn sára sinna, fóru þeir Þrándr til
Onund was healed of-wounds his went they Thrand(-and-be) to
 móts við Geirmund heljarskinn, því at hann var þá
meeting with Geirmund Hell-skin because that he was then
 frægastr af víkingum fyrir vestan haf, ok spurðu, hvárt
most-famous of vikings on west-of (the)-sea and asked whether
 hann vildi nökkut leita aftr til ríkis þess, er hann átti
he wished at-all to-look back to (the)-realm that which he owned
 á Hörðalandi, ok buðu honum fylgd sína; þóttust þeir
in Hordaland and offered him following their thought-themselves they
 eiga þar eftir eignum sínum at sjá, því at Önundr var
to-have there after possessions their to see because that Onund was
 stórættaðr ok ríkr. Geirmundr kvað þá orðinn svá mikinn
of-great-family and powerful Geirmund said then become so great
 styrk Haralds konungs, at honum þótti þess lítill ván,
(the)-strength of-Harald king that to-him seemed of-that little hope
 at þeir fengi þar sæmdir með hernaði, er þá fengu menn
that they would-get there honors with raiding when then got men
 ósigr, er at var dreginn nálega allr landslýðr; kveðst
defeat which to was drawn nearly all (the)-people-of-the-land says-of-himself
 ok eigi nenna at gerast konungs þræll, ok biðja þess, er
also not to-care to become a-king's thrall and to-ask for-that which
 hann átti sjálf; kveðst heldr mundu leita sér annarra
he owned himself says-of-himself rather would seek for-himself other

forráða; var hann þá ok af æskuskeiði. Föru þeir Önundr
courses was he then also past youth's-span Went they Onund(-and-be)
 þá aftr til Suðreyja, ok hittu þar marga vini sína. Ófeigr
then back to (the)-Hebrides and met there many friends their Ofeig
 hét maðr, ok var kallaðr grettir; hann var sonr Einar
was-called a-man and was called Grettir he was son of-Einar
 Ölvissonar barnakarl. Hann var bróðir Óleifs breiðs, föður
Olvir's-son Children's-man He was brother of-Oleif (the)-Broad father
 Þormóðar skafta. Steinólfr hét ok sonr Ölvis barnakarl,
of-Thormod Shaft Steinolf was-called also a-son of-Olvir Children's-man
 faðir Unu, er átti Þorbjörn laxakarl. Steinmóðr var enn
father of-Una whom had Thorbjorn Salmon-man Steinmod was yet
 sonr Ölvis barnakarl, faðir Konáls, föður Álfðísar hinnar
a-son of-Olvir Children's-man father of-Konal father of-Alfdis the
 barreysku. Son Konáls var Steinmóðr, faðir Halldóru, er
Barra-woman (The)-son of-Konal was Steinmod father of-Halldora whom
 átti Eilífr, son Ketils einhenda. Ófeigr grettir átti Ásnýju
had Eilif son of-Ketil One-hand Ofeig Grettir had Asny
 Vestarsdóttur, Hæingssonar. Ásmundr skegglauks ok Ásbjörn
Vestar's-daughter Hæing's-son Asmund (the)-Beardless and Asbjorn
 váru synir Ófeigs grettis; enn dætr hans váru þær Álfðís
were sons of-Ofeig Grettir but daughters his were they Alfdis
 ok Ása ok Ásvör. Ófeigr hafði stokkit vestr um haf fyrir
and Asa and Asvor Ofeig had fled west over (the)-sea before
 ófriði Haralds konungs, ok svá Þormóðr skafti frændi hans,
(the)-war of-Harald king and so Thormod Shaft kinsman his
 ok höfðu með sér skuldalið sitt. Þeir herjuðu um Skotland,
and had with them household their They harried about Scotland
 ok víða fyrir vestan haf. Þrándr ok Önundr tréfótr ætluðu
and widely on west-of (the)-sea Thrand and Onund Tree-foot intended
 vestr til Írlands á fund Eyvindar austmanns, bróður Þrándar.
west to Ireland to meeting of-Eyvind (the)-Norwegian brother of-Thrand

Hann hafði landvörn fyrir Írlandi. Móðir Eyvindar var Hlíf,
He had land-defense for Ireland Mother of-Eyvind was Hlíf
 dóttir Hrólfs Ingjaldssonar, Fróðasonar konungs; enn móðir
daughter of-Hrólfr Ingjald's-son Frodi's-son king but mother
 Þrándar var Helga, dóttir Öndotts kráku. Björn hét
of-Thrand was Helga daughter of-Ondott Crow Bjorn was-called
 faðir þeira Eyvindar ok Þrándar, son Hrólfs frá Ám. Hann
father of-them Eyvind and Thrand son of-Hrólfr from Ar He
 stökk ór Gautlandi fyrir þat, er hann brendi inni Sigfast,
fled out-of Gautland for that that he burned inside Sigfast
 mág Sölvers konungs. Síðan hafði hann farit til
kinsman-by-marriage of-Solvir king Afterward had he gone to
 Noregs, ok var um vetrinn með Grími hersi, syni Kolbjarnar
Norway and was over the-winter with Grim (the)-lord son of-Kolbjorn
 sneypis; hann vildi myrða Björn til fjár. Þaðan fór Björn
Shamer he wished to-murder Bjorn for money Thence went Bjorn
 til Öndotts kráku, er bjó í Hvinisfirði á Ögðum. Hann
to Ondott Crow who dwelt in Hvinisfjord in Agdir He
 tók vel við Birni, ok var hann með honum á vetrum, enn í
took well with Bjorn and was he with him in winters but in
 hernaði á sumrum, þar til er Hlíf lézt, kona hans. Eftir þat
raiding in summers there until that Hlíf died wife his After that
 gifti Öndottr Birni Helgu dóttur sína, og lét Björn þá af
married Ondott to-Bjorn Helga daughter his and left Bjorn then off
 herferðum. Eyvindr hafði þá tekit við herskipum föður síns,
war-journeys Eyvind had then taken over (the)-warships of-father his
 ok var nú orðinn höfðingi mikill fyrir vestan haf. Hann
and was now become a-chieftain great on west-of (the)-sea He
 átti Raförtu, dóttur Kjarvals Írakonungs. Þeira synir váru þeir
had Raforta daughter of-Kjarval Irish-king Their sons were they
 Helgi hinn magri ok Snæbjörn. Enn er þeir Þrándr ok
Helgi the Lean and Snaebjorn But when they Thrand and

Önundr kvámu í Suðreyjar, fundu þeir þá Ófeig gretti og
Onund came to (the)-Hebrides found they then Ófeig Grettir and
 Þormóð skafta, ok gerðist með þeim vinátta mikil, því at
Þormod shaft and arose between them friendship great because that
 hverr þóttist annan ór helju heimt hafa, þann er eftir
each thought-himself (the)-other out-of hel retrieved to-have that-one who behind
 hafði verit í Noregi, meðan ófriðr var sem mestr. Önundr
had been in Norway while (the)-war was as greatest Onund
 var hljóðr mjök; ok er Þrándr fann þat, spurði hann eftir,
was silent much and when Þrand found that asked he after
 hvat honum bjó í skapi. Önundr svarar ok kvað vísu:
what to-him dwelt in mind Onund answers and spoke a-verse

Glatt's-at mér, síz mættum

Glad-is-not to-me since we-met

— margt hremmir til snemma;

much grips too early

oss stóð geigr af gýgi

to-us stood harm from (the)-troll-wife

galdrs — ellþrimu skjaldar.

of-(the)-chant of-(the)-fierce-clash of-(the)-shield

Hykk at þegnum þykki

I-think that to-thanes seems

þat's mest koma flestum

that-which most come to-most

oss til yndissmissu

of-us to loss-of-joy

einhlitt til mín lítit.

sufficient toward me little

Þrándr kvað hann þar mundu þykkja röskvan mann, sem
Thrand said him there would seem a-brave man wherever
 hann væri þá helzt — “er þér sá til, að staðfesta
he were then chiefly is for-you that at-hand to settle
 ráð þitt ok kvángast; skal ek þar til leggja orð mín og
affairs your and to-marry shall I there to lay words my and
 liðsinni, ef ek veit, hvar þú horfir á”. Önundr kvað honum
help if I know where you look toward Onund said him
 drengilega fara; enn kvað þó horft hafa vænna um
nobly to-behave but said yet looked to-have more-hopefully about
 kvánföngin, þau er slægr væri til. Þrándr svarar:
the-marriage-prospects those which worth were in(-them) Thrand answers
 “Ófeigr á dóttur, er Ása heitir; megu vit þar til víkja, ef
Ofeig has a-daughter who Asa is-called may we-two there to turn if
 þú vilt”. Önund lézt þat ok vilja. Síðan töluðu þeir þetta
you wish Onund professed that also to-wish Then talked they this
 við Ófeig. Hann svarar vel, ok kveðst vita, at maðr var
with Ofeig He answers well and says-of-himself to-know that (the)-man was
 stórættaðr ok ríkr at lausafé — “enn jarðir hans legg ek
of-great-family and rich in movable-goods but lands his value I
 ódýrt; þykki mér hann ok eigi heill til ganga, enn dóttir mín
cheaply seems to-me he also not whole to walk but daughter my
 er barn at aldri”. Þrándr kvað Önund röskvara enn marga
is a-child in age Thrand said Onund braver than many
 þá er heilfættir væri; ok með liðveizlu Þrándar var þessu
those who whole-footed were and with support of-Thrand was this
 keypt. Skyldi Ófeigr gefa dóttur sinni heiman lausafé;
bargained Should Ofeig give to-daughter his from-home movable-goods
 því at jarðir þær sem í Noregi váru vildu hvárigir fé
because that lands those which in Norway were wished neither-side money
 kaupa. Litlu síðar fekk Þrándr dóttur Þormóðar skafta.
to-buy A-little later got Thrand (the)-daughter of-Thormod Skaft

Skyldu þær sitja í festum þrjá vetr. Síðan fóru þeir í
Should they sit in betrothal three winters Then went they into
 hernað á sumrum, enn váru í Barreyjum á vetrum.
raiding in summers but were in (the)-Barra-isles in winters

IV · THE FIGHT OFF BUTE

Vígbjóðr and Vestmarr, Hebridean vikings with thirteen ships, have raided Ireland until Eyvindr austmaðr drove them out. Þrándr and Önundr bring five ships against them in a narrow sound off Bute and hide men on the cliff above. The vikings mock Önundr's wooden leg, but the stones thrown down from the crag break their attack. Önundr stands braced on a stump, and when Vígbjóðr's sword sticks in it, Önundr cuts off his arm. Vestmarr flees, Önundr speaks a verse over the dying Vígbjóðr, and they return to Barra with great booty.

Vígbjóðr ok Vestmarr hétu víkingar tveir; þeir váru
Vígbjod and Vestmar were-called vikings two they were
 suðreyskir, ok lágu úti bæði vetr ok sumar. Þeir höfðu þrettán
Hebridean and lay out both winter and summer They had thirteen
 skip, ok herjuðu mest um Írland, ok gerðu mörg illvirki, þar
ships and harried most about Ireland and did many evil-deeds there
 til er Eyvindr austmaðr tók þar landvörn. Síðan stukku
until that Eyvind (the)-Norwegian took there land-defense Then fled
 þeir í Suðreyjar ok herjuðu þar, ok alt inn í Skotlandsfjörðu.
they to (the)-Hebrides and harried there and all in to (the)-Scottish-fjords
 Þeir Þrándr ok Önundr fóru til móts við þá, ok spurðu, at
They Thrand and Onund went to meeting with them and learned that
 þeir höfðu siglt inn til eyjar þeirar er Bótz hét. Nú
they had sailed in to (the)-island that which Bute was-called Now
 koma þeir Önundr þar með fim skipum; ok er víkingar
come they Onund(-and-he) there with five ships and when (the)-vikings

sjá skip þeira, ok vita, hversu mörg eru, þykkjast þeir hafa
see ships their and know how many are think-themselves they to-have
 nógan liðsafla, ok taka til vápna sinna, ok leggja skip sín
enough strength-of-men and take to weapons their and lay ships their
 millum hamra tveggja. Þar var mjótt sund ok djúpt; mátti
between crags two There was a-narrow sound and deep could
 þar einum megin at sækja, ok eigi fleirum skipum en fim
there on-one side to attack and not with-more ships than five
 senn. Önundr var manna vitrastr, ok lét hann leggja fim skip
at-once Onund was of-men wisest and had he lay five ships
 fram í sundit, svá at þeir máttu þegar láta síga á hömlu,
forth into the-sound so that they could at-once let slide on (the)-oar-loops
 er þeir vildu, því at rúmsævi var mikit at baki þeim. Var
when they wished because that open-sea was much at back to-them Was
 ok hólmr nökkurr á annat borð; lét hann þar liggja undir
also an-islet some on (the)-other side had he there lie under
 eitt skipit, ok færðu þeir grjót mikit fram á hamarinn,
one the-ship and brought they stones great forth onto the-crag
 þar er eigi mátti sjá af skipunum. Vikingar lögðu at
there where not could see from the-ships (The)-vikings laid in
 alldjarflega, ok þóttu hinum kvíddir. Vígbjóðr spurði, hverir
very-boldly and seemed to-the-others hemmed-in Vígbjod asked who
 þessir væri, er þar váru svá kvíðir. Þrándr segir, at hann
these were who there were so penned Thrand says that he

var bróðir Eyvindar austmanns — “ok síðan er hér félagi
was brother of-Eyvind (the)-Norwegian and then is here partner
 minn, Önundr tréfótr”. Þá hlógu víkingar, ok mæltu þetta:
my Onund Tree-foot Then laughed (the)-vikings and spoke this

Tröll hafi Tréfót allan;
Trolls may-have Tree-foot all
 tröllin steypi þeim öllum —
the-trolls may-topple them all

“ok er oss þat fásét, at þeir menn fari til orrustu, er ekki
and is to-us that rarely-seen that those men go to battle who nothing
 mega sér”. Önundr kvað þat ekki vita mega, fyrr enn
can for-themselves Onund said that not to-know be-able before than
 reynt væri. Eftir þat lögðu þeir saman skipin. Tókst þar mikill
tried were After that laid they together the-ships Began there a-great
 bardagi, ok gengu hváirtveggja vel fram. Ok er festist
battle and went both-sides well forth And when grew-firm
 bardaginn, lét Önundr sigast at hamrinum; ok þá er
the-battle let Onund slide-himself toward the-crag and then when
 víkingar sá þat, hugðu þeir, at hann myndi flýja vilja, ok
(the)-vikings saw that thought they that he would to-flee wish and
 lögðu at skipi hans, ok undir hamarinn, sem þeir máttu við
laid at ship his and under the-crag as they could near
 komast. Í því bili kvámu þeir fram á bjargit, er til þess
get In that moment came those forth onto the-cliff who to that
 váru settir; færðu þeir á víkingana svá stórt grjót, at ekki
were set brought they on the-vikings such great stones that nothing
 helzt við. Fell þá fjöldi liðs af víkingum, enn sumir
held against(-it) Fell then a-multitude of-men of (the)-vikings but some
 meiddust, svá at eigi váru vápnfærir. Þá vildu víkingar frá
were-maimed so that not were weapon-fit Then wished (the)-vikings off

leggja, ok máttu eigi, því at skip þeira váru þá komin
to-lay and could not because that ships their were then come
 þar sem mjóst var sundit. Þröngdi þeim þá bæði skipin ok
there where narrowest was the-sound Pressed them then both the-ships and
 straumr; enn þeir Önuendr sóttu at með kappi, þar er
(the)-current but they Onund(-and-his) attacked at with zeal there where
 Vígbjóðr var fyrir; enn Þrándr lagði at Vestmari, ok vanst
Vigbjod was in-command but Thrand laid at Vestmar and was-won
 þar litit at. Þá er fækkaðist fólkit á skipi Vígbjóðs,
there little at(-it) Then when grew-fewer the-folk on ship of-Vigbjod
 réðu menn Önuendar þar til uppgöngu, ok hann sjálfr. Þat
ventured men of-Onund there to boarding and he himself That
 sá Vígbjóðr, ok eggjaði með ákafa lið sitt. Sneri hann
saw Vigbjod and urged with vehemence company his Turned he
 þá í móti Önuendi, ok stukku flestir frá. Önuendr bað
then in against Onund and fled most from(-him) Onund bade
 sína menn sjá, hversu færi með þeim; því at Önuendr
his men see how would-go between them because that Onund
 var rammr at afli. Þeir skutu stubba nökkurum undir
was mighty in strength They shoved stumps some under
 kné Önuendi, ok stóð hann heldr fast. Víkingrinn sótti
(the)-knee of-Onund and stood he rather firm The-viking pressed
 aftan eftir skipinu, alt þar til er hann kom að Önuendi
from-behind along the-ship all there until that he came to Onund
 ok hjó til hans með sverði, ok kom í skjöldinn, ok tók
and hewed at him with a-sword and came into the-shield and took
 af þat er nam. Síðan hljóp sverðit í stubbann, þann er
off that which caught Then ran the-sword into the-stump that which
 Önuendr hafði undir knénu, ok varð fast sverðit. Vígbjóðr
Onund had under the-knee and became stuck the-sword Vigbjod
 laut, er hann kipti at sér sverðinu. Í því hjó Önuendr
stooped when he snatched toward himself the-sword In that hewed Onund

á öxlina, svá at af tók höndina. Þá varð vikingrinn
on the-shoulder so that off took the-arm Then became the-viking
 óvígr. Þá er Vestmarr vissi, at félagi hans var fallinn,
unfit-to-fight Then when Vestmar knew that partner his was fallen
 hljóp hann á þat skip, er yzt lá, ok flýði, ok allir
leaped he onto that ship which outermost lay and fled and all
 þeir er því náðu. Eftir þat rannsökuðu þeir valinn. Vígbjóðr
those who that reached After that searched they the-slain Vígbjod
 var þá kominn at bana. Önundr gekk at honum ok kvað:
was then come to death Onund went to him and spoke

Sjáðu hvárt sár þín blæða?

See-you whether wounds your bleed

sáttu nökkut mik hrökkva?

saw-you at-all me flinch

auðslöngvir fekk engva

wealth-slinger got none

einfættr af þér skeinu.

one-footed from you scratch

Meirr er mörgum snerru

More is to-many of-battle

málskalp lagit Gjalpar

speech-sheath laid of-Gjalp

brjót — er-at þegn í þrautir

breaker is-not (the)-thane in trials

þrekvandr — enn hyggjandi.

strength-lacking than thoughtful

Þeir tóku þar herfang mikit, ok fóru aftir í Barreyjar um
They took there booty great and went back to (the)-Barra-isles in
 haustit.

the-autumn

Bálki and Hallvarðr sail to Iceland and take land in Hrítafjörðr and Súgandafjörðr. Þrándr and Önundr visit Þrándr's brother Eyvindr austmaðr in Ireland, who wants to attack Önundr for having fought King Kjarvalr. Þrándr says they will stand or fall together, and Eyvindr relents. They raid with him through the summer, and Eyvindr grants Þrándr their father's whole inheritance should Björn die first. Þrándr and Önundr stay some winters in the Hebrides and marry.

Annat sumar eftir bjoggust þeir at fara vestr til Írlands.
(The)-next summer after made-ready they to go west to Ireland
 Þá réðust þeir Bálki ok Hallvarðr vestan um haf, ok
Then set-out they Bálki and Hallvard from-the-west over (the)-sea and
 fóru út til Íslands, því at þaðan váru sagðir landskostir
went out to Iceland because that from-there were said land-qualities
 góðir. Bálki nam land í Hrítafirði; hann bjó á Bálkastöðum
good Bálki took land in Hrítafjörðr he dwelt at Bálkastadir
 hvárumtveggja. Hallvarðr nam Súgandafjörð ok Skálavík til
both Hallvard took Sugandafjörð and Skálavík to
 Stiga, ok bjó þar. Þeir Þrándr ok Önundr kvámu á fund
Stigi and dwelt there They Þrandr and Onund came to meeting
 Eyvindar austmanns, ok tók hann vel við bróður sínum; enn
of-Eyvind (the)-Norwegian and took he well with brother his but
 er hann vissi. at Önundr var þar kominn, þá varð hann
when he knew that Onund was there come then became he
 reiðr, ok vildi veita honum atgöngu. Þrándr bað hann eigi þat
angry and wished to-give him an-attack Þrandr bade him not that
 gera; kvað þat eigi standa, at gera ófrið norrænum mönnum,
do said that not to-stand to make war on-Norse men
 allra sízt þeim, er með engri óspekt fara. Eyvindr kvað hann
of-all least on-those who with no disturbance go Eyvind said him
 farit hafa fyrr, ok gert ófrið Kjarval konungi; sagði hann nú
gone to-have before and made war on-Kjarval king said him now

þess skyldu gjalda. Áttu þeir bræðr lengi um þetta at tala,
for-that should pay Had they (the)-brothers long about this to talk
 alt þar til er Þrándr kvað eitt skyldu ganga yfir þá Önund
all there until that Thrand said one should go over them Onund
 báða. Lét þá Eyvindr sefast. Dvöldust þeir þar lengi um
both Let then Eyvind be-calmed Stayed they there long over
 sumarit, ok fóru þeir með Eyvindi í herfarir. Þótti honum
the-summer and went they with Eyvind into raids Seemed to-him
 Önundr hinn mesti hreystimaðr. Fóru þeir til Suðreyja um
Onund the greatest man-of-valor Went they to (the)-Hebrides in
 haustit. Gaf Eyvindr Þrándi arf allan eftir föður
the-autumn Gave Eyvind to-Thrand (the)-inheritance all after father
 þeira. ef Björn andaðist fyrr enn Þrándr. Váru þeir nú í
their if Bjorn died sooner than Thrand Were they now in
 Suðreyjum, þar til er þeir kvæntust, ok nökkura vetr síðan.
(the)-Hebrides there until that they married and some winters afterward

VI • ÞRÁNDR CLAIMS HIS INHERITANCE

When Þrándr's father Björn dies, Grímr bersir claims the estate for the king, but Björn's father-in-law Öndottr kráka holds it for his grandson. Ófeigr grettir and Þormóðr skafti sail to Iceland and settle in Gnúpverjabreppr. Þrándr and Önundr reach Norway so fast that no word of them goes ahead. Öndottr hands Þrándr the inheritance and warns him that Grímr is plotting against one of them, and Þrándr sails for Iceland and settles at Þrándarholt. Önundr stays to see his kinsmen and promises to help Öndottr's family.

Þat bar næst til tíðenda, at Björn andaðist, faðir Þrándar;
That bore next to tidings that Bjorn died father of-Thrand
 ok er þat frétti Grímr hersir, fór hann til móts við Öndott
and when that learned Grim (the)-lord went he to meeting with Ondott

kráku ok kallaði til fjárens eftir Björn; enn Öndotr kvað

Crow and laid-claim to the-property after Bjorn but Ondott said

Þránd eiga arf eftir föður sinn. Grímr kvað Þránd

Thrand to-own (the)-inheritance after father his Grim said Thrand

fyrir vestan haf, enn Björn gauzkan at ætt, ok kvað

on west-of (the)-sea but Bjorn Gautish in family and said

konung eiga at erfa alla útlenda menn. Öndotr kvaðst

(the)-king to-have to inherit all foreign men Ondott said-of-himself

halda mundu fénu til handa Þrándi dóttursyni sínum.

to-hold would the-property to hands Thrand daughter's-son his

Fór Grímr við þat á brott, ok fekk ekki af fjárheimtunni.

Went Grim with that off away and got nothing of the-property-claim

Þrándr spurði nú lát föður síns, ok bjóst þegar af

Thrand learned now (the)-death of-father his and made-ready at-once from

Suðreyjum, ok Önundr tréfótr með honum; enn þeir Ófeigr

(the)-Hebrides and Onund Tree-foot with him but they Ófeig

grettir ok Þormóðr skafti fóru út til Íslands með skuldalið

Grettir and Thormod Shaft went out to Iceland with household

sitt, ok kvámu út á Eyrum fyrir sunnan land, ok váru

their and came out at Eyra on south-of (the)-land and were

hinn fyrsta vetr með Þorbiorni laxakarli. Síðan námu þeir

the first winter with Thorbjorn Salmon-man Then took they

Gnúpverjahrepp. Ófeigr nam hinn yzta hlut, milli Þverár

Gnupverjabrepp Ófeig took the outermost part between Thvera

og Kálfár; hann bjó á Ófeigsstöðum hjá Steinsholti; enn

and Kalfa he dwelt at Ófeigstadir by Steinsholt but

Þormóðr nam hinn eystra hlut ok bjó hann í Skaftaholti.

Thormod took the eastern part and dwelt he at Skaftaholt

Dætr Þormóðar váru þær Þórvör, móðir Þorodds goða á

Daughters of-Thormod were they Thorvor mother of-Thorodd (the)-Priest at

Hjalla, ok Þórvé, móðir Þorsteins goða, föður Bjarna hins

Hjalli and Thorve mother of-Thorstein (the)-Priest father of-Bjarni the

spaka. Nú er at segja frá þeim Þrándi ok Önundi, at þeir
Wise Now is to tell of them Thrand and Onund that they
sigldu vestan um haf til Noregs, ok fengu svá mikit
sailed from-the-west over (the)-sea to Norway and got so great
hraðbyri, at engi njósn fór um ferð þeira, fyrr enn þeir
a-swift-wind that no report went about journey their before than they
kvámu til Öndotts kráku. Hann tók vel við Þrándi, ok sagði
came to Ondott Crow He took well with Thrand and told
honum tilkall Gríms hersis um arf Bjarnar —
him (the)-claim of-Grim (the)-lord about (the)-inheritance of-Bjorn
“lízt mér betr komit, frændi, at þú erfir föður þinn enn
seems to-me better come kinsman that you inherit father your than
konungsþrælar. Hefir þér ok gæfusamlega til tekizt, er
king's-thralls Has for-you also luckily to turned-out that
engi veit um ferðir þínar; enn grunar mik, at Grímr
no-one knows about travels your but suspects me that Grim
stefni at öðrumhvárum okkar, ef hann má. Vil ek, at þú
aims at one-or-other of-us-two if he may Will I that you
takir arfinn undir þik, ok hafir þik til annarra landa”.
take the-inheritance under yourself and take yourself to other lands
Þrándr kveðst svá gera mundu. Tók hann þá við fénu,
Thrand says-of-himself so to-do would Took he then over the-property
ok bjóst sem skyndilegast í brott ór Noregi. Áðr Þrándr
and made-ready as most-bastily off away out-of Norway Before Thrand
sigldi á haf, þá spurði hann Önund tréfót, hvárt hann
sailed on (the)-sea then asked he Onund Tree-foot whether he
vildi eigi leita til Íslands. Önundr kveðst áðr vilja finna
wished not to-seek to Iceland Onund says-of-himself first to-wish to-meet
frændr sína ok vini suðr í landi. Þrándr mælti: “Þá munu
kinsmen his and friends south in (the)-land Thrand spoke Then will
vit nú skilja. Vilda ek, at þú sinnaðir frændum mínum;
we-two now part Would-wish I that you looked-after kinsmen my

því at þangat mun hefndum snúit, ef ek komumst undan.

because that thither will vengeance be-turned if I get away

Mun ek fara út til Íslands, ok svá vilda ek at þú færir".

Will I go out to Iceland and so would-wish I that you went

Önundr hét því. Skildu þeir með kærleikum. Fór Þrándr

Onund promised that Parted they with affection Went Thrand

út til Íslands. Tóku þeir Ófeigr ok Þormóðr skafti vel við

out to Iceland Took they Ofeig and Thormod Shaft well with

honum. Þrándr bjó í Þrándarholti; þat er fyrir vestan Þjórsá.

him Thrand dwelt at Thrandarbolt which is on west-of Thjorsa

VII • THE BURNING OF GRÍMR HERSIR

Önundr kills Hárekr, the king's steward on his lands, and burns the farm. Grímr bersir kills Öndottr kráka, whose widow Signý sends her sons Ásmundr and Ásgrímr to safety. While Grímr prepares a feast for Earl Auðun, Önundr and the brothers burn him in his house. When the earl arrives, the brothers break into his loft, and Ásgrímr makes him pay compensation for Öndottr and names him Auðun Goat. The brothers winter with Eiríkr ölfuss, and Ásgrímr mortally wounds Hallsteinn bestr. Thinking Ásgrímr dead, Önundr and Ásmundr sail for Iceland.

Önundr fór suðr á Rogaland, ok hitti þar marga frændr

Onund went south to Rogaland and found there many kinsmen

sína ok vini. Dvaldist hann þar á laun með þeim manni,

his and friends Stayed he there in secret with that man

er Kolbeinn hét. Hann spurði, at Haraldr konungr

who Kolbein was-called He learned that Harald king

hafði tekit undir sik eignir hans, ok skipat þeim manni,

had taken under himself possessions his and assigned to-that man

er Hárekr hét; hann var ármaðr konungs. Önundr fór

who Harek was-called he was steward of-(the)-king Onund went

til hans um nátt, ok tók hús á honum. Var Hárekr
to him by night and took (the)-house on him Was Harek
 til höggs leiddr. Önundr tók þar alt lausafé, þat er
to (the)-blow led Onund took there all movable-goods that which
 þeir náðu, enn brendu bæinn. Hafðist hann þá við í
they seized but burned the-farm Kept-himself he then about in
 ýmsum stöðum um vetrinn. Þetta haust drap Grímr hersir
various places over the-winter This autumn killed Grim (the)-lord
 Öndott kráku, fyrir þat er hann náði eigi fénu til
Ondott Crow for that that he got not the-property to
 handa konungi; enn Signý, kona Öndotts, bar á skip
hands (the)-king but Signy wife of-Ondott carried onto a-ship
 alt lausafé þeira þegar hina sömu nátt, ok fór með
all movable-goods their at-once the same night and went with
 sonu sína, Ásmund ok Ásgrím, til Sighvats föður síns.
sons her Asmund and Asgrim to Sighvat father her
 Litlu síðar sendi hon sonu sína í Sóknadal, til Heðins
A-little later sent she sons her into Soknadal to Hedín
 föstra síns, ok undu þeir þar litla hríð, ok vildu
foster-father her and were-content they there little while and wished
 fara aftr til móður sinnar. Fóru þeir síðan, ok kvámu til
to-go back to mother their Went they then and came to
 Ingjalds tryggva í Hvini at jólum. Hann tók við þeim
Ingjald (the)-Trusty in Hvinir at Yule He took with them
 fyrir áeggjan Gyðu konu sinnar. Váru þeir þar um vetrinn.
for (the)-urging of-Gyda wife his Were they there over the-winter
 Um várit kom Önundr norðr á Agðir, því at hann
In the-spring came Onund north to Agdir because that he
 hafði spurt, at Öndottr var drepinn; enn er hann fann
had learned that Ondott was killed but when he found
 Signýju, spurði hann hana, hverja liðveizlu þau vildi af
Signy asked he her what support they wished from

honum þiggja. Hon sagði, at þau vildi gjarna hefna Grími
him to-accept She said that they wished gladly to-avenge on-Grim
 hersi fyrir víg Öndotts. Var þá sent eftir Öndotts
(the)-lord for (the)-slaying of-Ondott Was then sent for of-Ondott
 sonum; ok er þeir fundu Önund tréfót, lögðu þeir saman
sons and when they met Onund Tree-foot laid they together
 lag sitt, ok heldu fréttum til um athafnir Gríms. Um
partnership their and kept news to about (the)-doings of-Grim In
 sumarit var ölhita mikil at Gríms, því at hann hafði
the-summer was an-ale-brewing great at Grim's because that he had
 boðit heim Auðuni jarli; ok er þat fréttu þeir Önundr
invited home Audun (the)-earl and when that learned they Onund
 ok Öndotts synir, fóru þeir til bæjar Gríms ok báru þar
and of-Ondott sons went they to (the)-farm of-Grim and carried there
 eld at húsum, því at þeir kvámu á óvart, ok brendu
fire to (the)-houses because that they came on unawares and burned
 Grím hersi inni ok nær þrjátigi manna. Þeir tóku þar
Grim (the)-lord inside and nearly thirty men They took there
 marga góða gripi. Önundr fór til skógar; enn þeir bræðr
many good treasures Onund went to (the)-forest but they brothers
 tóku bát Ingjalds fóstara síns ok reru í brott, ok
took (the)-boat of-Ingjald foster-father their and rowed off away and
 lágu í leyni skamt frá bænum. Auðun jarl kom til
lay in hiding a-short-way from the-farm Audun (the)-earl came to
 veizlu sem ætlat var, ok saknar þar vinar í stað. Safnaði
(the)-feast as intended was and misses there a-friend in place Gathered
 hann at sér mönnum, ok dvaldist þar nokkurar nætr,
he to himself men and stayed there some nights
 ok fréttist ekki til Önundar ok þeira félaga. Jarl svaf
and was-beard nothing of Onund and their partners (The)-earl slept
 í lofti einu við þriðja mann. Önundr vissi öll tíðendi af
in a-loft one with a-third man Onund knew all tidings of

bænum, ok sendi eftir þeim bræðrum; ok er þeir fundust,
the-farm and sent for those brothers and when they met
 spurði Önundr, hvárt þeir vildu heldr geyma bæinn, eða
asked Onund whether they wished rather to-guard the-farm or
 ganga at jarli. Þeir köru at ganga at jarli. Þeir skutu
to-go at (the)-earl They chose to go at (the)-earl They shoved
 stokki á loftsdyrnar, svá at hurðin brotnaði. Síðan greip
a-log at the-loft-doors so that the-door broke Then seized
 Ásmundr þá tvá, er váru með jarli, ok rak niðr svá
Asmund those two who were with (the)-earl and drove down so
 hart, at þeim helt við bana. Ásgrímr hljóp at jarli,
hard that to-them held near death Asgrim leaped at (the)-earl
 ok bað hann greiða sér föðurgjöld, því at hann
and bade him pay to-himself father-compensation because that he
 hafði verit í atför ok ráðum með Grími hersi, þá
had been in (the)-attack and counsels with Grim (the)-lord then
 er Öndottr var drepinn. Jarl kveðst ekki fé hafa
when Ondott was killed (The)-earl says-of-himself no money to-have
 hjá sér, ok bað fresta um gjaldit. Ásgrímr setti þá
by himself and asked delay about the-payment Asgrim set then
 spjótsoddinn fyrir brjóst jarli, ok bað hann greiða
the-spear-point against (the)-breast to-(the)-earl and bade him pay
 í stað. Jarl tók þá men af hálsi sér, ok þrjá
on (the)-spot (The)-earl took then a-necklace off (the)-neck of-himself and three
 gullhringa ok guðvefjarskikkju. Ásgrímr tók við fénu, ok
gold-rings and a-fine-cloth-cloak Asgrim took with the-money and
 gaf jarli nafn, ok kallaði hann Auðun geit. Þá er
gave to-(the)-earl a-name and called him Audun Goat Then when
 bændr ok heraðsmenn urðu varir við, at ófriðr var at
farmers and district-men became aware of that hostility was at
 kominn, gengu þeir út ok vildu veita lið jarli. Varð
come went they out and wished to-give help to-(the)-earl Became

þar hörð hrið, því at Önundr hafði margt manna. Þar
there a-hard fight because that Onund had many of-men There
 fellu margir góðir bændr ok hirðmenn jarls. Nú kvámu
fell many good farmers and retainers of-(the)-earl Now came
 þeir bræðr ok sögðu, hversu farit hafði með þeim jarli.
they (the)-brothers and told how gone had with them (the)-earl
 Önundr kvað þat illa, er jarl var eigi drepinn — “væri
Onund said that ill that (the)-earl was not killed would-be
 þat Haraldi konungi hefnd nökkur fyrir þat, er vér
that to-Harald king vengeance some for that which we
 höfum mist fyrir honum fé ok frændr vára”. Þeir kváðu
have lost before him wealth and kinsmen our They said
 jarli þetta meiri smán; ok fóru síðan á brott, ok inn
to-(the)-earl this greater disgrace and went then off away and in
 í Súrðadal til Eiríks ölfuss, lends manns. Hann tók við
into Surnadal to Eirik Ale-lover a-landed man He took with
 þeim um vetrinn öllum. Þá höfðu þeir samdrykkju um
them over the-winter all Then had they a-drinking-together at
 jólin við þann mann, er Hallsteinn hét, ok kallaðr
the-Yule with that man who Hallstein was-called and called
 hestr, ok veitti Eiríkr fyrr, vel ok trúlega. Síðan veitti
Horse and hosted Eirik first well and faithfully Then hosted
 Hallsteinn, ok varð þeim þá at áskilnaði. Hann laust Eirík
Hallstein and came to-them then to a-quarrel He struck Eirik
 með dýrshorni. Eiríkr gat eigi hefnt sín, ok fór heim
with a-beast's-horn Eirik could not avenge himself and went home
 við þat. Þetta líkaði stórilla Öndotts sonum; ok nökkuru
with that This pleased very-ill of-Ondott sons and somewhat
 síðar fór Ásgrímr til bæjar Hallsteins, ok gekk inn einn,
later went Asgrim to (the)-farm of-Hallstein and went in alone
 ok veitti Hallsteini mikinn áverka. Þeir hlupu upp, sem
and gave to-Hallstein a-great wound Those leaped up who

inni váru, ok sóttu at Ásgrími. Ásgrímr varðist vel, ok
inside were and attacked at Asgrim Asgrim defended-himself well and
 komst ór höndum þeim í myrkrinu; enn þeir þóttust
got out-of hands their in the-darkness but they thought-themselves
 drepa hann. Þat fréttu þeir Önundr ok Ásmundr, ok hugðu,
to-kill him That learned they Onund and Asmund and thought
 at Ásgrímr væri dauðr, ok þóttust ekki mega at
that Asgrim were dead and thought-themselves nothing to-be-able about
 gera. Réð Eiríkr þeim, at þeir leitaði til Íslands; kvað
do Advised Eirik them that they sought to Iceland said
 þeim eigi duga mundu, at vera þar í landi, þegar
to-them not to-avail would to be there in (the)-land as-soon-as
 konungr mætti sér svá við koma. Þeir gerðu svá; bjuggust
(the)-king might himself so at come They did so made-ready
 nú til Íslands, ok hafði sitt skip hvárr þeira. Hallsteinn
now for Iceland and had his-own ship each of-them Hallstein
 lá í sárum, ok lézt áðr enn þeir Önundr sigldu.
lay in wounds and died before than they Onund(-and-his) sailed
 Kolbeinn réðst í skip með Önundi, sá er fyrr er
Kolbein took-passage on ship with Onund that-one who before is
 getit.
mentioned

VIII · THE VOYAGE TO ICELAND

Önundr and Ásmundr sail together, and Önundr speaks a verse about stepping ashore in Iceland on one foot. After a hard crossing they sight land north of Langanes, but a storm breaks Önundr's yard and drives his ship out to sea. Ásmundr reaches Eyjafjörðr, where Helgi the Lean gives him Kræklingablíð. He farms at the southern Glerá, and his brother Ásgrímr later at the northern.

Þeir Önundr ok Ásmundr létu í haf, er þeir váru búnir,
They Onund and Asmund put to sea when they were ready
 ok höfðu samflota. Þá kvað Önund þetta:
and had company Then spoke Onund this

Þóttak hæfr at hrotta
I-seemed fit at of-Hrotti
 hreggvindi fyrr seggjum,
storm-wind before to-men
 þá's geirhríðar gnúði
when of-spear-storm roared
 grand hvast, ok Sógandi.
harm keen and Sugandi
 Nú verðr á skæ skorðu
Now must onto (the)-steed of-(the)-prop
 — skaldi sígr — at stíga
to-(the)-skald declines to step
 út með einum fæti
out with one foot
 Íslands á vit — þvísa —.
of-Iceland to visit this-one

Þeir höfðu útivist harða ok veðr þver mjök af suðri. Bar
They had a-voyage hard and winds contrary much from (the)-south Bore
 þá norðr í haf. Þeir fundu Ísland, ok váru þá komnir
them north into (the)-sea They found Iceland and were then come
 fyrir norðan Langanes, er þeir kendust við. Þá var svá skamt
on north-of Langanes which they recognized at Then was so short
 í milli þeira, at þeir töluðust við. Sagði Ásmundr, at þeir
in between them that they talked together Said Asmund that they
 myndi sigla til Eyjafjarðar, ok því játuðu hvártveggja. Beittu
would sail to Eyjafjord and to-that agreed both-sides Beat

þeir þá undir landit. Þá tók veðrit at styrma af landsuðri.
they then toward the-land Then took the-weather to storm from (the)-southeast
 Enn er þeir Önundr lögðu í nauðbeitu, þá lestist ráin.
But when they Onund(-and-bis) laid into close-hauling then broke the-yard
 Feldu þeir þá seglit, ok í því rak þá til hafs undan. Ásmundr
Lowered they then the-sail and in that drove them to sea away Asmund
 komst undir Hrísey, ok beið til þess, er honum byrjaði
got under Hrísey and waited until that when to-him blew-fair
 inn á Eyjafjörð. Honum gaf Helgi hinn magri Kræklingahlíð
in onto Eyjafjord To-bim gave Helgi the Lean Kraeklingablid
 alla. Hann bjó at Glerá hinni syðri. Ásgrímr bróðir hans kom
all He dwelt at Glera the southern Asgrim brother his came
 út nökkurum vetrum síðar. Hann bjó at Glerá hinni nyrðri.
out some winters later He dwelt at Glera the northern
 Hann var faðir Elliða-Gríms, föður Ásgríms Elliða-Grímssonar.
He was father of-Ellidi-Grim father of-Asgrim Ellidi-Grim's-son

IX · ÖNUNDR SETTLES AT KALDBAKR

Önundr's ship is driven west past Skagi, and he sails into Strandaflói, where men of Þorvaldr of Drangar tell him that little land is left unclaimed. Eiríkr snara at Árnes offers him land, and Önundr looks at the snowy mountain and speaks a verse on trading his fields in Norway for Kaldbakr. Eiríkr gives him land from Ófæra to Kaldbakskleif, and later Veðtleysa and Reykjarfjörðr, without fixing the driftage rights. Önundr farms at Kaldbakr, and Kolbeinn at Kolbeinsvík.

Nú er at segja frá Önundi tréfót, at þá rak undan
Now is to tell of Onund Tree-foot that them drove away
 nökkur dægr. Síðan gekk veðrit á haf. Sigldu þeir þá
some days Then went the-weather onto (the)-sea Sailed they then
 at landinu. Kendust þá við þeir er áður höfðu farit, at
toward the-land Recognized then at(-it) those who before had traveled that

þeir váru komnir vestr um Skaga. Sigldu þeir þá inn á
they were come west past Skagi Sailed they then in onto
 Strandaflóa ok nær suðrströndunum. Þá reru at þeim sex
Strandaflói and near the-southern-shores Then rowed toward them six
 menn á teinæringi, ok kölluðu upp á hafskipit, hvern fyrir
men in a-ten-oared-boat and called up onto the-ocean-ship who over
 réði. Önundr nefndi sik, ok spurði, hvaðan þeir væri. Þeir
ruled Onund named himself and asked whence they were They
 kváðust vera húskarlar Þorvalds frá Dröngum. Önundr
said-of-themselves to-be house-carls of-Thorvald from Drangar Onund
 spurði, hvárt numin væri öll lönd um Strandirnar. Þeir
asked whether taken were all lands about the-Strands They
 kváðu lítit ónumit á inn-Ströndum, enn ekki norðr þangat.
said little untaken on (the)-Inner-Strands but not north thither
 Önundr spurði skipverja sína, hvárt þeir vildi leita fyrir
Onund asked shipmen his whether they wished to-look on
 vestan landit, eða hafa slíkt, er þeim var til vísat. Þeir köru
west-of the-land or to-have such as to-them was to directed They chose
 at kanna landit fyrst. Sigldu þeir þá inn eftir flóanum, ok
to explore the-land first Sailed they then in along the-bay and
 lögðu fyrst á víkina fyrir Árnesi; skutu þar báti ok reru til
laid first in the-inlet before Arnes put-out there a-boat and rowed to
 lands. Þá bjó þar ríkr maðr, Eiríkr snara, er land hafði
land Then dwelt there a-powerful man Eirik Snare who land had
 numit í milli Ingólfsfjarðar ok Ófæru í Veðileysu. Enn er
taken in between Ingolfssford and Ofaera in Veidileysa But when
 Eiríkr vissi, at Önundr var þar kominn, bauð hann honum
Eirik knew that Onund was there come offered he him
 af sér at þiggja slíka hluti, sem hann vildi; enn kvað
from himself to accept such things as he wished but said
 lítit þat, er eigi væri numit áðr. Önundr kveðst sjá
little that which not were taken before Onund says-of-himself to-see

vilja fyrst, hvat þat væri. Fóru þeir þá inn yfir fjörðu, ok
to-wish first what that were Went they then in over (the)-fjords and
 er þeir kvámu inn til Ófæru, mælti Eiríkr: “Hér er á at
when they came in to Ófæra spoke Eirik Here is on to
 líta; heðan frá er ónumit, ok inn til landnáms Bjarnar”.
look hence from is untaken and in to (the)-land-claim of-Bjorn
 Þar gekk fjall mikit fram þeim megin fjarðanna, ok var
There went a-mountain great forth on-that side of-the-fjords and was
 fallinn á snjár. Öundur leit á fjallit ok kvað vísu þessa:
fallen on snow Onund looked at the-mountain and spoke verse this

Réttum gengr, enn ranga

With-right goes but crooked

rennr sæfarinn ævi

runs the-sea-farer life

Fákr um fold ok ríki

Steed over (the)-earth and realm

fleinhvessanda þessum.

for-dart-whetter this

Hefk lönd ok fjöld frænda

I-have lands and host of-kinsmen

flýtt, enn hitt es nýjast:

fled but the-other is newest

kröpp eru kaup, ef hreppik

tight are (the)-bargains if I-get

Kaldbak, enn ek læt akra.

Kaldbak but I lose fields

Eiríkr svarar: “Margr hefir svá mikils mist í Noregi, at menn

Eirik answers Many have so much lost in Norway that men

fá þess eigi bætr. Hygg ek ok, at numin sé flestöll lönd

get for-that not compensation Think I also that taken are nearly-all lands

í meginheruðum; kann ek því eigi at fýsa þik í brott
in (the)-main-districts can I therefore not to urge you off away
 heðan. Mun ek þat halda, at þú hafir af mínum jörðum þat
hence Will I that hold that you have of my lands that
 er þér hentar". Önundr kveðst þat þiggja mundu, ok
which to-you suits Onund says-of-himself that to-accept would and
 nam síðan land frá Ófæru, ok þær þrjár víkr Byrgisvík ok
took afterward land from Ofæra and those three inlets Byrgisvík and
 Kolbeinsvík ok Kaldbaksvík alt til Kaldbakskleifar. Síðan gaf
Kolbeinsvík and Kaldbaksvík all to Kaldbakskleif Then gave
 Eiríkr honum Veidileysu alla ok Reykjarfjörð, ok Reykjanes alt
Eiríkr him Veidileysa all and Reykjarfjord and Reykjanes all
 út þeim megin; enn um rekann var ekki skilit, því at
out on-that side but about the-drift-rights was nothing specified because that
 þeir váru svá nógir þá, at hverr hafði þat, er vildi. Önundr
they were so plentiful then that each had that which wished Onund
 gerði bú í Kaldbak, ok hafði mannmargt; enn er fé
made a-farm at Kaldbak and had many-people but when livestock
 hans tók at vaxa, átti hann annat bú í Reykjarfirði. Kolbeinn
his began to grow had he another farm at Reykjarfjord Kolbeinn
 bjó í Kolbeinsvík, ok sat Önundr um kyrt nökkura vetr.
dwelt at Kolbeinsvík and sat Onund in quiet some winters

X · THE DEATH OF ÓFEIGR GRETTIR

Ófeigr grettir is killed by Þorbjörn jarlakappi, and his sons send for Önundr to help them prosecute. On the way south Önundr stays with Auðr the Deep-minded, who wants her grandson Óláfr feilan to marry Álfdis, Ása's cousin. The case goes to arbitration, large compensation is paid, and Þorbjörn is outlawed. Þrandr invites Önundr and Óláfr home, where they present Óláfr's suit. It is easily won, because everyone knows Auðr's standing, and Auðr dies soon after the wedding.

Önundr var svá frækinn maðr, at fáir stóðust honum, þótt
Onund was so valiant a-man that few stood-up to-him though
 heilir væri; hann var ok nafnkunnigr um alt land af
whole (they)-were he was also renowned over all (the)-land from
 foreldrum sínum. Þessu næst hófust deilur þeira Ófeigs
ancestors his To-this next arose (the)-quarrels of-them Ófeig
 grettis ok Þorbjarnar jarlakappa, ok lauk svá, at Ófeigr
Grettir and Thorbjorn Earls'-champion and ended so that Ófeig
 fell fyrir Þorbirni í Grettisgeil hjá Hæli. Þar varð mikill
fell before Thorbjorn in Grettisgeil by Haeli There became a-great
 liðsdráttir at eftirmáli með sonum Ófeigs. Var sent eftir
gathering-of-men for (the)-prosecution with (the)-sons of-Ófeig Was sent for
 Önundi tréfót, ok reið hann suðr um várit, ok gisti í
Onund Tree-foot and rode he south in the-spring and lodged in
 Hvammi at Auðar hinnar djúpauðgu. Hon tók allvel við
Hvamm at Aud's the Deep-minded She took very-well with
 honum, því at hann hafði verit með henni fyrir vestan
him because that he had been with her on west-of
 haf. Þá var Óláfr feilan, sonarson hennar, fullroskinn.
(the)-sea Then was Olaf Feilan grandson her full-grown
 Mjök var Auðr þá ellimóð. Hon veik á við Önund,
Much was Aud then old-and-weary She touched on(-it) with Onund
 at hon vildi kvæna Óláf frænda sinn, ok vildi, at
that she wished to-marry-off Olaf kinsman her and wished that
 hann bæði Álfðísar hinnar barreysku. Hon var bræðruna
he asked-for Alfdís the Barra-woman She was cousin
 Ásu, er Önundr átti. Önundi þótti þat vænlegt, ok reið
of-Asa whom Onund had To-Onund seemed that promising and rode
 Óláfr suðr með honum; ok er Önundr hitti vini sína ok
Olaf south with him and when Onund met friends his and
 mága, þá buðu þeir honum til sín. Var þá talat um
kinsmen-by-marriage then invited they him to them Was then talked about

málin, ok váru lögð til Kjalarnessþings, því at þá var enn
the-cases and were laid to Kjalarnes-assembly because that then was yet
 eigi sett alþingi. Síðan váru málin lagin í gerð, ok kvámu
not set-up (the)-Althing Then were the-cases laid in arbitration and came
 miklar bætr fyrir vígin; enn Þorbjörn jarlakappi var
great compensations for the-slayings but Thorbjorn Earls'-champion was
 sekr gerr. Hans son var Sölmundr, faðir sviðu-Kára. Váru
outlawed made His son was Solmund father of-Svidu-Kari Were
 þeir frændr lengi utanlands síðan. Þrándr bauð heim Önundi
they kinsmen long abroad afterward Thrand invited home Onund
 ok þeim Óláfi, ok svá Þormóðr skafti. Fluttu þeir þá
and them Olaf(-and-him) and so Thormod Shaft Brought they then
 bónorðit Óláfs. Var þat auðsótt, því at menn vissu, hver
the-suit of-Olaf Was that easily-won because that men knew what
 rausnarkona Auðr var. Var þessu keypt. Riðu þeir Önundr
a-great-lady Aud was Was this bargained Rode they Onund(-and-his)
 heim við svá búit. Auðr þakkaði Önundi liðveizlu við Ólaf.
home with so done Aud thanked Onund (the)-support for Olaf
 Þetta haust fekk Óláfr feilan Álfdisar hinnar barreysku. Þá
This autumn married Olaf Feilan Alfdís the Barra-woman Then
 andaðist Auðr hin djúpauðga, sem segir í sögu Laxdæla.
died Aud the Deep-minded as says in (the)-saga of-the-Laxdalers

XI · ÞORGEIRR FLÖSKUBAKR

Önundr and Ása have two sons, Þorgeirr and Ófeigr grettir, and by his second wife Þórdís he has Þorgrímr hærukollr. Önundr dies of sickness at Kaldbakr and is buried in a mound. After Eiríkr of Árnes dies, his son Flosi disputes the Kaldbakr men's title to their lands. Flosi sends his house-carl Þorfinnr to kill Þorgeirr, but the axe strikes the leather flask on his back. Þorfinnr runs home thinking him dead, and Þorgeirr is nicknamed Flask-back, and a verse is made mocking the attacker's cowardice.

Þau Önundr ok Ása áttu tvá sonu; hét hinn ellri
They Onund and Asa had two sons was-called the elder
 Þorgeirr, enn hinn yngri Ófeigr grettir. Litlu síðar andaðist
Thorgeir but the younger Ofeig Grettir A-little later died
 Ása. Eftir þat fekk Önundr þeirar konu, er Þórdís hét;
Asa After that married Onund that woman who Thordis was-called
 hon var dóttir Þorgríms frá Gnúpi í Miðfirði, ok skyld
she was daughter of-Thorgrim from Gnuþ in Midfjord and related
 Miðfjarðar-Skeggja. Við henni átti Önundr þann son, er
to-Midfjord-Skeggi With her had Onund that son who
 Þorgrímr hét; hann var snemma mikill maðr ok sterkr,
Thorgrim was-called he was early a-big man and strong
 búsýslumaðr mikill ok vitr maðr. Önundr bjó í Kaldbak till
a-farm-manager great and wise man Onund dwelt at Kaldbak till
 elli; hann varð sótt dauðr, ok liggr í Tréfótshaugi. Hann
old-age he became sickness-dead and lies in Tree-foot's-mound He
 hefir fræknastr verit ok fimastr einfættir maðr á Íslandi.
has most-valiant been and most-agile one-footed man in Iceland
 Þorgrímr var fyrir sonum Önundar, þótt aðrir væri ellri;
Thorgrim was ahead-of (the)-sons of-Onund though (the)-others were older
 enn er hann var hálfþrítugr at aldri, þá hafði hann hærur
but when he was twenty-five in age then had he gray-bairs
 í höfði; því var hann kallaðr hærukollr. Þórdís móðir
in (the)-head therefore was he called Gray-head Thordis mother
 hans giftist síðan norðr í Viðidal Auðuni skökli; þeira son
his married afterward north in Vididal to-Audun Skokul their son
 var Ásgeirr at Ásgeirsá. Þeir Þorgrímr hærukollr ok bræðr
was Asgeir at Asgeirsa They Thorgrim Gray-head and brothers
 hans áttu eignir miklar allir saman, ok skiftu engu með
his had possessions great all together and divided nothing between
 sér. Eiríkr bjó í Árnesi, sem fyrr var getit. Hann
themselves Eirik dwelt at Arnes as before was mentioned He

átti Álöfu, dóttur Ingólfs ór Ingólfsfirði. Flosi hét son
had Alof daughter of-Ingolf out-of Ingolfsfjord Flosi was-called son
 þeira; hann var efnilegr maðr ok átti marga frændr. Þá
their he was a-promising man and had many kinsmen Then
 kvámu út hingat þrír bræðr: Ingólfr ok Ófeigr ok Eyvindr,
came out hither three brothers Ingolf and Ofeig and Eyvind
 ok námu þeir þá þrjá fjörðu, er við þá eru kendir,
and took they those three fjords which by them are named
 ok bygðu þar síðan. Óláfr hét son Eyvindar; hann
and settled there afterward Olaf was-called (the)-son of-Eyvind he
 bjó fyrst í Eyvindarfirði, enn síðan at Dröngum, ok var
dwelt first in Eyvindarfjord but afterward at Drangar and was
 mikill maðr fyrir sér. Engi varð áskilnaðr með mönnum
a-great man in himself No arose disagreement between men
 þar, meðan hinir ellri menn lifðu; enn þá er Eiríkr var
there while the older men lived but then when Eirik was
 látinn, þótti Flosa Kaldbeklingar eigi hafa löglegar heimildir
dead seemed to-Flosi (the)-Kaldbak-men not to-have lawful titles
 á jörðum þeim, er Eiríkr hafði gefit Önundi. Af því
to lands those which Eirik had given to-Onund From that
 gerðist sundrþykki mikit meðal þeira; enn þó heldu þeir
arose discord great between them but yet held they
 Þorgrímr sem áðr. Ekki máttu þeir þá leika saman eiga.
Thorgrim(-and-his) as before Not could they then games together have
 Þorgeirr var fyrir búi þeira bræðra í Reykjarfirði,
Thorgeir was in-charge-of (the)-farm of-those brothers at Reykjarfjord
 ok reri jafnan til fiska, því at þá váru firðirnir fullir
and rowed always to fish because that then were the-fjords full
 af fiskum. Nú gera þeir ráð sitt í Vikinni. Maðr hét
of fish Now make they plan their in the-Vik A-man was-called
 Þorfinnr; hann var húskarl Flosa í Árnesi. Þenna mann
Thorfinn he was house-carl of-Flosi at Arnes This man

sendi Flosi til höfuðs Þorgeiri. Hann leyndist í naustinu.
sent Flosi against (the)-head of-Thorgeir He hid-himself in the-boat-shed
 Þenna morgin bjóst Þorgeirr á sjá at róa, ok tveir menn
This morning made-ready Thorgeir to sea to row and two men
 með honum, ok hét annarr Hámundr, enn annarr Brandr.
with him and was-called one Hamund but (the)-other Brand
 Þorgeirr gekk fyrstr; hann hafði á baki sér leðrflösku ok í
Thorgeir went first he had on back his a-leather-flask and in
 drykk. Myrkt var mjök; ok er hann gekk ofan frá naustinu,
drink Dark was much and when he went down from the-boat-shed
 þá hljóp Þorfinnr at honum, ok hjó með öxi á milli
then leaped Thorfinn at him and hewed with an-axe in between
 herða honum, ok sökk öxin ok skv akkaði við. Hann
(the)-shoulders to-him and sank the-axe and splashed at(-it) He
 lét lausa öxina, því at hann ætlaði, at eigi mundi þurfa
let loose the-axe because that he thought that not would need
 um at binda, ok vildi forða sér sem skjótast. Er þat af
about to bind and wished to-save himself as quickest Is that of
 Þorfinni at segja, at hann hljóp norðr í Árnes, ok kom þar
Thorfinn to say that he ran north to Arnes and came there
 áðr enn alljóst var, ok sagði víg Þorgeirs, ok kveðst
before than full-light was and told (the)-slaying of-Thorgeir and says-of-himself
 mundu þurfa ásja Flosa; kvað þat ok eitt til, at
would need (the)-protection of-Flosi said that also one to(-do) to
 bjóða sættir — “ok bætir þat helzt vart mál, svá mikit
offer settlements and improves that most our case so great
 sem at er orðit”. Flosi kveðst fyrst mundu hafa fréttir —
as at is become Flosi says-of-himself first would have news
 “ok ætla ek, at þú sért allhræddr eftir stórvirkin”. Nú er
and think I that you are very-frightened after the-great-deed Now is
 at segja frá Þorgeiri, at hann snaraðist við höggit, ok kom
to tell of Thorgeir that he twisted-himself at the-blow and came

öxin í flöskuna, enn hann varð ekki sárr. Þeir leituðu
the-axe into the-flask but he became not wounded They searched
 ekki mannsins, því at myrkt var at. Reru þeir út
not for-the-man because that dark was at(-the-time) Rowed they out
 eftir fjörðum, ok kvámu í Kaldbak, ok sögðu atburð þenna.
along (the)-fjords and came to Kaldbak and told event this
 Þeir gerðu at þessu kalls mikit, ok kölluðu hann Þorgeirr
They made of this mockery great and called him Thorgeir
 flöskubak, ok svá hét hann síðan. Þá var þetta kveðit:
Flask-back and so was-called he afterward Then was this composed

Fyrr lauguðu frægir

Before bathed famous

fránhvítunga rítar

of-bright-blades shields

rausnarmenn í ranni

men-of-splendor in (the)-hall

ræfrhvössu bensævar.

in-roof-keen wound-sea

Nú rauð sá's vas víða

Now reddened that-one-who was widely

vómr frá tekinn sóma

wretch from taken honor

benjaskóðs af bleyði

of-wound-harm from cowardice

bæði hlýr í sýru.

both cheeks in whey

In a year of famine a great whale drifts ashore at Rífsker, and both Flosi's men and the Kaldbakr brothers come to cut it. Þorgrímr forbids Flosi's men the carcass, and Þorgeirr cuts off the head of Þorfinnr, who had tried to kill him. The fight turns against the Kaldbakr men when Óláfr of Drangar brings more ships, and Ófeigr grettir is mortally wounded. At the Althing Flosi is outlawed, and the lawspeaker Þorkell máni has the disputed strip divided. Flosi goes abroad in the merchants' ship Trékyllir, which gives Trékyllisvík its name.

Í þann tíma kom hallæri svá mikit á Ísland, at ekki
At that time came a-famine so great on Iceland that not
 hefir jafnmikit komit. Þá tók af nálega allan sjávarafna ok
has as-great come Then took off nearly all sea-catch and
 reka. Þat stóð yfir mörg misseri. Á einu hausti urðu þangat
drift That stood over many seasons In one autumn came thither
 sæhafa kaupmenn á hafskipi, ok brutu þar í Víkinni.
sea-driven merchants in an-ocean-ship and wrecked there in the-Vík
 Flosi tók við þeim fjórum eða fim. Steinn hét sá,
Flosi took with them four or five Stein was-called that-one
 er fyrir þeim var. Viða vistuðust þeir þar um Víkina,
who over them was Widely lodged they there about the-Vík
 ok ætluðu at gera sér skip ór skipbrotunum, ok varð
and intended to make themselves a-ship out-of the-wreckage and became
 þeim þat óhægt. Skipit var litit til skutanna, enn breitt
to-them that difficult The-ship was small toward the-ends but broad
 um miðbyrðit. Um vórit kom veðr mikit af norðri;
about the-midships In the-spring came a-storm great from (the)-north
 þat helzt nær viku. Eftir veðrit könnuðu menn reka
that held nearly a-week After the-storm searched men drift-shores
 sína. Þorsteinn hét maðr, er bjó á Reykjanesi. Hann
their Thorstein was-called a-man who dwelt at Reykjanes He

fann hval rekinn innan fram á nesinu, þar sem hét á
found a-whale drifted inner forth on the-ness there where was-called at
 Rifskerjum; þat var reyðr mikil. Hann sendi þegar mann
Rifsker that was a-rorqual great He sent at-once a-man
 til Flosa í Vík, ok svá til næstu bæja. Einn hét sá
to Flosi in Vik and so to (the)-nearest farms Einar was-called that
 maðr, er bjó at Gjögri; hann var landseti Kaldbeklinga,
man who dwelt at Gjogur he was tenant of-(the)-Kaldbak-men
 ok skyldi geyma reka þeira þeim megin fjarða. Hann
and should guard drift of-them on-that side of-(the)-fjords He
 varð varr við, at hvalinn var rekinn. Hann tók þegar
became aware of that the-whale was drifted He took at-once
 skip sitt ok reri yfir um fjörðuna til Byrgisvíkr. Þaðan
ship his and rowed over across the-fjords to Byrgisvik Thence
 sendi hann mann í Kaldbak; ok er þetta spurði Þorgrímr
sent he a-man to Kaldbak and when this learned Thorgrim
 ok þeir bræðr, bjoggust þeir sem hvatast, ok váru tólf á
and they brothers made-ready they as quickest and were twelve in
 teinæringi. Þeir Kolbeinssynir fóru ok með þeim, Ívarr ok
a-ten-oared-boat They Kolbein's-sons went also with them Ivar and
 Leifr, ok váru sex saman. Allir bændr, þeir er við komust,
Leif and were six together All farmers those who near could-get
 fóru til hvalsins. Nú er at segja frá Flosa, at hann sendi
went to the-whale Now is to tell of Flosi that he sent
 eftir frændum sínum norðr í Ingólfsfjörð ok Ófeigsfjörð,
for kinsmen his north in Ingolfssford and Ofegssford
 ok eftir Óláfi Eyvindarsyni, er þá bjó at Dröngum. Flosi
and for Olaf Eyvind's-son who then dwelt at Drangar Flosi
 kom fyrst ok þeir Víkmenn. Þeir tóku þegar til skurðar,
came first and they Vik-men They took at-once to cutting
 ok var dreginn á land sá er skorinn var. Þeir váru nær
and was drawn onto land that which cut was They were near

tuttugu menn í fyrstu; enn skjótt fjölgaðist fólkit. Í því
twenty men at first but quickly increased the-folk In that
 komu Kaldbeklingar með fjögur skip. Þorgrímr veitti tilkall
came (the)-Kaldbak-men with four ships Thorgrim made claim
 til hvalsins, ok fyrirbauð Víkrmönnum skurð ok skifti ok
to the-whale and forbade (the)-Vik-men cutting and sharing and
 brautflutning á hvalnum. Flosi bað hann sýna, ef Eiríkr
carrying-away of the-whale Flosi bade him show if Eirik
 hefði gefit Önundi tréfót með ákveðnum orðum rekann, ella
had given Onund Tree-foot with specified words the-drift else
 kveðst hann mundu vígi verja. Þorgrímr þóttist
says-of-himself he would with-battle defend Thorgrim thought-himself
 liðfár, ok réð því eigi til atgöngu. Þá reri skip
short-of-men and ventured therefore not to attack Then rowed a-ship
 innan yfir fjörðu, ok sóttu knálega róðrinn. Þeir kvámu at
from-within over (the)-fjords and pressed vigorously the-rowing They came up
 brátt. Þar var Svanr af Hóli ór Bjarnarfirði ok húskarlar
quickly There was Svan from Hol out-of Bjarnarfjord and house-carls
 hans. Ok þegar hann kom, bað hann Þorgrím eigi láta
his And as-soon-as he came bade he Thorgrim not let
 ræna sik; enn þeir váru áðr vinir miklir, ok bauð Svanr
rob himself but they were before friends great and offered Svan
 honum lið sitt. Þeir bræðr kváðust þat þiggja mundu.
him help his They brothers said-of-themselves that to-accept would
 Lögðu þeir þá at rösklega. Þorgeirr flöskubakr réð fyrst
Laid they then at boldly Thorgeir Flask-back ventured first
 upp á hvalinn at húskörlum Flosa. Þorfinnr, er fyrr var
up onto the-whale at house-carls of-Flosi Thorfinn who before was
 getit, skar hvalinn. Hann var fram við höfuðit, ok stóð í
mentioned cut the-whale He was forward by the-head and stood in
 spori, er hann hafði gert sér. Þorgeirr mælti: “Þar færi
a-footing which he had made himself Thorgeir spoke There bring

ek þér öxi þína". Síðan hjó hann á hálsinn, svá at af tók
I you axe your Then hewed he on the-neck so that off took
 höfuðit. Flosi var uppi á mölinni, er hann sá þetta. Hann
the-head Flosi was up on the-gravel when he saw this He
 eggjaði þá sína menn til móttöku. Nú berjast þeir lengi, ok
urged then his men to resistance Now fight they long and
 veitti Kaldbeklingum betr. Fáir menn höfðu þar vápn, nema
fared to-(the)-Kaldbak-men better Few men had there weapons except
 öxar þær, er þeir skáru með hvalinn, ok skálmir. Hrukku
axes those which they cut with the-whale and short-swords Fell-back
 Víkmenn af hvalnum í fjöruna. Austmenn höfðu vápn
(the)-Vik-men off the-whale onto the-shore (The)-Norwegians had weapons
 ok urðu skeinuhættir. Steinn stýrimaðr hjó fót undan Ívari
and became dangerous Stein steersman hewed (the)-leg off Ivar
 Kolbeinssyni; enn Leifr, bróðir Ívars, laust félagi Steins
Kolbein's-son but Leif brother of-Ivar struck (the)-partner of-Stein
 í hel með hvalrifi. Þá var með öllu barit, því er
into death with a-whale-rib Then was with everything struck that which
 til fekst, ok fellu þar menn af hvárumtveggjum. Þessu næst
to was-got and fell there men of both-sides To-this next
 kvámu þeir Óláfr frá Dröngum með mörgum skipum.
came they Olaf(-and-bis) from Drangar with many ships
 Þeir veittu Flosa. Urðu Kaldbeklingar þá bornir ofrliði.
They helped Flosi Became (the)-Kaldbak-men then borne down-by-numbers
 Þeir höfðu áðr hlaðit skip sín. Svanr bað þá ganga á skip
They had before loaded ships their Swan bade them go onto ships
 sín. Létu þeir þá berast fram at skipunum. Víkmenn sóttu
their Let they then be-borne forth to the-ships (The)-Vik-men pressed
 þá eftir; ok er Svanr var kominn at sjánum, hjó hann
then after and when Swan was come to the-sea hewed he
 til Steins stýrimanns ok veitti honum mikinn áverka. Síðan
at Stein steersman and gave him a-great wound Then

hljóp hann á skip sitt. Þorgrímr særði Flosa miklu
leaped he onto ship his Thorgrim wounded Flosi with-a-great
 sári, ok komst við þat undan. Óláfr hjó til Ófeigs grettis
wound and got with that away Olaf hewed at Ofeig Grettir
 ok særði hann til ólífis. Þorgeirr þreif Ófeig í fang sér ok
and wounded him to death Thorgeir seized Ofeig in arms his and
 hljóp með hann á skip. Reru þeir Kaldbeklingar inn yfir
leaped with him onto ship Rowed they (the)-Kaldbak-men in over
 fjörðu. Skildi þá með þeim. Þetta var kveðit um fundinn:
(the)-fjords Parted then between them This was composed about the-meeting

Hörð, frák, heldr at yrði

Hard I-heard rather that were

hervápn at Rífskerjum,

war-weapons at Rífsker

mest þvít margir lustu

mostly because many struck

menn slyppir hvalklyppum,

men weaponless with-whale-lumps

enn malmgautar móti

but metal-Gauts against

mjök fast hafa kastat

very hard have thrown

— oss lízt ímun þessi

to-us seems battle this

óknyttin — þvestslyttum.

ugly with-blubber-slices

Síðan varð komit á með þeim griðum, ok lögðu þeir

Then was come about between them truces and laid they

málin til alþingis. Veittu þeir Kaldbeklingum Þóroddr goði

the-cases to (the)-Alþing Supported they (the)-Kaldbak-men Þorodd (the)-Priest

ok Miðfjarðar-Skeggi ok margir Sunnlendingar. Varð Flosi
and Midfjord-Skeggi and many Southerners Became Flosi
 sekr, ok margir þeir, er at höfðu verit með honum. Varð
outlawed and many those who at had been with him Became
 honum þá féskeylt mjök, því at hann vildi einn halda
to-him then money-strapped much because that he wished alone to-hold
 upp fébótum. Þeir Þorgrímur gátu eigi sýnt, at þeir
up (the)-compensation They Thorgrim(-and-bis) could not show that they
 hefði fé lagit fyrir jarðirnar ok rekann, er Flosi kærði
had money laid for the-lands and the-drift which Flosi complained
 eftir. Þorkell máni hafði þá lögsögn. Var hann þá
after Thorkel Moon had then (the)-law-speakership Was he then
 beiddr órskurðar. Honum kveðst þat lög sýnast, at nökkut
asked-for a-ruling To-him says-of-himself that law to-seem that something
 hefði fyrir komit, þótt eigi væri fult verð — “því at svá
had for come though not were full price because that so
 gerði Steinvör hin gamla við Ingólf afa minn, at hon þá
did Steinvor the Old with Ingolf grandfather my that she took
 af honum Rosmhvalanes alt, ok gaf fyrir heklu flekkóttu,
from him Rosmhvalanes all and gave for(-it) a-cloak spotted
 ok hefir þat aldri rift orðit; munu þar stærri rið í
and has that never revoked been will there greater precedents in
 vera. Enn hér legg ek til ráð”, segir hann, “at skift sé
be But here lay I to counsel says he that divided be
 brotgeiranum, ok hafi hvártveggju at jafnaði; síðan sé þat
the-disputed-strip and have both-sides in equal-shares afterward be that
 lögtekit, at hverr eigi reka fyrir sinni jörðu”. Þetta var gert.
made-law that each own drift before his-own land This was done
 Var þá svá skift til, at þeir Þorgrímur létu Reykjarfjörð
Was then so divided to that they Thorgrim(-and-bis) gave-up Reykjarfjord
 ok alt út þeim megin, enn þeir skyldu eiga Kamb. Ófeigr
and all out on-that side but they should own Kamb Ofeig

var bættr miklu fé. Þorfinnr var ógildr. Þorgeiri
was compensated with-much money Thorfinn was without-compensation To-Thorgeir
 var bættr fyrir fjörrað. Síðan sættust þeir. Flosi réðst
was compensated for plot-on-life Then were-reconciled they Flosi took-passage
 til Noregsferðar með Steini stýrimanni, enn seldi jarðir sínar
for a-Norway-journey with Stein steersman but sold lands his
 í Víkinni Geirmundi hjúkatimbri. Bjó hann þar síðan.
in the-Vik to-Geirmund Servant-timber Dwelt he there afterward
 Skip þat er kaupmenn höfðu gert var mjök breiðvaxit.
(The)-ship that which (the)-merchants had made was very broad-built
 Þat kölluðu menn Trékylli, ok þar er Víkin við kend. Á
That called men Wood-crate and there-by is the-Vik after named In
 því fór Flosi utan, ok varð aftreka í Öxarfjörð. Þaðan
that went Flosi abroad and was driven-back into Oxarfjord From-that
 af gerðist saga Böðmóðs ok Grímúlfs ok Gerpis.
on arose (the)-saga of-Bodmod and Grimulf and Gerpis

XIII · ÁSMUNDR SETTLES AT BJARG

Þorgrímr takes the movable goods and buys land at Bjarg in Miðfjörðr, and his son Ásmundr, called hærulangi, grows up strong but unwilling to work. Ásmundr becomes a rich merchant, marries Rannveig in Norway, and their son Þorsteinn is called drómundr for his slow movements. After Rannveig's death he sails to Iceland and stays with Þorkell krafla in Vatnsdalr, in the days when Bishop Friðrekr preached Christianity. He marries Þorkell's foster-daughter Ásdís and inherits Bjarg when his father dies.

Eftir þetta skiftu þeir Þorgrímr ok Þorgeirr bræðr
After this divided they Thorgrim and Thorgeir (the)-brothers
 fé með sér; tók Þorgrímr lausafé, enn Þorgeirr
property between themselves took Thorgrim (the)-movable-goods but Thorgeir

löndin. Réðst Þorgrímur þá inn til Miðfjarðar, ok keypti
the-lands Moved Thorgrim then in to Midfjord and bought
 land at Bjargi með ráði Skeggja. Þorgrímur átti Þórdísi,
land at Bjarg with (the)-counsel of-Skeggi Thorgrim had Thordis
 dóttur Ásmundar undan Ásmundargnúpi, er numit hafði
daughter of-Asmund from-under Asmundargnup who taken had
 Þingeyrasveit. Þau Þorgrímur ok Þórdís áttu son, er Ásmundr
Thingeyrasveit They Thorgrim and Thordis had a-son who Asmund
 hét; hann var mikill maðr ok sterk, ok vitr maðr, ok
was-called he was a-big man and strong and wise man and
 hærðr manna beztr. Hann hafði snemma hærur í höfði;
haired of-men best He had early gray-hairs in (the)-head
 því var hann kallaðr hærulangr eða hærulagðr. Þorgrímur
therefore was he called Long-hair or Gray-streaked Thorgrim
 gerðist þá bússýslumaðr mikill, ok hafði alla menn mjök í
became then a-farm-manager great and had all men much in
 starfa, þá er með honum váru. Ásmundr vildi lítt vinna,
work those who with him were Asmund wished little to-work
 ok var fátt um með þeim feðgum. Fór svá þar til
and was coolness about between them father-and-son Went so there until
 Ásmundr var roskinn at aldri. Þá beiddi Ásmundr fararefna
Asmund was grown in age Then asked Asmund travel-means
 af föður sínum. Þorgrímur kvað þau lítil verða mundu, ok
from father his Thorgrim said them little to-become would and
 fekk honum þó nokkut af flytjanda eyri. Fór Ásmundr þá
gave him yet some of tradeable goods Went Asmund then
 utan, ok græddist honum brátt fé. Hann sigldi til ýmissa
abroad and grew to-him quickly wealth He sailed to various
 landa, ok gerðist hinn mesti kaupmaðr ok vellauðigr. Hann
lands and became the greatest merchant and very-wealthy He
 var vinsæll maðr ok skilríkr, ok átti marga frændr í Noregi,
was a-popular man and trustworthy and had many kinsmen in Norway

þá er göfgir váru. Á einu hausti vistaðist Ásmundr austr í
those who noble were In one autumn lodged Asmund east in
 Vik með göfgum manni, þeim er Þorsteinn hét. Hann var
Vik with a-noble man that who Thorstein was-called He was
 upplenzkr maðr at ætt, ok átti systur, er Rannveig hét;
an-Upland man in family and had a-sister who Rannveig was-called
 hon var hinn bezti kvenkostr. Þeirar konu bað Ásmundr
she was the best match That woman asked-for Asmund
 ok fekk með ráði Þorsteins frænda hennar. Staðfestist
and got with (the)-counsel of-Thorstein kinsman her Settled
 Ásmundr þar um hríð, ok var vel virðr. Þau Rannveig
Asmund there for a-while and was well esteemed They Rannveig(-and-be)
 áttu þann son, er Þorsteinn hét, manna fríðastr ok sterkr
had that son who Thorstein was-called of-men handsomest and a-strong
 maðr, raddmaðr mikill, ok hár maðr á vöxt, ok nökkut
man a-loud-voiced-man great and tall man in growth and somewhat
 seinlegr í viðbragði; því var hann drómundr kallaðr. Enn
slow in movement therefore was he Dromund called But
 er Þorsteinn var lítt á legg kominn, tók móðir hans sótt
when Thorstein was little on leg come took mother his sickness
 ok andaðist. Eftir þat festi Ásmundr eigi yndi í Noregi.
and died After that fixed Asmund not contentment in Norway
 Töku þá móðurfrændr Þorsteins við honum ok fé hans;
Took then mother's-kinsmen of-Thorstein over him and property his
 enn Ásmundr réðst þá enn í sigling, ok varð nafnfrægr
but Asmund took then again to sailing and became a-famous
 maðr. Ásmundr kom skipi sínu í Húnavatn. Þá var
man Asmund brought ship his into Hunavatn Then was
 Þorkell krafla höfðingi yfir Vatnsdælum. Hann frétti útkvámu
Thorkel Krafla chieftain over (the)-Vatnsdalers He learned (the)-arrival
 Ásmundar. Reið Þorkell þá til skips ok bauð Ásmundi
of-Asmund Rode Thorkel then to (the)-ship and invited Asmund

til sín. Þorkell bjó á Mástöðum í Vatnsdal. Fór Ásmundr
to him Thorkel dwelt at Mastadir in Vatnsdal Went Asmund
 þangat til vistar. Þorkell var son Þorgríms Karnsárgoða;
thither for lodging Thorkel was son of-Thorgrim Karnsa-priest
 hann var stórvitr maðr. Þetta var eftir útkomu Friðreks
he was a-very-wise man This was after (the)-arrival of-Fridrek
 biskups ok þeira Þorvalds Koðránssonar. Þeir bjoggu þá at
bishop and of-them Thorvald Kodran's-son They dwelt then at
 Lækjamóti, er þetta var. Þeir boðuðu kristni fyrst fyrir
Lækjamot when this was They preached Christianity first on
 norðan land. Lét Þorkell þrimsignast ok margir menn
north-of (the)-land Let Thorkel prime-sign-himself and many men
 með honum. Margt bar til tíðenda um sameign þeira
with him Much happened to tidings about (the)-dealings of-them
 biskups ok Norðlendinga, þat er eigi kemr við þessa sögu.
(the)-bishop and (the)-Northerners that which not comes into this saga
 Með Þorkeli fæddist upp kona sú, er Ásdís hét; hon
With Thorkel was-raised up a-woman that who Asdis was-called she
 var dóttir Bárðar Jökulssonar, Ingimundarsonar hins gamla,
was daughter of-Bard Jokul's-son Ingimund's-son the Old
 Þorsteinssonar, Ketilssonar raums. Móðir Ásdisar var Álfdis,
Thorstein's-son Ketil's-son Raum Mother of-Asdis was Alfdís
 dóttir Ófeigs grettis, sem fyrr er sagt. Ásdís var ógefin, ok
daughter of-Ofeig Grettir as before is said Asdis was unmarried and
 þótti vera hinn bezti kvenkostr, bæði sakir ættar ok fjár.
seemed to-be the best match both because-of family and wealth
 Ásmundi leiddist nú í siglingum. Vildi hann nú staðfestast
To-Asmund grew-weary now of sailings Wished he now to-settle
 á Íslandi. Hefir hann þá uppi orð sín, ok biðr þessar
in Iceland Has he then up words his and asks-for this
 konu. Þorkell vissi gerla skil á honum, at hann var ríkr
woman Thorkel knew clearly account of him that he was a-rich

maðr ok ráðinn til fjárhalds; ok fór þat fram, at
man and settled to money-management and went that forth that
 Ásmundr fekk Ásdísar. Gerðist hann þá aldavinr Þorkels
Asmund got Asdis Became he then a-lifelong-friend of-Thorkel
 ok búsýslumaðr mikill, lögvitr ok framgjarn. Litlu síðar
and a-farm-manager great law-wise and ambitious A-little later
 andaðist Þorgrímr hærulkollr at Bjargi. Tók Ásmundr arf
died Thorgrim Gray-head at Bjarg Took Asmund inheritance
 eftir hann ok bjó þar síðan.
after him and dwelt there afterward

XIV · GRETTIR'S BOYHOOD

Ásmundr hærulangi and Ásdís have two sons, the gentle Atli and the unruly Grettir, whom his father does not love. Set to mind the geese, the ten-year-old Grettir kills the goslings and breaks the geese's wings. Set to scratch his father's back by the fire, he rakes it with a wool-comb. Set to herd the horses, he flays the back of the weather-wise mare Keingála to pay her back for keeping the herd out in the cold. Grettir answers the first two tasks with a verse and the third with proverbs, Ásmundr makes a verse of his own on the flayed mare, and he has Keingála killed.

Ásmundr hærulangi setti bú at Bjargi, mikit ok reisulegt,
Asmund Long-hair set-up a-farm at Bjarg great and stately
 ok hafði mann margt með sér. Hann var vinsæll maðr. Þessi
and had many-people with him He was a-popular man These
 váru börn þeira Ásdísar: Atli var ellstr. Hann var
were (the)-children of-them Asdis(-and-him) Atli was eldest He was
 gegn maðr ok gæfr, hægr ok hógværr; við hann líkaði
a-fair man and gentle easy and mild with him pleased
 hverjum manni vel. Annan son áttu þau, er Grettir var
every man well Another son had they who Grettir was

kallaðr. Hann var mjök ódæll í uppvexti sínum, fátalaðr ok
called He was very unruly in upbringing his taciturn and
 óþýðr, bellinn bæði í orðum ok tiltektum. Eigi hafði hann
harsh mischievous both in words and deeds Not had he
 ástríki mikit af Ásmundi föður sínum; enn móðir hans unni
affection great from Asmund father his but mother his loved
 honum mikit. Grettir Ásmundarson var fríðr maðr sýnum,
him much Grettir Asmund's-son was a-handsome man in-looks
 breiðleitr ok skammleitr, rauðhærðr ok næsta freknóttir, eigi
broad-faced and short-faced red-haired and very freckled not
 bráðgerr meðan hann var á barnsaldri. Þórdís hét dóttir
quick-growing while he was in childhood Thordis was-called a-daughter
 Ásmundar, er síðan átti Glúmr, son Óspaks Kjarlakssonar
of-Asmund whom afterward had Glum son of-Ospak Kjallak's-son
 af Skriðinsenni. Rannveig hét önnur dóttir Ásmundar.
from Skridinsenni Rannveig was-called (the)-other daughter of-Asmund
 Hana átti Gamli Þóraldsson Vindlendingr. Þau bjoggu á
Her had Gamli Thorald's-son (the)-Wend They dwelt at
 Melum í Hrútafirði. Þeira son var Grímr. Sonr Glúms
Melar in Hrutaford Their son was Grim (The)-son of-Glum
 ok Þórdísar Ásmundardóttur var Óspakr, er deildi við Odd
and Thordis Asmund's-daughter was Ospak who quarreled with Odd
 Ófeigsson, sem segir í Bandamanna sögu. Grettir óx upp
Ofeig's-son as says in of-the-Confederates saga Grettir grew up
 at Bjargi, þar til er hann var tíu vetra gamall. Hann tók
at Bjarg there until that he was ten winters old He took
 þá heldr við at gangast. Ásmundr bað hann starfa nökkut.
then rather to to grow Asmund bade him work something
 Grettir sagði sér þat eigi mundu vera vel hent, ok spurði
Grettir said for-himself that not would be well suited and asked
 þó at, hvat hann skyldi gera. Ásmundr svarar: “Þú skalt
yet at what he should do Asmund answers You shall

gæta heimgása minna". Grettir svarar ok mælti: "Lítit verk
tend home-geese my Grettir answers and spoke A-little task
 ok löðrmannlegt". Ásmundr svarar: "Leys þú þetta vel af
and a-drudge's Asmund answers Discharge you this well off
 hendi, ok mun þá batna með okkr". Síðan tók Grettir við
hand and will then improve between us-two Then took Grettir over
 heimgásunum. Þær váru fimtíu, ok með kjúklingar margir.
the-home-geese They were fifty and with goslings many
 Eigi leið langt, áðr enn honum þóttu þær heldr bágrækar,
Not passed long before than to-him seemed they rather hard-to-berd
 enn kjúklingar seinfærir. Honum gerði mjök hermt við þessu,
and (the)-goslings slow To-him grew much angry at this
 því at hann var lítill skapdeildarmaðr. Nökkuru síðan fundu
because that he was little a-temperate-man Somewhat later found
 förumenn kjúklinga dauða úti ok heimgæss vængbrotnar.
wayfarers goslings dead out and home-geese wing-broken
 Þetta var um haustit. Ásmundi líkaði stórilla, ok spurði,
This was in the-autumn To-Asmund pleased very-ill and asked
 hvárt Grettir hefði drepit fuglana. Hann glotti at ok svarar:
whether Grettir had killed the-birds He grinned at(-it) and answers

Þat gerik víst er vetrar,

That I-do surely when it-winters

ving háls á kjúklingum;

I-wring necks on goslings

enn þótt ellri finnisk

but though older are-found

einn berr ek af sérhverri.

alone bear I off each-one

“Ok skaltu eigi lengr af þeim bera”, sagði Ásmundr. “Vinr er
And shall-you not longer off them bear said Asmund A-friend is
 sá annars, er ills varnar”, sagði Grettir. “Fást mun þér
that-one to-another who ill wards-off said Grettir Found will-be for-you
 verk annat”, sagði Ásmundr. “Fleira veit sá, er fleira reynir”,
work other said Asmund More knows he who more tries
 sagði Grettir; “eða hvat skal ek nú gera?” — Ásmundr svarar:
said Grettir or what shall I now do Asmund answers
 “Þú skalt strjúka bak mitt við eld, sem ek læt jafnan
You shall stroke back my by (the)-fire as I let always
 gera”. “Heitt mun þat um hönd”, sagði Grettir; “enn þó er
do Hot will that about (the)-hand said Grettir but yet is
 verkit löðrmannlegt”. Fór nú svá fram um hrið, at Grettir
the-work a-drudge's Went now so forth for a-while that Grettir
 heldr þessum starfa. Tekr nú at hausta; gerðist Ásmundr
holds this task Takes now to turn-autumn became Asmund
 heitfengr mjök, ok eggjar Gretti at strjúka fast bak sitt. Þat
chilly much and urges Grettir to stroke hard back his That
 var háttr í þann tíma, at eldaskálar váru stórir á bæjum.
was (the)-custom in that time that fire-balls were large on farms
 Sátu menn þar við langelda á öftnum. Þar váru borð sett fyrir
Sat men there by long-fires in the-evenings There were tables set before
 menn, ok síðan sváfu menn upp frá eldunum. Konur unnu
men and afterward slept men up from the-fires Women worked
 þar ok tó á daginn. Þat var eitt kveld, at Grettir skyldi
there also wool by day It was one evening that Grettir should
 hrífa bak Ásmundar, at karl mælti: “Nú muntu verða
scratch (the)-back of-Asmund that (the)-old-man spoke Now will-you have
 af þér at draga slenit, mannskræfan”, segir hann. Grettir
off yourself to drag the-sloth you-coward says he Grettir
 segir: “Ilt er at eggja óbilgjarnan”. Ásmundr mælti: “Aldri er
says Ill is to urge (the)-reckless Asmund spoke Never is

dugr í þér". Grettir sér nú, hvar stóðu ullkambar í setinu;
valor in you Grettir sees now where stood wool-combs on the-bench
 tekr kambinn ok lætr ganga ofan eftir baki Ásmundar.

takes the-comb and lets go down along (the)-back of-Asmund

Hann hljóp upp ok varð óðr við, ok vildi ljósta Gretti með
He leaped up and became mad at(-it) and wished to-strike Grettir with
 staf sínum, enn hann skauzt undan; þá kom húsfreyja at,
staff his but he dodged away then came (the)-housewife up
 ok spurði, hvat þeir ættist við. Grettir kvað þá vísu þessa:
and asked what they dealt with Grettir spoke then verse this

Mik vill menja stökkvir

Me will of-necklaces flinger

— mjök kennik þess — brenna,

much I-feel of-this burn

hodda Grund, á höndum

of-boards Grund on hands

— höfugt ráð er þat — báðum.

heavy counsel is that both

Lætk á hringa hreyti,

I-let on of-rings scatterer

hör-Gerðr, tekít verða

flax-Gerd taken be

— ger sé ek gildra sára

ready see I of-big wounds

gögl — óskornum nöglum.

birds with-uncut nails

Illa þótti húsfreyju, er Grettir hafði þetta til bragðs tekít,

Ill seemed to-(the)-housewife that Grettir had this to resort taken

ok kvað hann eigi fyrirleitinn verða mundu. Eigi batnaði

and said him not considerate to-become would Not improved

frændsemi þeira Ásmundar við þetta. Nökkurri stundu
(the)-kinship of-them Asmund(-and-him) with this Some while
 síðar talaði Ásmundr til, at Grettir skyldi geyma hrossa
later talked Asmund to(-it) that Grettir should tend horses
 hans. Grettir kvað sér þat betra þykkja enn bakeldagerðin.
his Grettir said to-himself that better to-seem than the-back-warming
 “Þá skaltu svá at fara”, sagði Ásmundr, “sem ek býð þér.
Then shall-you so to go-about said Asmund as I bid you
 Hryssu á ek bleikálótta, er ek kalla Keingálu; hon er
A-mare have I dun-striped whom I call Keingala she is
 svá vís at um veðráttu ok vatnagang, at þat mun aldri
so wise that about weather and floods that it will never
 bresta, at þá mun hrið eftir koma, ef hon vill eigi á
fail that then will storm after come if she will not onto
 jörð ganga; þá skaltu byrgja í húsi hrossin, enn halda
ground go then shall-you shut in a-house the-horses but hold
 þeim norðr á hálsinn, þegar er vetr leggr á; þætti mér
them north on the-ridge as-soon as winter sets on would-seem to-me
 þurfa, at þú leystir þetta verk betr af hendi enn þau tvau,
need that you discharged this work better off hand than those two
 sem áðr hefi ek skipat þér”. Grettir svarar: “Þetta er kalt
which before have I assigned you Grettir answers This is a-cold
 verk ok karlmannlegt; enn ilt þykkir mér at treysta merinni,
work and manly but ill seems to-me to trust the-mare
 því at þat veit ek engan fyrr gert hafa”. Nú tekur Grettir
because that that know I no-one before done to-have Now takes Grettir
 við hrossageymslunni, ok leið svá fram yfir jól; þá gerði
over the-horse-herding and passed so forth over Yule then came
 á kulda mikla með snjóum ok ilt til jarða. Grettir var lítt
on colds great with snows and ill for grazing Grettir was little
 settur at klæðum, enn maðr lítt harðnaðr; tók hann nú at
provided with clothes but a-man little hardened began he now to

kala, enn Keingála stóð á, þar sem mest var svæðit,
freeze but Keingala stood on there where most was the-windswept-ground
 í hverju illviðri; aldri kom hon svá snemma í haga, at
in each bad-weather never came she so early to pasture that
 hon myndi heim ganga fyrir dagsetr. Grettir hugsar þá, at
she would home go before nightfall Grettir thinks then that
 hann skal gera eitthvert þat bellibragð, at Keingálu yrði
he shall do some that mischief that Keingala were
 goldit fyrir útiganginn. Þat var einn morgin snemma, at
repaid for the-grazing-out It was one morning early that
 Grettir kom til hrossahúss, lýkr upp, ok stóð Keingála fyrir
Grettir came to (the)-horse-house opens up and stood Keingala before
 stalli; því at þótt hrossum væri fóðr gefit, þeim er með
(the)-stall because that though (the)-horses were fodder given those who with
 henni váru, þá hafði hon þat ein. Nú fór Grettir upp á
her were then had she that alone Now went Grettir up onto
 bak henni; hann hafði hvassan kníf í hendi, ok rekr um
back to-her he had a-sharp knife in hand and draws across
 þverar herðar Keingálu, ok lætr svá ganga aftr tveim megin
crosswise shoulders of-Keingala and lets so go back two sides
 hryggjar. Hrossit bregðr nú við hart, því at þat var feitt
of-(the)-spine The-horse starts now at-(it) hard because that it was fat
 og fælit; eyss svá, at hófarnir brustu í veggjunum. Grettir
and skittish kicks so that the-booves crashed in the-walls Grettir
 fell af baki; ok er hann komst á fætr, leitar hann til
fell off (the)-back and when he got on feet seeks he to
 bakferðar; er þeira viðreign hin snarpasta, ok svá lýkr, at
remount is their struggle the sharpest and so ends that
 hann flær af henni alla baklengjuna aftr á lend; rekr
he flays off her all the-back-strip back onto (the)-loins drives
 síðan út hrossin ok til haga. Eigi vildi Keingála bíta, nema
then out the-horses and to pasture Not would Keingala graze except

til baksins; enn er skamt var af hádegis, bregðr hon við,
to the-back but when short was from midday starts she at(-it)
 ok hleypr heim til húss. Grettir byrgir nú húsit ok
and runs home to (the)-house Grettir shuts now the-house and
 gengr heim. Ásmundr spyr Gretti, hvar hrossin væri. Grettir
goes home Asmund asks Grettir where the-horses were Grettir
 kveðst geymt hafa í húsi eftir vanda. Ásmundr segir,
says-of-himself tended to-have in (the)-house after custom Asmund says
 at þá myndi skamt til hríðar, er hrossin vildu eigi á
that then would short to storm when the-horses would not on
 standa í þvílíku veðri. Grettir svarar: “Skýzt þeim mörgum
stand in such weather Grettir answers Fails them many
 vísdómrinn, er betri ván er at”. Líðr nú af náttin ok
the-wisdom whom better expectation is of Passes now off the-night and
 kom eigi hríðin. Rekr Grettir hrossin, ok þolir Keingála eigi
came not the-storm Drives Grettir the-horses and endures Keingala not
 í haga. Undarlegt þótti Ásmundi þat, enn veðráttu brá
in pasture Strange seemed to-Asmund that but (the)-weather changed
 eigi ór því, sem áðr hafði verit. Enn þriðja morgun fór
not out-of that which before had been The third morning went
 Ásmundr til hrossanna, ok at Keingálu, ok mælti: “Illa þykki
Asmund to the-horses and to Keingala and spoke Ill seem
 mér hrossin við hafa orðit at jafngóðum vetri; enn þú munt
to-me the-horses by to-have come in a-fair winter but you will
 sízt bregðast at bakinu, Bleikála.” “Verðr þat er varir”,
least fail at the-back Dun-stripe Comes that which expected
 segir Grettir — “ok svá hitt er eigi varir”. Ásmundr
says Grettir and so the-other which not expected Asmund
 strauk baki á hrossinu, ok fylgdi þar húðin. Honum þótti
stroked the-back on the-horse and followed there the-hide To-him seemed
 undarlegt, hví svá var orðit, ok kvað Gretti þessu valda
strange why so was come-about and said Grettir this to-cause

mundu. Grettir glotti at, ok svaraði öngu. Bóndi fór
would Grettir grinned at(-it) and answered nothing (The)-farmer went
 heim, ok var málóði mjök. Hann gekk til eldaskála, ok
home and was raving much He went to (the)-fire-hall and
 heyrði, at húsfreyja mælti: “Vel skyldi nú reynzt hafa
heard that (the)-housewife spoke Well should now proved to-have
 hrossageymslan frænda míns”. Ásmundr kvað vísu:
the-horse-herding of-kinsman my Asmund spoke a-verse

Fast hefr flegna trausta

Hard has flayed trusty

— fær prettat mik — Grettir

has tricked me Grettir

— fljóð eru flest en prúðu

women are most the fine

— fámálug — Keingálu.

few-spoken Keingala

Víst man venja flestar

Surely will wean most

vittr drengir af sér lengi

wise fellow from himself long

— hróðr nemi hrings en fríða

praise let-take of-ring the fair

Hlín — kvaðningar mínar.

Hlin commands my

Húsfreyja svarar: “Eigi veit ek, hvárt mér þykkir meir

(The)-housewife answers Not know I whether to-me seems more

frá móti, at þú skipar honum jafnan starfa, eða hitt,

from against that you assign him always tasks or the-other

at hann leysir alla einn veg af hendi”. “Nú skal ok um

that he discharges all one way off hand Now shall also about

enda gert fyrir þat", sagði Ásmundr; "enn hafa skal hann
end done for that said Asmund but have shall he
viðrgerning því verra". "Teli þá hvárigir á aðra", sagði
treatment the worse Count then neither against (the)-other said
Grettir; ok svá fór fram um stund. Ásmundr lét drepa
Grettir and so went forth for a-while Asmund had kill
Keingálu. Mörg bernskubrögð gerði Grettir, þau sem eigi
Keingala Many childhood-pranks did Grettir those which not
eru í sögu sett. Hann gerðist nú mikill vexti; eigi vissu
are in saga set He became now great in-growth not knew
menn gerla afl hans, því at hann var óglíminn; orti
men clearly strength his because that he was no-wrestler composed
hann jafnan vísur ok kviðlinga, ok þótti heldr niðskældinn.
he often verses and ditties and seemed rather given-to-lampons
Eigi lagðist hann í eldaskála, ok var fátalaðr lengstum.
Not laid-himself he in (the)-fire-ball and was taciturn mostly

XV • THE BALL GAME ON MIÐFJARÐARVATN

The young men of Miðfjörðr and the neighboring districts hold ball games on the frozen lake. At fourteen Grettir is matched against Auðun, a few years older and the strongest of his age. Auðun hits the ball over his head, Grettir drives it into Auðun's forehead, and they wrestle until Grettir falls. Grettir says that a thrall takes revenge at once and a coward never, but the brothers Kálfr and Þorvaldr want the two reconciled and keep the peace.

Þá váru margir uppvaxandi menn í Miðfirði. Skáld-Torfa
Then were many growing-up men in Midfjord Skald-Torfa
bjó þá á Torfustöðum. Bersi hét son hennar; hann
dwelt then at Torfustadir Bersi was-called son her he
var manna gervilegastr ok skáld gott. Þeir bjuggu á Mel
was of-men most-accomplished and a-poet good They dwelt at Mel

bræðr, Kormákr ok Þorgils. Með þeim óx upp sá maðr,
 (the)-brothers Kormak and Thorgils With them grew up that man
 er Oddr hét. Hann var framfærslumaðr þeira, ok var
 who Odd was-called He was dependent their and was
 kallaðr Oddr ómagaskáld. Auðun hét maðr; hann óx
 called Odd Pauper-poet Audun was-called a-man he grew
 upp á Auðunarstöðum í Víðidal; hann var gegn maðr
 up at Audunarstadir in Vididal he was a-fair man
 ok góðfengr, ok sterkast norðr þar sinna jafnaldra. Kálfr
 and good-natured and strongest north there of-his peers Kalf
 Ásgeirsson bjó á Ásgeirsá, ok Þorvaldr bróðir hans. Atli,
 Asgeir's-son dwelt at Asgeirsa and Thorvald brother his Atli
 bróðir Grettis, gerðist ok þroskamaðr, ok allra manna
 brother of-Grettir became also a-grown-man and of-all men
 gæfastr; við hann líkaði hverjum manni vel. Þessir lögðu
 gentlest with him pleased every man well These set-up
 knattleika með sér á Miðfjarðarvatni; kvámu þar til
 ball-games between themselves on Midfjardarvatn came there to
 Miðfirðingar ok Víððælar; þar kvámu ok margir menn
 (the)-Midford-men and (the)-Vididal-men there came also many men
 ór Vestrhópi ok af Vatnsnesi, svá ok ór Hrítafirði.
 out-of Vesturbop and from Vatnsnes so and out-of Hrutaford
 Sátu þeir þar við, er lengra fóru til. Var þar skipat saman
 Stayed they there at who farther traveled to Was there paired together
 þeim sem jafnstærkastir váru, ok varð at því hin mesta
 those who most-equally-strong were and became of it the greatest
 gleði lengstum á haustum. Grettir fór til leika fyrir
 merriment mostly in autumns Grettir went to (the)-games at
 bæn Atla bróður síns, þá er hann var fjórtán vetra
 (the)-request of-Atli brother his then when he was fourteen winters
 gamall. Síðan var skipat mönnum til leiks. Var Gretti
 old Then was paired men for (the)-game Was for-Grettir

ætlat at leika við Auðun, er fyrr var nefndr; hann var
allotted to play with Audun who before was named he was
 þeira nökkurum vetrum eldri. Auðun sló knöttinn yfir
than-them some winters older Audun struck the-ball over
 höfuð Gretti, ok gat hann eigi náð; stökk hann langt
(the)-head of-Grettir and could he not reach(-it) flew it far
 eftir ísinum. Grettir varð reiðr við þetta, ok þótti Auðun
along the-ice Grettir became angry at this and thought Audun
 vilja leika á sik; sækir þá knöttinn ok kemr aft,
to-wish to-play-tricks on himself fetches then the-ball and comes back
 ok þegar hann náði til Auðunar, setr hann knöttinn rétt
and as-soon-as he reached to Audun sets he the-ball right
 framan í enni honum, svá at sprakk fyrir. Auðun
in-front on (the)-forehead to-him so that (the-skin)-burst in-front Audun
 sló Gretti með knattgildrunni, er hann helt á, ok kom
struck Grettir with the-bat which he held on and came
 lítt á, því at Grettir hljóp undir höggit; tókust þeir
little on-it because that Grettir ran under the-blow took they
 þá á fangbrögðum, ok glímdu; þóttust menn þá sjá, at
then to grappling and wrestled thought men then to-see that
 Grettir var sterkari, enn menn ætluðu, því at Auðun var
Grettir was stronger than men expected because that Audun was
 rammr at afli. Áttust þeir lengi við, en svá lauk, at
mighty in strength Fought they long at(-it) but so ended that
 Grettir fell; lét Auðun þá fylgja kné kviði, ok fór illa með
Grettir fell let Audun then follow knee to-belly and dealt ill with
 hann. Hlupu þeir þá til Atli ok Bersi ok margir aðrir,
him Ran they then up Atli and Bersi and many others
 ok skildu þá. Grettir kvað eigi þurfa at halda á sér, sem
and parted them Grettir said not to-need to hold on him as
 ólmum hundi, ok mælti þetta: “Þræll einn þegar hefnist,
a-mad dog and spoke this A-thrall alone at-once avenges-himself

en argr aldri". Eigi létu menn þetta sér at sundrþykki
but a-coward never Not let men this themselves to discord
 verða, því at þeir Kálfr ok Þorvaldr bræðr vildu at þeir
become because that they Kalf and Thorvald brothers wished that they
 væri sáttir; váru þeir ok skyldir nökkut Auðun ok Grettir,
were reconciled were they also related somewhat Audun and Grettir
 ok helzt leikrinn sem áðr, ok varð eigi til sundrþykkis fleira.
and held the-game as before and came not to discord more

XVI • GRETTIR KILLS SKEGGI

Porkell krafla asks Ásmundr about his sons and takes Grettir with him to the Althing. At Fljótstunga, below Tívdægra, Grettir's food bag goes missing. Skeggi, a house-carl in Porkell's company, has lost his too. When Skeggi picks up a bag, Grettir asks to see it, and in the tussle Skeggi swings an axe at him. Grettir wrenches the axe away and kills Skeggi with it. At the Althing Porkell pays the compensation, but Grettir is sentenced to three years abroad. On the way home he lifts the stone still called Grettishaf.

Porkell krafla gerðist nú gamall mjök; hann hafði
Þorkel Krafla became now old much he had
 Vatnsdæla goðorð, ok var höfðingi mikill. Hann var
(the)-Vatnsdal-men's chieftaincy and was a-chieftain great He was
 aldavin Ásmundar hærulangs, sem tengdum þeira hæfði.
a-lifelong-friend of-Asmund Long-hair as kinsbip their befitted
 Hann var því vanr, at ríða til Bjargs hvert vár, at sækja
He was to-that accustomed to ride to Bjarg every spring to go
 þangat til kynnis; ok enn gerði hann svá næsta vár eftir
thither for a-visit and again did he so (the)-next spring after
 þat, sem áðr var sagt, at hann fór til Bjargs. Tóku þau
that which before was told that he went to Bjarg Received they

Ásmundr ok Ásdís við honum báðum höndum; var hann
Asmund and Asdis with him both hands was he
 þar þrjár nætr, ok töluðu þeir mágar marga hluti
there three nights and talked they kinsmen-by-marriage many things
 milli sín. Þorkell spurði, hversu Ásmundi segði hugur
between themselves Thorkel asked how to-Asmund said (his)-mind
 um sonu sína, hverir iðnarmenn þeir mundu verða. Ásmundr
about sons his what craftsmen they would become Asmund
 kveðst ætla, at Atli yrði búmaðr mikill, forsjáll
says-of-himself to-think that Atli would-become a-farmer great prudent
 ok fémaðr. Þorkell svarar: “Þarfr maðr ok þér líkr; enn
and a-wealthy-man Thorkel answers A-useful man and to-you like but
 hvat segir þú af Grettir?” Ásmundr mælti: “Af honum er
what say you of Grettir Asmund spoke Of him is
 þat at segja, at hann mun verða sterkr maðr ok óstýrilátr;
that to say that he will become a-strong man and unruly
 þykkjumikill ok þungur hefir hann mér orðit”. Þorkell svarar:
stubborn and heavy has he to-me become Thorkel answers
 “Eigi er þat heillavænlegt, mágr”, sagði hann; “enn
Not is that promising kinsman-by-marriage said he but
 hversu skulum vit skipa um þingferð okkra í sumar?”
how shall we-two arrange about assembly-journey our in summer
 Ásmundr svarar: “Ek gerumst þungfærr, ok vilda ek sitja
Asmund answers I grow slow-moving and would-wish I to-sit
 heima”. “Viltu at Atli fari fyrir þik?”, sagði Þorkell. “Hann
at-home Wish-you that Atli go for you said Thorkel Him
 þykkjumst ek eigi missa mega”, segir Ásmundr, “fyrir sakir
think I not to-spare be-able says Asmund for sake
 starfa ok atdráttar, enn Grettir vill ekki starfa; er hann svá
of-work and provisioning but Grettir will not work is he so
 viti borinn, at ek get, at hann kunni halda upp lögsögn
with-wit born that I guess that he can hold up law-speaking

fyrir mik með þinni umsjá". "Þú skalt ráða, mágr",
for me with your oversight You shall decide kinsman-by-marriage
 segir Þorkell. Reið hann nú heim. Þá er hann var búinn,
says Thorkel Rode he now home then when he was ready
 ok leysti Ásmundr hann burt með góðum gjöfum. Nökkuru
and sent-off Asmund him away with good gifts Somewhat
 síðar bjóst Þorkell heiman til þings; hann reið með
later made-ready Thorkel from-home to (the)-assembly he rode with
 sex tigi manna; fóru þeir allir með honum, er í hans
six tens of-men went they all with him who in his
 goðorði váru. Kemr hann til Bjargs, ok reið Grettir þaðan
chieftaincy were Comes he to Bjarg and rode Grettir thence
 með honum. Þeir riðu suðr heiði þá er Tvíðægri heitir.
with him They rode south (the)-beath that which Tvidaegra is-called
 Áfangar váru litlir á fjallinu, ok riðu þeir mikinn ofan
Halting-places were few on the-mountain and rode they hard down
 í bygðina; ok er þeir kvámu ofan í Fljótstungu, þótti
into the-settlement and when they came down into Fljotstunga seemed
 þeim mál at sofa, ok hleyptu beizlum af hestum sínum,
to-them time to sleep and slipped bridles off horses their
 ok létu ganga með söðlum. Lágu þeir langt á dag fram ok
and let go with saddles Lay they long in day forth and
 sváfu; enn er þeir vöknuðu, svipuðust menn at hestum
slept but when they woke looked men about-for horses
 sínum; höfðu hestarnir sinn veg farit hverr þeira, enn
their had the-horses its-own way gone each of-them but
 sumir höfðu velzt. Grettir fann seinast sinn hest. Þat var
some had rolled Grettir found last his horse That was
 þá háttr, at menn vistuðu sik sjálfir til þings, ok
then (the)-custom that men provisioned themselves self for (the)-assembly and
 reiddu flestir mali um söðla sína. Söðull var undir kviði
carried most food-bags over saddles their (The)-saddle was under (the)-belly

niðri á hesti Grettis, enn í burtu malrinn; ferr hann
down on (the)-horse of-Grettir but off away the-food-bag goes he
 nú ok leitar, ok fann eigi; sér hann nú hvar maðr gengr;
now and searches and found not Sees he now where a-man walks
 sá fór hart. Grettir spyr, hvern þar færi. Hann svarar,
that-one went fast Grettir asks who there went He answers
 ok kveðst Skeggi heita, ok vera húskarl norðan
and says-of-himself Skeggi to-be-called and to-be a-house-carl from-the-north
 ór Ási í Vatnsdal — “er ek í ferð með Þorkeli bónda”,
out-of As in Vatnsdal am I in company with Thorkel farmer
 sagði hann, “enn mér hefir tekist til gálauslega, ek hefi
said he but to-me has turned-out to carelessly I have
 týnt vistamal mínum”. Grettir svarar: “Eindæmin eru verst’;
lost food-bag my Grettir answers The-sole-cases are worst
 ek hefi ok týnt mal þeim, er ek átti, ok leitum nú
I have also lost food-bag that which I had and let-us-search now
 báðir samt”. Þat líkaði Skeggja vel. Ganga þeir nú um
both together That pleased Skeggi well Walk they now for
 hrið; enn er minnst varði, tekur Skeggi á rás upp eftir
a-while but when least expected takes Skeggi to a-run up along
 mounum ok grípr þar upp malinn. Grettir sá er hann
the-moors and grabs there up the-food-bag Grettir saw when he
 laut, ok spyr, hvat hann tók upp. “Malinn minn”, segir
stooped and asks what he took up Food-bag my says
 Skeggi. “Hverir bera þat fleiri enn þú?” sagði Grettir, “ok
Skeggi Who carry that more than you said Grettir and
 lát mik sjá, því at margt er öðru líkt”. Skeggi kvað
let me see because that much is to-another like Skeggi said
 öngvan mann taka af sér þat er hann átti. Grettir
no man take from himself that which he owned Grettir
 þreif til malsins, ok toguðust þeir um hann, ok vildi sitt
seized at the-food-bag and tugged they over it and wished his-own

mál hvárrtveggi hafa. “Undarlega ætli þér”, segir húskarlinn,
case each to-have Strangely think you says the-house-carl
 “þó menn sé eigi jafnstórauðgir allir sem þér, Vatnsdælar,
though men are not as-rich all as you Vatnsdal-men
 at menn muni eigi þora at halda á sínu fyrir yðr”.
that men will not dare to hold on their-own before you
 Grettir kvað þetta eigi eftir mannvirðingu ganga, þótt hverr
Grettir said this not after (one's)-worth to-go though each
 hefði þat er ætti. Skeggi mælti: “Of fjarri er nú Auðun
had that which owned Skeggi spoke Too far is now Audun
 at kyrkja þik sem við knattleikinn”. “Vel er þat”, sagði
to throttle you as at the-ball-game Well is that said
 Grettir, “enn eigi muntu mik kyrkja, hvern veg sem hitt
Grettir but not will-you me throttle whichever way as the-other
 hefir verit”. Skeggi greip þá öxi, ok hjó til Grettis; enn
has been Skeggi grabbed then an-axe and hewed at Grettir but
 er Grettir sá þat, þreif hann vinstri hendi öxarskaftit fyrir
when Grettir saw that seized he with-left hand the-axe-shaft in
 framan hendr Skeggja, svá hart, at þegar varð laus öxin.
front-of (the)-hands of-Skeggi so hard that at-once became loose the-axe
 Grettir setti þá sömu öxi í höfuð honum, svá at þegar
Grettir set then (the)-same axe into (the)-head to-him so that at-once
 stóð í heila; fell húskarl þá dauðr til jarðar. Grettir
stood in (the)-brain fell (the)-house-carl then dead to (the)-earth Grettir
 tók malinn, ok kastar um söðul sinn. Hann reið síðan
took the-food-bag and throws over saddle his He rode then
 eftir förunautum sínum. Þorkell reið undan, því at hann
after companions his Þorkel rode ahead because that he
 vissi eigi, at þetta myndi til hafa borit. Menn söknuðu
knew not that this would to have happened Men missed

nú Skeggja ór flokkinum; enn er Grettir fann þá, spyrja
now Skeggi out-of the-company but when Grettir found them ask
 þeir hann, hvat hann vissi til Skeggja. Grettir kvað þá vísu:
they him what he knew of Skeggi Grettir spoke then a-verse

Hygg ek at hljóp til Skeggja

Think I that ran to Skeggi

hamratröll með för rammri

a-crag-troll with journey mighty

— blóðs var á gunnar Gríði

of-blood was on of-battle Grid

gráðr — fyr stundu áðan.

greed before a-while ago

Sú gein of haus hánun

She gaped over (the)-skull to-him

harðmynt er lítt sparði

hard-mouthed who little spared

— vark hjá viðreign þeira —

I-was by struggle their

vígtenn ok klauf enni.

war-teeth and split (the)-forehead

Þá hlupu fylgdarmenn Þorkels upp, ok sögðu eigi mundu

Then leaped followers of-Thorkel up and said not would

tröll hafa tekit manninn um ljósan dag. Þorkell þagnaði, ok

trolls have taken the-man in bright day Thorkel fell-silent and

mælti síðan: “Önnur efni munu í vera, ok mun Grettir

spoke then Other causes will in(-it) be and will Grettir

hafa drepit hann; eða hvat bar til?” Grettir segir þá allan

have killed him or what happened to(-it) Grettir tells then all

áskilnað þeira. Þorkell mælti: “All-illa hefir þetta til tekizt,

dispute their Thorkel spoke Very-ill has this to turned-out

því at Skeggi var fenginn til fylgdar við mik, enn maðr
because that Skeggi was got for following with me but a-man
 góðættaðr, ok mun ek taka málit á þann hátt, at ek mun
well-born and will I take the-case on that manner that I will
 bæta slíku, sem dæmt verðr, enn sektum má ek eigi ráða;
compensate such as judged is but outlawries may I not control
 eru tveir kostir fyrir hendi við þik, Grettir, hvárt þú vilt
are two choices before hand for you Grettir whether you wish
 heldr fara til þings, ok hætta á, hvern veg til tekst, eða
rather to-go to (the)-assembly and to-risk on which way to turns-out or
 hverfa hér aftur. Grettir köri at fara til þings, ok svá var,
to-turn here back Grettir chose to go to (the)-assembly and so was
 at hann fór. Var þetta mál kært af erfingjum hins vegna.
that he went Was this case brought by (the)-heirs of-the slain
 Gekk Þorkell til handsala, ok held upp fébótum; enn
Went Thorkel to hand-pledges and held up (the)-compensation but
 Grettir skyldi vera sekr, ok vera utan þrjá vetr. Enn er
Grettir should be outlawed and be abroad three winters But when
 þeir riðu af þingi höfðingjarnir, áðu þeir uppi undir
they rode from (the)-assembly the-chieftains rested they up under
 Sledaási, áðr enn þeir skildu; þá hóf Grettir stein þann,
Sledaas before than they parted then lifted Grettir stone that
 er þar liggir í grasinu, ok nú heitir Grettishaf. Þá gengu
which there lies in the-grass and now is-called Grettir's-lift Then went
 til margir menn, at sjá steininn, ok þótti þeim mikil furða,
to many men to see the-stone and seemed to-them great wonder
 at svá ungr maðr skyldi hefja svá mikit bjarg. Reið Grettir
that so young a-man should lift so great a-rock Rode Grettir
 heim til Bjargs, ok sagði frá ferðum sínum. Ásmundr tók
home to Bjarg and told of journeys his Asmund took
 lítt á, ok kvað hann óeirðarmann verða mundu.
little on(-it) and said him a-turbulent-man to-become would

Grettir sails for Norway with Haflíði of Reyðarfell, and his mother gives him the sword Jökulsnautr after his father refuses him any weapon. On board he lies idle in a pit under the boat and mocks the crew in verse, and the steersman's young wife sews for him. When the crew threatens to throw him overboard, Haflíði provokes him into composing a verse against Haflíði himself instead. When the ship leaks badly, Grettir bails against two men, then four, and some say eight. The ship is wrecked on a skerry off Haramsey in Norway.

Haflíði hét maðr, er bjó at Reyðarfalli í Hvítársíðu;
Haflíði was-called a-man who dwelt at Reyðarfell in Hvítarsíða
 hann var siglingamaðr ok átti skip í för; þat stóð uppi í
he was a-seafarer and had a-ship in service it stood beached in
 Hvítá. Sá maðr var á skipi með honum, er Bárðr hét;
Hvítá That man was on ship with him who Bard was-called
 hann átti konu unga ok fríða. Ásmundr sendi mann til
he had a-wife young and fair Ásmund sent a-man to
 Haflíða, at hann skyldi taka við Gretti, ok sjá um með
Haflíði that he should take with Grettir and look about with
 honum. Haflíði kvað sér sagt, at maðrinn væri vanstiltir;
him Haflíði said to-himself told that the-man were unruly
 enn fyrir sakir vináttu þeira Ásmundar tók hann við
but for sake of-(the)-friendship of-them Ásmund(-and-him) took he with
 Gretti. Bjóst hann þá til utanferðar. Engi vildi Ásmundr
Grettir Made-ready he then for going-abroad No would Ásmund
 fararefni fá honum, utan hafnest ok lítit af vaðmálum.
means-of-travel get him except sea-provisions and little of homespun-cloths
 Grettir bað hann fá sér vápn nökkut. Ásmundr svarar:
Grettir bade him get himself a-weapon some Ásmund answers
 “Eigi hefir þú mér hlýðinn verit; veit ek ok eigi, hvat þú
Not have you to-me obedient been know I also not what you

munir þat með vápnum vinna, er þarft er; mun ek ok þau
will that with weapons do which needful is will I also them
 eigi til láta". Grettir mælti: "Þá er eigi þat at launa, sem eigi
not to let Grettir spoke Then is not that to repay which not
 er gert". Síðan skildu þeir feðgar með litlum kærleikum.
is done Then parted they father-and-son with little affection
 Margir báðu hann vel fara, enn fáir aftr koma. Móðir hans
Many bade him well fare but few back come Mother his
 fylgdi honum á leið; ok áðr þau skildu, mælti hon svá:
accompanied him on (the)-way and before they parted spoke she so
 "Eigi ertu svá af garði gerr, frændi, sem ek vilda, svá
Not are-you so from (the)-farm made kinsman as I would-wish so
 vel borinn maðr sem þú ert; þykki mér þat mest á skorta,
well born a-man as you are seems to-me that most to lack
 at þú hefir ekki vápn, þat er neytt sé, enn mér segir svá
that you have no weapon that which of-use be but to-me says so
 hugr um, at þú munir þeira við þurfa". Hon tók þá undan
mind about that you will them at need She took then from-under
 skikkju sinni sverð búið; þat var allgóðr gripr. Hon mælti
cloak her a-sword adorned that was a-very-good treasure She spoke
 þá: "Sverð þetta átti Jökull föðurfaðir minn ok hinir fyrri
then Sword this owned Jokul father's-father my and the earlier
 Vatnsdælar, ok var þeim sigrsælt; vil ek nú gefa þér sverðið,
Vatnsdal-men and was to-them victorious will I now give you the-sword
 ok njót vel". Grettir þakkaði henni vel gjöfina, ok kvað sér
and enjoy well Grettir thanked her well the-gift and said to-himself
 þetta betra þykkja, enn aðrir fémunir, þótt meiri væri. Síðan
this better to-seem than other valuables though greater were Then
 fór hann veg sinn, enn Ásdís bað honum margra virkta.
went he way his but Asdis wished him many blessings
 Grettir reið suðr um heiði, ok létti eigi fyrr enn hann
Grettir rode south over (the)-heath and stopped not before than he

kom suðr til skips. Haflíði tók vel við honum; fann hann

came south to (the)-ship Haflíði took well with him found be

Gretti, ok spurði at fararefnum hans. Grettir kvað vísu:

Grettir and asked about means-of-travel his Grettir spoke a-verse

Hygg ek at heiman bjoggu

Think I that from-home equipped

heldr auðigir snauðan,

rather (the)-wealthy a-poor-one

blakkþollr byrjar skikkju,

steed-fir of-(the)-fair-wind of-cloak

beiðendr Móins leiðar.

askers of-Moin of-path

Enn réð orðskvið sanna

But proved proverb true

auðnorn við mik fornan

wealth-norn with me old

ern, at bezt er barni,

vigorous that best is to-a-child

benskóðs fyr gjöf, móðir.

of-wound-harm for gift mother

Haflíði kvað þat sýnt, at henni var mest um hann hugat.

Haflíði said that plain that to-her was most about him thought

Létu þeir í haf, þegar er þeir váru búnir ok byr gaf; ok

Put they to sea as-soon as they were ready and fair-wind gave and

er þeir kvámu út yfir grunn öll, undu þeir segl. Grettir

when they came out beyond (the)-shallows all hoisted they sail Grettir

gerði sér gróf undir bátinum, ok vildi þaðan hvergi hræra

made himself a-pit under the-boat and would thence nowhere stir

sik, hvárki til austra, né at segli at gera, ok ekki starfa, þat

himself neither to bailing nor at (the)-sail to do and not work that

sem hann átti at skipi at gera til jafnaðar við aðra menn; eigi
which he ought on ship to do in equality with other men not
 vildi hann ok kaupa af sér. Þeir sigldu suðr um Reykjanes,
would he also buy off himself They sailed south past Reykjanes
 ok svá suðr fyrir land, ok er landit var horfit, fengu þeir
and so south before (the)-land and when the-land was vanished got they
 rétt mikinn. Skipit var heldr lekt, ok þoldi illa réttinn;
a-pitching great The-ship was rather leaky and bore ill the-pitching
 fengu þeir vás mikit. Grettir lét þá fjúka í kviðlinga; þat
got they hardship great Grettir let then fly in ditties that
 líkaði mönnum stórilla. Einn dag var þat, at veðr var bæði
pleased men very-ill One day was it that (the)-weather was both
 hvast ok kalt; þá kölluðu sveinar, báðu Gretti nú duga —
sharp and cold then called (the)-lads bade Grettir now help
 “því at oss kólnar á klónum”. Grettir leit upp, ok mælti:
because that to-us grows-cold on the-claws Grettir looked up and spoke

Happ er, ef hér skal kropna

Luck is if here shall cramp

hver fingr á kyrpingum.

every finger on (the)-cripples

Eigi fengu þeir af honum starfann, enn líkaði nú verr
Not got they from him the-work but pleased now worse
 enn áðr, ok kváðu hann skyldu taka gjöld á sjálfum sér
than before and said him should take payment on self himself
 fyrir níð sitt ok lögleysu þá er hann gerði — “þykkir
for lampoon his and lawlessness that which he did seems
 þér betra”, sögðu þeir, “at klappa um kviðinn á konu
to-you better said they to pat about the-belly on (the)-wife
 Bárðar stýrimanns, enn at gera skyldu þína á skipi, ok
of-Bard steersman than to do duty your on ship and

er slíkt óþolanda". Veðrit gekk upp at eins; stóðu þeir
is such unbearable The-weather went up at one(-pitch) stood they
 þá í austri, svá at dægum skifti. Þeir heituðust þá
then in bailing so that by-half-days (they)-changed They threatened then
 við Gretti. Ok er Haflíði heyrði þetta, gekk hann þar at,
against Grettir And when Haflíði heard this went he there to
 er Grettir lá, ok mælti: "Eigi þykki mér samkeypi yðvart
where Grettir lay and spoke Not seems to-me dealings your
 kaupmanna gott; þú gerir þeim ólög, enn níðir þá á svá
with-(the)-merchants good you do them wrong and lampoon them on so
 gert ofan, enn þeir heitast at steypa þér fyrir borð. Nú er
done above but they threaten to throw you over board Now is
 slíkt ótíltækilegt". "Hví munu þeir eigi ráða tiltektum sínum?"
such unfitting Why will they not decide deeds their
 segir Grettir — "enn þat vilda ek, at eftir dveldist einn
says Grettir but that would-wish I that behind stayed one
 eða tveir hjá mér, áðr enn ek ganga fyrir borð". "Slíkt er
or two with me before than I go over board Such is
 ógeranda", segir Haflíði — "mun oss aldri vel gefa, ef þér
not-to-be-done says Haflíði will to-us never well turn-out if to-you
 berist þetta fyrir; mun ek leggja ráð til með þér". "Hvert er
befalls this on will I lay counsel to with you What is
 þat"? sagði Grettir. "Þeir finna at við þik, at þú níðir þá;
that said Grettir They find fault with you that you lampoon them
 nú vil ek", sagði Haflíði — "at þú kveðir til mín nökkura
now will I said Haflíði that you compose to me some
 níðvísu, ok má vera, at þeir umberi betr við þik". "Aldri
lampoon-verse and may be that they bear better with you Never
 kveð ek til þín", sagði Grettir, "utan gott; geri ek þik eigi
compose I to you said Grettir except good make I you not
 líkan kyrpingum". Haflíði mælti: "Kveða má svá, at fegri
like cripples Haflíði spoke Compose may-one so that fairer

sé vísan, ef grafin er, þótt fyrst sé eigi allfögr”. “Þetta hefi
be the-verse if dug-into is though first be not very-fair This have
 ek ok nægst til”, sagði Grettir. Haflíði fór til þeira skipverja,
I also enough of said Grettir Haflidi went to those shipmen
 þar sem þeir váru at ausa, ok mælti: “Mikit er erfiði
there where they were at bailing and spoke Great is toil
 yðvart, ok ván, at yðr líki illa við Gretti”. “Verri þykkja
your and expected that to-you pleases ill with Grettir Worse seem
 oss kviðlingar hans, enn hvetvetna annat”, segja þeir. Haflíði
to-us ditties his than everything else say they Haflidi
 mælti þá hátt: “Hann mun ok illa af því fara um síðir”.
spoke then aloud He will also ill from that fare in (the)-end
 Enn er Grettir heyrði Haflíða ámæla sér, kvað hann vísu:
But when Grettir heard Haflidi blame him spoke he a-verse

Annat var þá's inni
Other was then-when inside
 át Haflíði drafla
ate Haflidi curds
 — hann þóttisk þá heima —
he thought-himself then at-home
 hvellr at Reyðarfelli.
loud at Reydarfell
 Ok dagverðar darra
And of-(the)-day-meal of-(the)-dart
 dómskreytandi neytir
judgment-adorner eats
 tysvar tveggja nesja
twice of-two nesses
 takreins degi einum.
of-grip-land day one

Kaupmönnum þótti all-illa, ok sögðu, at hann skyldi eigi
To-(the)-merchants seemed very-ill and said that he should not
 til einskis gera, at niða Hafliða bónda. Hafliði mælti
for nothing do to lampoon Hafliði (the)-farmer Hafliði spoke
 þá: “Nóga hefir Grettir verðleika til þess, þótt þér gerðuð
then Enough has Grettir deserts for that though you did
 honum nökkura smán, enn eigi vil ek hafa sæmd mína í
him some disgrace but not will I have honor my in
 veði til móts við illgirni hans ok forsjáleysi; nú munu vér
pledge to meeting with ill-will his and folly now will we
 þessa eigi at sinni hefna, meðan vér erum í svá miklum
this not for (the)-time avenge while we are in such great
 háska staddir, enn minnst þess þá, er þér komið á land,
danger placed but remember this then when you come to land
 ef yðr líkar”. Þeir svöruðu: “Mun oss eigi mega sem þér?
if to-you pleases They answered Will to-us not be-possible as to-you
 Hvárt mun oss heldr bíta níð hans enn þik?” Hafliði bað
Whether will us rather bite lampoon his than you Hafliði bade
 þá svá gera. Þaðan frá vönduðu skipverjar miklu miðr um
them so do From-then on cared shipmen much less about
 kviðlinga enn áðr. Þeir höfðu harða útivist ok langa; kvámu
ditties than before They had a-hard voyage and long came
 þá lekar at skipiuu; tóku menn þá at lýjast mjök á erfiði.
then leaks on the-ship began men then to tire much at toil
 Stýrimannskona sú hin unga var því jafnan vön, at sauma
Steersman's-wife that the young was it always accustomed to sew

at höndum Grettis, ok höfðu skipverjar þat mjök í fleymingi
at (the)-hands of-Grettir and had shipmen that much in mockery
 við hann. Hafliði gekk þar til, er Grettir lá, ok kvað vísu:
with him Hafliði went there to where Grettir lay and spoke a-verse

Statt upp ór gróf, Grettir,

Stand up out-of (the)-pit Grettir

grefr knörr hola vörru;

digs (the)-ship hollow furrows

minstu á mál við svanna

remember-you on words with (the)-lady

meginkátr enn glaðláta.

mightily-glad the cheerful

Fast hefr hrund at höndum,

Tight has (the)-woman at hands

hör-Nauma, þér saumat;

flax-Nauma to-you sewn

skorð vill, at vel þú verðir

(the)-prop wishes that well you turn-out

við, meðan lönd eru niðri.

at(-it) while lands are down

Grettir stóð skjótt upp ok kvað:

Grettir stood quickly up and spoke

Stöndum upp, þót undir

Let-us-stand up though under

all-tíðum skip ríði;

very-often (the)-ship rides

veitk, at víf mun láta

I-know that (the)-woman will take-it

verr, ef ek ligg á knerri.

worse if I lie in (the)-ship

Því mun öllungis illa

Therefore will altogether ill

aldygg kona hyggja

all-noble (the)-woman think

hvít, ef hér skal láta

fair if here shall let

hvert sinn fyr mik vinna.

every time for me work

Síðan hljóp hann aftr til, þar er þeir váru at austrinum, ok

Then ran he aft to there where they were at the-bailing and

spurði, hvat þeir vildu, at hann gerði. Þeir sögðu, at hann

asked what they wished that he did They said that he

lítit gott gera mundu. Hann sagði: “Munr er at mannsliði”.

little good to-do would He said Difference is in a-man's-help

Haflíði bað þá eigi neita liði hans — “má vera, at hann

Haflidi bade them not refuse help his may be that he

þykist leysa sínar hendr, ef hann býðr lið sitt”. Þá var

thinks-himself to-release his hands if he offers help his Then was

eigi dæluaustr á hafskipum; kölluðu menn þat byttuaustr eða

not pump-bailing on ocean-ships called men that bucket-bailing or

stampaustr. Hann var bæði vássamr ok erfiðr; skyldi þar hafa

tub-bailing It was both wet and toilsome should there have

byttur tvær; fór þá önnur niðr, er önnur fór upp. Sveinar

buckets two went then one down when (the)-other went up (The)-lads

báðu, at Grettir skyldi sökkva byttunum; kváðu nú reyna

asked that Grettir should sink the-buckets said now to-test

skyldu, hvat hann mætti. Hann segir, at lítil raun myndi bezt
should what he might He says that little test would best
 um þat. Ferr hann þá niðr ok sökkvir byttunum, ok váru
about that Goes he then down and sinks the-buckets and were
 þá fengnir til tveir at ausa til móts við hann; heldust þeir
then got to two to bail to meeting with him held they
 eigi lengi við áðr þeir váru yfirkomnir af mæði; þá gengu
not long out before they were overcome by exhaustion then went
 til fjórir, ok fór alt á sömu leið. Svá segja sumir menn,
to four and went all on (the)-same way So say some men
 at átta jusu þeir við hann, áðr enn lauk; var þá ok upp
that eight bailed they against him before than finished was then also up
 ausit skipit. Þaðan af skiftist mjök um orðalag kaupmanna
bailed the-ship From-then on changed much about (the)-speech of-(the)-merchants
 við Gretti, því at þeir sá, hvat hann átti undir sér fyrir
toward Grettir because that they saw what he had under himself for
 afls sakir; var hann ok þaðan frá hinn fræknasti til liðs,
strength's sake was he also thence on the most-valiant to help
 hvers sem við þurfti. Berr þá nú austr í haf; lágu á
whatever as for needed Bears them now east into (the)-sea lay on
 myrkr mikil; fundu þeir eigi fyrr eina nótt, enn þeir sigldu
darknesses great found they not before one night than they sailed
 upp á sker skipinu, svá at undan gekk undirhlutrinn;
up onto a-skerry with-the-ship so that from-under went the-lower-part
 var þá hrundit bátnum, ok fluttar af konur ok alt þat er
was then launched the-boat and carried off women and all that which
 laust var. Þar var hólmr lítill skamt frá þeim, ok færðu
loose was There was an-islet small short from them and brought
 þeir þangat föng sín, sem þeir komust við um nóttina, enn
they thither goods their as they could at in the-night but
 er lýsa tók, áttu þeir um at tala, hvar þeir váru komnir;
when to-light began had they about to talk where they were come

kendust þeir þá við, sem áðr höfðu farit milli landa, at
recognized they then at(-it) who before had traveled between lands that
 þeir váru komnir at Sunnmæri í Noregi. Þar var ein ey
they were come to Sunnmaeri in Norway There was one island
 skamt frá þeim til meginlands, er heitir Haramsey; þar
short from them toward (the)-mainland which is-called Haramsey there
 var bygð mikil í eyjunni; þar var ok lends manns ból.
was settlement great in the-island there was also of-a-landed man (the)-farm

XVIII · KÁRR THE OLD'S MOUND

Þorfinnr Kársson rescues the merchants, and Grettir stays with him, idle and silent. At the farmer Auðun's he sees fire over the mound of Kárr the Old, Þorfinnr's father, whose ghost has driven every other farmer off the island. Grettir breaks into the mound, wrestles the mound-dweller, and cuts off his head. He lays the treasure before Þorfinnr, whose face brightens at the short-sword, his family's heirloom; Þorfinnr takes the treasure and keeps the short-sword until Grettir has done something famous.

Þorfinnr hét lendr maðr, sá er þar átti bú í
Thorfinn was-called a-landed man that who there had a-farm in
 eyjunni; hann var son Kárs hins gamla, er þar hafði lengi
the-island he was son of-Kar the Old who there had long
 búit. Þorfinnr var höfðingi mikill; ok er alljóst var orðit,
lived Thorfinn was a-chieftain great and when full-light was become
 sá menn til ór eyjunni, at kaupmenn váru nauðulega
saw men to(-it) out-of the-island that (the)-merchants were in-distress
 staddir. Var þá sagt til Þorfinni; hann brá við skjótt,
placed Was then told to Thorfinn he started up quickly
 ok lét setja fram karfa stóran, er hann átti; reru sextán
and had launch forth a-galley large which he owned rowed sixteen

menn á borð. Þeir váru á karfanum nær þrjátigi manna;
men on (each)-side They were on the-galley nearly thirty men
 fóru til sem hvatast, ok burgu fé kaupmanna, enn
went to(-it) as quickest and saved (the)-goods of-(the)-merchants but
 hafskipit sökk niðr; týndist þar mikit góðs. Þorfinnr flutti
the-ocean-ship sank down was-lost there much of-goods Thorfinn brought
 alla menn heim af skipinu til sín; váru þeir þar viku, ok
all men home from the-ship to himself were they there a-week and
 þurkuðu varning sinn. Síðan fóru kaupmenn suðr í land,
dried wares their Then went (the)-merchants south in (the)-land
 ok eru þeir ór sögunni. Grettir var eftir hjá Þorfinni, ok
and are they out-of the-saga Grettir was behind with Thorfinn and
 lét lítit um sik; var fátalaðr lengstum. Þorfinnr lét gefa
made little of himself was taciturn mostly Thorfinn had give
 honum mat, ok gaf sér eigi mikit at honum. Grettir
him food and paid himself not much (beed)-to him Grettir
 var honum ófylgjusamr, ok vildi eigi ganga með honum
was to-him unhelpful and would not go with him
 úti á daginn; þat líkaði illa Þorfinni, enn nenti þó eigi at
out in the-day that pleased ill Thorfinn but bothered yet not to
 kviðja honum mat. Þorfinnr var hýbýlaprúðr ok gleðimaðr
grudge him food Thorfinn was house-proud and a-cheerful-man
 mikill; vildi hann ok, at aðrir menn væri glaðir. Grettir var
great wished he also that other men were merry Grettir was
 hús göngull ok fór á aðra bæi þar í eyinni. Auðun hét
a-house-gadder and went to other farms there in the-island Audun was-called
 maðr, er bjó þar, sem heitir á Vindheimi, þangat fór
a-man who dwelt there where is-called at Vindheim thither went
 Grettir daglega, ok gerði sér kært við hann; sat Grettir þar
Grettir daily and made himself dear with him sat Grettir there
 jafnan á dag fram. Þat var eitt kveld harðla síð, at Grettir
always in day forth It was one evening very late that Grettir

bjóst heim at ganga, at hann sá eld mikinn gjósa upp
made-ready home to walk that he saw fire great spurt up
 á nesi því, er í norðr var frá bæ Auðunar. Grettir
on (the)-ness that which in north was from (the)-farm of-Audun Grettir
 spurði eftir, hvat nýjungu þat væri. Auðun kvað honum
asked after what novelty that were Audun said to-him
 eigi á liggja þat at vita. “Þat myndi mælt”, sagði Grettir,
not on to-lie that to know That would (be)-said said Grettir
 “ef slíkt sæist á váru landi, at þar brynni af fé”.
if such were-seen in our land that there burned over treasure
 Bóndi svarar: “Sá einn mun fyrir þeim eldi ráða, at
(The)-farmer answers That-one alone will over that fire rule that
 eigi mun gagn í um at forvitnast”. “Þó vil ek vita”, segir
not will gain in about to be-inquisitive Yet will I know says
 Grettir. “Þar á nesinu stendr haugr”, segir Auðun, “stór
Grettir There on the-ness stands a-mound says Audun large
 ok sterklegr, enn þar var í lagðr Kárr hinn gamli, faðir
and strong-looking but there was in laid Kar the Old father
 Þorfinns; áttu þeir feðgar fyrst eitt bóndaból á eyinni,
of-Thorfinn had they father-and-son first one farm on the-island
 enn síðan Kárr dó, hefir hann svá aftur gengit, at hann
but since Kar died has he so back walked that he
 hefir eytt á burt öllum bændum þeim, er hér áttu jarðir,
has driven off away all farmers those who here owned lands
 svá at nú á Þorfinnr einn alla eyina, ok engum verðr
so that now owns Thorfinn alone all the-island and to-none becomes
 þeim mein at þessu, er Þorfinnr heldr hendi yfir”. Grettir
of-those harm from this whom Thorfinn holds hand over Grettir
 kvað hann vel hafa sagt — “mun ek hér koma á morgun,
said him well to-have told will I here come on (the)-morrow
 ok lát til reiðu graftól”. “Let ek þik”, segir Auðun, “at
and let at hand digging-tools Dissuade I you says Audun to

fást þar við, því at ek veit, at Þorfinnr mun fjandskap
meddle there with because that I know that Thorfinn will enmity
 á þik leggja". Grettir kveðst hætta mundu á þat. Nú
on you lay Grettir says-of-himself to-risk would on that Now
 leið af nóttin; kemr Grettir þar snemma; váru þá til reiðu
passed off the-night comes Grettir there early were then at hand
 graftólin. Ferr bóndi með honum til haugsins. Grettir
the-digging-tools Goes (the)-farmer with him to the-mound Grettir
 braut nú hauginn, ok var at mikilvirk; léttir eigi fyrr
broke now the-mound and was at(-it) hard-working stops not before
 enn hann kemr at viðum; var þá mjök áliðinn dagrinn;
than he comes to (the)-timbers was then much advanced the-day
 síðan reif hann upp viðuna. Auðun latti hann þá mjök
then tore he up the-timbers Audun dissuaded him then much
 at ganga í hauginn. Grettir bað hann geyma festar —
to go into the-mound Grettir bade him guard (the)-rope
 "enn ek mun forvitnast, hvat hér býr fyrir". Gekk Grettir
but I will inquire what here dwells under Went Grettir
 þá í hauginn; var þar myrkt ok þeygi þefgott. Leitast
then into the-mound was there dark and not sweet-smelling Feels
 hann nú fyrir, hversu hátað var; hann fann hestbein, ok
he now for how arranged was he found horse-bones and
 síðan drap hann sér við stólbrúði, ok fann at þar
then knocked he himself against a-chair-back and found that there
 sat maðr á stóli. Þar var fé mikit í gulli ok silfri
sat a-man on a-chair There was treasure great in gold and silver
 borit saman, ok einn kistill settr undir fætr honum, fullr
carried together and one chest set under (the)-feet to-him full
 af silfri. Grettir tók þetta fé alt, ok bar til festar,
of silver Grettir took this treasure all and carried to (the)-rope
 ok er hann gekk utar eftir hauginum, var gripit til hans
and when he went out along the-mound was gripped at him

fast; lét hann þá laust féit, enn réðst í mót þeim,
hard let he then loose the-treasure but turned in against that-one
 ok tókust þeir þá til heldr óþyrmilega. Gekk nú upp alt
and grappled they then at rather unsparingly Went now up all
 þat, er fyrir varð; sótti haugbúinn með kappi. Grettir
that which before came attacked the-mound-dweller with zeal Grettir
 fór undan lengi, ok þar kemr, at hann sér, at eigi mun
gave back long and there comes that he sees that not will
 duga at hlífast við. Sparir nú hvárrgi annan; færast þeir
avail to spare-himself at(-it) Spares now neither (the)-other move they
 þangat, sem hestbeinin váru; kiptust þeir þar um lengi, ok
thither where the-horse-bones were struggled they there about long and
 fóru ýmsir á kné, enn svá lauk, at haugbúinn fell á
went by-turns onto knee but so ended that the-mound-dweller fell on
 bak aftr, ok varð af því dynkr mikill; hljóp Auðun frá
back backward and became from that a-crash great ran Audun from
 festarhaldinu, ok ætlaði, at Grettir myndi dauðr. Grettir brá
the-rope-holding and thought that Grettir would-be dead Grettir drew
 nú sverðinu Jökulsnaut, ok hjó á hálsinn haugbúanum,
now the-sword Jökul's-gift and hewed on the-neck of-the-mound-dweller
 svá at af tók höfuðit; setti hann þat við þjó honum,
so that off took the-head set he it at (the)-buttock to-him
 gekk síðan til festar með féit, ok var Auðun allr á
went then to (the)-rope with the-treasure and was Audun all off
 brautu; varð hann þá at handstyrkja upp festina. Hann
away had he then to hand-climb up the-rope He
 hafði knýtt fénu í snæri, ok dró þat upp síðan. Grettir
had tied the-treasure in a-cord and drew it up then Grettir
 var orðinn stíðr mjök af sameign þeira Kárs; snýr
was become stiff much from dealings of-them Kar(-and-him) turns
 nú heim til bæjar Þorfinns með féit; þá var fólk
now home to (the)-farm of-Thorfinn with the-treasure then was (the)-people

alt undir borð komit. Þorfinnr hvesti á Gretti augun, er
all at table come Thorfinn sharpened on Grettir the-eyes when
 hann kom í drykkjustofuna, ok spurði, hvat hann ætti
he came into the-drinking-room and asked what he had
 svá nauðsynlegt at starfa, at hann geymdi eigi hátta með
so necessary to do that he kept not hours with
 öðrum mönnum. Grettir mælti: “Margt er smátt, þat er til
other men Grettir spoke Much is small that which to
 berr á síðkveldum”. Lagði hann þá fram á borðit fé
happens in late-evenings Laid he then forth on the-table treasure
 þat alt, er hann hafði tekit ór hauginum. Einn gripr
that all which he had taken out-of the-mound One treasure
 var sá, er Gretti stóðu mest augu til; þat var sax
was that which to-Grettir stood most eyes to that was a-short-sword
 eitt, svá gott vápn, at aldri kveðst hann sét hafa betra;
one so good weapon that never says-of-himself he seen to-have better
 þat lét hann síðast fram. Þorfinnr varð léttbrúnn við, er
that put he last forth Thorfinn became bright-browed at(-it) when
 hann sá saxit, því at þat var menjagripr þeira, ok
he saw the-short-sword because that it was heirloom their and

hafði aldri ór ætt gengit. “Hvaðan kom þér fé
had never out-of (the)-family gone Whence came to-you treasure
 þetta?” sagði Þorfinnr. Grettir kvað vísu:
this said Thorfinn Grettir spoke a-verse

Mér hefr-a brugðizt, báru
To-me has-not failed of-wave
 blikrýrandi — at skýru
gleam-diminisber that clearly
 brátt spyri bragnar þetta —
soon ask men this
 bauga ván í haugi.
of-rings hope in (the)-mound
 Þó sék hitt, at Hrotta
Yet see-I the-other that of-Hrotti
 hríð-Ullr muni síðan
storm-Ullr will afterward
 fár at Fáfnis mýri
few to of-Fafnir bog
 fullteitr þiníg leita.
full-glad thither seek

Þorfinnr svarar: “Eigi mun þér alt í augu blæða, ok
Thorfinn answers Not will to-you all in eyes bleed and
 engan hefir þessa fýst fyrr, at brjóta hauginn; enn fyrir
no-one has this desired before to break the-mound but for
 því, at ek veit, at þat fé er illa komit, er fólgt
that that I know that that treasure is ill come which hidden
 er í jörðu eða í hauga borit, þá mun ek eigi gefa þér
is in earth or into mounds carried then will I not give you

hér skuld fyrir, með því at þú færðir mér; eða hvar náðir

here fault for with that that you brought me or where got

þú saxinu góða?" Grettir svaraði ok kvað:

you the-short-sword good Grettir answered and spoke

Fekk í firna dökkum

Got in awfully dark

— fell draugr — tekit haugi

fell (the)-ghost taken mound

sax, þat's seggja vexir

short-sword that-which of-men increases

sár, hyrlestir báru.

wounds fire-damager of-waves

Ok skyldi mér aldri

And should from-me never

alms dýrr logi hjalma

of-elm dear flame of-helmets

ýtum hættr, ef ættak,

to-men dangerous if I-had

angrs hendi firr ganga.

of-grief hand far go

Þorfinnr svarar: "Vel er til mælt, enn sýna skaltu nökkut áðr, þat

Thorfinn answers Well is to spoken but show shall-you something before that

er frægð þykki í vera, enn ek gefi þér saxit, því at þat

which fame seems in to-be than I give you the-short-sword because that it

fekk ek aldri af feðr mínum meðan hann lifði". Grettir svarar:

got I never from father my while he lived Grettir answers

"Eigi má vita, hverjum at mestu gagni kemr, um þat er lýkr".

Not may know to-whom at most profit comes about that when ends

Þorfinnr tók við fénu, ok geymdi saxit hjá sæng sinni.

Thorfinn took with the-treasure and kept the-short-sword by bed his

Leið svá vetrinn fram til jóla, at eigi bar fleira til frásagna.

Passed so the-winter forth to Yule that not happened more to relating

XIX · THE BERSERKS AT HARAMSEY

Earl Eiríkr has outlawed the berserks on Þorfinnr's advice. At Yule Þorfinnr feasts at his mainland farm, leaving Grettir at home with the women and eight house-carls. Twelve berserks led by Þórir þömb and Ögmundur illi land to take revenge. Grettir feigns friendship, gets them drunk, and locks them in a storehouse. With Kárr's spear and short-sword he runs Þórir and Ögmundur through with one thrust and kills four more in the yard. Of the six who flee he kills four; the last two are found next day, dead of cold and wounds.

Þetta sumar hit næsta áðr bjóst Eiríkr jarl Hákonarson

This summer the next before made-ready Eirík (the)-earl Hákon's-son

ór landi vestr til Englands, á fund Knúts konungs hins

out-of (the)-land west to England to meeting of-Knut king the

ríka, mágs síns, enn hann setti eftir til ríkis

Mighty kinsman-by-marriage his but he set behind for (the)-realm

í Noregi Hákon son sinn, ok fekk hann í hendr Sveini

in Norway Hákon son his and gave him into (the)-hands of-Svein

jarli bróður sínum til forsjá ok ríkisstjórnar, því at

(the)-earl brother his for guardianship and government because that

Hákon var barn at aldri. Enn áðr Eiríkr jarl fór ór

Hákon was a-child in age But before Eirík (the)-earl went out-of

landi, stefndi hann til sín lendum mönnum ok ríkum

(the)-land summoned he to himself landed men and powerful

bóndum; töluðu þeir margt um lög ok landsskipan, því

farmers talked they much about laws and land-government because

at Eiríkr jarl var stjórnsamr; þótti mönnum þat mikill
that Eirik (the)-earl was a-strong-ruler seemed to-men that a-great
 ósiðr í landinu, at úthlaupsmenn eða berserkir skorðu
bad-custom in the-land that raiders or berserks challenged
 á hólme göfga menn til fjár eða kvenna; skyldu hvárir
to (the)-holm noble men for wealth or women should whichever
 ógildir falla, sem fellu fyrir öðrum; fengu margir
without-compensation fall who fell before (the)-other got many
 af þessu smán ok fjármissu, enn sumir líftjón með öllu,
from this disgrace and loss-of-wealth but some loss-of-life with all
 ok því tók Eiríkr jarl af allar hólmgöngur í Noregi;
and therefore took Eirik (the)-earl off all holm-goings in Norway
 hann gerði ok útлага alla ránsmenn ok berserki, þá sem
he made also outlaws all robbers and berserks those who
 með óspektir fóru. Var í þessarri skipan ok ráðagerð með
with disturbances went Was in this arrangement and planning with
 jarli Þorfinnr Kársson ór Haramsey, því at hann var
(the)-earl Thorfinn Kar's-son out-of Haramsey because that he was
 vitr maðr ok kær vinr jarlanna. Tveir bræðr eru nefndir
a-wise man and dear friend of-the-earls Two brothers are named
 til, at verstir váru; hét annarr Þórir þömb, enn annarr
to(-it) who worst were was-called one Thorir Paunch but (the)-other
 Ögmundr illi; þeir váru háleyskir at ætt, meiri ok
Ogmund (the)-Evil they were of-Halogaland in family greater and
 sterkari enn aðrir menn; þeir gengu berserksgang, ok eirðu
stronger than other men they went berserk-going and spared
 engu, þegar þeir reiddust; þeir tóku á burt konur manna,
nothing when they became-angry they took off away (the)-wives of-men
 ok höfðu við hönd sér viku eða hálfan mánuð, ok
and had at hand with-themselves a-week or half a-month and
 færðu síðan aftur þeim sem áttu; þeir ræntu, hvar sem
brought afterward back to-those who owned they robbed wherever as

þeir kvámu, eða gerðu aðrar óspektir. Eiríkr jarl gerði þá
they came or did other disturbances Eirik (the)-earl made them
 útlæga fyrir endilangan Noreg; gekk Þorfinnr mest manna
outlaws throughout the-length-of Norway went Thorfinn most of-men
 fyrir sekt þeira; þóttust þeir honum eiga fullan
in-front-of (the)-outlawry their thought-themselves they him to-owe full
 fjandskap at gjalda. Síðan fór jarl ór landi, sem segir
enmity to repay Then went (the)-earl out-of (the)-land as says
 í sögu hans, enn Sveinn jarl hafði yfirvald í Noregi ok
in saga his but Svein (the)-earl had authority in Norway and
 ríki. Þorfinnr fór heim til bús síns, ok sat heima mjök
(the)-realm Thorfinn went home to farm his and sat at-home nearly
 til jóla, sem fyrr er sagt. Í móti jólum býst Þorfinnr
until Yule as before is told In toward Yule makes-ready Thorfinn
 at fara til bús síns, þangat sem heitir í Slygsfirði; þat
to go to farm his thither where is-called in Slygsfjord that
 er á meginlandi. Hafði hann boðit þangat mörgum vinum
is on (the)-mainland Had he invited thither many friends
 sínum. Húsfreyja Þorfinns mátti eigi fara með bónda,
his (The)-housewife of-Thorfinn could not go with (the)-farmer
 því at dóttir þeira frumvaxta lá sjúk, ok váru þær báðar
because that daughter their full-grown lay sick and were they both
 heima. Grettir var heima ok húskarlar átta. Þorfinnr fór
at-home Grettir was at-home and house-carls eight Thorfinn went
 nú við þrjá tigi frelsingja til jólaveizlunnar; var þar hinn
now with three tens of-freedmen to the-Yule-feast was there the
 mesti mannfagnaðr ok gleði. Nú kemr atfangadagr jóla; þá
greatest merrymaking and joy Now comes (the)-eve of-Yule then
 var veður bjart ok kyrt. Grettir var lengstum úti um
was (the)-weather bright and still Grettir was mostly out during
 daginn, ok sá, at skip fóru suðr ok norðr með landi,
the-day and saw that ships went south and north along land

því at hverr sótti til annars, þangat sem samdrykkjan var
because that each sought to (the)-other thither where the-drinking-feast was
 sett. Bóndadóttur var þá batnat, svá at hon gekk með
set (The)-farmer's-daughter was then improved so that she walked with
 móður sinni. Leið nú á daginn; þá sá Grettir, at skip
mother her Passed now on the-day then saw Grettir that a-ship
 reru at eyinni; þat var eigi mikit, ok skarar skjöldum
rowed toward the-island it was not great and lined with-shields
 milli stafna; skipit var steint fyrir ofan sjá. Þeir reru
between (the)-stems the-ship was painted on above (the)-sea They rowed
 knálega ok stefndu at naustum Þorfinns; ok er skipit
vigorously and headed to (the)-boat-sheds of-Thorfinn and when the-ship
 kendi niðr, hlupu þeir fyrir borð, sem á váru. Grettir
touched down leaped they over board those-who on were Grettir
 hafði tölu á mönnum þessum, at þeir váru tólf saman.
had count on men these that they were twelve together
 Eigi þótti honum þeir friðlega láta; þeir tóku upp skip sitt
Not seemed to-him they peacefully behave they took up ship their
 ok báru af sjá; eftir þat hlupu þeir at naustinu; þar
and carried from (the)-sea after that ran they to the-boat-shed there
 stóð inni karfinn Þorfinns sá hinn stóri; hann settu aldri
stood inside the-galley of-Thorfinn that the great it launched never
 færi menn á sjá enn þrír tígir, enn þeir tólf ryktu honum
fewer men to sea than three tens but they twelve pushed it
 þegar fram á fjörugrjót; síðan tóku þeir upp sitt skip ok
at-once forth onto the-beach-stones then took they up their ship and
 báru inn í naustit. Þá þóttist Grettir sjá, at þeir
carried in into the-boat-shed Then thought-himself Grettir to-see that they
 myndi ætla at bjóða sér sjálfir beina; hann gekk þá
would intend to offer to-themselves themselves hospitality he went then
 til móts við þá ok fagnaði þeim vel, ok spýrr, hverir þeir
to meeting with them and welcomed them well and asks who they

væri, eða hversu formaðr þeira hét. Sá svarar skjótt,
were or how leader their was-called That-one answers quickly
 er til var mælt, ok kveðst Þórir heita, ok kallaðr
who to was spoken and says-of-himself Thorir to-be-called and called
 þömb, ok bróðir hans Ögmundur ok aðrir kompánar þeira.
Paunch and brother his Ogmund and other comrades their
 “Vænti ek”, sagði Þórir, “at Þorfinnr húsbóndi yðvarr hafi
Expect I said Thorir that Thorfinn master your have
 heyrt vár getit; eða hvárt er hann heima?” Grettir svarar:
heard us mentioned or whether is he at-home Grettir answers
 “Gæfumenn miklir munu þér vera, því at þér hafið hér
Men-of-luck great will you be because that you have here
 góða atkvámu, ef þeir eru mennirnir, sem ek ætla; bóndi
good arrival if they are the-men whom I think (the)-farmer
 er heiman farinn með alla heimamenn, þá sem frjálsir eru,
is from-home gone with all household-men those who free are
 ok ætlar eigi heim fyrr enn á bak jólnum; húsfreyja
and intends not home before than on back-of the-Yule (the)-housewife
 er heima ok bóndadóttir, ok ef ek þættumst nökkurn
is at-home and (the)-farmer's-daughter and if I thought-myself some
 mótgang eiga at gjalda, þá vilda ek þann veg helzt
grudge to-have to repay then would-wish I that way most
 at koma, því at hér er hvatvetna þat, er hafa þarf,
to come because that here is everything that which to-have needs
 bæði öl ok annarr fagnaðr”. Þórir þagði meðan Grettir lét
both ale and other entertainment Thorir was-silent while Grettir let
 ganga töluna; síðan mælti hann til Ögmundar: “Fór nökkut
go the-speech then spoke he to Ogmund Went somewhat
 fjarri því, sem ek gat til?” sagði hann, “ok væri mér þat
far-from that which I guessed at said he and were to-me that
 í hug, at hefna Þorfinni, er hann hefir gert oss útлага; er
in mind to avenge on-Thorfinn that he has made us outlaws is

þessi maðr ok góðr af tíðendum; þurfum vér eigi at togast
this man also good of tidings need we not to tug
 eftir orðum við hann". "Orða sinna á hverr ráð", sagði
after words with him Of-words his-own has each control said
 Grettir, "ok gera skal ek yðr slíkan forbeina, sem ek má,
Grettir and do shall I you such hospitality as I may
 ok gangit heim með mér". Þeir báðu hann hafa þökk fyrir,
and walk home with me They bade him have thanks for(-it)
 kváðust hans boði hlíta mundu; enn er þeir kvámu
said-of-themselves his offer to-accept would but when they came
 heim at bænum, tók Grettir í hönd Þóri ok leiddi hann
home to the-farm took Grettir in (the)-hand of-Thorir and led him
 til stofu; Grettir var þá málreifr mjök. Húsfreyja var
to (the)-sitting-room Grettir was then talkative much (The)-housewife was
 í stofunni, ok lét tjalda hana ok búast um vel; enn er
in the-sitting-room and had hang it and prepare about well but when
 hon heyrði til Grettis, nam hon staðar á gólfinu ok spyrr,
she heard to Grettir took she a-stand on the-floor and asks
 hverjum Grettir fagnaði svá alvarlega. Hann svarar: "Þat er
whom Grettir welcomed so earnestly He answers It is
 ráð, húsfreyja, at taka vel við gestum; hér er kominn
advisable housewife to take well with guests here is come
 Þórir bóndi þömb ok þeir tólf saman, ok ætla hér at sitja
Thorir farmer Paunch and they twelve together and intend here to sit
 um jólin; er þat allgott, því at vér áttum heldr fáment
over the-Yule is that very-good because that we had rather few-people
 áðr". Hon svarar: "Eigi tel ek þá með bóndum eða
before She answers Not count I them among farmers or
 góðum mönnum, því at þeir eru hinir verstu ránsmenn
good men because that they are the worst robbers
 ok illvirkjar; vilda ek gjarna hafa gefit til mikinn hlut
and evildoers would-wish I gladly to-have given for(-it) great part

eigu minnar, at þeir hefði hér eigi komit í þetta sinn;
of-property my that they had here not come at this time
 launar þú ok illa Þorfinni fyrir þat, er hann tók þik af
repay you also ill Thorfinn for that that he took you from
 skipbroti félausan, ok hefir haldit þik í vetr sem frjálsan
shipwreck penniless and has kept you in winter as a-free
 mann". Grettir svarar: "Betra er nú fyrst at taka vásklæði
man Grettir answers Better is now first to take wet-clothes
 af gestunum enn at ámæla mér; þess mun lengi kostur".
off the-guests than to blame me of-that will long (be)-occasion
 Þórir mælti þá: "Ver eigi stygg, húsfreyja; engi missir skal
Thorir spoke then Be not surly housewife no loss shall
 þér i verða, þó at bóndi sé eigi heima, því at
to-you in be though that (the)-farmer be not at-home because that
 fá skal mann í stað hans, ok svá dóttur þinni ok öllum
get shall a-man in place his and so for-daughter your and all
 heimakonum". "Slíkt er karlmannlega talat", sagði Grettir;
household-women Such is manfully spoken said Grettir
 "mega þær þá eigi yfir sinn hlut sjá". Nú stukku fram
can they then not over their-own lot see Now leaped forth
 konur allar, ok sló á þær óhug miklum ok gráti. Grettir
women all and struck on them dread great and weeping Grettir
 mælti til berserkjanna: "Selit mér þat í hendr, sem þér vilit
spoke to the-berserks Hand me that into hands which you wish
 af leggja, vápn ok vásklæði, því at eigi mun oss fólkit
off to-lay weapons and wet-clothes because that not will to-us the-folk
 stýrilátt meðan þat er óhrætt". Þórir kvaðst eigi hirða,
manageable while it is unfrightened Thorir said-of-himself not to-care
 hvat konur nögguðu, — "enn mikinn mun eigu vér at gera
what women whimpered but great difference have we to make
 þín eða annarra heimamanna; lízt mér sem vér munum þik
of-you or of-other household-men seems to-me as we will you

hafa at trúnaðarmanni". "Sjái þér fyrir því", sagði Grettir,
have as confidant See you to that said Grettir
 "enn eigi geri ek mér alla menn jafna". Síðan lögðu þeir
but not make I to-myself all men equal Then laid they
 af flestöll vápn. Eftir þat mælti Grettir: "Ráðlegt þykkir
off nearly-all weapons After that spoke Grettir Advisable seems
 mér, at þér farit til borðs ok drekkit nökkut, því at yðr
to-me that you go to table and drink something because that you
 mun þyrsta af róðrinum". Þeir kváðust þess albúnir,
will thirst from the-rowing They said-of-themselves for-that all-ready
 enn sögðu sér ókunnigt til kjallara. Grettir spyrr, hvárt
but said to-themselves unknown to (the)-cellar Grettir asks whether
 þeir vildi hlíta hans forsjá ok umgangi. Berserkirnir létust
they wished to-accept his guidance and service The-berserks professed
 þat gjarna vilja. Grettir ferr til ok sækir öl ok gefr þeim
that gladly to-wish Grettir goes to(-it) and fetches ale and gives them
 at drekka. Þeir váru mjök móðir ok sulgu stórum; lætr
to drink They were very tired and gulped greatly lets
 hann óspart ölit, þat er áfengast var til, ok gekk
he unsparingly the-ale that which strongest was to-hand and went
 því lengi; hann segir þeim ok margar kátlegar sögur. Varð
that long he tells them also many amusing stories Became
 af þessu öllu saman háreysti til þeira at heyra. Eigi fýsti
from this all together noise from them to hear Not desired
 heimamenn til þeira at koma. Þá mælti Þórir: "Eigi hefi
household-men to them to come Then spoke Thorir Not have
 ek þann mann fundit ókunnan, er svá vel vildi við oss
I that man found unknown who so well wished with us
 gera sem þessi maðr, eða hver laun viltu af oss félögum
to-do as this man or what reward wish-you from us comrades
 þiggja fyrir þína þjónustu?" Grettir svarar: "Eigi ætla ek hér
to-accept for your service Grettir answers Not intend I here

til launa fyrir at svá gervu, enn ef vér erum þvílíkir vinir,
to rewards for at so done but if we are such friends
 þá er þér farit á burt, sem nú horfist á, þá mun ek
then when you go off away as now looks on then will I
 ráðast til lags með yðr, enn þó at ek mega minna enn
join to fellowship with you but though that I can less than
 einhverr yðarr, þá mun ek eigi letja stórræðanna". Þeir
any-one of-you then will I not hold-back from-great-deeds They
 urðu mjök glaðir við ok vildu þegar binda félag sitt með
became very glad at(-it) and wished at-once to-bind fellowship their with
 fastmælum. Grettir kvað þat eigi skyldu — "því at þat
firm-pledges Grettir said that not should because that it
 er satt, sem mælt er, at 'öl er annarr maðr'; ok skal eigi
is true as said is that ale is another man and shall not
 bráðabug at þessu gera, frammar enn áðr hefi ek sagt; erum
haste at this make further than before have I said are
 vér litlir skapdeildarmenn hváirtveggja". Þeir sögðust
we little temperate-men both-sides They said-of-themselves
 eigi ætla þessu at bregða. Leið nú á kveldit, svá at
not to-intend from-this to turn-back Passed now on the-evening so that
 mjök tók at myrkva; þá sér Grettir, at þeir gerast mæddir
much began to darken then sees Grettir that they become tired
 nökkut af dryknum. Hann mælti þá: "Þykkir yðr eigi
somewhat from the-drink He spoke then Seems to-you not
 mál at fara til svefnis?" Þórir kvað svá vera skyldu, — "ok
time to go to sleep Thorir said so to-be should and
 skal efna þat, er ek hét húsfreyju". Grettir gekk fram
shall fulfill that which I promised (the)-housewife Grettir went forth
 ok mælti hátt: "Gangit til sængr, konur", segir hann; "svá
and spoke aloud Go to bed women says he so
 vill Þórir bóndi skipa". Þær báðu honum ills á móti; var
will Thorir farmer order They wished him ill in return was

hinn mesti úlfabytr til þeira at heyra. Berserkirnir kvámu
the greatest wolf-howl from them to hear The-berserks came
 fram í þessu. Grettir mælti: “Göngum út, ok mun ek sýna
forth in this Grettir spoke Let-us-go out and will I show
 yðr fatabúr Þorfinns”. Þeir létu þat leiðast. Kvámu þeir
you (the)-clothes-store of-Thorfinn They let that be-led Came they
 at útibúri ákaflega stóru; þar váru á útidyr ok sterkr
to an-outhouse exceedingly large there were on outer-doors and a-strong
 láss fyrir; þat var allsterkt hús. Þar var hjá salerni mikit
lock on it was a-very-strong house There was near a-privy great
 ok sterkt, ok eitt skjaldþili milli húsanna; húsinn stóðu
and strong and one board-partition between the-houses the-houses stood
 hátt, ok var nökkut rið upp at ganga. Berserkirnir gerðust
high and was some steps up to go The-berserks became
 nú umfangsmiklir ok skotruðu Gretti; hann fór undan í
now boisterous and pushed at-Grettir he went back in
 flæmingi; ok er þeim var minst ván, hljóp hann út ór
retreat and when to-them was least expected leaped he out out-of
 húsinu ok greip í hespuna, ok rekr aftr húsit ok setr lás
the-house and seized on the-hasp and slams shut the-house and sets a-lock
 fyrir. Þórir ok hans félagar ætluðu fyrst at svarfast myndi
on Thorir and his comrades thought first that slammed would
 aftr hafa hurðin, ok gáfu sik ekki at; þeir höfðu
shut have the-door and gave themselves no (beed)-to-(it) they had
 ljós hjá sér, því at Grettir hafði sýnt þeim marga
light by themselves because that Grettir had shown them many
 gripi, þá er Þorfinnr átti; litu þeir þar á um stund.
treasures those which Thorfinn owned looked they there at for a-while
 Grettir flýtir ferðinni heim at bænum; ok þegar hann kemr
Grettir hurries the-journey home to the-farm and as-soon-as he comes
 í dyrnar, kallar hann hátt ok spyrr, hvar húsfreyja væri.
into the-doors calls he loudly and asks where (the)-housewife were

Hon þagði, því at hon þorði eigi at svara. Hann mælti:
She was-silent because that she dared not to answer He spoke
 “Hér er næsta veiðarefni; eða eru nokkur vápn, þau sem
Here is next-to-hand game or are any weapons those which
 neyt eru?” Hon svarar: “Eru vápnin, enn eigi veit ek, til
usable are She answers Are the-weapons but not know I for
 hvers þér koma”. “Tölum síðar um þat”, segir hann; “dugi
what to-you (they)-come Let-us-talk later about that says he help
 nú hvern sem má; eigi mun síðar vænna”. Húsfreyja mælti:
now each as may not will later more-hopeful (The)-housewife spoke
 “Nú væri guð í garði, ef nokkut mætti um bættast várn
Now were God in (the)-yard if something might about be-improved our
 hag; yfir sæng Þorfinns hangir krókaspjótit stóra, er
condition Over bed of-Thorfinn hangs the-hook-spear great which
 átt hefir Kárr hinn gamli; þar er ok hjálmr ok brynja
owned has Kar the Old there is also helmet and mail-coat
 ok saxit góða, ok munu eigi bila vápnin, ef þér
and the-short-sword good and will not fail the-weapons if to-you
 dugir hugrinn”. Grettir þrífir hjálminn ok spjótit, enn girðir
avails the-courage Grettir seizes the-helmet and the-spear but girds
 sik með saxinu ok gengr út skjótt. Húsfreyja kallar á
himself with the-short-sword and goes out quickly (The)-housewife calls on
 húskarla ok bað þá fylgja svá góðum dreng. Þeir hlupu til
house-carls and bade them follow so good a-fellow They ran to
 vápna fjórir, enn aðrir fjórir þorðu hvergi nærri at koma.
weapons four but (the)-other four dared nowhere near to come
 Nú er at segja frá berserkjunum, at þeim þótti Gretti
Now is to tell of the-berserks that to-them seemed of-Gretti
 dveljast aftrkváman. Grunar þá nú, hvárt eigi muni vera
to-be-delayed the-return Suspects them now whether not will be
 svik í; hlaupa þeir á hurðina, ok finna at hon er
treachery in(-it) run they at the-door and find that it is

læst; treysta nú á timbrveggina, svá at brakar í hverju
locked push now on the-timber-walls so that creaks in every
 tré. Hér kemr um síðir, at þeir fá brotit skjaldþilit, ok
beam Here comes at last that they get broken the-board-partition and
 kvámust svá fram í gangrúmit ok þar út á riðit; kemr
got so forth into the-passage and there out onto the-steps comes
 á þá berserksgangr ok grenja sem hundar. Í því bili
on them berserk-fury and howl like dogs In that moment
 kom Grettir at; hann tvíhenti spjótit á Þóri miðjum,
came Grettir up he thrust-two-handed the-spear into Thorir middle
 er hann ætlaði ofan fyrir riðit, svá þegar gekk í gegnum
as he intended down over the-steps so at-once went in through
 hann. Fjöðrin var bæði löng ok breið á spjótinu. Ögmundr
him The-blade was both long and broad on the-spear Ogmund
 illi gekk nær Þóri, ok hratt honum á lagit, svá alt
(the)-Evil went close to-Thorir and pushed him onto the-thrust so all
 gekk upp at króknum; stóð þá spjótit út um herðarnar
went up to the-hook stood then the-spear out through the-shoulders
 á Þóri, ok svá framan í brjóstit á Ögmundi; steptust
of Thorir and so in-front into the-breast of Ogmund fell
 þeir báðir dauðir af spjótinu. Þá hljóp þar hverr út af
they both dead off the-spear Then leaped there each out off
 riðinu sem kominn var. Grettir sótti at sérhverjum, gerði
the-steps as come was Grettir attacked at each did
 ýmist, at hann hjó með saxinu eða lagði með spjótinu,
by-turns that he hewed with the-short-sword or thrust with the-spear
 enn þeir vörðust með trjám, er lágu á vellinum,
but they defended-themselves with pieces-of-wood which lay on the-field
 ok öllu því er þeir fengu til; var þat hin mesta
and all that which they got to(-hand) was that the greatest
 mannhætta, at fást við þá, fyrir afsl sakir, þó at þeir
danger-to-men to deal with them for strength's sake though that they

hefði eigi vápn. Grettir drap þá tvá af Háleygjum þar
had not weapons Grettir killed then two of (the)-Halogalanders there
 í túninu. Húskarlar fjórir kvámu þá at; höfðu þeir eigi
in the-homefield House-carls four came then up had they not
 ásáttir orðit, hver vápn at hverr skyldi hafa; sóttu þá
agreed become which weapon that each should have attacked then
 at, þegar berserkirnir hörfuðu undan, enn er þeir snerust
at when the-berserks gave-way back but when they turned
 á mót, hrukku húskarlar upp undir húsin. Sex fellu
on against fled (the)-house-carls up under the-houses Six fell
 þar víkingar, ok varð Grettir banamaðr allra. Síðan leituðu
there vikings and became Grettir slayer of-all Then sought
 aðrir sex undan; bárust þeir þá ofan at naustinu ok
(the)-other six away were-borne they then down to the-boat-shed and
 inn í naustit; vörðust þeir þá með árum. Fekk
in into the-boat-shed defended-themselves they then with oars Got
 Grettir þá stór högg af þeim, svá at við meiðingum var
Grettir then great blows from them so that near injuries was
 búit. Húskarlar fóru þá heim ok sögðu mikit af framgöngu
about House-carls went then home and told much of prowess
 sinni. Húsfreyja bað þá vita, hvat af Gretti yrði, enn þat
their (The)-housewife bade them learn what of Grettir became but that
 fekst eigi af þeim. Tvá drap Grettir í naustinu, enn fjórir
was-got not from them Two killed Grettir in the-boat-shed but four
 kvámust út hjá honum. Fóru þá sinn veg hvárir tveir;
got out past him Went then his-own way each two
 hann elti þá sem nær honum váru. Gerði nú myrkt af
he chased those who nearer him were Became now dark with
 nátt. Þeir hlupu í kornhlöðu nökkura á þeim bæ, sem fyrr
night They ran into a-corn-barn some on that farm which before
 var nefndr, er á Vindheimi hét. Þar áttust þeir lengi
was named which at Vindheim was-called There fought they long

við, enn um síðir drap Grettir báða; var hann þá ákaflega
together but at last killed Grettir both was he then exceedingly
 móðr ok stirðr, enn mikit var af nótt; veðr gerði kalt
weary and stiff but much was of night (The)-weather became cold
 mjök með fjúki. Nenti hann þá eigi at leita vikinganna
much with snow-drift Bothered he then not to seek the-vikings
 þeira tveggja, er þá váru eftir. Gekk hann nú heim til
those two who then were remaining Went he now home to
 bæjar. Húsfreyja lét kveikja ljós í hinum efstum loftum
(the)-farm (The)-housewife had kindle lights in the uppermost lofts
 við gluggana, at hann hefði þat til leiðarvísis. Var ok svá,
by the-windows that he had that for guide Was also so
 at hann fat af því heim, er hann sá ljósit. Enn er
that he found-his-way by that home when he saw the-light But when
 hann kom í dyrnar, gekk húsfreyja at honum ok bað
he came into the-doors went (the)-housewife toward him and bade
 hann vera velkominn — “ok hefir þú”, segir hon, “mikla
him be welcome and have you says she great
 frægð unnit, ok leyst mik ok hjú mín frá þeiri skemð,
fame won and freed me and household my from that disgrace
 er vér hefðim aldri bót fengit, nema þú hefðir borgit
which we had never remedy gotten unless you had saved
 oss”. Grettir svarar: “Ek þykkjumst nú mjök hinn sami ok
us Grettir answers I think-myself now much the same as
 í kveld, er þér töluðuð hraklegast við mik”. Húsfreyja
in (the)-evening when you spoke most-disgracefully to me (The)-housewife
 mælti svá: “Vér vissum eigi, at þú værir slíkr afreksmaðr,
spoke so We knew not that you were such a-man-of-great-deeds
 sem vér höfum nú reynt; skal þér alt sjálfbóðit innanbæjar,
as we have now tried shall to-you all self-offered within-the-house
 þat sem ek hefi til at veita, enn þér sæmd í at þiggja, enn
that which I have for to give but to-you honor in to accept but

mik varir, at Þorfinnr launi þér þó betr, er hann kemr
me expects that Thorfinn will-reward you yet better when he comes
 heim". Grettir svarar: "Lítills mun nú við þurfa fyrst um
home Grettir answers Little will now for need first about
 launin, enn þiggja mun ek boð þitt, þar til er bóndi
the-reward but accept will I invitation your there until that (the)-farmer
 kemr heim; enn þess væntir mik, at þér megið sofa í
comes home but this expects me that you may sleep in
 náðum fyrir berserkjunum". Grettir drakk litit um kveldit,
peace from the-berserks Grettir drank little in the-evening
 ok lá með vápnum sínum um nóttina. Um morguninn,
and lay with weapons his during the-night In the-morning
 þegar lýsa tók, var mönnum saman stefnt um eyna;
as-soon-as to-dawn began were men together summoned over the-island
 var þá farit at leita berserkjanna, þeira sem undan höfðu
was then gone to search-for the-berserks those who away had
 komizt um kveldit. Þeir fundust at áliðnum degi undir
got in the-evening They were-found at late day under
 einum steini, ok váru þá dauðir af kulda ok sárum. Síðan
one stone and were then dead from cold and wounds Then
 váru þeir færðir í flæðarurð eina, ok dysjaðir þar. Eftir
were they brought into a-tidal-scrree one and cairned there After
 þat fóru þeir heim, ok þóttust eyjarskeggjar í frið þegnir.
that went they home and thought islanders into peace received
 Grettir kvað vísu þessa, er hann kom heim til húsfreyju:
Grettir spoke verse this when he came home to (the)-housewife

Tolf höfum gröf hjá gjalfri

Twelve have-we (the)-grave by (the)-sea

gunnelds búit runnum;

of-battle-fire made for-trees

einn namk öllum vinna

alone I-took for-all to-work

ótrauðr hraðan dauða.

undaunted swift death

Hver munu gild of görvask,

What will worthy — be-done

gulls vel borin selja,

of-gold well born willow

verk þau's einn fær orkat

works those-which one can accomplish

ítr, ef slík 'ro lítil?

splendid if such are small

Húsfreyja mælti: “Víst ertu fárra manna líki, þeira sem nú

(The)-housewife spoke Surely are-you of-few men like of-those who now

eru uppi”. Setr hún hann í öndugi, ok gerði til hans

are living Sets she him in (the)-high-seat and did toward him

alla hluti vel. Leið nú svá fram, unz Þorfinns var heim ván.

all things well Passed now so forth until of-Thorfinn was home expected

XX • ÞORFINNR'S THANKS

Þorfinnr returns fearing the worst, but his wife tells him how Grettir saved the household. Þorfinnr thanks him warmly and promises him help whenever he needs it, and Grettir winters with him and becomes famous throughout Norway. In spring Þorfinnr gives him the short-sword from Kárr's mound. Grettir goes north to Vágar and winters with Þorkell of Sálfti in Hálogaland.

Eftir jólin býst Þorfinnr til heimferðar, ok leysti marga
After the-Yule makes-ready Thorfinn for home-going and sent-off many
 með góðum gjöfum burt, þá er hann hafði til sín boðit.
with good gifts away those whom he had to himself invited
 Síðan ferr hann með sínu föruneyti, þar til er hann kemr
Then goes he with his company there until that he comes
 mjök at naustum sínum. Þeir sjá, at skip lá á sandinum,
near to boat-beds his They see that a-ship lay on the-sand
 ok bera brátt kenst á, at þar var karfi hans hinn stóri.
and bear quickly recognition on that there was galley his the great
 Ekki hafði Þorfinnr þá spurt til víkinganna. Hann bað þá
Not had Thorfinn then learned of the-vikings He bade them
 flýta sér at landi; — “því at mik grunar”, sagði hann,
hurry themselves to land because that me suspects said he
 “at hér hafi eigi vinir um vælt”. Þorfinnr gekk fyrst á
that here have not friends about dealt Thorfinn went first onto
 land sinna manna, ok þegar at naustinu. Hann sá þar skip
land of-his men and at-once to the-boat-bed He saw there a-ship
 standa, ok kendi, at þat var skip berserkja. Hann mælti
stand and recognized that that was (the)-ship of-(the)-berserks He spoke
 þá til sinna manna: “Þat grunar mik”, sagði hann, “at þeir
then to his men That suspects me said he that those
 atburðir muni hér orðit hafa, at ek vilda gefa til
events will here happened have that I would-wish to-give for(-it)
 eyna ok alt þat sem hér stendr saman, at eigi hefði
the-island and all that which here stands together that not had
 orðit”. Þeir spurðu, hví svá væri. Hann mælti þá: “Hér hafa
happened They asked why so were He spoke then Here have
 komit þeir víkingar, er ek veit versta í öllum Noregi, sem
come those vikings whom I know worst in all Norway who
 er Þórir þömb ok Ögmundur illi. Munu þeir hafa eigi
is Thorir Paunch and Ogmund (the)-Evil Will they have not

búit heppilega fyrir oss, enn ek treysti eigi vel Íslendingi”.
prepared luckily for us but I trust not well (the)-Icelander
 Talaði hann hér til margt við féлага sína. Grettir var
Talked he here about much with comrades his Grettir was
 heima, ok olli hann því, er seint var til strandar gengit.
at-home and caused he it that late was to (the)-shore walked
 Kvaðst hann eigi hirða, þótt bónda blikraði nökkut til,
Said-of-himself he not to-care though (the)-farmer flinched somewhat at
 hvat fyrir væri; enn er húsfreyja bað hann leyfis, sagði
what before were but when (the)-housewife asked him (for)-leave said
 hann, at hon skyldi ráða ferðum sínum, enn hvergi lézt
he that she should decide journeys her but nowhere professed
 hann fara mundu. Hon gekk skjótt til fundar við Þorfinn,
he to-go would She went quickly to meeting with Thorfinn
 ok fagnaði honum vel. Hann varð glaðr við þat, ok mælti:
and welcomed him well He became glad at that and spoke
 “Guð hafi lof fyrir, er ek sé þik heila ok káta, ok svá
God have praise for(-it) that I see you whole and cheerful and so
 dóttur mína; eða hversu hefir ykkir til gengit, síðan er ek
daughter my or how has to-you-two to gone since that I
 fór heiman?” Hon svarar: “Vel hefir ór ráðizt, enn lá oss
went from-home She answers Well has out turned but lay to-us
 við svá mikilli svívirðingu, at vér hefðim aldri bót fengit,
near such great disgrace that we had never remedy gotten
 ef eigi hefði vetrtaksmaðr þinn hjálpat oss”. Þorfinnr mælti
if not had winter-guest your helped us Thorfinn spoke
 þá: “Nú skal setjast niðr, enn þú seg frá tíðendum”. Hon
then Now shall sit down and you tell of tidings She
 segir þá greinilega alla atburði, sem þar höfðu gerzt ok
tells then clearly all events which there had happened and
 lofaði mjök hreysti Grettis ok framgöngu. Þorfinnr þagði á
praised much (the)-valor of-Grettir and prowess Thorfinn was-silent in

meðan; ok er hon hafði úti söguna, svarar hann svá: “Satt
while and when she had out the-story answers he so True
 er þat er mælt er: ‘lengi skal manninn reyna’, eða hvar er
is that which said is long shall the-man test or where is
 Grettir nú?” Húsfreyja sagði: “Hann er heima í stofu”.

Grettir now (The)-housewife said He is at-home in (the)-sitting-room
 Síðan gengu þau heim á bæinn. Þorfinnr gekk til Grettis,
Then went they home to the-farm Thorfinn went to Grettir
 ok hvarf til hans, ok þakkar honum með mörgum fögrum
and turned to him and thanks him with many fair
 orðum þann drengskap, er hann hafði honum sýnt — “ok
words that valor which he had him shown and
 þat mun ek til þín mæla”, sagði Þorfinnr, “sem fáir munu
that will I to you say said Thorfinn which few will
 mæla til vinar síns, at ek vilda, at þú þyrftir manna
say to friend their that I would-wish that you needed men
 við, ok vissir þú þá, hvárt ek gengi þér fyrir nökkurn
at(-it) and would-know you then whether I went for-you before any
 mann, eða eigi, enn aldri fæ ek launat þér þinn velgerning,
man or not but never get I repaid you your good-deed
 ef þik stendr engi nauðr; enn vist þín skal standa hér
if you stands no need but lodging your shall stand here
 hjá mér, nær sem þú þarft at þiggja, ok þú skalt framast
with me whenever as you need to accept and you shall foremost
 haldinn af mínum sveinum”. Grettir bað hann hafa mikla
beld by my lads Grettir bade him have great
 þökk fyrir — “ok munda ek þegit hafa, þó at þú hefðir
thanks for(-it) and would I accepted have though that you had
 fyrr boðit”. Nú sat Grettir þar um vetrinn, ok var í hinum
before offered Now sat Grettir there over the-winter and was in the
 mestum kærleikum við Þorfinn; varð hann nú ok frægr af
greatest affection with Thorfinn became he now also famous for

verki þessu um allan Noreg, ok þar mest, sem þeir höfðu
deed this over all Norway and there most where they had
 mestar óspektir gert, bersekirnir. Um vórit spurði Þorfinnr
most disturbances done the-berseks In the-spring asked Thorfinn
 Grettir, hvat hann vildi at hafast. Hann kvaðst ætla
Grettir what he wished to do He said-of-himself to-intend
 at fara norðr í Vága, meðan þar var stefnutími. Þorfinnr
to go north to Vagar while there was (the)-fair-time Thorfinn
 kvað honum til reiðu skyldu penningar, sem hann vildi.
said to-him at hand should money as he wished
 Grettir kvaðst eigi þurfa at sinni penninga meir enn
Grettir said-of-himself not to-need for (the)-time money more than
 til skotsilfrs. Þorfinnr kvað þat skylt, ok fylgdi honum til
for pocket-silver Thorfinn said that due and accompanied him to
 skips: þá gaf hann Gretti saxit góða; þat bar Grettir
ship then gave he Grettir the-short-sword good that bore Grettir
 meðan hann lifði, ok var hin mesta gersemi. Bað Þorfinnr
while he lived and was the greatest treasure Bade Thorfinn
 hann til sín fara, þegar hann þyrfti liðs við. Grettir fór
him to himself come when he needed help at(-it) Grettir went
 nú norðr í Vága, ok var þar allmikil fjölmenni. Fögnuðu
now north to Vagar and was there a-very-great crowd Welcomed
 þeir margir honum þar vel, sem hann höfðu eigi sét fyrr,
they many him there well who him had not seen before
 fyrir sakir þess frægðarverks, sem hann hafði unnit, þá
for sake of-that famous-deed which he had done then
 er hann drap víkingana. Buðu honum margir göfgir menn
when he killed the-vikings Invited him many noble men
 til sín, enn hann vildi fara aftur til Þorfinns vinar síns.
to themselves but he wished to-go back to Thorfinn friend his
 Réðst hann þá í byrðing, er átti sá maðr, er Þorkell
Took-passage he then in a-cargo-ship which owned that man who Thorkel

hét; hann bjó í Sálfti á Hálogalandi, ok var göfigr
was-called he dwelt in Salfiti in Halogaland and was a-noble
 maðr. Enn er Grettir kom heim til Þorkels, tók hann
man But when Grettir came home to Thorkel took he
 við honum harðla vel, ok bað Gretti með sér vera um
with him very well and bade Grettir with him be over
 vetrinn, ok lagði til þess mörg orð. Þat þektist Grettir,
the-winter and laid to that many words That accepted Grettir
 ok var með Þorkeli þenna vetr í góðu yfirlæti.
and was with Thorkel this winter in good treatment

XXI • GRETTIR AND THE BEAR

Björn, Þorkell's hot-tempered kinsman, slanders the household and dislikes Grettir. A bear wakes and kills livestock, and Björn tries to kill it alone, but falls asleep and loses his shield to it. When Þorkell's men attack the den, Björn throws Grettir's cloak in. Grettir returns alone, fights the bear on the narrow path, and falls down the cliff with it before killing it. Þorkell offers to pay for Björn, who scorns the offer. Grettir refuses the money but promises to leave Björn alone while they are Þorkell's guests.

Björn hét maðr, er þar var á vist með Þorkeli. Hann
Bjorn was-called a-man who there was in lodging with Thorkel He
 var ákafamaðr í lyndi ok góðrar ættar, skyldr nökkut
was a-vehement-man in temper and of-good family related somewhat
 Þorkeli. Eigi var hann vinsæll maðr af alþýðu, því
to-Thorkel Not was he a-popular man with (the)-common-people because
 at hann afflutti mjök fyrir þeim mönnum, er váru með
that he slandered much before those men who were with
 Þorkeli; kom hann svo mörgum á brott. Fátt kom á
Thorkel drove he so many off away Little came about
 með þeim Gretti; þótti Birni hann lítls verðr hjá
between them Grettir(-and-him) seemed to-Bjorn he of-little worth beside

sér, enn Grettir var ótillátssamr, ok kom til þverúðar með
himself but Grettir was unyielding and came to contrariness between
 þeim. Björn var hávaðamaðr mikill, ok gerði um sik mikit;
them Bjorn was a-noisy-man great and made about himself much
 fylgdu honum at því margir ungir menn, ok höfðu þeir oft
followed him in that many young men and had they often
 á kveldum slentr mikit úti. Þat bar til á öndverðum
in evenings loitering much outside It happened to at (the)-beginning-of
 vetri, at híðbjörn einn grimmr hljóp ór híði sínu, ok
winter that a-den-bear one fierce leaped out-of den its and
 varð svá grimmr, at hann eirði hvárki mönnum né fé;
became so fierce that it spared neither men nor livestock
 ætluðu menn, at hann myndi vaknat hafa af háreysti því
thought men that it would woken have from (the)-noise that
 er Björn hafði gert með kumpánum sínum. Gerðist dýrit
which Bjorn had made with comrades his Became the-beast
 svá ilt viðfangs, at þat reif niðr hjörð fyrir mönnum; hafði
so bad to-deal-with that it tore down (the)-flock before men had
 Þorkell af þessu mestan skaða, því at hann var maðr
Thorkel from this greatest loss because that he was (the)-man
 ríkastr í þessu bygðarlagi. Á nökkurn dag kvaddi Þorkell
richest in this district On a-certain day called Thorkel
 til fylgdar menn sína, at leita, hvar híð bjarnarins væri;
to following men his to seek where (the)-den of-the-bear were
 þeir fundu þat í sjávarhömrum; var þar hár klettr einn,
they found it in sea-cliffs was there a-high crag one
 ok hellisskúti framan í hamrinum einum, enn einn stígr til
and a-cave-bollow in-front in the-cliff one but one path to
 at ganga; bjarg var undir hellinum, ok urð við sjóinn; var
to go rock was under the-cave and scree by the-sea was
 þar viss bani því er ofan hrapaði. Lá björninn í híðinu
there certain death for-that which down fell Lay the-bear in the-den

á daginn, enn leitaði á burt jafnan er náttaði. Heldu
by day but sought off away always when night-fell Held
 engar grindr fénu fyrir honum. Kómu þeir eigi hundum
no fences the-livestock against him Brought they not dogs
 við. Þótti mönnum þetta hit mesta vandræði. Björn, frændi
to-bear Seemed to-men this the greatest trouble Bjorn kinsman
 Þorkels, kvað vera at gert hit mesta, er híðit var fundit —
of-Thorkel said to-be at done the most when the-den was found
 “skal ek nú prófa”, sagði hann, “hversu leikr ferr með
shall I now test said he how (the)-game goes between
 okkr nöfnum”. Eigi lét Grettir sem hann vissi, hvað Björn
us-two namesakes Not let Grettir as-if he knew what Bjorn
 talaði um þetta. Jafnan bar svá til á kveldum, þá er
talked about this Always happened so to in evenings then when
 menn fóru at sofa, at Björn hvarf út. Þat var eina nótt, at
men went to sleep that Bjorn went out It was one night that
 Björn fór til híðsins; hann varð varr við, at dýrit var þar
Bjorn went to the-den he became aware of that the-beast was there
 fyrir, ok grenjaði illilega. Björn lagðist niðr við einstigit,
inside and growled evilly Bjorn laid-himself down by the-single-path
 ok hafði yfir sér skjöldinn, ok ætlaði at bíða, þar til
and had over himself the-shield and intended to wait there until
 er dýrit leitaði á burt eftir vanda. Bessi hafði veðr af
that the-beast sought off away after custom Bruin had scent of
 manningum, ok seinkaði heldr ferðinni. Björn syfjaði heldr
the-man and delayed rather the-journey Bjorn grew-sleepy rather
 mjök, þar sem hann lá, ok getr eigi vakat; ok í þessu
much there where he lay and can not stay-awake and in this
 ræðr dýrit ór híðinu; getr nú sét, hvar maðrinn liggr,
makes the-beast out-of the-den can now see where the-man lies
 krækir til hramminum, ok hnykkir af honum skildinum, ok
books to with-the-paw and snatches off him the-shield and

kastar ofan fyrir bjargit. Björn bregðr við hart, er hann
throws down over the-rock Bjorn starts at(-it) hard when he
 vaknar; tekur hann til fóta ok hleypr heim; var þá búit
wakes takes he to (the)-feet and runs home was then near
 við, at dýrit myndi grípa hann. Vissu þetta félagar hans,
at(-it) that the-beast would seize him Knew this comrades his
 því at þeir höfðu njósn á um ferðir Bjarnar; fundu
because that they had spying on about (the)-journeys of-Bjorn found
 þeir skjöldinn um morguninn, ok gerðu at þessu hit mesta
they the-shield in the-morning and made of this the greatest
 gabb. Á jólum fór Þorkell sjálf til híðisins, ok þeir átta
mockery At Yule went Thorkel himself to the-den and they eight
 saman; þar var þá Björn ok Grettir ok aðrir fylgdarmenn
together there was then Bjorn and Grettir and other followers
 Þorkels. Grettir hafði yfir sér loðkápu, ok lagði hana af
of-Thorkel Grettir had over himself a-fur-cloak and laid it off
 sér, meðan þeir sóttu at dýrinu. Þar var óhægt á at sækja,
himself while they attacked at the-beast There was difficult on to attack
 því at eigi mátti við koma nema spjótalögum, ok beit
because that not could at come except with-spear-thrusts and bit
 hann þau af sér. Björn eggjaði þá mjök til atsóknar, enn
he those off himself Bjorn urged then much to attack but
 þó gekk hann eigi svá nær, at honum væri við nökkuru
yet went he not so near that to-him were at anything
 hætt; ok er minst varði, þrífir Björn kápu Grettis, ok
danger and when least expected seizes Bjorn (the)-cloak of-Grettir and
 kastaði í híðið til bjarnarins. Ekki gátu þeir að gert,
threw into the-den to the-bear Nothing could they at do
 ok hurfu aft, er áleið daginn; enn er Grettir bjóst
and turned back when on-passed the-day but when Grettir made-ready
 heim at ganga, saknar hann feldar síns. Hann gat sét, at
home to go misses he cloak his He could see that

björninn hafði drepit undir sik kápuna. Hann mælti þá:
the-bear had pulled under itself the-cloak He spoke then
 “Hverr hefir sveina gletzt við mik, ok kastat feldi mínum
Who has of-lads jested with me and thrown cloak my
 í hídít?”. Björn svarar: “Sá einn mun þat gert hafa,
into the-den Bjorn answers That-one alone will that done have
 er þora mun við at ganga”. Grettir svarar: “Eigi legg ek
who dare will at(-it) to go Grettir answers Not lay I
 slíkt langt upp”. Þá sneru þeir heim á leið, ok er þeir
such far up Then turned they home on (the)-way and when they
 höfðu gengit um hríð, slitnaði hosnasterta Grettis. Þorkell
had walked for a-while broke (the)-hose-strap of-Grettir Thorkel
 bað þá bíða hans. Grettir kvað þess eigi þurfa. Þá mælti
bade them wait for-him Grettir said of-that not need Then spoke
 Björn: “Eigi þurfið þér þat at ætla, at Grettir renni frá
Bjorn Not need you that to think that Grettir runs from
 kápu sinni; mun hann vilja hafa frægð af, ok drepa einn
cloak his will he wish to-have fame of(-it) and kill alone
 dýrit, þat er vér höfum frá gengit átta; þá væri hann
the-beast that which we have from gone eight then would-be be
 slíkr, sem hann er sagðr, enn allslæga hefir hann fram
such as he is said but very-poorly has he forth
 gengit í dag”. “Eigi veit ek”, sagði Þorkell, “hversu þér ferr
gone in day Not know I said Thorkel how you fare
 af, enn eigi munu þit jafnir hreystimenn vera, ok legg
in(-that) but not will you-two equal men-of-valor be and lay
 þú fátt til hans”. Björn kvað hvárnigan þeira kjósa orð
you little to him Bjorn said neither of-them to-choose words
 ór munni sér. Nú bar leiti á milli. Grettir sneri þá aftur
out-of mouth his Now bore a-hill in between Grettir turned then back
 at einstiginu; var þá eigi at metast við aðra um atgöngu;
to the-single-path was then no to compete with others about attack

hann brá þá sverðinu Jökulsnaut, enn hann hafði hönk á
he drew then the-sword Jökul's-gift but he had a-loop on
 meðalkaflanum á saxinu, ok smeygði á hönd sér; því
the-bilt on the-short-sword and slipped on hand his therefore
 gerði hann svá, at hann þóttist heldr mega taka til
did he so that he thought-himself rather to-be-able take to
 þess, er hann vildi, ef laus væri böndin. Hann gekk þegar
that which he wished if loose were the-bonds He went at-once
 í einstigit; ok er dýrit sá manninn, hljóp þat upp
onto the-single-path and when the-beast saw the-man leaped it up
 með grimd mikilli ok í móti Gretti, ok laust til hans með
with ferocity great and in against Grettir and struck at him with
 hramminum, þeim er firr var berginu. Grettir hjó á
the-paw that which farther was from-the-rock Grettir hewed in
 móti með sverðinu, ok kom á hramminn fyrir ofan klærnar,
against with the-sword and came on the-paw on above the-claws
 ok tók þar af. Þá vildi dýrit ljósta með þeim fætinum,
and took there off Then wished the-beast to-strike with that foot
 sem heill var, ok skaut á stúfinn, ok varð hann lægri,
which whole was and lunged onto the-stump and became it lower
 enn hann ætlaði, ok fell þá dýrit í fang Gretti. Hann
than it expected and fell then the-beast into (the)-arms of-Grettir He
 þrífir þá meðal hlusta dýrinu, ok helt því frá sér, svá
seizes then between (the)-ears of-the-beast and held it from himself so
 þat náði eigi at bíta hann. Svá hefir Grettir sagt, at hann
it reached not to bite him So has Grettir said that he
 þóttist þá afraun mesta gert hafa, at halda dýrinu;
thought-himself then feat-of-strength greatest done to-have to hold the-beast
 enn með því at dýrit brauzt um fast, enn rúmit lítit, þá
but with that that the-beast struggled about hard but the-room little then
 ruku þeir báðir ofan fyrir bjargit. Nú var dýrit þyngra, ok
fell they both down over the-rock Now was the-beast heavier and

kom þat fyrr niðr á urðina; varð Grettir þá efri, enn
came it first down onto the-scree became Grettir then uppermost but
 dýrit lamdist þá mjök þeim megin, sem niðr vissi. Grettir
the-beast was-battered then much on-that side which down faced Grettir
 þrífr þá til saxins, ok lagði björninn til hjartans, ok var
seizes then to the-short-sword and thrust the-bear to the-heart and was
 þat hans bani. Eftir þat fór hann heim, ok tók feld sinn,
that its death After that went he home and took cloak his
 ok var hann allr rifinn í sundr. Hann hafði með sér
and was it all torn to pieces He had with himself
 þat er hann hafði höggvit af hramminum. Þorkell sat
that which he had hewn off the-paw Thorkel sat
 at drykkju, þá er Grettir kom í stofuna; hlógu þeir
at drinking then when Grettir came into the-sitting-room laughed they
 at feldarslitrinu, er Grettir hafði yfir sér. Hann setr nú
at the-cloak-tatters which Grettir had over himself He sets now
 upp á borðit þat er hann hafði höggvit af hramminum.
up on the-table that which he had hewn off the-paw
 Þorkell mælti: "Hvar er nú Björn frændi minn? — aldri
Thorkel spoke Where is now Björn kinsman my never
 sá ek þér svá bíta járnin, ok vil ek, at þú bjóðir Gretti
saw I for-you so bite the-irons and will I that you offer to-Grettir
 sæmd fyrir þessa svívirðing, sem þú hefir til hans gert".
honor for this disgrace which you have toward him done

Björn kvað þat frestast mundu — “ok hirði ek aldri,
Bjorn said that to-be-delayed would and care I never
 hvárt honum líkar vel eða illa”. Grettir kvað vísu þessa:
whether to-him pleases well or ill Grettir spoke verse this

Oft kwam heim í húmi
Often came home in dusk
 hræddr þá engum blæddi
afraid when no-one bled
 sá's vetrliða vitja
that-one-who of-(the)-winter-rider to-visit
 víg-Njörðr í haust görði.
battle-Njord in autumn made
 Sá engi mik sitja
Saw no-one me sit
 síð fyr bjarnar híði;
late before of-the-bear den
 þó kom ek ullar otra
yet came I of-wool of-otters
 út ór hellisskúta.
out out-of cave-hollow

“Bæði er”, sagði Björn, “at þú hefir vel fram gengit, enda
Both is said Bjorn that you have well forth gone and-indeed
 berr þú okkr ólíkt söguna; skil ek, at þú munt
bear you of-us-two unlike the-story understand I that you will
 þykkjast mér þessa sneið stinga”. Þorkell mælti: “Þat vilda
think-yourself at-me this slice to-thrust Thorkel spoke That would-wish
 ek, Grettir”, sagði hann, “at þú hefnir þín eigi á Birni,
I Grettir said he that you avenge yourself not on Bjorn
 enn ek mun bæta fyrir hann fullum manngjöldum, ok sé
but I will compensate for him with-full man-price and be

þit sáttir". Björn kvað hann verja mega betr fé sínu, enn
you-two reconciled Bjorn said him to-use be-able better money his than
 bæta fyrir þetta — "þykkir mér þat ráð, at hér hafi
to-compensate for this seems to-me that counsel that here have
 eik, þat er af annarri skefr, er vit Grettir eigumst
oak that which from another scrapes which we-two Grettir have-dealings
 við". Grettir kvað sér þat allvel líka. "Þá muntu,
with Grettir said to-himself that very-well to-please Then will-you
 Grettir", sagði Þorkell, "gera þat fyrir mína skuld, at gera eigi
Grettir said Thorkel do that for my sake to do not
 á hluta Bjarnar, á meðan þit eruð hjá mér". "Þat skal
at (the)-expense of-Bjorn in while you-two are with me That shall
 vera", sagði Grettir. Björn kvaðst óhræddr ganga skyldu
be said Grettir Bjorn said-of-himself unafraid to-go should
 fyrir Gretti, hvar sem þeir fyndist. Grettir glotti at, enn vildi
before Grettir where as they met Grettir grinned at(-it) but would
 eigi þiggja féit fyrir Björn, ok váru þeir þar um vetrinn.
not accept the-money for Bjorn and were they there over the-winter

XXII · THE KILLING OF BJÖRN

Björn spends the summer trading in England for Þorkell, and in autumn Grettir meets him at the harbor of Gaulkar. Grettir challenges him, refuses his offer of compensation, and kills him. Hjarandi, Björn's brother, demands vengeance, and Earl Sveinn summons Grettir and Þorfinnr to Steinker. Þorfinnr offers compensation and reminds him of the berserks Grettir killed. The earl is willing, but Hjarandi refuses, and Þorfinnr assigns his kinsman Arnbjörn to guard Grettir.

Um várit fór Grettir norðr í Vága með byrðingsmönnunum;
In the-spring went Grettir north to Vagar with cargo-ship-men
 skildu þeir Þorkell með vináttu; enn Björn fór vestr til
parted they Thorkel(-and-he) with friendship but Bjorn went west to

Englands, ok var fyrir skipi Þorkels, því er þangat
England and was in-command-of (the)-ship of-Thorkel that which thither
 fór. Hafðist Björn þar við um sumarit, ok keypti til handa
went Kept-himself Bjorn there about during the-summer and bought to hands
 Þorkeli þá hluti, sem hann hafði honum um boðit. Sigldi
Thorkel those things which he had him about asked Sailed
 hann vestan, er á leið haustit. Grettir var í Vágum
he from-the-west when on passed the-autumn Grettir was in Vagar
 til þess, er flotinn leysti. Síðan sigldi hann norðan með
until that when the-fleet broke-up Then sailed he from-the-north with
 byrðingsmönnum nökkurum, þar til er þeir kvámu í höfn
cargo-ship-men some there until that they came into a-harbor
 þá, er í Gaulkum heitir; þat er fyrir Þrándheims minni, ok
that which in Gaulkar is-called that is before of-Trondheim mouth and
 tjölduðu þar yfir sér; ok er þeir höfðu um búizt, sigldi
tented there over themselves and when they had about prepared sailed
 skip at höfninni sunnan fyrir land. Þeir kendu brátt at
a-ship toward the-harbor from-the-south along land They recognized quickly that
 þar var Englandsfar. Þessir lögðu at utar við ströndina,
there was an-England-trader They laid in farther-out by the-shore
 ok gengu á land. Grettir ok hans félagar viku til móts við
and went on land Grettir and his comrades turned to meeting with
 þá; enn er þeir fundust, sér Grettir, at Björn er þar í
them but when they met sees Grettir that Bjorn is there in
 liði, ok mælti: “Þat er vel, at vit höfum hér fundizt;
company and spoke That is well that we-two have here met
 munu vit nú taka til hinna fornu greina okkarra; vil ek nú
will we-two now take to the old disputes of-ours-two will I now
 reyna, hvárr okkarr meira má”. Björn kvað sér þat fornt
test which of-us-two more may Bjorn said to-himself that old

vera — “enn ef þat hefir nökkut verit, þá vil ek bæta,
to-be but if that has any been then will I compensate
 svá at þú þykkist vel haldinn af”. Grettir kvað þá vísu:
so that you think-yourself well held off(-it) Grettir spoke then a-verse

lúgtanna gatk unnit
A-bear I-could overcome
 — orð lék á því — forðum;
word played on that formerly
 feld reif hart af höldi
cloak tore hard off (the)-man
 hugstríður meginsíðan.
mind-stern mightily-since
 Baugs olli því bellinn
Of-(the)-ring caused that (the)-mischievous
 Baldr, enn nú skal gjalda;
Baldr but now shall repay
 oft þykkjumk ek ekki
often think-myself I not
 allhælinn í kappmælum.
very-boastful in boasting-words

Björn sagði bætt hafa verit fyrir stærri sakir, enn þessar.
Bjorn said compensated to-have been for greater offenses than these
 Grettir kvað fá til hafa orðit, at gera sér öfundarbrögð,
Grettir said few to have become to do to-himself spiteful-tricks
 enda lézt hann aldri fé hafa á tekit, ok sagði,
and-indeed professed he never compensation to-have on taken and said
 at enn myndi svá fara — “skulu vit báðir eigi heðan heilir
that still would so go shall we-two both not hence whole
 ganga, ef ek má ráða; legg ek nú bleyðiorð á bak þér, ef
go if I may decide lay I now coward's-word on (the)-back to-you if

þú þorir eigi að berjast". Björn sá nú, at honum tjáði eigi
you dare not to fight Bjorn saw now that to-him availed not
 undan at mælast; tók nú vápn sín ok gekk á land. Síðan
away to talk took now weapons his and went on land Then
 hlupust þeir at, ok börðust, ok eigi lengi, áðr Björn varð
 rushed they at and fought and not long before Bjorn became
 sárr, ok því næst fell hann dauðr til jarðar. Enn er
wounded and thereupon next fell he dead to (the)-earth But when
 þat sá fylgdarmenn Bjarnar, gengu þeir á skip sitt; sneru
that saw followers of-Bjorn went they onto ship their turned
 norðr með landi til móts við Þorkel, ok sögðu honum þennan
north along land to meeting with Thorkel and told him this
 atburð. Hann kvað þat eigi fyrr hafa fram komit enn ván
event He said that not sooner to-have forth come than expected
 var at. Brátt eftir þetta fór Þorkell suðr til Þrándheims, ok
was at Soon after this went Thorkel south to Trondheim and
 fann þar Svein jarl. Grettir fór suðr á Mæri eftir víg
found there Svein (the)-earl Grettir went south to Maeri after (the)-slaying
 Bjarnar, ok hitti Þorfinn vin sinn, ok sagði honum þat sem
of-Bjorn and met Thorfinn friend his and told him that which
 til hafði borit. Þorfinnr tók vel við honum — "ok er þat
to had happened Thorfinn took well with him and is that
 gott", sagði hann, "at þú ert vinþurfi; skaltu með mér
good said he that you are in-need-of-a-friend shall-you with me
 vera, þar til er lýkr þessum málum." Grettir þakkaði honum
be there until that ends these cases Grettir thanked him
 fyrir boð sitt; kvaðst þat nú þiggja mundu. Sveinn
for invitation his said-of-himself that now to-accept would Svein
 jarl sat inn í Þrándheimi at Steinkerum, þá er hann
(the)-earl sat in in Trondheim at Steinker then when he
 spurði víg Bjarnar. Þá var þar með honum Hjarandi,
learned (the)-slaying of-Bjorn Then was there with him Hjarandi

bróðir Bjarnar; hann var hirðmaðr jarls. Hann varð við
brother of-Bjorn he was a-retainer of-(the)-earl He became at(-it)
 reiðr mjök, er hann spurði víg Bjarnar, ok beiddi
angry much when he learned (the)-slaying of-Bjorn and asked
 jarl liðveizlu til málsins. Jarl hét honum því. Sendi
(the)-earl support for the-case (The)-earl promised him that Sent
 hann þá menn til Þorfinns, ok stefndi þeim Gretti báðum
he then men to Thorfinn and summoned them Grettir both
 á sinn fund. Bjóst hann þegar, ok þeir Grettir báðir
to his meeting Made-ready he at-once and they Grettir(-and-be) both
 eftir boði jarls, ok fóru inn í Þrándheim á hans
after (the)-summons of-(the)-earl and went in to Trondheim to his
 fund. Átti jarl þá stefnu at málinu, ok bað Hjaranda
meeting Held (the)-earl then a-meeting about the-case and bade Hjarandi
 hjá vera. Hjarandi kvaðst eigi mundu bera bróður sinn í
by be Hjarandi said-of-himself not would carry brother his in
 sjóð — “skal ek annathvært fara slíka för, sem hann, ella
purse shall I either go such journey as he or
 hefna hans”, sagði hann. Nú er málit var skoðat, fanst
avenge him said he Now when the-case was examined seemed
 jarli, sem margar sakir hefði Björn gert við Gretti;
to-(the)-earl as-if many offenses had Bjorn done against Grettir
 enn Þorfinnr bauð fébætr eftir því, sem jarli þætti
but Thorfinn offered compensation according-to that which to-(the)-earl seemed
 erfingjar sæmdir af, ok talaði um þat langt erendi, hvert
(the)-heirs honored by and talked about that long speech what
 frelsi at Grettir hefði unnit mönnum nórrð í landi, þá
freedom that Grettir had won for-men north in (the)-land then
 er hann drap berserkina, sem fyrr var sagt. Jarl svaraði:
when he killed the-berserks as before was said (The)-earl answered
 “Satt segir þú þat, Þorfinnr; þat var hin mesta landhreinsun,
True say you that Thorfinn that was the greatest land-cleansing

ok vel samir oss at taka fébætr fyrir þín orð; er ok
and well befits us to take compensation for your words is also
 Grettir frægr maðr fyrir sakir afis og hreysti". Hjarandi
Grettir a-famous man for sake of-strength and valor Hjarandi
 vildi eigi sættum taka, ok skildu þeir málstefnuna. Þorfinnr
would not settlement take and parted they the-case-meeting Thorfinnr
 fekk til Arnbjörn, frænda sinn, at ganga með Gretti hvern
got to(-it) Arnbjörn kinsman his to walk with Grettir every
 dag, því at hann vissi, at Hjarandi sat um líf hans.
day because that he knew that Hjarandi lay-in-wait for life his

XXIII · THE KILLING OF HJARANDI

Hjarandi attacks Grettir with an axe from a yard gate, and only Arnbjörn's push saves him from worse than a shoulder wound. Grettir cuts off Hjarandi's arm, and he and Arnbjörn kill Hjarandi's men. At the assembly Bersi Skáld-Torfuson and Þorfinnr win Grettir a truce until spring. The earl will not settle until Gunnarr, the last brother, is present, and he summons Grettir and Þorfinnr to Túsberg, where Grettir finds his half-brother Þorsteinn drómundr.

Þat var einn dag, er Grettir ok Arnbjörn gengu um
It was one day that Grettir and Arnbjörn walked along
 stræti at skemta sér; ok er þeir kvámu fram fyrir
(the)-street to amuse themselves and when they came forth before
 garðshlið nökkut, hljóp maðr fram ór garðshliðinu með
a-yard-gate some leaped a-man forth out-of the-yard-gate with
 reidda öxi, ok hjó til Grettis tveim höndum. Hann varði
raised axe and hewed at Grettir with-two hands He expected
 einskis um þetta, ok gekk undan seint. Arnbjörn gat sét
nothing about this and went away slowly Arnbjörn could see
 manninn, þreif til Grettis ok hratt honum áfram svá hart,
the-man seized at Grettir and pushed him forward so hard

at hann fell á kné. Öxin kom á herðablaðit, ok rendi
that he fell onto (the)-knee The-axe came on the-shoulder-blade and ran
 út undir höndina; var þat mikit sár. Grettir snaraðist við
out under the-arm was that a-great wound Grettir twisted at(-it)
 fast, ok brá saxinu; hann kendi, at þar var kominn
hard and drew the-short-sword he recognized that there was come
 Hjarandi. Öxin stóð föst í strætinu, ok varð honum seint
Hjarandi The-axe stood stuck in the-street and became for-him slow
 at sér at kippa, ok í því hjó Grettir til Hjaranda, ok
toward himself to pull and in that hewed Grettir at Hjarandi and
 kom á höndina uppi við öxl, svá af tók. Þá hlupu
came on the-arm up by (the)-shoulder so off took Then ran
 at fylgdarmenn Hjaranda fim saman. Sló þá í bardaga
up followers of-Hjarandi five together Struck-up then into battle
 með þeim; urðu þar skjót umskifti, drápu þeir Grettir ok
between them became there quick change killed they Grettir and
 Arnbjörn þá, er með Hjaranda váru, enn einn komst undan,
Arnbjörn those who with Hjarandi were but one got away
 ok fór sá þegar á fund jarls, ok sagði honum þessi
and went that-one at-once to meeting of-(the)-earl and told him these
 tíðendi. Jarl varð afar reiðr, er hann frétti þetta,
tidings (The)-earl became extremely angry when he learned this
 ok stefndi þing annan dag eftir. Kvámu þeir Þorfinnr
and summoned an-assembly (the)-second day after Came they Thorfinn
 ok Grettir á þingit. Bar jarl sakir á hendir Gretti
and Grettir to the-assembly Brought (the)-earl charges against hands Grettir
 um vigin, enn hann gekk við, ok sagðist hann
about the-slayings but he went with(-it) and said-of-himself he
 hafa átt hendir sínar at verja — “mun ek ok hafa merki
to-have had hands his to defend will I also have marks
 á mér”, sagði Grettir, “hefða ek bana af fengit, ef
on me said Grettir had I death from(-it) gotten if

Arnbjörn hefði eigi borgit mér". Jarl segir, at þat var
Arnbjorn had not saved me (The)-earl says that that was
 illa, er hann var eigi drepinn — "mun þat verða margs
ill that he was not killed will that become of-many
 manns bani, ef þú lifir". Þá var til jarls kominn Bersi
a-man (the)-death if you live Then was to (the)-earl come Bersi
 skáld-Torfuson, félagi Grettis ok vin. Gengu þeir Þorfinnr
Skald-Torfa's-son partner of-Grettir and friend Went they Thorfinn(-and-be)
 fyrir jarl, ok báðu griða til handa Gretti, ok buðu, at
before (the)-earl and asked-for truce to hands Grettir and offered that
 jarl skyldi einn dæma um þessi mál, ok þægi Grettir
(the)-earl should alone judge about these cases and should-get Grettir
 grið ok landvist. Jarl var tregr í öllu sáttmáli,
truce and residence-in-the-land (The)-earl was reluctant in all settlement
 enn lét þó leiðast eftir bænastað þeira. Var þá komit á
but let yet be-led by request their Was then come about
 griðum til várs fyrir hönd Grettis, enn þó vildi jarl eigi
with-truce to spring for hand of-Grettir but yet would (the)-earl not
 sættast, fyrr enn við væri Gunnarr, bróðir þeira Bjarnar
be-reconciled before than present were Gunnar brother of-them Bjorn
 og Hjaranda. Gunnarr var garðsbóndi í Túnsbergi. Um
and Hjarandi Gunnar was a-yard-owner in Tunsberg In
 várit stefndi jarl þeim Gretti ok Þorfinni austr til
the-spring summoned (the)-earl them Grettir and Thorfinn east to
 Túnsbergs, því at hann ætlaði þar at vera, meðan mest
Tunsberg because that he intended there to be while most
 atsigling væri austr þar. Fóru þeir þá austr þangat. Var
sailing-in were east there Went they then east thither Was
 jarl þar fyrir í bænum, er þeir kvámu austr. Grettir
(the)-earl there before in the-town when they came east Grettir
 fann þar Þorstein drómund bróður sinn; tók hann við
found there Thorstein Dromund brother his took he with

honum allvel, ok bauð honum til sín. Þorsteinn var þar
 him very-well and invited him to himself Thorstein was there
 garðsbóndi í bænum. Sagði Grettir honum af málum sínum,
 a-yard-owner in the-town Told Grettir him of cases his
 ok tók Þorsteinn vel undir, enn bað hann vera veran um
 and took Thorstein well on(-it) but bade him be wary about
 sik fyrir Gunnari. Leið nú svá fram á várit.
 himself before Gunnar Passed now so forth into the-spring

XXIV · THE KILLING OF GUNNARR

Gunnarr and three men break into a booth where Grettir is drinking. Grettir kills two and cuts off both of Gunnarr's hands as he tries to escape, then kills him. Earl Sveinn refuses compensation from Þorfinnr, Bersi, and Þorsteinn drómundr, who then stand with their men at Þorsteinn's gate against the earl's retinue. Advised to avoid bloodshed, the earl lets Grettir leave for Iceland in peace for a fine, while calling it no settlement. Grettir praises Þorfinnr in three verses and sails home with his gifts.

Gunnarr var í bænum, ok sat um Gretti, nær sem
 Gunnar was in the-town and lay-in-wait for Grettir whenever as
 færi gæfi á honum. Þat bar til á einhverjum degi, at
 chance gave on him It happened to on a-certain day that
 Grettir sat í búð nökkurri ok drakk, því at hann vildi
 Grettir sat in a-booth some and drank because that he wished
 eigi verða fyrir Gunnari, ok er hann varði minst, var
 not to-become in-the-way-of Gunnar and when he expected least was
 hlaupit á hurðina svá hart, at hon brotnaði í sundr. Þar
 run at the-door so hard that it broke to pieces There
 hlupu inn fjórir menn alvápnaðir; var þar kominn Gunnarr
 leaped in four men fully-armed was there come Gunnar

ok fylgdarmenn hans. Þeir sóttu at Gretti. Hann þreif vörn
and followers his They attacked at Grettir He seized weapons
sín, er hengu uppi yfir honum; hopaði hann þá upp
his which hung up over him retreated he then up
í hyrninguna, ok varðist þaðan; hann hafði fyrir
into the-corner and defended-himself from-there he had in-front-of
sér skjöldinn, enn hjó með saxinu. Sóttist þeim eigi
himself the-shield but hewed with the-short-sword Went for-them not
fljótt; kom hann þá höggi á einn fylgdarmann Gunnars;
quickly came he then with-a-blow on one follower of-Gunnar
þurfti sá ekki fleiri. Rýmdi Grettir þá fram á gólfít;
needed that-one not more Cleared Grettir then forth onto the-floor
hrukku þeir þá utar eftir búðinni; fell þar annarr maðr af
fell-back they then outward along the-booth fell there another man of
Gunnari. Þá vildi Gunnarr undan leita, ok hans förunautar;
Gunnar's Then wished Gunnar away to-see and his companions
komst svá til dyranna ok drap fótunum í þresköldinn,
got so to the-doors and struck with-the-feet on the-threshold
ok lá fallinn ok komst seint upp. Gunnarr hafði fyrir
and lay fallen and got slowly up Gunnar had in-front-of
sér skjöldinn, ok hopaði undan Gretti, enn hann sótti at
himself the-shield and retreated before Grettir but he attacked at
með kappi, ok hljóp upp í þverpallinn við dyrnar; bar
with zeal and leaped up onto the-cross-bench by the-doors carried
þá hendr Gunnars inn ór dyrunum, ok svá skjöldinn.
then (the)-hands of-Gunnar in out-of the-doors and so the-shield
Grettir hjó þá niðr á milli Gunnars ok skjaldarins, ok
Grettir hewed then down in between Gunnar and the-shield and
af honum báðar hendrnar í úlfliðunum; fell hann á bak
off him both the-hands at the-wrists fell he on back
afr út ór dyrunum. Grettir hjó hann banabögg, ok
backward out out-of the-doors Grettir hewed him a-death-blow and

í því komst sá á fætr, er honum hafði fylgt, ok fór
in that got that-one on feet who him had followed and went
 þegar á fund jarls, ok sagði honum þessi tíðendi. Sveinn
at-once to meeting of-(the)-earl and told him these tidings Svein
 jarl varð ákaflega reiðr við þessa sögu, ok stefndi þegar
(the)-earl became extremely angry at this story and summoned at-once
 þing í bænum; enn er þeir Þorfinnr ok Þorsteinn
an-assembly in the-town but when they Thorfinn and Thorstein
 drómundr vissu þetta, heimtu þeir at sér tengdamenn
Dromund knew this gathered they to themselves in-laws
 sína ok vini, ok fjölmentu mjök til þingins. Jarl var
their and friends and came-in-numbers much to the-assembly (The)-earl was
 allstyggur ok mátti lítt orðum við hann koma. Þorfinnr
very-surly and (one)-could little with-words at him come Thorfinn
 gekk fyrst fyrir jarl, ok mælti: “Því em ek hér kominn,
went first before (the)-earl and spoke For-that am I here come
 at ek vil bjóða yðr sátt ok sæmd fyrir víg þessi,
that I will offer you settlement and honor for slayings these
 er Grettir hefir vegit; skulu þér einir skera ok skapa, ef
which Grettir has slain shall you alone cut and shape if
 maðrinn hefir grið”. Jarl svarar reiðr mjök: “Seint leiðist
the-man has truce (The)-earl answers angry much Slowly wearies
 þér at biðja griða til handa Gretti, enn grunar mik, at
you to ask truce to hands Grettir but suspects me that
 þú hafir þar eigi gott at sök: hefir hann nú drepit þrjá
you have there not good at (the)-case has he now killed three
 bræðr, hvern á fætr öðrum; váru þeir svá hraustir menn
brothers one on (the)-feet of-another were they such valiant men
 í sér, at engi þeira vildi annan í sjóð bera. Nú tjáir
in themselves that none of-them wished (the)-other in purse to-carry Now avails
 þér, Þorfinnr, eigi at biðja fyrir Gretti, því at ek vil eigi
you Thorfinn not to ask for Grettir because that I will not

leiða svá inn rangendi í landit, at taka bætr fyrir
lead so in wrong-dealing into the-land to take compensation for
 slík óhæfuverk". Þá gekk fram Bersi skáld-Torfuson, bað
such outrages Then went forth Bersi Skald-Torfa's-son bade
 jarl taka sættum — "vil ek", sagði hann, "þar til bjóða
(the)-earl accept settlement will I said he there to offer
 mitt góðs, því at Grettir er maðr stórættaðr ok góðr
my wealth because that Grettir is a-man of-great-family and good
 vin minn; megi þér sjá, herra, at betra er at gefa einum
friend my may you see lord that better is to give one
 manni grið, ok hafa í móti margra manna þökk, enn ráða
man truce and have in return of-many men thanks and decide
 einn fésektum, heldr enn brjótast í móti sæmd sinni, ok
alone (the)-fines rather than break in against honor his and
 hætta, hvárt þér náðð manningum eða eigi". Jarl svarar:
to-risk whether you reach the-man or not (The)-earl answers
 "Vel ferr þér, Bersi, þetta, ok sýnir þú þat jafnan, at
Well becomes you Bersi this and show you that always that
 þú ert góðr dreng, enn þó nenni ek eigi at brjóta svá
you are a-good fellow but yet bother I not to break so
 landslögin, at gefa þeim grið, sem ólífismenn eru". Þá
the-law-of-the-land as to-give those truce who life-forfeit-men are Then
 gekk fram Þorsteinn drómundr, ok kvaddi jarl, ok bauð
went forth Thorstein Dromund and greeted (the)-earl and offered
 boð fyrir Gretti, ok fór þar um mörgum fögrum orðum.
terms for Grettir and went there about with-many fair words
 Jarlinn spurði, hvat honum gengi til at bjóða boð fyrir
The-earl asked what him moved to(-it) to offer terms for
 þenna mann. Þorsteinn sagði, at þeir voru bræðr. Jarl
this man Thorstein said that they were brothers (The)-earl
 kvaðst þat eigi vitat hafa — "enn drengskapr er þér
said-of-himself that not known to-have but valor is to-you

í, þó at þú vildir hjálpa honum. Enn fyrir því, at
in(-it) though that you wished to-help him But for that that
 vér höfum eigi ætlat at taka fébætr fyrir þessi mál,
we have not intended to take compensation for these cases
 þá munum vér hér alla jafndýra um gera; skulu vér hafa
then will we here all equally-dear about make shall we have
 líf Grettis, hvat er kostar, þegar vér komumst við”.
(the)-life of-Grettir whatever it costs as-soon-as we get at(-it)
 Hljóp jarl þá upp, ok vildi eigi álíta um sættirnar.
Leaped (the)-earl then up and would not consider about the-settlements
 Þeir Þorfinnr gengu þá heim í garð Þorsteins,
They Thorfinn(-and-bis) went then home into (the)-yard of-Thorstein
 ok bjoggust þar um. Enn er jarl sá þetta, lét hann
and made-ready there about But when (the)-earl saw this had he
 vápnast alla hirð sína, gengr síðan með fylktu liði
arm-themselves all retinue his goes then with drawn-up force
 þangat; ok áðr liðit kom at, skipuðust þeir til varnar fyrir
thither and before the-force came up arrayed they for defense before
 garðshliðinu. Stóðu þeir fremstir Þorfinnr ok Þorsteinn ok
the-yard-gate Stood they foremost Thorfinn and Thorstein and
 Grettir, ok þá Bersi; hafði hverr þeira mikla sveit manna.
Grettir and then Bersi had each of-them great band of-men
 Jarl bað þá selja fram Gretti, ok halda sik eigi í
(The)-earl bade them hand over Grettir and hold themselves not in
 ófæru. Þeir buðu öll hin sömu boð sem fyrr. Jarl
a-hopeless-plaint They offered all the same terms as before (The)-earl
 vildi þat eigi heyra. Þeir Þorfinnr ok Þorsteinn kváðu
would that not hear They Thorfinn and Thorstein said
 jarli skyldu meira fyrir verða at ná lífi Grettis, —
to-(the)-earl should more before happen to get (the)-life of-Grettir
 “því at eitt skal yfir oss ganga, ok mun þat mælt, at
because that one shall over us go and will that said that

þér vinnið mikit til eins manns lífs, ef vér erum allir við
you pay much for one man's life if we are all onto
 velli lagðir". Jarl kvaðst engan þeira spara skyldu;
(the)-field laid (The)-earl said-of-himself none of-them to-spare should
 var þá við sjálfu búit, at þeir myndi berjast Þá gengu
was then at self about that they would fight Then went
 at jarli margir góðgjarnir menn, ok báðu, at hann heldi
to (the)-earl many well-meaning men and asked that he held
 eigi til svá mikils vandræðis; sögðu, at þeir myndi mikit
not to so great trouble said that they would great
 afhröð gjalda, áðr þeir væri drepnir. Jarl fann, at þetta
loss pay before they were killed (The)-earl found that this
 var heilræði; lét hann þá heldr sefast. Síðan var dregin
was good-counsel let he then rather be-calmed Then was drawn
 saman sættin; váru þeir Þorfinnr ok Þorsteinn þess fúsir,
together the-settlement were they Thorfinn and Thorstein for-that eager
 þegar Grettir næði griðum. Jarl mælti: "Þat skulu þér
as-soon-as Grettir got truce (The)-earl spoke That shall you
 vita", sagði hann, "þó at ek geri hér mikit miðlunarmál
know said he though that I make here great compromise
 um víg þessi, at ek kalla þetta enga sætt, enn eigi
about slayings these that I call this no settlement but not
 nenni ek at berjast við menn mína, þó at ek sjái, at
bother I to fight with men my though that I see that
 þér metið mik lítils í þessu máli". Þá mælti Þorfinnr:
you value me little in this case Then spoke Thorfinn
 "Þetta er yðr meiri sæmd, herra, því þér skuluð einir
This is for-you greater honor lord because you shall alone
 ráða fégjöldum". Jarl sagði þá, at Grettir skyldi fara í
decide (the)-fines (The)-earl said then that Grettir should go in
 friði fyrir honum út til Íslands, þegar skip ganga, ef þeim
peace for him out to Iceland as-soon-as ships sail if to-them

líkaði þá vel. Þeir kváðust þat þiggja mundu. Luku
pleased then well They said-of-themselves that to-accept would Paid
 þeir jarli fé, svá honum gatst at, ok skildu
they to-(the)-earl money as to-him (it)-seemed-good at(-it) and parted
 með engum kærleikum. Fór Grettir með Þorfinni. Skildust
with no affection Went Grettir with Thorfinn Parted
 þeir Þorsteinn bróðir hans með vináttu. Varð Þorfinnr frægur
they Thorstein brother his with friendship Became Thorfinn famous
 af fylgd þeiri, er hann hafði veitt Gretti, við slíkt
for following that which he had given Grettir against such
 ofrefli sem hann átti at eiga. Engi af þeim mönnum
overwhelming-force as he had to deal-with None of those men
 komst í kærleika við jarl þaðan frá, þeira er Gretti
got into affection with (the)-earl from-then on of-those who Grettir
 höfðu lið veitt, nema Bersi einn. Svá kvað Grettir:
had help given except Bersi alone So spoke Grettir

Vas Þorfinnr,

Was Thorfinn

Þundar sessi

of-Thund seat-mate

aldar alinn

of-old born

oss til hjalpar:

to-us for help

þá's mik víf
when me (the)-woman
 í valskorum
in slaughter-props
 lukt ok læst,
shut and locked
 lífs um kvaddi.
of-life — begged

Vas stórskip
Was great-ship
 stálgoðs bana
of-steel-god of-(the)-slayer
 Rauða hafs
of-Red sea
 ok Regins skáli,
and of-Regin ball
 es Býlests
which of-Bylest
 bróðurdóttur
brother's-daughter
 manna mest
of-men most
 mér varnaði.
me warded-off

Ok enn þessa:

And still this

Þótti þá

Seemed then

þengils mönnum

of-(the)-prince to-men

eigi dælt

not easy

oss at sækja,

us to attack

es hlébarðr

when (the)-leopard

hlífar eldi

of-shield with-fire

bragða borg

of-tricks (the)-stronghold

brenna vildi.

to-burn wished

Grettir fór með Þorfinni norðr aft, ok var með honum þar til

Grettir went with Thorfinn north back and was with him there until

er hann kom honum í skip með kaupmönnum þeim, er út

that he brought him onto ship with merchants those who out

ætluðu til Íslands, ok gaf honum mörg góð þing í klæðum,

intended to Iceland and gave him many good things in clothes

ok söðul steindan ok bitil með. Skildu þeir með vináttu;

and a-saddle painted and bridle with(-it) Parted they with friendship

bað Þorfinnr hann sín vitja, ef hann kæmi aft til Noregs.

bade Thorfinn him himself visit if he came back to Norway

While Grettir is abroad, Ásmundr prospers and has the support of Þorvaldr Ásgeirsson of Ás. His kinsman Þorgils Máksson lives at Lækjamót and hunts whales on the Strands. The foster-brothers Þorgeirr Hávarsson and Þormóðr kolbrúnarskáld claim a whale he has found, and in the fight Þorgeirr kills Þorgils. Ásmundr, as prosecutor, names witnesses to the wounds and summons the case to the Althing.

Ásmundr hærulangr bjó at Bjargi, meðan Grettir var utan,
Asmund Long-hair dwelt at Bjarg while Grettir was abroad
 ok þótti hann þá gildastr bóndi í Miðfirði. Þorkell
and seemed he then (the)-most-substantial farmer in Midfjord Thorkel
 krafla andaðist á þeim misserum, er Grettir var eigi á
Krafla died in those seasons when Grettir was not in
 Íslandi. Þorvaldr Ásgeirsson bjó þá í Ási í Vatnsdal,
Iceland Thorvald Asgeir's-son dwelt then at As in Vatnsdal
 ok gerðist höfðingi mikill. Hann var faðir Döllu, er átti
and became a-chieftain great He was father of-Dalla whom had
 Ísleifr, er síðar var biskup í Skálholti. Var Ásmundi at
Isleif who later was bishop at Skalholt Was to-Asmund in
 Þorvaldi hinn mesti styrkr til málafulltings ok margra hluta
Thorvald the greatest strength for support-in-cases and many things
 annarra. Með Ásmundi vóx upp sá maðr, er Þorgils hét;
other With Asmund grew up that man who Thorngils was-called
 hann var kallaðr Þorgils Má[k]sson; hann var náskyldr
he was called Thorngils Mak's-son he was closely-related
 frændi Ásmundar. Þorgils var sterkr at afli, ok græddi
kinsman of-Asmund Thorngils was strong in strength and gained
 mikit fé með umsjá Ásmundar. Keypti hann til handa
much wealth with (the)-oversight of-Asmund Bought he to hands
 Þorgils landit at Lækjamóti, ok bjó hann þar. Þorgils var
Thorngils the-land at Laekjamot and dwelt he there Thorngils was

atdráttarmaðr mikill, ok fór á Strandir hvert ár; aflaði hann
a-provider great and went to (the)-Strands every year got be
 þar hvala ok annarra fanga. Þorgils var fullhugi mikill;
there whales and other catches Thorgils was a-dauntless-man great
 hann fór alt á almenninga hina eystri. Í þennan tíma var
he went all to (the)-common-lands the eastern At this time was
 uppgangr þeira fóstbræðra sem mestr, Þorgeirs Hávarssonar
(the)-rise of-them foster-brothers as greatest of-Thorgeir Havar's-son
 ok Þormóðar kolbrúnarskálds. Þeir áttu ferju, ok létu víða
and of-Thormod Coal-brow's-poet They had a-ferry and let widely
 verða til dregit, ok þóttu eigi miklir jafnaðarmenn. Þat
he to drawn and seemed not great fair-dealers It
 bar til á einu sumri, at Þorgils Má[k]sson fann hval
happened to in one summer that Thorgils Mak's-son found a-whale
 á almenningum; gekk hann þegar á skurð ok hans félagar.
on (the)-common-lands went he at-once to cutting and his comrades
 Enn er þeir fóstbræðr fréttu þat, fóru þeir þangat til, ok
But when they foster-brothers learned that went they thither to(-it) and
 horfðist þar fyrst líklega á um viðtal þeira. Bauð Þorgils at
looked there at-first likely on about talk their Offered Thorgils that
 þeir skyldu hafa at helmingi þann hvalinn er óskorinn var;
they should have in half that the-whale which uncut was
 enn þeir vildu hafa einir, þann er óskorinn var, ella skifta
but they wished to-have alone that which uncut was or to-divide
 í helminga bæði skorinn ok óskorinn. Þorgils þverneitti
in halves both cut and uncut Thorgils flatly-refused
 því, at leggja þann af, er skorinn var. Sló þá í heitan
that to lay that off which cut was Struck then into threats
 með þeim, ok því næst vápnuðust hváirtveggja ok
between them and thereupon next armed-themselves both-sides and
 börðust eftir þat. Þorgeirr ok Þorgils sóttust lengi,
fought after that Thorgeir and Thorgils attacked-each-other long

svá at ekki skakkaði með þeim, ok var hvárrtveggi hinn
so that nothing differed between them and was each the
 ákafasti. Var þeira viðskifti bæði hart ok langt, enn svá
most-vehement Was their exchange both hard and long but so
 varð endi á, at Þorgils fell dauðr fyrir Þorgeiri til
became (the)-end on(-it) that Thorgils fell dead before Thorgeir to
 jarðar. Enn Þormóðr ok aðrir fylgdarmenn Þorgils börðust
(the)-earth But Thormod and other followers of-Thorgils fought
 í öðrum stað. Sigaði Þormóðr í þeira viðskiftum. Fellu
in another place Won Thormod in their dealings Fell
 þrír félagar Þorgils fyrir honum. Eftir víg Þorgils sneru
three comrades of-Thorgils before him After (the)-slaying of-Thorgils turned
 fylgdarmenn hans aftur inn til Miðfjarðar, ok fluttu lík
followers his back in to Midfjord and brought (the)-body
 Þorgils með sér. Þótti mönnum at honum hinn mesti skaði.
of-Thorgils with them Seemed to-men in him the greatest loss
 Þeir fóstbræðr tóku þar allan hvalinn til sín. Þessa fundar
They foster-brothers took there all the-whale to themselves Of-this meeting
 getr Þormóðr í erfidrápu þeiri er hann orti um
mentions Thormod in memorial-poem that which he composed about
 Þorgeir. Ásmundr hærulangr frétti víg Þorgils frænda
Thorgeir Asmund Long-hair learned (the)-slaying of-Thorgils kinsman
 síns. Hann var aðili at eftirmálinu um víg Þorgils;
his He was principal in the-prosecution about (the)-slaying of-Thorgils
 fór hann til ok nefndi vátta at benjum, ok stefndi
went he to(-it) and named witnesses to (the)-wounds and summoned
 málinu til alþingis, því at þat sýndist þá lög, er málit
the-case to (the)-Althing because that that seemed then law since the-case
 hafði til borit í öðrum fjórðungi, ok liðu svá stundir fram.
had to happened in another quarter and passed so times forth

Þorsteinn Kuggason, a kinsman and a fierce champion, shares the prosecution for Þorgils's killing with Ásmundr. He refuses compensation and wants outlawry or blood vengeance. Ásmundr agrees to support him, Þorvaldr of Ás joins them, and so does Skeggi of Hvammr. They ride to the Althing in force and wait at Ljárskógar.

Maðr er nefndr Þorsteinn. Hann var sonr Þorkels kugga.
A-man is named Thorstein He was son of-Thorkel Kuggi
 Þórðar sonar gellis, Óláfs sonar feilans, Þorsteins sonar
of-Thord son of-Gellir of-Olaf son of-Feilan of-Thorstein son
 rauðs, Auðar sonar hinnar djúpauðgu. Móðir Þorsteins
of-(the)-Red of-Aud son of-the Deep-minded Mother of-Thorstein
 Kuggasonar var Þuríðr, dóttir Ásgeirs æðikolls. Ásgeirr var
Kuggi's-son was Thurid daughter of-Asgeir Rage-head Asgeir was
 föðurbróðir Ásmundar hærulangs. Þorsteinn Kuggason átti
father's-brother of-Asmund Long-hair Thorstein Kuggi's-son had
 eftirmál um víg Þorgils Má[k]ssonar jafnfram Ásmundi
prosecution about (the)-slaying of-Thorgils Mak's-son jointly with-Asmund
 hærulang. Gerði hann nú orðsending til Þorsteins, at hann
Long-hair Made he now message to Thorstein that he
 kæmi til móts við hann. Þorsteinn var kappi mikill ok
come to meeting with him Thorstein was a-champion great and
 ofstopamaðr hinn mesti. Fór hann þegar til móts við Ásmund
overbearing-man the greatest Went he at-once to meeting with Asmund
 frænda sinn, ok töluðu þeir um vígsmálit. Var Þorsteinn hinn
kinsman his and talked they about the-slaying-case Was Thorstein the
 ákafasti; kvað hér eigi skyldu fébætr fyrir koma, sagði, at
most-vehement said here not should compensation for come said that
 þeir hefði nógan frændaafla til þess, at annathvært kæmi
they had enough strength-of-kinsmen for that that either came

fyrir vígit sekt eða mannhefndir. Ásmundr kvaðst
for the-slaying outlawry or blood-vengeance Asmund said-of-himself
 honum mundu at fundi fylgja, hverju sem hann vildi fram
him would in support follow whatever as he wished forth
 fara. Riðu þeir norðr til Þorvaldar frænda síns, ok beiddu
to-go Rode they north to Thorvald kinsman their and asked
 hann liðveizlu; enn hann játaði því skjótt. Bjoggu þeir málit
him (for)-support but he agreed to-that quickly Prepared they the-case
 til á hendr Þorgeiri ok Þormóði. Þorsteinn reið heim
to against hands Thorgeir and Thormod Thorstein rode home
 til bús síns; hann bjó þá í Ljárskógum í Hvammsveit.
to farm his he dwelt then at Ljarskogar in Hvamssveit
 Skeggi bjó í Hvammi; hann réðst í málit með Þorsteini.
Skeggi dwelt at Hvamm he joined into the-case with Thorstein
 Skeggi var sonr Þórarins filsenis, Þórðar sonar gellis.
Skeggi was son of-Thorarin Elephant's-forehead of-Thord son of-Gellir
 Móðir Skeggja var Friðgerðr, dóttir Þórðar frá Höfða. Þeir
Mother of-Skeggi was Fridgerd daughter of-Thord from Hofdi They
 fjölmentu mjök til alþingis, ok heldu málum fram með
came-in-numbers much to (the)-Alþing and held cases forth with
 miklu kappi. Riðu þeir Ásmundr ok Þorvaldr norðan
great zeal Rode they Asmund and Thorvald from-the-north
 með sex tigu manna, ok sátu í Ljárskógum margar nætr.
with six tens of-men and sat at Ljarskogar many nights

Þorgils Arason of Reykjabólur, Þorgeirr's kinsman and a generous chieftain, offers compensation, which Þorsteinn refuses. He secretly books passage abroad for the foster-brothers. On the way south Þorgeirr kills Böggul-Torfi, Skúfi, and Bjarni, as a verse of Þormóðr's records. At the Althing the lawman Skapti rules that on the common lands farmers come before men without households, and Þorgeirr is outlawed while compensation is accepted for Þormóðr. Gautr Sleituson, a kinsman of Þorgils Máksson, bristles at Þorgeirr and leaves the ship.

Þorgils bjó þá á Reykjahólum. Hann var son Ara Mássonar,
Þorgils dwelt then at Reykjabólur He was son of-Ari Mar's-son
 Atla sonar hins rauða, Úlfs sonar hins skjálga, er nam
of-Atli son of-the Red of-Ulf son of-the Squinting who took
 Reykjanes. Móðir Þorgils Arasonar var Þorgerðr, dóttir
Reykjanes Mother of-Þorgils Ari's-son was Þorgerd daughter
 Álfs ór Dölum. Önnur dóttir Álfs var Þorelfr, móðir
of-Alf out-of Dalir (The)-other daughter of-Alf was Þorelf mother
 Þorgeirs Hávarssonar. Átti Þorgeirr þar traust mikit fyrir
of-Þorgeir Havar's-son Had Þorgeir there support great for
 frændsemis sakir, því at Þorgils var mestr höfðingi í
kinship's sake because that Þorgils was greatest chieftain in
 Vestfirðingafjórðungi. Hann var svá mikill þegnskaparmaðr, at
(the)-Westfjords-Quarter He was so great a-man-of-generosity that
 hann gaf hverjum frjálsum manni mat, svá lengi sem þiggja
he gave every free man food as long as to-accept
 vildi; varð af þessu jafnan fjölment á Reykjahólum. Hafði
wished became from this always crowded at Reykjabólur Had
 Þorgils rausn mikla af búnaði sínum. Hann var góðgjarn
Þorgils splendor great of household his He was a-well-meaning
 maðr ok forvittr. Þorgeirr var með Þorgils á vetrum, enn fór
man and far-seeing Þorgeir was with Þorgils in winters but went

á Strandir á sumrum. Eftir víg Þorgils Mákssonar fór
to (the)-Strands in summers After (the)-slaying of-Thorgils Mak's-son went
 Þorgeirr á Reykjahóla ok sagði Þorgils þessi tíðendi. Þorgils
Thorgeir to Reykjabolar and told Thorgils these tidings Thorgils
 sagði honum þar vist til reiðu hjá sér — “enn þat hygg
told him there lodging at hand with himself but that think
 ek”, segir hann, “at þeir verði þungir í málinu, enn ek
I says he that they will-become heavy in the-case but I
 em ófúss at auka vandræðum. Nú mun ek senda mann til
am unwilling to increase troubles Now will I send a-man to
 Þorsteins, ok bjóða fébætr fyrir víg Þorgils; enn ef
Thorstein and offer compensation for (the)-slaying of-Thorgils but if
 hann vill eigi sættum taka, þá mun ek þetta mál eigi með
he will not settlement take then will I this case not with
 kappi verja”. Þorgeirr kvaðst hans forsjá hlíta mundu.
zeal defend Thorgeir said-of-himself his guidance to-accept would
 Um haustit sendi Þorgils mann til Þorsteins Kuggasonar at
In the-autumn sent Thorgils a-man to Thorstein Kuggi's-son to
 leita um sættir, enn hann var þverr í því, at taka fé
seek about settlements but he was stubborn in that to take money
 fyrir vígsmálit við Þorgils, enn um önnur víg kvaðst
for the-slaying-case with Thorgils but about other slayings said-of-himself
 hann gera mundu eftir skynsamra manna tillögum; ok er
he to-do would after of-sensible men proposals and when
 Þorgils frétti þetta, kallar hann Þorgeir á tal við sik, ok
Thorgils learned this calls he Thorgeir to talk with himself and
 spyrr, hver liðveizla honum þætti sér þá hallkvæmust.
asks what support to-him would-seem to-himself then most-convenient
 Þorgeirr kvaðst helst vildu utan fara, ef hann yrði sekr.
Thorgeir said-of-himself most to-wish abroad to-go if he became outlawed
 Þorgils sagði, at þessa mundi freistað verða. Skip stóð uppi
Thorgils said that this would tried become A-ship stood beached

í Norðrá í Borgarfirði; í því skipi keypti Þorgils á laun
in Nordra in Borgarfjord in that ship bought Thorgils in secret
 far til handa þeim fóstbræðrum. Leið svá af vetrinn. Þorgils
passage to hands them foster-brothers Passed so off the-winter Thorgils
 frétti, at þeir Þorsteinn fjölmentu mjök til alþingis, ok
learned that they Thorstein(-and-bis) came-in-numbers much to (the)-Althing and
 sátu í Ljarskógum. Því frestaði hann heiman at ríða, at
sat at Ljarskogar Therefore delayed he from-home to ride that
 hann vildi, at þeir Þorsteinn væri undan suðr riðnir, þá
he wished that they Thorstein(-and-bis) were ahead south ridden then
 er hann kæmi vestan; ok svá varð. Reið Þorgils suðr
when he came from-the-west and so it-happened Rode Thorgils south
 ok þeir fóstbræðr með honum. Í þessi ferð drap Þorgeirr
and they foster-brothers with him On this journey killed Thorgeir
 böggul-Torfa at Máskeldu; þá drap hann ok þá Skúf ok
Bundle-Torfi at Maskelda then killed he also then Skuf and
 Bjarna í Hundadal. Svá segir Þormóðr í Þorgeirsdrápu:
Bjarni in Hundadal So says Thormod in Thorgeir's-poem

Kapp lét höldr — með hepn

Zeal let (the)-man with luck

hríð gerðist þá sverða;

storm arose then of-swords

hrátt gat hrafn at slíta

raw could (the)-raven to tear

hold — Má[k]s syni goldit.

flesh Mak's to-son repaid

Enn vas — vágs — at vígi

Still was of-wave at slaying

viggríðandi síðan

steed-rider afterward

— hann bar greipr at gunni

he bore grip to battle

gjarna — Skúfs ok Bjarna.

gladly of-Skuf and of-Bjarni

Þorgils sættist þar þegar á vigin Skúfs og Bjarna þar

Þorgils was-reconciled there at-once on the-slayings of-Skuf and of-Bjarni there

í dalinum, ok dvaldist honum lengr enn hann hafði áðr

in the-valley and was-delayed to-him longer than he had before

ætlat. Fór Þorgeirr til skips, enn Þorgils til þings, ok

intended Went Þorgeir to (the)-ship but Þorgils to (the)-assembly and

kom eigi fyrr enn gengit var til dóma. Þá bauð Ásmundr

came not before than gone was to (the)-courts Then offered Asmund

hærulangr til varna um vígsmálit Þorgils Má[k]ssonar;

Long-hair for defense about the-slaying-case of-Þorgils Mak's-son

Þorgils gekk at dóminum ok bauð fébætr fyrir vígit, ef

Þorgils went to the-court and offered compensation for the-slaying if

Þorgeirr yrði þá sykn. Hann leitaði til varna í málinu,

Þorgeir became then acquitted He sought for defense in the-case

hvárt þeir ætti eigi allan veiðiskap frjálsan á almenningum.

whether they owned not all hunting free on (the)-common-lands

Var þá lögmaðr at spurðr, hvárt þetta væri lögvörn.

Was then (the)-law-man at asked whether this were a-lawful-defense

Skafti var þá lögmaðr, ok fylgdi hann Ásmundi fyrir

Skafti was then law-man and supported he Asmund for

frændsemis sakir; sagði hann, at þat væri lög, ef þeir væri

kinship's sake said he that that were law if they were

jafnir menn, enn sagði, at fyrr ætti at taka bændr enn
equal men but said that sooner ought to take farmers than
 einhleypingar. Ásmundr sagði, at Þorgils hefði boðit þeim
single-men Asmund said that Thorgils had offered them
 fóstbræðrum jafnaðarskifti á þeim hvalnum, sem óskorinn
foster-brothers equal-division on that the-whale which uncut
 var, þá er þeir kvámu til, ok var þá lokit þeiri vörn.
was then when they came to(-it) and was then ended that defense
 Gengu þeir Þorsteinn ok frændr hans þá at með kappi,
Went they Thorstein and kinsmen his then at(-it) with zeal
 ok létu sér eigi annat líka enn Þorgeirr væri sekr gerr.
and let themselves not other please than Thorgeir were outlawed made
 Sá Þorgils, at þá var annathvært at gera, at ganga at
Saw Thorgils that then was either to do to go at(-it)
 með fjölmenni, enn þó óvíst, hvat í aflaðist, eða láta
with a-crowd but yet uncertain what in would-be-achieved or let
 þá fara fram sem þeim líkaði; ok við þat, at Þorgeiri var
them go forth as to-them pleased and at that that Thorgeir was
 í skip komit, leiddi Þorgils hjá sér málit. Var Þorgeirr
into ship come let Thorgils past himself the-case Was Thorgeir
 sekr gerr, enn fyrir Þormóð váru teknar fébætr, ok skyldi
outlawed made but for Thormod were taken compensation and should
 hann sykn vera. Þeir Ásmundr ok Þorsteinn þóttu mikit
be acquitted be They Asmund and Thorstein seemed much
 vaxa af þessu eftirmáli. Riðu menn þá heim af þinginu.
to-grow from this prosecution Rode men then home from the-assembly
 Töluðu sumir menn, at Þorgils hefði lítt fylgt málinu, enn
Talked some men that Thorgils had little followed the-case but
 hann gaf sér fátt at því, ok lét hvern tala hér um slíkt
he gave himself little at that and let everyone talk here about such
 er vildi. Enn er Þorgeirr frétti sekt sína, sagði hann
as wished But when Thorgeir learned (of)-outlawry his said he

svá: “Þat munda ek vilja, at þeir, er mik hafa sekan gert,
so That would I wish that they who me have outlawed made
 hefði þessa full gjöld áðr enn lýkr, ef ek mætti ráða”.

had of-this full payments before than ends if I might decide
 Gautr hét maðr, ok var kallaðr Sleituson; hann var
Gaut was-called a-man and was called Sleitu's-son he was
 frændi Þorgils Má[k]ssonar. Gautr var ráðinn í skip þetta,
kinsman of-Thorgils Mak's-son Gaut was engaged on ship this
 er Þorgeirr skyldi sigla í. Hann ýfðist mjök við Þorgeir ok
which Thorgeir should sail in He bristled much at Thorgeir and
 lét ófrýnlega; enn er kaupmenn fundu þat, þótti þeim
behaved threateningly but when (the)-merchants found that seemed to-them
 eigi einsætt, at þeir færi í einu skipi. Þorgeirr sagðist eigi
not advisable that they went in one ship Thorgeir said-of-himself not
 hirða, hversu Gaut léti síga brýnnar, enn þó var þat til ráðs
to-care how Gaut let sink (the)-brows but yet was that for counsel
 tekit, at Gaut réðst ór skipinu ok fór norðr til sveita.
taken that Gaut left out-of the-ship and went north to (the)-districts
 Varð ekki at með þeim Þorgeiri at því sinni, enn þó
Became nothing off(-it) between them Thorgeir(-and-him) at that time but yet
 reis af þessu sundrþykki með þeim, sem síðar bar raun á.
arose from this discord between them as later bore proof on

XXVIII • GRETTIR RETURNS AND FIGHTS AUÐUN

Grettir comes home famous and arrogant and rides to Auðunarstaðir to settle the old score from the ball game. He falls asleep on the bench, then trips Auðun as he carries in the curds, and Auðun flings the curd bag into his arms. They fight through the hall until Barði Guðmundarson arrives and tells Grettir to let Auðun up. Grettir retorts that Barði would do better to avenge his brother Hallr, but gives way. Grettir offers to ride south with Barði, and Barði agrees if his foster-father Þórarinn allows it.

Grettir Ásmundarson kom þetta sumar út í Skagafirði. Hann
Grettir Asmund's-son came this summer out to Skagaford He
 var þá svá frægr maðr fyrir sakir afli ok hreysti, at engi
was then so famous a-man for sake of-strength and valor that no-one
 þótti þá slíkr af ungum mönnum. Hann reið brátt heim til
seemed then such of young men He rode soon home to
 Bjargs, ok tók Ásmundr þá við honum sæmilega. Atli hafði
Bjarg and took Asmund then with him honorably Atli had
 þá bússforráð; fell vel á með þeim bræðrum. Þá
then (the)-farm-management fell well on between those brothers Then
 gerðist ofsi Grettis svá mikill, at honum þótti sér
became (the)-arrogance of-Grettir so great that to-him seemed to-himself
 ekki ófært. Þá gerðust þeir margir fullhraustir menn, er
nothing impassable Then became they many full-hardy men who
 þá váru ungir, er Grettir var at leikum á Miðfjarðarvatni
then were young when Grettir was at games on Midfjardarvatn
 með þeim, áðr enn hann fór utan. Einn af þeim var
with them before than he went abroad One of them was
 Auðun, er þá bjó á Auðunarstöðum í Víðidal; hann var
Audun who then dwelt at Audunarstadir in Vididal he was
 Ásgeirsson, Auðunarsonar, Ásgeirssonar æðikolls. Auðun var
Asgeir's-son Audun's-son Asgeir's-son Rage-head Audun was
 góðr bóndi ok gegn maðr; allra manna var hann sterkastr
a-good farmer and fair man of-all men was he strongest
 norðr þar; hann þótti hinn gæfasti í bygðarlagi. Gretti kom
north there he seemed the gentlest in (the)-district To-Grettir came
 nú þat í hug, at hann þóttist hafa orðit varhluta
now that into mind that he thought-himself to-have become short-changed
 fyrir Auðuni at knattleiknum, sem áðr er sagt, ok vildi
by Audun at the-ball-game as before is told and wished
 hann prófa, hvárr þeira meira hefði við gengizt síðan. Af
he to-test which of-them more had on gone since From

því gerir Grettir heiman ferð sína á Auðunarstaði; þat var
that makes Grettir from-home journey his to Audunarstadir that was
 um öndverðan sláttutíma. Grettir barst á mikit, ok reið
at (the)-beginning-of haying-time Grettir bore-himself on much and rode
 í steindum söðli mjök vönduðum, er Þorfinnr gaf honum.
in a-painted saddle very finely-made which Thorfinnr gave him
 Hann hafði ok góðan hest ok vápn öll hin beztu. Grettir
He had also a-good horse and weapons all the best Grettir
 kom snemma dags á Auðunarstaði ok drap á dyrr. Fátt
came early of-day to Audunarstadir and knocked on (the)-door Few
 var manna heima. Grettir spurði, hvárt Auðun væri heima.
were of-men at-home Grettir asked whether Audun were at-home
 Menn sögðu, at hann væri farinn til sels eftir mat.
Men said that he were gone to (the)-sheeling for food
 Grettir hleypti beizli af hesti sínum. Túnit var óslegit,
Grettir slipped (the)-bridle off horse his The-homefield was unmown
 ok gekk hesturinn þangat sem loðnast var. Grettir gekk
and went the-horse thither where lushest was Grettir went
 til skála ok settist niðr á setstokkinn, ok síðan sofnaði
to (the)-hall and sat-himself down on the-bench-log and then fell-asleep
 hann. Litlu síðar kom Auðun heim; hann sá, at hestr var
he A-little later came Audun home he saw that a-horse was
 í túninu með steindum söðli. Auðun bar mat á tveimr
in the-homefield with painted saddle Audun carried food on two
 hestum, ok bar skyr á hesti, ok var þat í húðum ok
horses and carried curds on a-horse and was that in hides and
 bundit fyrir ofan; þat kölluðu menn skyrkylla. Auðun tók af
tied on above that called men a-curd-bag Audun took off
 hestum ok bar inn skyr í fangi sér; honum var myrkt
(the)-horses and carried in (the)-curds in arms his to-him was dark
 fyrir augum. Grettir rétti fótinn fram af stokkinum, ok
before eyes Grettir stretched the-foot forth from the-bench-log and

fell Auðun á fram, ok varð undir honnm skyrkyllirinn
fell Audun on forth and came under him the-curd-bag
 ok gekk af yfirbandit. Auðun spratt upp ok spurði, hvat
and went off the-top-binding Audun sprang up and asked what
 skelmir þar væri. Grettir nefndi sik. Auðun mælti: “Þann
rascal there were Grettir named himself Audun spoke That
 veg var óspaklega farit; eða hvert er erendi þitt?” “Ek vil
way was unpeaceably gone or what is errand your I will
 berjast við þik”, sagði Grettir. “Sjá mun ek fyrst ráð fyrir
fight with you said Grettir See will I first counsel for
 mat mínum”, sagði Auðun. “Vel má þat”, sagði Grettir, “ef
food my said Audun Well may that said Grettir if
 þú mátt eigi öðrum mönnum at því hlíta”. Auðun laut þá
you can not other men to that trust Audun stooped then
 niðr ok þreif upp skyrkyllinn, ok sletti framan í fang
down and seized up the-curd-bag and flung in-front into (the)-arms
 Grettis, ok bað hann fyrst taka við því, er honum var
of-Grettir and bade him first take with that which to-him was
 sent. Grettir varð allr skýrugr. Þótti honum þat meiri
sent Grettir became all curd-smeared Seemed to-him that greater
 smán enn þótt Auðun hefði veitt honum mikinn áverka.
disgrace than though Audun had given him a-great wound
 Síðan réðust þeir á ok glímdu heldr sterklega. Sækir
Then went they at(-it) and wrestled rather strongly Attacks
 Grettir með ákefð, enn Auðunn ferr undan; finnr hann
Grettir with vebemence but Audun goes back finds he
 þó, at Grettir hefir dregit undan honum. Gengr upp alt
yet that Grettir has held from him Goes up all
 þat er fyrir þeim verðr, ok rekast þeir víða um skálann.
that which before them comes and are-driven they widely about the-ball
 Sparði hvárrgi af, enn þó verðr Grettir drjúgari, ok fellr
Spared neither off but yet becomes Grettir stronger and falls

Auðun at lyktum; hann hafði slitit öll vápnin af Grettir.
Audun at last he had torn all the-weapons off Grettir
 Knýjast þeir fast, ok verðr brak mikit um þá, ok þá
Grapple they hard and becomes crashing great about them and then
 kemr dynr mikill undir bæinn, ok heyrir Grettir, at riðit
comes a-din great under the-farm and hears Grettir that ridden
 var at húsunum ok af baki stigit, ok inn gengit snúðigt.
was to the-houses and off back dismounted and in gone briskly
 Sér hann, at maðr gengr inn, þrifleg, í rauðum kyrtli, ok
Sees he that a-man walks in stout in a-red tunic and
 hafði hjálm á höfði. Sjá sneri til skálans, því at hann
had a-helmet on head That-one turned to the-hall because that he
 heyrði umfang mikit, er þeir áttust við. Hann spurði, hvat
heard struggle great as they fought together He asked what
 í skálanum væri. Grettir nefndi sik — “eða hverr spyr
in the-hall were Grettir named himself or who asks
 at?” “Barði heiti ek”, sagði sá er kominn var. “Ertu
that Bardi am-called I said that-one who come was Are-you
 Barði Guðmundarson ór Ásbjarnarnesi?” “Sá er maðr hinn
Bardi Gudmund's-son out-of Asbjarnarnes That is man the
 sami”, sagði Barði; “eða hvat hefstu at?” sagði hann. Grettir
same said Bardi or what do-you at said he Grettir
 svarar: “Vit Auðun eigum hér gamanleika”. “Eigi veit ek
answers We-two Audun have here a-game Not know I
 um gaman þat”, sagði Barði, “er ok eigi jafn-komit á með
about game that said Bardi is also not evenly-matched on between
 ykk; þú ert ójafnaðarmaðr ok ofrkappsfullr, enn hann er
you-two you are an-unjust-man and overbearing but he is
 gæfr ok góðfengr, ok láttu hann upp standa skjótt”. Grettir
gentle and good-natured and let-you him up stand quickly Grettir
 svarar: “Margr seilist um hurð til lokunnar; þætti mér
answers Many reaches over (the)-door to the-latch would-seem to-me

þér nær, at hefna Halls bróður þíns enn at hlutast til
for-you nearer to avenge Hall brother your than to meddle with
 með okkr Auðuni, hvat vit eigumst við". "Jafnan heyri
between us-two Audun what we-two have-dealings with Always hear
 ek þat", sagði Barði, "enn eigi veit ek, hvárt þess verður
I that said Barði but not know I whether that becomes
 nökkut hefnt, enn þó vil ek, at þú látir Auðun vera í
at-all avenged but yet will I that you let Audun be in
 náðum, því at hann er spakr maðr". Grettir gerði svá
peace because that he is a-quiet man Grettir did so
 fyrir tillögur Barða, enn líkaði þó illa. Barði spurði, hvat
for (the)-urging of-Barði but pleased yet ill Barði asked what
 til saka væri með þeim. Grettir kvað vísu:

Eigi veit, nema útan
Not know unless from-outside
 Ialfaðr at þér sjalfum
Ialfad at you yourself
 kverk fyr kapp ok orku
throat before zeal and strength
 — kvelling es þat — svelli.
a-throttling is that swell
 Svá bannaði sinni
So forbade companion
 seim-Gauts, es vask heima,
of-gold-Gaut when I-was at-home
 ungr endr fyr löngu
young once before long
 ákall þinul fjalla.
call (the)-edge-rope of-mountains

Barði kvað þat víst várkunn, ef hann ætti sín í at hefna.
Bardi said that surely excusable if he had his-own in(-it) to avenge
 “Mun ek nú gera með ykk”, sagði Barði; “vil ek, at þit
Will I now make between you-two said Bardi will I that you-two
 skilið at svá gervu, ok sé nú slitit með ykk” — ok þat
part at so done and be now ended between you-two and that
 létu þeir haldast, því at þeir váru skyldir, ok líkaði Grettir
let they stand because that they were related and pleased Grettir
 heldr illa við Barða ok bræðr hans. Riðu á burt allir saman.
rather ill with Bardi and brothers his Rode off away all together
 Ok er þeir váru á veg komnir, þá mælti Grettir: “Þat
And when they were on (the)-way come then spoke Grettir That
 hefi ek spurt, at þú ætlar suðr til Borgarfjarðar í sumar; nú
have I heard that you intend south to Borgarfjord in summer now
 vil ek bjóða þér, Barði, at fara suðr með þér, ok þykkjumst
will I offer you Bardi to go south with you and think-myself
 ek þá gera við þik verðleikum betr”. Barði varð glaðr við
I then to-do toward you (by)-deserts better Bardi became glad at
 þetta, ok játaði skjótt þessu, ok bað hann hafa þökk fyrir;
this and agreed quickly to-this and bade him have thanks for(-it)
 síðan skildu þeir. Þá veik Barði aftir ok mælti: “Þat vil ek til
then parted they Then turned Bardi back and spoke That will I to
 skilja”, segir hann, “at þú farir eigi, nema Þórarinn fóstri
stipulate says he that you go not unless Thorarin foster-father
 minn leyfi, því hann skal ráða ferðinni”. “Vel þætti mér
my allow because he shall decide the-journey Well would-seem to-me
 þú mega einhlitr vera at ráðum þínum; á ek eigi”, sagði
you able sufficient to-be in counsels your have I not said
 Grettir, “ferðir mínar undir öðrum mönnum, enn illa mun
Grettir journeys my under other men but ill will
 mér þykkja, ef þú gerir mik liðrækan”. Nú fóru sína leið
to-me seem if you make me help-scorned Now went their-own way

hvárir, ok kvaðst Barði skyldu gera Gretti vissu — “ef
each and said-of-himself Bardi should make for-Grettir known if
 Þórarinn vildi, at þú farir” — enn ella skyldi hann sitja
Thorarin wished that you go but otherwise should he sit
 um kyrt. Grettir reið heim til Bjargs, enn Barði til bús síns.
in quiet Grettir rode home to Bjarg but Bardi to farm his

XXIX · THE HORSE FIGHT AT LANGAFIT

At a horse fight Atli's horse is matched against the horse of Kormákr and Þorgils of Melr, and Grettir drives Atli's horse. Oddr ómagaskáld, driving the other, jabs Grettir in the shoulder with his goad. Grettir knocks Oddr into the pool with three broken ribs, and the crowd separates the two sides before they can fight. Both sides go home swearing revenge.

Um sumarit var lagt hestabíng fjölment á Langafit, ofan frá
In the-summer was held a-horse-fight crowded at Langafit down from
 Reykjum; kom þar margt manna. Atli at Bjargi átti hest
Reykir came there many of-men Atli at Bjarg had a-horse
 góðan móalóttan, af Keingálu kyni; höfðu þeir feðgar
good mouse-gray of Keingala's breed had they father-and-son
 mætr miklar á hestinum. Þeir bræðr Kormákr ok Þorgils
esteem great in the-horse They brothers Kormak and Þorgils
 á Mel áttu hest brúnan, öruggan til vígs; þeir skyldi etja
at Mel had a-horse brown sure at fighting they should match
 saman ok Atli frá Bjargi. Margir váru þar aðrir góðir hestar.
together and Atli from Bjarg Many were there other good horses
 Oddr ómagaskáld, frændi Kormáks, skyldi fylgja hesti þeira
Odd Pauper-poet kinsman of-Kormak should follow (the)-horse of-them
 frænda sinna um daginn. Oddr gerðist sterkr maðr, ok lét
kinsmen his during the-day Odd became a-strong man and made

um sik mikit, ódæll ok ófyrirleitinn. Grettir spurði Atla
about himself much unruly and reckless Grettir asked Atli
 bróður sinn, hvern fylgja skyldi hans hesti. “Eigi er mér
brother his who follow should his horse Not is to-me
 þat svá glögt”, sagði hann. “Viltu, at ek standi hjá?” sagði
that so clear said he Wish-you that I stand by said
 Grettir. “Vertu vel stiltr þá, frændi”, sagði Atli, “því at
Grettir Be-you well restrained then kinsman said Atli because that
 hér er við metnaðarmenn um at eiga”. “Gjaldi þeir sjálfir
here are with proud-men about to deal Pay they themselves
 ofstopa síns”, sagði Grettir, “ef þeir hafa hann eigi í
(for)-arrogance their said Grettir if they have it not in
 hófi”. Nú eru hestarnir fram leiddir, enn hrossin stóðu
moderation Now are the-horses forth led but the-mares stood
 framarlega á árbakkanum, ok váru bundin saman. Hylr mikill
forward on the-river-bank and were tied together A-pool great
 var fyrir framan bakkann. Hestarnir bitust allvel, ok var
was before in-front-of the-bank The-horses bit-each-other very-well and was
 þat hin mesta skemtan. Oddr fylgdi með kappi, enn Grettir
that the greatest entertainment Odd followed with zeal but Grettir
 lét hefjast við, ok tók í taglit annarri hendi, enn helt með
let rise at(-it) and took in the-tail with-one hand but held with
 annarri stafnum, er hann keyrði með hestinn. Oddr stóð
(the)-other the-staff which he drove with the-horse Odd stood
 framarlega hjá sínum hesti, ok var eigi traust, at hann
forward by his horse and was not certain that he
 styngi eigi hest Atla af takinu. Eigi lét Grettir sem hann
pricked not (the)-horse of-Atli off the-hold Not let Grettir as-if he
 sæi þat. Bárust hestarnir fram at ánni; þá stingr Oddr
saw that Were-borne the-horses forth toward the-river then jabs Odd
 stafnum til Grettis, ok kom á herðablaðit, því at Grettir
with-the-staff at Grettir and came on the-shoulder-blade because that Grettir

horfði öxlinni at honum. Þat var mikit tilræði, svá at
turned the-shoulder toward him That was a-great thrust so that
 undan hljóp holdit, enn lítt skeindist Grettir. Í því bili
from-under ran the-flesh but little was-scratched Grettir In that moment
 risu hestarnir hátt upp; Grettir hljóp undir hömina á hesti
reared the-horses high up Grettir ran under the-haunch of horse
 sínum, enn rak stafinn á síðu Oddi svá hart, at þrjú
his but drove the-staff into (the)-side of-Odd so hard that three
 rifin brotnuðu í honum, enn Oddr hraut út á hylinn, ok
the-ribs broke in him but Odd tumbled out into the-pool and
 svá hestr hans, ok hrossin öll, þau er bundin váru. Var þá
so horse his and the-mares all those which tied were Was then
 lagst til hans, ok dreginn af ánni. Þá var óp mikit gert
swum to him and dragged from the-river Then was shouting great made
 at þessu. Þeir Kormákr hlupu til vápna, enn Bjargsmenn í
at this They Kormak(-and-his) ran to weapons but (the)-Bjarg-men in
 öðrum stað; enn er þat sá Hrútfirðingar ok Vatnsnesmenn,
another place but when that saw (the)-Hrutaford-men and (the)-Vatnsnes-men
 gengu þeir í milli, ok urðu þeir þá skildir, ok fóru heim ok
went they in between and were they then parted and went home and
 höfðu hvárir ill heit við aðra, ok sátu þó um kyrt um
had each ill threats against (the)-other and sat yet in quiet for
 hrið. Atli var fátalaðr um þetta, enn Grettir var heldr ósvífinn,
a-while Atli was taciturn about this but Grettir was rather insolent
 ok kvað þá finnast skyldu annat sinn, ef hann mætti ráða.
and said them to-meet should another time if he might decide

The saga introduces Þorbjörn öxnamegin of Þóroddsstaðir, a strong but hard master, his mocking kinsman Þorbjörn ferðalangr, and the sons of Þórir of Skarð. Grettir and four companions meet Kormákr's party on the ridge, and both sides fight until several are wounded. Þorbjörn öxnamegin arrives to part them, but Gunnarr Þórisson kills one of Atli's house-carls, and two of Kormákr's house-carls fall. Grettir breaks off rather than face Þorbjörn's band, and enmity grows between the men of Bjarg and Þorbjörn.

Þorbjörn hét maðr, er bjó á Þóroddsstöðum í Hrutafirði;
Thorbjorn was-called a-man who dwelt at Thoroddsstaðir in Hrutafjord
 hann var sonr Arnórs heynefs Þóroddssonar, er numit hafði
he was son of-Arnor Hay-nose Thorodd's-son who taken had
 Hrutafjörð þeim megin til móts við Bakka. Þorbjörn var
Hrutafjord on-that side to meeting with Bakki Thorbjorn was
 allra manna sterkastr; hann var kallaðr öxnamegin. Þóroddr
of-all men strongest he was called Oxen-might Thorodd
 hét bróðir hans; hann var kallaðr drápustúfr. Móðir þeira
was-called brother his he was called Poem-stub Mother their
 var Gerðr, dóttir Böðvars ór Böðvarshólum. Þorbjörn var
was Gerd daughter of-Bodvar out-of Bodvarsholar Thorbjorn was
 garpr mikill, ok hafði mannmargt með sér. Hann var
a-bold-fellow great and had many-people with him He was
 til þess tekinn, at honum varð verra til hjóna, enn öðrum
for this noted that to-him went worse with servants than to-other
 mönnum, ok galt nær engum manni kaup; eigi þótti hann
men and paid nearly no man wages not seemed he
 dæll maðr. Þorbjörn hét frændi hans, ok var kallaðr
an-easy man Thorbjorn was-called kinsman his and was called
 ferðalangr; hann var siglingamaðr, ok áttu þeir nafnar
Traveler he was a-seafarer and had they namesakes

félag saman. Var hann á Þoroddsstöðum jafnan, ok þótti
partnership together Was he at Thoroddsstadir always and seemed
 hann lítit bæta um fyrir Þorbirni. Hann var tilfyndinn ok
he little to-improve about for Thorbjorn He was sharp-tongued and
 fór með dáruskaþ til ýmsra manna. Þórir hét maðr, son
went with mockery to various men Thorir was-called a-man son
 Þorkels á Borðeyri. Þórir bjó fyrst á Melum í Hrútafirði.
of-Thorkel at Bordeyri Thorir dwelt first at Melar in Hrutafjord
 Hans dóttir var Helga, er sleitu-Helgi fekk. Enn eftir
His daughter was Helga whom Sleitu-Helgi married But after
 vígit á Fagrabrekku réðst Þórir suðr í Haukadal, ok bjó
the-slaying at Fagrabrekka moved Thorir south to Haukadal and dwelt
 á Skarði, enn seldi landit á Melum Þórhalla Gamlasyni
at Skard but sold the-land at Melar to-Thorhall Gamli's-son
 víðlendinga. Hans son var Gamli, er átti Rannveigu, dóttur
(the)-Wend's His son was Gamli who had Rannveig daughter
 Ásmundar hærulanga, systur Grettis. Þau bjoggu í þenna
of-Asmund Long-hair sister of-Grettir They dwelt at this
 tíma á Melum ok áttu gott ráð. Þórir á Skarði átti tvá
time at Melar and had good means Thorir at Skard had two
 sonu; hét annarr Gunnarr, enn annarr Þorgeirr. Þeir
sons was-called one Gunnar but (the)-other Thorgeir They
 váru efnilegir menn, ok höfðu þeir þá tekit við búi
were promising men and had they then taken over (the)-farm
 eftir föður sinn, enn þó váru þeir jafnan með Þorbirni
after father their but yet were they always with Thorbjorn
 öxnamegin; þeir gerðust offorsfullir. Þetta sumar, sem nú var
Oxen-might they became overbearing This summer which now was
 frá sagt, riðu þeir Kormákr ok Þorgils ok Narfi frændi þeira
of told rode they Kormak and Thorgils and Narfi kinsman their
 suðr til Norðrárdals at erendum sínum. Oddr ómagaskáld var
south to Nordradal on errands their Odd Pauper-poet was

ok í ferð með þeira; var honum þá batnat stirðleikans,
also in company with them was to-him then improved the-stiffness
 er hann hafði fengit á hestapinginu. Ok meðan þeir váru
which he had gotten at the-horse-fight And while they were
 fyrir sunnan heiðina, fór Grettir heiman frá Bjargi, ok
on south-of the-beath went Grettir from-home from Bjarg and
 með honum tveir húskarlar Atla. Þeir riðu yfir til Búrfells,
with him two house-carls of-Atli They rode over to Burfell
 ok þaðan yfir hálsinn til Hrútafjarðar, ok kvámu til Mela
and thence over the-ridge to Hrutafjord and came to Melar
 um kveldit. Þrjár nætr váru þeir þar. Þau Rannveig ok
in the-evening Three nights were they there They Rannveig and
 Gamli tóku allvel við Gretti, ok buðu honum með sér at
Gamli took very-well with Grettir and invited him with them to
 vera, enn hann vildi heim ríða. Þá fréttir Grettir, at þeir
be but he wished home to-ride Then learns Grettir that they
 Kormákr váru sunnan komnir, ok höfðu gist i Tungu
Kormak(-and-his) were from-the-south come and had lodged at Tunga
 um nóttina. Grettir bjóst snemma frá Melum. Gamli
during the-night Grettir made-ready early from Melar Gamli
 bauð honum menn til fylgdar. Grímr hét bróðir Gamla;
offered him men for escort Grim was-called brother of-Gamli
 hann var allra manna hvatastr. Hann reið með Gretti við
he was of-all men quickest He rode with Grettir with
 annan mann. Þeir váru fim saman; riðu unz þar til, er þeir
a-second man They were five together rode until there to that they
 kvámu á Hrútafjarðarháls, vestr frá Búrfelli. Þar stendr
came onto Hrutafjardarbals west from Burfell There stands
 steinn mikill, er kallaðr er Grettishaf; hann fekst við
a-stone great which called is Grettir's-lift he dealt with(-it)
 lengi um daginn at hefja steininn, ok dvaldi svá þar til er
long during the-day to lift the-stone and stayed so there until that

þeir Kormákr kvámu. Grettir sneri til móts við þá ok
they Kormak(-and-his) came Grettir turned to meeting with them and
 hlupu af baki hvárirtveggja. Grettir sagði, at frjálsmannlegra
leaped off back both-sides Grettir said that more-free-manly
 væri nú at höggva sem stærst, heldr enn berjast með stöfum
were now to hew as biggest rather than fight with staves
 sem förumenn. Kormákr bað þá verða við mannlega, ok
like tramps Kormak bade them become at(-it) manfully and
 duga sem beztr. Eftir þat hlupust þeir at ok börðust.
help as best After that rushed they at(-each-other) and fought
 Grettir var fremstr af sínum mönnum, ok bað þá geyma, at
Grettir was foremost of his men and bade them take-care that
 eigi væri gengit at baki honum. Sóttust þeir um hrið,
not were gone at back to-him Attacked-each-other they for a-while
 ok urðu hvárirtveggja sárir. Þorbjörn öxnamegin hafði riðit
and became both-sides wounded Thorbjorn Oxen-might had ridden
 þenna dag yfir háls til Búrfells, ok er þeir riðu aft, sér
this day over (the)-ridge to Burfell and when they rode back sees
 hann fundinn. Þar var þá með honum Þorbjörn ferðalangr
he the-meeting There was then with him Thorbjorn Traveler
 ok Gunnarr ok Þorgeirr Þórissynir, ok Þoroddr drápustúfr.
and Gunnar and Thorgeir Thorir's-sons and Thorodd Poem-stub
 Ok er þeir kvámu at, heitir Þorbjörn á menn sína til
And when they came up calls Thorbjorn on men his for
 meðalgöngu. Hinir váru svá ákafir, at þeir gátu ekki
mediation The-others were so fierce that they could nothing
 at gert. Grettir ruddist um fast. Þeir urðu fyrir honum
about do Grettir pushed about hard They became before him
 Þórissynir, ok fellu báðir senn, er hann hratt þeim frá sér.
Thorir's-sons and fell both at-once when he pushed them from himself
 Þeir urðu óðir mjök við þat, svá at Gunnarr hjó húskarl
They became mad much at that so that Gunnar bewed a-house-carl

Atla banahögg, ok er Þorbjörn sá þat, biðr hann þá skilja;
of-Atli a-death-blow and when Thorbjorn saw that bids he them part
 kvaðst hann skyldi þeim lið veita, er hans orð vildi rækja.
said-of-himself he should them help give who his words would heed
 Þá váru fallnir tveir húskarlar Kormáks. Þá sá Grettir, at
Then were fallen two house-carls of-Kormak Then saw Grettir that
 varla mundi duga, ef Þorbjörn réðist í lið með þeim,
hardly would avail if Thorbjorn joined into company with them
 ok því lætr hann verða uppgefinn bardagann. Allir váru
and therefore lets he become given-up the-battle All were
 þeir sárir, sem á fundinn höfðu verit. Illa þótti Gretti,
they wounded who at the-meeting had been Ill seemed to-Grettir
 er þeir váru skildir. Eftir þat riðu þeir heim hváirtveggja.
that they were parted After that rode they home both-sides
 Eigi sættust þeir á mál þessi. Þorbjörn ferðalangr gerði
Not were-reconciled they on cases these Thorbjorn Traveler made
 at þessu mikit kalls; því tók at versna með þeim
of this much mockery therefore began to worsen between them
 Bjargsmönnum ok Þorbirni öxnamegmegin, svá at af því
(the)-Bjarg-men and Thorbjorn Oxen-might so that from that
 gerðist fullr fjandskapr, sem síðar kom fram. Engar bætr
arose full enmity as later came forth No compensation
 váru Atla boðnar fyrir húskarl sinn; eigi lét hann, sem hann
was to-Atli offered for house-carl his not let he as-if he
 vissi þat. Grettir sat á Bjargi fram til tvímánaðar. Eigi er
knew that Grettir sat at Bjarg forth until (the)-hay-month Not is
 sagt, at þeir fyndist Kormákr síðan, svá þess sé getit.
said that they met Kormak(-and-be) afterward so that be mentioned

Barði asks his foster-father Þórarinn the Wise about taking Grettir south. Þórarinn refuses, saying Grettir is strong but unlucky, so Barði rides to the Heath-Slayings without him. Offended, Grettir waits for Barði's men at Þóreyjargnúpr as they return wounded. Barði has already sent for men from the farm, and he will not fight Grettir without cause. When the men arrive, Grettir lets Barði's party go. Back at Bjarg, he chafes that he can find nothing on which to test his strength.

Barði Guðmundsson ok bræðr hans riðu heim í Ásbjarnarnes,
Barði Guðmund's-son and brothers his rode home to Ásbjarnarnes
 þá er þeir Grettir skildust; þeir vǫru synir Guðmundar
then when they Grettir(-and-he) parted they were sons of-Guðmund
 Sölmundarsonar. Móðir Sölmundar var Þórlaug, dóttir
Sölmund's-son Mother of-Sölmund was Þórlaug daughter
 Sæmundar hins suðreyska, fóstbróður Ingimundar hins gamla.
of-Sæmund the Hebridean foster-brother of-Ingimund the Old
 Barði var göfugmenni mikít. Hann reið nú brátt at finna
Barði was a-man-of-rank great He rode now soon to meet
 Þórarin hinn spaka, fósta sinn. Hann fagnaði Barða vel,
Þórarin the Wise foster-father his He welcomed Barði well
 ok spurði, hvat hann hefði þá um árnat liðveizluna, því
and asked what he had then about obtained the-support because
 at þeir höfðu áðr gert ráð um ferð Barða. Barði svarar,
that they had before made plan about (the)-journey of-Barði Barði answers
 at hann hefir fengit þann mann til fylgdar við sik, er
that he has gotten that man for escort with himself whose
 honum þætti betra hans lið, enn tveggja annarra. Þórarinn
to-him seemed better his help than of-two others Þórarin
 þagnaði við, ok mælti: “Þat mun vera Grettir Ásmundarson”.
fell-silent at(-it) and spoke That will be Grettir Ásmund's-son
 “Spá er spaks geta”, sagði Barði, “sá er maðr hinn
A-prophecy is a-wise-man's guess said Barði that is man the

sami, fóstri minn". Þórarinn svarar: "Satt er þat, at mikit
same foster-father my Thorarin answers True is that that great
 afbragð er Grettir annarra manna, þeira er nú er kostur
excellence is Grettir of-other men those who now is choice
 á váru landi, ok seint mun hann vápnum verða sóttur, ef
on our land and slowly will he with-weapons be overcome if
 hann er heill, enn grunar mik um, hversu heilladrjúgr hann
he is whole but suspects me about how lucky be
 verður, ok muntu þess þurfa, at eigi sé allir ógæfumenn
becomes and will-you of-that need that not be all unlucky-men
 í þinni ferð, ok nóg mun at gert, þó eigi fari hann
in your company and enough will to(-it) done though not go he
 með; skal hann hvergi fara, ef ek ræð". "Eigi varði mik
with(-you) shall he nowhere go if I decide Not expected me
 þess, fóstri minn", sagði hann, "at þú myndir fyrirmuna
of-that foster-father my said he that you would begrudge
 mér hins vaskasta manns, hvat sem í gerist; má eigi
me the most-valiant man whatever that in(-it) happens may not
 fyrir öllu sjá, þá er menn verða svá neyddir til sem
for all see then when men become so forced to(-it) as
 ek þykkjumst vera". "Duga mun þér", sagði Þórarinn, "þó
I think-myself to-be Avail will you said Thorarin though
 at ek sjái fyrir". Varð nú svá at vera, sem Þórarinn vildi,
that I see for(-you) Became now so to be as Thorarin wished
 at Gretti váru engin orð send, enn Barði fór suður til
that to-Grettir were no words sent but Bardi went south to
 Borgarfjarðar, ok urðu þá heiðarvigin. Grettir var at Bjargi,
Borgarfjord and became then the-Heath-Slayings Grettir was at Bjarg
 er hann frétti, at Barði var suður riðinn. Hann brást við
when he learned that Bardi was south ridden He started at(-it)
 reiður, er honum váru engi orð ger, ok kvað þá eigi svá
angry when to-him were no words sent and said then not so

búit skyldu skilja. Hafði hann þá spurn af, nær þeira væri
done should end Had he then report of when of-them were
 sunnan ván, ok reið hann þá ofan til Þóreyjargnúps,
from-the-south expected and rode he then down to Thoreyjargnup
 ok ætlaði at sitja þar fyrir þeim Barða, þá er þeir
and intended to sit there in-wait-for them Bardi(-and-his) then when they
 riði sunnan. Hann fór frá bænum í hlíðina, ok beið
rode from-the-south He went from the-farm onto the-slope and waited
 þar. Þennan sama dag riðu þeir Barði sunnan af
there This same day rode they Bardi(-and-his) from-the-south from
 Tvídægri frá heiðarvígum. Þeir váru sex saman, ok allir
Tvídaegra from (the)-Heath-Slayings They were six together and all
 sárir mjök; ok er þeir kvámu fram fyrir bæinn, þá mælti
wounded much and when they came forth before the-farm then spoke
 Barði: “Maðr er þar uppi í hlíðinni, mikill, með vápnum,
Bardi A-man is there up on the-slope big with weapons
 eða hvern kenni þér þar?” Þeir sögðust eigi vita, hvern
or whom recognize you there They said-of-themselves not to-know who
 var. Barði mælti: “Þat hygg ek”, sagði hann, “at þar sé
was Bardi spoke That think I said he that there be
 Grettir Ásmundarson, ok ef svá er, þá mun hann vilja oss
Grettir Asmund's-son and if so is then will he wish us
 finna; get ek honum hafa mislíkat, er hann hefir eigi farit
to-meet guess I to-him to-have displeased that he has not gone
 með oss, enn mér þykkir vér nú eigi vel við látnir, ef
with us but to-me seems we now not well at placed if
 hann gerir nökkura óvísu af sér; mun ek nú senda eftir
he does some recklessness of himself will I now send for
 mönnum til Þóreyjargnúps, ok eiga eigi undir ójafnaði hans”.
men to Thoreyjargnup and have not under unfairness his
 Þeir segja þat allráðlegt, ok svá gerðu þeir. Síðan riðu þeir
They say that very-advisable and so did they Then rode they

Barði veg sinn. Grettir sá ferð þeira, ok sneri þegar
Bardi(-and-his) way their Grettir saw journey their and turned at-once
 fyrir, ok er þeir fundust, heilsa hvárir öðrum. Grettir
before(-them) and when they met greet each (the)-other Grettir
 spurði at tíðendum, enn Barði segir ófelmtelega slík sem
asked about tidings but Bardi tells unconcernedly such as
 váru. Grettir spurði, hvat manna væri í ferð með honum.
were Grettir asked what men were in company with him
 Barði kvað þat vera bræðr sína ok Eyjólf mág
Bardi said that to-be brothers his and Eyjolf kinsman-by-marriage
 sinn. “Af þér hefir þú rekit ámælit nú”, sagði Grettir,
his From yourself have you driven the-blame now said Grettir
 “enda er nú ok næst, at vit reynum með okkr, hvárr
and-indeed is now also next that we-two test between us-two which
 hér má meira”. Barði mælti: “Legit hafa mér annvirki nær
here may more Bardi spoke Lain have to-me tasks nearer
 garði, enn at berjast við þik fyrir sakleysi, ok þykkjumst
(the)-farm than to fight with you for no-cause and think-myself
 ek nú hafa rekit þat af mér”. Grettir svaraði: “Bleyðast
I now to-have driven that off me Grettir answered To-turn-coward
 þykki mér þú, Barði”, sagði Grettir, “ef þú þorir eigi at
seem to-me you Bardi said Grettir if you dare not to
 berjast við mik”. “Kalla þú þat sem þú vilt”, sagði Barði,
fight with me Call you that what you wish said Bardi
 “enn í öðrum stað vilda ek, at þú kæmir fram ójafnaði
but in another place would-wish I that you brought forth unfairness
 þínum, enn við mik; er þat eigi ólíklegt, því at nú gengr
your than with me is that not unlikely because that now goes
 ór hófi offors þitt”. Gretti þótti illar spár hans, ok
out-of measure arrogance your To-Grettir seemed ill prophecies his and
 efar nú fyrir sér, hvárt hann skyldi ráða til einhvers
doubts now before himself whether he should venture on any

þeira, ok sýnist honum þat óforsjálegt, er þeir váru sex,
of-them and seems to-him that unwise since they were six
 enn hann einn, ok í því bili kvámu menn heiman frá
but he alone and in that moment came men from-home from
 Þóreyjargnúpi til liðs við þá Barða; lætr Grettir þá
Thoreyjargnup to help with them Bardi(-and-his) lets Grettir then
 dragast sundr með þeim, ok snýr til hests síns, enn Barði
be-drawn apart between them and turns to horse his but Bardi
 ok hans félagar fóru leiðar sinnar, ok varð eigi af kveðjum
and his comrades went way their and became not of greetings
 með þeim at skilnaði. Eigi áttust þeir Barði ok Grettir
between them at parting Not had-dealings they Bardi and Grettir
 fleira við, svá þess sé getit. Svá hefir Grettir sagt,
more with(-each-other) so that be mentioned So has Grettir said
 at hann þóttist öruggur til vígs við flesta menn, þó
that he thought-himself confident in fighting with most men though
 at þrír væri saman, enn hann myndi eigi flýja fyrir fjórum
that three were together but he would not flee before four
 at óreyndu, enn því að eins berjast við fleiri, nema hann
at untried but in-that case only fight with more unless be
 ætti hendr sínar at verja, sem segir í þessarri vísu:
bad hands his to defend as says in this verse

Treystik mér við, Mistar

I-trust myself against of-Mist

mótkennandi, þrenna,

meeting-knower three

hvað er í Hildar veðri

what is in of-Hild storm

heiftminnigt skal vinna,

bate-mindful shall do

vilkat fleiri enn fjórum

will-I-not more than four

farsætöndum mæta

sea-horse-drivers to-meet

at gnyfengnum Gungnis

at noise-got of-Gungnir

gráð, ef ek skal ráða.

greed if I shall decide

Eftir skilnað þeira Barða fór Grettir aftur til Bjargs. Þá

After parting their Bardi(-and-his) went Grettir back to Bjarg Then

þótti Gretti mikitt mein, er hann mátti hvergi prófa afl sitt,

seemed to-Grettir great harm that he could nowhere test strength his

ok fréttist fyrir, ef nökkut væri þat, er hann mætti við fást.

and inquired before(-him) if anything were that which he might with deal

XXXII · GLÁMR THE SHEPHERD

Þórhallr of Forsæludalr cannot keep a shepherd because the place is haunted. The lawman Skafti recommends Glámr, a huge Swede with staring blue eyes and wolf-gray hair who fears no ghosts. Glámr is loud, godless, and hated by all, and on Yule eve he demands food instead of fasting. He goes out into a storm and does not come back. He is found dead and swollen beside the tracks of a great struggle and cannot be moved to the church, so he is buried in a cairn. Soon he walks and rides the roofs.

Þórhallr hét maðr, er bjó á Þórhallsstöðum í Forsæludal.

Thorhall was-called a-man who dwelt at Thorhallssteadir in Forsaeludal

Forsæludalr er upp af Vatnsdal. Þórhallr var Grímsson,

Forsaeludal is up from Vatnsdal Thorhall was Grim's-son

Þórhallssonar, Friðmundarsonar, er nam Forsæludal. Þórhallr
Thorhall's-son Fridmund's-son who took Forsaeludal Thorhall
 átti þá konu, er Guðrún hét. Grímr hét son þeira,
had that woman who Gudrun was-called Grim was-called (the)-son their
 enn Þuríðr dóttir; þau váru vel á legg komin. Þórhallr
but Thurid (the)-daughter they were well on leg come Thorhall
 var vel auðigr maðr, ok mest at kvikfé, svá at engi maðr
was a-well wealthy man and most in livestock so that no man
 átti jafnmargt gangandi fé sem hann. Eigi var hann
had as-much walking livestock as he Not was he
 höfðingi, enn þó skilríkr bóndi. Þar var reimt mjök, ok
a-chiefain but yet a-reputable farmer There was haunted much and
 fekk hann varla sauðamann, svá at honum þætti duga.
got he hardly a-shepherd so that to-him seemed to-avail
 Hann leitaði ráðs við marga menn hvat hann skyldi til
He sought counsel with many men what he should for
 bragðs taka, enn engi gat þat ráð til gefit, er dygði.
resort take but no-one could that counsel to give which availed
 Þórhallr reið til þings hvert sumar. Hann átti hesta góða.
Thorhall rode to (the)-assembly every summer He had horses good
 Þat var eitt sumar á alþingi, at Þórhallr gekk til búðar
It was one summer at (the)-Althing that Thorhall went to (the)-booth
 Skafta lögmanns Þóroddssonar. Skafti var manna vitrastr,
of-Skafti law-man Thorodd's-son Skafti was of-men wisest
 ok heilráðr, ef hann var beiddr. Þat skildi með þeim
and good-counseling if he was asked That distinguished between them
 feðgum. Þóroddr var forspár, ok kallaðr undirhyggjumaðr
father-and-son Thorodd was prophetic and called a-schemer
 af sumum mönnum, enn Skafti lagði þat til með hverjum
by some men but Skafti laid that to with every
 manni, sem hann ætlaði at duga skyldi, ef eigi væri af
man which he thought that avail should if not were from

því brugðit; því var hann kallaðr föðurbetrungr. Þórhallr
that departed therefore was he called Better-than-(his)-father Thorhall
 gekk í búð Skafta; hann fagnaði vel Þórhalli, því at
went into (the)-booth of-Skafti he welcomed well Thorhall because that
 hann vissi, at hann var ríkr maðr at fé, ok spurði, hvat
he knew that he was a-rich man in wealth and asked what
 at tíðendum væri. Þórhallr mælti: “Heilræði vilda ek af
of tidings were Thorhall spoke Good-counsel would-wish I from
 yðr þiggja”. “Í litlum færum em ek til þess”, sagði Skafti;
you to-accept In little capacities am I for that said Skafti
 “eða hvat stendr þik?” Þórhallr mælti: “Þat er svá háttat, at
or what troubles you Thorhall spoke That is so arranged that
 mér helzt litt á sauðamönnum; verðr þeim heldr klaksárt,
to-me holds little on shepherds becomes to-them rather hurt
 enn sumir gera engar lyktir á; vill nú engi taka, sá
but some make no ends on(-it) will now no-one take(-it) that-one
 er kunnigt er til, hvat fyrir býr”. Skafti svarar: “Þar mun
who knowing is of what before lies Skafti answers There will
 liggja meinvættir nökkur, er menn eru tregari til at
lie an-evil-being some that men are more-reluctant to to
 geyma þíns fjár, enn annarra manna”. “Nú fyrir því, at þú
tend your livestock than of-other men Now for that that you
 hefir at mér ráð sótt, þá skal ek fá þér sauðamann, þann
have at me counsel sought then shall I get you a-shepherd that-one
 er Glámr heitir, ættaðr ór Svíþjóð, ór Sylgsdölum, er
who Glam is-called descended out-of Sweden out-of Sylgsdalir who
 út kom í fyrra sumar, mikill ok sterkr, ok eigi mjök við
out came in (the)-last summer big and strong and not much to
 alþýðu skap”. Þórhallr kvaðst eigi um þat gefa, ef hann
common-folk's liking Thorhall said-of-himself not about that to-care if he
 geymdi vel fjárins. Skafti sagði öðrum eigi vænt horfa, ef
tended well the-livestock Skafti said for-others not hopeful to-look if

hann geymdi eigi, fyrir afls sakir ok áræðis. Þórhallr gekk
he tended not for strength's sake and daring Thorhall went
 þá út. Þetta var at þinglausnum. Þórhalli var vant hesta
then out This was at (the)-assembly-breakup To-Thorhall was missing horses
 tveggja ljósbleikra, ok fór sjálfr at leita; af því þykkjast
two light-dun and went himself to search from that think-themselves
 menn vita, at hann var eigi mikilmenni. Hann gekk upp
men to-know that he was not a-great-man He went up
 undir Sleðaás, ok suðr með fjalli því, er Ármannsfell
under Sledaas and south along mountain that which Armannsfell
 heitir; þá sá hann, hvar maðr fór ofan ór Goðaskógi, ok
is-called then saw he where a-man came down out-of Godaskog and
 bar hrís á hesti. Brátt bar saman fund þeira. Þórhallr
carried brushwood on a-horse Soon came together meeting their Thorhall
 spurði hann at nafni, enn hann kveðst Glámr heita.
asked him for name but he says-of-himself Glam to-be-called
 Þessi maðr var mikill vexti ok undarlegr í yfirbragði,
This man was big in-growth and strange in appearance
 bláeygr ok opineygr, úlfgrár á hárslit. Þórhalli brá nökkut
blue-eyed and staring-eyed wolf-gray in hair-color To-Thorhall started somewhat
 í brún, er hann sá þenna mann, enn þó skildi hann,
in (the)-brow when he saw this man but yet understood he
 at honum myndi til þessa vísat. "Hvat er þér bezt hent at
that to-him would to this directed What is to-you best suited to
 vinna"? sagði Þórhallr. Glámr kvað sér vel hent at geyma
work said Thorhall Glam said to-himself well suited to tend
 sauðfjár á vetrum. "Viltu gæta sauðfjár míns?" sagði Þórhallr;
sheep in winters Will-you tend sheep my said Thorhall
 "gaf Skafti þik á mitt vald". "Svá mun þér hentust mín
gave Skafti you into my power So will to-you most-suitable my
 vist, at ek fari sjálfráðr, því ek em skapstyggr, ef mér
service that I go self-ruling because I am ill-tempered if to-me

líkar eigi vel”, sagði Glámr. “Eigi mun mér mein at því”,
pleases not well said Glam Not will to-me harm in that
 sagði Þórhallr, “ok vil ek, at þú farir til mín”. “Gera má
said Thorhall and will I that you come to me Do may
 ek þat”, sagði Glámr; “eða eru þar nökkur vandhæfi á?”
I that said Glam or are there any difficulties on(-it)
 “Reimt þykkir þar vera”, sagði Þórhallr. “Eigi hræðumst ek
Haunted seems there to-be said Thorhall Not fear I
 flykur þær”, sagði Glámr, “ok þykkir mér at ódauflegra”.
specters those said Glam and seems to-me the less-dull
 “Þess muntu við þurfa”, sagði Þórhallr, “ok hentar þar betr
That will-you at need said Thorhall and suits there better
 at vera eigi all-lítill fyrir sér”. Eftir þat kaupa þeir saman,
to be not very-little for oneself After that bargain they together
 ok skal Glámr koma at vetrnátum. Síðan skildu þeir,
and shall Glam come at (the)-winter-nights Then parted they
 ok fann Þórhallr hesta sína, þar hann hafði nýleitit. Reið
and found Thorhall horses his where he had just-searched Rode
 Þórhallr heim, ok þakkaði Skafta sinn velgerning. Sumar
Thorhall home and thanked Skafti his good-deed Summer
 leið af, ok frétti Þórhallr eigi til sauðamanns, ok engi
passed off and learned Thorhall not of (the)-shepherd and no-one
 kunni skyn á honum, enn at áðrnefndum tíma kom hann
knew account of him but at (the)-aforementioned time came he
 á Þórhallsstaði. Tekr bóndi við honum vel, enn öllum
to Thorballsstadir Receives (the)-farmer with him well but to-all
 öðrum gæzt eigi að honum, enn húsfreyju þó minst.
others pleased not at him but to-(the)-housewife yet least
 Hann tók við fjárvarðveizlu, ok varð honum lítit fyrir því;
He took over (the)-sheep-keeping and became to-him little for that
 hann var hljóðmikill ok dimmraddaðr, ok féit stökk alt
he was loud-voiced and deep-voiced and the-sheep leaped all

saman, þegar hann hóaði. Kirkja var á Þórhallsstöðum;
together as-soon-as he hallooed A-church was at Thorballsstadir
 eigi vildi Glámr til hennar koma; hann var ósöngvinn ok
not would Glam to it come he was unsinging and
 trúlauss, stirfinn ok viðskotailr; öllum var hann hvímeiðr.
faithless surly and cross-grained to-all was he hateful
 Nú leið svá þar til er kemr atfangadagr jóla; þá stóð
Now passed so there until that comes (the)-eve of-Yule then stood
 Glámr snemma upp, ok kallaði til matar síns. Húsfreyja
Glam early up and called for food his (The)-housewife
 svarar: “Eigi er þat háttr kristinna manna at matast
answers Not is that (the)-custom of-Christian men to eat
 þenna dag, því at á morgun er jóladagr hinn fyrsti”,
this day because that on (the)-morrow is Yule-day the first
 segir hon, “ok er því fyrst skylt at fasta í dag”. Hann
says she and is therefore first due to fast in day He
 svarar: “Marga hindrvitni hafi þér, þá er ek sé til einskis
answers Many superstitions have you those which I see to nothing
 koma; veit ek eigi, at mönnum fari nú betr at, heldr
come know I not that for-men goes now better at(-it) rather
 enn þá, er menn fóru eigi með slíkt; þótti mér þá betri
than then when men went not with such seemed to-me then better
 siðr, er menn váru heiðnir kallaðir, ok vil ek hafa mat
custom when men were heathen called and will I have food
 minn enn engar refjur”. Húsfreyja mælti: “Víst veit ek,
my but no tricks (The)-housewife spoke Surely know I
 at þér mun illa farast í dag, ef þú tekur þetta illbrigði
that to-you will ill go in day if you take this wickedness
 til”. Glámr bað hana taka mat í stað; kvað henni annat
to(-you) Glam bade her take food on (the)-spot said to-her other
 skyldu vera verra. Hon þorði eigi annat, enn at gera sem
should be worse She dared not other than to do as

hann vildi; ok er hann var mettr, gekk hann út, ok var
he wished and when he was fed went he out and was
 heldr gustillr. Veðri var svá farit, at myrkt var um at
rather ill-breathed (The)-weather was so gone that dark was about to
 litast, ok flögraði ór drífa, ok gnýmikit, ok versnaði
look-around and fluttered drizzle snowfall and loud-roaring and worsened
 mjök sem á leið daginn. Heyrðu menn til sauðamanns
much as on passed the-day Heard men of (the)-shepherd
 öndverðan daginn, enn miðr er á leið daginn. Tók þá at
(the)-early day but less as on passed the-day Took then to
 fjúka, ok gerði á hrið um kveldit. Kómu menn til tíða,
drift and came on a-storm in the-evening Came men to services
 ok leið svá fram at dagsetri. Eigi kom Glámr heim. Var
and passed so forth to nightfall Not came Glam home Was
 þá um talat, hvárt hans skyldi eigi leita, enn fyrir því,
then about talked whether for-him should not search but for that
 at hrið var á ok niðamyrr, þá varð eigi af leitinni. Kom
that storm was on and pitch-dark then became not of the-search Came
 hann eigi heim jólanáttina; biðu menn svá fram um tíðir.
he not home the-Yule-night waited men so forth over services
 At ærnum degi fóru menn í leitina, ok fundu féit víða
At full day went men on the-search and found the-sheep widely
 í fenjum, lamit af ofviðri, eða hlaupit á fjöll upp.
in fens battered by (the)-storm or run onto mountains up
 Því næst kvámu þeir á traðk mikinn ofarlega í
Thereupon next came they onto a-trampling great high in
 dalnum: þótti þeim því líkt, sem þar hefði glímt verit heldr
the-valley seemed to-them that like as-if there had wrestled been rather
 sterklega, því at grjótit var víða upp leyst, ok svá jörðin.
strongly because that the-stones were widely up loosened and so the-earth
 Þeir hugðu at vandlega, ok sá, hvar Glámr lá skamt á
They looked at(-it) carefully and saw where Glam lay short off

burt frá þeim. Hann var dauðr, ok blár sem hel, enn digr
away from them He was dead and blue as death but thick
 sem naut. Þeim bauð af honum óþekt mikla, ok hraus
as an-ox To-them offered from him a-stench great and shuddered
 þeim mjök hugr við honum, enn þó leituðu þeir við
to-them much (the)-mind at him but yet tried they at(-it)
 at færa hann til kirkju, ok gátu eigi komit honum, nema
to carry him to church and could not bring him except
 á einn gilspröm þar skamt ofan frá sér, ok fóru heim
to one ravine-edge there short down from themselves and went home
 við svá búit, ok sögðu bónda þenna atburð. Hann spurði,
with so done and told (the)-farmer this event He asked
 hvat Glámi myndi hafa at bana orðit. Þeir kváðust rakit
what to-Glam would have to death become They said-of-themselves traced
 hafa spor svá stór, sem keraldsbotni væri niðr skelt, þaðan
to-have tracks as big as-if a-tub-bottom were down slammed thence
 frá, sem traðkrinn var, ok upp undir björg þau, er þar
from where the-trampling was and up under crags those which there
 váru ofarlega í dalnum, ok fylgdu þar með blóðdrefjar
were high in the-valley and followed there with(-them) blood-spots
 miklar. Þat drógu menn saman, at sú meinvættr, er áðr
great That drew men together that that evil-being which before
 hafði verit, myndi hafa deytt Glám, enn hún myndi fengit
had been would have killed Glam but it would gotten
 hafa hér nökkura áverka, þá er tekit hafi til fulls, því
have here some wound then that taken have to full because
 at við þá meinvætti hefir aldri vart orðit síðan. Annan
that of that evil-being has never trace become since (The)-second
 dag jóla var farit at leita við enn at færa Glám til kirkju;
day of-Yule was gone to try at(-it) still to carry Glam to church
 váru eykir fyrir beittir, ok gátu þeir hvergi fært hann,
were draft-horses before harnessed and could they nowhere move him

þegar sléttlendit var ok eigi var forbrekkis at fara; gengu
as-soon-as level-ground was and not was downhill to go went
nú frá við svá búit. Hinn þriðja dag fór prestr með
now from(-it) with so done The third day went (the)-priest with
þeim, ok leituðu allan daginn, ok fanst Glámr eigi. Eigi
them and searched all the-day and was-found Glam not Not
vildi prestr oftár til fara, enn sauðamaðr fanst, þegar
would (the)-priest more-often to go but (the)-shepherd was-found as-soon-as
prestr var eigi í ferð. Létu þeir þá fyrir vinnast, at færa
(the)-priest was not in company Let they then for(-it) be-omitted to carry
hann til kirkju, ok dysjuðu hann þar, sem þá var hann
him to church and cairned him there where then was he
kominn. Litlu síðar urðu menn varir við þat, at Glámr lá
come A-little later became men aware of that that Glam lay
eigi kyr; varð mönnum at því mikit mein, svá at margir
not quiet became to-men from that great harm so that many
fellu í óvit, ef sá hann, enn sumir heldu eigi vitinu. Þegar
fell into swoon if saw him but some kept not the-wits Right
eftir jólin þóttust menn sjá hann heima þar á bænum.
after the-Yule thought-themselves men to-see him at-home there on the-farm
Urðu menn ákaflega hræddir; stukku þá margir menn í
Became men exceedingly afraid fled then many men off
burt. Því næst tók Glámr at ríða húsum á nætr, svá at
away Thereupon next took Glam to ride houses at nights so that
lá við brotum; gekk hann þá nálega nætr ok daga. Varla
lay near to-breakings walked he then nearly nights and days Hardly
þorðu menn at fara upp í dalinn, þó at ætti nóg
dared men to go up into the-valley though that (they)-had enough
erendi. Þótti mönnum þar í heraðinu mikit mein at þessu.
errand Seemed to-men there in the-district great harm from this

Þórhallr hires the strong foreigner Þorgautr, who laughs at the haunting. On Yule eve Þorgautr does not return and is found with his neck and every bone broken beside Glámr's cairn. Glámr grows stronger, the household flees, and he breaks the old cattleman's back in the byre. Þórhallr abandons the farm, and Glámr kills the livestock and lays waste the farms up the valley. The hauntings ease in spring, and Þórhallr returns to his farm. In autumn they begin again, his daughter dies of them, and all Vatnsdalr seems likely to be abandoned.

Um v́́rit fekk Þórhallr sér hjón, ok gerði bú á
In the-spring got Þorhall for-himself servants and made a-farm on
 jörðu sinni; tók þá at minka aftgangr, meðan sólargangr
land his began then to diminish (the)-haunting while (the)-sun's-course
 var mestr; leið svá fram á miðsumar. Þetta sumar kom út
was greatest passed so forth to midsummer This summer came out
 skip í Húnavatni; þar var á sá maðr, er Þorgautr
a-ship in Hunavatn there was on(-board) that man who Þorgaut
 hét. Hann var útlendr at kyni, mikill ok sterkr; hann
was-called He was foreign in kin big and strong he
 hafði tveggja manna afl; hann var lauss ok einn
had of-two men (the)-strength he was unattached and alone
 fyrir sér; hann vildi fá starfa nökkurn, því hann var
for himself he wished to-get work some because he was
 félauss. Þórhallr reið til skips, ok fann Þorgaut; spurði, ef
peniless Þorhall rode to (the)-ship and found Þorgaut asked if
 hann vildi vinna fyrir honum. Þorgautr kvað þat vel mega
he wished to-work for him Þorgaut said that well can
 vera, ok kveðst eigi vanda þat. “Svá skaltu við
be and says-of-himself not to-be-particular-about that So shall-you for
 búast”, segir Þórhallr, “sem þar sé eigi veslingsmönnnum
prepare says Þorhall as-if there be not for-weaklings

hent at vera fyrir aftргöngum þeim, er þar hafa verit
suitable to be in-face-of hauntings those which there have been
 um hrið, enn eigi vil ek þik á talar draga". Þorgautr
for a-while but not will I you into deceit draw Thorgaut
 svarar: "Eigi þykkjumst ek uppgefinn, þó at ek sjái
answers Not think-myself I given-up though that I see
 smávofur; mun þá eigi öðrum dælt, ef ek hræðumst, ok
little-specters will then not for-others easy if I be-afraid and
 eigi bregð ek vist minni fyrir þat". Nú kemr þeim vel
not change I service my for that Now comes to-them well
 kaupstefnan, ok skal Þorgautr gæta sauðfjár at vetri. Leið
the-bargain and shall Thorgaut tend sheep in winter Passed
 nú af sumarit. Tók Þorgautr við fénu at vetrnátum. Vel
now off the-summer Took Thorgaut over the-sheep at (the)-winter-nights Well
 líkaði öllum við hann. Jafnan kom Glámr heim ok reið
pleased all with him Always came Glam home and rode
 húsum. Þat þótti Þorgauti allkátlegt, ok kvað þrælinn þurfa
(the)-houses That seemed to-Thorgaut very-amusing and said the-thrall to-need
 mundu nær at ganga — "ef ek hræðumst". Þórhallr, bað
would nearer to go if I be-afraid Thorhall bade
 hann hafa fátt um — "er bezt, at þit reynit eigi
him make little about(-it) is best that you-two test not
 með ykk". Þorgautr mælti: "Sannlega er skekinn þrótt
between you-two Thorgaut spoke Truly is shaken (the)-strength
 ór yðr, ok dett ek eigi niðr milli dægra við skraf þetta".
out-of you and drop I not down between half-days at chatter this
 Nú fór svá fram um vetrinn alt til jóla. Atfangakveld
Now went so forth during the-winter all to Yule (The)-eve
 jóla fór sauðamaðr til fjár. Þá mælti húsfreyja: "Þurfa
of-Yule went (the)-shepherd to (the)-sheep Then spoke (the)-housewife Need
 þætti mér, at nú færi eigi at fornum brögðum". Hann
would-seem to-me that now went not in old ways He

svarar: “Ver eigi hrædd um þat, húsfreyja”, sagði hann,
answers Be not afraid about that housewife said he
 “verða mun eitthvert sögulegt, ef ek kem eigi aftr”. Síðan
happen will something worth-telling if I come not back Then
 gekk hann aftr til fjár síns. Veðr var heldr kalt, ok
went he back to sheep his (The)-weather was rather cold and
 fjúk mikit. Því var Þorgautr vanr at koma heim,
snow-drift great Therefore was Thorgaut accustomed to come home
 þá er hálfrokkvat var, enn nú kom hann eigi í þat
then when half-dark was but now came he not at that
 mund. Kómu tíðamenn sem vant var. Þegar þótti mönnum
time Came service-goers as usual was Already seemed to-men
 eigi ólíkt á horfast sem fyrr. Bóndi vildi leita láta
not unlike on to-look as before (The)-farmer wished search to-let
 eftir sauðamanni, enn tíðamenn töldust undan, ok
for (the)-shepherd but (the)-service-goers counted-themselves out and
 sögðust eigi mundu hætta sér út í tröllahendr um
said-of-themselves not would risk themselves out into trolls'-hands at
 nætr, ok treystist bóndi eigi at fara, ok varð eigi af
night and dared (the)-farmer not to go and came not of
 leitinni. Jóladag, er menn váru mettir, fóru menn til ok
the-search Yule-day when men were fed went men to(-it) and
 leituðu sauðamanns. Gengu þeir fyrst til dysjar Gláms,
searched-for (the)-shepherd Went they first to (the)-cairn of-Glam
 því at menn ætlu af hans völdum mundi orðit um
because that men thought by his doing would (have)-happened about
 hvarf sauðamanns; enn er þeir kvámu nær dysinni,
(the)-disappearance of-(the)-shepherd but when they came near the-cairn
 sá þeir þar mikil tíðendi, ok þar fundu þeir sauðamann,
saw they there great tidings and there found they (the)-shepherd
 ok var hann brotinn á háls, ok lamit sundr hvert bein
and was he broken at (the)-neck and battered apart every bone

í honum. Síðan færðu þeir hann til kirkju, ok varð engum
in him Then carried they him to church and became to-no
 manni mein at Þorgauti síðan, enn Glámr tók at magnast
man harm from Þorgaut afterward but Glam began to grow-strong
 af nýju; gerði hann nú svá mikit af sér, at menn
from new did he now so much of himself that men
 allir stukku burt af Þórhallsstöðum, utan bóndi einn
all fled away from Þorhallstadir except (the)-farmer alone
 ok húsfreyja. Nautamaðr hafði þar verit lengi hinn sami;
and (the)-housewife (The)-cattleman had there been long the same
 vildi Þórhallr hann eigi lausan láta fyrir góðvilja sakir ok
would Þorhall him not free let for goodwill's sake and
 geymslu; hann var mjök við aldr, ok þótti honum mikit
care he was much on in-years and seemed to-him much
 fyrir at fara á burt; sá hann ok, at alt fór at ónytju, þat
against to go off away saw he also that all went to ruin that
 er bóndi átti, ef engi geymdi. Ok eftir miðjan vetr var
which (the)-farmer owned if no-one tended And after mid winter was
 þat einn morgun, at húsfreyja fór til fjóss at mjólka kýr
it one morning that (the)-housewife went to (the)-byre to milk cows
 eftir tíma; þá var alljóst, því at engi treystist fyrr úti
at time then was full-light because that no-one dared before outside
 at vera annarr enn nautamaðr; hann fór út þegar lýsti.
to be other than (the)-cattleman he went out as-soon-as (it)-dawned
 Hon heyrði brak mikit í fjósinu, ok beljan öskrlega; hon
She heard crashing great in the-byre and bellowing horribly she
 hljóp inn æpandi, ok kvaðst eigi vita, hver ódæmi um
ran in shrieking and said-of-herself not to-know what monstrosity about
 væri í fjósinu. Bóndi gekk út, ok kom til nautanna, ok
were in the-byre (The)-farmer went out and came to the-cattle and
 stangaði hvert annat. Þótti honum þar eigi gott, ok gekk
gored each (the)-other Seemed to-him there not good and went

innar at hlöðunni. Hann sá, hvar lá nautmaðr, ok hafði
further-in to the-bay-barn He saw where lay (the)-cattleman and had
höfuðit í öðrum bási, enn fætr í öðrum; hann lá á bak
the-head in one stall but feet in (the)-other he lay on back
aftr. Bóndi gekk at honum, ok þreifaði um hann; finnr
backward (The)-farmer went to him and felt about him finds
brátt, at hann er dauðr ok sundr hrygggrinn í honum; var
soon that he is dead and asunder the-back in him was
hann brotinn um báshelluna. Nú þótti bónda eigi vært,
he broken over the-stall-slab Now seemed to-(the)-farmer not bearable
ok fór í burtu af bænum með allt þat sem hann mátti í
and went off away from the-farm with all that which he could off
burt flytja, enn allt kvikfé þat, sem eftir var, deyddi Glámr,
away carry but all livestock that which behind was killed Glam
ok því næst fór hann um allan dalinn, ok eyddi
and thereupon next went he over all the-valley and laid-waste
bæi alla upp frá Tungu. Var Þórhallr þá með ýmissum
farms all up from Tunga Was Thorhall then with various
vinum sínum þat eftir var vetrarins. Engi maðr mátti
friends his that-which after was of-the-winter No man could
fara upp í dalinn með hest eða hund, því at þat var
go up into the-valley with horse or dog because that it was
þegar drepit. Enn er váraði, ok sólargangr var sem
at-once killed But when (it)-turned-spring and (the)-sun's-course was as
mestr, létti heldr aftргöngunum. Vildi Þórhallr nú fara aftr
greatest eased rather the-hauntings Wisbed Thorhall now to-go back
til lands síns. Urðu honum eigi auðfengin hjón, enn þó
to land his Became to-him not easy-to-get servants but yet
gerði hann bú á Þórhallsstöðum. Fór allt á sama veg
made he a-farm at Thorballsstadir Went all on (the)-same way
sem fyrr. Þegar at haustaði, tóku at vaxa reimleikar.
as before As-soon-as that (it)-turned-autumn began to grow (the)-hauntings

Var þá mest sótt at bóndadóttur, ok svá fór, at hon
Was then most attacked at (the)-farmer's-daughter and so went that she
 lézt af því. Margra ráða var í leitat, ok varð eigi at
died from that Many counsels were in sought and became nothing about
 gert. Þótti mönnum til þess horfast, at eyðast myndi
done Seemed to-men to this to-look that be-laid-waste would
 allr Vatnsdalr, ef eigi yrði bætr á ráðnar.
all Vatnsdal if not were remedies on found

XXXIV · JÖKULL'S WARNING

Grettir makes peace with Auðun and gives him an axe. He visits his uncle Jökull in Tunga and asks closely about Glámr's hauntings. Grettir means to go to Þórballstaðir, and Jökull warns that his kinsmen have much at stake in him and that ill comes of ill. Jökull adds that luck and ability are two different things. Grettir answers that woe stands at one man's door when it has come in at another's, so Jökull should look to himself. They part, each disliking the other's prophecy.

Nú er þar til at taka, at Grettir Ásmundarson sat heima
Now is there to to take that Grettir Asmund's-son sat at-home
 at Bjargi um haustit, síðan þeir víga-Barði skildu á
at Bjarg in the-autumn after they Slaying-Bardi(-and-he) parted at
 Þóreyjargnúpi; ok er mjök var komit at vetrnátum, reið
Þoreyjargnup and when much was come to (the)-winter-nights rode
 Grettir heiman norðr yfir hálsa til Víðidals ok gisti á
Grettir from-home north over (the)-ridges to Vididal and lodged at
 Auðunarstöðum. Sættust þeir Auðun til fulls, ok
Audunarstaðir Were-reconciled they Audun(-and-he) to full and
 gaf Grettir honum öxi góða, ok mæltu til vináttu með
gave Grettir him an-axe good and spoke to friendship between
 sér. Auðun bjó lengi á Auðunarstöðum ok var kynsall
themselves Audun dwelt long at Audunarstaðir and was kin-lucky

maðr. Hans son var Egill, er átti Úlfheiði, dóttur Eyjólf
man His son was Egil who had Ulfheid daughter of-Eyjolf
 Guðmundarsonar; ok var þeira son Eyjólf, er veginn var
Guðmund's-son and was their son Eyjolf who slain was
 á alþingi; hann var faðir Orms kapiláns Þorláks biskups.
at (the)-Althing he was father of-Orm chaplain of-Thorlak bishop
 Grettir reið norðr til Vatnsdals ok kom á kynnisleit í
Grettir rode north to Vatnsdal and came on a-family-visit to
 Tungu. Þar bjó þá Jökull Bárðarson, móðurbróðir Grettis.
Tunga There dwelt then Jokul Bard's-son mother's-brother of-Grettir
 Jökull var mikill maðr ok sterkr, ok hinn mesti ofsamaðr;
Jokul was a-big man and strong and the greatest overbearing-man
 hann var siglingamaðr ok mjök ódæll, enn þó mikilhæfr
he was a-seafarer and very unruly but yet a-considerable
 maðr. Hann tók vel við Gretti ok var hann þar þrjár nætr.
man He took well with Grettir and was he there three nights
 Þá var svá mikit orð á aftrgöngum Gláms, at mönnum var
Then was so much talk on (the)-hauntings of-Glam that for-men was
 ekki jafntíðrætt sem þat. Grettir spurði innilega at þeim
nothing as-much-talked-of as that Grettir asked closely about those
 atburðum, er höfðu orðit. Jökull kvað þar eigi meira af
events which had happened Jokul said there not more of(-it)
 sagt enn til væri hæft — “eða er þér forvitni, frændi, at
told than to were warrant or is to-you curiosity kinsman to
 koma þar?” Grettir sagði, at þat var satt. Jökull bað hann
come there Grettir said that that was true Jokul bade him
 þat eigi gera — “því þat er gæfuraun mikil, enn frændr þínir
that not do because that is a-luck-trial great but kinsmen your
 eiga mikit í hættu, þar sem þú ert”, sagði hann; “þykkir oss
have much in risk there where you are said he seems to-us
 nú engi slíkr af ungum mönnum sem þú, enn ‘ilt mun af
now no-one such of young men as you but ill will from

illum hljóta', þar sem Glámr er; er ok miklu betra at fást
ill come there where Glam is (it)-is also much better to deal
við menska menn enn við óvættir slíkar". Grettir kvað sér
with human men than with monsters such Grettir said to-himself
hug á at koma á Þórhallsstaði, ok sjá, hversu þar væri um
mind on to come to Thorballsstadir and see how there were about
gengit. Jökull mælti: "Sé ek nú, at eigi tjáir at letja þik,
gone Jökul spoke See I now that not avails to dissuade you
enn satt er þat sem mælt er, at 'sitt er hvárt, gæfa eða
but true is that which said is that separate is each luck and
gervileikr". "Þá er öðrum vá fyrir dyrum, er öðrum er
accomplishment Then is for-one woe before (the)-doors when for-another is
inn um komin', ok hygg at, hversu þér mun fara sjálfum,
in through come and think about how to-you will go yourself
áðr enn lýkr", kvað Grettir. Jökull svarar: "Vera kann, at
before than ends said Grettir Jökul answers Be can that
vit sjáim báðir nökkut fram, enn hvárrgi fáir við gert".
we-two see both something ahead but neither can at(-it) do
Eftir þat skildu þeir, ok líkaði hvárigum annars spár.
After that parted they and pleased neither of-(the)-other prophecies

XXXV • THE FIGHT WITH GLÁMR

Grettir stays at Þórhallsstaðir, and on the second night Glámr kills his horse. On the third night Grettir waits in the hall, and he and Glámr tear his cloak in two between them. They wrestle to the doorway, where Grettir braces against a stone and throws Glámr backward. In the moonlight Glámr's stare saps Grettir's strength, and Glámr curses him with no greater strength, outlawry, and Glámr's eyes always before him. Grettir beheads him, and he and Þórballr burn the body. From then on Grettir fears the dark.

Grettir reið á Þórhallsstaði, ok fagnaði bóndi honum
Grettir rode to Thorballsstadir and welcomed (the)-farmer him
 vel. Hann spurði, hvert Grettir ætlaði at fara, enn hann
well He asked whither Grettir intended to go but he
 sagðist þar vilja vera um náttina, ef bónda líkaði
said-of-himself there to-wish to-be for the-night if to-(the)-farmer pleased
 at svá væri. Þórhallr kvaðst þökk fyrir kunna, at hann
that so were Thorhall said-of-himself thanks for(-it) to-know that he
 væri — “enn fám þykkir slægr til at gista hér um tíma;
were but to-few seems worth to(-it) to lodge here for a-time
 muntu hafa heyrt getit um, hvat hér er at veila, enn ek
will-you have heard told about what here is of trouble but I
 vilda gjarna, at þú hlytir engi vandhæfi af mér; enn
would-wish gladly that you got no difficulty from me but
 þó at þú komist heill á burt, þá veit ek fyrir víst, at
even though you get whole off away then know I for certain that
 þú missir hests þíns, því engi heldr hér heilum sínum
you lose horse your because no-one keeps here whole his
 fararskjót, sá er kemr”. Grettir kvað gott til hesta,
mount that-one who comes Grettir said good for horses
 hvat sem af þessum yrði. Þórhallr varð glaðr við, er
whatever that of this became Thorhall became glad at(-it) that
 Grettir vildi þar vera, ok tók við honum báðum höndum.
Grettir wished there to-be and took with him with-both hands
 Var hestr Grettis læstr í húsi sterklega. Þeir fóru til
Was (the)-horse of-Grettir locked in a-house strongly They went to
 svefnis, ok leið svá af náttin, at eigi kom Glámr heim. Þá
sleep and passed so off the-night that not came Glam home Then
 mælti Þórhallr: “Vel hefir brugðit við þína kvámu, því at
spoke Thorhall Well has changed at your coming because that
 hverja nátt er Glámr vanr at ríða húsum eða brjóta upp
every night is Glam accustomed to ride (the)-houses or break up

hurðir, sem þú mátt merki sjá". Grettir mælti: "Þá mun vera
doors as you can marks see Grettir spoke Then will be
 annathvart, at hann mun eigi lengi á sér sitja, eða mun
one-or-other that he will not long on himself sit or will
 af reimast meir enn eina nátt; skal ek vera nátt aðra
off be-haunted more than one night shall I be night (the)-second
 ok sjá hversu ferr". Síðan gengu þeir til hests Grettis,
and see how goes Then went they to (the)-horse of-Grettir
 ok var ekki við hann gletzt. Alt þótti bónda at einu
and was not with it meddled All seemed to-(the)-farmer to one(-way)
 fara. Nú er Grettir þar aðra nátt, ok kom eigi þrællinn
to-go Now is Grettir there (the)-second night and came not the-thrall
 heim. Þá þótti bónda mjök vænkast. Fór hann þá at
home Then seemed to-(the)-farmer much to-grow-hopeful Went he then to
 sjá hest Grettis. Þá var upp brotit húsit, er bóndi
see (the)-horse of-Grettir Then was up broken the-house when (the)-farmer
 kom til, enn hestrinn dreginn til dyra utar, ok lamit
came to(-it) but the-horse dragged to (the)-doors out and battered
 sundr í honum hvert bein. Þórhallr sagði Gretti, hvar þá
apart in it every bone Thorhall told Grettir where then
 var komit, ok bað hann forða sér — "því at viss er
was come and bade him save himself because that certain is
 dauðinn, ef þú bíðr Gláms". Grettir svarar: "Eigi má ek
the-death if you wait-for Glam Grettir answers Not may I
 minna hafa fyrir hest minn enn at sjá þrællinn". Bóndi
less have for horse my than to see the-thrall (The)-farmer
 sagði, at þat var eigi bati at sjá hann — "því at
said that that was no improvement to see him because that
 hann er ólíkr nökkurri mannlegri mynd; enn góð þykki
he is unlike any human shape but good seems
 mér hver sú stund, er þú vilt hér vera". Nú líðr dagrinn,
to-me each that hour that you wish here to-be Now passes the-day

ok er menn skyldi fara til svefns, vildi Grettir eigi fara
and when men should go to sleep would Grettir not go
 af klæðum, ok lagðist niðr í setit gegnt lokrekkju
from clothes and laid-himself down on the-bench facing (the)-closet-bed
 bónda; hann hafði röggvarfeld yfir sér, ok knepti annat
of-(the)-farmer he had a-shaggy-cloak over himself and buttoned one
 skautit niðr undir fætr sér, enn annat snaraði hann undir
the-corner down under feet his but (the)-other wrapped he under
 höfuð sér ok sá út um höfuðsmáttina. Setstokkur var fyrir
head his and saw out through the-head-opening A-bench-log was in
 framan setit, mjök sterkr, ok spyndi hann þar í.
front-of the-bench very strong and braced he there against(-it)
 Dyraumbúningrinn allr var frá brotinn útidyrnum, enn nú
The-door-frame all was off broken the-outer-doors but now
 var þar fyrir bundinn hurðarflaki ok óvendalega um búit.
was there before tied a-door-scrap and carelessly about arranged
 Þverpilit var alt brotit frá skálanum, þat sem þar fyrir
The-cross-partition was all broken from the-hall that which there before
 framan hafði verit, bæði fyrir ofan þvertréit ok neðan.
in-front had been both on above the-cross-beam and below
 Sængr allar váru ór stað færðar. Heldr var þar óvistlegt.
Beds all were out-of place moved Rather was there cheerless
 Ljós brann í skálanum um náttina; ok er af myndi
A-light burned in the-hall during the-night and when off would
 þriðjungr af nátt, heyrði Grettir út dynur miklar; var þá
a-third of night heard Grettir outside din great was then
 farit upp á húsin, ok riðit skálanum ok barit hælunum
gone up onto the-houses and ridden the-hall and beaten with-the-beels
 um þekjuna, svá at brakaði í hverju tré. Því gekk lengi,
on the-roof so that creaked in every beam That went long
 þá var farit ofan af húsunum ok til dyra gengit; ok er
then was gone down from the-houses and to (the)-doors walked and when

upp var lokit hurðunni, sá Grettir, at þrællinn rétti inn
up was opened the-door saw Grettir that the-thrall stretched in
 höfuðit, ok sýndist honum afskræmilega mikit ok undarlega
the-head and seemed to-him monstrously big and strangely
 stórskorit. Glámr fór seint, ok réttist upp, er hann
large-featured Glam went slowly and straightened-himself up when he
 kom inn í dyrnar; hann gnæfði ofarlega við rjáfrinu; snýr
came in into the-doors he towered high at the-rafters turns
 at skálanum, ok lagði handleggina upp á þvertréit ok
toward the-ball and laid the-arms up on the-cross-beam and
 gægðist inn yfir skálann. Eigi lét bóndi heyra til sín,
peered in over the-ball Not let (the)-farmer hear of himself
 því at honum þótti ærit um, er hann heyrdi, hvat
because that to-him seemed enough about(-it) when he heard what
 um var úti. Grettir lá kyrr ok hrærði sik hvergi. Glámr
about was outside Grettir lay still and stirred himself nowhere Glam
 sá, at hrúga nökkur lá í setinu, ok réðst nú innar eftir
saw that a-beap some lay on the-bench and moved now further-in along
 skálanum ok þreif í feldinn stundarfast. Grettir spyndi
the-ball and seized on the-cloak hard Grettir braced
 í stokkinn ok gekk því hvergi. Glámr hnykti í annat
against the-log and moved therefore nowhere Glam pulled in another
 sinn miklu fastara, ok bifaðist hvergi feldrinn. Í þriðja sinn
time much harder and budged nowhere the-cloak In third time
 þreif hann í með báðum höndum svá fast, at hann
seized he on(-it) with both hands so hard that he
 rétti Gretti upp ór setinu; kiptu nú í sundr feldinum
raised Grettir up out-of the-bench tore now in asunder the-cloak
 í millum sín. Glámr leit á slitrit, er hann helt á,
in between themselves Glam looked at the-tatter which he held on
 ok undraðist mjök, hverr svá fast myndi togast við hann;
and wondered much who so hard would tug against him

ok í því hljóp Grettir undir hendr honum ok þreif um
and in that ran Grettir under (the)-arms to-him and seized about
 hann miðjan, ok spenti á honum hrygginn sem fastast gat
him middle and clasped on him the-back as tightest could
 hann, ok ætlaði hann, at Glámr skyldi kikna við; enn
he and intended he that Glam should buckle at(-it) but
 þrællinn lagði at handleggjum Grettis svá fast, at hann
the-thrall pressed at (the)-arms of-Grettir so hard that he
 hörfaði allr fyrir orku sakir. Fór Grettir þá undan í
gave-way all for strength's sake Went Grettir then back into
 ýms setin. Gengu þá frá stokkarnir, ok alt brotnaði þat
various the-benches Went then off the-bench-logs and all broke that
 sem fyrir varð. Vildi Glámr leita út, enn Grettir færði
which before came Wished Glam to-see out but Grettir set
 við fætr, hvar sem hann mátti, enn þó gat Glámr dregit
against feet wherever as he could but yet could Glam drag
 hann fram ór skálanum; áttu þeir þá all-harða sókn, því
him forth out-of the-hall had they then very-hard struggle because
 at þrællinn ætlaði at koma honum út ór bænum; enn
that the-thrall intended to bring him out out-of the-farm but
 svá ilt sem var at eiga við Glám inni, þá sá Grettir, at
as bad as was to deal with Glam inside then saw Grettir that
 þó var verra at fást við hann úti, ok því brauzt hann
yet was worse to deal with him outside and therefore struggled he
 í mót af öllu afli at fara út. Glámr færðist í aukana
in against with all strength to go out Glam gathered in strength
 ok knepti hann at sér, er þeir kvámu í anddyrit; ok
and clasped him to himself when they came into the-porch and
 er Grettir sér, at hann fekk eigi við spornat, hefir hann
when Grettir sees that he could not at(-it) resist makes he
 alt eitt atriðit, at hann hleypr sem fastast í fang
all one the-move that he leaps as hardest into (the)-arms

þrælnum ok spyrnir báðum fótum í jarðfastan stein, er
to-the-thrall and braces with-both feet against an-earth-fast stone which
 stóð í dyrunum. Við þessu bjóst þrællinn eigi; hann hafði
stood in the-doorway At this prepared the-thrall not he had
 þá togast við at draga Gretti at sér, ok því kiknaði
then tugged at(-it) to drag Grettir toward himself and therefore buckled
 Glámr á bak aft, ok rauk öfugr út á dyrnar, svá
Glam on back backward and crashed backward out onto the-doors so
 at herðarnar námu uppdyrit, ok rjáfrit gekk í sundr, bæði
that the-shoulders caught the-lintel and the-roof went to pieces both
 viðirnir ok þekjan frerin; fell svá opinn ok öfugr út ór
the-timbers and the-thatch frozen fell so face-up and backward out out-of
 húsunum, enn Grettir á hann ofan. Tunglskin var mikit
the-houses but Grettir on him above Moonlight was bright
 úti ok gluggabykn; hratt stundum fyrir, enn stundum dró
outside and cloud-drift blew sometimes before but sometimes drew
 frá. Nú í því er Glámr fell, rak skýit frá tunglinu, enn
from Now in that when Glam fell drove the-cloud from the-moon but
 Glámr hvesti augun upp í móti, ok svá hefir Grettir sagt
Glam sharpened the-eyes up in against and so has Grettir said
 sjálf, at þá eina sýn hafi hann sét svá, at honum brygði
himself that that one sight have he seen so that to-him started
 við. Þá sigaði svá at honum af öllu saman, mæði ok
at(-it) Then sank so at him from all together weariness and
 því, er hann sá at Glámr gaut sínum sjónum harðlega,
at-that when he saw that Glam cast his gaze harshly
 at hann gat eigi brugðit saxinu, ok lá nálega í milli
that he could not draw the-short-sword and lay nearly in between
 heims ok heljar. Enn því var meiri ófagnaðarkraftur með
world and bel But therein was greater power-of-evil with
 Glámi enn flestum öðrum aftrgöngum, at hann mælti þá
Glam than with-most other revenants that he spoke then

á þessa leið: "Mikit kapp hefir þú á lagit, Grettir", sagði
in this way Great zeal have you on laid Grettir said
 hann, "at finna mik, enn þat mun eigi undarlegt þykkja,
he to meet me but that will not strange seem
 þó at þú hljótir eigi mikit happ af mér; enn þat má ek
though that you get not great luck from me but that may I
 segja þér, at þú hefir nú fengit helming af þess ok
tell you that you have now gotten half of-strength that and
 þroska, er þér var ætlaðr, ef þú hefðir mik eigi fundit;
of-growth which for-you was intended if you had me not met
 nú fæ ek þat afl eigi af þér tekit, er þú hefir áðr
now can I that strength not from you taken which you have before
 hrept, enn því má ek ráða, at þú verðr aldri sterkari enn
gained but that may I decide that you become never stronger than
 nú ertu, ok ertu þó nógu sterkr, ok at því mun mörgum
now are-you and are-you yet enough strong and to that will for-many
 verða. Þú hefir frægr orðit hér til af verkum þínum, en
become You have famous become here to by deeds your but
 heðan af munu falla til þín sektir ok vígaferli, enn flest öll
hence on will fall to you outlawries and slayings but most all
 verk þín snúast þér til ógæfu ok hamingjuleysis. Þú munt
deeds your turn for-you to ill-luck and misfortune You will
 verða útlægr gerr, ok hljóta jafnan úti at búa einn samt;
become outlawed made and get always outside to live alone together
 þá legg ek þat á við þik, at þessi augu sé þér jafnan
then lay I that on against you that these eyes be to-you always
 fyrir sjónum, sem ek ber eftir, ok mun þér þá erfitt
before sight which I bear after(-me) and will to-you then hard
 þykkja einum at vera, ok þat mun þér til dauða draga". Ok
seem alone to be and that will you to death draw And
 sem þrallinn hafði þetta mælt, þá rann af Gretti ómegit,
when the-thrall had this spoken then ran from Grettir the-faintness

þat sem á honum hafði verit. Brá hann þá saxinu, ok
that which on him had been Drew he then the-short-sword and
 hjó höfuð af Glámi ok setti þat við þjó honum.
bewed (the)-head off Glam and set it at (the)-buttock to-him
 Bóndi kom þá út, ok hafði klæðst á meðan Glámr
(The)-farmer came then out and had dressed-himself in while Glam
 lét ganga töluna, enn hvergi þorði hann nær at koma, fyrr
let go the-speech but nowhere dared he near to come before
 enn Glámr var fallinn. Þórhallr lofaði guð fyrir, ok þakkaði
than Glam was fallen Thorball praised God for(-it) and thanked
 vel Gretti, er hann hafði unnit þennan óhreina anda. Fóru
well Grettir that he had overcome this unclean spirit Went
 þeir þá til ok brendu Glám at köldum kolum. Eftir þat
they then to(-it) and burned Glam to cold coals After that
 báru þeir ösku hans í eina hit ok grófu þar niðr, sem
carried they ashes his into one skin-bag and dug there down where
 sízt váru fjárhagar eða mannavegir; gengu heim eftir þat,
least were sheep-pastures or men's-paths walked home after that
 ok var þá mjök komit at degi. Lagðist Grettir niðr, því
and was then much come to day Laid-himself Grettir down because
 at hann var stirðr mjök. Þórhallr sendi menn á næstu
that he was stiff much Thorball sent men to (the)-nearest
 bæi eftir mönnum, sýndi ok sagði, hversu farit hafði. Öllum
farms for men showed and told how gone had To-all
 þótti mikils um vert um þetta verk, þeim er heyrðu; var
seemed much about worth about this deed those who heard was
 þat þá almælt, at engi væri þvílíkr maðr á öllu landinu
that then common-talk that no-one were such a-man in all the-land
 fyrir afli sakir ok hreysti ok allrar atgervi sem Grettir
for strength's sake and valor and all accomplishment as Grettir
 Ásmundarson. Þórhallr leysti Gretti vel af hendi, ok gaf
Asmund's-son Thorball discharged Grettir well off hand and gave

honum góðan hest ok klæði sæmileg, því at þau váru
him a-good horse and clothes honorable because that those were
 öll sundr leyst, er hann hafði áðr borit. Skildu þeir
all to-pieces torn which he had before worn Parted they
 með vináttu. Reið Grettir þaðan í Ás í Vatnsdal, ok tók
with friendship Rode Grettir thence to As in Vatnsdal and took
 Þorvaldr við honum vel, ok spurði innilega at sameign
Thorvald with him well and asked closely about dealings
 þeira Gláms, enn Grettir segir honum viðskifti þeira,
of-them Glam(-and-him) but Grettir tells him (the)-encounter their
 ok kvaðst aldri í þvílíka afraun komit hafa, svá
and said-of-himself never in such trial-of-strength come to-have so
 langa viðreign sem þeir höfðu saman átt. Þorvaldr bað hann
long struggle as they had together had Thorvald bade him
 hafa sik spakan — “ok mun þá vel duga, enn ella
keep himself quiet and will then well avail but otherwise
 mun þér slysgjarnt verða”. Grettir kvað eigi batnat hafa
will for-you accident-prone become Grettir said not improved to-have
 um lyndisbragðit, ok sagðist nú miklu verr stiltr enn
about the-temper and said-of-himself now much worse restrained than
 áðr, ok allar mótgerðir verri þykkja. Á því fann hann mikla
before and all offenses worse to-seem In that found he great
 muni, at hann var orðinn maðr svá myrkfælinn, at hann
difference that he was become a-man so afraid-of-the-dark that he
 þorði hvergi at fara einn saman, þegar myrkva tók; sýndist
dared nowhere to go alone together as-soon-as to-darken began seemed
 honum þá hvers kyns skrípi, ok þat er haft síðan fyrir
to-him then every kind-of phantom and that is held since for
 orðtæki, at þeim ljái Glámr augna eða gefi glámsýni, er
a-saying that to-those lends Glam eyes or gives glam-sight who

mjök sýnist annan veg enn er. Grettir reið heim til Bjargs,
much sees-things other way than is Grettir rode home to Bjarg
 er hann hafði gert erendi sín, ok sat heima um vetrinn.
when he had done errands his and sat at-home over the-winter

XXXVI · ÞORBJÖRN FERÐALANGR'S MOCKERY

At Þorbjörn öxnamegin's autumn feast the fight on the ridge is discussed. Þorbjörn ferðalangr mocks Grettir, saying he did nothing notable, was afraid, and has no courage without enough men. Many think this needless and say Grettir would not let it pass. There is ill feeling over the winter, but no one attacks.

Þorbjörn öxnamegin hafði haustboð mikit, ok kom þar
Thorbjorn Oxen-might held an-autumn-feast great and came there
 margt manna; þetta var meðan Grettir fór norðr til Vatnsdals
many of-men this was while Grettir went north to Vatnsdal
 um haustit. Þorbjörn ferðalangr var þar at boðinu. Þar varð
in the-autumn Thorbjorn Traveler was there at the-feast There was
 margt talat. Spurðu þeir Hrútfirðingar at sameign þeira
much talked Asked they (the)-Hrutafjord-men about (the)-dealings of-them
 Grettis á hálsinum um sumarit. Þorbjörn öxnamegin bar
Grettir(-and-his) on the-ridge in the-summer Thorbjorn Oxen-might told
 Gretti allvel söguna; kvað Kormák verra mundu af hafa
for-Grettir very-well the-story said Kormak worse would from(-it) have
 fengit, ef engir hefði til komit at skilja þá. Þá mælti Þorbjörn
gotten if none had to come to part them Then spoke Thorbjorn
 ferðalangr: “Þat var bæði”, sagði hann, “at ek sá hann Gretti
Traveler That was both said he that I saw him Grettir
 ekki til frægðar vinna, enda hygg ek, at honum skyti
not toward fame do and-indeed think I that to-him shot
 skelk í bringu, er vér kvámum at, ok allfúss var hann at
fright into (the)-breast when we came up and very-eager was he to

skilja, ok eigi sá ek hann til hefnda leita, er húskarl Atla
part and not saw I him to vengeance seek when (the)-house-carl of-Atli
 var drepinn, ok því ætla ek aldri hug í honum, ef hann
was killed and therefore think I never courage in him if he
 hefir eigi nógan liðsaffla". Gerði Þorbjörn at þessu hit mesta
has not enough strength-of-men Made Thorbjorn of this the greatest
 gabb. Margir tóku undir, at þetta væri þarfleysuglens, ok
mockery Many took under(-it) that this were needless-jesting and
 Grettir myndi eigi svá búit hafa vilja, ef hann frétti þessi orð.
Grettir would not so done have wish if he learned these words
 Eigi bar þar til tíðenda fleira at boðinu. Fóru menn heim.
Not happened there to tidings more at the-feast Went men home
 Váru dylgjur miklar með þeim um vetrinn, enn hvárigir
Were bad-feelings great between them during the-winter but neither
 réðu á aðra; bar þá ekki til tíðenda um vetrinn.
ventured on (the)-other happened then nothing to tidings during the-winter

XXXVII · THE KILLING OF ÞORBJÖRN FERÐALANGR

News comes that Óláfr Haraldsson has taken the throne of Norway and favors accomplished men, and Grettir books passage abroad. His father Ásmundr is failing, and Atli takes over the farm. Þorbjörn ferðalangr is on the same ship. He arrives saying that Ásmundr has choked in the smoke like a dog and that Grettir will have to swing higher than he did on the ridge. Grettir answers with a prophecy and a verse, then strikes off Þorbjörn's head. The ship reaches Norway, and Grettir heads north to the king.

Snemma um várit eftir kom skip út af Noregi; þat var
Early in the-spring after came a-ship out from Norway that was
 fyrir þing. Þeir kunnu at segja mörg tíðendi: þat fyrst,
before (the)-assembly They could to tell many tidings that first

at höfðingjaskifti var orðit í Noregi; var þá kominn til
that change-of-rulers was become in Norway was then come to
 ríkis Óláfr konungr Haraldsson, enn Sveinn jarl ór
(the)-realm Olaf king Harald's-son but Svein (the)-earl out-of
 landi stokkinn, um v́́rit eftir Nesjaorrustu. V́́ru margir
(the)-land fled in the-spring after (the)-Battle-of-Nesjar Were many
 merkilegir hlutir sagðir frá Ólafi konungi, ok þat með, at
remarkable things told of Olaf king and that with(-it) that
 hann tók þá menn alla bezt, sem v́́ru atgervismenn um
he took those men all best who were accomplished-men in
 nökkura hluti, ok gerði sér þá handgengna. Við þetta
some things and made for-himself them retainers At this
 urðu glaðir margir ungir menn, ok fýstust til utanferðar;
became glad many young men and were-eager for going-abroad
 ok svá sem Grettir spurði þessi tíðendi, gerðist honum hugr
and so as Grettir learned these tidings became to-him mind
 á at sigla; vænti hann sér sæmdar, sem aðrir, af
on(-it) to sail expected he for-himself honor like others from
 konunginum. Skip stóð uppi at Gásum í Eyjafirði; þar tók
the-king A-ship stood beached at Gasar in Eyjafjord there took
 Grettir sér far, ok bjóst til utanferðar; eigi hafði hann
Grettir for-himself passage and made-ready for going-abroad not had he
 enn mikil fararefni. Ásmundr gerðist nú mjök hrumr af
yet great means-of-travel Asmund became now much frail from
 elli, ok reis nú lítt ór rekkju. Þau Ásdís áttu ungan
old-age and rose now little out-of bed They Asdis(-and-be) had a-young
 son, er Illugi hét, manna efnilegastr. Atli tók nú við allri
son who Illugi was-called of-men most-promising Atli took now over all
 búsýslu ok fjárvarðveislu; þótti þat mikit batna, því
farm-management and livestock-keeping seemed that much to-improve because
 at hann var gæfr ok forsjáll. Grettir fór til skips. Í þetta
that he was gentle and prudent Grettir went to (the)-ship On this

sama skip hafði ráðizt Þorbjörn ferðalangr, áðr enn þeir
same ship had taken-passage Thorbjorn Traveler before than they
 vissu, at Grettir myndi þar í sigla. Löttu margir Þorbjörn
knew that Grettir would there in sail Dissuaded many Thorbjorn
 at sigla samskipa við Gretti, enn Þorbjörn kveðst fara
to sail on-the-same-ship with Grettir but Thorbjorn says-of-himself to-go
 mundu fyrir alt þat. Bjóst hann til utanferðar, ok varð
would for all that Made-ready be for going-abroad and became
 heldr síðbúinn; kom hann eigi fyrr norðr á Gáseyri, enn
rather late-prepared came he not before north to Gaseyr than
 skipit var albúið. Áðr Þorbjörnu færi vestan, hafði Ásmundr
the-ship was all-ready Before Thorbjorn went from-the-west had Asmund
 hærulangr tekit krankleika nökkurn, ok reis þá eigi ór
Long-hair taken sickness some and rose then not out-of
 rekkju. Þorbjörn ferðalangr kom síð dags í sandinn; váru
bed Thorbjorn Traveler came late of-day onto the-sand were
 menn þá búnir til borða, ok tóku handlaugar úti hjá
men then ready for tables and took hand-washings outside by
 búðinni. Enn er Þorbjörn reið fram í búðarsundit, var
the-booth But when Thorbjorn rode forth into the-booth-lane was
 honum heilsat ok spurðr tíðenda. Hann lézt engi segja
to-him greeted and asked-for tidings He professed none to-tell
 kunna — “utan þess get ek, at kappinn Ásmundr at Bjargi
to-know except this guess I that the-champion Asmund at Bjarg
 sé nú dauðr”. Margir tóku undir, at þar færi gildir bóndi
be now dead Many took under(-it) that there went a-substantial farmer
 af heiminum, sem hann var — “eða hversu bar þat til?”
from the-world as he was or how happened that to
 sögðu þeir. Hann svarar: “Lítit lagðist nú fyrir kappann,
said they He answers Little lay now before the-champion
 því at hann kafnaði í stofureyk sem hundr, enn eigi
because that he choked in sitting-room-smoke like a-dog but not

var skaði at honum, því at hann gerðist nú gamalærr. Þeir
was loss in him because that he became now senile They
 svara: “Þú talar undarlega við þvílíkan mann, ok eigi myndi
answer You talk strangely about such a-man and not would
 Gretti vel líka, ef hann heyrði”. “Þola má ek þat”, sagði
Grettir well like(-it) if he heard Endure may I that said
 Þorbjörn, “ok hærra mun Grettir bera verða saxit, enn
Thorbjorn and higher will Grettir bear have-to the-short-sword than
 í fyrra sumar á Hrútafjarðarhálsi, ef ek hræðumst hann”.
in (the)-last summer on Hrutafjardarbals if I be-afraid-of him
 Grettir heyrði fullgerla, hvat Þorbjörn sagði, ok gaf sér ekki
Grettir heard very-clearly what Thorbjorn said and paid himself no
 at, meðan Þorbjörn lét ganga söguna; enn er hann
(heed)-to(-it) while Thorbjorn let go the-story but when he
 hætti, þá mælti Grettir: “Þat spái ek þér, Ferðalangr”,
stopped then spoke Grettir That prophesy I to-you Traveler
 sagði hann, “at þú deyrir eigi í stofureyknum, ok þó má
said he that you die not in the-sitting-room-smoke and yet may
 vera, at þú verðir eigi ellidauðr, enn þat er undarlega
be that you become not dead-of-old-age but that is strangely
 gert, at tala sneyðilega til saklausra manna”. Þorbjörn mælti:
done to speak scornfully of innocent men Thorbjorn spoke
 “Eigi mun ek aftra mér at þessu, ok eigi þótti mér þú
Not will I hold-back myself from this and not seemed to-me you

svá snæfrlega láta, þá er vér tókum þik undan, er þeir
so briskly behave then when we took you away when they
 Melamenn börðu þik sem nautshöfuð". Grettir kvað þá vísu:
Melar-men beat you like an-ox-head Grettir spoke then a-verse

Jafnan verðr til orða,
Always happens to words
 of löng boga slöngvi
too long of-bow to-(the)-slinger
 — því kemr þar til sumra
therefore comes there to some
 þung hefnd fyrir — tunga.
heavy vengeance for (the)-tongue
 Margr hefir beiðir borgar
Many has asker of-fortress
 benlinns sakir minni,
of-wound-snake for less
 Ferðalangr, þót fengir
Traveler though you-got
 fjörtjón, enn þú görvar.
life-loss than you do

Þorbjörn mælti: "Jafnfeigr þykkjumst ek sem áðr, þótt þú
Thorbjorn spoke As-doomed think-myself I as before though you
 skjalir slíkt". Grettir svarar: "Eigi hafa spár mínar átt langan
babble such Grettir answers Not have prophecies my had long
 aldr hér til, ok enn mun svá fara; vara þik ef þú vilt, eigi
life here to and still will so go beware yourself if you wish not
 mun síðar sýnna". Síðan hjó Grettir til Þorbjarnar, enn hann
will later plainer Then bewed Grettir at Thorbjorn but he
 brá við hendinni, ok ætlaði svá at bera af sér högg; enn
moved at(-it) with-the-arm and intended so to bear off himself the-blow but

höggit kom á höndina fyrir ofan úlfliðinn, ok síðan hljóp
the-blow came on the-arm on above the-wrist and then leaped
 saxit á hálsinn, svá at af fauk höfuðit. Kaupmenn
the-short-sword onto the-neck so that off flew the-head (The)-merchants
 sögðu hann stórhöggan, ok slíkt væri konungsmenn, ok eigi
said him great-striking and such were king's-men and not
 þótti þeim skaði at, þótt Þorbjörn væri drepinn, því at
seemed to-them loss in(-it) though Thorbjorn were killed because that
 hann hafði bæði verit kífinn ok köllsugr. Litlu síðar létu
he had both been quarrelsome and mocking A-little later put
 þeir í haf, ok kvámu at áliðnu sumri til Noregs, suðr við
they to sea and came at late summer to Norway south by
 Hörðaland. Frétta þeir þá, at Óláfr konungr sat norðr í
Hordaland Learn they then that Olaf king sat north in
 Þrándheimi. Fekk Grettir sér far með byrðingsmönnum
Trondheim Got Grettir for-himself passage with cargo-ship-men
 norðr þangat, því at hann vildi fara á konungs fund.
north thither because that he wished to-go to (the)-king's meeting

XXXVIII • THE BURNING OF THE SHELTER

Þórir of Garðr sends his sons to King Óláfr, and they shelter in a hut near Staðr. Grettir's ship lands nearby in a snowstorm, and the freezing merchants have no fire. Grettir swims the sound and enters the hut in an iced cowl, and the drinking Þórissons attack him as a monster, scattering the fire. He escapes with the fire. Next morning the hut lies in ashes, and the merchants say everywhere that Grettir burned the men alive. They put him off the ship, and he goes north to the king, who has already heard.

Þórir hét maðr, er bjó í Garði í Aðaldal. Hann var
Thorir was-called a-man who dwelt at Gard in Adaldal He was
 Skeggjason, Bótólfssonar. Skeggi hafði numit Kelduhverfi upp
Skeggi's-son Botolf's-son Skeggi had taken Kelduhverfi up
 til Kelduness. Hann átti Helgu, dóttur Þorkels á Fiskilæk.
to Keldunes He had Helga daughter of-Thorkel at Fiskilæk
 Þórir, son hans, var höfðingi mikill ok siglingamaðr. Hann
Thorir son his was a-chieftain great and a-seafarer He
 átti tvá sonu; hét Þorgeirr annarr, enn annarr Skeggi;
had two sons was-called Thorgeir one but (the)-other Skeggi
 þeir váru báðir efnilegir menn, ok mjök fulltíða, er þetta
they were both promising men and much full-grown when this
 var. Þórir hafði verit í Noregi um sumarit, þá er Óláfr
was Thorir had been in Norway during the-summer then when Olaf
 konungr kom vestan af Englandi, ok kom sér þá í
king came from-the-west from England and brought himself then into
 kærleika mikla við konung, ok svá við Sigurð biskup, ok
affection great with (the)-king and so with Sigurd bishop and
 er þat til marks um, at Þórir hafði látit gera knörr
is that to token of that Thorir had had make a-merchant-ship
 mikinn í skógi, ok bað Sigurð biskup vígja, ok svá
great in (the)-forest and asked Sigurd bishop consecrate(-it) and so
 gerði hann. Eftir þat fór Þórir út til Íslands, ok lét
did he After that went Thorir out to Iceland and had
 höggva upp knörrinn, þá er honum leiddust siglingar,
bew up the-ship then when to-him grew-wearisome sea-voyages
 enn brandana af knerrinum lét hann setja yfir útidyr
but the-prow-pieces from the-ship had he set over outer-doors
 sínar, ok váru þeir þar lengi síðan, ok svá veðrspáir,
his and were they there long afterward and so weather-foretelling
 at í öðrum þaut fyrir sunnanveðri, enn í öðrum fyrir
that in one whistled before south-wind but in (the)-other before

norðanveðri. Enn er Þórir spurði, at Óláfr konungr hafði
north-wind But when Thorir learned that Olaf king had
 fengit einvald yfir öllum Noregi, þóttist hann þar eiga
gotten sole-rule over all Norway thought-himself he there to-have
 at vitja vináttumála. Þá sendi Þórir sonu sína til Noregs
to seek friendly-dealings Then sent Thorir sons his to Norway
 á konungs fund, ok ætlaði at þeir skyldi verða honum
to (the)-king's meeting and intended that they should become to-him
 handgengnir. Kvámu þeir at sunnarlega síð um haustit, ok
retainers Came they in far-south late in the-autumn and
 fengu sér eina róðrarskútu, fóru norðr með landi, ok
got for-themselves a rowing-boat went north along land and
 ætluðu at fara á konungs fund. Þeir kvámu á höfn eina
intended to go to (the)-king's meeting They came to a-harbor one
 fyrir sunnan Stað, ok lágu þar nökkurar nætr. Þeir heldu
on south-of Stad and lay there some nights They kept
 sik vel at vist ok drykk, ok höfðu sik eigi úti,
themselves well in food and drink and had themselves not outside
 er eigi váru góð veðr. Nú er at segja frá því, er þeir
when not were good weathers Now is to tell of that when they
 Grettir fóru norðr með landi, ok fengu oft hörð veðr,
Grettir(-and-bis) went north along land and got often hard weathers
 því at þetta var öndverðan vetr; ok þá er þeir sóttu
because that this was (the)-beginning-of winter and then when they pressed
 norðr at Staði, fengu þeir illviðri mikit með fjúki ok
north toward Stad got they bad-weather great with snow-drift and
 frosti, ok tóku nauðulega land eitt kveld allir mjök væstir,
frost and took with-difficulty land one evening all much soaked
 ok lögðu þar við bala nökkurn, ok gátu þá borgit fé
and laid there by a-sandbank some and could then save goods
 sínu ok föngum. Þeir bárust illa af, kaupmennirnir, því
their and provisions They fared badly off(-it) the-merchants because

at þeir gátu eigi tekit eld; enn þeim þótti þar nálega við
that they could not take fire but to-them seemed there nearly at(-it)
 liggja heilsa sín ok líf. Lágu þeir þá um kveldit, allilla
to-lie health their and life Lay they then during the-evening very-ill
 staddir. Þá er á leið kveldit, sá þeir, at eldr kom upp
placed Then when on passed the-evening saw they that fire came up
 mikill öðrum megin þess sunds, er þeir váru þá við
great on-(the)-other side of-that sound which they were then at
 komnir. Enn er skipverjar Grettis sjá eldinn, töluðu þeir
come But when shipmen of-Grettir see the-fire talked they
 til, at sá væri heppinn, er honum gæti náð, ok
about(-it) that that-one were lucky who it could get and
 efuðust í, hvárt þeir skyldi leysa skipit, enn þat sýndist
doubted in(-it) whether they should loose the-ship but that seemed
 öllum eigi hættulaust. Þá höfðu þeir um tal mikit, hvárt
to-all not without-danger Then had they about talk much whether
 nökkur maðr mundi svá vel færr, at næði eldinum.
any man would so well capable that (be)-reached the-fire
 Grettir gaf sér fátt at, ok segir, at verit myndi
Grettir paid himself little (beed)-to(-it) and says that been would
 hafa þeir menn, er þat myndi eigi trauðat hafa. Kaupmenn
have those men who that would not hesitated have (The)-merchants
 sögðu, at sér væri eigi at borgnara, hvat er verit
said that to-themselves were not to safer what that been
 hafði, ef þá væri til einskis at taka — “eða treystir þú þér?
had if then were for nothing to take or trust you yourself
 Grettir”, sögðu þeir, “því at þú ert nú mestr atgervismaðr
Grettir said they because that you are now greatest accomplished-man
 af íslenzkum mönnum kallaðr, enn þú veizt nú gerla hvat
of Icelandic men called but you know now clearly what
 oss liggr á”. Grettir svarar: “Eigi lízt mér mikit þrekvirki
to-us lies on(-it) Grettir answers Not seems to-me great feat

at ná eldinum, enn eigi veit ek, hvárt þér launit betr enn
to get the-fire but not know I whether you reward better than
 sá ferr á leit, er þat gerir". Þeir mæltu: "Hví ætlar þú
that-one goes on seeking who that does They spoke Why think you
 oss þá svívirðingarmenn, at vér myndum þat eigi góðu
us then disgraceful-men that we would that not with-good
 launa?" "Reyna má ek þetta, ef þat er, at yðr þykkir
repay Try may I this if that is that to-you seems
 hér allmikil á liggja, enn eigi segir mér vænt hugr um,
here very-much on to-lie but not tells me hopefully mind about
 at ek hafa gott at sök hér fyrir". Þeir kváðu þat eigi
that I have good out-of (the)-case here for They said that not
 skyldu vera, ok báðu hann mæla drengja heilastan. Eftir þat
should be and bade him speak of-fellows best After that
 bjóst Grettir til sunds, ok kastaði af sér klæðunum.
made-ready Grettir for swimming and threw off himself the-clothes
 Hann fór í kufi einn klæða ok söluváðarbrækr; hann
He went into a-cowl one of-clothes and sack-cloth-breeches he
 stytti upp um sik kufinn, ok rak at sér utan basttaug
tucked up about himself the-cowl and drew at himself outside a-bast-rope
 at sér miðjum, ok hafði með sér kerald. Síðan hljóp
at himself middle and had with himself a-tub Then leaped
 hann fyrir borð. Hann lagðist nú yfir þvert sundit, ok gekk
he over board He swam now over across the-sound and went
 þar á land. Hann sér þar standa eitt hús, ok heyrði þangat
there on land He sees there stand one house and heard thither
 mannamál ok glaum mikinn. Grettir sneri at húsinu. Nú
men's-talk and noise great Grettir turned toward the-house Now
 er at segja frá þeim, sem fyrir váru, at hér váru komnir
is to tell of those who before were that here were come
 þeir Þórisssynir, sem fyrr var getit. Þeir höfðu legit þar
they Thorir's-sons as before was mentioned They had lain there

margar nætr, ok beðit þar veðrfalls, at þeim gæfi
many nights and waited there (for)-weather-abatement that to-them gave
 norðr fyrir Staði. Þeir höfðu sett at drykkju, ok váru
north past Stad They had sat-themselves to drinking and were
 tólf saman. Þeir lágu í meginhöfninni, ok var þar gert
twelve together They lay in the-main-harbor and was there made
 sæluhús mönnum þeim til vistar, er fóru með landi fram,
a-shelter-house for-men those to lodging who went along land forth
 ok var borinn í húsit, hálmr mikill; eldr var ok mikill á
and was carried into the-house straw much fire was also great on
 gólfinu. Grettir ræðst nú inn í húsit, ok vissi eigi, hverir
the-floor Grettir moves now in into the-house and knew not who
 fyrir váru. Kuflinn var sýldr allr, þegar hann kom á land,
before were The-cowl was iced all as-soon-as he came onto land
 ok var hann furðu mikill tilsýndar, sem tröll væri. Þeim
and was he wondrously big to-look-at as-if a-troll were To-those
 sem fyrir váru, brá mjök við þetta, ok hugðu at óvættir
who before were started much at this and thought that a-monster
 mundi vera. Börðu þeir hann með öllu því, er þeir fengu
would be Beat they him with all that which they got
 til, ok varð nú brak mikit um þá, enn Grettir hratt
to(-hand) and became now crashing great about them but Grettir pushed
 fast af handleggjum. Sumir börðu hann með eldibröndum;
hard off with-(the)-arms Some beat him with firebrands
 hraut þá eldrinn um alt húsit; komst hann við þat út með
flew then the-fire over all the-house got he with that out with
 eldinn, ok fór svá aftir til félagá sinna. Lofuðu þeir mjök
the-fire and went so back to comrades his Praised they much
 hans ferð ok fræknleik, ok kváðu engan hans jafningja
his journey and valor and said none his equal
 mundu vera. Leið nú af nóttin, ok þóttust þeir þegar
would be Passed now off the-night and thought-themselves they now

hólpnir, er þeir fengu eldinn. Um morguninn eftir var gott
saved when they got the-fire In the-morning after was good
 veðr; vöktu þeir við snemma kaupmennirnir, ok bjoggust
weather woke they up early the-merchants and made-ready
 til ferðar; töluðu þá um, at þeir skyldi finna þá, er
for journey talked then about that they should find those who
 fyrir eldinum höfðu ráðit, ok vita, hverir þeir væri. Leystu
before the-fire had ruled and know who they were Loosed
 þeir nú skipit, ok fóru yfir sundit; fundu þeir þá eigi
they now the-ship and went over the-sound found they then not
 skálann, enn sá þar öskuhrúgu mikla, ok þar í fundu
the-but but saw there an-asb-heap great and there in found
 þeir mannabein mörg; þóttust nú vita, at sæluhúsit
they men's-bones many thought-themselves now to-know that the-shelter-house
 myndi hafa brunnit alt upp, ok þeir menn, sem þar höfðu
would have burned all up and those men who there had
 í verit. Þeir spurðu, hvárt Grettir hefði ollat þessu óhappi,
in been They asked whether Grettir had caused this mishap
 ok sögðu þetta hit mesta illvirki. Grettir kvað nú þat fram
and called this the greatest evil-deed Grettir said now that forth
 komit, er hann grunaði, at þeir myndi honum illu launa
come which he suspected that they would him with-ill repay
 eldsóknina, ok segir 'ilt ódrengjum lið at veita'. Af þessu
the-fire-fetching and says ill to-knaves help to give From this
 fekk Grettir svá mikit ólið, at kaupmenn sögðu, hvar sem
got Grettir so great disfavor that (the)-merchants said wherever as
 þeir kvámu, at Grettir hefði þessa menn inni brent. Þat
they came that Grettir had these men inside burned That
 fréttist nú brátt, at í þessu húsi höfðu þeir látizt Þóris
was-heard now soon that in this house had they died Thorir's
 synir ór Garði, sem fyrr váru nefndir, ok fylgdarmenn
sons out-of Gard as before were named and followers

þeira. Nú ráku þeir Grettir í burt ór skipinu, ok vildu
their Now drove they Grettir off away out-of the-ship and would
 eigi hafa hann með sér. Varð hann nú svá fyrirlitinn,
not have him with them Became he now so despised
 at nær engir vildu honum gott gera. Þótti honum nú
that nearly none would him good do Seemed to-him now
 allóvænt horfa, ok vildi nú fyrir hvern mun fara á konungs
very-unhopeful to-look and wished now for any means to-go to (the)-king's
 fund, ok leitaði nú norðr til Þrándheims. Þar var konungur
meeting and sought now north to Trondheim There was (the)-king
 fyrir, ok hafði spurt alt þetta, áðr Grettir kæmi; var hann
present and had learned all this before Grettir came was he
 allmjök afluttr fyrir konunginum. Var Grettir nökkura daga
very-much slandered before the-king Was Grettir some days
 í bænum áðr hann næði at ganga á konungs fund.
in the-town before he got to go to (the)-king's meeting

XXXIX • THE FAILED ORDEAL

Grettir comes before King Óláfr to clear himself of the burning, and the king allows him to carry iron. In the church a wild-looking boy insults him and calls him a giantess's son, and Grettir strikes him down. The ordeal cannot go ahead, and the boy is thought to have been an evil spirit. The king says Grettir is too unlucky to serve him, lets him go where he will in peace for the winter, and tells him to go back to Iceland in the summer.

Þat var einn dag, þá er konungur sat at málstefnu, at
It was one day then when (the)-king sat at a-case-meeting that
 Grettir gekk fyrir konunginn ok kvaddi hann vel. Konungur
Grettir went before the-king and greeted him well (The)-king
 leit við honum ok mælti: “Ertu Grettir hinn sterki?” Hann
looked at him and spoke Are-you Grettir the strong He

svarar: “Kallaðr hefi ek svá verit, ok er ek af því hér
answers Called have I so been and am I for that here
 kominn, at ek vænti af yðr nökkurrar linunar um þat
come that I expect from you some relief about that
 illmæli, er mér hefir kent verit, enn ek þykkjumst þessa
slander which to-me has attributed been but I think-myself of-this
 eigi valdr”. Óláfr konungr mælti: “Ærit ertu gildir, enn eigi
not guilty Olaf king spoke Enough are-you stout but not
 veit ek, hverja gæfu þú berr til at hrinda þessu máli af
know I what luck you bear to to push this case off
 þér, enn líkara væri, at þú hefðir eigi viljandi mennina inni
you but likelier were that you had not willingly the-men inside
 brent”. Grettir kvaðst gjarna vilja af sér koma þessu
burned Grettir said-of-himself gladly to-wish off himself to-get this
 mæli, ef konungi þætti þat mega vera. Konungr bað hann
speech if to-(the)-king seemed that be-able be (The)-king bade him
 satt frá segja, hversu farit hefði með þeim. Grettir sagði
truly off(-it) tell how gone had with them Grettir told
 þá alt, sem áðr var greint, ok þat með, at þeir lifðu
then all as before was related and that with(-it) that they lived
 allir, er hann komst út með eldinn; “vil ek nú bjóða mik
all when he got out with the-fire will I now offer myself
 til slíkrar undanfærslu, sem yðr þykkja lög til standa”. Óláfr
to such clearing as to-you seem law to stand Olaf
 konungr mælti þá: “Unna viljum vér þér at bera járn fyrir
king spoke then Grant will we you to carry iron for
 þetta mál, ef þér verðr þess auðit”. Gretti líkaði þat allvel;
this case if for-you becomes that granted To-Grettir pleased that very-well
 tók hann nú at fasta til járninsins, ok leið til þess, er sá
took he now to fast for the-iron and passed to that when that
 dagr kom, er skírslan skyldi fram fara. Þá gekk konungr
day came when the-ordeal should forth go Then went (the)-king

til kirkju ok biskup ok fjöldi fólks, því at mörgum
to church and (the)-bishop and a-multitude of-people because that to-many
 var forvitni á at sjá Gretti, svá mikit sem af honum
was curiosity about(-it) to see Grettir so much as of him
 var sagt. Síðan var Grettir til kirkju leiddr; ok er hann
was told Then was Grettir to church led and when he
 kom til kirkju, litu þeir margir til hans, er fyrir váru, ok
came to church looked they many at him who before were and
 töluðu þeir, at hann væri ólíkr flestum mönnum fyrir sakir
talked they that he were unlike most men for sake
 afis ok vaxtar. Gekk Grettir nú innar eftir gólfinu; þá
of-strength and growth Went Grettir now further-in along the-floor then
 hljóp fram piltr einn frumvaxta, heldr sviplegr, ok mælti til
leaped forth a-lad one half-grown rather wild-looking and spoke to
 Grettis: “Undarlegr hátt er nú hér í landi þessu, þar sem
Grettir Strange custom is now here in land this there where
 menn skulu kristnir heita, at illvirkjar ok ránsmenn ok
men shall Christians be-called that evildoers and robbers and
 þjófar skulu fara í friði, ok gera þeim skírslur; enn hvat
thieves shall go in peace and make for-them ordeals but what
 myndi illmenninu fyrir verða, nema forða lífinu meðan hann
would to-the-evil-man before come except save the-life while be
 mætti? Hér er nú einn ódádamaðrinn, er sannreyndr er at
might Here is now one the-evildoer who proven is in
 illvirkjum, ok hefir brent inni saklausa menn, ok skal hann
evil-deeds and has burned inside innocent men and shall be
 þó enn ná undanfærslu, ok er þetta all-mikill ósiðr”. Hann
yet still get clearing and is this very-great bad-custom He
 fór at Gretti ok rétti honum fingur, ok skar honum
went at Grettir and stretched at-him a-finger and made-faces-at him
 höfuð, ok kallaði hann margýgjarsen ok mörgum öðrum
(the)-head and called him son-of-a-giantess and many other

illum nöfnum. Gretti varð skapfátt mjök við þetta, ok
ill names To-Grettir became short-tempered much at this and
 gat þá eigi stöðvat sik. Grettir reiddi þá upp hnefann,
could then not stop himself Grettir raised then up the-fist
 ok sló piltinn undir eyrat, svá at hann lá þegar í óviti,
and struck the-lad under the-ear so that he lay at-once in a-swoon
 enn sumir segja, at hann væri dauðr þá þegar; enn enginn
but some say that he were dead then at-once but no-one
 þóttist vita, hvaðan sjá piltr kom, eða hvað af honum
thought-himself to-know whence that lad came or what of him
 varð, enn þat ætla menn helzt, at þat hafi verit óhreinn
became but that think men most that that have been an-unclean
 andi, sendr til óheilla Gretti. Nú varð hark mikit í
spirit sent for (the)-misfortune for-Grettir Now became uproar great in
 kirkjunni, ok var nú sagt til konunginum, at sá barðist
the-church and was now told to the-king that that-one fought
 um, sem járnit skyldi bera. Óláfr konungr gekk nú fram í
about who the-iron should carry Olaf king went now forth into
 kirkjuna ok sá hvað um var ok mælti: “Mikill ógæfumaðr
the-church and saw what about was and spoke A-great unlucky-man
 ertu, Grettir”, sagði konungr, “er nú skyldi eigi skírslan
are-you Grettir said (the)-king that now should not the-ordeal
 fram fara, svá sem nú var alt til búit, ok mun eigi hægt
forth go so as now was all to prepared and will not easy
 at gera við ógæfu þinni”. Grettir svarar: “Þat hafði ek
to do against ill-luck your Grettir answers That had I
 ætlat, at ek myndi meiri sæmd til yðar sækja, herra, enn
intended that I would greater honor to you seek lord than
 nú horfist á, fyrir sakir ættar minnar”, — ok sagði, hversu
now looks on for sake of-family my and told how
 mönnum var farit með þeim Óláfi konungi, sem fyrr var
for-men was gone with them Olaf king as before was

talat. "Vilda ek nú gjarna", sagði Grettir, "at þér tækið við
told Would-wish I now gladly said Grettir that you took with
 mér; hafið þér þá marga með yðr, at eigi munu víglegrir
me have you then many with you that not will more-warlike
 þykkja enn ek". "Sé ek þat", sagði konungr, "at fáir menn
seem than I See I that said (the)-king that few men
 eru nú slíkir fyrir afli sakir ok hreysti, sem þú ert, enn
are now such for strength's sake and valor as you are but
 miklu ertu meiri ógæfumaðr enn þú megir fyrir þat með
much are-you greater unlucky-man than you may for that with
 oss vera. Nú skaltu fara í friði fyrir mér, hvert er þú
us be Now shall-you go in peace from me whither that you
 vilt, vetrarlangt, enn far þú at sumri út til Íslands, því
wish winter-long but go you in summer out to Iceland because
 at þar mun þér auðit verða þín bein at bera". Grettir
that there will for-you granted be your bones to bear Grettir
 svarar: "Ek vilda fyrst færast undan brennumálinu, ef
answers I would-wish first to-clear-myself off the-burning-case if
 ek mætta, því at þat hefi ek eigi viljandi gert". "Þat
I might because that that have I not willingly done That
 er all-líklegt", sagði konungr, "enn fyrir sakir þess, at nú
is very-likely said (the)-king but for sake of-this that now
 ónýttist skírslan fyrir sakir þolleysis þíns, þá muntu
came-to-nothing the-ordeal for sake of-impatience your then will-you
 þessu máli eigi fá af þér hrundit framar enn svá sem
this case not get off you pushed further than so as
 nú er orðit, ok hlýtr jafnan ilt af athugaleysinu, ok ef
now is become and comes always ill of the-beedlessness and if
 nökkurum manni hefir verit fyrirmælt, þá mun þér hóti
to-any man has been cursed then will to-you somewhat
 helzt". Eftir þat dvaldi Grettir í bænum nökkura stund, ok
most After that stayed Grettir in the-town some while and

fekk eigi meira af Óláfi konungi enn nú var sagt. Síðan
got not more from Olaf king than now was told Then
 fór hann suðr í land, ok ætlaði austr til Túnsbergs
went he south into (the)-land and intended east to Tunsberg
 at finna Þorstein drómund bróður sinn, ok er eigi sagt
to meet Thorstein Dromund brother his and is not told
 af hans ferðum, fyrr enn hann kom austr á Jaðar.
of his journeys before than he came east to Jadar

XL · GRETTIR KILLS SNÆKOLLR

At Yule Grettir stays with the farmer Einarr, who has a marriageable daughter, Gyríðr. The berserk Snækollr rides up and demands that Einarr give him his daughter or fight. As Snækollr bites his shield and rages, Grettir kicks the shield into his mouth, breaking his jaw. He pulls him from his horse and beheads him, and the rest flee. Grettir then visits his half-brother Þorsteinn drómundr in Túnsberg, who says Grettir would do well at many things if mishaps did not follow him.

At jólum kom Grettir til þess bónda, er Einarr hét;
At Yule came Grettir to that farmer who Einar was-called
 hann var ríkr maðr ok kvænt, ok átti dóttur gjafvaxta, er
he was a-rich man and married and had a-daughter marriageable who
 Gyríðr er nefnd; hon var fríð kona ok þótti harðla góðr
Gyrid is named she was a-beautiful woman and seemed a-very good
 kostr. Einarr bauð Gretti með sér at vera um jólin, ok
match Einar invited Grettir with him to be over the-Yule and
 þat þá hann. Þat var þá víða í Noregi, at markamenn
that accepted he It was then widely in Norway that forest-men
 ok illvirkjar hlupu ofan af mörkum ok skoruðu á menn
and evildoers ran down from forests and challenged on men
 til kvenna, eða tóku á burt fé manna með ofríki,
for women or took off away (the)-property of-men with violence

þar er eigi var liðsföldi fyrir. Svá bar hér til, at
there where not was number-of-men present So happened here to that
 þat var einn dag á jólnum, at kvámu til Einars bónda
it was one day at the-Yule that came to Einar farmer
 illvirkjar margir saman; hét sá Snækollr, sem fyrir
evildoers many together was-called that-one Snækollr who before
 þeim var; hann var berserkr mikill. Hann skoraði á Einar
them was he was a-berserk great He challenged on Einar
 bónda, at hann skyldi leggja upp við hann dóttur sína, eða
farmer that he should give up to him daughter his or
 verja hana, ef hann þættist maðr til. Enn bóndi var
defend her if he thought-himself a-man for(-it) But (the)-farmer was
 þá af æskuskeiði ok engi styrjaldarmaðr; þótti honum nú
then past youth's-span and no man-of-war seemed to-him now
 mikill vandi at höndum kominn, ok spurði Gretti í hljóði,
great difficulty to hands come and asked Grettir in secret
 hvat hann vildi til leggja — “því at þú ert kallaðr frægr
what he wished to contribute because that you are called a-famous
 maðr”. Grettir bað hann því einu játa, er honum þótti
man Grettir bade him to-that alone agree which to-him seemed
 sér smánarlaust. Berserkrinn sat á hesti, ok hafði hjálm
to-himself without-disgrace The-berserk sat on a-horse and had a-helmet
 á höfði, ok eigi spent kinnbjörgunum; hann hafði skjöld
on head and not fastened the-cheek-guards he had a-shield
 járnri rendan fyrir sér, ok lét hann hit ógurlegasta. Hann
with-iron rimmed before himself and made he the most-terrible He
 mælti við bónda: “Kjós skjótt annanhvárn kostinn, eða hvat
spoke to (the)-farmer Choose quickly one-or-other the-choice or what
 ræðr sá þér hinn mikli hrottinn, er þar stendr hjá þér?
advises that-one you the great lout who there stands by you
 eða er eigi þat, at hann vili eiga leik við mik?” Grettir
or is not that that he wishes to-have a-game with me Grettir

sagði: “Jafnkomit er á með okkr bónda, því at hér er
said Evenly-matched is on between us-two farmer because that here is
 hvárrgi skefinn maðr”. Snækolllr mælti: “Heldr mun ykk
neither a-deft man Snaekoll spoke Rather will you-two
 ægja við mik at fást, ef ek reiðumst”. “Þá veit þat er reynt
dread with me to deal if I grow-angry Then knows that when tried
 er”, sagði Grettir. Berserkrinn fann nú undandratt í málinu;
is said Grettir The-berserk found now evasion in the-matter
 tók hann þá at grenja hátt ok beit í skjaldarröndina,
took he then to bowl loudly and bit on the-shield-rim
 ok setti skjöldinn upp í munn sér ok gein yfir hornit
and set the-shield up into mouth his and gaped over the-corner
 skjaldarins, ok lét all-ólmlega. Grettir varpaði sér um
of-the-shield and behaved very-madly Grettir flung himself over
 völinn; ok er hann kemr jafnfram hesti berserksins, slær
the-field and when he comes alongside (the)-horse of-the-berserk strikes
 hann fæti sínum neðan undir skjaldarsporðinn svá hart, at
he with-foot his below under the-shield-tip so hard that
 skjöldrinn gekk upp í munninn, svá at rifnaði kjafrinu,
the-shield went up into the-mouth so that tore the-jaw
 enn kjálkarnir hlupu ofan á bringuna; hann hafði þá alt
but the-jawbones fell down onto the-breast he had then all
 eitt atriðit, at hann þreif í hjálminn vinstri hendi ok svifti
one the-move that he seized on the-helmet with-left hand and snatched
 víkinginum af baki, enn hægri hendi brá hann saxinu,
the-viking off back but with-right hand drew he the-short-sword
 er hann var gyrðr með, ok setti á hálsinn, svá at af tók
which he was girded with and set on the-neck so that off took
 höfuðit. Enn er þetta sá fylgdarmenn Snækolls, flýði sinn
the-head But when this saw followers of-Snaekoll fled his-own
 veg hvern þeira. Eigi nenti Grettir at elta þá, því at hann
way each of-them Not bothered Grettir to chase them because that he

sá, at engi var hugr i þeim. Þakkaði bóndi honum vel
saw that no was courage in them Thanked (the)-farmer him well
 fyrir þetta verk, ok margir menn aðrir. Þótti þessi atburður
for this deed and many men other Seemed this event
 bæði vera af hvatleik ok harðfengi unninn. Var Grettir þar
both to-be with briskness and hardihood done Was Grettir there
 um jólin vel haldinn; leysti bóndi hann vel af garði.
over the-Yule well kept sent-off (the)-farmer him well from (the)-farm
 Fór Grettir síðan austr til Túnsbergs ok hitti Þorstein bróður
Went Grettir then east to Tunsberg and met Thorstein brother
 sinn. Tók hann við Gretti með blíðu, ok spurði at ferðum
his Took he with Grettir with kindness and asked about journeys
 hans, ok at hann vann berserkinn. Grettir kvað vísu:
his and that he overcame the-berserk Grettir spoke a-verse

Snart at snæðings porti

Swiftly at of-(the)-meal door

Snækolls þrimu rækir

of-Snaekoll of-battle driver

ímunbukl, þat's ökla

battle-shield that-which of-ankle

áspyrnu fekk þyrnis.

kick got of-thorn

Svá tvískifti toftum

So split-apart in-(the)-sites

tanngarðs hinn járnvarði

of-(the)-tooth-fence the iron-guarded

broddagangs at á bringu

of-point-going at onto breast

balkr rifnuðu kjalkar.

beam burst jaws

Þorsteinn mælti: “Slyngt yrði þér um margt, frændi, ef
Thorstein spoke Deft would-be for-you in much kinsman if
 eigi fylgdi slysin með”. Grettir svarar: “Þess verður þó
not followed the-mishaps with(-it) Grettir answers That is yet
 getit, er gert er”.
mentioned which done is

XLI · ÞORSTEINN'S ARMS

Grettir spends the rest of the winter with Þorsteinn drómundr. One morning Þorsteinn sees Grettir's arms and says it is no wonder his blows are heavy. Grettir mocks Þorsteinn's thin arms and doubts he has even a woman's strength. Þorsteinn answers that those thin arms will avenge Grettir, or he will never be avenged. As spring wears on Grettir takes ship. He sails to Iceland in the summer, and the brothers part in friendship and never meet again.

Nú var Grettir með Þorsteini þat sem eftir var vetrarins
Now was Grettir with Thorstein that which left was of-the-winter
 ok fram á várit. Þat var einn morgin, er þeir bræðr,
and forth into the-spring It was one morning when they brothers
 Þorsteinn ok Grettir, lágu í svefnlofti sínu, at Grettir hafði
Thorstein and Grettir lay in sleeping-loft their that Grettir had
 lagit hendr sínar undan klæðunum; Þorsteinn vakti ok
laid arms his out-from-under the-clothes Thorstein was-awake and
 sá þat. Grettir vaknaði litlu síðar. Þá mælti Þorsteinn: “Sét
saw that Grettir woke a-little later Then spoke Thorstein Seen
 hefi ek handleggi þína, frændi”, sagði hann, “ok þykkir mér
have I arms your kinsman said he and seems to-me
 eigi undarlegt, þó at mörgum verði þung högg þín, því
not strange though that for-many be heavy blows your because
 at einkis manns handleggi hefi ek slíka sét”. “Vita mátti
that of-no man's arms have I such seen Know might

þó þat", sagði Grettir, "at ek mynda eigi slíku til leiðar
yet that said Grettir that I would not such to effect
koma, sem ek hefi unnit, ef ek væri eigi allknár". "Betr
bring as I have done if I were not very-strong Better
þætti mér", segir Þorsteinn, "þó at væri mjórri, ok
would-seem to-me says Thorstein though that (they)-were thinner and
nökkuru gæfusamlegri". Grettir sagði: "Satt er þat, sem mælt
somewhat luckier Grettir said True is that which said
er, at 'engi maðr skapar sik sjálf'; láttu mik nú sjá þína
is that no man makes himself himself let-you me now see your
handleggi", sagði hann. Þorsteinn gerði svá; hann var manna
arms said he Thorstein did so he was of-men
lengstr ok grannvaxinn. Grettir brosti at, ok mælti: "Eigi
tallest and slender Grettir smiled at(-it) and spoke Not
þarf at horfa á þetta lengr, krækt er saman rifjum í þér, ok
needs to look at this longer hooked is together with-ribs in you and
eigi þykkjumst ek slíkar tengr sét hafa, sem þú berr eftir,
not think-myself I such tongs seen to-have as you bear after(-you)
ok varla ætla ek þik kvenstyrkvan vera". "Má þat vera", sagði
and hardly think I you woman-strong to-be May that be said
Þorsteinn, "enn þó skaltu þat vita, at þessir hinir mjóvu
Thorstein but yet shall-you that know that these the thin
handleggir munu þín hefna, ella mun þín aldri hefnt verða".
arms will you avenge or will you never avenged be
"Hvat má vita, hversu verðr, um þat er lýkr?" Eigi er
Who may know how turns-out about that when ends Not is
þá getit fleira um viðtal þeira. Leið nú á várit: kom
then mentioned more about talk their Passed now on the-spring got
Grettir sér í skip, ok fór út til Íslands um sumarit.
Grettir himself onto ship and went out to Iceland in the-summer
Skildu þeir bræðr með vináttu, ok sáu aldri síðan.
Parted they brothers with friendship and saw-each-other never after

Þorbjörn öxnamegin is enraged at the killing of Þorbjörn ferðalangr. Dying, Ásmundr leaves the farm to Atli and asks his kin to support him. He says he fears Grettir will make trouble rather than help, while young Illugi will become a man of great worth. Ásmundr is buried at Bjarg, where he had built a church, and Atli becomes a substantial farmer. In late summer Atli rides west to Snæfellsnes with Grímr Þórballsson to buy stockfish.

Þar er nú til at taka, er áðr er frá horfit, at Þorbjörn
There is now to to take where before is from turned that Thorbjörn
 öxnamegin spurði víg Þorbjarnar ferðalangs, sem fyrr var
Oxen-might learned (the)-slaying of-Thorbjörn Traveler as before was
 sagt; brást hann við þat reiðr mjök, ok kveðst vilja, at
told started he at that angry much and says-of-himself to-wish that
 ‘ýmsir ættu högg í annars garði’. Ásmundr hærulangr
each-in-turn should-have blows in other’s yard Ásmund Long-bair
 lá lengi sjúkr um sumarit; ok er honum þótti at sér
lay long sick during the-summer and when to-him seemed at himself
 draga, heimti hann til sín frændr sína, ok sagði, at
to-draw(-near) gathered he to himself kinsmen his and said that
 hann vildi, at Atli tæki við allri fjárvarðveizlu eftir hans
he wished that Atli took over all property-management after his
 dag — “enn uggir mik”, sagði Ásmundr, “at þú megir
day but fears me said Ásmund that you may
 varla í kyrdum sitja fyrir ójafnaði, enn þat vilda ek, at
hardly in quiet sit for unfairness but that would-wish I that
 allir mínir tengdamenn væri sinnandi honum sem best; enn
all my in-laws were attentive to-him as best but
 til Grettis kann ek ekki at leggja, því at mér þykkir á
for Grettir can I nothing to lay because that to-me seems on
 hverfanda hjóli mjök um hans hagi; ok þó hann sé maðr
a-turning wheel much about his affairs and though he is a-man

sterkr, þá uggir mik, at hann eigi meir um vandræði at
strong then fears me that he have more about troubles to
 véla, enn fulltingja frændum sínum; enn þótt Illugi sé ungr,
contrive than to-support kinsmen his but though Illugi is young
 þá mun hann þó verða þroskamaðr, ef hann heldr heilum
then will he yet become a-man-of-prowess if he keeps whole
 sér". Ok er Ásmundr hafði skipat með sonum sínum, sem
himself And when Asmund had arranged among sons his as
 hann vildi, dró at honum sóttin; andaðist hann litlu síðar,
he wished drew on him the-sickness died he a-little later
 ok var jarðaðr at Bjargi, því at Ásmundr hafði þar kirkju
and was buried at Bjarg because that Asmund had there a-church
 gera látit; ok þótti heraðsmönnum þat mikill mannskaði. Atli
build had and seemed to-district-men that great loss-of-a-man Atli
 gerðist nú gildir bóndi, ok hafði mann margt með sér;
became now a-substantial farmer and had many-people with him
 hann var atfangamaðr mikill. At áliðnu sumri fór út hann á
he was a-provider great At late summer went out he to
 Snæfellsnes at fá sér skreið; hann rak marga hesta, ok reið
Snæfellsnes to get himself stockfish he drove many horses and rode
 heiman til Mela í Hrútafjörð, til Gamla mágs síns.
from-home to Melar in Hrutafjord to Gamli kinsman-by-marriage his
 Réðst þá til ferðar með Atla Grímr Þórhallsson, bróðir
Joined then for (the)-journey with Atli Grim Thorhall's-son brother
 Gamla, við annan mann; riðu þeir Haukadalsskarð vestr, ok
of-Gamli with a-second man rode they Haukadalsskard west and
 svá sem liggir út á Nes; keyptu þar skreið mikla, ok báru
so as lies out to (the)-Nes bought there stockfish much and carried
 á sjau hestum; sneru heimleiðis, er þeir váru albúnir.
on seven horses turned homeward when they were all-ready

Þorbjörn öxnamegin, envious of Atli, urges Gunnarr and Þorgeirr Þórisson to ambush him on his way home. Atli asks Gunnarr to pay for killing his house-carl the summer before. Gunnarr says more is owed for Þorbjörn ferðalangr, whom Grettir killed, and they attack while Grettir is away. Atli asks Gunnarr to fight him one to one, since there is no glory in killing workmen, but Gunnarr refuses. Atli kills two of their followers and then Gunnarr, and Grímr kills Þorgeirr. Atli spends the winter at Bjarg with many men around him.

Þorbjörn öxnamegin spurði, at Atli ok Grímr váru heiman
 Þorbjörn Oxen-might learned that Atli and Grim were from-home
 farnir; váru hjá honum Þórissonir frá Skarði, Gunnarr ok
 gone were with him Þorir's-sons from Skard Gunnar and
 Þorgeirr. Þorbirni lék öfund á vinsældum Atla, ok eggjaði
 Þorgeir To-Þorbjörn played envy on (the)-popularity of-Atli and urged
 hann þá bræðr, Þórissonu, at þeir skyldi sitja fyrir
 he those brothers Þorir's-sons that they should lie-in-wait for
 Atla, er þeir færi utan af Nesinu. Riðu þeir þá heim til
 Atli when they went out from the-Nes Rode they then home to
 Skarðs, ok biðu þar til þess, er þeir Atli fóru upp
 Skard and waited there until that when they Atli(-and-his) went up
 um með lestina. Enn er þeir kvámu fram um bæinn á
 past with the-pack-train But when they came forth past the-farm at
 Skarði, þá var sén för þeira; brugðu þeir bræðr þá skjótt
 Skard then was seen journey their started they brothers then quickly
 við með húskarla sína, ok riðu eftir þeim. Enn er þeir
 up with house-carls their and rode after them But when they
 Atli sá ferð þeira, bað hann þá taka ofan klyfjarnar af
 Atli(-and-bis) saw journey their bade he them take down the-loads off
 hestunum — “ok munu þeir vilja bjóða mér bætr fyrir
 the-horses and will they wish to-offer me compensation for

húskarl minn, er Gunnarr drap í fyrra sumar; orkum
house-carl my whom Gunnar killed in (the)-last summer let-us-attack
 eigi á fyrri, enn verjum hendr várar, ef þeir vekja fyrri
not on first but let-us-defend hands our if they start first
 við oss". Nú kvámu hinir fyrri at, ok hlaupa af baki. Atli
against us Now came the-others first up and leap off back Atli
 fagnar þeim, ok spurði at tíðendum — "eða viltu bæta
welcomes them and asked about tidings or will-you compensate
 mér nökkuru, Gunnarr, fyrir húskarl minn?" Gunnarr svarar:
me somewhat Gunnar for house-carl my Gunnar answers
 "Annars væri þér verðir, Bjargsmenn, enn at ek bæti
Of-others were you worthy Bjarg-men than that I compensate
 þat góðu; væri ok meiri bóta vert fyrir víg
that with-good were also greater of-compensation worth for (the)-slaying
 Þorbjarnar, er Grettir vá". "Eigi á ek því at svara",
of-Thorbjorn which Grettir slew Not have I for-that to answer
 sagði Atli, "enda ertu eigi aðili þess máls". Gunnarr
said Atli and-indeed are-you not principal of-that case Gunnar
 kvað nú fyrir þat ganga mundu — "ok göngum at þeim,
said now for that to-go would and let-us-go at them
 ok neytum þess nú, at Grettir er nú eigi nærri." Þeir hlupu
and let-us-use that now that Grettir is now not near They ran
 at Atla, ok váru átta saman, enn þeir Atli sex saman.
at Atli and were eight together but they Atli(-and-his) six together
 Atli gekk fram fyrir sína menn, ok brá sverðinu Jökulsnaut,
Atli went forth before his men and drew the-sword Jokul's-gift
 er Grettir hafði gefit honum. Þá mælti Þorgeirr: "Margt
which Grettir had given him Then spoke Thorgeir Much
 er líkt með þeim er góðir þykkjast, ofarlega bar Grettir
is alike with those who good think-themselves high bore Grettir
 saxit í fyrra sumar á Hrutafjarðarhálsi". Atli svarar:
the-short-sword in (the)-last summer on Hrutafjardarbals Atli answers

“Hann mun ok vanari við stórvirkin enn ek”. Síðan
He will also more-accustomed to the-great-deeds than I Then
 börðust þeir. Gunnarr sótti at Atla með ákefð, ok var
fought they Gunnar attacked at Atli with vehemence and was
 hinn óðasti; ok er þeir höfðu barizt um stund, mælti Atli:
the maddest and when they had fought for a-while spoke Atli
 “Engi frami er í því, at vit drepum verkmenn hvárir
No glory is in that that we-two kill workmen each
 fyrir öðrum, ok er þat næst, at vit sjálfir leikumst við,
before (the)-other and is that next that we-two ourselves play together
 því at ek hefi aldri með vápnum vegit fyrr enn nú”.
because that I have never with weapons slain before than now
 Gunnarr vildi þat eigi. Atli bað húskarla sína at geyma at
Gunnar would that not Atli bade house-carls his to watch at
 lestinni — “enn ek mun sjá, hvat þeir gera at”. Gekk
the-pack-train but I will see what they do at(-it) Went
 hann þá svá hart fram, at þeir Gunnarr hrukku fyrir.
he then so hard forth that they Gunnar(-and-his) fell-back before
 Drap Atli þá tvá fylgdarmenn þeira bræðra. Eftir þat sneri
Killed Atli then two followers of-those brothers After that turned
 hann á móti Gunnari, ok hjó til hans, svá at í sundr tók
he in against Gunnar and hewed at him so that in two took
 skjöldinn fyrir neðan mundriða um þvert, ok kom á fótinn
the-shield on below the-handle across athwart and came on the-leg
 fyrir neðan knéit; ok þegar hjó hann annat högg, svá þat
on below the-knee and at-once hewed he a-second blow so that
 varð at banasári. Nú er at segja frá Grími Þórhallssyni, at
became to death-wound Now is to tell of Grim Thorhall's-son that
 hann réðst á móti Þorgeiri, ok áttust þeir lengi við, því
he turned in against Thorgeir and fought they long together because
 at hvárrtveggja þeira var hraustr maðr. Þorgeirr sá fall
that each of-them was a-valiant man Thorgeir saw (the)-fall

Gunnars bróður síns; vildi hann þá undan leita. Grímr
of-Gunnar brother his wished he then away to-seek Grim
 hljóp eftir honum ok elti hann þar til, at Þorgeirr drap
ran after him and chased him there until that Thorgeir stabbed
 fæti ok fell áfram; þá hjó Grímr með öxi milli herða
foot and fell forward then hewed Grim with an-axe between (the)-shoulders
 honum, svá stóð á kafi. Þá gáfu þeir grið fylgdarmönnum
to-him so stood in deep Then gave they quarter to-followers
 þeira þrím, sem eftir váru. Eftir þat bundu þeir sár sín,
their three who left were After that bound they wounds their
 ok hófu upp klyfjar á hestana, ok fóru síðan heim, ok
and lifted up loads onto the-horses and went then home and
 lýstu vígum þessum. Sat Atli þá heima með fjölmenni um
declared slayings these Sat Atli then at-home with a-crowd during
 haustit. Þorbirni öxnamegin líkaði stórilla, ok gat þó ekki
the-autumn To-Thorbjorn Oxen-might pleased very-ill and could yet nothing
 at gert, því at Atli var mjök vinsæll. Grímr var með
about do because that Atli was very popular Grim was with
 honum um vetrinn, ok svá Gamli mágr hans. Þar
him during the-winter and so Gamli kinsman-by-marriage his There
 var þá ok Glúmr Óspaksson, annarr mágr hans;
was then also Glum Ospak's-son (the)-other kinsman-by-marriage his
 hann bjó þá á Eyri í Bitru. Höfðu þeir setufjölmenni
he dwelt then at Eyri in Bitra Had they a-garrison
 á Bjargi, ok var þar glaumr mikill um vetrinn.
at Bjarg and was there merriment great during the-winter

Þorbjörn öxnamegin prosecutes the killing of the Þórissons, and Atli counters with a charge of ambush. At the Húnavatn assembly Þorvaldr Ásgeirsson and Sölvi the Proud arbitrate. The Þórissons are compensated at half their price because of their attack, Atli's slain house-carl balances their two companions, and Grímr must leave the district. Atli is pleased, but Þorbjörn is not, and he lets slip that this will not be the end.

Þorbjörn öxnamegin tók við eftirmáli um víg Þórissona;
Thorbjorn Oxen-might took over prosecution about (the)-slaying of-Thorir's-sons
 bjó hann málit til á hendr þeim Grími og Atla, enn
prepared he the-case to against hands them Grim and Atli but
 þeir bjoggu til varna um atfarir ok frumhlaup til óhelgi
they prepared for defense about attacks and assault to outlawry
 þeim bræðrum. Váru málin lögð til Húnavatnsþings, ok
for-those brothers Were the-cases laid to Hunavatn-assembly and
 fjölmentu mjök hvártveggja. Varð Atla gott til liðs, því
came-in-numbers much both-sides Became for-Atli good for support because
 at hann átti frændaflokk mikinn. Gengu þá at beggja vinir;
that he had kin-strength great Went then up friends of-both
 töluðu um sættir, ok sögðu allir, at Atla væri vel um
talked about settlements and said all that with-Atli were well about
 farit — “óttileitinn, enn þó öruggri í einangri”. Þóttist
gone unaggressive but yet safe in isolation Thought-himself
 Þorbjörn sjá, at eigi myndi annat virðingarvænna, enn taka
Thorbjorn to-see that not would other more-honorable than to-take
 sættinni. Skildi Atli þat til, at hann vildi hvártki hafa
the-settlement Stipulated Atli that for that he wished neither to-have
 heraðssektir, né utanferðir. Váru þá teknir menn til gerðar,
district-outlawries nor banishments Were then taken men for arbitration
 Þorvaldr Ásgeirsson fyrir hönd Atla, enn af Þorbjarnar hendi
Thorvald Asgeir's-son for (the)-hand of-Atli but on of-Thorbjorn hand

var Sölvi hinn trúði; hann var son Ásbrands Þorbrandssonar,
was Solvi the Proud he was son of-Asbrand Thorbrand's-son
 Haraldssonar hrings, er numit hafði Vatnsnes alt utan til
Harald's-son Ring who taken had Vatnsnes all out to
 Ambáttarár fyrir vestan, enn fyrir austan alt inn til Þverár,
Ambattara on (the)-west but on (the)-east all in to Thvera
 ok þar yfir um þvert til Bjargaóss, ok alt þeim megin
and there over across athwart to Bjargaos and all on-that side
 Bjarga út til sjávar. Sölvi var ofláti mikill, ok vitr
of-(the)-Crag out to (the)-sea Solvi was a-show-off great and a-wise
 maðr, ok því kjöri Þorbjörn hann til gerðar fyrir sína
man and therefore chose Thorbjorn him for arbitration for his
 hönd. Ok eftir þat sögðu þeir upp gerðina, at þá Þórissonu
hand And after that told they out the-award that those Thorir's-sons
 skyldi bæta hálfum bótum, enn hálfar fellu niðr
(one)-should compensate with-half compensations but half fell down
 fyrir atförr ok frumhlaup ok fjörrað við Atla. Víg
for (the)-attack and assault and plot-on-life against Atli (The)-slaying
 húskarls Atla, þess er var drepinn á Hrútafjarðarhálsi,
of-(the)-house-carl of-Atli that-one who was killed on Hrutafjardarbals
 stóðst þat á endum, ok víg þeira tveggja, er fellu
balanced that on (the)-ends and (the)-slaying of-those two who fell
 með Þórissonum. Grímr Þórhallsson skyldi láta heraðsvist
with Thorir's-sons Grim Thorhall's-son should give-up district-residence
 sína, enn Atli vildi einn halda upp fébótum. Þessi gerð
his but Atli wished alone to-hold up (the)-compensation This award
 líkaði Atla vel, enu Þorbirni heldr illa, ok skildu þó sáttir
pleased Atli well but Thorbjorn rather ill and parted yet reconciled
 at kalla, enn þó hraut þat upp fyrir honum Þorbirni, at
to call but yet dropped that out from him Thorbjorn that
 eigi myndi fyrir enda um gert með þeim, ef svá færi, sem
not would for end about made between them if so went as

hann vildi. Atli reið heim af þinginu, ok þakkaði Þorvaldi
he wished Atli rode home from the-assembly and thanked Thorvald
 vel fyrir liðveizlu sína. Grímr Þórhallsson réðst þá suðr í
well for support his Grim Thorhall's-son moved then south to
 Borgarfjörð, ok bjó þá at Gilsbakka, ok var gildr bóndi.
Borgarfjord and dwelt then at Gilsbakki and was a-substantial farmer

XLV · THE KILLING OF ATLI

Áli, a lazy house-carl beaten by Þorbjörn öxnamegin, comes to Bjarg asking for work, and Atli reluctantly keeps him. Þorbjörn claims him and threatens Atli, and Áli begs Atli not to send him back. On a wet day shortly before midsummer Þorbjörn rides alone to Bjarg, knocks, and hides behind the house. When Atli stands in the doorway, Þorbjörn runs him through with a broad spear. Atli says that broad spears are in fashion now and falls dead. No one seeks compensation, since the case belongs to Grettir.

Sá maðr var með Þorbirni öxnamegin, er Áli hét; hann
That man was with Thorbjorn Oxen-might who Ali was-called be
 var húskarl, ok heldr ógæfr ok vinnulitill. Þorbjörn bað
was a-house-carl and rather ungentle and work-shy Thorbjorn bade
 hann starfa betr, ella kveðst hann mundu lemja hann.
him work better or says-of-himself he would beat him
 Áli kvaðst þess enga fýst hafa, ok var hinn kífnastr
Ali said-of-himself of-that no desire to-have and was the most-quarrelsome
 í móti. Þorbjörn þoldi honum eigi, ok rak hann niðr undir
in return Thorbjorn bore him not and threw him down under
 sik, ok fór með hann illa. Eftir þat fór Áli burt ór
himself and dealt with him ill After that went Ali away out-of
 vistinni, ok fór norðr yfir háls til Miðfjarðar; létta eigi
the-service and went north over (the)-ridge to Midfjord stopped not

fyrr, enn hann kom til Bjargs. Atli var heima, ok spurði,
before than he came to Bjarg Atli was at-home and asked
 hvert hann skyldi fara. Hann kvaðst leita sér vistar.
whither he should go He said-of-himself to-look for-himself service
 “Ertu eigi vinnumaðr Þorbjarnar?” kvað Atli. “Eigi fór þat
Are-you not workman of-Thorbjorn said Atli Not went that
 svá keypilega með okkr”, sagði Áli; “ek var þar eigi lengi,
so bargain-like between us-two said Ali I was there not long
 enn mér þótti ilt, meðan ek var, skildum vit svá, at
but to-me seemed ill while I was parted we-two so that
 mér þótti hann eigi vel syngja at kverkum mér, ok man ek
to-me seemed he not well to-sing at throat my and will I
 þangat aldri fara til vistar, hvat sem annat verður af mér; er
thither never go for service whatever that else becomes of me is
 þat ok satt, at mikill munr er, hvárum ykkar verður betr
that also true that great difference is to-which of-you-two goes better
 til hjóna sinna; vilda ek gjarnan nú vinna hjá þér, ef
with servants his would-wish I gladly now to-work with you if
 þess væri kostur.” Atli svarar: “Nóga hefi ek vinnumenn, þó
of-that were choice Atli answers Enough have I workmen though
 at eigi seilumst ek í hendr Þorbirni til þeira manna, er
that not reach I into hands of-Thorbjorn for those men whom
 hann hefir ráðit, enn mér þykkir enginn slægr til þín, ok
he has hired but to-me seems no worth in you and
 far aftr til hans”. Áli mælti: “Þar kem ek eigi ónaðigr”. Nú
go back to him Ali spoke There come I not unforced Now
 dvaldist Áli þar um stund. Einn morgun fór hann til verks
stayed Ali there for a-while One morning went he to work
 með þeim húskörlum Atla, ok vann svá, at hvaðanæfa váru
with those house-carls of-Atli and worked so that from-all-sides were
 á honum hendrnar. Lét Áli svá ganga fram á sumarit. Atli
on him the-hands Let Ali so go forth into the-summer Atli

lagði ekki til hans, enn lét þó gefa honum mat, því at
laid nothing to him but had yet give him food because that
 honum líkaði starfinn vel. Þorbjörn fréttir nú, at Áli er á
to-him pleased the-work well Thorbjorn learns now that Ali is at
 Bjargi. Hann reið þá til Bjargs við þriðja mann, ok kallaði
Bjarg He rode then to Bjarg with a-third man and called
 Atla til tals við sik. Atli gekk út, ok heilsaði þeim. Þorbjörn
Atli to talk with himself Atli went out and greeted them Thorbjorn
 mælti: “Enn viltu endrýja við mik, Atli, um mótgang ok
spoke Still will-you renew with me Atli about opposition and
 áleitni; eða hví hefir þú tekit vinnumann minn? ok er slíkt
provocation or why have you taken workman my and is such
 óskilslega gert”. Atli svarar: “Eigi er mér þat sýnt, at hann
unlawfully done Atli answers Not is to-me that shown that he
 sé þinn vinnumaðr, enn eigi vil ek á honum halda, ef þú
is your workman but not will I on him hold if you
 sýnir skilríki til, at hann sé þitt hjón, enn eigi nenni ek at
show proofs to that he is your servant but not bother I to
 draga hann ór húsum út”. “Þú munt ráða at sinni”, sagði
drag him out-of houses out You will decide for (the)-time said
 Þorbjörn; “enn kref ek mannsins, ok fyrirbýð ek vinnu hans,
Thorbjorn but claim I the-man and forbid I work his
 enn koma mun ek annat sinn, ok er eigi víst, at vit
but come will I another time and is not certain that we-two
 skiljumst þá betri vinir enn nú”. Atli svarar: “Heima mun
part then better friends than now Atli answers At-home will
 ek bíða, ok taka við því, sem at höndum kemr”. Síðan reið
I wait and take with that which to hands comes Then rode
 Þorbjörn heim. Enn er verkamenn kvámu heim um kveldit,
Thorbjorn home But when workmen came home in the-evening
 segir Atli þá viðtali þeira Þorbjarnar, ok bað Ála fara
tells Atli then (the)-talk of-them Thorbjorn(-and-him) and bade Ali go

leið sína, ok sagðist eigi vildu dvelja vist hans. Áli
way his and said-of-himself not to-wish to-prolong service his Ali
 svarar: "Satt er hit fornkeðna: 'ofleyfingjarnir bregðast mér
answers True is the old-saying the-overpraised fail me
 mest'; ok ætlaði ek þat eigi, at þú myndir nú reka mik á
most and expected I that not that you would now drive me off
 burtu, þar sem ek hefi unnit hér til sprengs í sumar, ok
away there where I have worked here to bursting in summer and
 vánat til þess, at þú myndir mér nökkura forstöðu veita,
hoped for that that you would to-me some protection give
 enn þann veg farið þér, þó at þér látið allgóðvænlega; nú
but that way go you though that you behave very-promisingly now
 skal mik hér lemja fyrir augum þér, ef þú vilt mér enga
shall me here beat before eyes your if you wish to-me no
 forstöðu veita eða hjálp". Atla gekst hugr við umtal hans,
protection to-give or help To-Atli yielded (the)-mind at talk his
 ok nenti nú eigi at reka hann á burtu frá sér. Leið nú
and bothered now not to drive him off away from himself Passed now
 þar til er menn tóku til sláttar. Þat var einn dag nökkuru
there until that men took to mowing It was one day somewhat
 fyrir miðsumar, at Þorbjörn öxnamegin reið til Bjargs; hann
before midsummer that Thorbjorn Oxen-might rode to Bjarg he
 var svá búinn, at hann hafði hjálm á höfði, ok gyrðr við
was so equipped that he had a-helmet on head and girded with
 sverð ok spjót í hendi; þat var fjarðraspjót, ok breið mjök
a-sword and a-spear in hand that was a-feather-spear and broad much
 fjöðrin. Væta var úti um daginn. Atli hafði sent húskarla
the-blade Wet was outside during the-day Atli had sent house-carls
 sína til sláttar, enn menn hans sumir váru norðr við Horn
his to mowing but men his some were north at Horn
 til afla. Atli var heima, ok fáir menn aðrir. Þorbjörn kom
for fishing Atli was at-home and few men others Thorbjorn came

þar nær hádegi um daginn; hann var einn á ferð, ok reið
there near midday in the-day he was alone on journey and rode
 at útidyrum. Aftr var hurð; engir menn úti. Þorbjörn
to (the)-outer-doors Shut was (the)-door no men outside Thorbjorn
 drap á dyrr, ok fór síðan á bak húsum, svá at mátti
knocked on (the)-door and went then to back of-(the)-houses so that could
 eigi sjá hann frá dyrunum. Heimamenn heyrðu at barit
not see him from the-doors Household-men heard that knocked
 var, ok gekk út kona ein. Þorbjörn hafði svip af konunni,
was and went out a-woman one Thorbjorn had glimpse of the-woman
 ok lét eigi sjá sik, því hann ætlaði annat at vinna.
and let not see himself because he intended another to do
 Hon kom í stofu. Atli spurði, hvat komit var. Hon
She came into (the)-sitting-room Atli asked what come was She
 kvaðst ekki hafa sét koma úti; ok er þau töluðu
said-of-herself not to-have seen come outside and when they talked
 þetta, þá laust Þorbjörn mikit högg á dyrnar. Þá mælti
this then struck Thorbjorn great blow on the-doors Then spoke
 Atli: “Mik vill sjá finna, ok mun hann eiga erendit
Atli Me will that-one meet and will he have the-errand
 við mik, hversu sem þarft er”. Gekk hann þá fram, ok
with me however as needful is Went he then forth and
 út í dyrnar. Hann sá engan úti. Væta var úti mikil,
out into the-doors He saw no-one outside Wet was outside great
 ok því gekk hann eigi út, ok helt sinni hendi í hvárn
and therefore went he not out and held his hand on each
 dyrustafinn, ok lítast svá um. Í því bili snaraði Þorbjörn
door-post and looks so about In that moment darted Thorbjorn
 fram fyrir dyrnar, ok lagði tveim höndum til Atla með
forth before the-doors and thrust with-two hands at Atli with
 spjótinu á honum miðjum, svá stóð í gegnum hann. Atli
the-spear into him middle so stood in through him Atli

mælti við, er hann fekk lagit: “Þau tíðkast hin breiðu
spoke at(-it) when he got the-thrust They are-in-fashion the broad
 spjótin”, segir hann; síðan fell hann fram á þresköldinn.
spears says he then fell he forth onto the-threshold
 Þá kvámu fram konur, er í stofunni höfðu verit; þær
Then came forth women who in the-sitting-room had been they
 sá, at Atli var dauðr. Þá var Þorbjörn á bak kominn, ok
saw that Atli was dead Then was Thorbjorn on back come and
 lýsti víginu á hendr sér, ok reið heim eftir þat. Ásdís
declared the-slaying on hands himself and rode home after that Asdis
 húsfreyja sendir eftir mönnum, ok var búit um lík
(the)-housewife sends for men and was prepared about (the)-body
 Atla, ok var hann jarðaðr hjá föður sínum; hann var mjök
of-Atli and was he buried beside father his he was much
 harmdauði, því hann hafði verit bæði vitr ok vinsæll. Engi
mourned because he had been both wise and popular No
 kvámu fram fégjöld fyrir víg Atla; enda beiddist
came forth money-payments for (the)-slaying of-Atli and-indeed asked
 engi bóta, því at Grettir átti eftirmálit, ef hann kæmi
no-one compensation because that Grettir had the-prosecution if he came
 út. Stóðu þessi mál kyrr um sumarit. Varð Þorbjörn lítt
out Stood these cases still over the-summer Became Thorbjorn little
 þokkaðr af þessu verki, ok sat þó um kyrt í búi sínu.
liked for this deed and sat yet in quiet on farm his

XLVI · GRETTIR IS OUTLAWED

A ship brings news of Grettir's deeds and of the burning of the shelter in Norway. Þórir of Garðr, enraged at his sons' deaths, demands at the Althing that Grettir be outlawed. The lawspeaker Skafti warns that a story told by one side is half told and will not rule. Þórir is powerful, however, and forces through Grettir's outlawry, then puts a price on his head. Many say this was done more from zeal than law.

Þetta sumar, er nú var frá sagt, kom skip út fyrir þing
This summer which now was of told came a-ship out before (the)-assembly
 á Gásum. Var þá sagt frá ferðum Grettis; þar með sögðu
at Gasar Was then told of journeys of-Grettir there with(-it) told
 þeir um húsbrennuna. Við þessa sögu varð Þórir í Garði
they about the-house-burning At this story became Thorir at Gard
 afar reiðr, ok þóttist hann þar at sonarhefndum sjá
extremely angry and thought-himself he there for son-vengeance to-look
 eiga sem Grettir var. Reið Þórir við fjölmenni mikit, ok
to-have where Grettir was Rode Thorir with a-crowd great and
 reifði á þingi brennumálit, enn menn þóttust
summed-up at (the)-assembly the-burning-case but men thought-themselves
 ekki kunna til at leggja, meðan engi var til svara. Þórir
not to-know to to contribute while no-one was to answer Thorir
 kveðst eigi annat vilja, enn at Grettir væri sekr gerr
says-of-himself not other to-wish than that Grettir were outlawed made
 um alt landit fyrir slík óverk. Þá svarar Skafti lögsögumaðr:
over all the-land for such misdeeds Then answers Skafti law-speaker
 “Vist er þetta ilt verk, ef svá er, sem þetta er sagt; enn
Surely is this an-ill deed if so is as this is told but
 ‘jafnan er hálsögð saga, ef einn segir’, því at fleiri eru
always is half-told a-story if one tells because that more are
 þess fúsari, at færa þangat, sem eigi berr betr, ef tvent er
of-that more-eager to bring thither where not bears better if two-ways is
 til; nú mun ek eigi leggja órskurð á, at Grettir sé sekr
to(-it) now will I not lay ruling on that Grettir be outlawed
 gerr um þetta at svá gervu”. Þórir var maðr heraðsríkr
made about this at so done Thorir was a-man powerful-in-(the)-district
 ok höfðingi mikill, enn vinsæll af mörgu stórmenni; gekk
and a-chieftain great and popular with many great-men went
 hann at svá fast, at engu kom við um sykn Grettis.
he at(-it) so hard that nothing came at about acquittal of-Grettir

Gerði Þórir Gretti þá sekan um alt landit, ok var honum
Made Thorir Grettir then outlawed over all the-land and was to-him
 síðan þyngstr allra sinna mótstöðumanna, sem oft bar
afterward heaviest of-all his opponents as often bore
 raun á; hann lagði þá þegar fé til höfuðs honum sem
proof on(-it) he laid then at-once money on (the)-head to-him as
 öðrum skógarmönnum, ok reið við þat heim. Margir mæltu,
on-other forest-men and rode with that home Many said
 at þetta væri meir gert af kappi, enn eftir lögum, enn
that this were more done out-of zeal than according-to law but
 þó stóð svá búit. Varð nú tíðendalaust fram yfir miðsumar.
yet stood so done Became now tidingleess forth past midsummer

XLVII • SADDLE-HEAD

Grettir lands in Hvítá to the news that his father is dead, his brother Atli slain, and he himself outlawed, and takes it calmly. He steals Sveinn's mare Söðulkolla and rides her up the district, leaving verses about her with Halli and a woman at Deildartunga for Sveinn, who follows and answers them. At Gilsbakki Grímr Þórballsen takes him in, and Grettir and Sveinn part friends. Grettir rides north to Bjarg by night, greets his mother, and learns that Þorbjörn öxnamegin is at home with few men.

At áliðnu sumri kom Grettir Ásmundarson út í
At late-passed summer came Grettir Asmund's-son out into
 Hvítá í Borgarfirði; fóru menn til skips um
Hvita in Borgarfjord went men to (the)-ship over
 heraðit. Þessi tíðendi kómu öll senn til Grettis:
the-district These tidings came all at-once to Grettir
 þat fyrst, at faðir hans var andaðr, annat þat, at
that first that father his was dead second that that

bróðir hans var veginn, þat þriðja, at hann var
brother his was slain that third that he was
 sekr gerr um alt landit. Þá kvað Grettir vísu
outlawed made over all the-land Then spoke Grettir verse
 þessa:

this

Alt kom senn at svinuum

All came at-once to wise

sekt mín bragar tíni

outlawry my of-poetry to-(the)-gatherer

föður skal drengur af dauða

of-father shall (the)-fellow about death

drjúghljóður ok svá bróður.

very-silent and so of-brother

Þó skal margr í morgin,

Yet shall many-a-one in (the)-morning

mótrunnr Heðins snótar,

meeting-tree of-Hedin of-woman

brjótr um slíkar sútir

breaker over such sorrows

sverðs daprari verða.

of-sword gloomier become

Svá segja menn, at Grettir brygði engan veg skapi við

So say men that Grettir changed no way mood at

þessar fréttir, ok var jafnglaðr sem áðr. Nú sat Grettir við

these tidings and was equally-glad as before Now sat Grettir by

skip um hríð, því at hann fekk engan fararskjót, sem

(the)-ship for a-while because that he got no mount which

honum gatst at. Sveinn hét maðr, er bjó at Bakka,

to-him pleased at Svein was-called a-man who dwelt at Bakki

upp frá Þingnesi, hann var góðr bóndi ok kátr maðr, ok
up from Thingnes he was a-good farmer and a-cheerful man and
 kvað oft, svá at gaman var at. Hann átti merhryssi
composed often so that amusement was at(-it) He owned a-mare
 eitt, brúnt at lit, allra hrossa skjótast; þat kallaði Sveinn
one brown in color of-all horses swiftest that called Svein
 Söðulkollu. Grettir fór eina nátt burt af Völlum, því at
Saddle-Head Grettir went one night away from Vellir because that
 hann vildi eigi at kaupmenn yrði varir við. Hann fekk
he wished not that (the)-merchants became aware off(-it) He got
 sér kúfl svartan, ok steypiti utan yfir klæði, ok duldist
for-himself a-cowl black and threw(-it) outside over (bis)-clothes and hid-himself
 svá. Hann gekk upp hjá Þingnesi, ok svá upp til Bakka;
so He went up by Thingnes and so up to Bakki
 var þá ljóst orðit. Hann sá brúnt hross við túnit, ok
was then light become He saw a-brown horse by the-home-field and
 fór til ok lagði við beizl, steig á bak ok reið upp með
went to(-it) and laid on a-bridle stepped on back and rode up along
 Hvítá, ok fyrir neðan Bæ, ok svá til Flókadalsár ok svá
Hvita and on below Baer and so to Flökadal-river and so
 upp á götur fyrir ofan Kálfanes. Vinnumenn á Bakka
up onto (the)-paths on above Kalfanes (The)-workmen at Bakki
 stóðu upp í þann tíma, ok sögðu til bónda, at maðrinn
stood up at that time and said to (the)-farmer that the-man

var á bak kominn. Hann stóð upp ok brosti at, ok kvað
was on back come He stood up and smiled at(-it) and spoke
 þetta:

this

Heðan reið á brott beiðir

Hence rode off away (the)-asker

barðells næri garði;

of-prow-squall near (the)-farm

þjófr lét hönd um hrífa,

a-thief let hand — seize

hjalmþollr, Söðulkollu.

helmet-fir Saddle-Head

Sá man Freyr at fleirum

That will Frey at more

fullsterkr svaðilverkum

full-strong mischief-deeds

Þundar skýss enn þessu;

of-Thund of-cloud than this

þat hellr, hann man bellinn.

that rather he will (be)-bold

Síðan tók hann hest sinn, ok reið eftir. Grettir reið

Then took he horse his and rode after Grettir rode

þar til, er hann kom upp fyrir bæinn á Kroppi;

there until when he came up before the-farm at Kropp

þar fann hann mann, er nefndist Halli ok kvaðst

there found he a-man who named-himself Halli and said-of-himself

fara skyldu ofan til skips á Völlu. Grettir kvað
to-go should down to (the)-ship at Vellir Grettir spoke
 vísu:

a-verse

Segðu í breiðar bygðir

Say-you into (the)-broad settlements

bráðlyndr, at þú fyndir

hasty-minded that you found

uppi alt hjá Kroppi,

up all by Kropp

almpollr, Söðulkollu.

bow-fir Saddle-Head

Þar var staddr á steddunni

There was placed on (the)-mare

— strjúk allmikinn, Halli, —

rush very-great Halli

drengr sá's drýgir löngum

a-fellow that-who performs long

dufl í svörtum kufli.

trickery in a-black cowl

Ok nú skilja þeir, ok fór Halli ofan eftir götum,

And now part they and went Halli down along (the)-paths

ok alt ofan at Kálfanesi, áðr Sveinn kom á

and all down to Kalfanes before Svein came on

móti honum. Þeir kvöddust skjótt. Þá kvað
against him They greeted-each-other quickly Then spoke

Sveinn:

Svein

Sáttu, reið enn reitni

Saw-you rode the provoking

— raun 's oss mikil — hrossi
trial is to-us great (the)-horse

slyttimákr — at slíku —

slattern-gull at such

slægr frá næstu bæjum?

sly from (the)-nearest farms

Heraðsmenn skulu hvinni

District-men shall to-(the)-thief

hefning fyr þat nefna;

vengeance for that name

bera skal búk at hváru

bear shall body at any-rate

blán, ef náik hánun.

blue if I-reach him

“Máttu þat af því,” kvað Halli, “ek fann þann mann,

May-you that from that said Halli I found that man

er ríða kvaðst Söðulkollu, ok bað mik þat segja

who to-ride said-of-himself Saddle-Head and bade me that say

ofan í bygðina ok heraðit; var sá mikill vexti, ok

down into the-settlement and the-district was he big in-stature and

var í svörtum kufli”. “Eiga þykkist hann nökkut undir

was in a-black cowl To-have thinks-himself he something under

sér”, kvað bóndi, “ok skal ek vita, hverr hann er”,

himself said (the)-farmer and shall I know who he is

ok reið síðan eftir honum. Grettir kom í Deildartungu.

and rode then after him Grettir came to Deildartunga

Var þar úti kona; Grettir fann hana at máli, ok kvað

Was there outside a-woman Grettir found her to speech and spoke

vísu:

a-verse

Færðu hafloga hirði

Bring-you of-sea-flame to-(the)-keeper

— hér ferr braut gripr lautar —

here goes away (the)-treasure of-(the)-hollow

allvelborin vella

very-well-born of-gold

vígdís, gamanvísu.

battle-goddess a-jest-verse

Ek vilda svá jöldu

I would-wish so (the)-mare

Yggs líðgjafi ríða

of-Ygg ale-giver to-ride

æst at ek man gista,

hard that I will lodge

orðrakkr, at Gilsbakka.

word-bold at Gilsbakki

Konan nam vísuna. Hann reið eftir þat leið

The-woman learned the-verse He rode after that way

sína. Sveinn kom þar litlu síðar, ok var hon

his Svein came there a-little later and was she

eigi inn gengin, ok þegar hann kom, kvað hann
not in gone and as-soon-as he came spoke he

þetta:

this

Hverr reið hótí fyrri

Who rode a-little earlier

heðan í róstuveðri

hence in riot-weather

hart á hrossi svörtu

hard on a-horse black

hjörgráðsboði áðan?

sword-greed-offerer just-now

Hann man heldr at söunu

He will rather in truth

hundeygr í dag undan

dog-eyed in day away

djarfr ok dáðum horfinn

bold and of-deeds bereft

drengr sá rekask lengi.

fellow that be-driven long

Hon sagði þá slíkt sem henni var kent. Hann hugsaði

She told then such as to-her was taught He thought-over

vísuna ok mælti: “Eigi er ólíklegt, at þessi maðr sé

the-verse and spoke Not is unlikely that this man be

eigi mín leika, enn þó skal ek finna hann”. Reið hann

not my match but yet shall I meet him Rode he

nú eftir með bygðinni; sá jafnan hvárr annars ferð.

now after along the-settlement saw always each of-(the)-other journey

Veðr var bæði hvast ok vátt. Grettir kom á Gilsbakka

(The)-weather was both sharp and wet Grettir came to Gilsbakki

um daginn; ok er Grímr Þórhallsson vissi þat, fagnaði
during the-day and when Grim Thorhall's-son knew that welcomed
hann honum harðla vel, og bauð honum með sér at
be him very well and invited him with himself to
vera. Hann þektist þat; hann lét lausa Söðulkollu, ok
be He accepted that he let loose Saddle-Head and
sagði Grími, hversu hon var til komin. Þá kom Sveinn
told Grim how she was to come Then came Svein
ok steig af baki, ok sá þar hross sitt; hann kvað
and stepped off back and saw there horse his he spoke
þetta:
this

Hver reið hryssu várri?

Who rode mare our

Hver verður raun á launum?

What becomes trial on rewards

Hverr sá hvinnit stærra?

Who saw the-theft greater

Hvat man kufnbúinn dufla?

What will (the)-cowl-clad trifle

Grettir var þá farinn af vásklæðum sínum, ok heyrði
Grettir was then gone out-of wet-clothes his and heard
 stökuna:

the-ditty

Heim reið ek hryssu at Grími

Home rode I (the)-mare to Grim

— hann er gildr hjá kotmanni —,

he is worthy beside a-cottager

þat man ek launa lítlú;

that will I reward with-little

látu okkr vera sátta.

let-you us-two be reconciled

“Svá skal jafnt vera”, sagði bóndi, “ok er fulllaunuð

So shall even be said (the)-farmer and is fully-repaid

hrossreiðin”. Eftir þat kvað hvárr sínar vísur, ok kvaðst

the-horse-ride After that spoke each his verses and said-of-himself

Grettir eigi mundu at finna við þat, er hann átti

Grettir not would to find-fault with that which he had

eftir sínu at sjá. Var bóndi þar um náttina, ok þeir

after his-own to see Was (the)-farmer there over the-night and they

báðir, ok gerðu at þessu gaman mikit. Þetta kölluðu þeir

both and made of this sport great This called they

Söðulkolluvísur. Um morguninn reið bóndi heim, ok

Saddle-Head-verses In the-morning rode (the)-farmer home and

skildust þeir Grettir vel. Grímr sagði Gretti marga

parted they Grettir(-and-be) well Grim told Grettir many

hluti norðan ór Miðfirði, þá sem gerzt höfðu meðan

things from-the-north out-of Midford those which happened had while

hann var utan, og þat, at Atli var engu bætt, enn

he was abroad and that that Atli was with-nothing atoned but

uppgangr Þorbjarnar öxnamegins var svá mikill, at væri
(the)-rise of-Thorbjorn Oxen-might was so great that (it)-were
 óvíst, at Ásdís húsfreyja gæti setið á Bjargi, ef svá
uncertain that Asdis (the)-housewife could sit at Bjarg if so
 stæði. Nú dvaldist Grettir fáar nætur með Grími, því
stood Now stayed Grettir few nights with Grim because
 at hann vildi, at engi frétt færi fyrir honum norður um
that he wished that no news went before him north over
 heiðar. Grímr bað hann vitja sín, ef hann þyrfti ásjár
(the)-beaths Grim bade him visit him if he needed of-protection
 við, — “enn forðast man ek lög, at verða sekr um
for but avoid will I (the)-law to become outlawed for
 bjargir við þik”. Grettir kvað honum vel fara — “enn
aid to you Grettir said him well to-fare but
 þat er líkara, at síðar muna ek meir við þurfa”. Reið
that is likelier that later will I more for need Rode
 Grettir nú norður Tvidægri, og svá til Bjargs, ok kom þar
Grettir now north Tvidaegra and so to Bjarg and came there
 á náttarþeli; var fólk alt í svefni, utan móðir hans.
at (the)-dead-of-night was (the)-people all in sleep except mother his
 Hann gekk á bak húsum, ok þær dyrr, er þar váru,
He went on back of-(the)-houses and (to)-those doors which there were
 því at honum váru þar kunnig göng, ok svá til skála,
because that to-him were there known passages and so to (the)-hall
 ok at rekkju móður sinnar, ok þreifadist fyrst fyrir. Hon
and to (the)-bed of-mother his and groped first before-him She
 spurði, hvern þar væri. Grettir sagði til sín. Hon settist
asked who there were Grettir told of himself She sat
 þá upp, ok hvarf til hans, ok blés við mæðilega, ok
then up and turned to him and sighed at(-it) wearily and
 mælti: “Ver velkominn, frændi”, sagði hon, “enn svipul verður
spoke Be welcome kinsman said she but fleeting becomes

mér sonaeignin; er sá nú drepinn, er mér var þarfastr,
for-me the-having-of-sons is he now killed who to-me was most-useful
 enn þú útlægr gerr ok óbótamaðr, enn hinn þriðji er
but you outlawed made and an-unatenable-man but the third is
 svá ungr, at ekki má at hafast". "Þat er fornt mál", sagði
so young that nothing may to do That is an-old saying said
 Grettir, "at 'svá skal böll bæta, at bíða annat meira'; enn
Grettir that so shall harm remedy to await another greater but
 fleira er mönnum til huggunar, enn fébætr einar, ok
more is to-men for comfort than money-atonements alone and
 er þat líkast, at hefnt verði Atla, enn þat er til mín
is that likeliest that avenged will-be Atli but that which to me
 kemr, þá munu þar ýmsir sínum hlut fegnir, er vér
comes then will there various with-their lot glad when we
 eigumst við". Hon kvað þat eigi ólíklegt. Var Grettir þar
have-dealings together She said that not unlikely Was Grettir there
 nú um hríð á fárra manna vitorði, ok fréttist fyrir
now for a-while in of-few men's knowledge and asked-about beforehand
 um atferli heraðsmanna. Höfðu menn eigi spurt til þess,
about (the)-doings of-district-men Had men not learned of that
 at Grettir væri kominn til Miðfjarðar. Hann spurði, at
that Grettir were come to Midfjord He learned that
 Þorbjörn öxarmegin var heima, ok var fáment hjá honum;
Thorbjorn Oxen-might was at-home and was few-men with him
 þetta var eftir túnannir.
this was after home-field-baying

Grettir rides to Þóroddsstaðir and finds Þorbjörn öxnamegin binding hay with his sixteen-year-old son Arnórr. Þorbjörn tells the boy to strike Grettir from behind while he attacks from the front. Grettir's spear misses, but he kills the boy with the back of his short-sword and splits Þorbjörn's head through his shield. He declares the killings at Reykir. His mother is glad but warns this is the root of his outlawry, and after a verse Grettir rides west to Þorsteinn Kuggason at Ljárskógar.

Einn veðrdag góðan reið Grettir vestr yfir hálsa til
One weather-day fine rode Grettir west over (the)-ridges to
 Þóroddsstaða; hann kom þar nærri hádegi, ok drap á
Þoroddsstaðir he came there near midday and knocked on
 dyrr. Konur gengu út, ok heilsuðu honum; þær kendu
(the)-door Women went out and greeted him they recognized
 hann eigi. Hann spurði at Þorbirni. Þær sögðu hann farinn
him not He asked about Thorbjorn They said him gone
 á engjar at binda hey, ok með honum son hans sextán
to (the)-meadows to bind hay and with him son his sixteen
 vetra gamlan, er Arnórr hét. Þorbjörn var starfsmaðr
winters old who Arnor was-called Thorbjorn was a-worker
 mikill, ok var nær aldri iðjulauss; ok er Grettir hafði þetta
great and was nearly never idle and when Grettir had this
 spurt, bað hann þær vel lifa, ok reið á burt, ok fram á
learned bade he them well live and rode off away and forth onto
 veginn til Reykja. Þar gengr ein mýrr ofan ór hálsinum, ok
the-road to Reykir There goes a marsh down out-of the-ridge and
 var þar á slátta mikil, ok hafði Þorbjörn látit slá þar mikit
was there on mowing great and had Thorbjorn had mow there much
 hey, ok var þá fullpurt; ætlaði hann þat heim at binda, ok
hay and was then fully-dry intended he that home to bind and
 sveinninn með honum, enn kona tók rökin. Grettir reið
the-boy with him but a-woman took the-rakings Grettir rode

nú neðan á teiginn, enn þeir feðgarnir váru ofar,
now below onto the-meadow-plot but they the-father-and-son were higher-up
 ok höfðu bundið eina klyf, enn váru þá at annarri. Þorbjörn
and had bound one load but were then at another Thorbjörn
 hafði sett skjöld sinn ok sverð við klyfina, enn sveinninn
had set shield his and sword by the-load but the-boy
 hafði handöxi hjá sér. Þorbjörn sá manninn, ok mælti við
had a-hand-axe by himself Thorbjörn saw the-man and spoke to
 sveinninn: “Maðr riðr þar at okkr, ok skulu vit hætta at
the-boy A-man rides there at us-two and shall we-two stop to
 binda heyit, og vita hvat hann vill”; ok svá gerðu þeir.
bind the-boy and know what he wishes and so did they
 Grettir steig af baki; hann hafði hjálm á höfði, ok gyrðr
Grettir stepped off back he had a-helmet on head and girded
 saxinu, ok spjót mikit í hendi, ok engir krókarnir
with-the-short-sword and a-spear great in hand and no barbs
 á, ok var silfrrekinn falrinn á; hann settist niðr, ok
on(-it) and was silver-inlaid the-socket on(-it) he sat-himself down and
 drap ór geirnaglann, því at hann vildi eigi, at Þorbjörn
knocked out-of the-rivet because that he wished not that Thorbjörn
 mætti aftr senda. Þá mælti Þorbjörn: “Þetta er mikill maðr,
might back send(-it) Then spoke Thorbjörn This is a-great man
 ok eigi kann ek mann á velli at sjá, ef þat er eigi
and not can I a-man on (the)-field to see if that is not
 Grettir Ásmundarson, ok man hann þykkjast eiga ærnar
Grettir Asmund's-son and will he think-himself to-have ample
 sakir við oss, ok verðum við rösklega, ok látum engan
grounds against us and let-us-take(-it) up valiantly and let-us-let no
 bilbug á okkr sjá; skulu vit fara at með ráðum, ok
flinching on us be-seen shall we-two go at(-him) with plans and
 mun ek ganga at honum framan, ok sjá, hversu til tekst
will I go at him in-front and see how to it-turns-out

með okkr, því at ek treysti mér við hvern mann, ef ek
with us-two because that I trust myself against every man if I
 á einum at mæta, enn þú gakk á bak honum, ok högg
have one to meet but you go at back to-him and hew
 tveim höndum í milli herða honum með öxinni; þarftu
with-two hands in between (the)-shoulders to-him with the-axe need-you
 eigi at varast, at hann geri þér mein, síðan er hann snýr
not to beware that he do you harm since when he turns
 baki at þér". Engan hafði Þorbjörn hjálm, ok hvárrgi þeira.
(his)-back to you No had Thorbjorn helmet and neither of-them
 Grettir gekk á mýrina, ok þegar hann kemr í skotmál
Grettir went onto the-marsh and as-soon-as he comes into shooting-range
 við þá, skaut hann spjóti at Þorbirni, enn þat var lausara
with them shot he (the)-spear at Thorbjorn but it was looser
 á skaftinu, enn hann ætlaði, ok geigaði á fluginu, ok hljóp
on the-shaft than he intended and swerved in the-flight and leaped
 af skaftinu ok niðr í jörðina. Þorbjörn tók skjöldinn ok
off the-shaft and down into the-earth Thorbjorn took the-shield and
 setti fyrir sik, enn brá sverðinu, ok sneri á móti Gretti,
set(-it) before himself but drew the-sword and turned in against Grettir
 er hann kendi hann. Grettir brá þá saxinu, ok sveipaði
when he recognized him Grettir drew then the-short-sword and swung
 því til nökkut, svá at hann sá, hvar piltrinn stóð á baki
it around somewhat so that he saw where the-lad stood at back
 honum, ok því hafði hann sik lausan við; er hann
to-him and therefore had he himself free with(-it) when he
 sá, at piltrinn var kominn í höggfæri við sik, þá reiddi
saw that the-lad was come into striking-range to himself then raised
 hann hátt saxit; laust hann bakkanum saxins í
he high the-short-sword struck he with-the-back of-the-short-sword on
 höfuð Arnóri svá hart, at haussinn brotnaði, ok var þat
(the)-head to-Arnor so hard that the-skull broke and was that

hans bani. Þá hljóp Þorbjörn mót Gretti, ok hjó til hans,
his death Then ran Thorbjorn against Grettir and hewed at him
 enn hann brá við buklara hinni vinstri hendi, ok bar
but he brought up (the)-buckler with-the left hand and bore(-it)
 af sér, enn hann hjó fram saxinu, ok klauf skjöldinn
off himself but he hewed forth with-the-short-sword and split the-shield
 af Þorbirni, ok kom saxit í höfuðit honum svá
off Thorbjorn and came the-short-sword into the-head to-him so
 hart, at í heilanum stóð, ok fell hann af þessu höggi
hard that in the-brain (it)-stood and fell he from this blow
 dauðr niðr. Eigi veitti Grettir Þorbirni fleiri áverka. Leitaði
dead down Not gave Grettir to-Thorbjorn more wounds Searched
 hann þá at spjóti sínu ok fann eigi. Gekk hann þá til
he then for spear his and found(-it) not Went he then to
 hests síns, ok reið út til Reykja, ok lýsti þar vígunum.
horse his and rode out to Reykir and declared there the-slayings
 Kona sú, er var á engiteignum, sá á vígin; hljóp
(The)-woman that who was on the-meadow-plot looked on the-slayings ran
 hon þá heim felmtsfull, ok sagði, at Þorbjörn var veginn,
she then home terrified and said that Thorbjorn was slain
 ok þeir feðgar báðir. Þetta kom mjök á þá óvara,
and they father-and-son both This came very on them unawares
 er heima váru, því at engi vissi um ferðir Grettis.
who at-home were because that no-one knew about (the)-journeys of-Grettir
 Var þá sent eftir mönnum á næstu bæi; kom þar brátt
Was then sent after men to (the)-nearest farms came there quickly
 margt manna; færðu líkin til kirkju. Þoroddr drápustúfr
many of-men brought the-bodies to church Thorodd Poem-stub
 tók við eftirmáli um vígin, ok hafði hann þegar flokk
took over (the)-prosecution for the-slayings and had he at-once a-band
 uppi. Grettir reið heim til Bjargs, ok fann móður sína,
up Grettir rode home to Bjarg and found mother his

ok sagði þenna atburð. Hon varð glöð við þetta, ok kvað
and told this event She became glad at this and said
 hann nú hafa líkzt í ætt Vatnsdæla — “enn
him now to-have taken-after in (the)-family of-(the)-Vatnsdalers but
 þó mun þetta upphaf ok undirrót sekta þinna; veit
yet will this (the)-beginning and root of-outlawries your know
 ek þat víst, at þú mátt eigi hér langvistum vera sakir
I that surely that you may not here long-stay be for-the-sake-of
 frænda Þorbjarnar, enn þó mega þeir nú vita, at þér
kinsmen of-Thorbjorn but yet may they now know that to-you
 kann nökkut at þykkja”. Grettir kvað þá vísu:

Varð í veðrafirði

Became in wether-fjord

vápn sóttr í byr Þróttar

weapon-attacked in (the)-wind of-Thrott

— æst fór Arfs ok Gneista

fierce went of-Arf and of-Gneisti

afl — fangvinur Hafla.

strength wrestling-friend of-Hafla

Nú's ósjötlat Atla

Now-is unappeased of-Atli

andrán þat's vas hánúm

life-robbing that-which was to-him

— dauðr hné — fyrr — á fríðri

dead sank earlier on (the)-fair

fold — maklega goldit.

earth fittingly repaid

Ásdís húsfreyja kvað satt vera — “enn eigi veit ek, hvat er
Asdis (the)-housewife said true to-be but not know I what that
 þú ætlar nú til ráða at taka”. Grettir kvaðst nú mundu leita
you intend now for counsel to take Grettir said-of-himself now would seek
 til vina sinna ok frænda vestr til sveita, “enn engi vandræði
to friends his and kinsmen west to (the)-districts but no troubles
 skal þér af mér leiða”, sagði hann. Bjóst hann þá til
shall to-you from me come said he Made-ready he then for
 ferðar, ok skildu þau mæðgin með kærleikum. Fór hann
(the)-journey and parted they mother-and-son with affection Went he
 fyrst til Mela í Hrútafjörð, ok sagði Gamla mági
first to Melar in Hrutafjord and told Gamli kinsman-by-marriage
 sínum alt þat, sem til hafði borit um vigit Þorbjarnar.
his all that which to had passed about the-slaying of-Thorbjorn
 Gamli bað, at hann skyldi flýta sér ór Hrútafirði, meðan
Gamli bade that he should hurry himself out-of Hrutafjord while
 þeir halda flokkinum, frændr Þorbjarnar — “enn veita
they hold the-band (the)-kinsmen of-Thorbjorn but support
 skulu vér þér at eftirmáli um víg Atla, slíkt er vér
shall we you in (the)-prosecution for (the)-slaying of-Atli such as we
 megum”. Eftir þat reið Grettir vestr yfir Laxárdalsheiði, ok
may After that rode Grettir west over Laxardal-beath and
 létti eigi fyrr, enn hann kom í Ljárskóga til Þorsteins
stopped not sooner than he came to Ljarskogar to Thorstein
 Kuggasonur ok dvaldist þar lengi um haustit.
Kuggi's-son and stayed there long over the-autumn

Póroddr drápuþúfr comes to Bjarg looking for Grettir, and Ásdís tells him he has ridden away. The saga adds that Grettir's lost spear was found in Sturla Þórðarson's day in the marsh now called Spjótsmýrr. When the Hrutafjörðr men gather against Ljárskógar, Þorsteinn sends Grettir to Snorri goði. Snorri says he is too old to shelter outlaws and sends him away with a promise to speak for him, and Grettir heads for Reykjabólar.

Póroddr drápuþúfr fréttist fyrir, hvern at vegit myndi
Thorodd Poem-stub asked-about beforehand who that slain would
 hafa Þorbjörn, ok þá feðga, ok er þeir kvámu til
have Thorbjorn and those father-and-son and when they came to
 Reykja, var þeim sagt, at Grettir hefði þar komit, ok lýst
Reykir was to-them said that Grettir had there come and declared
 vígunum á hendr sér. Þóroddr þóttist nú sjá, hversu
the-slayings on hands himself Thorodd thought-himself now to-see how
 farit hafði; fór hann þá til Bjargs, ok var þar margt manna
gone had went he then to Bjarg and was there many of-men
 fyrir, ok spurði hvárt Grettir væri þar. Húsfreyja sagði hann
before and asked whether Grettir were there (The)-housewife said he
 hefði á burt riðit, ok hon færði hann eigi í fylgsni — “ef
had off away ridden and she brought him not into hiding if
 hann væri hér; munu þér nú vel við una, at svá búit
he were here will you now well with(-it) be-content that so settled
 standi; var eigi of hefnt fyrir víg Atla, þó at þetta
stand was not too avenged for (the)-slaying of-Atli though that this
 kæmi fyrir; spurðu þér eigi at, þótt ek hefða skapraun
came for(-it) asked you not about(-it) though I had grief
 af því; er nú ok vel, þó svá standi”. Riðu þeir þá heim,
from that it-is now also well yet so stand Rode they then home
 ok þótti eigi hægt til atgerða. Spjótit þat, sem Grettir hafði
and seemed not easy for action The-spear that which Grettir had

týnt, fanst eigi fyrr enn í þeira manna minnum, er nú
lost was-found not sooner than in their men's memories who now
 lifa; þat spjót fanst á ofanverðum dögum Sturlu lögmanns
live that spear was-found in (the)-later days of-Sturla (the)-law-man
 Þórðarsonar, ok í þeiri mýri, er Þorbjörn fell, ok heitir þar
Thorð's-son and in that marsh where Thorbjorn fell and is-called there
 nú Spjótsmýrr, ok hafa menn þat til merkja, at Þorbjörn
now Spear-marsh and have men that for signs that Thorbjorn
 hafi þar drepinn verit, þótt í sumum stöðum segi, at
have there slain been though in some places (they)-say that
 hann hafi á Miðfitjum drepinn verit. Þeir frændr spyrja, at
he have at Midfitjar slain been They kinsmen learn that
 Grettir var í Ljárskógum; söfnuðu þeir þá mönnum saman,
Grettir was in Ljarskogar gathered they then men together
 ok ætluðu til Ljárskóga. Enn er Gamli varð þess varr
and intended to Ljarskogar But when Gamli became of-that aware
 frá Melum, gerði hann þeim Þorsteini ok Gretti vissu
from Melar made he for-them Thorstein and Grettir knowledge
 um ferðir Hrótfirðinga; ok er Þorsteinn varð þess
about (the)-journeys of-(the)-Hrutaford-men and when Thorstein became of-that
 varr, sendi hann Gretti inn í Tungu til Snorra goða,
aware sent he Grettir in to Tunga to Snorri (the)-Priest
 því at þá var málfriðr með þeim, ok lagði Þorsteinn
because that then was settlement-peace between them and laid Thorstein
 þat til ráðs með Gretti, at hann beiddi Snorra ásjá,
that to counsel with Grettir that he asked Snorri (for)-protection
 enn ef hann yrði eigi við, bað hann Gretti fara vestr á
but if he became not with(-it) bade he Grettir go west to
 Reykjahóla til Þorgils Arasonar — “ok mun hann við þér
Reykjabolar to Thorgils Ari's-son and will he with you
 taka í vetr; hafst við í Vestfjörðum þar til sem sjötlast
take in winter keep-yourself with in (the)-West-fjords there until when is-settled

þessi málaferli". Grettir kvaðst hans ráðum hlíta mundu.
this lawsuit Grettir said-of-himself his counsels to-follow would
 Reið hann þá inn í Tungu, ok fann Snorra goða at
Rode he then in to Tunga and found Snorri (the)-Priest to
 máli, ok beiddi hann viðtöku. Snorri svarar: "Ek gerumst
speech and asked him (for)-reception Snorri answers I become
 nú gamall maðr, ok nenni ek nú eigi at halda seka menn,
now an-old man and care I now not to keep outlawed men
 ef mik rekr engi nauðsyn til; eða hvað bar nú til, er
if me drives no necessity to or what brought now to(-it) that
 öldungrinn vísaði þér nú frá sér?" Grettir kvað Þorstein oft
the-old-man sent you now from himself Grettir said Thorstein often
 hafa vel til sín gert — "enn fleiri mun nú við þurfa, enn
to-have well to himself done but more will now for need than
 hans eins, ef duga skal". Snorri mælti: "Til mun ek leggja
him alone if avail shall Snorri spoke To will I lay
 orð mín, ef þér mætti lið at verða, enn annarsstaðar skaltu
words my if to-you might help to become but elsewhere shall-you
 til leita um vistarferli þín, enn hjá mér". Skildu þeir at svá
to seek about lodging your than with me Parted they at so
 mæltu. Sneri Grettir þá vestr til Reykjaness. Hrútfirðingar
spoken Turned Grettir then west to Reykjanes (The)-Hrutaford-men
 kvámust með flokk sinn á Sámsstaði; þá fréttu þeir, at
came with band their to Samsstadir then learned they that
 Grettir var burt ór Ljárskógum, ok hurfu þar aftur.
Grettir was away out-of Ljarskogar and turned there back

Þorgils Arason takes Grettir in for the winter together with the sworn brothers Þorgeirr and Þormóðr, and forbids any quarrel between them. Grettir, Þorgeirr, and Þormóðr row out to fetch an ox from the islands in a storm. Grettir holds the boat in the surf, snaps both oars rowing, and carries the ox home when it gives out. Envious, Þorgeirr attacks him with an axe after a bath, and Grettir throws him down. Þorgils separates them, and in spring they all leave.

Grettir kom á Reykjahóla nær vetrnáttum, ok beiddi Þorgils
Grettir came to Reykjabolar near winter-nights and asked of-Þorgils
 vetrarvistar. Þorgils sagði, at honum væri til reiðu matr,
winter-lodging Þorgils said that to-him was to hand food
 sem öðrum frjálsum mönnum — “enn eigi er hér vönd
as to-other free men but not is here choice
 vistargerð”. Grettir kvaðst eigi um þat vanda. “Er
lodging Grettir said-of-himself not about that to-be-particular Is
 hér enn annarr hlutr til vandhæfa”, sagði Þorgils; “þeir
here yet another thing for difficulty said Þorgils those
 menn ætla hér til vistar, er nökkut þykkja vanstiltir, sem
men intend here for lodging who somewhat seem unruly as
 eru þeir fóstbræðr Þorgeirr ok Þormóðr; veit ek eigi, hversu
are they sworn-brothers Þorgeir and Þormod know I not how
 yðr hentar saman at vera, enn þeira vist skal hér jafnan
to-you suits together to be but their lodging shall here always
 vera, er þeir vilja; nú máttu vera hér, ef þú vilt, enn
be when they wish now may-you be here if you wish but
 engum yðar skal duga at eiga ilt við annan”. Grettir sagði,
to-no-one of-you shall avail to have ill with another Grettir said
 at hann myndi á engan mann leita fyrri, ok einkanlega
that he would on no man attack first and especially
 ef bóndi vildi svá. Litlu síðar kvámu þeir fóstbræðr
if (the)-farmer wished so A-little later came they sworn-brothers

heim. Eigi fell blítt á með þeim Þorgeiri ok Gretti,
home Not fell smoothly on between them Thorgeir and Grettir
 enn Þormóðr lét sér vel fara. Þorgils bóndi sagði þeim
but Thormod let himself well behave Þorgils (the)-farmer told those
 fóstbræðrum alt slíkt, sem hann sagði Gretti; enn þeir
sworn-brothers all such as he told Grettir but they
 gerðu svá mikil metorð hans, at hvárigir lögðu öðrum
made so great esteem his that neither-side laid to-(the)-other
 öfugt orð, enn þó fóru eigi þykkjur þeira saman. Leið
a-contrary word but yet went not tempers their together Passed
 nú svá öndverðr vetrinn af. Þat segja menn, at Þorgils
now so (the)-early winter away That say men that Þorgils
 bóndi átti eyjar þær, sem Ólafseyjar heita; þær liggja út
(the)-farmer owned islands those which Ólafseyjar are-called they lie out
 á firðinum, hálfa aðra viku undan Reykjanesi; þar átti
on the-fjord half a-second sea-mile off Reykjanes there owned
 Þorgils bóndi uxa góðan, ok hafði eigi sótt orðit um
Þorgils (the)-farmer an-ox good and had not fetched become over
 haustit; talaði Þorgils um jafnan, at hann vildi ná honum
the-autumn talked Þorgils about always that he wished to-get him
 fyrir jólin. Þat var einn dag, at þeir fóstbræðr bjoggust
before the-Yule That was one day that they sworn-brothers made-ready
 til at sækja uxann, ef þeim fengist hinn þriði maðrinn
to to fetch the-ox if to-them could-be-got the third the-man
 til liðs. Grettir bauð at fara með þeim, enn þeir létu vel
for help Grettir offered to go with them but they let well
 yfir því; fara síðan þrír á teinæringi. Veðr var kalt
over that go then three in a-ten-oared-boat (The)-weather was cold
 ok lék á norðan. Skipit stóð í Hvalshaussólmi. Sigldu
and played from (the)-north The-ship stood in Hvalshaus-islet Sailed
 þeir út, ok græddist heldr vindrinn; kvámu við eyjarnar, ok
they out and increased rather the-wind came to the-islands and

tóku uxann. Þá spurði Grettir, hvárt þeir vildi heldr leggja
took the-ox Then asked Grettir whether they wished rather to-lay
 út uxann, eða halda skipinu, því at brim mikit var við
out the-ox or hold the-ship because that surf great was at
 eyrna. Þeir báðu hann halda skipinu. Hann stóð við mitt
the-island They bade him hold the-ship He stood at mid
 skipit á þat borð, er frá landi horfði; tók honum sjárinna
the-ship on that side which from land faced took to-him the-sea
 undir herðablöðin, ok held svá, at hvergi sveif. Þorgeirr
under the-shoulder-blades and held so that nowhere (it)-swung Þorgeirr
 tók upp uxann aftan, enn Þormóðr framan, ok hófu svá
took up the-ox behind but Þormod in-front and heaved(-it) so
 út í skipit; settust síðan til róðrar, ok rerir Þormóðr
out into the-ship sat-themselves then to rowing and rowed Þormod
 í hálsi, enn Þorgeirr í fyrirrúmi, enn Grettir í skut,
in (the)-bow but Þorgeirr in (the)-fore-room but Grettir in (the)-stern
 ok heldu inn í flóann. Ok er þeir kvámu inn fyrir
and held in into the-bay And when they came in past
 Hafraklett, þá styrmdi at þeim; þá mælti Þorgeirr: “Frýr
Hafraklett then stormed at them then spoke Þorgeirr Taunts
 nú skutrinn skriðar”. Grettir svarar: “Eigi skal skutrinn eftir
now the-stern for-speed Grettir answers Not shall the-stern behind
 liggja, ef allvel er róit fram í”. Þorgeirr fell þá svá
lie if very-well is rowed forth in(-the-bow) Þorgeirr fell then so
 fast á árar, at af gengu báðir háirnir. Þá mælti hann:
hard to (the)-oars that off went both the-thole-straps Then spoke he
 “Legg þú til, Grettir, meðan ek bæti at hánúm”. Grettir
Lay you to Grettir while I mend at them Grettir
 dró þá fast árarinnar, meðan Þorgeirr bætti at hánúm; enn
pulled then hard the-oars while Þorgeirr mended at them but
 er Þorgeirr tók at róa, höfðu svá lúizt árarinnar, at
when Þorgeirr began to row had so been-worn the-oars that

Grettir hristi þær í sundr á borðinu. Þormóðr kvað betra
Grettir shook them in two on the-gunwale Thormod said better
 at róa minna, ok brjóta ekki. Grettir þreif erði tvau, er
to row less and break nothing Grettir seized oar-pins two which
 lágu í skipinu, ok rak borur stórar á borðstokkunum, ok
lay in the-ship and drove holes great in the-gunwales and
 reri svá sterklega, at brakaði í hverju tré; enn með því
rowed so strongly that creaked in every timber but with that
 at skip var gott, enn menn heldr í röskvara lagi,
that (the)-ship was good but (the)-men rather in more-vigorous condition
 þá náðu þeir Hvalshaussból. Grettir spyr, hvárt þeir vildi
then reached they Hvalshaus-islet Grettir asks whether they wished
 heldr fara heim með uxann, eða setja upp skipit. Þeir kjöru
rather to-go home with the-ox or to-set up the-ship They chose
 heldr at setja upp skipit, ok settu þeir upp með öllum
rather to set up the-ship and set they (it)-up with all
 sjánum, þeim sem í var, ok jöklinum, enn þat var mjök
the-sea that which in(-it) was and the-ice but it was much
 sýlt, enn Grettir leiddi uxann, ok var hann mjök stíðr
iced-over but Grettir led the-ox and was it very stiff
 í böndunum, enn allfeitr; varð honum mjök mætt; enn
in the-bonds but very-fat became to-it very tiring and
 þá er hann kom neðan hjá Titlingsstöðum, þraut uxann
then when he came below by Titlingsstadir failed the-ox
 gönguna. Þeir fóstbræðr gengu til húss, því at hvárigir
the-going They sworn-brothers went to house because that neither
 vildu veita öðrum at sínu hlutverki. Þorgils spyr at
wished to-help (the)-other at his task Thorgils asks about
 Gretti, enn þeir sögðu, hvar þeir höfðu skilit. Hann sendi
Grettir but they said where they had parted He sent
 þá menn á móti honum, ok er þeir kvámu ofan undir
then men on against him and when they came down under

Hellishóla, sá þeir hvar maðr fór í móti þeim, ok hafði
Hellisholar saw they where a-man went in against them and had
 naut á baki, ok var þar kominn Grettir, ok bar þá uxann.
an-ox on back and was there come Grettir and bore then the-ox
 Undruðust þá allir, hversu mikit hann gat orkat. Lék
Marveled then all how much he could accomplish Played
 Þorgeiri næsta öfund á um afl Grettis. Þat var einn
on-Thorgeir very-nearly envy on about (the)-strength of-Grettir It was one
 dag nökkut eftir jól, at Grettir fór í laug einn saman.
day somewhat after Yule that Grettir went to (the)-bath one together
 Þorgeirr vissi þat, ok mælti við Þormóð: “Förum vit til,
Thorgeir knew that and spoke to Thormod Let-us-go we-two to(-it)
 ok vitum, hversu Gretti bregðr við, ef ek ræð á hann, þá
and know how Grettir starts at(-it) if I attack on him then
 er hann ferr frá lauginni”. “Eigi er mér um þat”, sagði
when he goes from the-bath Not is me about that said
 Þormóðr, “ok muntu ekki gott fá af honum”. “Fara vil ek
Thormod and will-you no good get from him Go will I
 þó”, sagði Þorgeirr. Snýr hann nú ofan á brekkuna, ok
yet said Thorgeir Turns he now down onto the-slope and
 bar hátt öxina. Grettir gekk þá neðan frá lauginni, ok er
bore high the-axe Grettir went then below from the-bath and when
 þeir fundust, mælti Þorgeirr: “Er þat satt, Grettir”, sagði
they met spoke Thorgeir Is that true Grettir said
 hann “at þú hafir þat mælt, at þú skyldir aldri renna
he that you have that spoken that you should never run
 fyrir einum?” “Eigi veit ek þat svá víst”, sagði Grettir, “enn
before one Not know I that so surely said Grettir but
 skamt hefi ek fyrir þér runnit”, kvað Grettir. Þorgeirr reiddi
short have I before you run said Grettir Thorgeir raised
 þá upp öxina. Í því hljóp Grettir undir Þorgeir, ok færði
then up the-axe At that ran Grettir under Thorgeir and brought

hann niðr allmikit fall. Þorgeirr mælti þá til Þormóðar:
him down a-very-great fall Thorgeir spoke then to Thormod
 “Skaltu standa hjá, er fjándi sá drepr mik undir sik?”
Shall-you stand by when fiend that kills me under himself
 Þormóðr þreif þá í fætr Grettis, ok ætlaði at draga hann
Thormod seized then at (the)-feet of-Grettir and intended to drag him
 ofan af Þorgeiri, ok fekk ekki at gert. Hann var gyrðr
down off Thorgeir and got nothing to(-it) done He was girded
 saxi, og ætlaði að bregða; þá kom Þorgils bóndi
with-a-short-sword and intended to draw then came Thorgils (the)-farmer
 at, ok bað þá vera spaka ok fást eigi við Gretti. Þeir
up and bade them be peaceable and grapple not with Grettir They
 gerðu svá, ok sneru þessu í gaman. Eigi áttust þeir
did so and turned this into jest Not had-dealings they
 fleira við, svá at getit sé. Þótti mönnum Þorgils mikla
more together so that mentioned be Seemed to-men Thorgils great
 gæfu til hafa borit, at stilla slíka ofstopamenn; enn er vára
luck to have borne to calm such overbearing-men but when spring
 tók, fóru þeir á burt allir. Grettir fór inn til Þorskafjarðar;
began went they off away all Grettir went in to Thorskafjord
 var hann spurðr at, hversu honum hefði líkat vistargerðin
was he asked about how to-him had pleased the-lodging
 eða vetrvistin á Reykjahólum. Hann svarar: “Þar hefi ek
or the-winter-lodging at Reykjabolar He answers There have I
 svá verit, at ek hefi jafnan mínum mat orðit fegnast, þá
so been that I have always with-my food become gladdest then
 er ek náða honum”. Fór hann síðan vestr yfir heiðar.
when I got it Went he then west over (the)-heaths

At the Althing Skafti the lawspeaker asks Þorgils about his three winter guests, and Þorgils says Grettir is so afraid of the dark that he dares not go out after nightfall. In the case over Atli and Þorbjörn öxnamegin, Skafti shows that Grettir was outlawed a week before Atli was killed and so cannot prosecute. Þóroddr has to pay two hundred of silver for Atli. Snorri proposes waiving this so that Grettir can be freed, but Þórir of Garðr refuses. He and Þóroddr put three marks each on Grettir's head, a price never seen before.

Þorgils Arason reið til þings með fjölmenni. Kom þar
 Þorgils Ari's-son rode to (the)-assembly with a-crowd Came there
 alt stórmenni um landit. Brátt fundust þeir Skafti lögmaðr,
 all (the)-great-men over the-land Soon met they Skafti (the)-law-man
 ok tóku tal með sér; þá mælti Skafti: “Er þat satt,
 and took talk between themselves then spoke Skafti Is that true
 Þorgils, at þú hafir haldit þá þrjá menn í vetr, er mestir
 Þorgils that you have kept those three men in winter who greatest
 ójafnaðarmenn þykkja vera, og þó allir sekir, ok stílt þá
 unjust-men seem to-be and yet all outlawed and calmed them
 svá, at engi hefir öðrum mein gert?” Þorgils segir, at
 so that no-one has to-(the)-other harm done Þorgils says that
 þat var satt. Skafti mælti: “Mikill höfðingsskapr er slíkt,
 that was true Skafti spoke Great chieftainship is such
 eða hversu þykkir [þér] hverr þeira skapifarinn? eða hverr
 or how seems to-you each of-them tempered or what
 hreystimaðr hverr þeira mun vera?” Þorgils sagði: “Alla ætla
 a-hero each of-them will be Þorgils said All think
 ek þá fullröskva til hugar; enn þeir eru tveir, at ek ætla
 I them fully-valiant of mind but they are two that I think
 hræðast kunna; er þat þó ólíkt, því at Þormóðr er maðr
 to-fear can is that yet unlike because that Thormod is a-man

guðhræddr ok trúmaðr mikill, enn Grettir er svá myrkfælinn,
God-fearing and a-believer great but Grettir is so afraid-of-the-dark
 at hann þorir hvergi at fara, þegar at myrkva tekur, ef
that he dares nowhere to go as-soon as dark begins if
 hann gerði eftir skapi sínu; enn Þorgeir frænda minn hygg
he did after temper his but Þorgeir kinsman my think
 ek eigi hræðast kunna. "Svá mun hverr skapi farinn, sem
I not to-fear can So will each in-temper minded as
 þú segir", segir Skafti; skildu þeir svá talit. Á þessu alþingi
you say says Skafti parted they so the-talk At this Althing
 kærði Þoroddr drápustúfr um víg Þorbjarnar öxnamegins,
charged Þorodd Poem-stub about (the)-slaying of-Þorbjorn Oxen-might
 því at hann hafði eigi fram komit á Húnavatnsþingi
because that he had not forth brought(-it) at Hunavatn-assembly
 fyrir frændum Atla; hugði hann, at hér myndi hans mál
before (the)-kinsmen of-Atli thought he that here would his case
 síðr fyrir borð borit. Þeir frændr Atla sóttu Skafta at
less over board borne They kinsmen of-Atli sought Skafti about
 málinu, enn hann kvaðst sjá lögvörn í því, svá at
the-case but he said-of-himself to-see a-legal-defense in that so that
 þar myndi fullar fébætr fyrir koma. Síðan váru málin
there would full money-atonements for(-it) come Then were the-cases
 í gerð lagin, ok var þat flestra ætlan, at vígin
into arbitration laid and was that most-men's expectation that the-slayings
 myndi á standast Atla ok Þorbjarnar; enn er Skafti vissi
would on stand-(level) of-Atli and of-Þorbjorn but when Skafti knew
 þat, gekk hann til gerðarmanna, ok spurði, hvaðan þeir
that went he to (the)-arbitrators and asked whence they
 tóku þat. Þeir kölluðu þá jafna bændr, er vegnir váru.
took that They called them equal farmers who slain were
 Skafti spyr: "Hvart var fyrr Grettir sekr gerr, eða Atli var
Skafti asks Whether was first Grettir outlawed made or Atli was

vegin?” Enn er þat var reiknat, þá varð þat vikumunr,
slain But when that was reckoned then became that a-week's-difference
 er Grettir var sekr gerr á alþingi, enn hitt varð
that Grettir was outlawed made at (the)-Althing but the-other happened
 þegar eftir þingit. Skafti mælti: “Þat grunaði mik, at yðr
at-once after the-assembly Skafti spoke That suspected me that to-you
 myndi yfir sjást um málatilbúnaðinn, at þér helduð þann
would over look about the-preparation-of-the-case that you held that
 aðila, er sekr var áðr, ok hvárki mátti sín mál verja né
principal who outlawed was before and neither might his case defend nor
 sækja. Nú segi ek Gretti ekki eiga at gera með vígsmálinu,
prosecute Now say I Grettir not to-have to do with the-slaying-suit
 ok taki eftirmál sá, sem næstr er at lögum”. Þá
and let-take (the)-prosecution he who nearest is by law Then
 mælti Þóroddr dráputúfr: “Hverr skal þá svara víginu
spoke Thorodd Poem-stub Who shall then answer for-the-slaying
 Þorbjarnar bróður míns?” “Sjái þér sjálfir fyrir því”, segir
of-Thorbjorn brother my See you yourselves for that says
 Skafti; “enn eigi munu frændr Grettis ausa fé fyrir
Skafti but not will (the)-kinsmen of-Grettir pour-out money for
 hann eða verk hans, ef honum kaupist engi friðr”. Ok er
him or deeds his if for-him is-bought no peace And when
 þess varð varr Þorvaldr Ásgeirsson, at Grettir var af sagðr
of-that became aware Thorvald Asgeir's-son that Grettir was off put
 eftirmálinu, leituðu þeir þá eftir, hverir næstir váru; urðu
from-the-prosecution searched they then after who nearest were became
 þá skyldastir þeir Skeggi, son Gamla at Melum, ok Óspakr,
then most-bound they Skeggi son of-Gamli at Melar and Ospak
 son Glúms af Eyri ór Bitru; þeir váru báðir kappsmenn
son of-Glum from Eyr out-of Bitra they were both champions
 miklir ok framgjarnir. Varð Þóroddr nú at lúka bætr
great and forward-striving Had Thorodd now to pay compensation

fyrir víg Atla; var þat tvenn hundruð silfrs. Þá lagði
for (the)-slaying of-Atli was that two hundreds of-silver Then laid
 til Snorri goði: “Vili þér nú, Hrútfirðingar,” sagði hann,
to Snorri (the)-Priest Wish you now Hrutasford-men said he
 “at niðr falli fégjald þetta, ok verði Grettir sykn?”
that down fall money-payment this and become Grettir free-of-outlawry
 því at ek ætla, at hann verði sárbeittr í sektinni”. Þeir
because that I think that he will-be sore-bitten in the-outlawry They
 frændr Grettis tóku vel undir þat, ok sögðust aldri hirða
kinsmen of-Grettir took well under that and said-of-themselves never to-care
 um fé, ef hann fengi frið ok frelsi. Þóroddr kvaðst
about money if he got peace and freedom Thorodd said-of-himself
 sjá, at hans hlutr varð erfiðr, ok lézt þenna mundu
to-see that his lot became difficult and said-of-himself this would
 upp taka fyrir sína hönd. Snorri bað þá vita áðr, hvárt
up take for his hand Snorri bade them know first whether
 Þórir ór Garði vildi leyfi til leggja, at Grettir yrði sykn;
Thorir from Gard would leave to lay that Grettir became free
 enn er hann varð þess viss, brást hann reiðr við, ok
but when he became of-that aware started he angry at(-it) and
 kvað Gretti aldri skyldi ór sektum ganga eða komast, —
said Grettir never should out-of outlawry go or come
 “ok at firr, at hann verði sykn”, sagði hann, “at meira
and the further that he become free said he that more
 fé skyldi leggja til höfuðs honum, enn nokkurum öðrum
money should lay on (the)-head to-him than any other
 skógarmönnum”. Enn er hann tók þetta svá þvert, varð
forest-men But when he took this so contrarily became
 ekki af sykninni. Tóku þeir Gamli féit til sín,
nothing of the-freeing Took they Gamli(-and-his) the-money to themselves
 ok varðveittu; enn Þóroddr drápustúfr fekk engar bætr
and kept(-it) but Thorodd Poem-stub got no compensation

eftir Þorbjörn bróður sinn. Lögðu þeir Þórir þá fé
after Thorbjorn brother his Laid they Thorir(-and-he) then money
 til höfuðs Gretti, þrjár merkr silfrs hvárr þeira; þat þótti
on (the)-head of-Grettir three marks of-silver each of-them that seemed
 mönnum nýlunda, því at aldri hafði verit meira lagt enn
to-men a-novelty because that never had been more laid than
 þrjár merkr. Snorri kvað þetta óvitrlegt, at bekkjast til
three marks Snorri said this unwise that to-strive toward
 at hafa þann mann í sektum, er svá miklu illu mætti
to have that man in outlawry who so much evil might
 orka, ok kvað þess margan gjalda mundu. Skildu menn
work and said that many-a-one to-pay-for would Parted men
 við þat, ok riðu heim af þinginu.
with that and rode home from the-assembly

LII · GRETTIR AT THE GALLOWS

Grettir plunders small farmers around Ísafjörðr, and thirty farmers catch and bind him while he sleeps. No one will keep him until Vermundr returns, so they raise a gallows to hang him. Þorbjörg the Stout, Vermundr's wife, rides up, frees him on his oath to leave the district in peace, and takes him home, where she gives Vermundr three reasons for saving him. Grettir answers Vermundr in verses, but Vermundr will not keep him, and nowhere in the West Fjords will anyone take him in.

Þá er Grettir kom yfir Þorskafjarðarheiði í Langadal,
Then when Grettir came over Thorskafjord-heatth into Langadal
 lét hann sópa greipr um eignir smábænda, ok hafði
let he sweep bands over (the)-property of-small-farmers and had
 af hverjum þat, er hann vildi; tók hann af sumum
from each that which he wished took he from some
 vápn, enn sumum klæði; lögðu þeir allmisjafnt af, enn allir
weapons but from-some clothes gave they very-unevenly up but all

sögðust nauðgir láta, þegar hann var á burtu.
said-of-themselves unwillingly to-let(-it-go) as-soon-as he was off away

Þá bjó í Vatnsfirði Vermundr enn mjóvi, bróðir víga-Styrs;
Then dwelt in Vatnsfjord Vermund the Slender brother of-Slaying-Styr

hann átti Þorbjörgu dóttur Óláfs pá Höskuldssonar; hon
he had Thorbjorg daughter of-Olaf Peacock Hoskuld's-son she

var kölluð Þorbjög en digra. Vermundr var þenna tíma til
was called Thorbjorg the Stout Vermund was this time to

þings riðinn, er Grettir var í Langadal. Hann fór
(the)-assembly ridden when Grettir was in Langadal He went

ofan yfir háls til Laugabóls; þar bjó sá maðr, er Helgi
down over (the)-ridge to Laugaból there dwelt that man who Helgi

hét; hann var þar helzt fyrir bændum. Þaðan hafði
was-called he was there foremost before (the)-farmers Thence had

Grettir góðan hest, er bóndi átti. Þaðan fór hann inn
Grettir a-good horse which (the)-farmer owned Thence went he in

til Gervidals; þar bjó sá maðr, er Þorkell hét; hann
to Gervidal there dwelt that man who Thorkel was-called he

var vel birgr at kosti, og þó lítilmenni; hafði Grettir þaðan
was well supplied in means and yet a-weakling had Grettir thence

slíkt sem hann vildi, ok þorði Þorkell eigi at at finna,
such as he wished and dared Thorkel not to at(-it) find-fault

eða á at halda. Þaðan fór Grettir til Eyrar, ok svá út þeim
or on to hold Thence went Grettir to Eyr and so out that

megin fjarðar, ok hafði af hverjum bæ vist ok klæði,
side of-(the)-fjord and had from each farm food and clothes

ok gerði mörgum harðleikit, ok þótti flestum þungt undir
and did to-many a-rough-handling and seemed to-most heavy under

at búa. Grettir fór nú djarflega, ok hafði engi varðhöld á
to live Grettir went now boldly and had no guard on

sér; hann fór nú unz er hann kom í Vatnsfjarðardal,
himself he went now until when he came into Vatnsfjord-dale

ok fór þar til sels; dvaldist hann þar margar nætr,
and went there to (the)-sheiling stayed he there many nights
 ok lá þar í skógum ok svaf ok hugði eigi at sér. Enn
and lay there in woods and slept and paid-beed not to himself But
 er smalamenn vissu þat, fóru þeir til bæjar, ok sögðu,
when shepherds knew that went they to (the)-farm and said
 at sá dólgr væri kominn í bygðina, at þeim þótti eigi
that that brute were come into the-settlement who to-them seemed not
 dæll viðfangs. Söfnuðust þá bændr saman, ok höfðu þrjá
easy to-deal-with Gathered then (the)-farmers together and had three
 tigu manna; leyndust þeir í skóginum, svá at Grettir vissi
tens of-men hid-themselves they in the-wood so that Grettir knew
 ekki til, ok létu smalamann halda njósnum til, nær færi
nothing of(-it) and let a-shepherd keep watches for when chance
 gæfi á Gretti, enn þó vissu þeir ógerla, hvern maðrinn var.
gave on Grettir but yet knew they not-clearly who the-man was
 Nú bar svá til einn dag, þá er Grettir lá ok svaf, at
Now happened so to one day then when Grettir lay and slept that
 bændr kvámu at honum; ok er þeir sá hann, áttu þeir
(the)-farmers came at him and when they saw him held they
 ráðagerð um, hversu þeir skyldi taka hann, svá at minst
counsel about how they should take him so that least
 yrði manntjón í, ok skipuðu til, at tíu skyldi á hann
became loss-of-men in(-it) and arranged to(-it) that ten should on him
 hlaupa, enn sumir skyldi bera bönd at fótunum. Þeir gerðu
leap but some should bear bonds to the-feet They did
 nú svá, ok fleygðu sér ofan á hann, enn Grettir brá
now so and flung themselves down on him but Grettir started
 við svá hart, at þeir hrutu af honum; enn hann komst á
up so hard that they tumbled off him but he got onto
 kné, ok í því gátu þeir kastað böndum á hann ok fætr
knee and at that could they cast bonds on him and (the)-feet

honum. Þá spyndi Grettir svá fast við eyrun á tveimr
to-him Then kicked Grettir so hard against the-ears on two
 at þeir lágu í roti. Nú hljóp á hann hverr at öðrum,
that they lay in a-stupor Now ran at him each after (the)-other
 enn hann ruddist um fast ok lengi, enn þó gátu þeir
but he struggled about hard and long but yet could they
 hlaðit honum um síðir, ok bundu hann. Eftir þat áttu
throw-down him at last and bound him After that had
 þeir um at tala, hversu við hann skyldi gera; báðu þeir
they about to talk how with him should do bade they
 Helga af Laugabóli taka við honum ok annast hann, þar
Helgi from Laugaból take with him and look-after him there
 til at Vermundr kæmi heim af þingi. Hann svarar,
until that Vermund came home from (the)-assembly He answers
 at “annat ætla ek mér þarfara, enn láta húskarla mína
that other intend I for-me more-needful than let house-carls my
 sitja yfir honum, því at ek á lönd erfið, ok kemr hann
sit over him because that I have lands laborious and comes he
 aldri í mína ferð”. Þá báðu þeir Þorkel í Gervidal við
never into my way Then bade they Thorkel in Gervidal with
 honum at taka; kváðu hann vera nógtamann. Þorkell mælti
him to take said him to-be a-man-of-plenty Thorkel spoke
 í móti, ok kvað engan kost á því, — “þar sem ek
in against(-it) and said no choice on that there where I
 ligg einn í húsi ok kerling mín, enn hvar fjarri öðrum
lie alone in house and old-woman my but somewhat far from-other
 mönnum, ok komi þér eigi þeim kassa á mik”, sagði
men and bring you not that box onto me said
 hann. “Þú Þorálfr á Eyri”, sögðu þeir, “tak við Gretti, ok
be You Thoralf at Eyr said they take with Grettir and
 ger til hans vel um þingit; ella fær þú hann af þér til
make to him well over the-assembly else bring you him off yourself to

næsta bæjar ok ábyrgst, at hann verði eigi lauss; set
(the)-nearest farm and be-responsible that he become not loose set
 hann svá bundinn niðr, sem nú tekr þú við honum". Hann
him so bound down as now take you with him He
 svarar: "Eigi vil ek við Gretti taka, því at ek hefi hvárki
answers Not will I with Grettir take because that I have neither
 til föng né fé at halda hann; hefir hann ok eigi
for(-it) provisions nor money to keep him has he also not
 á minni jörðu tekinn verit; lízt mér heldr vandræði enn
on my land taken been seems to-me rather trouble than
 virðing við honum að taka, eða gera nökkut með honum,
honor with him to take or do something with him
 ok hann kemr aldri í mín hús inn". Eftir þat leituðu
and he comes never into my houses in After that sought
 þeir við hvern búanda, ok mæltu allir í móti, ok eftir
they to each farmer and spoke all in against and after
 þessu viðtali þeira hafa kátir menn sett fræði þat, er
this discussion their have merry men composed a-poem that which
 Grettisfærsla hét, ok aukit þar í kátlegum orðum til
Grettir's-Carrying was-called and added there in merry words for
 gamans mönnum. Enn er þeir höfðu þetta talat lengi, þá
amusement to-men But when they had this talked long then
 kom þat ásamt með þeim, at þeir myndi eigi gera happ
came that together between them that they would not make luck
 sitt at óhappi, ok fóru til, ok reistu gálga þar þegar
their into misfortune and went to(-it) and raised a-gallows there at-once
 í skóginum, ok ætluðu að hengja Gretti, ok hlömmuðu nú
in the-wood and intended to hang Grettir and clattered now
 mjök yfir þessu. Þá sá þeir ríða sex menn neðan eftir
very over this Then saw they ride six men from-below along
 dalnum; var einn í litklæðum. Þeir gátu, at þar myndi
the-dale was one in colored-clothes They guessed that there would

fara Þorbjörg húsfreyja ór Vatnsfirði, ok svá var; ætlaði
go Thorbjorg (the)-housewife from Vatnsfjord and so was(-it) intended
 hon til sels. Hon var skörungr mikill og stórvitr; hon
she to (the)-shieling She was a-paragon great and very-wise she
 hafði heraðsstjórn ok skipaði öllum málum, þegar Vermundr
had (the)-district-rule and arranged all cases when Vermund
 var eigi heima. Hon veik þangat at, sem mannfundrinn
was not at-home She turned thither to where the-gathering
 var, ok var hon af baki tekin. Bændr fögnuðu henni
was and was she off horse taken (The)-farmers welcomed her
 vel. Hon mælti þá: “Hvat þingi hafi þér? eða hverr er
well She spoke then What assembly have you or who is
 þessi hinn hálsdigri, er hér sitr í böndum?” Grettir nefndi
this the thick-necked who here sits in bonds Grettir named
 sik ok heilsaði henni. Hon svarar: “Hvat rak þik til
himself and greeted her She answers What drove you to
 þess, Grettir”, sagði hon, “at þú vildir gera hér óspektir
that Grettir said she that you wished to-make here disturbances
 þingmönnum mínum?” “Eigi má nú við öllu sjá; vera varð
to-assembly-men my Not may now against all look be must
 ek nökkursstaðar”. “Slíkt er mikit gæfuleysi”, segir hon, “at
I somewhere Such is great misfortune says she that
 vesalmenni þessi skyldi taka þik, svá at ekki lagðist fyrir
wretches these should take you so that nothing was-laid before
 þik, eða hvað ætlið þér nú af honum at gera?” Bændr
you or what intend you now with him to do (The)-farmers
 sögðu henni, at þeir ætluðu at festa hann á gálga fyrir
told her that they intended to fasten him on a-gallows for
 óspektir sínar. Hon svarar: “Vera má, at Grettir hafi sakir
disturbances his She answers Be may that Grettir have grounds
 til þess, enn ofráð man þat verða yðr Ísfirðingum
for that but overreaching will that become for-you Isafjord-men

at taka Gretti af lífi, því at hann er maðr frægr ok
to take Grettir from life because that he is a-man famous and
 stórættaðr, þó at hann sé eigi gæfumaðr; eða hvat viltu
of-great-family though that he be not a-lucky-man or what will-you
 nú vinna til lífs þér, Grettir, ef ek gef þér líf?" Hann
now do for life for-yourself Grettir if I give you life He
 svarar: "Hvat mælir þú til?" "Þú skalt vinna eið", sagði
answers What speak you of You shall swear an-oath said
 hon, "at gera engar óspektir hér um Ísafjörð, engum skaltu
she to make no disturbances here about Isafjord on-none shall-you
 hefna, þeim sem í atför hafa verit at taka þik". Grettir
take-revenge on-those who in (the)-attack have been to take you Grettir
 kvað hana ráða skyldu. Síðan var hann leyst; ok þá
said her to-decide should Then was he loosed and then
 kvaðst hann mest bundizt hafa at sínu skaplyndi, at
said-of-himself he most restrained-himself have in his temper that
 hann sló þá eigi, er þeir hældust við hann. Þorbjörg bað
he struck them not when they boasted over him Thorbjorg bade
 hann fara heim með sér, ok fékk honum hest til reiðar.
him go home with herself and got him a-horse for riding
 Fór hann þá heim í Vatnsfjörð, ok beið þar til þess, er
Went he then home to Vatnsfjord and waited there until that when
 Vermundr kom heim, ok gerði húsfreyja vel við hann.
Vermund came home and did (the)-housewife well toward him
 Varð hon af þessu mjök fræg víða um sveitir. Vermundr
Became she from this very famous widely over (the)-districts Vermund
 var ófrýnn, er hann kom heim, ok spurði, hví Grettir
was frowning when he came home and asked why Grettir
 væri þar. Þorbjörg sagði alt, sem farit hafði með þeim
were there Thorbjorg told all as gone had with them
 Ísfrðingum. "Hvers naut hann at því", sagði Vermundr, "er
Isafjord-men What enjoyed he in that said Vermund that

þú gaft honum líf?" "Margar greinir váru til þess", sagði
you gave him life Many reasons were for that said
 Þorbjörg; "þat fyrst", segir hon, "at þú munt þykkja meiri
Thorbjorg that first says she that you will seem a-greater
 höfðingi, enn áðr, er þú áttir þá konu, er slíkt þorði
chieftain than before when you had that wife who such dared
 at gera; þá myndi þat ok ætla Hrefna frændkona hans,
to do then would that also think Hrefna kinswoman his
 at ek mynda eigi láta drepa hann; þat hit þriðja, at hann
that I would not let kill him that the third that be
 er hinn mesti afreksmaðr í mörgum greinum". "Vitr kona
is the greatest man-of-prowess in many respects Wise woman
 ertu", sagði Vermundr, "í flestu, ok haf þökk fyrir". Þá
are-you said Vermund in most and have thanks for(-it) Then
 mælti hann til Grettis: "Lítit lagðist nú fyrir þik, þvílíkr
spoke he to Grettir Little lay now before you such-a
 garpr sem þú ert, er vesalmenni skyldi taka þik, ok ferr
champion as you are when wretches should take you and goes
 svo jafnan óeirðarmönnum". Grettir kvað þá vísu þessa:
so always to-unruly-men Grettir spoke then verse this

Mitt vas gilt

My was complete

gæfuleysi

misfortune

í marþaks

in of-sea-thatch

miðjum firði,

middle fjord

es gamlir

when old

grísir skyldi

pigs should

halda mér

bold me

at höfuðbeinum.

by (the)-head-bones

“Hvat vildu þeir af þér gera”, kvað Vermundr “þá er þeir

What wished they of you to-do said Vermund then when they

höfðu tekið þik?” Grettir kvað:

had taken you Grettir spoke

Sögðu mér

Said to-me

þau's Sigarr veitti

those-which Sigarr gave

mægða laun

of-in-laws reward

margir hæfa,

many befit

unz lofgróinn

until praise-grown

laufi sæmdar

with-(the)-leaf of-honor

reynirunn

rowan-tree

rekkar fundu.

men found

Vermundr mælti: "Hvárt mundu þeir hafa hengt þik, ef þeir

Vermund spoke Whether would they have hanged you if they

einir hefði um vélt?" Grettir kvað:

alone had — decided Grettir spoke

Myndak sjalfr

Would-I myself

í snöru egnda

into a-noose baited

helzti brátt

pretty soon

höfði stinga,

with-bead stick

ef Þorbjörg

if Thorbjorg

þessu skaldi

for-this poet

— hon es allsnotr —

she is all-wise

eigi byrgi.

not prevented

Vermundr mælti: “Hvárt bauð hon þér til sín?” Grettir kvað:

Vermund spoke Whether invited she you to herself Grettir spoke

Mik bað hjalp

Me bade help

handa tveggja

of-hands two

Sifjar vers

of-Sif husband

með sér fara;

with herself go

sú gaf þveng

she gave a-thong

Þundar beðju

of-Thund of-(the)-bedfellow

góðan hest,

a-good horse

es mik gæddi friði.

who me endowed with-peace

“Mikil man verða æfi þín ok erfið”, segir Vermundr, “ok er

Great will become life your and hard says Vermund and is

þér kent at varast óvini þína, enn eigi nenni ek at halda þik,

you taught to beware enemies your but not care I to keep you

ok hafa þar fyrir þykkju margra ríkra manna; er þér enn

and have there for (the)-displeasure of-many powerful men is to-you yet

best að leita til frænda þinna, enn fáir munu verða til at taka

best to seek to kinsmen your but few will become to to take

þik, ef öðru megu við koma; ertu ok eigi auðkvæðr til fylgdar

you if other may with come are-you also not easy-to-ask for company

við flesta menn”. Grettir var í Vatnsfirði nökkura hríð, ok

with most men Grettir was in Vatnsfjord some while and

för þaðan til Vestfjarða, ok leitaði til margra göfugra manna,
went thence to (the)-West-fjords and sought to many noble men
 ok bar jafnan eitthvert við, þat er engi tók við honum.
and brought always something against that that no-one took with him

LIII • GRETDIR SEEKS REFUGE

In autumn Grettir returns to Þorsteinn Kuggason at Ljárskógar and spends the winter there. Þorsteinn has built a bridge hung with rings that can be heard as far as Skarfsstaðir, and Grettir works hard at the iron but only when he feels like it. When the Hrítafjörðr men gather in spring, Þorsteinn sends Grettir away. Grettir goes south to Grímr Þórhallsson, who directs him to Skafti, and on to Þórhallr Ásgrímsson in Tunga, who treats him well but will not keep him long.

Um haustit, er á leið, sneri Grettir aftr hið syðra,
Over the-autumn when on passed turned Grettir back the southern-way
 ok létti eigi fyrr, enn hann kom í Ljárskóga til Þorsteins
and stopped not sooner than he came to Ljarskogar to Thorstein
 Kuggasonar, frænda síns, ok var þar vel við honum tekit.
Kuggi's-son kinsman his and was there well with him taken
 Bauð Þorsteinn honum með sér at vera um vetrinn, ok þat
Invited Thorstein him with himself to be over the-winter and that
 þektist hann. Þorsteinn var iðjumaðr mikill ok smiðr, ok helt
accepted he Thorstein was a-worker great and a-smith and kept
 mönnum mjök til starfa. Grettir var lítill verklundarmaðr, ok
men very to work Grettir was a-little work-minded-man and
 því fór lítt skap þeira saman. Þorsteinn hafði látit gera
therefore went little temper their together Thorstein had had make
 kirkju á bæ sínum. Hann lét gera brú heiman frá bænum;
a-church at farm his He had make a-bridge from-home from the-farm
 hon var ger með hagleik miklum, enn utan í brúnni undir
it was made with skill great but outside on the-bridge under

ásunum, þeim er upp heldu brúnni, var gert með hringum,
the-beams those which up held the-bridge was made with rings
 ok dynbjöllur, svá at heyrði yfir til Skarfsstaða, hálfa viku
and bells so that (one)-heard over to Skarfstadir half a-mile
 sjávar, ef gengit var um brúna, svá hristust hringarnir. Hafði
of-sea if walked was over the-bridge so shook the-rings Had
 Þorsteinn mikinn starfa fyrir þessarri smið, því at hann
Thorstein great toil for this work because that he
 var járngerðarmaðr mikill. Grettir var atgangsmikill at drepa
was an-iron-worker great Grettir was vigorous to beat
 járnit, enn nenti misjafnt, enn þó var hann spakr um vetrinn,
the-iron but cared-to unevenly but yet was he quiet over the-winter
 svá at ekki bar til frásagnar. Enn er Hrútfirðingar
so that nothing happened for telling But when (the)-Hrutafjord-men
 fréttu, at Grettir var með Þorsteini, höfðu þeir flokk uppi
learned that Grettir was with Thorstein had they a-band up
 er vára tók. Enn er Þorsteinn frétti þat, sagði hann
when spring began But when Thorstein learned that told he
 Gretti, at hann leitaði sér annars hælis, enn vera þar, —
Grettir that he sought himself another refuge than to-be there
 “því at ek sé, at þú vilt ekki starfa, enn mér henta eigi
because that I see that you will not work but to-me suit not
 þeir menn, sem ekki vinna”. “Hvert vísar þú mér þá?” sagði
those men who not work Where direct you me then said
 Grettir. Þorsteinn bað hann fara suðr um land, ok finna
Grettir Thorstein bade him go south over (the)-land and meet
 frændr sína, — “enn vitja mín ef þeir duga eigi þér”. Grettir
kinsmen his but visit me if they avail not you Grettir
 gerir nú svá, at hann fór suðr til Borgarfjarðar á fund
does now so that he went south to Borgarfjord to meeting
 Gríms Þórhallssonar, ok dvaldist þar fram yfir þing.
of-Grim Thorhall's-son and stayed there forth over (the)-assembly

Grímr vísaði honum til Skafta lögmanns á Hjalla. Grettir fór
Grím directed him to Skafti (the)-law-man at Hjalli Grettir went
 suðr hinar neðri heiðar, ok létti eigi fyrr, eun hann kom í
south the lower heaths and stopped not sooner than he came to
 Tungu til Þórhalls Ásgrímssonar, Elliða-Grímssonar, ok fór
Tunga to Thorhall Asgrim's-son Ellida-Grim's-son and went
 lítt með bygðum. Þórhallr kendist við Gretti sakir
little along settlements Thorhall acknowledged-kinship with Grettir for-the-sake-of
 foreldra sinna, ok þá var Grettir nafnkunnr mjök um alt
ancestors his and then was Grettir renowned very over all
 land af atgervi sinni. Þórhallr var vitr maðr, ok gerði
(the)-land for accomplishments his Thorhall was a-wise man and did
 vel til Grettis, enn eigi vildi hann vist hans þar á lengdar.
well to Grettir but not wished he stay his there for length

LIV • GRETTIR AND LOFTR

Grettir lives on Kjölr robbing travelers, and there he meets a big man who calls himself Loftr and refuses to give up his goods. When Grettir seizes his reins, Loftr draws them through his hands until he has the whole bridle back, then answers in verses that he lives at Balljökull, and Grettir sees he is no match for him. Skafti, as lawspeaker, will not take in an outlaw and tells him to stop robbing and to trust no one too far. Grímr Þórhallsson sends him on to Arnarvatnsheiði.

Grettir fór ór Tungu upp til Haukadals, ok þaðan norðr
Grettir went out-of Tunga up to Haukadal and thence north
 á Kjöl, ok hafðist þar við um sumarit lengi, ok var nú
onto Kjöl and kept-himself there with(-it) over the-summer long and was now
 eigi traust, at hann tæki eigi af mönnum plögg sín, þeim
not certain that he took not from men goods their those
 sem fóru norðr eða norðan um Kjölinn, því at honum
who went north or from-the-north over the-Kjöl because that to-him

varð ilt til féfanga. Þat var einn dag, at Grettir var jafnan
became ill for getting-goods It was one day that Grettir was always
 norðr á Dúfunesskeiði, at hann sá, at maðr reið norðan
north on Dufunes-course that he saw that a-man rode from-the-north
 eftir Kilinum; sá var mikill á baki, ok hafði góðan hest, ok
along the-Kjol he was big on back and had a-good horse and
 beizl háseymt, vel tornat. Annan hest hafði hann í taumi,
a-bridle high-studded well turned Another horse had he in lead
 ok á töskur. Þessi maðr hafði síðan hatt á höfði, ok
and on(-it) bags This man had low a-hat on head and
 sá óglögt í andlit honum. Gretti leizt vel á hestinn
(one)-saw unclearly into (the)-face to-him To-Grettir seemed well on the-horse
 ok þing hans, ok fór til móts við hann, ok heilsaði honum,
and gear his and went to meeting with him and greeted him
 ok spurði hann at nafni, enn hann kvaðst Loftr
and asked him about name but he said-of-himself Loft
 heita; — “veit ek, hvat þú heitir”, sagði hann, “þú munt
to-be-called know I what you are-called said he you will
 vera Grettir hinn sterki Ásmundarson, eða hvert viltu fara?”
be Grettir the Strong Asmund's-son or whither will-you go
 “Ekki hefi ek staðnefnt um þat”, sagði Grettir, “enn þat er
Not have I fixed-a-place about that said Grettir but that is
 erendi mitt, at vita ef þú vilt af leggja nökkurt plagg af
errand my to know if you will off lay some goods of
 því, sem þú ferr með”. Loftr svarar: “Hví mun ek fá þér
that which you go with Loft answers Why will I give you
 þat, sem ek á? eða hvat viltu við gefa?” Grettir svarar:
that which I own or what will-you for(-it) give Grettir answers
 “Hefir þú eigi spurt þat, at ek legg eigi fé í móti?
Have you not learned that that I lay not money in against(-it)
 ok sýnist þó þat flestum, at ek fái þat, sem ek vil”. Loftr
and seems yet that to-most that I get that which I wish Loft

mælti: “Bjóð þú þeim þessa kosti, er þeir þykkja góðir,
spoke Offer you to-those these terms whom they seem good
 enn eigi vil ek svá láta þat er ek á, ok fari hvárir sinn
but not will I so let(-go) that which I own and go each-side his
 veg”, ok reið fram hjá Grettir, ok keyrði hestinn. Grettir
way and rode forth past Grettir and drove the-horse Grettir
 mælti: “Eigi munu vit svá skjótt skilja”, — ok þreif í
spoke Not will we-two so quickly part and seized at
 taumana á hesti Loftis fyrir framan hendr honum, ok held
the-reins on (the)-horse of-Loft in front-of hands his and held
 báðum höndum. Loftir mælti: “Far þú veg þinn, ekki fær
with-both hands Loft spoke Go you way your nothing get
 þú af mér, ef ek get á haldit”. “Þat mun nú reynt verða”,
you from me if I can on hold That will now tried become
 segir Grettir. Loftir seildist niðr með kinnleðrunum, ok
says Grettir Loft reached down along the-cheek-strings and
 tók taumana milli hringanna og handa Grettis; heimtandi
took the-reins between the-rings and (the)-hands of-Grettir pulling
 svá fast, at hendr Grettis hrukku niðr eftir taumunum,
so hard that (the)-hands of-Grettir slipped down along the-reins
 þar til sem hann dró af honum alt beizlit. Grettir leit
there until when he pulled from him all the-bridle Grettir looked
 eftir í lófana, ok sá, at þessi maðr myndi hafa afl í
at into the-palms and saw that this man would have strength in

krummum heldr enn eigi, ok leit eftir honum ok mælti:

claws rather than not and looked after him and spoke

“Hvert ætlar þú nú at fara?” Loftr svarar ok kvað:

Whither intend you now to go Loftr answers and spoke

Ætla ek hreggs

Intend I of-storm

í hrunketil

into (the)-crash-kettle

steypi niðr

plunge down

frá stórfrerum;

from great-frosts

þar má hængr

there may (the)-salmon

hitta grundar

meet of-ground

lítinn stein

a-little stone

ok land hnefa.

and land of-fist

Grettir mælti: “Eigi er víst at leita eftir bygðum þínum,

Grettir spoke Not is certain to seek after dwellings your

ef þú segir ei ljósara”. Hann mælti þá, ok kvað:

if you say not more-clearly He spoke then and spoke

Er-at mér dælt

Is-not to-me easy

at dylja þik,

to hide from-you

ef þú vilt

if you will

vitja þangat;

visit thither

þat 's ór bygð

that is out-of (the)-settlement

Borgfirðinga;

of-(the)-Borgarfjord-men

Balljökul

Balljökul

bragnar kalla.

men call

Síðan skildu þeir. Sér Grettir þá, at hann hefir eigi afl
Then parted they Sees Grettir then that he has not strength
 við þessum manni. Þá kvað Grettir vísu:
against this man Then spoke Grettir a-verse

Mér stóð málma skúrar
From-me stood of-metals of-shower
 mundangshvatr ok Atli
fittingly-bold and Atli
 — staddr vildak svá sjaldan —,
placed would-I so seldom
 snarr Illugi fjarri,
swift Illugi far-away
 þá 's ófælinn álar
when is fearless of-straps
 endr dró mér ór hendi
once drew from-me out-of hand
 — brúðr strýkr horsk, ef hræðumk,
(the)-bride strokes wise if I-fear
 hvarma — Loftr enn armi.
of-eyelids Loftr the wretched

Eftir þetta fór Grettir suðr af Kilinum, og reið til Hjalla, ok
After this went Grettir south from the-Kjol and rode to Hjalli and
 fann Skafta, og beiddi hann ásjár. Skafti svarar: “Þat er
found Skafti and asked him (for)-protection Skafti answers That is
 mér sagt, at þú farir heldr óspaklega, ok grípir fyrir mönnum
to-me said that you go rather unpeacefully and grab from men
 góðs sitt, ok samir þér þat illa, svá stórættuðum manni. Nú
goods their and befits you that ill so high-born a-man Now
 væri alt betra um at tala, ef þú ræntir eigi, enn með því í
were all better about to talk if you robbed not but with that in(-it)

at ek skal heita lögmaðr í landinu, þá stenztr mér eigi at
that I shall be-called law-man in the-land then holds-fast to-me not to
 taka við útlegðarmönnum, ok brjóta svá lögin. Ek vil at þú
take with outlaws and break so the-law I wish that you
 leitir þangat nökkut, at þú þyrftir eigi at leggjast á fé
seek thither somewhere that you needed not to fall on (the)-goods
 manna". Grettir kvaðst þat gjarna vildu, enn sagði þó, at
of-men Grettir said-of-himself that gladly to-wish but said yet that
 hann þóttist varla einn saman vera mega fyrir myrkfælni.
he thought-himself hardly alone together to-be could for fear-of-the-dark
 Skafti kvað hann eigi því einu mundu mega við hlíta, er
Skafti said him not that alone would be-able with rest-content which
 honum þætti bezt, — "ok trú þú engum svá vel, at þér verði
to-him seemed best and trust you no-one so well that to-you happen
 svá sem í Vestfjörðum; hefir þat mörgum at bana orðit, at
so as in (the)-West-fjords has that many-a-one to death become that
 hann hefir oftryggr verit". Grettir þakkaði honum fyrir heilræði
he has over-trusting been Grettir thanked him for good-counsels
 sín, ok sneri aftr til Borgarfjarðar um haustit, ok fann Grím
his and turned back to Borgarfjord over the-autumn and found Grim
 Þórhallsson, vin sinn, ok sagði tillögur Skafta. Grímr bað hann
Thorhall's-son friend his and told (the)-advice of-Skafti Grim bade him
 fara norðr til Fiskivatna á Arnarvatnsheiði, ok svá gerði hann.
go north to Fiskivotn on Arnarvatn-beath and so did he

Grettir builds a hut on Arnarvatnsheiði and fishes the lakes. An outlaw named Grímr, hired by the Northerners to kill him, asks to join him and is taken in on condition that he works. Grettir suspects him and keeps his weapons at hand. One morning Grímr takes down the short-sword while Grettir pretends to sleep. Grettir springs up, throws him down, gets the truth from him, and kills him. After this he is wary of taking in outlaws, but his fear of the dark torments him.

Grettir fór upp á Arnarvatnsheiði, ok gerði sér þar skála,
Grettir went up onto Arnarvatn-beath and made himself there a-but
 sem enn sér merki, ok bjóst þar um, því at hann
where still (one)-sees traces and made-ready there about because that he
 vildi nú hvetvetna annat enn ræna; fekk sér net ok bát
wished now anything other than rob got himself a-net and a-boat
 ok veiddi fiska til matar sér. Honum þótti daufllegt mjök
and caught fish for food for-himself To-him seemed dismal very
 á fjallinu, því at hann var mjök myrkfælinn. Enn er
on the-mountain because that he was very afraid-of-the-dark But when
 þat fréttu aðrir skógarmenn, at Grettir var þar niðr kominn,
that learned other forest-men that Grettir was there down come
 þá var mörgum hugr á at finna hann, því at þeim þótti
then was to-many a-mind on to meet him because that to-them seemed
 mikit traust at honum. Grímr hét maðr norðlenzkr; hann
great protection in him Grim was-called a-man northern he
 var sekr. At þeim manni keyptu Norðlendingar, at hann
was outlawed With that man bargained (the)-Northerners that he
 skyldi drepa Gretti, ok hétu honum frelsi ok fégjöfum,
should kill Grettir and promised him freedom and money-gifts
 ef hann kæmi því fram. Hann fór til móts við Gretti, ok
if he brought that forth He went to meeting with Grettir and
 beiddi hann viðtöku. Grettir svarar: “Eigi þykki mér, sem
asked him (for)-reception Grettir answers Not seems to-me as

þér sé at hólpnara, þó at þú værir hjá mér; eru þér ok
to-you be the better-helped though that you were with me are you also
vandsénir, skógarmennirnir, enn ilt þætti mér einum at
hard-to-see-through the-forest-men but ill would-seem to-me alone to
vera, ef annars væri kostur; vil ek ok, at sá einn sé hjá mér,
be if another were choice wish I also that he alone be with me
at hann verðr at starfa slíkt, er til fellr". Grímr kvaðst
that he must to work such as to(-it) falls Grim said-of-himself
eigi til annars ætla, ok skoraði á hann fast um vistina.
not to other to-intend and pressed on him hard about the-lodging
Lét Grettir þá teljast, ok tók við honum. Hann var þar
Let Grettir then be-persuaded and took with him He was there
nú fram á vetrinn, ok sat um Gretti, ok þótti eigi
now forth into the-winter and lay-in-wait for Grettir and seemed not
dælt at honum at ráða. Grettir grunaði hann, ok hafði vápn
easy at him to attack Grettir suspected him and had weapons
sín hjá sér nátt ok dag, ok þorði hann aldri at honum
his by himself night and day and dared he never at him
at ganga þá er hann vakti. Þat var einn morgin, er
to go then when he was-awake It was one morning when
Grímr kom heim af veiði, at hann gekk inn í skálann,
Grim came home from fishing that he went in into the-but
ok stappaði fótum, ok vildi vita, hvárt Grettir svæfi, enn
and stamped with-(his)-feet and wished to-know whether Grettir slept but
hann brá sér hvergi við, ok lá kyrr. Saxit hekk
he started himself nowhere at(-it) and lay still The-short-sword hung
uppi yfir Gretti. Hugsar Grímr nú, at eigi myndi gefast
up over Grettir Thinks Grim now that not would be-given
betra færi; gerir hann nú hark mikit, svá at Grettir skyldi
a-better chance makes he now noise great so that Grettir should
orð um finnst, enn þat var eigi. Þóttist hann nú vita,
word about find but that was not Thought-himself he now to-know

at Grettir myndi sofnaðr, ok stilti at rekkjunni hljóðlega, ok
that Grettir would asleep and stepped to the-bed quietly and
 seildist til saxins, ok tók ofan ok brá. Í því hljóp
reached for the-short-sword and took(-it) down and drew(-it) At that leaped
 Grettir fram á gólfitt, ok greip saxit í því, er hinn
Grettir forth onto the-floor and grasped the-short-sword at that when the-other
 reiddi, enn annarri hendi í herðar Grími, ok rak
raised(-it) but with-the-other hand on (the)-shoulders of-Grim and drove
 hann niðr svá mikit fall, at hann lá nær í óviti. “Gaftu
him down so great a-fall that he lay nearly in a-swoon Gave-you
 svá, þó at þú létir góðvætlega”. Hafði hann af honum
so though that you behaved kindly Had he from him
 þá sannar sögur, og drap hann síðan. Enn nú þóttist
then true stories and killed him then But now thought-himself
 Grettir sjá, hvat þat var at taka við skógarmönnum; ok leið
Grettir to-see what that was to take with forest-men and passed
 svá vetrinn. At engu þótti Gretti meira mein enn myrkfælni.
so the-winter Of nothing seemed to-Grettir greater harm than fear-of-the-dark

LVI • ÞÓRIR RAUÐSKEGG

Þórir of Garðr hires the outlaw Þórir rauðskeggr to kill Grettir, promising him his freedom. After Grettir's warning that he will die if he plays false, Rauðskeggr lives with him on the heath for two winters without finding a chance. At last he smashes their boat in a storm and says the nets are drifting in the lake, claiming he cannot swim. Grettir swims out, and as he comes ashore Rauðskeggr strikes at him with the short-sword. Grettir dives, comes up behind him, throws him down, and cuts off his head.

Þórir í Garði spyr nú, hvar Grettir er niðr kominn,
Thorir in Gard learns now where Grettir is down come
 ok vildi setja til eitthvert ráð at hann yrði drepinn.
and wished to-set to(-it) some plan that he became killed
 Maðr hét Þórir rauðskeggr; hann var manna gildastr,
A-man was-called Thorir Red-beard he was of-men stoutest
 ok vígamaðr mikill, ok fyrir þat var hann sekr gerr um
and a-killer great and for that was he outlawed made over
 alt landit. Þórir í Garði sendi honum orð; ok er þeir
all the-land Thorir in Gard sent him word and when they
 fundust, beiddi hann rauðskegg fara sendiferð sína, ok drepa
met asked he Red-beard to-go (the)-errand his and kill
 Gretti hinn sterka. Rauðskeggr kvað þat eigi auðveldaverk;
Grettir the Strong Red-beard said that not an-easy-task
 sagði at Grettir var vitr maðr, ok varr um sik. Þórir bað
said that Grettir was a-wise man and wary about himself Thorir bade
 hann til ráða, — “ok er slíkt drengilegt, svá röskr maðr,
him to(-it) venture and is such manly so vigorous a-man
 sem þú ert, enn ek skal koma þér ór sekt, ok þar með
as you are but I shall bring you out-of outlawry and there with
 gefa þér nógt fé”. Við þessu ráði tók Rauðskeggr. Sagði
give you plenty-of money With this plan took Red-beard Told
 Þórir honum, hversu skyldi at fara, at vinna Gretti. Eftir
Thorir him how (he)-should at go to overcome Grettir After
 þat fór Rauðskeggr fyrir austan land, því at honum
that went Red-beard on east (the)-land because that to-him
 þótti gruna mega síðr um ferðir sínar. Hann kom at
seemed to-suspect could less about journeys his He came to
 Arnarvatnsheiði, þá er Grettir hafði verið þar einn vetr;
Arnarvatn-beath then when Grettir had been there one winter
 enn er Grettir ok Rauðskeggr fundust, beiddi hann Gretti
but when Grettir and Red-beard met asked he of-Grettir

vetrþöku. Hann svarar: “Eigi kann ek at láta fleiri svá
winter-lodging He answers Not can I to let more so
oft leika at mér, sem sá, er hér kom í fyrra haust,
often play at me than that-one who here came in last autumn
ok lét all-skjallkænlega, enn þegar hann hafði hér verit
and behaved very-flatteringly but as-soon-as he had here been
litla hríð, sat hann um líf mitt. Nú mun ek eigi á
a-little while lay-in-wait he for life my Now will I not on
þat hætta oftar, at taka við skógarmönnum”. Þórir svarar:
that venture again to take with forest-men Thorir answers
“Full várkunn þykir mér þér á vera, þó at þú takir
Full excuse seems to-me for-you on(-it) to-be though that you take
illa skógarmönnum, enn heyrt muntu mín hafa getit um
ill forest-men but heard will-you me have mentioned about
vígafærlu ok ójafnað, enn aldri um slíkt dáðleysi, at svíkja
killings and injustice but never about such cowardice as to-betray
lánardrottinn minn. Nú er því ilt illr at vera, at
lord my Now is therefore ill an-evil-one to be that
margr ætlar þar annan eftir vera; mynda ek ok eigi hafa
many-a-one thinks there (the)-other after to-be would I also not have
hingat farit, ef ek ætta betra kosti, enn eigi þykkir mér
hither gone if I had better choices but not seem to-me
vit upp gefnir ef vit veitumst at. Nú máttu hætta
we-two up given if we-two set-on-each-other at(-it) Now may-you risk
á við mik fyrst, hversu þér gezt at mér; lát mik þá
on with me first how to-you likes to me let me then
fara á burt, ef þú finnr ódygd með mér”. Grettir svarar:
go off away if you find unfaithfulness in me Grettir answers
“Hætta má ek enn á við þik, enn vit það fyrir víst,
Venture may I yet on with you but know-you that for certain
ef ek gruna um svik við þik, þá verður þat þinn bani”.
if I suspect about treachery with you then becomes that your death

Þórir bað hann svá gera. Eftir þat tók Grettir við honum,
Thorir bade him so do After that took Grettir with him
 ok fann hann þat, at hann myndi hafa tveggja manna
and found he that that he would have two men's
 megin, til hvers sem hann gekk. Var hann búinn til hvers
might to whatever which he went-to Was he ready for whatever
 sem Grettir vildi senda hann. Til einskis þurfti Grettir at
which Grettir wished to-send him For nothing needed Grettir to
 víkjast, ok aldri hafði honum þótt æfi sín jafngóð, síðan
turn-himself and never had to-him seemed life his as-good since
 hann kom í útlegð, enn þó var hann svá varr um sik,
he came into outlawry but yet was he so wary about himself
 at aldri sá Þórir færi á honum. Þórir rauðskeggr var tvá
that never saw Thorir a-chance on him Thorir Red-beard was two
 vetr hjá Gretti á heiðinni. Tók honum nú at leiðast á
winters with Grettir on the-beath Began to-him now to weary on
 heiðinni at vera; hugsar nú um, hvert ráð hann skal gera,
the-beath to he thinks now about what plan he shall make
 þat sem Grettir sæi eigi við. Eina nátt um várit kom
that which Grettir should-see not against One night in the-spring came
 á stormviðri mikit, er þeir váru í svefni. Grettir vaknaði,
on a-storm-wind great when they were in sleep Grettir woke
 ok spurði, hvar bátur þeirra væri. Þórir spratt upp, ok hljóp
and asked where boat their were Thorir sprang up and ran
 til bátsins, ok braut hann allan í sundr, ok kastaði ýmsa
to the-boat and broke it all in pieces and threw various
 vega brotunum, ok var því líkt, sem veðrit hefði fleygt.
ways the-pieces and was that like as-if the-weather had flung(-it)
 Eftir þat gekk hann inn í skálann, ok mælti hátt: "Eigi
After that went he in into the-but and spoke loudly Not
 hefir nú vel til tekizt, vinr minn", sagði hann, "at bátur
has now well to turned-out friend my said he that boat

okkarr er allr brotinn í sundr, enn netin liggja langt út
our is all broken in pieces but the-nets lie far out
 í vatninu". "Sæk þú þau þá", sagði Grettir, "því at mér
in the-lake Fetch you them then said Grettir because that to-me
 þykkir þér sjálfrátt verit hafa, er bátrinn er brotinn".

seems you by-your-own-will been to-have that the-boat is broken

Þórir svarar: "Þat er svá atgervi, at mér er minst hent,
Thorir answers That is such accomplishment that to-me is least suited
 er sund er, enn flest annat þykkjumst ek reyna mega
which swimming is but most other think-myself I to-try may
 við hvern annan óbreyttan mann; máttu þat vita, at ek
against any other ordinary man may-you that know that I
 hefi eigi þér starf ætlat, síðan ek kom til þín; mynda
have not for-you work intended since I came to you would
 ek eigi biðja þessa, ef ek væri til færri at gera". Grettir
I not ask this if I were to(-it) able to do Grettir
 stóð upp, ok tók vörn sín, ok gekk til vatnsins. Þar
stood up and took weapons his and went to the-lake There
 var svá við vaxit, at nes gekk fram í vatnit, enn
was so at grown that a-headland went forth into the-lake but
 vikrhvarf mikit var öðrum megin nessins; vatnit var djúpt
a-cove great was on-one side of-the-headland the-lake was deep
 at landinu. Grettir mælti: "Legst út eftir netjunum, ok
at the-land Grettir spoke Lay-yourself out after the-nets and
 lát mik sjá, hversu færri maðr þú ert". "Sagða ek þér
let me see how capable a-man you are Said I to-you
 áðan", sagði Þórir, "at ek er eigi syndr, ok eigi veit ek,
before said Thorir that I am not able-to-swim and not know I
 hvar nú er garpsskapr þinn ok áræði". "Ná má ek netjum",
where now is valor your and daring Reach may I the-nets
 sagði Grettir, "enn svík þú mik eigi, er ek trúi þér".
said Grettir but betray you me not when I trust you

Þórir svarar: “Ætla þú mér eigi slíka svívirðing ok dáðleysi”.

Thorir answers Think you me not such disgrace and cowardice

Grettir mælti: “Þú munt sjálf gefa þér raun, hverr

Grettir spoke You will yourself give yourself (the)-proof who

þú ert”. Síðan kastaði hann klæðunum ok vápnum, ok

you are Then threw he the-clothes and the-weapons and

lagðist eftir netjunum; sveipar hann þeim saman, ok ferr

laid-himself after the-nets wraps he them together and goes

at landi, ok kastar upp á bakkann; ok er hann ætlaði

to land and throws(-them) up onto the-bank and when he intended

á land at ganga, þá greip Þórir saxit, ok brá

onto land to go then grabbed Thorir the-short-sword and drew(-it)

skjótt; hann hljóp þá skjótt á móti Gretti, er hann sté

quickly he ran then quickly on against Grettir when he stepped

upp á bakkann, ok hjó til hans. Grettir kastaði sér

up onto the-bank and hewed at him Grettir threw himself

á bak aftur ofan í vatnit, ok sökk sem steinn. Þórir

on back backward down into the-lake and sank like a-stone Thorir

horfði út á vatnit, ok ætlaði at verja landit, ef hann kæmi

looked out on the-lake and intended to defend the-land if he came

upp. Kafaði Grettir nú sem næst bakkanum, svá at Þórir

up Dived Grettir now as close to-the-bank so that Thorir

mátti eigi sjá hann, þar til sem hann kom í víkina at

could not see him there until when he came into the-cove at

baki honum, ok gekk þar á land. Við þessu gat Þórir

back to-him and went there onto land Against this could Thorir

eigi sét; fann hann eigi fyrr, enn Grettir tók hann upp yfir

not seen noticed he not sooner than Grettir took him up over

höfuð sér, ok færði niður svá hart, at saxit hraut

head his and brought(-him) down so hard that the-short-sword flew

ór hendi honum, ok fekk Grettir tekit þat, ok hafði eigi

out-of hand to-him and managed Grettir to-take it and had not

orða við hann, ok hjó þegar höfuð af honum, ok lauk
 words with him and hewed at-once (the)-head off him and ended
 svá hans æfi. Eftir þat vildi Grettir aldri við skógarmönnum
 so his life After that would Grettir never with forest-men
 taka, enn þó mátti hann varla einn saman vera.
 take but yet could he hardly alone together be

LVII · THE FIGHT IN THE GAP

Þórir of Garðr rides against Grettir with nearly eighty men. Grettir holds a narrow gap in the crags, and twice as many men fall behind him as before him, so Þórir decides he is fighting trolls and withdraws with eighteen dead. In the gap Grettir finds a big wounded man, Hallmundr, the Loftr of Kjölr, who says he has now repaid him and takes him to his cave under Balljökull, where his daughter heals them both. In autumn Þorsteinn Kuggason sends Grettir south to Mýrar.

Á alþingi frétti Þórir ór Garði dráp Þóris rauðskeggs;
 At (the)-Alþing learned Thorir from Gard (the)-killing of-Thorir Red-beard
 þóttist hann nú sjá, at eigi var auðvelt við at eiga. Tók
 thought-himself he now to-see that not was easy with to deal Took
 hann þá þat til ráðs, at hann reið vestr yfir heiðar enar
 he then that to counsel that he rode west over (the)-heaths the
 neðri af þinginu, ok hafði nær átta tigu manna, ok ætluðu
 lower from the-assembly and had nearly eight tens of-men and intended
 at fara at taka Gretti af lífi. Enn er Grímr Þórhallason
 to go to take Grettir from life But when Grim Thorhall's-son
 vissi þat, gerði hann Gretti orð, ok bað hann vera varan
 knew that sent he Grettir word and bade him be wary
 um sik. Grettir hugði jafnan at mannaferðum. Þat var
 about himself Grettir paid-beed always to men's-travels It was
 einn dag, at hann sá margra manna reið, ok stefndu til
 one day that he saw of-many men a-riding and (they)-headed to

bygða hans; hljóp hann þá í hamraskarð eitt ok vildi eigi
dwelling his ran he then into crag-gap a and wished not
 renna, því hann sá eigi liðit alt. Í því kom Þórir at
run because he saw not the-troop all At that came Thorir up
 með alt liðit, ok bað þá nú ganga milli bols ok höfuðs
with all the-troop and bade them now go between body and head
 á Gretti, ok kvað litit mundu fyrir illmennit leggjast. Grettir
on Grettir and said little would before the-villain lie Grettir
 svarar: “Eigi er sopit, þó at í ausuna sé komit’; hafi
answers Not is drunk though that into the-ladle be come have
 þér ok langt til sótt, og munu nökkurir fá leiksmark,
you also far to(-it) sought and will some get a-mark-of-the-game
 áðr enn vér skiljum”. Þórir eggjaði mjök menn til atsóknar.
before than we part Thorir urged much (the)-men to attack
 Hamraskarðit var mjótt, svá at hann gat vel varizt
The-crag-gap was narrow so that he could well defend-himself
 öðrum megin, enn þat undraðist hann, at aldri var at baki
on-one side but that marveled he that never was at back
 honum gengit, svá at honum yrði mein at því. Fellu þá
to-him gone so that to-him became harm from that Fell then
 menn af Þóri, enn sumir urðu sárir; enn þeir gátu ekki
men of Thorir but some became wounded but they could nothing
 at gert. Þá mælti Þórir: “Þat hefi ek spurt”, sagði hann,
to(-it) done Then spoke Thorir That have I heard said he
 “at Grettir væri afbragðsmaðr fyrir hreysti sakir ok hugar,
that Grettir were an-outstanding-man for valor sake and courage
 enn þat vissu ek aldri, at hann væri svá fjölkunnigr, sem
but that knew I never that he were so skilled-in-magic as
 nú sé ek, því at þar falla hálfu fleiri, sem hann horfir
now see I because that there fall half more where he turns
 bakinu við. Nú sé ek, at hér er við tröll at eiga, enn eigi
(his)-back toward Now see I that here is with trolls to deal but not

vit menn". Biðr hann þá frá hverfa, ok svá var gert.
with men Bids he then from(-it) turn and so was done
 Grettir undraðist, hvi svá mátti verða; enn þó var hann
Grettir marveled why so could happen but yet was he
 ákaflega móðr. Þórir sneri á burt ok hans menn, ok riðu
extremely weary Thorir turned off away and his men and rode
 norðr á sveitir; þótti mönnum þeira ferð en sneypilegasta.
north to (the)-districts seemed to-men their journey the most-shameful
 Hafði Þórir látit átján menn, enn margir sárir. Grettir veik
Had Thorir lost eighteen men but many wounded Grettir turned
 nú upp í skarðit ok fann þar mann mikinn vexti; hann
now up into the-gap and found there a-man great in-stature he
 sat upp við hamarinn, ok var sárr mjök. Grettir spurði
sat up against the-crag and was wounded very Grettir asked
 hann at nafni, enn hann sagðist Hallmundr heita —
him about name but he said-of-himself Hallmund to-be-called
 "enn þat má ek segja þér til kenningar, at þér þótti
but that may I tell you for recognition that to-you seemed
 ek fast taka í taumana á Kili um sumarit, er vit
I hard to-take at the-reins on Kjol over the-summer when we-two
 fundumst; þykkjumst ek nú þat hafa launat þér". "Þat er
met think-myself I now that to-have repaid you That is
 víst", sagði Grettir, "at mér þykkir þú hafa sýnt mér mikinn
certain said Grettir that to-me seems you to-have shown me great
 drengskap, hvenær sem ek get þat launat þér". Hallmundr
manliness whenever that I can that repay you Hallmund
 sagði: "Þat vil ek nú, at þú komir til heimkynna minna,
said That wish I now that you come to home my
 því at þér mun langt þykkja hér á heiðinni". Grettir
because that to-you will long seem here on the-beath Grettir
 kveðst þat gjarna vildu. Nú fóru þeir báðir samt suðr
says-of-himself that gladly to-wish Now went they both together south

undir Balljökul; þar átti Hallmundr helli stóran, ok dóttur,
under Balljokul there owned Hallmund a-cave large and a-daughter
 gilda vexti ok skörulega. Þau gerðu vel við Gretti, ok
stout in-stature and imposing They did well toward Grettir and
 græddi hon þá báða. Þar dvaldist Grettir lengi um sumarit;
healed she then both There stayed Grettir long over the-summer
 hann kvað flokk um Hallmund, ok er þetta þar í:
he composed a-poem about Hallmund and is this there in(-it)

Hátt stígr höllum fæti
High steps with-sloping foot
 Hallmundr í sal fjalla.
Hallmund into (the)-hall of-mountains

Þessi vísa er þar í:
This verse is there in(-it)

Varð í viðris firði
Became in of-Vidrir ford
 vígfús á benstiga
slaughter-eager on (the)-wound-path
 naðr í Virfils veðri
serpent in of-Virfil storm
 vápnhríðar fram skríða.
of-weapon-storm forth crawl
 Kostr man köppum traustum
Choice will for-champions trusty
 Keldhverfinga at erfa.
of-Keldhverfing-men to lament

Olli hvatr ór helli

Caused(-it) (the)-bold-one out-of (the)-cave

Hallmundr, es komsk undan.

Hallmund who got-himself away

Svá hafa þeir frá sagt, at Grettir dræpi sex menn á
So have they of told that Grettir killed six men at
fundinum, enn Hallmundr tólf. Þá er á leið sumarit,
the-meeting but Hallmund twelve Then when on passed the-summer
fýsti Gretti aftr til bygða, at finna vini sína ok frændr.
longed Grettir back to settlements to meet friends his and kinsmen
Hallmundr bað hann sín vitja, er hann færi suðr um land,
Hallmund bade him him visit when he went south over (the)-land
ok hét Grettir því. Fór hann þá vestr til Borgarfjarðar,
and promised Grettir that Went he then west to Borgarfjord
ok þaðan til Breiðafjarðardala, ok leitaði ráða við Þorstein
and thence to Breidafjord-dales and sought counsel with Thorstein
Kuggason, hvert hann skyldi þá á leita, enn Þorsteini þótti
Kuggi's-son whither he should then on seek but to-Thorstein seemed
nú fjölgast mótstöðumenn hans, ok kvað fá mundu við
now to-grow-many enemies his and said few would with
honum taka — “enn fara máttu suðr á Mýrar, ok vita, hvat
him take but go may-you south to Mýrar and know what
þar býr fyrir”. Grettir fór nú suðr á Mýrar um haustit.
there lives before Grettir went now south to Mýrar over the-autumn

Björn Hítðalakappi, a strong chieftain, agrees to help Grettir if he leaves Björn's own people alone. On Björn's advice Grettir makes a lair in Fagraskógarfjall, with a hole through the mountain that he screens with gray homespun. He raids the Mýrar farmers, and Björn is not sorry, since he is at odds with Þórðr Kolbeinsson. Grettir and Björn test their strength together, swim the length of the Hítará, and lay stepping-stones in the river that are still there.

Þá bjó í Hólmi Björn Hítðalakappi; hann var Arngeirsson,
Then dwelt in Holm Bjorn (the)-Hitardal-champion he was Arngeir's-son
 Bersasonar goðlauss, Bálkasonar, er nam Hrútafjörð, sem
Bersi's-son (the)-Godless Balki's-son who settled Hrutafjord as
 fyrr segir. Björn var höfðingi mikill ok harðfengr, ok helt
before (it)-says Bjorn was a-chieftain great and hardy and kept
 jafnan seka menn. Grettir kom í Hólm, ok tók Björn vel
always outlawed men Grettir came to Holm and took Bjorn well
 við honum, því at vinátta hafði verit með hinum fyrrum
with him because that friendship had been between the former
 frændum þeira. Grettir spyr, ef hann vildi honum nökkura
kinsmen their Grettir asks if he would him some
 ásja veita. Björn sagði, at hann ætti svá sökótt um
protection give Bjorn said that he had so many-lawsuits over
 alt land, at menn myndi forðast bjargir við hann um þat,
all (the)-land that men would avoid aid to him for that
 er sekt nemr, — “enn heldr skal ek þér gagn gera, ef þú
which outlawry takes but rather shall I you help do if you
 lætr þá menn vera í friði, sem í minni vernd eru, hversu
let those men be in peace who in my protection are however
 sem þú gerir við aðra menn hér í bygd”. Grettir játaði
that you do to other men here in (the)-settlement Grettir agreed
 því. Björn mælti: “At því hefi ek hugat, at í því fjalli,
that Bjorn spoke Of that have I thought that in that mountain

sem fram gengr fyrir utan Hítará, mun vera vígi gott,
which forth goes before out-from Hítara will be a-stronghold good
 ok þó fyllsni, ef klóklega er um búit; er þar bora í
and also a-hiding-place if cleverly is about arranged is there a-hole in
 gegnum fjallit, ok sér þar neðan af veginum, því
through the-mountain and (one)-sees there from-below from the-road because
 at þjóðgatan liggir niðri undir, enn sandbrekka svá brött fyrir
that the-highway lies down under but a-sand-slope so steep on
 ofan, at fáir menn munu upp komast, ef einn maðr röskr
above that few men will up come if one man vigorous
 er til varnar uppi í bælinu. Nú lízt mér þat helzt ráð ok
is for defense up in the-lair Now seems to-me that best counsel and
 umtalsmál at vera þar, því at þaðan er hægt at leita til
worth-talking-of to be there because that thence is easy to seek for
 fanga ofan á Mýrar ok út til sjávar". Grettir kvaðst
provisions down onto Mýrar and out to (the)-sea Grettir said-of-himself
 hans forsjá hlíta mundu, ef hann vildi nökkut til leggja.
his guidance to-follow would if he would something to lay
 Fór Grettir þá í Fagraskógarfjall, ok bjóst þar um.
Went Grettir then to Fagraskogar-mountain and made-ready there about
 Hann tjaldaði með gráu vaðmáli fyrir boruna á fjallinu, ok
He hung with gray homespun before the-hole in the-mountain and
 þótti sem þar sæi í gegnum neðan af götunum. Reið
seemed as-if there (one)-saw in through from-below from the-paths Rode
 hann þá til fanga ofan í bygðina. Þótti Mýramönnum
he then for provisions down into the-settlement Seemed to-(the)-Mýrar-men
 mikill vágestr kominn, er Grettir var. Þórðr Kolbeinsson
a-great dangerous-guest come when Grettir was Thord Kolbein's-son
 bjó þá á Hítarnesi; hann var skáld gott. Í þenna tíma
dwelt then at Hítarnes he was a-poet good At this time
 var fjandskapr mikill með þeim Birni ok Þórði, ok þótti
was enmity great between them Bjorn and Thord and seemed

Birni eigi verr enn hálfneytt, þó at Grettir gerði óspekt
to-Bjorn not worse than half-useful though that Grettir did harm
 mönnum Þórðar eða fé. Grettir var jafnan með Birni, ok
to-men of-Thord or livestock Grettir was always with Bjorn and
 reyndu þeir margan frækleik, ok vísar svá til í sögu
tried they many-a feat-of-prowess and points so to(-it) in (the)-saga
 Bjarnar, at þeir kallaðist jafnir at íþróttum, enn þat er
of-Bjorn that they were-called equal in feats but that is
 flestra manna ætlan, at Grettir hafi sterkastr verit á landinu,
most men's opinion that Grettir have strongest been in the-land
 síðan þeir Ormr Stórolfsson ok Þórólfr Skólmsson lögðu af
since they Orm Storolf's-son and Thorolf Skolm's-son laid off
 aflraunir. Þeir Grettir ok Björn lögðust í einu eftir allri
trials-of-strength They Grettir and Bjorn swam at one-time along all
 Hítará ofan frá vatni ok út til sjávar. Þeir færðu stéttir
Hitara down from (the)-lake and out to (the)-sea They moved stepping-stones
 þær í ána, er aldri síðan hefir ór rekit, hvárki
those into the-river which never since have out-of drifted neither
 með vatnavöxtum né ísalögum eða jöklagangi. Sat Grettir í
with floods nor ice-jams or glacier-runs Sat Grettir in
 Fagraskógafjalli svá einn vetr, at honum váru engar atfarir
Fagraskogar-mountain so one winter that against-him were no attacks
 gervar, enn þó mistu þá margir síns fyrir honum, ok
made but yet lost then many their-own for him and
 fengu ekki at gert, því at hann hafði gott vígi,
got nothing to(-it) done because that he had a-good stronghold
 enn átti jafnan vingott við þá, sem næstir honum váru.
but had always good-friendship with those who nearest him were

The boastful merchant Gísli promises Þórðr Kolbeinsson to kill Grettir for the price on his head, and Björn warns Grettir. Riding by in bright clothes, Gísli and two companions attack Grettir, who kills both companions, and Gísli throws away his weapons and runs, shedding his clothes as he goes. Grettir catches him at the Haffjarðará, beats him bare with a birch rod, lets him go, and takes his goods home. In spring Gísli sails away, and Þórðr plots Grettir's death.

Maðr hét Gísli; hann var sonr Þorsteins, sem Snorri
A-man was-called Gísli he was son of-Thorstein whom Snorri
 goði lét drepa. Gísli var mikill maðr ok sterkr, ok
(the)-Priest had kill Gísli was a-big man and strong and
 afburðamaðr í vápnum ok klæðum, ok gerði um sik
outstanding in weapons and clothes and made about himself
 mikit, ok nökkut sjálfhælinn. Hann var siglingamaðr, ok kom
much and somewhat self-praising He was a-seafarer and came
 þat sumar út í Hvítá, er Grettir hafði einn vetr verit
that summer out into Hvíta when Grettir had one winter been
 í fjallinu. Þórðr Kolbeinsson reið til skips. Gísli fagnaði
in the-mountain Thord Kolbein's-son rode to (the)-ship Gísli welcomed
 honum vel, ok bauð honum varning sinn, sem hann vildi.
him well and offered him wares his as he wished
 Þórðr þá þat, ok tóku þeir tal með sér. Gísli mælti:
Thord accepted that and took they talk between themselves Gísli spoke
 “Er þat satt, sem mér er sagt, at þér verðr ráðfátt at
Is that true which to-me is said that for-you becomes helpless to
 koma í burt skógarmanni þeim, er yðr gerir margt mein”.
bring off away forest-man that who to-you does much harm
 Þórðr sagði: “Eigi höfum vér til reynt, enn mörgum lízt
Thord said Not have we to(-it) tried but to-many seems
 hann torsóttlegr vera, ok hefir at því mörgum orðit”. “Ván
he hard-to-attack to-be and has for that to-many become Likely

þykkir mér, at yðr veiti þungt við Björn, er þér rekið
seems to-me that for-you goes heavily with Bjorn when you drive
 eigi þenna af yðr; er því verr, at ek mun of fjarri í
not this-one off you is that worse that I will too far-away in
 vetr, at ek mætti bæta af þessu ráði". "Spyrja mun þér
winter that I might mend at this plan Ask will you
 bezt þykkja við hann at eiga". "Eigi þarftu at segja mér frá
best seem with him to deal Not need-you to tell me of
 Gretti", sagði Gísli; "reynt hefi ek brattara, þá þá er ek
Grettir said Gisli tried have I steeper then then when I
 var í herförum með Knúti konungi hinum ríka, ok fyrir
was on war-expeditions with Knut king the Mighty and on
 vestan haf, ok þótti ek verja mitt rúm, ok kvæma ek í
west (the)-sea and seemed I to-defend my place and came I into
 færi við hann, þá treysti ek mér ok vápnum mínum". Þórðr
reach with him then trust I myself and weapons my Thord
 kvað hann eigi til einskis vinna skyldu, ef hann réði
said him not for nothing to-work should if he did-away
 Gretti af — "er ok meira fé lagt til höfuðs honum
Grettir with is also more money laid on (the)-head to-him
 enn nökkurum öðrum skógarmanni; ok váru áðr sex merkr
than on-any other forest-man and were before six marks
 silfrs, enn í sumar lagði til Þórir ór Garði þrjár merkr,
of-silver but in summer laid to Thorir from Gard three marks
 ok ætla menn, at sá muni nóg til vinna, er hlýtr". "Alt
and think men that he will enough to work who obtains(-it) All
 verðr til fjárens unnit", sagði Gísli, "ok er oss eigi sízt
becomes for the-money done said Gisli and is to-us not least
 kaupmönnum, enn nú skulu vit hljótt fara með þessu tali;
to-merchants but now shall we-two quietly go with this talk
 kann vera, at hann sé varari um sik", sagði hann, "þegar
may be that he be warier about himself said he as-soon-as

hann veit, at ek er í ráðum með þér ok yðr. Ek ætla at
he knows that I am in counsels with you and you I intend to
 vera í vetr úti á Snjófellsnesi á Ölduhrygg; eða er nökkut
be in winter out on Snaefellsnes at Olduhrygg or is somewhat
 bæli hans á veginum? Mun hann eigi við þessu sjá; skal
lair his on the-way Will he not against this look shall
 ek eigi fjölmenni draga at honum”. Þórði líkaði vel þessi
I not a-crowd draw to him To-Thord liked well this
 ráðagerð. Reið hann heim síðan, ok lét kyrt um þetta. Hér
plan Rode he home then and let quiet about this Here
 fór, sem mælt er, at ‘oft er í holti heyrandi nær’. Þeir
went as said is that often is in (the)-wood a-hearer near Those
 menn höfðu verit hjá viðtali þeira Gísla, sem váru vinir
men had been by talk their of-Gisli who were friends
 Bjarnar í Hítardal, ok sögðu honum innilega frá; enn er
of-Bjorn in Hitardal and told him fully off(-it) but when
 þeir Grettir fundust, gat Björn um fyrir honum;
they Grettir(-and-he) met mentioned Bjorn about(-it) before him
 sagði nú reyna mundu, hversu hann stæði á móti — “væri
said now to-test would how he stood on against were
 eigi ógaman”, sagði Björn, “þó at þú hrektir fyrir honum,
not unamusing said Bjorn though that you chased before him
 enn drepir hann eigi, ef þú mátt annat”. Grettir glotti við,
but kill him not if you may other Grettir grinned at(-it)
 ok gaf sér fátt um. Nær réttum um haustit fór
and made himself little about(-it) Near (the)-folding over the-autumn went
 Grettir ofan í Flysjuhverfi, ok sótti sér sauði; hann
Grettir down into Flysjuhverfi and fetched for-himself sheep he
 gat náð fjórum geldingum. Bændr urðu varir við ferð
could get four wethers (The)-farmers became aware of journey
 hans, ok fóru eftir honum; þat var mjök jafnsnemma,
his and went after him it was very just-at-the-same-time

at hann komst undir hliðina, ok hinir kvámust at, ok
that he got under the-slope and the-others came up and
 vildu elta frá honum sauðina, enn eigi báru þeir vörn at
wished to-drive from him the-sheep but not bore they weapons at
 honum; þeir váru sex saman, ok flæktust á veginn fyrir
him they were six together and got-in-the-way on the-road before
 hann. Honum gerði hermt við sauðina, ok þreif tvá, ok
him To-him grew annoyance at the-sheep and seized two and
 kastaði forbrekkis, svá þeir lágu í óviti; ok er hinir sá
threw(-them) down-the-slope so they lay in a-swoon and when the-others saw
 þat, gengu þeir at ódjaflegar. Grettir tók sauðina, ok
that went they at(-him) less-boldly Grettir took the-sheep and
 krækti saman á hornunum, ok kastaði um sína öxl
hooked(-them) together by the-horns and threw(-them) over each shoulder
 sínum tveimr; gekk síðan upp í bæli sitt. Bændr hurfu
with-its two went then up into lair his (The)-farmers turned
 aftr. ok þóttust ilt hafa af fengit, ok undu
back and thought-themselves ill to-have from(-it) got and were-content
 þeir nú verr enn áðr sínum hlut. Gísli sat við skip
they now worse than before with-their lot Gísli sat by (the)-ship
 um haustit, þar til er því var til hlunns ráðit. Bar
over the-autumn there until when it was to rollers arranged Brought
 honum margt til dvala, ok varð af því síðbúinn, ok
to-him many-things to delays and became from that late-ready and
 reið litlu fyrir vetrnætr. Fór hann þá sunnan, ok gisti
rode a-little before winter-nights Went he then from-the-south and lodged
 undir Hrauni fyrir sunnan Hítará. Um morguninn, áðr Gísli
under Hraun on south Hitara In the-morning before Gísli
 reið þaðan, talaði hann til fylgdarmanna sinna: “Nú skulum
rode thence talked he to followers his Now shall
 vér ríða í litklæðum í dag, ok látum skógarmanninn þat
we ride in colored-clothes in day and let-us-let the-forest-man that

sjá, at vér erum eigi sem aðrir förumenn, er hér rekast
see that we are not like other wayfarers who here drift
 daglega”. Þeir váru þrír saman, ok gerðu svá; ok er þeir
daily They were three together and did so and when they
 kvámu út yfir ána, þá talaði hann enn til: “Hér er
came out over the-river then talked he again to(-them) Here is
 mér sagt til skógarmannsins uppi í tindunum þessum, ok
to-me told of the-forest-man up in pinnacles these and
 eigi er hér greiðgengt; eða mun honum eigi vel líka at
not is here easy-going or will him not well please to
 finna oss ok sjá þing vár?” Þeir kveða hann jafnan vanan
meet us and see gear our They say him always used-to
 þess. Þennan morgin hafði Grettir snemma upp staðit í
that This morning had Grettir early up stood in
 bæli sínu. Veðr var kalt ok frjósanda, ok fallinn at
lair his (The)-weather was cold and freezing and fallen on
 snjár, ok þó lítill. Hann sá at þrír menn riðu sunnan
snow and yet little He saw that three men rode from-the-south
 yfir Hítará, ok skein á skruðklæðin ok smelta skjölduna.
over Hitara and shone on the-finery and (the)-enameled shields
 Gretti kom í hug hverir vera myndi, ok þykkist munu
To-Grettir came into mind who he would and thinks-himself will
 þurfa at fá sér eitthvert plagg af þessum; var honum
need to get for-himself some garment from these was to-him
 forvitni á at finna þá, er svá mikit gambraði. Tekr nú
curiosity on to meet those who so much swaggered Takes now
 vápn sín, ok hleypr nú ofan í skriðuna; ok er Gísli
weapons his and leaps now down into the-scrree and when Gísli
 heyrði til, at grjótit sarglaði, mælti hann svá: “Maðr ferr
heard to that the-stones rattled spoke he so A-man goes
 þar ofan ór hlíðinni, ok heldr mikill, ok sá vill oss
there down out-of the-slope and rather big and he will us

finna; verðum nú við rösklega, því at hér ber veiði í
meet let-us-take(-it) now up vigorously because that here brings game into
 hendr". Fylgdarmenn hans sögðu þenna eigi mundu hlaupa
hands Followers his said this-one not would run
 í hendr þeim, ef hann treysti sér eigi — "ok er vel,
into hands their if he trusted himself not and is well
 at 'sá hafi brek, er beiðist." Eftir þat hlaupa þeir af baki.
that he have hurt who asks-for(-it) After that leap they off back
 Grettir kom at í því, ok tók til klæðsekks, er Gísli
Grettir came up at that and took (bold)-of (the)-clothes-bag which Gísli
 hafði fyrir aftan sik við söðul sinn, ok mælti: "Þetta mun
had before behind himself by saddle his and spoke This will
 ek hafa; ek lýt oft at litlu." Gísli svarar: "Eigi skal þat
I have I stoop often to little Gísli answers Not shall that
 vera, eða veizt þú eigi, við hvern er þú átt um." Grettir
be or know you not with whom that you have about Grettir
 svarar: "Eigi er mér þat svá glögt um; mun ek ok eigi at
answers Not is to-me that so clear about will I also not in
 þessu mannamun gera, síðan ek mæli til svá lítils". "Vera
this difference-of-men make since I ask for so little Be
 má, at þér þykki lítit", segir hann, "enn heldr vil ek láta
may that to-you seem little says he but rather will I let
 þrjá tigi hundraða, enn ofarlega mun liggja ójafnaðr í þér;
three tens of-hundreds than high will lie injustice in you
 ok sækjum at honum piltar, ok sjáum, hvat hann má". Þeir
and let-us-attack at him lads and let-us-see what he can They
 gerðu svá. Grettir lét hefjast fyrir, ok veik at steini
did so Grettir let himself-be-driven before(-them) and turned to stone
 þeim, er þar stendr við götuna, ok Grettishaf er kallað,
that which there stands by the-path and Grettir's-lift is called
 ok varðist þaðan. Gísli eggjaði fast fylgdarmenn sína.
and defended-himself thence Gísli urged hard followers his

Grettir sá nú, at hann var eigi slíkr fullhugi. sem hann
Grettir saw now that he was not such a-dauntless-man as he
 létst, því at hann stóð jafnan á baki mönnum sínum.
made-out because that he stood always at back of-men his
 Gretti leiddist nú þófit, ok sveipaði til saxinu, ok
To-Grettir wearied now the-scuffle and swung around the-short-sword and
 hjó annan fylgdarmann Gísla banahögg, ok hljóp nú frá
bewed one follower of-Gisli a-death-blow and leaped now from
 steininum, ok sótti svá fast, at Gísli hrökk fyrir alt
the-stone and attacked so hard that Gisli fell-back before(-him) all
 út með fjallinu. Þá fell annarr förunautr Gísla. Grettir
out along the-mountain Then fell the-other companion of-Gisli Grettir
 mælti þá: “Þat sér litt á, at þú hafir víða vel fram
spoke then That sees-itself little on(-you) that you have widely well forth
 gengit, ok illa skilst þú við þína félag”. Gísli svarar: “Sá
gone and ill part you with your companions Gisli answers That
 er eldrinn heitastr, er á sjálfum liggir, ok er ilt at fást
is the-fire hottest which on oneself lies and is ill to grapple
 við heljarmanninn”. Skiftast þeir þá fám höggum við, áðr
with the-hell-man Exchange they then few blows together before
 enn Gísli kastaði vápnum, ok hefir á rás undan út
than Gisli threw-away the-weapons and takes to running away out
 með fjallinu. Grettir gefr honum tóm til að kasta því,
along the-mountain Grettir gives him leisure for to throw that
 sem honum líkar, ok í hvert sinn, er Gísli sér ráðrúm
which to-him pleases and at every time when Gisli sees room
 til, kastaði hann einhverju klæði. Fór Grettir aldri harðara
to(-it) threw he some garment Went Grettir never harder
 eftir, enn sund var í milli þeira. Alt hljóp Gísli út
after than a-space was in between them All-the-way ran Gisli out
 yfir fjallit, ok svá um þveran Kaldárdal, ok svá um
over the-mountain and so over across Kaldardal and so over

Áslaugarhlið, ok fyrir ofan Kolbeinsstaði, ok svá út í
Aslaugarblid and on above Kolbeinsstadir and so out into
 Borgarhraun. Þá var Gísli í linklæðum einum, ok gerðist
Borgarbraun Then was Gisli in linen-clothes alone and became
 nú ákaflega móðr. Grettir fór eftir ok var jafnan í
now exceedingly weary Grettir went after and was always within
 hendingu með þeim. Hann reif þá upp hríslu mikla.
reach with them He pulled then up a-birch-sapling great
 Enn Gísli létti eigi fyrr, enn hann kom út að Haffjarðará;
But Gisli stopped not sooner than he came out to Haffjardara
 hon var gengin uppi, ok ill yfirferðar. Gísli ætlaði þegar út
it was gone up and bad to-cross Gísli intended at-once out
 á ána. Grettir snaraði þá eftir honum, ok greip hann,
onto the-river Grettir sprang then after him and grabbed him
 ok kendi þá aflsmunar. Rak Grettir hann þá niðr
and felt then (the)-difference-of-strength Drove Grettir him then down
 undir sik, ok mælti: “Ertu Gísli sá, er finna vildi Gretti
under himself and spoke Are-you Gísli he who to-meet wished Grettir
 Ásmundarson?” Gísli svarar: “Ek hefi nú fundit hann, enn
Asmund's-son Gísli answers I have now met him but
 eigi veit ek hversu vit skiljum, ok haf nú þat, sem þú
not know I how we-two part and have now that which you
 hefir fengit, enn lát mik fara lausan”. Grettir mælti: “Eigi
have got but let me go free Grettir spoke Not
 mun þér skiljast þat, sem ek segi þér, ok verð ek
will to-you be-understood that which I say to-you and must I
 nú at gera þér áminning”; rekr síðan skyrtuna fram yfir
now to give you a-reminder pulls then the-shirt forth over
 höfuð honum, ok lætr ganga límann um bak honum ok
head to-him and lets go the-twig over back to-him and
 báðar síðurnar, enn Gísla fýsti jafnan at snúa sér undan.
both the-sides but Gísli wished always to turn himself away

Afhýðir Grettir hann með öllu, ok lét hann síðan lausan.

Flays Grettir him with all and let him then free

Hugsaði Gísli þat, at fyrr vildi hann ekki læra af Gretti,

Thought Gísli that that sooner would he not learn from Grettir

enn hafa slíka flenging aðra; vann hann ok aldri oftár til

than have such flogging another earned he also never more for

slíkrar húðstroku. Enn þegar Gísli kom fótum undir sik,

such skin-stroking But as-soon-as Gísli got feet under himself

hljóp hann út á hyl einn mikinn, ok svimaði þar yfir

leaped he out into pool a great and swam there over

ána, ok kom um náttina á þann bæ, er í Hrossholti

the-river and came over the-night to that farm which in Hrossholt

heitir, ok var þá mjög þrekaðr. Þar lá hann viku, ok

is-called and was then very exhausted There lay he a-week and

hljóp blástr í búkinn. Eftir þat fór hann til vistar sinnar.

leaped swelling into the-body After that went he to lodging his

Grettir sneri aftir, ok tók upp þing hans, sem Gísli hafði

Grettir turned back and took up gear his which Gísli had

niðr kastat, ok færði heim til sín, ok fékk Gísli ekki

down thrown and brought(-it) home to himself and got Gísli nothing

af þeim síðan. Mörgum þótti þetta maklega gert við Gísla

of them since To-many seemed this deservedly done to Gísli

fyrir umfang sitt ok raup er hann hafði af sér gert.

for fuss his and boasting which he had of himself made

Grettir kvað þetta um sameign þeira:

Grettir spoke this about (the)-dealings their

Rennr, sá's rispar tönnum

Runs he-who scratches with-teeth

raunlítt, es skal bítask,

little-tried when (he)-shall bite

marr, né mæðisk fyrri,

(the)-steed nor tires sooner

mest fyr öðrum hesti,

most before other horse

enn fyr mér um Mýrar

but before me over Mýrar

margnenninn dag þenna

very-energetic day this

— fremd es firðr ok sæmdum —

from-glory is removed and from-honors

físandi rann Gísli.

farting ran Gísli

Eftir um várit bjóst Gísli til skips, ok bauð á því

After over the-spring made-ready Gísli to (the)-ship and offered on that

mestan varnað, at nökkurr hlutr færi suðr með fjalli,

greatest warning that any thing went south along (the)-mountain

þat sem hann ætti; kvað þar sjálfan fjandann fyrir vera.

that which he owned said there himself the-devil before to-be

Gísli reið suðr með sjá alla leið til skips, ok fundust

Gísli rode south along (the)-sea all (the)-way to (the)-ship and met

þeir Grettir aldri síðan, ok þótti engum til hans koma

they Grettir(-and-be) never since and seemed to-no-one to him to-come

upp frá því, ok er hann ór sögunni. Enn versnaði með
 up from that and is he out-of the-saga But worsened between
 þeim Þórði Kolbeinssyni ok Gretti; setti Þórðr nú mörg
 them Thord Kolbein's-son and Grettir set Thord now many
 ráð til, at Gretti yrði á burt komit, eða drepinn ella.
 plans to that Grettir became off away brought or killed else

LX · THE FIGHT AT GRETTISODDI

In his third winter in the mountain Grettir drives off wethers, cattle, and sheep, and the Mýrar farmers gather under Þórðr's son Arnórr and Bjarni. Grettir and two companions are caught on a narrow headland by the Hítará. He holds it, and when the second wave comes he kills Steinólfr and Þorgils, cripples Þrándr, and wounds Finnbogi. Þórarinn calls the men off. Ten are dead and five badly wounded, and Arnórr, who kept out of danger, is blamed. The place is called Grettisoddi.

Nú er Grettir hafði verit tvá vetr í Fagraskógafalli, ok
 Now when Grettir had been two winters in Fagraskogar-mountain and
 er hinn þriði var kominn, þá fór Grettir suðr á Mýrar,
 when the third was come then went Grettir south to Myrar
 á þann bæ, er í Lækjarbug heitir, ok hafði þaðan sex
 to that farm which in Laekjarbug is-called and had thence six
 geldinga at óvilja þess er átti. Þaðan fór hann ofan
 wethers against (the)-will of-him who owned(-them) Thence went he down
 til Akra, ok rak á burtu tvau naut til slátrs, ok marga
 to Akrar and drove off away two cattle for slaughter and many
 sauði, ok fór upp fyrir sunnan Hítará. Enn er bændr
 sheep and went up on south Hitara But when (the)-farmers
 urðu varir við ferð hans, gerðu þeir orð Þórði á Hítarnesi,
 became aware of journey his sent they word to-Thord at Hitarnes
 ok báðu hann fyrir bindast, at ráða Gretti af, enn hann
 and bade him for bind-himself to do-away Grettir with but he

fór undan; enn við bæn manna fekk hann til Arnórr
went away but at (the)-request of-men got he to(-it) Arnor
 son sinn, er síðan var kallaðr jarlaskáld, at fara með þeim,
son his who later was called Earls'-Poet to go with them
 ok bað þá eigi láta Gretti undan reka. Váru þá menn
and bade them not let Grettir away drive-off Were then men
 sendir um alla bygðina. Bjarni hét maðr, er bjó á Jörfa
sent over all the-settlement Bjarni was-called a-man who dwelt at Jorfi
 í Flysjuhverfi. Hann safnaði mönnum fyrir utan Hítará.
in Flysjubverfi He gathered men on outside Hítara
 Ætluðu þeir svá til, at sínu megin skyldi koma hvárir
Intended they so to(-it) that on-its-own side should come each-of
 flokkarnir. Grettir var við þriðja mann; hét sá Eyjólf, er
the-bands Grettir was with a-third man was-called he Eyjolf who
 fór með honum, son bónda ór Fagraskógum, ok var
went with him son of-(the)-farmer out-of Fagraskogar and was
 röskr maðr, ok hinn þriði maðr með þeim. Þeir kvámu
a-vigorous man and the third man with them They came
 fyrst Þórarinn frá Ökrum ok Þorfinnr ór Lækjarbug, og
first Thorarin from Akrar and Thorfinn out-of Laekjarbug and
 váru nær tuttugu menn saman. Grettir vildi þá leita út
were near twenty men together Grettir wished then to-seek out
 yfir ána. Þá kvámu þeir Þorgrímr ok Arnórr ok Bjarni
over the-river Then came they Thorgrim and Arnor and Bjarni
 utan at ánni. Nes mjótt gekk fram í ána þeim
from-outside to the-river A-headland narrow went forth into the-river on-that
 megin, sem Grettir var. Hann rak féð í framanvert
side where Grettir was He drove the-livestock into (the)-front-of
 nesit, þá er hann sá mannaförina, því at hann vildi
the-headland then when he saw the-men-coming because that he wished
 aldri laust láta, þat sem hann fekk höndum á komit.
never loose to-let that which he got hands on come

Mýramenn réðu þegar til atgöngu, ok létu gildlega. Grettir
(The)-Myrar-men went at-once to attack and behaved stoutly Grettir
 bað fylgdarmenn sína at geyma, at þeir gengi eigi at baki
bade followers his to watch that they went not at back
 honum. Eigi máttu í senn allmargir at honum ganga. Varð
to-him Not could at once very-many at him go Became
 þar hörð viðreign með þeim. Grettir hjó á tvær hendr með
there a-hard struggle between them Grettir hewed on two hands with
 saxinu, ok varð þeim eigi auðvelt at sækja at honum.
the-short-sword and became to-them not easy to attack at him
 Fellu þá sumir Mýramenn, enn sumir urðu sárir. Þeir
Fell then some (of)-(the)-Myrar-men but some became wounded They
 urðu seinir utan yfir ána, því at vaðit var eigi
became late from-outside over the-river because that the-ford was not
 allnær. Eigi höfðu þeir lengi barizt, áðr enn þeir hurfu frá.
very-near Not had they long fought before than they turned away
 Þórarinn frá Ökrum var gamall maðr mjök, svá at hann
Thorarin from Akrar was an-old man very so that he
 var eigi í atsókninni. Enn er úti var bardaginn, þá kom
was not in the-attack But when over was the-fight then came
 at Þrándr, son Þórarins, ok Þorgils Ingjaldsson, bróðurson
up Thrand son of-Thorarin and Thorgils Ingjald's-son brother's-son
 Þórðar, ok Finnbogi, son Þorgils Þórhallssonar ór Hítardal,
of-Thord and Finnbogi son of-Thorgils Thorball's-son out-of Hitardal
 ok Steinólfr Þorleifsson ór Hraundal. Þeir eggjuðu menn
and Steinolf Thorleif's-son out-of Hraundal They urged (the)-men
 mjök til atsóknar. Gerðu þeir enn harða hrið. Grettir sá
much to attack Made they again a-hard onslaught Grettir saw
 nú, at annathvært varð at gera: flýja, eða hlífast eigi við.
now that one-or-the-other must to do flee or spare-himself not at(-it)
 Gengr hann nú svá hart fram, at engir heldust við,
Goes he now so hard forth that none held-out against(-him)

því at svá var mannmargt, at honum þótti ósýnt til
because that so was many-men that to-him seemed uncertain for
 undankvámunnar, utan at vinna sem mest, áðr enn hann
the-escape except to achieve as most before than he
 felli; vildi hann ok hafa þann einhvern fyrir sik, er
fell wished he also to-have that someone before himself whom
 honum þótti manntak í vera. Hljóp hann þá at Steinólfi
to-him seemed manhood in to-be Ran he then at Steinolf
 ór Hraundal, ok hjó til hans í höfuðit, ok klauf hann
out-of Hraundal and bewed at him into the-head and split him
 í herðar niðr, ok þegar annat högg hjó hann til Þorgils
to (the)-shoulders down and at-once another blow bewed he at Þorgils
 Ingjaldssonar, ok kom á hann miðjan, ok tók nálega í
Ingjald's-son and came on him (the)-middle and took(-him) nearly in
 sundr. Þá vildi Þrándr fram hlaupa, ok hefna frænda síns.
two Then wished Þrandr forth to-run and avenge kinsman his
 Grettir hjó til hans á lærit hægra, svo at ór tók allan
Grettir bewed at him on the-thigh right so that out took all
 vöðvann, ok varð hann þegar óvigr. Eftir þat veitti hann
the-muscle and became he at-once unfit-to-fight After that gave he
 Finnboga mikinn áverka. Þá kallaði Þórarinn, ok bað þá
Finnbogi a-great wound Then called Þorarin and bade them
 frá hverfa — “því at því verra munu þér af honum
from(-it) turn because that the worse will you from him
 fá, sem þér berist lengr, enn hann kýss menn ór liði
get as you fight longer but he chooses men out-of troop
 yðru”. Þeir gerðu svá, ok sneru frá. Þar voru fallnir tíu
your They did so and turned away There were fallen ten
 menn, enn fim sárir til ólífis ok örkumla, enn flestir höfðu
men but five wounded to death and maiming but most had
 nökkurar skeinur, þeir sem á fundinum höfðu verit. Grettir
some scratches they who at the-meeting had been Grettir

var ákaflega móðr, enn lítt sárr. Leituðu Mýramenn við
was exceedingly weary but little wounded Sought (the)-Myrar-men at
 þetta undan, ok höfðu fengit mikinn mannskaða, því at
this away and had gotten a-great loss-of-men because that
 þar fellu margir röskvir menn. Enn þeim utan yfir ána
there fell many valiant men But to-those from-outside over the-river
 fórst seint, ok kvámu eigi fyrr, enn slitit var fundinum;
went slowly and came not sooner than broken-off was the-meeting
 ok er þeir sá ófarir sinna manna, þá vildi Arnórr eigi
and when they saw (the)-defeat of-their men then wished Arnor not
 hafa sik í hættu, ok fekk hann mikit ámæli af feðr
to-have himself in danger and got he great reproach from father
 sínum ok mörgum öðrum; ætla menn, at hann hafi engi
his and many others think men that he have no
 garpr verit. Þar heitir nú Grettisoddi, er þeir börðust.
champion been There is-called now Grettir's-Point where they fought

LXI • ÞÓRISDALR

Grettir tells a farmer's daughter the news in a verse. Björn says he can no longer keep him, and around the time of the assembly Grettir leaves Mýrar and spends the summer with Hallmundr. In autumn he crosses Geitlandsjökull and finds a hidden valley warmed by hot springs, full of fat sheep and ruled, he says, by a half-giant named Þórir. There he spends the winter. The next spring he leaves and marks a stone on Skjaldbreiðr; then wanders the East Fjords without finding a lodging.

Enn þeir Grettir tóku sér hross, ok riðu upp
But they Grettir(-and-his) took for-themselves horses and rode up
 undir fjall, því at þeir váru allir sárir; ok er
under (the)-mountain because that they were all wounded and when
 þeir kvámu í Fagraskóga, var Eyjólfur þar eftir. Þar var
they came to Fagraskogar was Eyjolf there behind There was

bóndadóttir úti, ok spurði at tíðendum. Grettir sagði
(the)-farmer's-daughter outside and asked about tidings Grettir told
 af hit ljósasta, ok kvað vísu:
off(-it) the clearest and spoke a-verse

Hægt munat hirði-Sága

Easily will-not (the)-keeper-Saga

hornflæðar nú græða

of-born-flood now heal

stór — þó steiptusk fleiri —

big though plunged more

Steinólfs höfuðskeina.

of-Steinolf head-wound

Því's um Þorgils ævi

For-that-is about of-Thorgils life

Þung ván, at bein sprangu;

heavy expectation that bones burst

lýðr segir átta aðra

(the)-people says eight others

auðbrjóta þar dauða.

wealth-breakers there dead

Eftir þat fór Grettir í bæli sitt, ok sat þar um vetrinn.

After that went Grettir to lair his and sat there over the-winter

Enn er þeir Björn fundust, sagði hann Gretti, at

But when they Björn(-and-be) met told he Grettir that

honum þótti nú mikit at orðit — “ok man þér eigi hér

to-him seemed now much at become and will for-you not here

vært vera á lengdar; hefir þú nú drepit bæði frændr mína

peaceful be for length have you now killed both kinsmen my

ok vini, enn eigi mun ek kasta niðr því, sem ek hefí játat

and friends but not will I throw down that which I have promised

þér, meðan þú ert hér". Grettir kvaðst hendr sínar ok líf
you while you are here Grettir said-of-himself hands his and life
eiga at verja, — "enn illa er þat, er þér mislíkar". Björn
to-have to defend but ill is that which you mislikes Björn
kvað nú svá búit vera verða. Litlu síðar kvámu þeir menn
said now so settled to-be must A-little later came those men
til Bjarnar, sem mist höfðu frændr sína fyrir Gretti, ok
to Björn who lost had kinsmen their for Grettir and
báðu, at hann léti eigi óeirðarmann þenna vera þar lengr til
asked that he let not unruly-man this be there longer to
skapraunar við þá. Björn sagði, at svá skyldi vera, þegar at
provocation with them Björn said that so should be as-soon as
vetri létti af. Þrándr var græddr, sonr Þórarins á Ökrum;
(the)-winter let up Thrand was healed son of-Thorarin at Akra
hann var gildr maðr fyrir sér; hann átti Steinunni, dóttir
he was a-stout man for himself he had Steinunn daughter
Hrúts á Kambnesi. Þorleifr í Hraunsdal, faðir Steinólfs, var
of-Hrut at Kambnes Thorleif in Hraunsdal father of-Steinolf was
mikill maðr fyrir sér; frá honum eru komnir Hraundælir.
a-great man for himself from him are come (the)-Hraundalers
Eigi er nú getit um sameign þeira Grettis ok Mýramanna
Not is now told about (the)-dealings their of-Grettir and of-(the)-Myrar-men
fleira, meðan er hann var þar í fjallinu; helt Björn
more while that he was there in the-mountain kept Björn
ok vináttu við hann, enn þó fækkuðust heldr vinir
also friendship with him but yet diminished rather (the)-friends
Bjarnar fyrir þetta, er hann lét Gretti þar vera, því at
of-Björn for this that he let Grettir there be because that
menn undu illa við, at hafa frændr sína bótalaus. Um
men were-content ill with to have kinsmen their uncompensated About
þing leitaði Grettir burt af Mýrum; fór hann þá enn
(the)-assembly sought Grettir away from Myrar went he then again

til Borgarfjarðar, ok fann Grím Þórhallsson, ok leitaði hann
to Borgarfjord and found Grím Thorball's-son and sought he
 þá ráðs, hversu hann skyldi þá breyta. Grímr kveðst
then counsel how he should then act Grím says-of-himself
 eigi hafa efni til þess at halda hann, ok því fór Grettir
not to-have means for that to keep him and therefore went Grettir
 til fundar við Hallmund vin sinn, ok dvaldist þar um
to a-meeting with Hallmund friend his and stayed there over
 sumarit, þar til er á leið. Um haustit fór Grettir í
the-summer there until when on passed Over the-autumn went Grettir into
 Geitland, ok beið þar til þess, er bjart veður kom; þá
Geitland and waited there until that when bright weather came then
 gekk hann upp á Geitlandsjökul, ok stefndi á landssuðr
went he up onto Geitland-glacier and headed to (the)-south-east
 eftir jöklinum, ok hafði með sér ketil ok eldsvirki. Þat
along the-glacier and had with himself a-kettle and fire-making-gear That
 ætla menn, at hann hafi farit at tilvísan Hallmundar,
think men that he have gone at (the)-direction of-Hallmund
 því at honum hefir víða kunnugt verit. Grettir fór þar
because that to-him has widely known been Grettir went there
 til, er hann fann dal í jöklinum, langan ok heldr mjóan,
until when he found a-dale in the-glacier long and rather narrow
 ok lukt at jöklum öllum megin, svá at þeir skúttu fram
and closed with glaciers on-all sides so that they overhung forth
 yfir dalinn. Hann komst ofan í einhverjum stað; hann
over the-dale He got-himself down in some place he
 sá þá fagar hliðir grasi vaxnar og smákjör. Þar váru
saw then fair slopes with-grass grown and brushwood There were
 hverar, ok þótti honum sem jarðeldr mundi valda, er
hot-springs and seemed to-him as-if earth-fire would cause(-it) that
 eigi luktust saman jöklarnir yfir dalnum. Á lítil fell eftir
not closed together the-glaciers over the-dale A-river small fell along

dalnum, ok sléttar eyrar báðum megin. Lítill var þar
the-dale and flat gravel-banks on-both sides Little was there
 sólargangr, enn þat þótti honum ótal, hve margr sauðr þar
sun's-course but it seemed to-him countless how many-a sheep there
 var í dalnum. Þat fé var miklu betra ok feitara, enn
was in the-dale That livestock was much better and fatter than
 hann hefði þvílíkt sét. Grettir bjóst nú þar um, ok gerði
he had such seen Grettir made-ready now there about and made
 sér skála af þeim viði, sem hann fékk þar til. Tók
himself a-but from that timber which he got there to(-it) Took
 hann sér nú sauði til matar; var þar betri einn sauðr
he for-himself now sheep for food was there better one sheep
 til niðrlags enn tveir annarsstaðar. Ein ær mókollótt var
for slaughter than two elsewhere One ewe brown-hornless was
 þar með dilki, sú er honum þótti mest afbragð í vera
there with a-lamb she which to-him seemed most excellence in to-be
 fyrir vaxtar sakir; var honum forvitni á að taka dilkinn,
for growth's sake was to-him curiosity on to take the-lamb
 ok svá gerði hann, ok skar síðan dilkinn. Hálf vætt
and so did he and slaughtered then the-lamb Half a-weight
 mörs var í dilkinum, enn hann var þó öllu betri; enn er
of-suet was in the-lamb but it was yet in-all better but when
 mókolla misti dilks síns, fór hon upp á skála Grettis
brown-bornless lost lamb her went she up onto (the)-but of-Grettir
 hverja nátt, ok jarmaði, svá at hann mátti enga nátt sofa.
every night and bleated so that he could no night sleep
 Þess iðraðist hann mest, er hann hafði dilkinn skorit, fyrir
That regretted he most that he had the-lamb slaughtered for
 ónáðum hennar. Hvert kveld, er hálförökkvat var, heyrði
(the)-disturbances hers Every evening when half-dark was heard
 hann hóat uppi í dalnum, ok þá hljóp féit alt
he calling-to-sheep up in the-dale and then ran the-livestock all

til hins sama bóls hvert kveld. Svá hefir Grettir sagt, at
to the same fold every evening So has Grettir said that
 fyrir dalnum hafi ráðit blendingr, þurs einn, sá er Þórir
over the-dale have ruled a-half-breed giant one he who Thorir
 hét, ok í hans trausti hafði Grettir þar verit; við hann
was-called and in his trust had Grettir there been after him
 kendi Grettir dalinn, ok kallaði Þórisdal. Dætr kvað hann
named Grettir the-dale and called(-it) Thorisdal Daughters said he
 Þóri eiga, ok hendi Grettir gaman at þeim, enda tóku
Thorir to-have and took Grettir amusement with them and-indeed took
 þær því vel, því at þar var eigi margkvæmt. Enn þá
they that well because that there was not much-visited But then
 er fastat var, gerði Grettir þá minning, at þá skyldi
when fasted was made Grettir that remembrance that then (one)-should
 eta mör ok lifrar um langaföstu. Ekki bar þar til
eat suet and livers during Lent Nothing happened there for
 tíðenda um vetrinn. Þá þótti Gretti þar svá dauflægt, at
tidings over the-winter Then seemed to-Grettir there so dismal that
 hann mátti þar eigi lengr vera. Fór hann þá í burtu ór
he could there not longer be Went he then off away out-of
 dalnum, ok gekk suðr þvers af jöklinum, ok kom þá at
the-dale and walked south across from the-glacier and came then from
 norðan at miðjum Skjaldbreið. Reisti hann upp hellu,
(the)-north to (the)-middle-of Skjaldbreid Raised he up a-flat-stone
 ok klappaði á rauf, ok sagði svá, ef maðr legði auga sitt
and cut in(-it) a-hole and said so if a-man laid eye his
 við raufina á hellunni, at þá mætti sjá í gil þat,
to the-hole in the-stone that then (he)-might see into (the)-ravine that
 sem fellr ór Þórisdal. Síðan fór hann suðr um land, ok
which falls out-of Thorisdal Then went he south over (the)-land and
 svá til Austfjarða; var hann í þessarri ferð um sumarit
so to (the)-East-fjords was he on this journey over the-summer

ok vetrinn, ok fann alla hina meiri menn, ok bægði
and the-winter and met all the greater men and (it)-hindered
 honum svá við, at hvergi fekk hann vist né veru. Svá
him so against(-it) that nowhere got he lodging nor stay So
 fór hann aftr hit nyrðra, ok dvaldist í ýmsum stöðum.
went he back the northern-way and stayed in various places

LXII · THE DEATH OF HALLMUNDR

Another outlaw named Grímr takes Grettir's old place on Arnarvatnsheiði, and his catch vanishes night after night. He keeps watch, sees a man filling a huge basket with his fish, and strikes him in the neck with an axe. He follows him to a cave under Balljökull, where Hallmundr recites a poem of his deeds while his daughter carves it on a stick, and dies as it ends. Later Grímr spares Þorkell Eyjólfsen in a fight on the heath, and Þorkell helps him abroad.

Litlu síðar enn Grettir fór af Arnarvatnsheiði, kom sá
A-little later than Grettir went from Arnarvatn-beath came that
 maðr á heiðina, er Grímr hét; hann var sonr ekkjunnar
man onto the-beath who Grim was-called he was son of-the-widow
 á Kroppi. Hann hafði drepit son Eiðs Skeggjasonar ór
at Kropp He had killed (the)-son of-Eid Skeggi's-son out-of
 Ási, ok varð fyrir þat sekr gerr. Hann settist nú þar
As and became for that outlawed made He settled-himself now there
 at, sem Grettir hafði áðr verit, ok veiddi vel ór vatninu.
at where Grettir had before been and fished well out-of the-lake
 Hallmundi lék öfund á, er Grímr var kominn í stað
To-Hallmund played envy on(-it) that Grim was come into (the)-place
 Grettis, ok hugsaði at honum skyldi eigi árferð í
of-Grettir and thought that to-him should not good-season in(-it)
 vera, þótt hann veiddi margt. Svá bar til einn dag, at
be though he caught much So happened to(-it) one day that

Grímr veiddi hundrað fiska, ok bar heim til skála,
Grim caught a-hundred fish and carried(-them) home to (the)-hut
 ok bjó um úti, enn um morguninn eftir, er hann
and made about(-them) outside but in the-morning after when he
 kom til, var í burtu hvern fiskr. Þetta þótti honum
came to(-them) was off away every fish This seemed to-him
 undarlegt, ok fór til vatnsins, ok veiddi nú tvá hundruð
strange and went to the-lake and caught now two hundred
 fiska, færði heim ok bjó um, ok fór alt á sömu
fish brought(-them) home and made about(-them) and went all on (the)-same
 leið, at allir váru í burtu at morgni. Nú þótti honum
way that all were off away in (the)-morning Now seemed to-him
 eigi at einum brunni bera. Hinn þriðja dag veiddi hann þrjú
not at one spring to-flow The third day caught he three
 hundruð fiska, bar heim, ok vakti yfir í skála
hundred fish carried(-them) home and watched over(-them) in hut
 sínum. Grímr sá út í hurðarboruna, ef nokkurr kæmi
bis Grim looked out through the-door-hole if anyone came
 til skálans. Leið nú svá nökkut fram á náttina; ok er af
to the-hut Passed now so somewhat forth into the-night and when off
 var þriðjungur af nátt, þá heyrði hann gengit úti hjá, og
was a-third of night then heard he walked outside by and
 stigit heldr hart; ok er Grímr varð þessa varr, tók hann
stepped rather hard and when Grim became of-this aware took he
 öxi, er hann átti; þat var allhvast vápn. Hann vildi vita,
an-axe which he owned that was a-very-sharp weapon He wished to-know
 hvat þessi hafðist at. Kvámumaðr hafði mikinn meis á baki,
what this-one did at The-comer had a-great basket on back
 ok setti niðr ok litaðist um, ok sá engan mann úti. Hann
and set(-it) down and looked about and saw no man outside He
 baukar til fiskanna, ok þykkir nú gott hönd á at hafa;
gropes to the-fish and seems now good hand on to have

rótar ofan í meisinn öllum fiskunum. Þá er fullr meissinn
shovels down into the-basket all the-fish Then is full the-basket
 Fiskrinn var svá stórr, at Grímr ætlaði, at engi hestr
The-fish was so big that Grim thought that no horse
 myndi bera meira. Hann tekur nú, ok ræðst undir byrðina,
would carry more He takes now and sets-himself under the-burden
 ok í því er hann vildi upp standa, hljóp Grímr út, ok
and at that when he wished up to-stand ran Grim out and
 hjó tveim höndum á hálsinn, svá at öxin sökk at hamri.
hewed with-two hands on the-neck so that the-axe sank to (the)-back
 Hinn brá við hart, ok hafði á rás með meisinn suðr
The-other started at(-it) hard and took to running with the-basket south
 á fjall. Grímr sneri eftir honum, ok vildi vita, hvárt
onto (the)-mountain Grim turned after him and wished to-know whether
 honum hefði tekit. Þeir fóru alt suðr undir Balljökull;
him had taken They went all-the-way south under Balljokul
 þar gekk þessi maðr inn í helli. Eldr var bjartur í hellinum;
there went this man in into a-cave Fire was bright in the-cave
 þar sat kona við, stór vexti, ok þó skapleg. Þat heyrði
there sat a-woman by(-it) big in-stature and yet shapely That heard
 Grímr, at hon heilsaði föður sínum, ok nefndi Hallmund.
Grim that she greeted father her and named(-him) Hallmund

Hann kastaði niðr hart byrðinni ok andvarpaði hátt. Hon
He threw down hard the-burden and groaned loudly She
 spurði, því hann væri blóðugr. Hann svaraði, ok kvað þetta:
asked why he were bloody He answered and spoke this

Þat es mér sýnt,

That is to-me shown

at sínu má

that his may

engi maðr

no man

affli treysta:

in-strength trust

þvít svá bregzt

because so fails

á banadægri

on (the)-death-day

hölda hugr

of-men (the)-mind

sem heill bilar.

as luck fails

Hon spurði þá innilega at viðskiftum þeira; enn hann
She asked then fully about dealings their but he
 sagði alt sem farit hafði. “Skaltu nú heyra til”, sagði hann,
told all as gone had Shall-you now listen to(-it) said he
 “enn ek mun segja frá athöfnum mínum, ok mun ek kveða
but I will tell of deeds my and will I compose

þar um kvæði, enn þú skalt rista eftir á kefli". Hon gerði
there about a-poem but you shall carve after(-me) on a-stick She did
 svá. Þá kvað hann Hallmundarkviðu, ok er þetta þar í:
so Then spoke he Hallmund's-Lay and is this there in(-it)

Þóttak gildir

Thought-I stout

es ek Gretti strauk

when I Grettir stroked

nógu fast

enough hard

niðr af taumum;

down from (the)-reins

sá ek hitt.

saw I the-other

at horfa gerði

that look did

sýna stund

visible while

sér í gaupnir.

himself into (the)-palms

Þat vas næst,

That was next

es Þórir kwam

when Thorir came

Arnarvatns

of-Arnarvatn

upp á heiði,

up onto (the)-heath

ok vit tveir

and we-two two

við tigum átta

against tens eight

oddaleik

point-play

eiga knáttum.

have could

Sýndust gild

Seemed stout

Grettis handa

of-Grettir of-hands

skýlihögg

shield-blows

á skjöldum þeira;

on shields their

þó frá ek mín

yet heard I mine

miklu stærri

much greater

eggja spor

of-edges tracks

ýtum sýnast.

to-men to-seem

Ek lét hendr

I let hands

ok höfuð fjúka

and beads fly

brögnum af,

from-men off

es at baki gengu;

who at back went

svá at kappar

so that champions

Kelduverfis

of-Kelduverfi

átján þar

eighteen there

eftir lágu.

behind lay

Hefik þursa

Have-I giants

ok þeira kyn

and their kin

hart leikit

bard played

ok hamarsbúa;

and crag-dwellers

enn meinvætti

but evil-beings

marga barða,

many beaten

ok blendingum

and to-half-breeds

at bana orðit.

to death become

Svá alfa kind

So of-elves kin

ok óvættum

and to-monsters

nær hefik öllum

nearly have-I to-all

óþarfr verit ...

harmful been ...

Margra athafna sinna gat Hallmundr í kviðunni, því

Of-many deeds his mentioned Hallmund in the-lay because

at hann hafði farit um alt landit. Þá mælti dóttir hans:

that he had gone over all the-land Then spoke daughter his

“Eigi hefir sjá maðr sleppifengr verit, ok var þat eigi

Not has this man a-catch-that-slips-away been and was that not

ólíklegt, því at þú settir illa á stofn við hann; eða

unlikely because that you set ill on foundation with him or

hverr mun nú hefna þín?” Hallmundr svarar: “Eigi er víst,

who will now avenge you Hallmund answers Not is certain

at þess verði auðit; vita þykkjumst ek, at Grettir myndi

that of-that become granted know think-myself I that Grettir would

hefna, ef hann mætti sér svá við koma, enn eigi mun
avenge(-me) if he might himself so with bring but not will
 hægt at ganga í móti gæfu þessa manns, því at honum
easy to go in against (the)-luck of-this man because that to-him
 mun mikit lagit verða. Eftir þat dró svá mikit af mætti
will much allotted be After that drew so much from (the)-might
 Hallmundar, sem fram leið kvæðinu; var þat mjök jafnskjótt,
of-Hallmund as forth passed the-poem was that very as-soon
 at kviðunni var lokit, ok Hallmundr dó. Hon bar sik
that the-lay was ended and Hallmund died She bore herself
 þá lítt ok grét allsárt. Þá gekk Grímr fram ok bað hana
then little and wept very-sorely Then went Grim forth and bade her
 hreysta sik — “ok verðr hverr þá at fara, er hann er
brace herself and must each then to go when he is
 feigr. Varð þetta mjök af tilstofnan hans; máttu ek varla sjá,
doomed Was this much by (the)-contriving his might I hardly see
 at hann rænti mik”. Hon kvað hann mikit hafa at mæla
that he robbed me She said him much to-have to say
 um þat — “ok gefst illa ójafnaðr”. Gladdist hon þá heldr
about that and turns-out ill injustice Cheered she then rather
 í viðræðunni. Þar dvaldist Grímr margar nætr í hellinum
in the-conversation There stayed Grim many nights in the-cave
 ok nam kviðuna, ok fór þá laglega með þeim. Grímr var
and learned the-lay and went then fittingly with them Grim was
 á Arnarvatnsheiði um vetrinn eftir dauða Hallmundar. Eftir
on Arnarvatn-beath over the-winter after (the)-death of-Hallmund After
 þat kom Þorkell Eyjólfsson til móts við hann á heiðina,
that came Thorkel Eyjolf's-son to meeting with him onto the-beath
 ok börðust þeir. Lauk svá þeira viðskifti, at Grímr átti vald
and fought they Ended so their dealings that Grim had power
 á lífi Þorkels, ok vildi eigi drepa hann, enn Þorkell tók
over (the)-life of-Thorkel and wished not to-kill him but Thorkel took

hann til sín, ok kom honum utan ok gaf honum mikit
 him to himself and brought him abroad and gave him much
 góðs, ok þótti þar hvárrtveggja vel gera við annan. Grímr
 goods and seemed there each-of-the-two well to-act toward (the)-other Grim
 varð síðan farmaðr ok er mikil saga frá honum sögð.
 became later a-seafarer and is a-great saga of him told

LXIII · GRETTIR MISLEADS ÞÓRIR

Grettir returns from the east and lies out on the heaths. Þórir of Garðr comes after him, and Grettir hides the horses in a shieling. Disguised with a hood and staff, he sends Þórir's men into a bog, then speaks verses about keeping clear of them. Riding past Garðr, he speaks a verse to Þórir's daughter, and a stranger who hears it guesses who they are and reports that Grettir has passed. Þórir sets guards for him everywhere, but Grettir goes north in disguise, and Þórir is thought to have come off worse again.

Nú er þar til at taka, at Grettir er kominn austan
 Now is there to to take that Grettir is come from-the-east
 ór fjörðum, ok fór nú huldu höfði ok duldist, því
 out-of (the)-fjords and went now with-hidden head and hid-himself because
 at hann vildi eigi finna Þóri, ok lá úti um sumarit
 that he wisbed not to-meet Thorir and lay out over the-summer
 á Möðrudalsheiði ok í ýmsum stöðum; hann var ok
 on Modrudal-beath and in various places he was also
 stundum á Öxarfjarðarheiði. Þat frétti Þórir, at Grettir var
 sometimes on Oxarfjord-beath That learned Thorir that Grettir was
 á Öxarfjarðarheiði, ok safnaði mönnum ok reið á heiðina,
 on Oxarfjord-beath and gathered men and rode onto the-beath
 og ætlaði nú at hann skyldi eigi undan taka. Grettir varð
 and intended now that he should not away take Grettir became

nálega eigi fyrr varr við enn þeir kvámu at honum; hann
nearly not sooner aware of(-it) than they came at him he
 var þá við sel, er þar stóð skamt frá veginum; þá
was then by a-shieling which there stood short from the-road then
 var hann við annan mann. Ok er þeir sáu flokkana, ok
was he with another man And when they saw the-bands and
 varð skjótt til ráða at taka, þá bað Grettir, at þeir skyldi
must quickly to counsel to take then bade Grettir that they should
 fella hestana ok draga inn í selit, ok svá gerðu þeir.
fell the-horses and drag(-them) in into the-shieling and so did they
 Þórir reið um fram norðr eftir heiðinni, ok mistu vinar í
Thorir rode past forth north along the-beath and missed a-friend in
 stað ok fundu ekki, ok hurfu nú aftur; ok er flokkurinn var
place and found nothing and turned now back and when the-band was
 vestr um riðinn, þá mælti Grettir: “Eigi mun þeim ferðin
west past ridden then spoke Grettir Not will to-them the-journey
 þykja góð, ef vér finnumst eigi; nú skaltu geyma hesta
seem good if we meet not now shall-you watch horses
 okkra, enn ek skal fara móts við þá; væri þeim þat hjáleikr,
our but I shall go to-meet with them were for-them that a-sideshow
 ef þeir kendi mik eigi”. Förunautr hans latti þessa, enn
if they recognized me not Companion his discouraged this but
 þó fór hann, ok tók sér annan búning, ok hafði síðan
yet went he and took for-himself other garb and had low
 hött niðr fyrir andlitit, ok hafði staf í hendi; gekk síðan
a-hood down over the-face and had a-staff in hand went then
 á veginn fyrir þá. Þeir heilsuðu honum ok spurðu, hvárt
onto the-road before them They greeted him and asked whether
 hann hefði nokkura menn sét ríða um heiðina. “Sét mun ek
he had any men seen ride over the-beath Seen will I
 hafa þá, sem þér leitið at; skorti yðr nú alllitit at finna þá,
have those whom you seek for lacked you now very-little to find them

því at þeir váru hér fyrir sunnan mýrarnar, þær sem eru
because that they were here on south the-marshes those which are
 til vinstri handar". Enn er þeir heyrðu þetta, þeystu þeir
to left hand But when they heard this galloped they
 út á mýrarnar. Þar váru svá mikil fen, at þeir kvámust
out onto the-marshes There were so great bogs that they got
 hvergi fram, ok urðu at draga ór hestana, ok hröktust þar
nowhere forth and must to drag out the-horses and toiled there
 í lengi dags; báðu þeir illa fyrir honum, þessum
in(-it) long of-(the)-day called-down they ill for him this
 förumanni, er þá hafði svá dárát. Grettir sneri skjótt aftir til
wayfarer who them had so fooled Grettir turned quickly back to
 móts við féлага sinn; ok er þeir fundust, kvað Grettir vísu:
meeting with comrade his and when they met spoke Grettir a-verse

Ríðk-at ek rækimeiddum

Ride-not I to-(the)-tending-trees

randar hótis á móti

of-shield a-whit in against

— lagið er þessum þegni

laid is to-thisthane

þraut — ferr ek einn á brautu.

hardship go I alone on (the)-way

Vilk-at ek Viðris balka

Will-not I of-Vidrir of-storms

vinnendr snara finna

(the)-workers bold meet

— ek man þér eigi þykkja

I will to-you not seem

ærr — leita ek mér færa.

mad seek I myself an-opportunity

Hnekkik frá, þar's flokkar

Turn-I from where bands

fara Þóris mjök stórir;

go of-Thorir very big

er-a mér í þys þeira

is-not to-me into bustle their

þerfilegt at hverfa.

useful to turn

Forðumk frægra virða

Avoid-I of-famous men

fund, á ek veg til lundar;

(the)-meeting have I way to (the)-grove

— verð ek Heimdala at hirða

must I of-Heimdall to keep

hjör — björgum svá fjörvi.

sword save-I so life

Þeir riðu nú sem hvatast vestr af ok fram um bæinn í Garði,

They rode now as quickest west off and forth past the-farm at Gard

áðr enn Þórir kom af fjallinu með flokk sinn. Ok er þeir

before than Thorir came from the-mountain with band his And when they

kvámu nær bænum, kom maðr í för þeira; sá kendi

came near the-farm came a-man into (the)-company their he knew

þá eigi. Þeir sá, at kona stóð úti, ung ok skrauthúin.

them not They saw that a-woman stood outside young and finely-dressed

Grettir spurði, hver kona sú myndi vera. Sá hinn nýkomni
Grettir asked what woman that would be That the newly-come
 maðr sagði, at þat væri dóttir Þóris. Þá kvað Grettir vísu:
man said that that were (the)-daughter of-Thorir Then spoke Grettir a-verse

Svinn mant segja kunna
Wise will-you to-say know-how
 sól gullbúa stóla
sun of-(the)-gold-dweller of-seats
 — oft þót eigi skifti
often though not exchange
 orð mín — föður þínum,
words mine to-father your
 hvar ek rið um bæ breiðan
where I ride past farm broad
 barðjós ok nær garði
of-prow-steed and near (the)-yard
 — láðskreytis er lítit
of-land-adorner is little
 lið — með dreng hinn þriðja.
troop with (the)-fellow the third

Af þessu þóttist sjá vita hinn nýkomni maðr, hverir
From this thought-himself this to-know the newly-come man who
 vera myndi, ok reið til bygðar ok sagði, at Grettir væri
be would and rode to settlement and said that Grettir were
 um riðinn. Enn er Þórir kom heim, þótti mörgum Grettir
past ridden But when Thorir came home seemed to-many Grettir
 hafa vafit heðinn at höfði þeim. Setti Þórir þá gislingar
to-have wrapped a-fur-cloak about head to-them Set Thorir then guards
 fyrir Gretti, hvar sem hann kæmi. Tók Grettir þat til
for Grettir wherever that he came Took Grettir that to

ráðs, at hann sendi fylgdarmann sinn vestr á sveitir
counsel that he sent follower his west to (the)-districts
 með hestana; enn hann fór upp til fjalla, ok var í
with the-horses but he went up to (the)-mountains and was in
 dularkufli, ok fór svá norðr þar öndverðan vetr, svá at
a-disguise-cowl and went so north there (the)-early winter so that
 hann kendist eigi. Öllum þótti Þórir nú hafa fengit
he was-recognized not To-all seemed Thorir now to-have gotten
 af slíkt eða verra enn fyrr í þeira viðskiftum.
from(-it) such or worse than before in their dealings

LXIV · GESTR AT SANDHAUGAR

At Sandhaugar in Bárðardalr a farmer and then a house-carl vanish on two Yule nights while the housewife Steinvör is at church. Grettir arrives as Gestr on Christmas Eve and offers to stay. He carries Steinvör and her daughter across the flooded river to church and returns. That night he barricades the room with boards and lies down fully dressed to wait, while the priest Steinn tells Steinvör that the stranger may end her troubles.

Steinn hét prestur, er bjó at Eyjardalsá í Bárðardal;
Stein was-called a-priest who dwelt at Eyjardalsa in Bardardal
 hann var búþegn góðr ok ríkr at fé. Kjartan hét son
he was a-farmer good and rich in money Kjartan was-called son
 hans, röskr maðr ok vel á legg kominn. Þorsteinn hvíti
his a-vigorous man and well on leg come Thorstein (the)-White
 hét maðr, er bjó at Sandhaugum suðr frá Eyjardalsá.
was-called a-man who dwelt at Sandhaugar south from Eyjardalsa
 Steinvör hét kona hans, ung og glaðlát. Þau áttu börn,
Steinvor was-called wife his young and cheerful They had children
 og váru þau ung í þenna tíma. Þar þótti mönnum reimt
and were they young at this time There seemed to-men haunted

mjök sakir tröllagangs. Þat bar til tveim vetrum
very for-the-sake-of troll-walking It happened to(-it) two winters
 fyrr enn Grettir kom norðr í sveitir, at Steinvör
earlier than Grettir came north into (the)-districts that Steinvör
 húsfreyja at Sandhaugum fór til jólatíða til Eyjardalsár
(the)-housewife at Sandhaugar went to Yule-services to Eyjardalsa
 eftir vana, enn bóndi var heima. Lögðust menn niðr
after custom but (the)-farmer was at-home Laid-themselves men down
 til svefns um kveldit; ok um nóttina heyrðu menn brak
to sleep in the-evening and in the-night heard men a-crash
 mikit í skálann, ok til sængr bónda. Engi þorði upp
great in the-hall and to (the)-bed of-(the)-farmer No-one dared up
 at standa at forvitnast um, því at þar var fáment
to stand to inquire about(-it) because that there was few-people
 mjök. Húsfreyja kom heim um morguninn, ok var bóndi
very (The)-housewife came home in the-morning and was (the)-farmer
 horfinn, ok vissi engi, hvat af honum var orðit. Liðu svá
vanished and knew no-one what of him was become Passed so
 hin næstu misseri. Enn annan vetr eftir vildi húsfreyja
the next half-years But (the)-second winter after wished (the)-housewife
 fara til tíða; bað hon húskarl sinn heima vera. Hann var
to-go to services bade she house-carl her at-home be He was
 tregr til, enn bað hana ráða. Fór þar alt á sömu leið
reluctant to(-it) but bade her decide Went there all on (the)-same way
 sem fyrr, at húskarl var horfinn. Þetta þótti mönnum
as before that (the)-house-carl was vanished This seemed to-men
 undarlegt. Sáu menn þá blóðdrefjar nökkurar í útidyrum.
strange Saw men then blood-drops some in (the)-outer-doorway
 Þóttust menn þat vita, at óvættir myndi hafa tekit
Thought-themselves men that to-know that monsters would have taken
 þá báða. Þetta fréttist víða um sveitir. Grettir hafði
them both This was-heard-of widely over (the)-districts Grettir had

spurn af þessu, ok með því at honum var mjök lagit at
news of this and with that that to-him was very fated to
 koma af reimleikum eða aftrgöngum, þá gerði hann ferð
do-away with hauntings or revenants then made he journey
 sína til Bárðardals, ok kom atfangadag jóla til Sandhauga.
his to Bardardal and came on-(the)-day-before Yule to Sandhaugar
 Hann dvaldist þar ok nefndist Gestr. Húsfreyja sá, at
He stayed there and named-himself Gest (The)-housewife saw that
 hann var furðumikill vexti, enn heimafolk var furðuhrætt
he was wondrously-big in-stature but (the)-household was wondrously-afraid
 við hann. Hann beiddist þar gistingar. Húsfreyja kvað
of him He asked there (for)-lodging (The)-housewife said
 honum mat til reiðu — “enn ábyrgst þik sjálfr”. Hann
for-him food at hand but answer-for yourself yourself He
 kvað svá vera skyldu. “Mun ek vera heima”, segir hann,
said so to-be should Will I be at-home says he
 “enn þú far til tíða, ef þú vilt”. Hon svarar: “Mér þykkir
but you go to services if you wish She answers To-me seems
 þú vera hraustr, ef þú þorir heima at vera”. “Eigi læt ek
you to-be brave if you dare at-home to be Not let I
 mér at einu getit”, sagði hann. “Ílt þykkir mér heima at
myself with one-thing be-content said he Ill seems to-me at-home to
 vera”, segir hon, “enn eigi komumst ek yfir ána”. “Ek skal
be says she but not get I over the-river I shall
 fylgja þér yfir”, segir Gestr. Síðan bjóst hon til tíða
accompany you over says Gest Then made-ready she for services
 ok dóttir hennar með henni, lítill vexti. Hlaka mikil var
and daughter her with her small in-stature Thaw great was
 úti ok áin í leysingum; var á henni jakaför. Þá mælti
outside and the-river in thawing was on it ice-drift Then spoke
 húsfreyja: “Ófært er yfir ána bæði mönnum ok hestum”.
(the)-housewife Impassable is over the-river both for-men and horses

“Vöð munu á vera”, kvað Gestr; “ok verið eigi hræddar”.

Fords will on(-it) be said Gest and be not afraid

“Ber þú fyrst meyna”, kvað húsfreyja, “hon er léttari”. “Eigi

Carry you first the-girl said (the)-housewife she is lighter Not

nenni ek at gera tvær ferðir at þessu”, segir Gestr, “ok mun

care I to make two trips for this says Gest and will

ek bera þik á handlegg mér”. Hon signdi sik ok mælti:

I carry you on arm my She crossed herself and spoke

“Þetta er ófæra; eða hvat gerir þú þá af meyjunni?” “Sjá

This is impassable or what do you then with the-girl See

mun ek ráð til þess”, segir hann, ok greip þær upp báðar,

will I a-way to that says he and grabbed them up both

ok setti hina yngri í kné móður sinnar, ok bar þær svá

and set the younger on (the)-knee of-mother her and carried them so

á vinstra armlegg sér, enn hafði lausa hina hægri hönd, ok

on left arm his but had free the right hand and

óð svá út á vaðit. Eigi þorðu þær at æpa, svá váru þær

waded so out on the-ford Not dared they to scream so were they

hræddar. Enn áin skall þegar uppi á brjósti honum; þá

afraid But the-river crashed at-once up on breast to-him then

rak at honum jaka mikinn, enn hann skaut við hendi

drove at him ice-floe a-great but he thrust at(-it) with-the-hand

þeiri, er laus var, ok hratt frá sér. Gerði þá svá djúpt,

that which free was and pushed(-it) from himself Grew then so deep

at strauminn braut á öxlinni. Óð hann sterklega þar til

that the-current broke on the-shoulder Waded he strongly there until

er hann kom at bakkanum öðrum megin ok fleygir

when he came to the-bank (on)-(the)-other side and flings

þeim á land. Síðan sneri hann aftr, ok var þá hálförökkvat,

them onto land Then turned he back and was then half-dark

er hann kom heim til Sandhauga ok kallaði til matar;

when he came home to Sandbaugar and called for food

ok er hann var mettr, bað hann heimafólk fara innar
and when he was full bade he (the)-household go farther-in
 í stofu. Hann tók þá borð ok lausa við, ok rak
into (the)-room He took then boards and loose timbers and drove(-them)
 um þvera stofuna, ok gerði bálk mikinn, svá at engi
over across the-room and made a-partition great so that no
 heimamaðr komst fram yfir. Engi þorði í móti honum at
household-member got forth over(-it) No-one dared in against him to
 mæla, ok í engum skyldi kretta. Gengit var í hliðvegginn
speak and in no-way should grumble Gone was in the-side-wall
 stofunnar inn við gafhlaðit, ok þar þverpallr hjá. Þar
of-the-room in by the-gable-wall and there a-cross-dais beside There
 lagðist Gestr niðr ok fór eigi af klæðunum. Ljós brann
laid-himself Gest down and went not out-of the-clothes Light burned
 í stofunni gegnt dyrum. Liggir Gestr svá fram á nóttina.
in the-room opposite (the)-door Lies Gest so forth into the-night
 Húsfreyja kom til Eyjardalsár til tíða, ok undruðu menn
(The)-housewife came to Eyjardalsa to services and marveled men
 um ferðir hennar yfir ána. Hon sagðist eigi vita, hvárt
at journeys her over the-river She said-of-herself not to-know whether
 hana hefði yfir flutt maðr eða tröll. Prestr kvað mann víst
her had over carried a-man or a-troll (The)-priest said a-man surely
 vera mundu — “þó at fárra maki sé, ok látum hljótt
to-be would though that of-few (the)-equal (be)-be and let-us-keep quiet
 yfir”, sagði hann; “má vera, at hann sé ætlaðr til at vinna
about(-it) said he may be that he be meant for to work
 bót á vandræðum þínum”. Var húsfreyja þar um nóttina.
a-remedy on troubles your Was (the)-housewife there over the-night

At midnight a troll-woman with a trough and cutlass attacks Gestr, and they wrestle through the house and out to the river gorge. There Grettir frees his right hand, cuts off her arm with his short-sword, and she falls into the waterfall. Grettir tells Steinvör and Steinn the priest the truth, but the priest doubts his account. The saga notes the Bárðardalur men's other story, that daylight turned her to stone. After Yule Grettir takes the priest to the gorge, where they fix a rope to the cliff.

Nú er frá Gretti þat at segja, at þá er dró at miðri
Now is of Grettir that to tell that then when (it)-drew to mid
 nátt, heyrði hann út dynur miklar. Því næst kom
night heard he outside crashes great Thereupon next came
 inn í stofuna tröllkona mikil; hon hafði í annarri hendi
in into the-room a-troll-woman huge she had in one hand
 trog, enn annari skálm, heldr mikla. Hon litast um, er
a-trough but in-the-other a-cutlass rather big She looks about when
 hon kom inn, ok sá hvar Gestr lá, ok hljóp at honum,
she came in and saw where Gest lay and ran at him
 enn hann upp í móti, ok réðust á grimmlega, ok
but he up in against(-her) and attacked each-other fiercely and
 sóttust lengi í stofunni. Hon var sterkari, enn hann fór
fought long in the-room She was stronger but he went
 undan kænlega, enn alt þat, sem fyrir þeim varð, brutu þau,
away cleverly but all that which before them came broke they
 jafnvel þverpilit undan stofunni. Hon dró hann fram yfir
even the-cross-panel from the-room She dragged him forth over
 dyrnar, ok svá í anddyrit; þar tók hann fast í móti.
the-doorway and so into the-porch there took he hard in against(-it)
 Hon vildi draga hann út ór bænum, enn þat varð eigi
She wished to-drag him out out-of the-farm but that happened not
 fyrr enn þau leystu frá allan útidyraumbúninginn, ok báru
sooner than they loosed off all the-outer-door-frame and bore

hann út á herðum sér. Þæfði hon þá ofan til árinna ok
it out on shoulders their Dragged she then down to the-river and
 alt fram at gljúfrum. Þá var Gestr ákaflega móðr, enn þó
all forth to (the)-gorges Then was Gest extremely weary but yet
 varð annathvart at gera, at herða sik, ella myndi hon steypa
must one-of-two to do to brace himself or would she plunge
 honum í gljúfrin. Alla náttina sóttust þau. Eigi þóttist
him into the-gorges All the-night fought they Not thought-himself
 hann hafa fengist við þvílíkan ófagnað fyrir afli sakir.
he to-have grappled with such-a monster for strength's sake
 Hon hafði haldit honum svá fast at sér, at hann mátti
She had held him so hard to herself that he could
 hvárigri hendi taka til nökkurs, utan hann helt um hana
with-neither hand take to anything except he held around her
 miðja, kettuna; ok er þau kvámu á árgljúfrit, bregðr hann
middle the-she-cat and when they came onto the-river-gorge swings he
 flagðkonunni til sveiflu. Í því varð honum laus hin hægri
the-ogress to a-swing At that became to-him loose the right
 höndin. Hann þreif þá skjótt til saxins, er hann var
hand He seized then quickly for the-short-sword which he was
 gyrðr með, ok bregðr því; höggr þá á öxl tröllinu,
girded with and draws it hews then on (the)-shoulder to-the-troll
 svá at af tók höndina hægri, ok svá varð hann lauss, enn
so that off took the-arm right and so became he free but
 hon steyptist í gljúfrin, ok svá í fossinn. Gestr var þá
she plunged into the-gorges and so into the-waterfall Gest was then
 bæði stíðr ok móðr, ok lá þar lengi á hamrinum. Gekk
both stiff and weary and lay there long on the-crag Went
 hann þá heim, er lýsa tók, ok lagðist í rekkju. Hann
he then home when light began and laid-himself in bed He
 var allr þrútin ok blár; ok er húsfreyja kom frá tíðum,
was all swollen and blue and when (the)-housewife came from services

þótti henni heldr raskat um hýbýli sín. Gekk hon þá til
seemed to-her rather disturbed about dwelling her Went she then to
 Gests, ok spurði hvat til hefði borit, er alt var brotit ok
Gest and asked what to(-it) had borne that all was broken and
 bælt. Hann sagði alt sem farit hafði. Henni þótti mikils
flattened He told all as gone had To-her seemed much
 um vert, ok spurði, hvern hann var. Hann sagði þá til
about(-it) worth and asked who he was He told then to(-it)
 hit sanna, ok bað sækja prest, ok kvaðst vildu finna
the truth and bade fetch (the)-priest and said-of-himself to-wish to-meet
 hann. Var ok svá gert. Enn er Steinn prestur kom til
him Was also so done But when Stein (the)-priest came to
 Sandhauga, varð hann brátt þess viss, at þar var kominn
Sandhaugar became he soon of-that aware that there was come
 Grettir Ásmundarson, er Gestur nefndist. Prestur spurði,
Grettir Asmund's-son who Gest named-himself (The)-priest asked
 hvat hann ætlaði af þeim mönnum myndi vera orðit, er þar
what he thought of those men would be become who there
 höfðu horfit. Grettir kvaðst ætla, at í gljúfrin myndi
had vanished Grettir said-of-himself to-think that into the-gorges would
 þeir hafa horfit. Prestur kvaðst eigi kunna at leggja
they have vanished (The)-priest said-of-himself not able to lay
 trúnað á sagnir hans, ef engi merki mætti til sjá. Grettir
trust on accounts his if no marks could to see Grettir
 segir, at síðan vissi þeir þat gerr. Fór prestur heim. Grettir
says that later knew they that better Went (the)-priest home Grettir
 lá í rekkju margar nætr. Húsfreyja gerði við hann harðla
lay in bed many nights (The)-housewife did toward him very
 vel, ok liðu svá af jólin. Þetta er sögn Grettis, at
well and passed so off the-Yule This is (the)-account of-Grettir that
 tröllkonan steyptist í gljúfrin við, er hon fékk sárit,
the-troll-woman plunged into the-gorges at(-it) when she got the-wound

enn Bárðardalsmenn segja, at hana dagaði uppi, þá er þau
but (the)-Bardardal-men say that her dawned up then when they
glímdu, ok spryngi þá er hann hjó af henni höndina, ok
wrestled and burst then when he hewed off her the-arm and
standi þar enn í konulíking á bjarginu. Þeir dalbúarnir
stands there still in woman's-likeness on the-crag They the-dale-dwellers
leyndu þar Gretti. Um vetrinn eftir jól var þat einn dag, at
bid there Grettir Over the-winter after Yule was that one day that
Grettir fór til Eyjardalsár, ok er þeir Grettir fundust
Grettir went to Eyjardalsa and when they Grettir(-and-he) met
ok prestr, mælti Grettir: “Sé ek þat, prestr”, segir hann, “at
and (the)-priest spoke Grettir See I that priest says he that
þú leggir lítinn trúnað á sagnir mínar; nú vil ek at þú farir
you lay little trust on accounts my now wish I that you go
með mér til árinna, ok sjáir, hver líkendi þér þykkir á
with me to the-river and see what likelihood to-you seems on(-it)
vera”. Prestr gerði svá. Enn er þeir kvámu til fossins,
to-be (The)-priest did so But when they came to the-waterfall
sáu þeir skúta upp undir bergit; þat var meitilberg svá
saw they an-overhang up under the-cliff it was a-chiseled-crag so
mikit, at hvergi mátti upp komast, ok nær fim tígir faðma
great that nowhere could up come and near five tens of-fathoms
ofan at vatninu. Þeir höfðu festi með sér. Þá mælti
down to the-water They had a-rope with themselves Then spoke
prestr: “Langt um ófært sýnist mér þér niðr at fara”.
(the)-priest Far over impassable seems to-me for-you down to go
Grettir svarar: “Fært er víst, enn þeim mun best þar sem
Grettir answers Passable is surely but for-those will best there where
ágætismenn eru; mun ek forvitnast, hvat í fossinum er, enn
excellent-men are will I inquire what in the-waterfall is but

þú skalt geyma festar". Prestr bað hann ráða, ok keyrði
you shall watch (the)-rope (The)-priest bade him decide and drove
 niðr hæl á berginu, ok bar at grjót ok sat þar hjá.
down a-peg on the-cliff and heaped on(-it) stones and sat there by

LXVI · THE GIANT UNDER THE WATERFALL

Grettir leaves the rope and dives under the waterfall into a cave, where a giant attacks him with a pike. Grettir cuts through the shaft and then slashes the giant's belly open. Seeing blood and entrails float downstream, the priest takes Grettir for dead and goes home. Grettir finds the bones of two men, climbs the rope back up, and leaves them at the church with verses cut in runes.

Nú er frá Gretti at segja, at hann lét stein í festaraugat
Now is of Grettir to tell that he put a-stone into the-rope's-eye
 ok lét svá síga ofan at vatninu. "Hvern veg ætlar þú
and let(-it) so sink down to the-water Which way intend you
 nú", segir prestr, "at fara?" "Eigi vil ek vera bundinn",
now says (the)-priest to go Not will I be bound
 segir Grettir, "þá er ek kem í fossinn; svá boðar mér
says Grettir then when I come into the-waterfall so warns me
 hugr um". Eftir þat bjó hann sik til ferðar, ok var
mind of(-it) After that prepared he himself for (the)-journey and was
 fáklæddr, ok gyrði sik með saxinu, enn hafði eigi fleiri
lightly-clad and girded himself with the-short-sword but had not more
 vápn. Síðan hljóp hann af bjarginu ok niðr í fossinn.
weapons Then leaped he off the-cliff and down into the-waterfall
 Sá prestr í iljar honum, ok vissi síðan aldri hvat af
Saw (the)-priest into (the)-soles to-him and knew later never what of
 honum varð. Grettir kafaði undir fossinn, ok var þat torvelt,
him became Grettir dived under the-waterfall and was that difficult

því at iða var mikil, ok varð hann alt til grunns
because that (the)-eddy was great and must he all to (the)-bottom
 at kafa áðr enn hann kæmist upp undir fossinn. Þar var
to dive before than he got up under the-waterfall There was
 forberg nökkut, ok komst hann inn þar upp á. Þar var
a-ledge some and got he in there up onto(-it) There was
 hellir mikill undir fossinum, ok fell áin fram af berginu.
a-cave great under the-waterfall and fell the-river forth off the-cliff
 Gekk hann þá inn í hellinn, ok var þar eldr mikill
Went he then in into the-cave and was there fire great
 á bröndum. Grettir sá, at þar sat jötunn ógurlega mikill;
on logs Grettir saw that there sat a-giant fearfully huge
 hann var hræðilegr at sjá. Enn er Grettir kom at honum,
he was dreadful to see But when Grettir came at him
 hljóp jötuninn upp ok greip flein einn, ok hjó til þess
leaped the-giant up and grabbed a-pike one and hewed at that-one
 er kominn var; því at bæði mátti höggva ok leggja með
who come was because that both could hew and thrust with
 honum. Tréskaft var í; þat kölluðu menn þá heftisax,
it A-wooden-shaft was in(-it) that called men then a-haft-sax
 er þann veg var gert. Grettir hjó á móti með saxinu,
which that way was made Grettir hewed in against(-it) with the-short-sword
 ok kom á skaftit, svá at í sundr tók. Jötuninn vildi þá
and came on the-shaft so that in two (it)-took The-giant wished then
 seilast á bak sér aftr til sverðs, er þar hekk í hellinum.
to-reach at back himself behind for a-sword which there hung in the-cave
 Í því hjó Grettir framan á brjóstit, svá at nálega tók af
At that hewed Grettir in-front on the-breast so that nearly took off
 alla bringspelina ok kviðinn, svá at iðrin steiptust ór
all the-breastbone and the-belly so that the-entrails tumbled out-of
 honum ofan í ána, ok keyrði þau ofan eftir ánni; ok er
him down into the-river and drove them down along the-river and when

prestr sat við festina, sá hann at slyðrur nökkurar rak
(the)-priest sat by the-rope saw he that slime some drifted
 ofan eftir strengnum, blóðugar allar. Hann varð þá lauss á
down along the-current bloody all He became then loose on
 velli, ok þóttist nú vita, at Grettir myndi dauðr vera;
(the)-field and thought-himself now to-know that Grettir would dead be
 hljóp hann þá frá festarhaldinu ok fór heim; var þá komit
ran he then from the-rope-holding and went home was then come
 at kveldi, ok sagði víslaga, at Grettir væri dauðr, ok sagði,
to evening and said surely that Grettir were dead and said
 at mikill skaði væri eftir því líkan mann. Nú er frá Gretti at
that great loss were after such-a man Now is of Grettir to
 segja; hann lét skamt höggva í milli, þar til er jötuninn
tell he let short (it)-hew in between there until when the-giant
 dó. Gekk Grettir þá innar eftir hellinum; hann kveikti ljós
died Went Grettir then further-in along the-cave he kindled light
 ok kannaði hellinn. Eigi er frá því sagt, hversu mikit fé
and explored the-cave Not is of that told how much money
 hann fekk í hellinum, enn þat ætla menn at verit hafi
he got in the-cave but that think men that been have
 nökkut. Dvaldist honum þar fram á nóttina. Hann fann þar
something Tarried-(it) for-him there forth into the-night He found there
 tveggja manna bein, ok bar þau í belg einn. Leitaði hann
of-two men bones and bore them in a-skin-bag one Sought he
 þá ór hellinum ok lagðist til festarinnar ok hristi hana,
then out-of the-cave and swam to the-rope and shook it
 ok ætlaði at prestr myndi þar vera. Enn er hann vissi,
and thought that (the)-priest would there be But when he knew
 at prestr var heim farinn, varð hann þá at handstyrkja
that (the)-priest was home gone must he then to hand-over-hand
 upp festina, ok komst hann svá upp á bjargit. Fór
up the-rope and got he so up onto the-crag Went

hann þá heim til Eyjardalsár, ok kom í forkirkju
he then home to Eyjardalsa and came into (the)-porch-of-the-church
 belginum þeim, sem beinin váru í, ok með rúnakefli því,
with-the-bag that which the-bones were in and with rune-stick that
 er visur þessar váru forkunnlega vel á ristnar:
on-which verses these were excellently well on carved

Gekk ek í gljúfrit dökkva;
Went I into the-gorge dark
 gein veltiflug steina
gaped (the)-rolling-flight of-stones
 við hjörgæði hríðar
at (the)-sword-feeder of-storm
 hlunns úrsvölum munni.
of-roller with-cold-drizzling mouth
 Fast lá framan at brjósti
Hard lay in-front on breast
 flugstraumur í sal Naumu;
(the)-flight-stream in (the)-hall of-Nauma
 heldr kvam á herðar skaldi
rather came onto (the)-shoulders of-(the)-poet
 hörð fján Braga kvánar.
hard hatred of-Bragi wife

Ok enn þessi:

And also this

Ljótr kvam mér í móti
Ugly came to-me in against
 mellu vinr ór helli;
of-(the)-ogress friend out-of (the)-cave

hann fekst heldr at sönnu

he wrestled rather in truth

harðfengr við mik lengi;

hardy with me long

harðeggjat lét ek höggvit

hard-edged let I (be)-hewn

heftisax af skefti;

(the)-haft-sax from (the)-shaft

Gangs klauf brjóst ok bringu

of-Gang split breast and chest

bjartr gunnlogi svarta.

bright battle-flame of-(the)-black

Þar sagði svá, at Grettir hafi bein þessi ór hellinum

There said so that Grettir have bones these out-of the-cave

haft. Enn er prestur kom til kirkju um morgininn, fann

had But when (the)-priest came to church in the-morning found

hann keflit ok þat sem fylgdi, ok las rúnirnar; enn

he the-stick and that which accompanied(-it) and read the-runes but

Grettir hafði farið heim til Sandhauga.

Grettir had gone home to Sandhaugar

LXVII • GUÐMUNDR'S COUNSEL

The priest buries the bones, and the valley is never haunted again. Þórir sets men on Grettir, who goes to Guðmundr the Powerful. Guðmundr advises him to hold Drangey in Skagafjörðr, which can be climbed only by ladders. Grettir visits his mother at Bjarg and learns that Þorsteinn Kuggason has been killed. He rides south to avenge Hallmundr; but finds that Grímr has gone abroad. He then raids from Austrárdalr. Steinvör gives birth to Skeggi, who later is said to be Grettir's son.

Enn þá er prestur fann Gretti, spurði hann innilega eftir
But then when (the)-priest met Grettir asked he closely about
 atburðum, enn hann sagði alla sögu um ferð sína,
(the)-events but he told (the)-whole story about journey his
 ok kvað prest ótrúlega hafa haldit festinni. Prestur lét
and said (the)-priest faithlessly to-have held the-rope (The)-priest let
 þat á sannast. Þóttust menn þat vita, at þessar
that on be-proved-true Thought-themselves men that to-know that these
 óvættir myndi valdit hafa mannahvörfum þar í dalnum;
monsters would caused have (the)-disappearances-of-men there in the-dale
 varð ok aldri mein at aftrgöngum eða reimleikum þar í
became also never harm from revenants or hauntings there in
 dalnum síðan; þótti Grettir þar gert hafa mikla landhreinsan.
the-dale since seemed Grettir there done to-have a-great land-cleansing
 Prestur jarðaði bein þessi í kirkjugarði. Grettir var síðan
(The)-priest buried bones these in (the)-churchyard Grettir was then
 at Sandhaugum um vetrinn, ok duldust þó fyrir alþýðu
at Sandhaugar over the-winter and hid-himself yet from (the)-common
 manna. Enn er Þórir í Garði hafði af pata nökkurn, at
of-people But when Thorir in Gard had of rumor some that
 Grettir væri í Bárðardal, þá setti hann menn til höfuðs
Grettir were in Bardardal then set he men on (the)-head
 honum. Réðu menn honum þá, at hann skyldi á brott leita,
to-him Advised men him then that he should off away seek
 ok fór hann þá vestr. Enn er hann kom á Möðruvöllu til
and went he then west But when he came to Modruvellir to
 Guðmundar hins ríka, beiddi hann þá Guðmund ásja,
Gudmund the Mighty asked he then Gudmund (for)-protection
 enn hann kvað sér eigi hent við honum at taka —
but he said for-himself not suitable with him to take
 “enn sá einn er þér”, sagði Guðmundr, “at koma þér
but that alone is for-you said Gudmund to bring yourself

þar niðr, sem þú mættir vera óhræddr um líf þitt". Grettir
there down where you might be unafraid about life your Grettir
kvaðst eigi vita, hvar þat væri. Guðmundr mælti: "Ey
said-of-himself not to-know where that were Gudmund spoke An-island
sú liggr á Skagafirði, er heitir Drangey; hon er svá gott
that lies in Skagafjord which is-called Drangey it is so good
vígi, at hvergi má komast upp á hana, nema stigar
a-stronghold that nowhere may come up onto it unless ladders
sé við látnir. Gætir þú þangat komizt, þá veit ek þat fyrir
be to let-down Could you thither get then know I that for
víst eigi þess manns ván, er þik sæki þangat, komist
certain not of-that man expectation who you attack thither get
þú upp á hana eða þú sér með vápnum sóttir eða vélum,
you up onto it or you be with weapons attacked or tricks
ef þú gætir vel stigans". "Reynt skal þetta vera", segir
if you watch well the-ladder Tried shall this be says
Grettir, "enn svá gerumst ek myrkfælinn, at þat má ek eigi
Grettir but so become I afraid-of-the-dark that that may I not
til lífs vinna mér, at vera einn saman". Guðmundr mælti:
for life do for-me to be alone together Gudmund spoke
"Vera má at svá sé, enn trú þú engum svá vel, at þú
Be may that so be but trust you no-one so well that you
trúir eigi best sjálfum þér; enn vandsénir eru margir".
trust not best yourself yourself but hard-to-see-through are many
Grettir þakkaði honum heilræði. Fór hann þá burt af
Grettir thanked him (for)-good-counsel Went he then away from
Möðruvöllum. Hann létti eigi fyrr, enn hann kom til Bjargs.
Modruvellir He stopped not sooner than he came to Bjarg
Móðir hans fagnaði honum vel, ok þau Illugi bæði. Dvaldist
Mother his welcomed him well and they Illugi both Stayed
hann þar nokkurar nætr. Þar frétti hann víg Þorsteins
he there some nights There learned he (the)-slaying of-Thorstein

Kuggasonar; hafði þat orðit um haustit áðr enn Grettir
Kuggi's-son had that happened over the-autumn before than Grettir
 fór til Bárðardals. Þótti honum nú mjök taka um at
went to Bardardal Seemed to-him now very to-begin about to
 höggvast. Reið Grettir þá suðr Holtavörðuheiði, ok ætlaði at
bew-close Rode Grettir then south Holtavordu-beath and intended to
 hefna Hallmundar, ef hann hitti Grím. Enn er hann kom
avenge Hallmund if he met Grim But when he came
 í Norðrárdal, frétti hann, at Grímr var fyrir tveim vetrum
into Nordrardal learned he that Grim was before two winters
 eða þrimr á burt þaðan, sem fyrr var sagt. Enn því hafði
or three off away thence as before was told But for-this had
 Grettir svá seint spurt þessi tíðendi, at hann fór huldu
Grettir so late learned these tidings that he went with-hidden
 höfði þá tvá vetr, ok þann hinn þriðja, sem hann var í
head those two winters and that the third when he was in
 Þórisdal, ok hafði enga menn fundit, þá er honum vildi
Thorisdal and had no men met those who to-him would
 nökkurar fréttir segja. Sneri hann þá til Breiðafjarðardala, ok
any news tell Turned he then to Breidafjord-ales and
 hafðist við í Austrárdal, ok sætti þeim mönnum,
kept-himself with(-it) in Austrardal and lay-in-wait-for those men
 er fóru yfir Brattabrekku. Lét hann þá enn sópa greipr
who went over Brattabrekka Let he then again sweep hands
 um eignir smábænda; þat var um hásumarsskeið. Þetta
over (the)-property of-small-farmers that was about high-summer-time This
 sumar, er á leið, fæddi Steinvör at Sandhaugum sveinbarn,
summer when on passed bore Steinvor at Sandhaugar a-boy-child
 ok hét Skeggi; hann var fyrst kendr Kjartani, syni Steins
and was-called Skeggi he was first ascribed to-Kjartan son of-Stein
 prests af Eyjardalsá. Skeggi var ólíkr öðrum systkinum
(the)-priest from Eyjardalsa Skeggi was unlike other siblings

sínum fyrir sakir afis ok vaxtar; enn þá er hann var
 his for (the)-sake of-strength and growth but then when he was
 fimtán vetra, var hann sterkast norðr þar, ok var þá eignaðr
 fifteen winters was he strongest north there and was then ascribed
 Gretti. Hugðu menn at hann myndi afbragðsmaðr verða,
 to-Grettir Thought men that he would an-outstanding-man become
 enn hann andaðist seytján vetra, ok er engi saga af honum.
 but he died seventeen winters and is no saga of him

LXVIII · GRETTIR AND ÞÓRODDR

Snorri goði drives his son Þóroddr from home until he has killed an outlaw. The widow Geirlaug sends him from her young shepherd to Grettir instead. Þóroddr attacks Grettir, who only defends himself with his shield and then pins him down, saying he fears Snorri's counsel more than Þóroddr. Snorri smiles at his son's report, praises Grettir for sparing him, and is his friend from then on.

Eftir víg Þorsteins Kuggasonar lagði Snorri goði
 After (the)-slaying of-Thorstein Kuggi's-son laid Snorri (the)-Priest
 fæð mikla á þá Þórodd, son sinn, ok Sám, son Barkar
 coldness great on them Thorodd son his and Sam son of-Bork
 hins digra; enn þat er eigi greint, hvað þeir höfðu helzt
 the Stout but it is not stated what they had chiefly
 til saka, utan þat, at þeir hafa eigi viljat gera eitthvert
 for offense except that that they have not wished to-do some
 stórvirki, þat er Snorri lagði fyrir þá, ok því rak Snorri
 great-deed that which Snorri laid before them and therefore drove Snorri
 goði Þórodd burt frá sér, ok kvað hann eigi fyrr aftir
 (the)-Priest Thorodd away from himself and said him not sooner back
 koma, enn hann hefði drepit einhvern skógarmann, ok svá
 to-come than he had killed some forest-man and so

varð at vera. Fór Þóroddr þá yfir til Dala. Þá bjó á
must to be Went Thorodd then over to (the)-Dales Then dwelt at
 Breiðabólstað í Sökkólfsdal ekkja sú er Geirlaug hét; hon
Breidabolstad in Sokkolfsdal a-widow that who Geirlaug was-called she
 helt smalamann þann, sem sekr var orðinn um áverkamál;
kept a-shepherd that who outlawed was become for wounding-case
 hann var frumvaxta piltungr. Þat frétti Þóroddr Snorrason,
he was a-half-grown lad That learned Thorodd Snorri's-son
 ok reið á Breiðabólstað; hann spurði, hvar smalamaðr væri.
and rode to Breidabolstad he asked where (the)-shepherd were
 Húsfreyja kvað hann vera hjá fé, — “eða hvat viltu
(The)-housewife said him to-be with (the)-sheep or what wisb-you
 honum?” “Ek skal hafa líf hans”, segir Þóroddr, “því at
with-him I shall have life his says Thorodd because that
 hann er sekr skógarmaðr”. Hon svarar: “Þat er þér
he is an-outlawed forest-man She answers That is to-you
 engi frami, at drepa hann, veslinginn, slíkr ofrgarpr, sem
no glory to kill him the-poor-wretch such-a great-champion as
 þú þykkist vera; man ek vísa þér til meira þrekvirkis,
you think-yourself to-be will I direct you to a-greater feat
 ef þér er mikill hugr á at reyna þik”. “Hvert er þat?”
if to-you is great mind on to test yourself What is that
 segir hann. Hon svarar: “Hér uppi í fjallinu liggir Grettir
says he She answers Here up in the-mountain lies Grettir
 Ásmundarson; fást þú við hann, þat er meir fyrir þitt
Asmund's-son grapple you with him that is more for your
 hæfi”. Þóroddr tók vel máli þessu — “ok skal svá vera”.
match Thorodd took well to-speech this and shall so be
 Keyrði hann þá hestinn sporum, ok reið eftir dalnum; ok
Spurred he then the-horse with-spurs and rode along the-dale and
 er hann kom á hæðirnar fyrir neðan Austrá, sá hann,
when he came onto the-heights on below Austra saw he

hvar var ljósbleikr hestr með söðli; hann sá þar ok mikinn
where was a-pale-yellow horse with saddle he saw there also a-big
 mann með vápnnum, og sneri þegar til móts við hann.
man with weapons and turned at-once to meeting with him
 Grettir heilsaði honum, ok spurði, hverr hann væri. Þóroddr
Grettir greeted him and asked who he were Þorodd
 nefndi sik, ok mælti: “Hví spyrst þú mik eigi heldr at
named himself and spoke Why ask you me not rather about
 erendum mínum enn nafni?” “Því”, sagði Grettir, “at þau
errands my than name Because said Grettir that they
 ein munu vera, at lítit man til koma; eða ertu son
alone will be that little will to(-it) come or are-you son
 Snorra goða?” “Svá er ok víst”, sagði Þóroddr, “enn þó skal
of-Snorri (the)-Priest So is also certain said Þorodd but yet shall
 nú reyna hvárr okkarr meira má”. “Auðvitað er þat”, sagði
now (be)-tried which of-us-two more can Obvious is that said
 Grettir, “eða hefir þú eigi frétt þat, at ek hefi orðit lítill
Grettir or have you not heard that that I have become little
 heillapúfa um at þreifa flestum mönnum?” “Veit ek þat”,
luck-mound for to grope most men Know I that
 segir Þóroddr, “enn þó skal nú nökkut til voga” — ok
says Þorodd but yet shall now something to (be)-ventured and
 brá sverði, ok sótti at Gretti með ákefð, enn hann hlífði
drew (the)-sword and attacked at Grettir with vehemence but he shielded
 sér með skildi, enn eigi bar hann vápn á Þórodd, ok
himself with (the)-shield but not bore he weapons on Þorodd and
 fór svá um stund; eigi varð hann sárr. Grettir mælti þá:
went so for a-while not became he wounded Grettir spoke then
 “Látum vit af þessum leik, því at engan sigr mantu fá
Let-us-leave we-two off this game because that no victory will-you get
 í okkrum viðskiftum”. Þóroddr hjó þá sem óðast. Gretti
in our dealings Þorodd bewed then as maddest To-Grettir

leiddist við hann að fást; þreif hann til Þórodds, ok setti
wearied with him to grapple seized he at Thorodd and set
 hann niðr hjá sér, ok mælti: “Alls á ek kosti við þik
him down beside himself and spoke All have I choices with you
 gera, þat sem ek vil, ok eigi hræðumst ek, at þú verðir
to-do that which I wish and not fear I that you become
 mér at bana, enn hræðumst ek hærugarlinn Snorra
to-me to death but fear I the-gray-haired-old-man Snorri
 goða, föður þinn, ok ráð hans, þau hafa flestum á kné
(the)-Priest father your and counsels his they have most onto knee
 komit; ok skyldir þú ætla þér þat, er þú gætir orkat;
brought and should you intend for-yourself that which you could achieve
 enn eigi er þat barnafæri, at berjast við mik”. Enn er
but not is that child's-play to fight with me But when
 Þóroddr sá, at hann kom engu fram, sefaðist hann heldr,
Thorodd saw that he came to-nothing forth calmed he rather
 ok skildu þeir við þat. Reið Þóroddr heim i Tungu, ok
and parted they with that Rode Thorodd home to Tunga and
 sagði föður sínum sameign þeira Grettis. Snorri goði
told father his (the)-dealings of-them Grettir(-and-him) Snorri (the)-Priest
 brosti at, ok mælti: “Margr er dulinn at sér, ok varð
smiled at(-it) and spoke Many-a-one is deceived in himself and was
 ykkarr mikill mannamunr; þú hjótt upp á hann, enn hann
of-you-two a-great difference-of-men you bewed up on him but he
 mátti gera við þik hvat er hann vildi, enn þó gerði Grettir
could do with you what that he wished but yet did Grettir
 vitrlega, er hann drap þik eigi, því at eigi mynda ek
wisely when he killed you not because that not would I
 nent hafa, at þín væri óhefnt; skal ek heldr leggja honum
cared have that you were unavenged shall I rather lay him
 til liðs, ef ek verð við staddr hans mál”. Fanst þat
to help if I become at present (in)-his case (It)-was-found that

mjök á Snorra, at honum þótti Grettir vel hafa gert við
much on Snorri that to-him seemed Grettir well to-have done toward
 Þorodd, ok var jafnan vin hans síðan í tillögum sínum.
Thorodd and was always friend his since in counsels his

LXIX · TO DRANGEY

Afraid of the dark, Grettir will not live alone, and his brother Illugi, fifteen, offers to go with him. Ásdís foresees they will both die on Drangey and warns them against witchcraft, and she parts from them in tears. On the way they are joined by Glaumr, a lazy and talkative vagrant. The farmer Þorvaldr at Reykir takes a bag of money to ferry them out by moonlight. Drangey is grassy and sheer, with a bird cliff and eighty sheep belonging to the farmers.

Grettir reið norðr til Bjargs litlu síðar, enn þeir Þoroddr
Grettir rode north to Bjarg a-little later than they Thorodd(-and-he)
 skildu, ok duldist þar enn um stundar sakir. Þá gerðist
parted and hid-himself there again for a-while's sake Then became
 svá mikit bragð at myrkfælni hans, at hann þorði hvergi at
so great a-show of fear-of-the-dark his that he dared nowhere to
 fara, þegar er rökkva tók. Móðir hans bauð honum þar at
go as-soon as to-darken began Mother his invited him there to
 vera, enn kvaðst þó sjá, at þat myndi honum eigi duga,
be but said-of-herself yet to-see that that would him not avail
 fyrir þann skuld, at hann átti sökótt um alt landit.
for that reason that he had many-lawsuits over all the-land
 Grettir kvað hana engar ónáðir af sér skyldu hafa, —
Grettir said her no troubles from him should have
 “enn eigi man ek þat lengr til lífs mér vinna”, segir hann,
but not will I that longer for life for-me do says he
 “at vera einn saman”. Illugi bróðir hans var þá fimtán vetra
to be alone together Illugi brother his was then fifteen winters

gamall, ok allra manna gervilegastr; hann var hjá viðtali
old and of-all men most-accomplished he was by (the)-talk
 þeira. Grettir sagði móður sinni, hvat Guðmundr hinn ríki
their Grettir told mother his what Gudmund the Mighty
 hafði ráðit honum, ok lézt mundu leita, ef kostur væri
had advised him and said-of-himself would seek if chance were
 at komast í Drangey, enn þó kvaðst hann eigi þar vera
to get into Drangey but yet said-of-himself he not there to-be
 mega, nema hann fengi einhvern dyggvan mann at vera hjá
could unless he got some trusty man to be with
 sér. Þá mælti Illugi: “Ek man fara með þér, bróðir, enn
himself Then spoke Illugi I will go with you brother but
 eigi veit ek, at þér sé fylgd í mér, utan þat, at trúr man
not know I that to-you be help in me except that that faithful will
 ek þér vera, ok eigi renna frá þér, meðan þú stendr uppi,
I to-you be and not run from you while you stand upright
 ok gerr veit ek, hvat um þik liðr, ef ek fylgi þér”. Grettir
and better know I what about you passes if I follow you Grettir
 svarar: “Þú ert svá manna, at mér er mest gleði at, ok
answers You are such of-men that to-me is most joy at(-you) and
 ef móður minni væri eigi í móti skapi, vilda ek gjarna,
if to-mother my were not in against (her)-mind would-wish I gladly
 at þú færir með mér”. Ásdís mælti: “Þá er svá nú komit,
that you went with me Asdis spoke Then is so now come
 at ek sé, at tvennum vandræðum gegnir; ek þykkjumst
that I see that two-fold troubles face I think-myself
 eigi Illuga missa mega, enn ek veit, at svá mikil atkvæði
not Illugi to-lose may but I know that so great decrees
 eru at um hagi Grettis, at hann verðr eitthvert ór
are set about (the)-case of-Grettir that he must something out-off(-it)
 at ráða; enn þó at mér þykki mikit fyrir at sjá á bak
to decide but though that to-me seem much for(-it) to see at back

ykkir báðum sonum mínum, þá vil ek þat þó til vinna, ef
of-you-two both sons my then will I that yet to do if
 Grettir væri þá nærr, enn áðr. Illugi varð glaðr við þetta,
Grettir were then nearer than before Illugi became glad at this
 því at hann hugði gott til að fara með Gretti. Hon fekk
because that he thought well of to go with Grettir She gave
 þeim lausafé mikit. Þjuggust þeir þá til ferðar. Leiddi
them movable-goods much Made-ready they then for (the)-journey Led
 Ásdis þá frá garði; ok áðr enn þau skildu, mælti hon
Asdis them from (the)-yard and before than they parted spoke she
 svá: “Nú fari þit þar synir mínir tveir, ok mun ykkarr
so Now go you-two there sons my two and will your
 samdaudi verða; ok má engi renna undan því, sem honum
death-together be and may no-one run away-from that which to-him
 er skapat; man ek hvárigan ykkarr sjá sinni síðan. Látið
is shaped will I neither of-you-two see another-time since Let
 nú eitt yfir ykkir ganga, enn eigi veit ek, hverja heill
now one-thing over you-two go but not know I what luck
 þit sækid þangat í Drangey, enn þar munu þit beinin
you-two seek thither in Drangey but there will you-two the-bones
 bera, ok margir munu þar fyrirmuna ykkir þarvistar; sjáið
bear and many will there begrudge you-two the-stay-there look
 þit vel fyrir svikum; enn vápnbitnir munu þit verða, enn
you-two well for treachery but weapon-bitten will you-two become but
 undarlega hafa mér draumar gengit. Gætið ykkarr vel við
strangely have to-me dreams gone Guard yourselves well against
 gerningum; fátt er rammara, enn forneskjan”. Enn er hon
witchcraft little is stronger than the-old-magic But when she
 hafði þetta mælt, grét hon mjök. Þá mælti Grettir: “Grát
had this spoken wept she much Then spoke Grettir Weep
 þú eigi, móðir; þat skal sagt, at þú hafir sonu átt, enn
you not mother that shall (be)-said that you have sons had but

eigi dætr, ef vit erum með vápnum sóttir, ok lif vel og
not daughters if we-two are with weapons attacked and live well and
 heil". Eftir þat skildu þau. Þeir fóru nú norðr um sveitir,
bale After that parted they They went now north over (the)-districts
 ok hittu frændr sína. Dvöldust svá á haust fram til vetrar;
and met kinsmen their Stayed-they so into autumn forth until winter
 þá sneru þeir til Skagafjarðar, ok fóru norðr Vatnskarð, ok
then turned they to Skagafjord and went north Vatnsskard and
 svá til Reykjaskarðs, ok svá ofan Sæmundarhlíð, ok svá á
so to Reykjaskard and so down Saemundarblid and so to
 Langholt. Þeir kvámu til Glaumbæjar at áliðnum degi. Grettir
Langholt They came to Glaumbaer at late-passed day Grettir
 hafði kastat hetti sínum á öxl sér; svá gekk hann jafnan
had thrown hood his onto shoulder his so went he always
 úti, hvárt sem var betra eða verra. Þaðan fóru þeir; ok
outside whether that was better or worse Thence went they and
 er þeir kvámu skamt á veg, kom maðr til móts við þá,
when they came short on (the)-way came a-man to meeting with them
 höfuðmikill, hár ok mjór, ok illa klæddr; hann heilsaði þeim,
big-headed tall and thin and poorly clad he greeted them
 ok spurðu hvárir aðra at nafni. Þeir sögðu til sín,
and asked each (the)-other about name They told of themselves
 enn hann nefndist Þorbjörn. Hann var einhleypr maðr, ok
but he named-himself Thorbjorn He was a-vagrant man and
 nenti ekki að vinna, ok skrumaði mikit, ok var hent af
cared not to work and chattered much and was taken from
 honum gaman mikit eða dáruskapr af sumum mönnum.
him amusement great or mockery by some men
 Hann gerði sér við þá dælt, ok sagði margt ofan ór
He made himself with them familiar and told much down out-of
 heraði frá bygðarlagsmönnum. Gretti þótti gaman mikit
(the)-district from district-dwellers To-Grettir seemed amusement great

at honum. Hann spurði, hvárt þeir þættist eigi þurfa
in him He asked whether they thought-themselves not to-need
 þess manns, er starfaði fyrir þeim; — “vilda ek gjarna fara
that man who worked for them would I gladly go
 með ykkur”, segir hann. Svá fekk hann um talat, at þeir
with you-two says he So got he about talked that they
 létu hann fylgja sér. Var fjúkanda mjök ok kalt. Enn
let him follow themselves Was drifting-snow very and cold But
 með því, at þessi maður var umfangsmikill ok hinn mesti
with that that this man was a-busybody and the greatest
 gárungur, átti hann kenningarnafn, ok kallaður glaumur. “Mikit
buffoon had he a-nickname and called Glaum Much
 fanst þeim um í Glaumbæ, er þú gekst þar heim
was-found to-them about(-it) at Glaumbaer when you walked there home
 hettulauss í því illviðri”, sagði Glaumur, “hvárt þú myndir því
hoodless in that foul-weather said Glaum whether you would the
 hraustari, sem þú vart ókulvísari; enn hér váru bóndasynir
hardier as you were less-sensitive-to-cold but here were farmer's-sons
 tveir, afburðarmenn allmiklir, ok kvaddi sauðamaður þá til
two outstanding-men very-great and summoned (the)-shepherd them to
 fjár með sér, ok þóttust varla geta klætt sik
(the)-sheep with himself and thought-themselves hardly able to-clothe themselves
 fyrir kulda”. Grettir mælti: “Sá ek einn ungan mann inn í
for cold Grettir spoke Saw I a young man in in
 dyrum, ok dró þar á sik vöttu sína, enn annarr gekk
(the)-doorway and drew there on himself mittens his but (the)-other went
 á milli fjóss ok haugs, ok mun ek hvárigan þeira
in between (the)-cow-shed and (the)-dung-heap and will I neither of-them
 hræðast”. Eftir þat fóru þeir ofan til Reyniness, ok váru þar
fear After that went they down to Reynines and were there
 um náttina. Þaðan fóru þeir út á ströndina til þess bæjar,
over the-night Thence went they out onto the-shore to that farm

er at Reykjum hét; þar bjó sá maðr, er Þorvaldr
which at Reykir was-called there dwelt that man who Thorvald
 hét, ok var góðr bóndi. Bað Grettir hann ásja,
was-called and was a-good farmer Asked Grettir him (for)-protection
 ok sagði honum fyrirætlan sína, at hann vildi komast út
and told him purpose his that he wished to-get out
 í Drangey. Bóndi sagði, at Skagfirðingum myndi þat
to Drangey (The)-farmer said that to-(the)-Skagafjord-men would that
 þykja eigi vinsending, ok taldist undan. Grettir tók þá
seem not a-friendly-gift and talked-himself off Grettir took then
 fésjóð, er móðir hans hafði gefit honum, ok fekk
(the)-money-purse which mother his had given him and gave(-it)
 bónda. Hann varð léttbrýnn við féit, ok fekk til
(the)-farmer He became cheered at the-money and got to(-it)
 húskarla sína þrjá at flytja þá um náttina í tungsljósi.
house-carls his three to ferry them over the-night in moonlight
 Frá Reykjum er skamt til eyjarinnar, ok er þat vika sjós.
From Reykir is short to the-island and is that a-mile of-sea
 Enn er þeir kvámu í eyna, þótti Gretti þar gott um
But when they came to the-island seemed to-Grettir there good about
 at litast, því at hon var grasi vaxin, enn sjábrött, svá
to look-around because that it was with-grass grown but sea-steep so
 at hvergi mátti upp á komast, nema þar sem stigarnir
that nowhere could up onto(-it) come except there where the-ladders
 váru við látnir; ok ef upp var dreginn hinn efri stigin,
were to let-down and if up was drawn the upper ladder
 þá var þat einskis manns færleikr, at komast á eyna.
then was that no man's ability to come onto the-island
 Þar var þá ok fuglberg mikit á sumrum. Þar var þá
There was then also a-bird-cliff great in summers There were then
 áttatigi sauða í eyinni, er bændr áttu; þat váru mest
eighty sheep on the-island which (the)-farmers owned they were mostly

hrútar ok ær, er þeir ætluðu til skurðar. Settist Grettir
rams and ewes which they intended for slaughter Settled-himself Grettir
 þar nú um kyrt; þá hafði hann fimtán vetr eða sextán
there now at rest then had he fifteen winters or sixteen
 í sekt verit, at því sem Sturla Þórðarson hefir sagt.
in outlawry been according-to that which Sturla Thord's-son has said

LXX · THE OWNERS OF DRANGEY

The chapter names the chieftains of Skagafjörðr when Grettir came to Drangey: Hjalti Þórðarson at Hof, his brother Þorbjörn öngull, Halldórr at Hof on Höfðaströnd, Björn at Haganes, Tungu-Steinn, and Eiríkr of Goðdalir. Þorbjörn öngull's stepmother once struck him in the eye with a game piece, and he handled her so roughly that she died. No fewer than twenty men owned shares, among them two strong brothers named Þórðr at Breiðá. None would sell, and Hjalti and Þorbjörn owned the most.

Þá er Grettir kom í Drangey, váru þessir heraðshöfðingjar
Then when Grettir came to Drangey were these district-chieftains
 í Skagafirði: Hjalti bjó at Hofi í Hjaltadal, son Þórðar
in Skagafjord Hjalti dwelt at Hof in Hjaltadal son of-Thord
 Hjaltasonar, Þórðarsonar skálps. Hjalti var höfðingi ok
Hjaltri's-son Thord's-son Skalp Hjalti was a-chieftain and
 göfugmenni mikit ok vinsæll. Þorbjörn hét bróðir hans;
a-noble-man great and popular Thorbjorn was-called brother his
 hann var mikill maðr ok sterkr, ok harðfengr ok ódæll.
he was a-big man and strong and hardy and overbearing
 Þórðr faðir þeira hafði kvángast í elli sinni, ok var sú
Thord father their had married in old-age his and was that
 kona eigi móðir þeira bræðra. Hon var illa til stjúp barna
woman not (the)-mother of-those brothers She was ill to step-children

sinna, ok verst til Þorbjarnar, því at hann var illfengr
her and worst to Thorbjorn because that he was hard-to-deal-with
 ok ófyrirleitinn. Þat var eitt sinn, at Þorbjörn öngull sat
and reckless It was one time that Thorbjorn Hook sat
 at tafl; þá gekk stjúpmóðir hans þar hjá, ok sá at hann
at chess then went stepmother his there past and saw that he
 tefldi hnettafl; þat var stórt halatafl. Henni þótti hann
played knob-chess that was a-large tail-board To-her seemed he
 óþreifinn, ok kastaði at honum nökkurum orðum, enn hann
clumsy and threw at him some words but he
 svaraði illa. Hon greip þá upp töfluna, ok setti halann á
answered ill She grabbed then up the-piece and set the-tail on
 kinnbein Þorbirni, ok hljóp af í augat, svá at úti lá á
(the)-cheekbone to-Thorbjorn and leaped off into the-eye so that out lay on
 kinninni. Hann hljóp upp, ok þreif til hennar óþyrmilega,
the-cheek He leaped up and seized at her roughly
 svá at hon lagðist í rekkju af, ok af því dó hon síðan,
so that she laid-herself in bed from(-it) and of that died she later
 ok sögðu menn, at hon hefði verit ólétt. Síðan varð hann
and said men that she had been pregnant Then became he
 hinn mesti óeirðarmaðr; tók hann þá við fé sínu, ok bjó
the greatest unruly-man took he then over money his and dwelt
 fyrst í Viðvík. Halldórr Þórðarson, Þórðarsonar frá Höfða,
first at Vidvik Halldor Thord's-son Thord's-son from Hofdi
 bjó at Hofi á Höfðaströnd; hann átti Þórdísi Þórðardóttur.
dwelt at Hof on Hofilastrond he had Thordis Thord's-daughter
 systur þeira bræðra. Hjalta ok Þorbjarnar önguls. Halldórr
sister of-those brothers Hjalti and Thorbjorn Hook Halldor
 var gildir bóndi ok ríkr at fé. Björn hét maðr, er
was a-stout farmer and rich in money Bjorn was-called a-man who
 bjó á Haganesi í Fljótum; hann var vinr Halldórs at
dwelt at Haganes in Fljot he was friend of-Halldor at

Hofi. Þessir veittust at hverju máli. Tungu-Steinn
Hof These supported-each-other in every case Tungu-Stein
 hét maðr, er bjó á Steinsstöðum; hann var Bjarnarson,
was-called a-man who dwelt at Steinsstadir he was Bjorn's-son
 Ófeigssonar þunnskeggs, kráku-Hreiðarssonar, þess er Eiríkr
Ofeig's-son Thin-beard Crow-Hreidar's-son that-one whom Eirik
 í Goðdölum gaf tunguna niðr frá Skálamýri. Steinn
in Goddalir gave the-tongue-of-land down from Skalamyr Stein
 var frægr maðr. Eiríkr hét maðr, son hólmgöngu-Starra,
was a-famous man Eirik was-called a-man son of-Holm-going-Starri
 Eiríkssonar ór Goðdölum, Hróaldssonar, Geirmundarsonar
Eirik's-son out-of Goddalir Hroald's-son Geirmund's-son
 örðigskeggja; hann bjó at Hofi í Goðdölum. Þessir váru allir
Stiff-beard he dwelt at Hof in Goddalir These were all
 virðingamenn miklir. Bræðr tveir bjuggu þar, sem heitir
men-of-honor great Brothers two dwelt there where (it)-is-called
 at Breiða í Sléttahlíð, ok hét Þórðr hvárrtveggja; þeir
at Breida in Slettablid and was-called Thord each-of-the-two they
 váru rammir at afli, ok þó gæfir menn. Þeir áttu allir
were mighty in strength and yet mild men They owned all
 part í Drangey. Svá segja menn, at eigi ætti færri menn
a-part in Drangey So say men that not owned fewer men
 í eyjunni, enn tuttugu, ok vildi engi sinn part öðrum
in the-island than twenty and wished no-one his part to-another
 selja. Þórðarsynir áttu mest í, því at þeir váru ríkastir.
to-sell (The)-Thordarsons owned most in-(it) because that they were richest

Around the winter solstice the farmers row out to fetch their sheep and find the ladders drawn up and men on the island. Grettir names himself and refuses to leave. He says he will keep what he has taken unless he is dragged away dead, and rejects every offer of money. The farmers go home in dismay and spend the winter without finding a way to remove him.

Nú liðr fram at sólhvörfum; þá bjuggust bændr at
Now passes forth to (the)-solstice then made-ready (the)-farmers to
 sækja slátrfé sitt í eyna. Þeir skipuðu skútu, ok fekk
fetch slaughter-stock their on the-island They manned a-boat and got
 hvern mann fyrir sik, enn sumir tvá. Enn er þeir kvámu
each a-man for himself but some two But when they came
 nær eyjunni, sáu þeir þar menn á felli. Þat þótti þeim
near the-island saw they there men on (the)-hill That seemed to-them
 undarlegt, ok gátu þess til, at nokkurir menn myndu
strange and guessed that to(-it) that some men would
 hafa brotið þar skip sitt, ok komizt þar á land. Reru
have broken there ship their and got-themselves there on land Rowed
 nú þar at, sem stigarnir váru, enn hinir, sem fyrir váru,
now there to where the-ladders were but the-others who before were
 drógu upp stigana. Þá þótti bændum undarlega við
drew up the-ladders Then seemed to-(the)-farmers strangely with(-it)
 bregða, ok kölluðu á þá, ok spurðu, hverir þar væri fyrir.
to-turn and called on them and asked who there were before
 Grettir nefndi sik, ok svá sína féлага. Bændr spurðu,
Grettir named himself and so his comrades (The)-farmers asked
 hvern hann flutti út í eyna. Grettir svarar: “Sá flutti mik,
who him brought out to the-island Grettir answers He brought me
 sem farit átti ok hendrnar hafði, ok meiri var minn vinr,
who the-vessel owned and the-hands had and more was my friend

enn yðvarr". Bændr svöruðu: "Láttu oss ná fé váru ok
than yours (The)-farmers answered Let-you us get livestock our and
 far til lands með oss, ok haf frjálst þat, sem þú hefir niðr
go to land with us and have free that which you have down
 lagt af fé váru". Grettir svarar: "Vel er þat boðit, enn
laid of livestock our Grettir answers Well is that offered but
 þó munu nú hvárir hafa þat, sem fengit hafa, ok er þat
yet will now each-side have that which (they)-gotten have and is that
 skjótt at segja yðr, at heðan ferr ek eigi, nema ek sé dauðr
quickly to tell you that hence go I not unless I be dead
 um dreginn; eigi læt ek laust þat, sem ek hefi höndum
out dragged not let I loose that which I have hands
 á komit". Nú þögnuðu bændr, ok þótti mikill vágestr
on brought Now fell-silent (the)-farmers and seemed a-great dangerous-guest
 kominn í Drangey; buðu þeir honum nú marga kosti, bæði
come to Drangey offered they him now many terms both
 með fégjöfum ok fögrum heitum, enn Grettir neitti öllu,
with money-gifts and fair promises but Grettir refused all
 ok fóru bændr á burt við svá búit, ok undu illa við
and went (the)-farmers off away with so settled and were-content ill with
 sinn hlut; sögðu þeir heraðsmönnum, hverr vargr kominn
their lot told they (the)-district-men what wolf come
 var í eyrna. Þetta kom mjök á þá óvara, ok þótti eigi
was to the-island This came very on them unawares and seemed not
 hægt til atgerða; áttu þeir um þetta at tala um vetrinn,
easy for action had they about this to talk over the-winter
 ok gátu eigi ráð til sét, at koma Gretti ór eyinni.
and could not a-way to(-it) see to bring Grettir out-of the-island

In spring Grettir goes ashore in shabby clothes and comes unrecognized to the Hegrane's assembly, where young men are wrestling. Þorbjörn öngull presses men into the games but cannot move the stranger, who calls himself Gestr. When they urge him to wrestle one of the two strong Þórðr brothers, he asks first for a truce until he gets home. Hafr Þórarinnsson, a good speaker, begins to proclaim it.

Líðr nú þar til, er menn fara til Hegrane'sþings um v́́rit;
Passes now there until when men go to Hegrane's-assembly in the-spring
 kom fjölmenni mikit ór öllum heruðum, þeim sem menn
came a-crowd great out-of all districts those which men
 áttu þangat at sækja. Sátu menn þar lengi á v́́rit bæði
had thither to go Sat men there long in the-spring both
 yfir málum ok gleði, því at þá var margt gleðimanna í
over cases and merriment because that then was many merry-men in
 heruðum. Enn er Grettir spurði, at alþýða manna
(the)-districts But when Grettir learned that (the)-common-people of-men
 var farinn til þingsins, hafði hann gert ráð við vini sína,
was gone to the-assembly had he made plans with friends his
 því at hann átti ávalt gott við þá, sem næstir honum
because that he had always good with those who nearest him
 v́́ru, ok sparði ekki við þá, þat sem hann fekk til.
were and spared not toward them that which he got to(-it)
 Hann sagði at hann vildi fara til lands til atdráttu; enn
He said that he wished to-go to land for supplies but
 þeir Illugi ok Glaumr skyldi eftir vera. Óráðlegt þótti Illuga
they Illugi and Glaumr should behind be Ill-advised seemed to-Illugi
 þetta vera, enn lét þó svá vera, sem Grettir vildi. Hann bað
this to-be but let yet so be as Grettir wished He bade
 þá geyma stigans, ok sagði þeim þar á liggja. Eftir þat
them watch the-ladder and told them there on(-it) to-lie After that

fór hann á land, ok aflaði þess er hann þóttist þurfa.
went he to land and gathered that which he thought-himself to-need
 Hann duldist nú, hvar sem hann kom, ok varði engan,
He hid-himself now wherever that he came and suspected no-one
 at hann myndi á land kominn. Nú spurði hann af þinginu,
that he would on land come Now learned he of the-assembly
 at þar var gleði mikil. Var Gretti forvitni á at koma
that there was merriment great Was to-Grettir curiosity on(-it) to come
 til þingsins, ok tekr fornan búning, heldr vandan, ok kemr
to the-assembly and takes old garb rather bad and comes
 svá á þingit, at menn gengu frá lögrétu heim til
so to the-assembly that men walked from (the)-Law-Council home to
 búða. Þá töluðu til sumir menn ungir, at veður væri
(the)-booths Then talked to(-it) some men young that (the)-weather were
 gott ok fagrt, ok sé gott ungum mönnum at hafa glímur
good and fair and be good for-young men to have wrestlings
 ok skemtan. Þeir kváðu þat allráðlegt. Fóru menn þá, ok
and entertainment They said that very-advisable Went men then and
 settust niður fram frá búðunum. Gengu þeir Þórðarsynir
sat-themselves down forth from the-booths Went they (the)-Thorðarsons
 mest fyrir skemtanni. Þorbjörn öngull var uppvöðslumikill,
most before the-entertainment Thorbjorn Hook was very-pushy
 ok ruddi fast til gleði; varð hverr til at fara, sem hann
and pressed hard for merriment must each to(-it) to go as be
 vildi; tók hann í hendr hverjum manni, ok hnykti fram
wished took he at (the)-hands of-each man and jerked(-him) forth
 á völinn. Nú glímdu fyrst þeir, sem ósterkastir váru, ok
onto the-field Now wrestled first those who least-strong were and
 þá hverr af öðrum, ok gerðist af þessu gleði mikil;
then each after (the)-other and became from this merriment great
 enn er flestir höfðu glímt, nema þeir, sem sterkastir váru,
but when most had wrestled except those who strongest were

áttu bændr um at tala, hverr til myndi verða, at taka á
had (the)-farmers about to talk who to(-it) would be to take on
 öðrum hvarum þeira Þórðanna, er fyrr váru nefndir; enn þar
(the)-one or-other of-them of-the-Thords who before were named but there
 varð engi til. Þeir gengu þá fyrir ýmsa menn, ok buðu
became no-one to(-it) They went then before various men and offered
 sik fram; enn því firr fór sem nær kallaði. Þorbjörn
themselves forth but the further went as nearer called Thorbjorn
 öngull litast þá um, ok sá, hvar maðr sat, mikill vexti, ok
Hook looks then about and saw where a-man sat big in-stature and
 sá óglögt í andlit honum. Þorbjörn þreif til hans, ok kipti
saw unclearly into (the)-face to-him Thorbjorn seized at him and jerked
 honum fast. Hann sat kyrr ok bifaðist hvergi. Þá mælti
him hard He sat still and budged nowhere Then spoke
 Þorbjörn: “Engi hefir setit jafnfast fyrir mér í dag sem þú;
Thorbjorn No-one has sat as-fast before me in day as you
 eða hverr er þessi maðr?” Hann svarar: “Gestr heiti ek”.
or who is this man He answers Gest am-called I
 Þorbjörn mælti: “Þú munt vilja skemta nökkuru, ok ertu
Thorbjorn spoke You will wish to-entertain somewhat and are-you
 aufúsugestr”. Hann svarar: “Skjótt þykki mér margt skipast
a-welcome-guest He answers Quickly seems to-me much to-change
 kunna, ok mun ek eigi hlaupa í leik með yðr, enn mér
can and will I not leap into play with you but to-me
 er alt ókunnigt fyrir”. Töluðu þá margir, at hann væri góðs
is all unknown here Talked then many that he were good
 fyrir verðr, ef hann vildi skemta mönnum nökkuru, ókunnr
for worthy if he would entertain men somewhat an-unknown
 maðr. Hann spurði, hvers þeir beiddi hann. Þeir báðu
man He asked what they asked him They bade
 hann glíma við einhvern. Hann kvaðst niðr hafa lagt at
him wrestle with someone He said-of-himself down to-have laid to

rjá — “enn gaman þótti mér at því um skeið”. Enn er
wrestle but amusement seemed to-me in that for a-time But when
 hann afneitti eigi með öllu, báðu þeir hann því meir. Hann
he refused not with all asked they him the more He
 mælti: “Ef yðr þykkir undir um, at ek sé dreginn, þá
spoke If to-you seems at-stake about(-it) that I be drawn-in then
 munu þér þat til vinna, at handsala mér grið hér á
will you that for(-it) do to give-by-handsake me truce here at
 þinginu, ok þar til sem ek kem til heimilis míns”. Þá þutu
the-assembly and there until when I come to home my Then rushed
 upp allir ok kváðust þat gjarna vilja. Hafr hét sá
up all and said-of-themselves that gladly to-wish Hafr was-called that
 maðr, er mest fýsti, at þessum manni væri grið gefin; hann
man who most urged that to-this man were truce given he
 var Þórarinsson, Hafrssonar, Þórðarsonar knapps, er land
was Thorarin's-son Hafr's-son Thord's-son Knapp who land
 hafði numit upp frá Stíflu í Fljótum til Tunguár. Hann bjó
had taken up from Stifla in Fljot to Tungua He dwelt
 á Knappsstöðum, ok var orðamaðr mikill. Hann sagði fyrir
at Knappsstadir and was a-word-man great He spoke forth
 griðum með mikilli röksemd, ok er þetta upphaf á:
(the)-truce with great eloquence and is this (the)-beginning on(-it)

LXXIII • THE TRUCE

Hafr proclaims the truce for the stranger Gestr in a long, solemn formula. It binds all the farmers and people of Hegrane to keep peace with him until he comes home, and it outlaws anyone who breaks it from God, from good men, and from every place where men go. Its images run through wolves hunted, fires lit, ships gliding, and the world turning, and all present join hands on it before God and men.

“Hér set ek grið”, segir hann, “allra manna á millum,
Here set I truce says he of-all men in between
 einkanlega þessum sama Gesti til nefndum, er hér sitr, ok at
especially for-this same Gest to named who here sits and with
 undirskildum öllum goðorðsmönnum ok gildum bændum, ok
understood all priest-chieftains and worthy farmers and
 allri alþýðu ungra manna ok vápnfærra, ok allir aðrir
all (the)-common-people of-young men and of-weapon-bearing and all other
 heraðsmenn í Hegranesþingi, eða hvaðan sem hverir eru
district-men in Hegranes-assembly or whencesoever that each are
 at komnir nefndra manna eða ónefndra, handsölum grið og
to come of-named men or of-unnamed with-handsbakes truce and
 fullan frið kvámumanni hinum ókunna, er Gestr nefnist, til
full peace to-(the)-comer the unknown who Gest names-himself for
 gamans, glímu ok gleði allrar, til hérvistar ok heimferðar,
fun of-wrestling and merriment all for stay-here and journey-home
 hvárt er hann þarf at fara á legi eða landi eða flutningi;
whether that he needs to go on sea or land or conveyance
 skal hann hafa grið í öllum stöðum, nefndum ok ónefndum,
shall he have truce in all places named and unnamed
 svá lengi sem hann þarf til heillar heimkvámu, at höldnum
so long as he needs for whole homecoming with kept
 trygðum. Set ek þessi grið fyrir oss ok vára frændr, vini
pledges Set I this truce for us and our kinsmen friends
 ok venzlamenn, svá konur sem karla, þýjar ok þrælar,
and relations-by-marriage so women as men bondwomen and thralls
 sveina ok sjálfráða menn. Sé sá griðníðingr, er griðin rýfr
boys and free men Be he a-truce-breaker who the-truce breaks
 eða trygðum spillir, rækr ok rekinn frá guði ok góðum
or pledges spoils an-outcast and driven from God and good
 mönnum ór himinríki, ok frá öllum helgum mönnum, ok
men out-of heaven-kingdom and from all holy men and

hvergi hæfr manna í milli, ok svá frá öllum út flæmdr, sem
nowhere fit men in among and so from all out chased as
 (menn) víðast varga reka, eða kristnir menn kirkjur sækja,
men most-widely wolves hunt or Christian men churches seek
 heiðnir menn hof blóta, eldr brennr, jörð grær, mælt barn
heathen men temples worship fire burns earth grows speaking child
 móður kallar, ok móðir mög fæðir, ald(n)ir elda kynda, skip
mother calls and mother son bears (old)-men fires kindle ship
 skríðr, skildir blika, sól skín, snjá legggr, Finnir skríðr, fura
glides shields gleam sun shines snow lies Finn skis fir
 vex, valr flýgr várlangan dag, ok standi honum beinn
grows falcon flies (the)-spring-long day and stand to-him a-straight
 byrr undir báða vængi, himinn hverfr, heimr er bygðr, ok
wind under both wings heaven turns world is inhabited and
 vindr veitir vötn til sjávar, karlar korni sá; hann skal firrast
wind blows waters to (the)-sea men grain sow he shall shun
 kirkjur ok kristna menn, heiðna hölda, hús ok hella, heim
churches and Christian men heathen men's houses and caves world
 hvern, nema helvíti. Nú skulu vér vera sáttir ok sammála
every except hell Now shall we be reconciled and of-one-mind
 hverr við annan í huga góðum, hvárt sem vér finnumst á
each with (the)-other in mind good whether that we meet on
 fjalli eða fjöru, skipi eða skíði, jörðu eða jökli, í hafi eða
mountain or shore ship or ski earth or glacier on sea or
 á hestbaki, svá sem vin sinn í vatni finni, eða bróður
on horseback so as friend his in water (one)-finds or brother
 sinn á braut finni, jafnsáttir hverr við annan sem sonr við
his on road finds as-reconciled each with (the)-other as son with
 föður, eða faðir við son, í samförum öllum. Nú leggjum vér
father or father with son in dealings all Now lay we
 hendr saman, ok allir vér, ok höldum vel griðin, ok öll orð
hands together and all we and hold-we well the-truce and all words

töluð í trygðum þessum, at vitni guðs ok góðra manna, ok
spoken in pledges these at witness of-God and good men and
 allra þeira, er orð mín heyra, eða nökkurir eru nærstaddir”.
all of-those who words my hear or any are present

LXXIV · THE WRESTLING

Gestr throws off his cloak, and the men see that he is Grettir. They fall silent and blame Hafr. While the chieftains confer, Grettir speaks verses mocking them. Hjalti Þórðarson insists that the truce be kept. Grettir throws one Þórðr over his head, then wrestles both brothers together and always keeps one of them under him. Men admire how the Skagaffjörðr men kept the truce, and several farmers sell their shares of Drangey to Þorbjörn öngull, who undertakes to get Grettir off the island.

Tóku þá margir til orða, at mikit var um mælt. Gestr
Took then many to words that much was about spoken Gest
 mælti þá: “Vel hefir þú um mælt ok sagt, ef þér spillið eigi
spoke then Well have you about spoken and said if you spoil not
 um síðar; skal ek nú eigi dvelja, þat sem ek hefi til fram
about(-it) later shall I now not delay that which I have to forth
 at láta”. Eftir þat kastaði hann kufinum, ok því næst
to let(-go) After that threw-off he the-cowl and thereupon next
 öllum bolklæðum. Þá leit hverr til annars, ok brá mjök
all (the)-body-clothes Then looked each to (the)-other and started very
 vá fyrir grön; þóttust þeir kenna, at þetta var Grettir
woe over (the)-lip thought-themselves they to-recognize that this was Grettir
 Ásmundarson, því at hann var ólíkr öðrum mönnum fyrir
Asmund's-son because that he was unlike other men for
 vaxtar sakir og þrekleika, ok þögnuðu nú allir, enn Hafr
growth's sake and sturdiness and fell-silent now all but Hafr
 þóttist ósvinnr orðinn. Gengu nú tveir ok tveir saman
thought-himself foolish become Went now two and two together

af heraðsmönnum, ok ámælti hverr öðrum, enn þeim mest,
of district-men and blamed each (the)-other but him most
 er fyrir griðunum hafði sagt. Þá mælti Grettir: “Gerðið
who before the-truce had spoken Then spoke Grettir Make
 greiðlegt fyrir mér, hvat yðr býr í skapi; því at eigi sit
clear for me what to-you lives in mind because that not sit
 ek lengi klæðlauss; eigið þér miklu meira í hættu enn ek,
I long clothesless have you much more at stake than I
 hvárt þér haldið grið yður eða eigi”. Þeir svöruðu fá, ok
whether you bold truce your or not They answered little and
 settust niðr. Þórðarsynir og Halldórr mágr þeira
sat-themselves down (The)-Thordarsons and Halldor kinsman-by-marriage their
 tóku nú tal með sér. Vildu sumir halda griðin, enn
took now talk among themselves Wished some to-hold the-truce but
 sumir eigi. Hnippaði hverr kolli at öðrum. Grettir kvað vísu:
some not Nudged each head to (the)-other Grettir spoke a-verse

Dulizk hefir margr í morgin

Deceived has many-a in (the)-morning

menja runnr við kunnan;

of-necklaces bush against (the)-known

renna víst á runna

run surely to (the)-bushes

rannsíma tvær grímur.

of-house-rope two masks

Skotit es heldr fyr hölda

Shot is rather before men

hvassorða leikborði;

of-sharp-words play-board

öld bilar orð at halda;

people fail word to hold

alt dró slafr af Hafri.

all drew slaver from Hafri

Þá mælti Tungu-Steinn: “Þykki þér svá vera, Grettir; eða

Then spoke Tungu-Steinn Seems to-you so to-be Grettir or

hvat munu þeir af ráða, höfðingjarnir? Enn satt er þat, at

what will they of decide the-chieftains But true is that that

þú ert afbragðsmaðr fyrir hreysti sakir, eða sér þú eigi, at

you are an-outstanding-man for valor sake or see you not that

hverr þeira kjár nefinu at öðrum?” Grettir kvað þá vísu:

each of-them puts-close the-nose to (the)-other Grettir spoke then a-verse

Heldu Hlakkar tjalda

Held of-Hlokk of-tents

hefjendr saman nefjum,

(the)-raisers together noses

Hildar veggs ok hjoggust

of-Hild wall and bewed

hregg-Nirðir til skeggjum;

storm-Njords to beards

ok geðstrangir gengu

and mind-stern went

— griða tóku at iðrask —

of-truce began to regret

Svafnis látrs í sveitir

of-Svafnir lair into bands

sviftendr, es mik kendu.

(the)-snatchers when me (they)-recognized

Þá mælti Hjalti Þórðarson: "Eigi skal svá vera", segir
Then spoke Hjalti Thord's-son Not shall so be says
 hann; "halda skulu vér grið vár, þó at vár hafi orðit
be hold shall we truce our though that of-us have become
 hyggindismunr; vil ek eigi, at menn hafi þat til eftirdæma,
a-difference-of-wits wish I not that men have that for examples
 at vér sjálfir höfum gengit á grið þau, sem vér höfum sett
that we ourselves have gone on truce those which we have set
 og seld; skal Grettir fara liðugr þangat sem hann vill, ok
and given shall Grettir go free thither where he wishes and
 hafa grið til þess, er hann kemr aftur ór þessarri ferð; eru
have truce until that when he comes back from this journey are
 þá úti þessi trygðamál, hvat sem í gerist með oss".
then out these truce-words whatever which in(-it) happens between us
 Allir þökkuðu honum fyrir, ok þótti honum höfðingléga
All thanked him for(-it) and seemed him in-chieftain's-fashion
 gera, slíkar sakir sem til váru. Þorbjörn öngull varð hljóðr
to-do such offenses as to(-it) were Thorbjorn Hook became silent
 við. Var þá talat til, at annarrhvár þeira Þórðanna myndi
at(-it) Was then talked to(-it) that one-or-the-other of-them of-the-Thords would
 taka á Gretti, enn hann bað þá ráða. Nú gekk annarr fram
take on Grettir but he bade them decide Now went (the)-one forth
 þeira bræðra. Grettir stóð fyrir réttur, enn hinn hljóp at
of-them brothers Grettir stood before upright but the-other ran at
 honum sem snarast, ok Grettir hvergi ór sporum. Grettir
him as quickest and Grettir nowhere out-of (his)-tracks Grettir
 seildist aftur yfir bak Þórði, ok tók svá í brækrnar, ok
reached back over (the)-back to-Thord and took so at the-breeches and
 kipti upp fótunum, ok kastaði honum aftur yfir höfuð sér,
 jerked up the-feet and threw him backward over head his
 svá at hann kom at herðum niðr, ok varð þat allmikil fall.
so that he came on shoulders down and became that a-very-great fall

Þá mæltu menn, at þeir skyldi fara til báðir bræðrnir
Then said men that they should go to(-it) both the-brothers
 senn, ok svá var gert; þá urðu allmiklar sviftingar, ok
at-once and so was done then became very-great tussles and
 máttu ýmsir betr, enn þó hafði Grettir ávalt annanhvárn
could each-in-turn better but yet had Grettir always one-or-the-other
 undir, enn ýmsir fóru á kné eða slyðrur fyrir öðrum;
under but each-in-turn went onto knee or stumbles before (the)-other
 svá tókust þeir fast á, at hvetvetna var blátt ok blóðríska.
so gripped they hard on(-it) that everything was blue and bleeding
 Öllum þótti at þessu hin mesta skemtun; ok er þeir hættu,
To-all seemed in this the greatest entertainment and when they stopped
 þökkuðu allir þeim fyrir glímuna, ok var þat dómr
thanked all them for the-wrestling and was that (the)-judgment
 þeira, er hjá sátu, at þeir væri eigi sterkari tveir enn
their who by sat that they were not stronger two than
 Grettir einn, enn hvárr þeira hafði tveggja manna megin,
Grettir alone but each of-them had two men's might
 þeira sem gildir váru. Þeir váru svá jafnstærkir, at hvárrgi
of-those who stout were They were so equally-strong that neither
 bar af öðrum, ef þeir reyndu með sér. Grettir var eigi
bore off (the)-other if they tried between themselves Grettir was not
 lengi á þinginu. Bændr báðu hann gefa upp eyna, enn
long at the-assembly (The)-farmers bade him give up the-island but
 hann neitti því, ok gátu bændr ekki at gert. Grettir fór
he refused that and could (the)-farmers nothing to(-it) done Grettir went
 aftr til Drangeyjar, ok tók Illugi feginsamlega við honum.
back to Drangey and took Illugi joyfully with him
 Settust þeir um kyrt. Sagði Grettir þeim nú frá ferðum
Settled-themselves they at rest Told Grettir them now of journeys
 sínum. Leið nú fram á sumarit. Öllum þótti Skagfirðingar
bis Passed now forth into the-summer To-all seemed (the)-Skagafjord-men

mikinn drengskap sýnt hafa, hversu þeir heldu vel grið sín,
great manliness shown to-have how they held well truce their
 ok má þá af slíku marka, hverir dygðamenn þá váru,
and may then from such judge what honorable-men then were
 slíkar sakir sem Grettir hafði gert við þá. Bændr þeir,
such offenses as Grettir had done toward them (The)-farmers those
 sem óríkari váru, töluðu með sér, at þeim væri lítit
who less-powerful were talked among themselves that to-them were little
 gagn at eiga lítinn part í Drangey, ok buðu nú at selja
use to have a-small part in Drangey and offered now to sell
 Þórðarsonum; enn Hjalti kvaðst eigi kaupa vilja, enn
to-(the)-Thordarsons but Hjalti said-of-himself not to-buy to-wish but
 bændr skildu þat til, at sá, er kaupa vildi, skyldi
(the)-farmers stipulated that as-condition that he who buy wished should
 annathvært drepa Gretti, eða koma honum burt. Þorbjörn
either kill Grettir or bring him away Thorbjorn
 öngull kvaðst eigi spara at bindast fyrir um atför við
Hook said-of-himself not to-spare to bind-himself for(-it) for an-attack on
 Gretti, ef þeir vildi gefa honum fé til. Hjalti bróðir hans
Grettir if they would give him money for(-it) Hjalti brother his
 lagði af við hann sinn part í eyjunni, því at Þorbjörn
laid off to him his part in the-island because that Thorbjorn
 var þeira harðfengari ok óvinsæll. Svá gerðu þá fleiri bændr.
was of-them hardier and unpopular So did then more farmers
 Fekk Þorbjörn öngull þá mikinn hlut eyjarinnar með litlu
Got Thorbjorn Hook then great part of-the-island with little
 verði; enn hann bazi undir, at koma. Gretti á burtu.
price but he bound-himself under(-it) to bring Grettir off away

In late summer Þorbjörn öngull rows to Drangey and asks Grettir to leave, offering help in return and saying that many farmers have given their shares over to him. Grettir answers that this settles it: he will never leave. Now it lies between the two of them, he says, and neither need spare the other, so Þorbjörn may spare himself the journeys. Þorbjörn warns that everything has its time and Grettir can expect ill, and they part.

At áliðnu sumri fór Þorbjörn öngull með alskipaða skútu
At late-passed summer went Thorbjorn Hook with a-fully-manned boat
 til Drangeyar, enn þeir Grettir gengu fram á bjargit.
to Drangey but they Grettir(-and-his) went forth onto the-cliff
 Töluðust þeir þá við. Bað Þorbjörn Gretti gera fyrir orð sín,
Talked they then together Bade Thorbjorn Grettir do for words his
 at fara ór eyjunni. Grettir kvað þess enga ván. Þorbjörn
to go out-of the-island Grettir said of-that no expectation Thorbjorn
 mælti: “Vera má, at ek mega gera þér þvílíkt liðsinni, þótt
spoke Be may that I may do you such help though
 þú gerðir þetta; enn nú hafa bændr margir lagt upp við mik,
you did this but now have farmers many given up to me
 þat er þeir hafa átt í eyjunni”. Grettir svarar: “Nú kvattu
that which they have owned in the-island Grettir answers Now said-you
 þat upp, at ek er ráðinn til at ganga heðan aldri, er þú
that up that I am determined for to go hence never when you
 sagðist eiga mestan hlut eyjarinnar; er þat vel, þó at
said-of-yourself to-own greatest part of-the-island is that well though that
 vit deilim kálit; enn þat var satt, at mér þótti erfitt,
we-two share the-cabbage but that was true that to-me seemed hard
 at hafa alla Skagfirðinga í móti mér, enn hér er hvárrgi
to have all (the)-Skagaford-men in against me but here is neither
 til sparandi, því at vit munum eigi kafna í vinsældum
to(-be) spared because that we-two will not suffocate in (the)-popularity

manna; máttu vel af leggja ferðir þínar hingat, því at alt
of-men may-you well off lay journeys your hither because that all
 er um gert fyrir mér". "Sinnar stundar bíðr hvat", sagði
is about done for me Its-own time awaits each-thing said
 Þorbjörn, "ok muntu ills bíða". "Hætt mun á þat verða",
Thorbjorn and will-you evil await Risk will on that become
 sagði Grettir; ok skildu við svá búit. Fór Þorbjörn heim aftr.
said Grettir and parted with so settled Went Thorbjorn home back

LXXVI · THE FIRE GOES OUT

After two winters on the island they have slaughtered nearly all the sheep but keep one tame gray-bellied ram. The thrall Glaumr grows lazy and grumbling, and one night he lets the fire go out while they have no boat. Illugi thinks they must wait for a ship, but Grettir would rather risk swimming to land, a sea-mile away. Illugi fears for them both if anything happens to him, and Grettir answers that he will not drown, though he will trust the thrall less from now on.

Svá er sagt, at þá er Grettir hafði tvá vetr verit í
So is said that then when Grettir had two winters been in
 Drangey, þá höfðu þeir skorit flestalt sauðfé, þat sem þar
Drangey then had they slaughtered nearly-all sheep that which there
 hafði verit, enn einn hrút létu þeir lifa, svá at getit sé;
had been but one ram let they live so that mentioned be
 hann var hösmögóttir at lit ok hyrndr mjök. At honum
it was gray-bellied in color and horned very Of it
 hendu þeir mikit gaman, því at hann var svá spakr, at
made they great amusement because that it was so tame that
 hann stóð fyrir úti, ok rann eftir þeim þar sem þeir gengu;
it stood in-front outside and ran after them there where they went
 hann gekk heim til skála á kveldin, ok gneri hornum sínum
it went home to (the)-but in the-evenings and rubbed horns its

við hurðina. Gott þótti þeim í eyjunni, því at þar var
against the-door Good seemed to-them on the-island because that there was
 gott til matar fyrir fugls sakir ok eggja, enn til eldiviðar var
good for food for bird's sake and eggs but for firewood was
 þar hnept at afla; ok lét Grettir jafnan þrælinn kanna reka,
there scarce to gather and had Grettir always the-thrall search drift
 ok rak þar oft kefli, ok bar hann þau heim til elda.
and drifted there often logs and carried he them home to (the)-fires
 Ekki þurftu þeir bræðr at starfa, utan at fara í bjarg, þá
Not needed they brothers to work except to go onto (the)-cliff then
 er þeim líkaði. Þrælinn tók at letjast mjök á starfanum;
when to-them pleased The-thrall began to grow-lazy much at the-work
 gerðist hann nú möglunarsamr ok ógeymnari enn verit hafði.
became he now grumbling and less-careful than been had
 Hann skyldi geyma um eld hverja nátt, ok bauð Grettir
He should watch over (the)-fire every night and gave Grettir
 mikinn varnað á því, því at skip var eigi hjá þeim. Nú
great warning on that because that a-ship was not with them Now
 bar svá til, at eldr sloknaði fyrir þeim á einni nátt.
happened so to(-it) that (the)-fire went-out for them on one night
 Þá varð Grettir styggr við, ok kvað þat maklegt, at
Then became Grettir angry at(-it) and said that deserved that
 Glaumr væri hýddr; enn hann, þrælinn, sagði illa æfi sína,
Glaum were flogged but he the-thrall said ill life his
 at liggja hér í útlegð, enn vera hraktr ok barðr, ef nökkut
to lie here in outlawry but to-be driven and beaten if anything
 mistækist. Grettir spurði Illuga, hvat þá væri til ráða; enn
went-wrong Grettir asked Illugi what then were for counsel but
 hann kvaðst eigi annat sjá, enn þeir myndi þar verða at
he said-of-himself not other to-see than they would there have to
 bíða til þess er skip bæri at. Grettir sagði, at þeim var
wait until that when a-ship came to Grettir said that to-them was

blint til þess at ætla — “mun ek heldr hætta til, hvárt
blind for that to hope will I rather risk on(-it) whether
 ek komumst til lands”. “Mikit þykki mér þat”, segir Illugi,
I get to land Much seems to-me that says Illugi
 “Því at vit erum upp gefnir, ef þér verður nökkut”. “Eigi
because that we-two are up given if to-you happens anything Not
 mun ek á sundi drukna”, sagði Grettir; “enn þó mun ek
will I at swimming drown said Grettir but yet will I
 verr trúa þrælnum heðan frá, svá mikit sem oss lá hér við”.
worse trust the-thrall hence on as much as to-us lay here on(-it)
 Þat var vika sjávar, sem skemst var til lands ór eyjunni.
It was a-mile of-sea where shortest was to land out-of the-island

LXXVII · THE SWIM TO REYKIR

Grettir swims from Drangey to Reykjanes, bathes in the hot spring, and falls asleep in the farmhouse. In the morning a maid finds him naked and mocks the size of his private parts to the farmer's daughter, and Grettir answers her with coarse verses. Þorvaldr the farmer ferries him back. Everyone admires the swim, and the Skagafjörðr men blame Þorbjörn öngull and say they will take back their shares, but he asks them to be patient.

Býst Grettir nú til sunds, ok hafði söluváðarkufl, ok gyrðr
Prepares Grettir now for swimming and had a-homespun-cowl and girded
 í brækr; hann lét fitja saman fingrna. Veðr var gott.
in breeches he had web together the-fingers (The)-weather was good
 Hann fór at áliðnum degi ór eyjunni. Allóvænlegt þótti
He went at late-passed day out-of the-island Very-unpromising seemed
 Illuga um hans ferð. Grettir lagðist nú inn á fjörðinn, ok
to-Illugi about his journey Grettir laid-himself now in onto the-fjord and
 var straumr með honum, enn kyrt með öllu. Hann sótti fast
was (the)-current with him but calm with all He pushed hard

sundit, ok kom inn til Reykjaness, þá er sett var sólu.
the-swim and came in to Reykjaness then when set was (the)-sun
 Hann gekk til bæjar at Reykjum, ok fór í laug um
He went to (the)-farm at Reykir and went into (the)-bath over
 náttina, ok fór síðan í stofu. Þar var mjök heitt, því
the-night and went then into (the)-room There was very hot because
 at eldr hafði verit um kveldit, ok var lítt rokin stofan.
that fire had been in the-evening and was little smoke-cleared the-room
 Hann var móðr mjök ok sofnaði fast. Lá hann þar alt á
He was weary very and fell-asleep fast Lay he there all into
 dag fram; enn er á leið morgininn, stóðu heimamenn upp,
day forth but when on passed the-morning stood (the)-household up
 ok kvámu konur tvær í stofu fyrst; þat var griðkona
and came women two into (the)-room first that was a-maidservant
 ok dóttir bónda. Grettir var við svefn, og höfðu fötin
and daughter of-(the)-farmer Grettir was in sleep and had the-clothes
 svarfapt af honum ofan á gólfít. Þær sáu hvar maðr lá,
slipped off him down onto the-floor They saw where a-man lay
 ok kendu hann. Þá mælti griðkona: “Svá vil ek heil,
and recognized him Then spoke (the)-maidservant So wish I (be)-well
 systir, hér er kominn Grettir Ásmundarson, ok þykkir mér
sister here is come Grettir Asmund's-son and seems to-me
 raunar skammrífamikill vera, ok liggrr berr; enn þat þykki
truly broad-chested to-be and lies naked but that seems
 mér fádæmi, hversu lítt hann er vaxinn niðr, ok ferra þetta
to-me strange how little he is grown below and goes this
 eigi eftir gildleika hans öðrum”. Bóndadóttir svarar: “Því
not after stoutness his other (The)-farmer's-daughter answers Why
 berr þér svá margt á góma? ok ertu eigi meðalfífla, ok
bears to-you so much on gums and are-you not a-middling-fool and
 vertu hljóð”. “Eigi má ek hljóð vera um þetta, sæl systirinn”,
be-you silent Not may I silent be about this dear the-sister

segir griðkona, “því at þessu hefða ek eigi trúat, þó
says (the)-maidservant because that this had I not believed though
 at nökkurr hefði sagt mér”. Fór hon nú yfir at honum ok
that anyone had told me Went she now over to him and
 gægðist, enn stundum hljóp hon til bóndadóttur ok skeldi
peeped but sometimes ran she to (the)-farmer's-daughter and burst
 upp ok hló. Grettir heyrði hvat hon sagði, ok er hon
out and laughed Grettir heard what she said and when she
 hljóp inn yfir á gólfít, greip hann til hennar ok kvað vísu:
ran in across onto the-floor grabbed he at her and spoke a-verse

Váskeytt er far flaska;

Wretchedly-shot is (the)-ship of-(the)-slattern

fár kann sverð í hári

few can a-sword in (the)-hair

eskiruðr fyr öðrum

ash-reddener before others

örveðrs sia görva.

of-arrow-storm see readied

Veðjak hins at hreðjar

Wager-I that that testicles

hafi þeir enn vér meiri,

have they than we greater

þót eldraugar eigi

though fire-poles have

atgeira sín meiri.

of-spears their greater

Síðan svifti hann henni upp í pallinn, enn bóndadóttir

Then swung he her up onto the-dais but (the)-farmer's-daughter

hljóp fram. Þá kvað Grettir visu:

ran forth Then spoke Grettir a-verse

Sverðlítinn kvað sæta

Sword-little said (the)-seat-woman

saumskorða mik orðinn;

of-seam-props me become

Hrist gerir hreifa kvista

Hrist makes of-(the)-hand twigs

hælin satt at mæla.

the-boaster true to speak

All-lengi má ungum

Very-long may for-(the)-young

— eyleygjar bið Freyja —

of-island-fire I-wait Freyja

lágr í læra skógar

low in of-thighs of-wood

lautu Faxi mér vaxa.

hollow Faxi for-me grow

Griðka æpti hástöfum, enn svá skildu þau, at hon

(The)-maidservant screamed loudly but so parted they that she

frýði eigi á Gretti um þat er lauk. Litlu síðar stóð

taunted not on Grettir about that when (it)-ended A-little later stood

hann upp ok gekk til Þorvalds bónda, ok sagði honum

he up and went to Thorvald (the)-farmer and told him

til vandkvæða sinna, ok bað hann flytja sik út; ok gerði

of difficulties his and bade him ferry himself out and did

hann svá, ok léði skip ok flutti hann út; ok þakkaði Grettir

he so and lent a-ship and ferried him out and thanked Grettir

honum fyrir þenna drengskap. Enn er þat fréttist, at Grettir
 him for this manliness But when that was-heard that Grettir
 hafði lagzt viku sjávar, þótti öllum frábærr frækleikr hans
 had swum a-mile of-sea seemed to-all outstanding prowess his
 bæði á sjá ok landi. Skagfirðingar ámæltu mjök Þorbirni
 both on sea and land (The)-Skagafjord-men blamed much Thorbjorn
 öngli fyrir þat, er hann kom eigi Gretti burt ór Drangey,
 Hook for that that he brought not Grettir away out-of Drangey
 ok kváðust mundu aftr taka hverr sinn part. Honum
 and said-of-themselves would back take each his part To-him
 þótti sér óhægt um, ok bað þá vera góða í biðum.
 seemed for-himself difficult about(-it) and bade them be good in waiting

LXXVIII · HÆRINGR'S LEAP

A young Norwegian, Hæringr, who can climb any cliff, comes to Þorbjörn öngull. While Þorbjörn talks with the brothers at the ladder, Hæringr climbs up the cliff behind them. Illugi chases him across the island, and Hæringr leaps to his death at the place since called Hæringsblaup. Þorbjörn goes home after his second failed journey. Skafti the lawspeaker dies that year, a great loss to Grettir, since Skafti had promised to seek his freedom after twenty winters. Snorri goði dies in the spring.

Þetta sumar kom skip út í Gönguskarðsösi; þar var sá
 That summer came a-ship out into Gonguskards-river-mouth there was that
 maðr á skipi, er Hæringr hét. Hann var ungr maðr, ok
 man on (the)-ship who Haering was-called He was a-young man and
 færr svá vel, at hann kleif hvert bjarg. Hann fór til vistar
 able so well that he climbed every cliff He went to lodging
 með Þorbirni öngli, ok var þar fram á haust. Hann fýsti
 with Thorbjorn Hook and was there forth into autumn He urged
 Þorbjörn mjök til at fara til Drangeyjar, ok kvaðst vildu
 Thorbjorn much to(-it) to go to Drangey and said-of-himself to-wish

sjá, hvárt hon væri svá mikit bjarg, at hvergi mætti upp
to-see whether it were so great a-cliff that nowhere might up
 komast. Þorbjörn kvað hann eigi til einskis vinna skyldu, ef
come Thorbjorn said him not for nothing to-work should if
 hann kæmist upp á eyna, ok fengi veitt Gretti áverka
he got up onto the-island and managed given Grettir a-wound
 eða drepit hann. Gerði hann þetta ágengilegt fyrir Hæringi;
or killed him Made he this attractive for Haering
 ok eftir þetta fóru þeir til Drangeyjar, ok skutu honum,
and after this went they to Drangey and put him
 austmanninum, upp í einhverjum stað, ok skyldi hann
the-Norwegian up in some place and should he
 leynast at þeim, ef hann kæmist upp á eyna; enn
hide-himself from them if he got up onto the-island but
 þeir lögðu at stiganum ok tóku tal við þá Gretti. Spurði
they laid-up at the-ladder and took talk with them Grettir Asked
 Þorbjörn Gretti, hvárt hann ætlaði eigi ór eyjunni. Hann
Thorbjorn Grettir whether he intended not out-of the-island He
 kveðst í engu jafnráðinn. “Mjök hefir þú á oss leikit”,
says-of-himself in nothing more-determined Much have you on us played
 segir Þorbjörn, “nær sem vér fáum þess hefnt, enn eigi uggir
says Thorbjorn when as we get that avenged but not fear
 þú margt at þér”. Lengi áttust þeir þetta við, ok kom
you much for yourself Long had-dealings they this with and came
 eigi ásamt með þeim. Enn frá Hæringi er þat at segja, at
not together between them But of Haering is that to tell that
 hann kleif aftr ok fram um bjargit, ok fekk upp komizt
he climbed back and forth about the-cliff and managed up to-get
 í einhverjum stað, þar sem hvárki hefi maðr farit áðr né
in some place there where neither has a-man gone before nor
 síðan. Enn er hann kom upp á bjargit, sér hann, hvar
since But when he came up onto the-cliff sees he where

þeir bræðr vǫru ok hofðu baki við honum. Hugðist hann
they brothers were and turned back toward him Thought he
 nú á skammri stundu at vinna bæði til fjár ok frægðar.
now in short time to win both for money and fame
 Þá varði einskis um hans ferðir, því at þeir hugðu,
They expected nothing about his journeys because that they thought
 at hvergi mætti upp komast, nema þar sem stigarnir vǫru.
that nowhere could up come except there where the-ladders were
 Grettir fekst við þá Þorbjörn, ok skorti þar eigi tygileg
Grettir dealt with them Thorbjorn and lacked there not choice
 orð af hvárumtveggja. Þá varð Illugi litit hjá sér, ok
words from both-sides Then happened to-Illugi looked beside himself and
 sá mann kominn mjök at þeim. Hann mælti þá: “Maðr er
saw a-man come close to them He spoke then A-man is
 hér kominn at okkr með reidda öxi, ok sýnist mér heldr
here come at us-two with raised axe and seems to-me rather
 ófriðlega láta”. “Snú þú í móti honum þá”, segir Grettir,
hostilely to-behave Turn you in against him then says Grettir
 “enn ek mun geyma stigans”. Illugi réðst í móti Hæringi;
but I will watch the-ladder Illugi went in against Haering
 ok er austmaðrinn sá þat, sneri hann undan einhverstaðar
and when the-Norwegian saw that turned he away somewhere
 eftir eyjunni. Illugi elti hann meðan eyin vanst; ok
along the-island Illugi chased him while the-island lasted and
 þegar hann kom fram á bjargit, hljóp Hæringr þar ofan
when he came forth onto the-cliff leaped Haering there down
 fyrir, ok brotnaði í honum hvert bein; lauk hans æfi svá.
over and broke in him every bone ended his life so
 Þar heitir Hæringshlaup síðan, sem hann týndist. Illugi
There is-called Haering's-Leap since where he perished Illugi
 kom aftr, ok spurði Grettir, hversu hann hefði við þenna
came back and asked Grettir how he had with this-one

skilit, er honum var ætlaðr. “Eigi vildi hann mér at hlíta”,
parted who for-him was intended Not would he me to trust
 segir Illugi, “at sjá ráð fyrir sér, ok braut hann bekrann
says Illugi to see a-plan for himself and broke he the-ram
 ofan fyrir bjargit. ok biði bændr fyrir honum, sem hann
down over the-cliff and let-pray (the)-farmers for him as he
 sé dauðr”. Ok er Öngull heyrði þat, bað hann þá burt
be dead And when Hook heard that bade he them away
 leggja — “hefir ek nú farit tvær ferðir til móts við Gretti,
row have I now gone two journeys to meeting with Grettir
 enn eigi mun ek fara í þriðja sinn, ef ek verð þá einskis
but not will I go in third time if I become then of-nothing
 vísari; enn nú þykki mér meiri ván, at þeir megí sitja
wiser but now seems to-me greater expectation that they may sit
 í Drangey fyrir mínum sökum; enn þat ætla ek, at Grettir
in Drangey for my sake but that think I that Grettir
 muni skemr sitja hér heðan af enn hingat til”. Nú fóru þeir
will shorter sit here hence on than hither till Now went they
 heim. Þótti þessi ferð verri enn hin fyrri, ok sat Grettir
home Seemed this journey worse than the former and sat Grettir
 þenna vetr í Drangey, ok hittust þeir Þorbjörn eigi
this winter in Drangey and met they Thorbjorn(-and-he) not
 þann vetr. Á þessum misserum andaðist Skafti lögmaðr
that winter In these seasons died Skafti (the)-law-man
 Þóróddsson. Var Gretti þat skaði mikill, því at hann
Thorodd's-son Was to-Grettir that loss great because that he
 hafði heitit að ganga fyrir um syknu hans, þegar Grettir
had promised to go before for (the)-freeing his when Grettir
 hefði tuttugu vetr í sekt verit, enn sjá var hinn nítjándi
had twenty winters in outlawry been but this was the nineteenth
 sektar hans, er nú var frá sagt um hríð. Um várit
of-outlawry his which now was of told for a-while In the-spring

andaðist Snorri goði; ok margt bar til tíðenda á
 died Snorri (the)-Priest and much happened for tidings in
 þessum misserum, þat sem eigi kemr við þessa sögu.
 these seasons that which not comes with this saga

LXXIX · THE TWENTY WINTERS

At the Althing Grettir's kinsmen argue that part of a twentieth year ends his outlawry, but his enemies say his later crimes lengthen it. Þórir of Garðr shows that twenty years are not complete, since Grettir reached Iceland late in the summer. Lawspeaker Steinn Þorgestsson rules that no outlawry exceeds twenty winters but frees no one sooner, so Grettir may be freed next summer. The Skagafjörðr men tell Þorbjörn öngull to give up the island or kill Grettir, and he seeks any way to overcome him.

Þetta sumar á alþingi töluðu frændr Grettis margt um
 That summer at (the)-Althing talked (the)-kinsmen of-Grettir much about
 sekt hans, ok þótti sumum sem hann hefði úti sekt
 outlawry his and seemed to-some as-if he had out outlawry
 sína, ef hann hefði nökkut af hinu tuttugasta ári, enn þeir,
 his if he had anything of the twentieth year but they
 sem sakir áttu við hann, vildu þat eigi, ok kölluðu hann
 who grievances had against him wished that not and called him
 margt útleððarverk gert hafa síðan, ok þótti sekt hans
 much outlaw's-work done to-have since and seemed outlawry his
 eiga at vera því lengr. Þá var nýr lögmaðr tekinn, Steinn
 to-have to be the longer Then was a-new law-man taken Stein
 Þorgestsson, Steinssonar mjöksiglanda, Þórissonar haustmyrkr.
 Thorgest's-son Stein's-son (the)-Much-sailer Thorir's-son Autumn-dark
 Móðir Steins lögmanns var Arnóra, dóttir Þórðar gellis.
 Mother of-Stein (the)-law-man was Arnora daughter of-Thord Yeller

Steinn var vitr maðr. Hann var þá beiddr órskurðar; enn
Stein was a-wise man He was then asked-for a-ruling but
 hann bað þá rannsaka, hvárt þat væri af hinum tuttugustum
he bade them investigate whether that were of the twentieth
 tólf mánuðum, er þá var af sumrinu, síðan hann var
twelve months which then was off the-summer since he was
 sekr gerr, enn þat varð svá. Þá gekk at Þórir ór
outlawed made but that happened so Then went at(-it) Thorir from
 Garði, ok leitaði at færa í alla trega, þá er mætti, ok
Gard and sought to bring in all bindrances those which might and
 gat hann fundit at Grettir hafði komit at áliðnu sumri, ok
could he found that Grettir had come at late-passed summer and
 hafði eigi hér á landi þat í sekt setit; ok urðu þá nítján
had not here in land that in outlawry sat and became then nineteen
 tólf mánuðir, ok þrem fátt í, er frá því alþingi váru,
twelve months and three few in(-it) which from that Althing were
 ok til þess, er Grettir kom út um haustit, er hann
and until that when Grettir came out in the-autumn which he
 hafði hér í sekt setit. Þá sagði lögsögumaðr, at engi
had here in outlawry sat Then said (the)-law-speaker that no-one
 skyldi lengr í sekt vera, enn tuttugu vetr alls, þó at
should longer in outlawry be than twenty winters in-all though that
 hann gerði útleigðarverk á þeim tímum, — “enn fyrr man
he did outlaw's-works in those times but sooner will
 ek engan ór sekt segja”; ok af þessu eyddist sykn
I no-one out-of outlawry say and by this was-thwarted (the)-freeing
 at sinni, enn þótti nú at vísu at ganga, at hann myndi
for (the)-time but seemed now for certain to go that he would
 sykn vera á öðru sumri. Þetta líkaði illa Skagfirðingum, ef
free be in (the)-next summer This pleased ill (the)-Skagafjord-men if
 Grettir kvæmist ór sektinni; báðu nú Þorbjörn öngul gera
Grettir got-himself out-of the-outlawry bade now Thorbjorn Hook do

annathvart, leggja aftr eya, eða drepa Gretti; enn honum
 either give back the-island or kill Grettir but to-him
 þótti vandi á höndum, því at hann sá eigi ráð til at
 seemed difficulty on hands because that he saw not a-way to(-it) to
 vinna Gretti, enn vildi þó halda eyjunni; leitaði hann allra
 overcome Grettir but wished yet to-keep the-island sought he all
 bragða við at stíga yfir Gretti, annathvart með harðfengi
 tricks with(-it) to step over Grettir either with hardihood
 eða brögðum, eða á hvern hátt, er hann gæti þat gert.
 or tricks or in whatever way which he could that do

LXXX · THE OLD WOMAN'S CURSE

Þorbjörn öngull turns to his foster-mother Þuríðr, an old woman once skilled in magic. She goes with him to Drangey, lying under clothes in the stern. When Grettir again refuses to leave, she curses him to lose all luck, defense, and wisdom. Grettir hurls a huge stone that breaks her thigh. Illugi wishes he had not done it. She vows revenge, and people laugh that Grettir has now bested Þorbjörn a third time.

Fóstru átti Þorbjörn öngull, er Þuríðr hét; hon var
 A-foster-mother had Thorbjorn Hook who Thurid was-called she was
 mjök gömul, ok til lítils fær, at því er mönnum þótti.
 very old and for little capable in that which to-men seemed
 Hon hafði verit fjölkunnig mjök ok margkunnig mjök, þá
 She had been skilled-in-magic much and knowing-much very then
 er hon var ung, ok menn váru heiðnir; nú þótti sem hon
 when she was young and men were heathen now seemed as-if she
 myndi öllu týnt hafa. Enn þó at kristni væri á landinu,
 would all lost have But though that Christianity were in the-land
 þá váru þó margir gneistar heiðninnar eftir. Þat hafði
 then were yet many sparks of-the-heathendom behind That had

verit lög hér á landi, at eigi var bannat at blóta á laun,
been law here in land that not was forbidden to sacrifice in secret
 eða fremja aðra forneskju, enn varðaði fjörbaugssök,
or perform other old-magic but (it)-carried (the)-penalty-of-lesser-outlawry
 ef opinbert yrði. Nú fór svá mörgum, at gjörn var
if public (it)-became Now went so for-many that eager was
 hönd á venju, ok þat varð tamast, sem í æskunni
(the)-hand on custom and that became most-familiar which in youth
 hafði numit. Ok svá sem Þorbjörn öngull var þrotinn
(one)-had learned And so as Thorbjorn Hook was exhausted
 at ráðagerðum, leitar hann þangat til trausts, sem flestum
at plans seeks he thither for help where to-most
 þótti ólíklegast, enn þat var til fóstru sinnar, ok spurði,
seemed least-likely but that was to foster-mother his and asked
 hvat þar var til ráða at taka hjá henni. Hon svarar: “Nú
what there was for counsel to take with her She answers Now
 þykki mér koma at því, sem mælt er, at margr ferr
seems to-me come to that which said is that many-a-one goes
 í geitarhús ullar at biðja; enn hvat mynda ek síðr, enn
into (the)-goat-house wool to ask but what would I less than
 þykkjast fyrir heraðsmönnum öðrum, enn vera til einskis
think-myself before district-men other than be for nothing
 maðr, þegar at nökkut reyndi til? Nú sé ek eigi, at mér
a-man as-soon as anything tried to(-it) Now see I not that to-me
 mætti firr um fara enn þér, þótt ek rísa varla ór rekkju.
might worse about go than to-you though I rise hardly out-of bed
 Ef þú vilt mín ráð hafa, þá vil ek ráða, hversu með er
If you wish my counsels to-have then will I decide how with(-it) is
 farit”. Hann játaði því ok kvað hana sér lengi heilráða
gone He agreed to-that and said her to-himself long of-good-counsel
 verit hafa. Leið nú fram at tvímánaði sumars. Þat var einn
been to-have Passed now forth to Double-month of-summer That was one

veðrdag góðan, at kerling mælti við Öngul: "Nú er
weather-day fine that (the)-old-woman spoke to Hook Now is
 kyrt veðr ok bjart; vil ek nú, at þú farir til Drangeyjar,
calm weather and bright wish I now that you go to Drangey
 ok troðir illsakir við Gretti. Man ek fara með yðr, ok vita,
and tread quarrels with Grettir Will I go with you and know
 hversu geymilega honum fara orð. Man ek hafa eitthvað
how carefully to-him go words Will I have something
 fyrir satt, ef ek sé þá, hversu heilladrjúgir þeir munu vera,
for true if I see them how lucky they will be
 ok man ek þá mæla yfir þeim slíkum orðum, sem mér
and will I then speak over them such words as to-me
 líkar". Öngull svarar: "Letjumst ek á ferðir til Drangeyjar,
pleases Hook answers Weary-am I of journeys to Drangey
 því at jafnan er mér verra í hug. Þá er ek ferr í
because that always is to-me worse in mind then when I go off
 burt þaðan, enn þá ek kem". Þá mælti kerling: "Ekki
away thence than when I come Then spoke (the)-old-woman Not
 skal ek til leggja með þér, ef þú lætr mik engu ráða".
shall I to(-it) lay with you if you let me nothing decide
 "Eigi skal svá vera, fóstura mín", segir hann; "enn þat
Not shall so be foster-mother my says he but that
 hefi ek mælt, at ek vilda svá koma þar í þriðja sinn,
have I said that I would-wish so to-come there in (the)-third time
 at eitthvert skapaðist á með oss". "Hætta verður á þat",
that something were-shaped on(-it) between us Risk must on that
 segir kerling, "ok muntu margt erfði verða fyrir at hafa,
says (the)-old-woman and will-you much toil must for(-it) to have
 áðr Grettir er við jörðu lagðr, ok oft man þér ósýnt
before Grettir is to earth laid and often will to-you uncertain
 um þykja, hvern þinn hluti verður, ok þungt muntu
about(-it) seem what your lot becomes and heavily will-you

af fá um þat er lýkr; enn þó ertu svá undirbúinn,
from(-it) get about that when (it)-ends but yet are-you so prepared
 at eitthvert verður ór at ráða". Eftir þat lætr Þorbjörn
that something must out-of(-it) to decide After that lets Thorbjorn
 öngull setja fram teinæring, ok sté þar á við tólfta
Hook launch forth a-ten-oared-boat and stepped there aboard with twelfth
 mann. Kerling var í ferð með þeim. Tóku þeir
man (The)-old-woman was on (the)-journey with them Took they
 róðrar leiði út til Drangeyjar; ok er þeir bræðr sáu
of-rowing (the)-weather out to Drangey and when they brothers saw
 þat, gengu þeir fram at stiganum, ok tóku þeir enn at tala
that went they forth to the-ladder and took they again to talk
 um mál sín, ok sagði Þorbjörn, at hann var enn kominn
about cases their and said Thorbjorn that he was again come
 at vitja þeira mála, ef Grettir vildi á burt fara, ok
to see-about those cases if Grettir would off away go and
 kvaðst enn leggja í léttan stað um fémissu ok þarvist
said-of-himself again to-lay in light place about loss-of-money and stay-there
 ef þeir skildi slysalaust. Grettir kvaðst engi miðlunarmál
if they parted without-mishap Grettir said-of-himself no compromise
 á því hafa eða gera, at fara þaðan — "hefi ek þetta oft
in that to-have or to-do to go thence have I this often
 sagt, ok þarf þetta eigi við mik at tala", segir hann. "Munu
said and need this not with me to talk says he Will
 þér þat at gera, sem þér vilið, enn hér man ek biða þess,
you that to do which you wish but here will I await that
 sem at höndum kemr". Nú þóttist Þorbjörn sjá, at
which to hands comes Now thought-himself Thorbjorn to-see that
 hans erendi varð ekki at sinni, ok mælti: "Vita þóttumst
his errand became nothing for (the)-time and spoke Know thought-myself
 ek, við hverja heljarmenn at hér er um at eiga, ok þat er
I with what hell-men that here is about to deal and that is

líkast, at liði nökkurr dagr, áðr enn ek kem hér oftar".
likeliest that passes some day before than I come here more-often
 "Eigi tel ek þat með skaða mínum, þótt þú komir hér
Not reckon I that among loss my though you come here
 aldri", segir Grettir. Kerling lá aftir í skut, ok váru
never says Grettir (The)-old-woman lay back in (the)-stern and were
 borin at henni klæði; hon hrærðist þá ok mælti: "Þessir
laid on her clothes she stirred then and spoke These
 menn munu vera hraustir ok hamingjulausir; verðr yðvarr
men will be hardy and luckless becomes of-you
 mikill mannamunr: Þú býðr þeim marga kosti góða, enn
great difference-of-men You offer them many terms good but
 þeir neita öllum; ok er fátt víðara til ills, enn kunna eigi
they refuse all and is little surer for evil than to-know not
 gott at þiggja. Nú mæli ek þat um við þik, Grettir, at þú
good to accept Now speak I that over to you Grettir that you
 sért heill horfinn, allri gift ok gæfu, ok allri vörn
be luck turned-away from-all good-fortune and luck and all defense
 ok vizku, æ því meir, sem þú lifir lengr; vænti ek, at þú
and wisdom ever the more as you live longer hope I that you
 eigir hér færi gleðidaga heðan frá enn hingat til". Ok er
have here fewer days-of-joy hence on than hither until And when
 Grettir heyrði þetta, brá honum mjök við, ok mælti hann:
Grettir heard this started to-him very at(-it) and spoke he
 "Hvat fjanda er á skipinu með þeim?" Illugi svarar: "Þat
What (the)-devil is on the-ship with them Illugi answers That
 hygg ek, at þat sé kerlingin fóstura Þorbjarnar". "Fussum
think I that that be the-old-woman foster-mother of-Thorbjorn Fie
 þeiri gerningavætt", segir Grettir, "ok var þá eigi hins verra
on-that witch-creature says Grettir and was then not of-the worse
 eftir ván, ok við engi orð hefir mér meir brugðit, enn
to expectation and at no words has to-me more startled than

þessi, er hon mælti; ok þat veit ek, at af henni ok
these which she spoke and that know I that from her and
 hennar fjölkyngi leiðir mér nökkut illt; skal hon ok eitthvert
her witchcraft comes to-me some evil shall she also something
 til menja hafa, er hon hefir okkr heimsótt” — ok þreif
for keepsakes have that she has us-two visited and seized
 upp stein stundarmikinn, ok kastaði ofan á skipit, ok kom
up a-stone huge and threw(-it) down onto the-ship and came
 á fatahrúguna. Þat var þó lenga steinkast, enn Þorbjörn
onto the-clothes-beap That was yet a-longer stone-throw than Thorbjorn
 ætlaði, at nökkurr maðr myndi kasta. Við þat kom skrækr
thought that any man would throw At that came a-scriek
 mikill. Hafði steinninn komit á þjólegg kerlingar, svá at
great Had the-stone come on (the)-tbig of-the-old-woman so that
 í sundr gekk. Þá mælti Illugi: “Eigi vilda ek, at þú
in two (it)-went Then spoke Illugi Not would-wish I that you
 hefðir þetta gert”. “Lasta þú eigi þetta”, segir Grettir, “enn
had this done Blame you not this says Grettir but
 þat uggir mik, at of litit hafi á komit, því at eigi
that fears me that too little have on(-it) come because that not
 væri of goldit fyrir okkr báða, þó at ein kerling
were too-much paid for us-two both though that one old-woman
 komi fyrir okkr”. “Hvat mun hon koma fyrir okkr?” sagði
come for us-two What will she come for us-two said
 Illugi, “ok litit leggst þá fyrir okkr”. Þorbjörn fór nú heim,
Illugi and little lays-itself then for us-two Thorbjorn went now home
 ok varð ekki at kveðjum, er þeir skildu. Hann mælti
and became nothing of farewells when they parted He spoke
 þá við kerlingu: “Nú fór sem mik varði, at þú myndir
then to (the)-old-woman Now went as me suspected that you would
 litla sæmdarferð fara til eyjarinnar; hefir þú fengit örkuml,
a-little honor-journey go to the-island have you got a-maiming

enn vér erum engri sæmd at nærr enn áðr, ok verðum
but we are no honor at nearer than before and must
 at hafa bótalausá hverja svívirðing ofan á aðra". Hon
to have uncompensated each disgrace down on (the)-other She
 svarar: "Þetta mun upphaf óheilla þeira, ok get ek,
answers This will (the)-beginning of-misfortunes their and guess I
 at heðan af fari þeim heldr síganda; kvíði ek eigi því,
that hence on go for-them rather sinking-(downhill) fear I not that
 ef ek lifi, at ek geta eigi hefnt þessa atviks, sem mér hefir
if I live that I can not avenge this incident which to-me has
 gert verit". "Hugstigin þykki mér þú vera, fóstara", sagði
done been High-spirited seems to-me you to-be foster-mother said
 Þorbjörn. Nú kvámu þau heim, ok lagðist kerling í
Thorbjorn Now came they home and laid-herself (the)-old-woman in
 rekkju ok lá nær mánuð. Þá var saman runninn legggrinn,
bed and lay nearly a-month Then was together grown the-leg
 er verr var. Tók hon þá á fætr at fara. Mikinn hlátr
which worse was Took she then on feet to go Great laughter
 gerðu menn at ferð þeira Þorbjarnar ok kerlingar,
made men at (the)-journey their of-Thorbjorn and of-(the)-old-woman
 ok þótti nú oft á leikast í viðskiftum þeira Grettis; þat
and seemed now often on to-be-played in dealings their of-Grettir that
 fyrst á várþingi um gríðasöluna, enn í annat sinn
first at (the)-spring-assembly about the-truce-giving but in (the)-second time
 þá Hæringr týndist, ok nú hit þriðja sinni, er þjólegg
when Haering perished and now the third time when (the)-thigh
 kerlingar brotnaði; ok varð hér ekki í móti leikit. Hafði
of-the-old-woman broke and was here nothing in against played Had
 Þorbjörn öngull mikla skapraun af þessum orðum.
Thorbjorn Hook great vexation from these words

Þuríðr has herself carried to the shore, carves runes on a driftwood root, reddens them with her blood, and sends it drifting to Drangey. Twice Grettir recognizes it as sent for ill and pushes it back into the sea. In a storm Glaumr carries it up to the hut. When Grettir strikes it with an axe, the blade glances into his own leg above the knee. The wound seems to close, but Grettir foresees ill.

Nú líðr fram á haustit, þar til at váru þrjár vikur
Now passes forth into the-autumn there until that were three weeks
 til vetrar; þá beiddi kerling, at henni skyldi aka til
to winter then asked (the)-old-woman that her (one)-should drive to
 sjávar. Þorbjörn spurði, hvat hon vildi. “Lítit er erendit,
(the)-sea Thorbjorn asked what she wished Little is the-errand
 enn þó má vera”, segir hon, “at þat væri fyrirboðan stærri
but yet may be says she that that were a-foreboding of-greater
 tíðenda”. Nú var svá gert sem hon beiddi; ok er hon kom
tidings Now was so done as she asked and when she came
 til strandar, haltraði hon fram með sjánum, svá sem henni
to (the)-shore bobbled she forth along the-sea just as-if to-her
 væri vísat til, þar sem lá fyrir henni rótartré, svá mikit
were shown to(-it) there where lay before her a-root-tree so big
 sem axlbyrðr. Hon leit á tréit ok bað þá snúa fyrir
as a-shoulder-load She looked at the-tree and bade them turn(-it) before
 sér. Þat var sem sviðit ok gniðat öðrum megin. Hon lét
her It was as-if singed and rubbed on-one side She had
 telgja á lítinn flatveg, þar gniðat var. Síðan tók hon
cut on(-it) a-little flat-surface there rubbed (it)-was Then took she
 hníf sinn ok reist rúnir á rótinni, ok rauð í blóði
knife her and carved runes on the-root and reddened(-them) in blood
 sínu, ok kvað yfir galdra. Hon gekk öfug andsælis
her and spoke over(-it) spells She walked backward against-the-sun

um tréit, ok hafði þar yfir mörg römm ummæli. Eftir
around the-tree and had there over(-it) many powerful incantations After
 þat lætr hon hrinda trénu á sjá, ok mælti svá fyrir, at
that lets she push the-tree into (the)-sea and spoke so for(-it) that
 þat skyldi reka út til Drangeyar, ok verði Gretti alt mein
it should drift out to Drangey and become to-Grettir all harm
 at. Þaðan fór hon heim í Viðvík. Eigi kvaðst Þorbjörn
to Thence went she home to Vidvik Not said-of-himself Thorbjorn
 vita, til hvers þetta kæmi. Kerling kvað hann vita
to-know for what this came (The)-old-woman said him to-know
 síðar gerr. Vindr var utan eftir firði, ok hóf rót
later better (The)-wind was from-outside along (the)-fjord and lifted (the)-root
 kerlingar í móti veðri, ok þótti fara eigi vánu
of-(the)-old-woman in against (the)-weather and seemed to-go not than-expected
 seinna. Nú sat Grettir í Drangey, sem fyrr segir, ok þeir
later Now sat Grettir in Drangey as before (it)-says and they
 allir félagar, ok létu vel yfir sér. Annan dag eftir enn
all comrades and let well over themselves (The)-second day after than
 kerling hafði tréit magnat gengu þeir bræðr ofan fyrir
(the)-old-woman had the-tree charmed went they brothers down under
 bjargit ok leituðu at eldiviði; enn er þeir kvámu vestr
the-cliff and searched for firewood but when they came west
 um eyna, fundu þeir rôtartré rekit upp. Þá mælti Illugi:
around the-island found they a-root-tree drifted up Then spoke Illugi
 “Þetta er mikill eldiviðr, frændi, ok berum heim”. Grettir
This is great firewood kinsman and let-us-carry(-it) home Grettir
 spyrndi við fæti sínum ok mælti: “Ilt tré ok af illum
kicked at(-it) with-foot his and spoke Evil tree and by an-evil-one
 sent, ok skulu vit annan eldivið hafa”, ok kastaði út á
sent and shall we-two other firewood have and threw(-it) out onto
 sjá, ok bað hann Illuga varast at bera þat heim — “Því
(the)-sea and bade he Illugi beware to carry it home because

at þat er sent okkr til óheilla". Eftir þat fóru þeir til
that it is sent to-us-two for misfortune After that went they to
 skála, ok gátu eigi um þetta fyrir þrælnum. Annan
(the)-but and mentioned not about this before the-thrall (The)-second
 dag fundu þeir tréit, ok var þá nær stiganum enn hinn
day found they the-tree and was (it)-then nearer the-ladder than the
 fyrri dag; rak Grettir þat á sjá út, ok kvað þat aldri
former day drove Grettir it into (the)-sea out and said it never
 skyldu heim bera. Leið nú fram á sumarit; þá kom á
should home carry Passed now forth into the-summer then came on
 hvast veðr með vætu, ok nentu þeir eigi at hafa sik
sharp weather with rain and cared they not to have themselves
 úti, ok báðu Glaum leita eldiviðar. Hann varð illa við,
outside and bade Glaum seek firewood He took(-it) ill at(-it)
 ok kvaðst kvaldr, er hann skyldi kveljast úti í hverju
and said-of-himself tormented when he should be-tormented outside in every
 illviðri. Hann fór ofan fyrir stigann ok fann þar rót
foul-weather He went down under the-ladder and found there (the)-root
 kerlingar, ok þóttist vel hafa gengit, þreif upp
of(-the)-old-woman and thought-himself well to-have fared seized(-it) up
 ok stritaði heim til skála, ok kastaði niðr, ok varð af
and toiled home to (the)-but and threw(-it) down and was from(-it)
 dynkr mikill. Þat heyrði Grettir. "Aflat hefir Glaumr nökkurs,
a-thud great That heard Grettir Got has Glaum something
 ok skal ek fara út ok sjá, hvat þat er", ok tekr upp
and shall I go out and see what it is and takes up
 bolöxi ok gengr út. Glaumr mælti þá: "Fær þú eigi
a-woodcutter's-axe and goes out Glaum spoke then Get you not
 verr í sundr enn ek hefi heim fær". Gretti varð skapfátt
worse in two than I have home brought To-Grettir became short-tempered
 við þrælinn, ok tvíhendi öxina til ratarinnar, ok eigi
with the-thrall and swung-with-both-hands the-axe at the-root and not

geymdi hann, hvat tré þat var; ok jafnskjótt sem öxin kom
beeded he what tree that was and as-soon as the-axe came
 við tréit, snerist hon flöt ok stökk af trénu ok á fót
against the-tree turned it flat and glanced off the-tree and onto (the)-leg
 Grettis hinn hægra fyrir ofan kné, ok svá at stóð í
of-Grettir the right on above knee and so that (it)-stood in
 beini, ok var þat sár mikit; þá leit hann á tréit ok
(the)-bone and was that a-wound great then looked he at the-tree and
 mælti: “Sá varð nú drjúgari, er verr vildi, ok mun þetta
spoke He became now more-successful who worse wished and will this
 eigi eitt saman fara; er hér nú komit þat sama tré, sem
not alone together go(-on) is here now come that same tree which
 ek hefi út kastat tvá daga; hefir þik nú, Glaumr, hent
I have out thrown two days have you now Glaum suffered
 tvau slys: þat annat, at þú slóktir eld várn, ok þat annat,
two mishaps that one that you put-out fire our and that other
 er þú bart heim þetta óheillatré; enn ef þik hendir hit
when you carried home this tree-of-misfortune but if you befalls the
 þriðja slys, þá verðr þat þinn bani ok vár allra”. Þá tók
third mishap then becomes that your death and of-us all Then took
 Illugi ok batt um skeinu Grettis, ok blæddi lítt, ok svaf
Illugi and bound over (the)-wound of-Grettir and bled little and slept
 Grettir vel um náttina, ok svá liðu þrjár nætr, at engi kom
Grettir well over the-night and so passed three nights that no came
 verkr í sárit, enn er þeir leystu til, var skeinan saman
pain into the-wound but when they untied (it)-to was the-wound together
 hlaupin, svá at nálega var gróin. Illugi mælti þá: “Þat vil
grown so that nearly (it)-was healed Illugi spoke then That will
 ek ætla, at þér verði eigi langt mein at þessu sári”. “Vel
I think that to-you become not long harm from this wound Well

væri þá”, segir Grettir, “enn undarlega hefir þetta til borit,
were then says Grettir but strangely has this to(-it) borne
 at hverju sem verður; enn hinn veg segir mér hugr um”.
at whatever which happens but the-other way tells me mind about

LXXXII · THE FESTERING WOUND

That night the leg swells black and the wound bursts open. Grettir says it is witchcraft, and he recites verses on his old fights with berserks, with Torfi, with Þorfinnr, and with others, ending with the old woman's spells. He tells Glaumr to watch the ladder, but Glaumr grumbles. The festering spreads up the thigh until Grettir is near death, and Illugi sits by him day and night.

Nú leggjast þeir niðr um kveldit; ok er kom at niðri nátt,
Now lay-themselves they down in the-evening and when (it)-came to mid night
 brauzt Grettir um fast. Illugi spurði, hví hann væri svá ókyrr.
tossed Grettir about hard Illugi asked why he were so restless
 Grettir segir, at honum gerðist ilt í fætinum — “ok þætti
Grettir says that to-him grew ill in the-leg and seemed
 mér líkara, at nökkut litbrigði væri á”. Kvektu þeir þá ljós;
to-me likelier that some color-change were on(-it) Lit they then light
 ok er til var leyst, sýndist fótrinn blásinn ok kolblár, enn
and when to(-it) was untied appeared the-leg swollen and coal-blue but
 sárit var hlaupit í sundr, ok miklu illilegra enn í fyrstu.
the-wound was burst in two and much uglier than at first
 Þar fylgdi mikill verk, svá at hann mátti hvergi kyrr þola,
There followed great pain so that he could nowhere still endure
 ok eigi kom honum svefn á augu. Þá mælti Grettir: “Svá
and not came to-him sleep on (the)-eyes Then spoke Grettir So
 skulu vér við búast, sem krankleiki þessi, sem ek hefi
shall we for(-it) prepare-ourselves as sickness this which I have

fengit, mun eigi til einskis gera, því at þetta eru gerningar,

got will not for nothing do because that this is witchcraft

ok mun kerling ætla at hefna steinshöggingsins". Illugi mælti:

and will (the)-old-woman intend to avenge the-stone-blow Illugi spoke

"Þá sagðað ek þér, at eigi myndi gott fá af kerlingu þeiri".

Then told I you that not would good get from old-woman that

"Alt mun fyrir eitt koma", segir Grettir, ok kvað: vísur fim:

All will for one-thing come says Grettir and spoke verses five

Oft nam sköpum skifta

Often took with-fates to-change

Skjóma egg í rómu

of-Skjomi (the)-edge in battle

þás berserkjum birkis

when for-berserks of-birch

böðharðum sjöt varðak.

battle-hard (the)-seat I-defended

Gall's Hjarrandi handa

Rang-(it)-is of-Hjarrandi of-bands

Hristar naðrinn misti;

of-Hrist the-adder missed

Björn lét brátt ok Gunnarr

Bjorn lost quickly and Gunnar

báðir líf ok náðir.

both life and rest

Enn kom ek einu sinni

Again came I one time

út á breiðri skútu

out on a-broad boat

í Dyrhólum; darra

in Dyrholmar of-spear

drengr ei skáði lengi.

(the)-fellow not harmed long

Bauð Torfi þá þýðum

Offered Torfi then to-(the)-gentle

þegn með stóru megni

thane with great might

þrautir þunga spjóta

trials of-heavy spears

þarflegr Vébrands arfi.

useful of-Vébrand heir

Svá varð skildr frá skaldi

So was parted from (the)-poet

skeljeggs minnis veggja

of-shell-edge of-memory of-walls

meiðir, þót margir stæði

(the)-tree though many stood

menn at vápna sennu,

men at of-weapons quarrel

svát ófærr varð ára

so-that unable became of-oars

endr af Grettis hendi

once from of-Grettir hand

hlynr í hriðum benja;

(the)-maple in storms of-wounds

hest gaf hann mér at lesti.

a-horse gave he me for (the)-fault

Vitt frákr Þorfinnr þætti

Widely heard-I Thorfinn thought

þegn sterkr svaðilsverka;

thane strong of-dangerous-deeds

aldrs kvaðsk odd-Bör skyldu

life said-of-himself point-Bor should

Arnórs son mér varna.

of-Arnor son me withhold

Áræði brást eyði

Daring failed (the)-destroyer

einlyndum þót mik fyndi

to-(the)-single-minded though me found

úti orma setra

out of-serpents of-seats

einn vask eigi at beinni.

alone was-I not at (the)-straightest

Gat ek fyr geira njótum

Could I before of-spears users

gætt, þvít treystak mætti

take-beed because I-trusted might

viðr umsátum ýta

against attackers of-men

aldrs, þat vas-a sjaldan.

of-life that was-not seldom

Nú hefr gild með göldrum

Now has great with spells

gunnelda-Bör unnit

battle-fire-Bor overcome

— römm eru ráðin grimmu —

powerful are the-counsels of-(the)-grim-one

rein afgömul steina.

ground ancient of-stones

“Nú skulu vér vera varir um oss”, sagði Grettir, “því at

Now shall we be wary about ourselves said Grettir because that

svá munu þau Þorbjörn öngull til ætla, at eigi skuli þetta

so will they Thorbjorn Hook to(-it) intend that not shall this

eitt saman fara; vil ek, Glaumr, at þú gætir stiga hvern

alone together go wish I Glaum that you watch (the)-ladder every

dag heðan í frá, enn dragir upp á kveldi, ok gerir þetta

day hence in from but draw(-it) up in (the)-evening and do this

trúlega, sem mikit liggi við, enn ef þú svíkr okkr, þá mun

faithfully as much lies on(-it) but if you betray us-two then will

þér skamt til ills”. Glaumr hét góðu um þetta. Nú tók

to-you short to evil Glaum promised good about this Now began

at harðna veðrátta, ok gerði á landnyrðing mikinn með

to harden (the)-weather and made on a-north-easter great with

kulda. Grettir spurði hvert kveld, hvárt upp væri dreginn
cold Grettir asked every evening whether up were drawn
 stiginn. Glaumr mælti: "Nú væri helzt manna ván mest;
the-ladder Glaum spoke Now were likeliest of-men expectation most
 eða mun nökkurum svá mikill hugr á at ná lífi þínu,
or will to-any so great mind on to get life your
 at þat vili til vinna, at drepa sjálfan sik? því at
that that (be)-will for(-it) do to kill himself himself because that
 þessi veðr eru langt um ófær, ok lokit ætla ek nú
these weathers are far over impassable and ended think I now
 garpskapnum hinum mesta, er þér þykkir sem alt muni
the-daring the greatest when to-you seems as-if all will
 ykkir at bana verða". "Þú munt þik enn verr bera enn
you-two to death become You will yourself yet worse bear than
 hvárr okkarr", sagði Grettir, "til hvers sem taka þarf, enn
either of-us-two said Grettir for whatever which to-take is-needed but
 þó skaltu nú geyma stigans, þó at þú sért nauðigr". Ráku
yet shall-you now watch the-ladder though that you be unwilling Drove
 þeir hann út hvern morgin. Þoldi hann þat illa. Verkrinn
they him out every morning Endured he that ill The-pain
 tók at vaxa í skeinunni, svá at blés upp allan fótinn, ok
began to grow in the-wound so that swelled up all the-leg and
 lærit tók þá at grafa bæði uppi ok niðri, ok snerist um
the-thigh began then to fester both up and down and turned about
 alt sárit, svá at Grettir gerðist banvænn. Sat Illugi yfir
all the-wound so that Grettir became likely-to-die Sat Illugi over
 honum nátt ok dag, svá at hann gaf at engu öðru gaum;
him night and day so that he gave to nothing other heed
 var þá liðit af annarri viku síðan Grettir skeindi sik.
was then passed of (the)-second week since Grettir wounded himself

A week later Þuríðr urges Þorbjörn öngull to go at once, promising to still the storm. He gathers men from Tungu-Steinn, Hjalti, and Eiríkr, and Halldórr at Hof gives him more but warns him that this plan is not Christian. Björn at Haganes, though reluctant, lends a boat. They sail out in a gale that drops as they reach open water, and they come to Drangey at dusk.

Þorbjörn öngull sat nú heima í Viðvík, ok undi illa
 Thorbjorn Hook sat now at-home in Vidvik and was-content ill
 við, er hann gat eigi unnit Gretti; ok þá er liðin var
 with(-it) that he could not overcome Grettir and then when passed was
 vel vika, síðan er kerling hafði magnat rótina, þá kemr
 fully a-week since that (the)-old-woman had charmed the-root then comes
 hon at máli við Þorbjörn, ok spurði, hvárt hann ætlaði eigi
 she to speech with Thorbjorn and asked whether he intended not
 at vitja Grettis. Hann sagðist í engu jafnráðinn sem
 to visit Grettir He said-of-himself in nothing as-determined as
 því, — “eða viltu finna hann, fóstura?” segir Þorbjörn.
 that or will-you meet him foster-mother says Thorbjorn
 “Eigi mun ek finna hann”, segir kerling, “enn sent hefi
 Not will I meet him says (the)-old-woman but sent have
 ek honum kveðju mína, ok vænti ek þess, at komit hafi til
 I him greeting my and hope I that that come have to
 hans; ok þat þykki mér ráð, at þú bregðir við skjótt, ok
 him and that seems to-me counsel that you start at(-it) quickly and
 farir fljótt til móts við hann, ellegar mun þér eigi auðit
 go fast to meeting with him otherwise will to-you not granted
 verða at sigra hann”. Þorbjörn svarar: “Svá marga hrakför
 be to overcome him Thorbjorn answers So many mishap-journeys
 hefi ek þangat farit, at þangat kem ek eigi; er þat ok ærit
 have I thither gone that thither come I not is that also enough

eitt, at þau stórviðri ganga, at hvergi er fært, hver
one-thing that those storms go that nowhere is passable whatever
 nauðsyn sem á er". Hon svarar: "Allráðlauss ertu, er þú
need which on(-it) is She answers Very-helpless are-you when you
 sér eigi brögð til þessa; nú mun ek enn ráð þar til leggja;
see not tricks to this now will I again counsel there to lay
 far þú fyrst ok afla þér til manna, ok rið út til Hofs
go you first and gather for-yourself of men and ride out to Hof
 til Halldórs mágs þíns, ok tak þá ráð af honum;
to Halldor kinsman-by-marriage your and take then counsel from him
 enn ef ek ræð nökkuru um heilsufar Grettis, hvat má þá
but if I rule something over (the)-health of-Grettir what may then
 kalla örvænt, at ek ráða vindblöku þeiri, er á leikr um
call (it)-hopeless that I rule wind-flap that which on plays for
 stundir?" Þorbirni þótti verða mega, at kerling sæi
a-while To-Thorbjorn seemed to-happen may that (the)-old-woman saw
 lengra enn hann ætlaði, ok sendi þegar eftir mönnum upp í
farther than he thought and sent at-once after men up into
 herað; váru þar skjót svör, at engir þeir, sem upp höfðu
(the)-district were there quick answers that none those who up had
 gefit sinn part, vildu nökkurn létta undir leggja; kváðu, at
given their part would any help under lay said that
 Þorbjörn skyldi hafa bæði eyjarhlut ok atför við Gretti.
Thorbjorn should have both (the)-island-share and (the)-attack on Grettir
 Tungu-Steinn fekk honum fylgdarmenn sína tvá; Hjalti bróðir
Tungu-Stein gave him followers his two Hjalti brother
 hans sendi honum þrjá menn; Eiríkr í Goðdölum sendi
his sent him three men Eirik in Goddalir sent
 honum einn mann. Þá hafði hann heiman sex menn. Riðu
him one man Then had he from-home six men Rode
 þeir tólf ór Viðvík út til Hofs. Halldórr bauð þeim þar
they twelve out-of Vidvik out to Hof Halldor invited them there

at vera, ok spurði at erendum. Þorbjörn sagði af hit
to be and asked about errands Thorbjorn told off(-it) the
 ljósasta. Halldórr spurði, hvern þetta hefði ráðit. Hann sagði,
clearest Halldor asked who this had advised He said
 at fóstura hans fýsti hann mjök. “Þat mun eigi góðu
that foster-mother his urged him much That will not (in)-good
 reifa”, sagði Halldórr, “því at hon er fjölkunnig, enn þat
end said Halldor because that she is skilled-in-magic but that
 er nú fyrirboðit”. “Eigi má fyrir öllu sjá um þat”, segir
is now forbidden Not may for all see about that says
 Þorbjörn, “enn um skal nú lúka á einhvern hátt, ef ek
Thorbjorn but about(-it) shall now finish in some way if I
 má ráða; eða hversu skal ek fara þess, at ek komumst
may decide or how shall I go about(-it) that I get-myself
 í eyna?” “Sjá þykkjumst ek þat”, segir Halldórr, “at þú
to the-island See think-myself I that says Halldor that you
 treystir einhverju, enn eigi veit ek, hversu gott þat er. Nú
trust something but not know I how good that is Now
 ef þú vilt áfram halda, þá far þú út í Haganes í Fljót til
if you will forward bold then go you out to Haganes in Fljot to
 Bjarnar vinar míns; hann á skútu góða. Seg honum orð
Bjorn friend my he owns a-boat good Tell him words
 mín, at hann ljái þér skipit. Þaðan mun sigla mega inn
my that he lend you the-ship Thence will sail may in
 til Drangeyjar; enn ósýn lízt mér ferð yður, ef Grettir er
to Drangey but unlikely seems to-me journey your if Grettir is
 ósjúkr ok heill. Viti þér þat ok víst, vinni þér hann eigi
well and hale Know you that also surely overcome you him not
 með drengskap, at noga á hann eftirmálmenn. Drepið eigi
with manliness that enough has he avengers Kill not
 Illuga, ef þér megid annat; enn sjá þykkjumst ek, at eigi
Illugi if you may other but see think-myself I that not

mun alt kristilegt í þessum ráðum". Nú fekk Halldórr þeim
will all Christian in these plans Now gave Halldor them
sex menn til ferðar. Hét einn Kárr, enn annarr Þorleifr,
six men for (the)-journey Was-called one Kar but (the)-other Thorleif
þriði Brandr. Eigi váru nefndir fleiri; enn þaðan fóru þeir
(the)-third Brand Not were named more but thence went they
átján út í Fljót ok kvámu í Haganes, ok sögðu Birni
eighteen out to Fljot and came to Haganes and told Bjorn
orðsending Halldórs. Hann kvað þat skylt hans vegna, enn
(the)-message of-Halldor He said that due for-bis sake but
sagðist ekki eiga Þorbirni vanlaunat; enn honum sýndist
said-of-himself nothing to-owe Thorbjorn unpaid but to-him seemed
þetta óraferð ok latti mjök. Eigi létust þeir aftur
this a-mad-journey and discouraged(-it) much Not said-of-themselves they back
mundu hverfa; fóru til sjávar ok settu fram skipit, ok var þar
would turn went to (the)-sea and set forth the-ship and was there
reiðinn hjá í naustinu. Bjoggust þeir nú til siglingar. Öllum
the-rigging by in the-boathouse Made-ready they now for sailing To-all
sýndist þeim ófært, sem á landi stóðu. Nú vinda þeir á
seemed to-them impassable who on land stood Now hoist they up
segl; tók skipit skjótan skrið ok mikinn fram á fjörðinn;
(the)-sail took the-ship quick way and great forth onto the-fjord
enn svá sem þeir kvámu aðallega fram á fjörðinn ok á
but just as they came fully forth onto the-fjord and onto
djúpit, hægðist veðri svá, at þeim þótti aldri of hvast.
the-deep calmed (the)-weather so that to-them seemed never too sharp
Kvámu þeir um kveldit, er rökkvat var, inn til Drangeyjar.
Came they in the-evening when dusky was in to Drangey

Glaumr has left the ladder down and fallen asleep, and the attackers climb up, find him snoring, and beat him. Illugi holds the door, so they tear off the roof. Grettir gets to his feet and kills Kárr with a spear through the roof, then kills another man with his short-sword, but Þorbjörn wounds him in the back. Illugi is taken alive. Grettir is already dying, and they hew his body, cut off his hand to free the short-sword, and behead him. The saga then reckons his life and outlawry.

Nú er frá því at segja, at Grettir var svá sjúkr, at hann
Now is of that to tell that Grettir was so sick that he
 mátti eigi á fætr standa; sat Illugi yfir honum, enn Glaumr
could not on feet stand sat Illugi over him but Glaumr
 skyldi halda vörð. Hann hafði þá enn mörg orð í móti,
should keep watch He had then yet many words in against(-it)
 ok kvað þeim svá þykkja, sem falla myndi fjör ór þeim,
and said to-them so to-seem as-if fall would life out-of them
 þó at ekki bæri til. Nú fór hann út ór skálanum
though that nothing happened to(-it) Now went he out out-of the-but
 ok allnauðigr; ok er hann kom til stiganna, mæltist hann
and very-unwilling and when he came to the-ladders talked he
 við einn saman, ok sagðist nú, at hann skyldi
with-himself one together and said-of-himself now that he should
 eigi upp draga stigann; tók hann nú at syfja mjök,
not up draw the-ladder began he now to grow-sleepy much
 ok lagðist niðr, ok svaf allan daginn ok alt þar til er
and laid-himself down and slept all the-day and all there until when
 Þorbjörn kom til eyjarinnar. Þeir sá nú, at stiginn var eigi
Thorbjorn came to the-island They saw now that the-ladder was not
 upp dreginn. Þá mælti Þorbjörn: “Brugðit er nú lagi”,
up drawn Then spoke Thorbjorn Changed is now (the)-custom
 segir hann, “ór því sem vant er, at engir eru menn á
says he from that which usual is that no are men on

gangi, enda stendr stiginn þeira; má vera, at fleira beri
(the)-move and-indeed stands the-ladder their may be that more happen
 til tíðenda í ferð várri enn vér hugðum fyrir öndverðu.
for tidings on journey our than we thought at (the)-outset
 Nú skulu vér flýta oss til skálans, ok látum nú eigi
Now shall we hurry ourselves to the-but and let-us-let now not
 áræðisskort verða. Vitum þat fyrir víst, ef þeir eru heilir,
lack-of-daring happen Know-we that for certain if they are hale
 at vér munum þurfa, at hverr dugi sem best. Síðan
that we will need that each be-of-use as best Then
 gengu þeir upp á eyna ok lituðust um, ok sá, hvar
went they up onto the-island and looked about and saw where
 maðr lá skamt frá uppgangi ok hraut fast. Þorbjörn kendi
a-man lay short from (the)-way-up and snored hard Thorbjorn recognized
 Glaum ok gekk at honum, ok rak sverðshjöltin við eyra
Glaum and went to him and drove the-sword-bilts against ear
 honum, ok bað mannfýluna vaka — “ok sannlega er sá
to-him and bade the-wretch wake and truly is he
 eigi vel staddr, er líf sitt á undir þínum trúnaði”. Glaumr
not well placed who life his has under your faithfulness Glaumr
 sér upp ok mælti: “Nú ætla þeir at láta sem vant er; eða
looks up and spoke Now intend they to behave as usual is or
 þykkir ykkir ofmikitt frelsi mitt, þó at ek liggja hér í
seems to-you-two too-great freedom my though that I lie here in
 kuldinum?” Öngull mælti: “Ertu vitlauss, er þú skynjar eigi,
the-cold Hook spoke Are-you witless that you perceive not
 at óvinir yðrir eru komnir, ok munu drepa yðr alla”. Þá
that enemies your are come and will kill you all Then
 mælti Glaumr ekki, enn æpti upp sem hann mátti, er hann
spoke Glaum nothing but cried out as he could when he
 kendi mennina. “Gerðu annathvart”, segir hann Öngull, “at
recognized the-men Do either says he Hook that

þú þegi í stað, ok seg oss frá hýbýlum yðrum, ella drep
you be-silent at once and tell us of dwelling your else kill
 ek þik”. Þá þagði Glaumr sem honum væri í vatn drepit.
I you Then fell-silent Glaum as-if he were into water dipped
 Þorbjörn mælti: “Eru þeir at skála, bræðr? eða hvi eru þeir
Thorbjorn spoke Are they at (the)-but brothers or why are they
 eigi á ferli?” “Eigi er þat hit hægra”, segir Glaumr, “því
not on (the)-move Not is that the easier says Glaum because
 at Grettir er sjúkr ok kominn at bana, enn Illugi sitr yfir
that Grettir is sick and come to death but Illugi sits over
 honum”. Öngull spurði at heilsufari hans, ok hvat til
him Hook asked about health his and what to(-it)
 hefði borit, enn síðan sagði Glaumr, hversu til hafði borit
had borne but then told Glaum how to(-it) had borne
 um skeinu Grettis. Þá hló Öngull ok mælti: “Satt er
about (the)-wound of-Grettir Then laughed Hook and spoke True is
 hit fornkeðna, at ‘langvinirnir rjúfast sízt’; ok hitt, at
the old-saying that the-long-friends break-up least and that-other that
 ‘ilt er at eiga þræl at einkavin’, þar sem þú ert, Glaumr,
ill is to have a-thrall for a-close-friend there where you are Glaum
 ok hefir þú skemmlega svikit þinn lánardrottinn, þó at
and have you shamefully betrayed your lord though that
 hann væri eigi góðr”. Margir lögðu ilt til hans fyrir sína
he were not good Many laid evil to him for his
 ódygd, ok lömdu hann nálega til bótleysis ok létu hann
faithlessness and beat him nearly to beyond-mending and let him
 þar liggja; enn þeir gengu heim til skálans ok kvámu við
there lie but they went home to the-but and struck on
 hurðina stundarfast. Þá mælti Illugi: “Knýr hösmagi hurð,
the-door hard Then spoke Illugi Knocks gray-belly (the)-door
 bróðir”, segir hann. “Ok knýr heldr fast”, sagði Grettir, “ok
brother says he And knocks rather hard said Grettir and

óþyrmilega"; ok í því brast sundr hurðin. Þá hljóp Illugi
unmercifully and at that burst in-two the-door Then ran Illugi
 til vápna ok varði dyrnar, svá at þeir náðu eigi inn göngu.
to weapons and defended the-doorway so that they got not entry
 Sóttust þeir þá lengi, ok kvámu þeir engu við, nema
Attacked they then long and came they nothing at(-it) except
 spjótalögum, ok hjó Illugi öll þau af skafti; ok er þeir
with-spear-thrusts and hewed Illugi all them off (the)-shaft and when they
 sá, at þeir gátu eigi at gert, hlupu þeir upp á skálann
saw that they could not to(-it) done leaped they up onto the-but
 ok rufu. Þá færðist Grettir á fætr ok þreif spjót ok
and broke(-it) Then got Grettir onto feet and seized a-spear and
 lagði út á milli við. Þar var fyrir Kárr, heimamaðr
thrust out in between (the)-timbers There was before(-it) Kar (the)-household-man
 Halldórs frá Hofi, ok stóð þegar í gegnum hann. Öngull
of-Halldor from Hof and stood at-once in through him Hook
 mælti, ok bað þá fara varlega ok geyma sín vel —
spoke and bade them go warily and guard themselves well
 "Því at vér megum sigra þá, ef vér geymum ráðs at".
because that we may overcome them if we heed counsel at(-it)
 Rufu þeir nú um ásendana ok treystu síðan á á sinn, þar
Broke they now about the-beam-ends and pressed then on the-beam there
 til er hann brast í sundr. Grettir mátti eigi af knjánum
until when it burst in two Grettir could not from the-knees
 rísa; greip hann þá saxit Kársnaut. Í því hlupu þeir
rise grabbed he then the-short-sword Kar's-gift At that leaped they
 ofan í tóftina, ok varð nú hörð svipan með þeim.
down into the-house-walls and became now a-hard struggle between them
 Grettir hjó með saxinu til Vikars, fylgdarmanns Hjalta
Grettir hewed with the-short-sword at Vikar (the)-follower of-Hjalta
 Þórðarsonar, ok kom á öxlina vinstri, í því er hann
Thord's-son and came onto the-shoulder left at that when he

hljóp í tóftina, ok sneið um þverar herðarnar, ok undir
leaped into the-house-walls and cut over across the-shoulders and under
hina hægri síðuna, ok tók þar sundr þvert manninn, ok
the right side and took there in-two across the-man and
steypist búkrinn ofan á Gretti í tvá hluti; gat hann þá
tumbled the-body down onto Grettir in two parts could be then
eigi upp rétt saxit svá skjótt sem hann vildi, ok í
not up straighten the-short-sword so quickly as he wished and at
því lagði Þorbjörn öngull í milli herða honum, ok var
that thrust Thorbjorn Hook in between (the)-shoulders to-him and was
þat mikit sár. Þá mælti Grettir: “Berr er hverr á bakinu,
that a-great wound Then spoke Grettir Bare is each on the-back
nema sér bróður eigi”. Illugi kastaði skildi þá yfir
unless for-himself a-brother have Illugi threw (the)-shield then over
hann, ok varði hann svá Gretti rösklega, at allir menn
him and defended him so Grettir valiantly that all men
ágættu vörn hans. Grettir mælti þá til Önguls: “Hverr
praised defense his Grettir spoke then to Hook Who
vísaði yðr leið í eyrna?” Öngull mælti: “Kristr vísaði oss
directed you (the)-way to the-island Hook spoke Christ directed us
leið”. “Enn ek get”, sagði Grettir, “at hin arma kerlingin,
(the)-way But I guess said Grettir that the wretched old-woman
fóstra þín, hafi vísat þér, því at hennar ráðum muntu
foster-mother your have directed you because that on-her counsels will-you
treyst hafa”. “Fyrir eitt skal nú yðr koma”, sagði Öngull,
trusted have For one-thing shall now to-you come said Hook
“hverjum sem vér höfum treyst”. Þeir sóttu nú at fast;
whomever which we have trusted They attacked now at(-them) hard
enn Illugi varði þá báða alldrengilega; enn Grettir var með
but Illugi defended then both very-manfully but Grettir was with
öllu óvigr bæði af sárum ok sjúkleika. Þá bað Öngull,
all unfit-to-fight both from wounds and sickness Then bade Hook

at þeir skyldi bera skjöldu at Illuga — “því at ek hefi
that they should bear shields at Illugi because that I have
 engan fundit hans líka, eigi eldra mann”. Þeir gerðu nú
none found his equal not older man They did now
 svá, at (þeir) þröngdu at honum með viðum ok vápnum,
so that they pressed at him with timbers and weapons
 svá at hann kom engri vörn fyrir sik. Gátu þeir þá
so that he brought no defense before himself Could they then
 handtekit hann ok heldu honum. Hann hafði flestum veitt
hand-take him and held him He had most given
 nökkura áverka, þeim sem í atsókninni váru, enn drepit
some wound of-those who in the-attack were but killed
 þrjá fylgdarmenn Önguls. Eftir þat gengu þeir at Grettir;
three followers of-Hook After that went they to Grettir
 var hann þá fallinn áfram. Varð þá engi vörn af honum,
was he then fallen forward Became then no defense from him
 því at hann var áðr kominn at bana af fótarsárinu;
because that he was already come to death from the-leg-wound
 var lærit alt grafit upp at smápörmum. Veittu þeir honum
was the-thigh all festered up to (the)-small-guts Gave they him
 þá mörg sár, svá at lítt eða ekki blæddi. Enn er þeir
then many wounds so that little or not bled But when they
 hugðu, at hann myndi dauðr, þreif Öngull til saxins,
thought that he would (be)-dead seized Hook at the-short-sword
 ok kvað hann nógu lengi hafa borit þat; enn Grettir
and said him enough long to-have borne it but Grettir
 hafði fast knept fingr at meðalkaffanum, ok varð eigi
had tight clenched (the)-fingers on the-bilt and became not
 laust. Fóru þeir þá til margir, ok gátu eigi at gert.
loose Went they then to(-it) many and could not to(-it) done
 Átta tóku þeir til, áðr enn lauk, ok fengu ekki at
Eight took they to(-it) before than (it)-ended and got nothing to(-it)

gert at heldr. Þá mælti Öngull: “Hví skulu vér reka
done at(-it) rather Then spoke Hook Why shall we drive
 sparmælit við skógarmanninn? ok leggit niðr höndina
the-sparing-of-words with the-forest-man and lay-you down the-hand
 við stokkinum”; ok er þat var gert, hjoggu þeir af honum
on the-block and when that was done hewed they off him
 höndina í úlfliðnum; þá réttust fingrnir ok losnuðu af
the-hand at the-wrist then straightened the-fingers and loosed from
 meðalkaflanum. Þá tók Öngull saxit tveim höndum
the-bilt Then took Hook the-short-sword with-two hands
 ok hjó í höfuð Gretti; varð þat allmikit högg, svá
and hewed at (the)-head of-Grettir became that a-very-great blow so
 at saxit stóðst eigi, ok brotnaði skarð í miðri
that the-short-sword held not and broke a-notch in (the)-middle-of
 egginni; ok er þeir sá þat, spurðu þeir, því hann spilti
the-edge and when they saw that asked they why he spoiled
 svá grip góðum. Öngull svarar: “Þá er auðkendara, ef
so treasure good Hook answers Then is more-recognizable if
 at verðr spurt”. Þeir sögðu þessa eigi þurfa, þar sem
about(-it) becomes asked They said this not to-need there where
 maðrinn var dauðr áðr. “At skal þó meira gera”, segir
the-man was dead already To(-it) shall yet more do says
 Öngull; hjó hann þá á háls Gretti tvau högg eða
Hook hewed he then on (the)-neck of-Grettir two blows or
 þrjú, áðr af tæki höfuðit. “Nú veit ek víst, at Grettir er
three before off took the-head Now know I surely that Grettir is
 dauðr”, sagði Öngull. Lét Grettir þann veg líf sitt, hinn
dead said Hook Lost Grettir that way life his the
 vaskasti maðr, er verit hefir á Íslandi; var honum vetri
bravest man who been has in Iceland was to-him a-winter
 fátt í hálfimtugum, er hann var veginn; enn þá var hann
short of forty-five when he was slain but then was he

fjórtán vetra, er hann vó Skeggja, hit fyrsta víg, ok
fourteen winters when he slew Skeggi the first slaying and
 þá gekk honum alt til vegs framan til þess, er hann
then went to-him all toward honor forth until that when he
 átti við Glám þræl, ok var hann þá tuttugu vetra;
had-to-do with Glam (the)-thrall and was he then twenty winters
 enn er hann fell í útlegð, var hann hálfþrítugr; enn
but when he fell into outlawry was he twenty-five but
 í sekt var hann vel nítján vetr, ok kom oft í stórar
in outlawry was he fully nineteen winters and came often into great
 manna raunir, ok helt ávalt vel trú sína, ór því sem ráða
trials-of-manhood and held always well faith his out-of that which to-control
 var; sá hann flest fyrir, þó at hann gæti ekki at gert.
was saw he most before though that he could nothing to(-it) done

LXXXV · THE DEATH OF ILLUGI

Þorbjörn öngull takes Grettir's head for the price on it. He offers Illugi his life for an oath not to take vengeance, but Illugi refuses, and they kill him, praising his courage. They bury both brothers on the island, kill Glaumr on the way home, and salt the head at Viðvík. Men turn against Þorbjörn for the witchcraft. Þórir of Garðr refuses him the money and calls him a man who deserves death. They part as enemies, leaving the claim to the Alþing.

“Hér höfum vér mikinn garp at velli lagt”, sagði
Here have we a-great champion to (the)-field laid said
 Þorbjörn; “skulu vér nú hafa höfuðit með oss til lands,
Thorbjörn shall we now have the-head with us to land
 því at eigi vil ek missa fjár, sem lagt hefir verit
because that not will I lose (the)-money which laid has been
 til höfuðs honum; mega þeir þá eigi dyljast við, at ek
on (the)-head to-him may they then not deny about(-it) that I

hefi drepit Gretti". Þeir báðu hann ráða, ok létu sér þó
have killed Grettir They bade him decide and let themselves yet
 fátt um finnast, því at öllum þótti óþrúðlega at unnit.
little about(-it) be-found because that to-all seemed ignobly at done
 Þá mælti Öngull við Illuga: "Mikill skaði er þat um svá
Then spoke Hook to Illugi Great loss is that about so
 rösksvan mann sem þú ert, er þik hefir hent sú óvizza,
valiant a-man as you are when you has befallen that folly
 at ráðast til illvirkja með útleðarmanni þessum, ok verða
to join-yourself to evil-deeds with outlaw this and become
 fyrir þat dræpr ógildir". Illugi svarar: "Svá fremi veiztu
for that killable without-compensation Illugi answers So far know-you
 þat, sem úti er alþingi í sumar, hverir útlægir verða; enn
that when over is (the)-Alþing in summer who outlawed become but
 eigi muntu né kerlingin fóstura þín dæma þessi mál,
not will-you nor the-old-woman foster-mother your judge these cases
 því at galdrar ykkir ok forneskja hafa drepit Gretti, þó
because that spells your and old-magic have killed Grettir though
 at þér bærið járn á hann dauðvána, ok gerðið svá
that you bore iron on him (when)-likely-to-die and did so
 mikit níðingsverk ofan á fordæðskap". Þá sagði Öngull:
great villainy down on witchcraft Then said Hook
 "Rösklega segir þú, enn eigi mun svá vera. Vil ek sýna þat,
Valiantly say you but not will so be Will I show that
 at mér sýnist mannskaði í þér, ok mun ek gefa þér líf,
that to-me seems loss-of-a-man in you and will I give you life
 ef þú vilt vinna oss trúnaðareið, at hefna engum þeim, er
if you will swear to-us an-oath-of-faith to avenge none of-those who
 í þessarri ferð hafa verit". Illugi mælti: "Þat þætti mér
on this journey have been Illugi spoke That would-seem to-me
 umtalsmál, ef Grettir hefði mátt verja sik, ok hefði þér
worth-talking-of if Grettir had been-able defend himself and had you

unnið hann með drengskap ok harðfengi; enn nú er þess
overcome him with manliness and hardihood but now is of-that
 engi ván, at ek muna þat til lífs mér vinna, at vera
no expectation that I will that for life for-myself do to be
 slíkr ódrengr sem þú; er þat skjótt af at segja, at engi
such-a villain as you are that quickly off to tell that no-one
 skal yðr óþarfari enn ek, ef ek lifi, því at seint mun
shall to-you more-harmful than I if I live because that late will
 fyrnast mér, hversu þér hafið unnit á Gretti; kýss ek miklu
be-forgotten by-me how you have worked on Grettir choose I much
 heldr at deyja". Þá átti Þorbjörn tal við förunauta sína,
rather to die Then had Thorbjorn talk with companions his
 hvárt þeir skyldi láta Illuga lifa eða eigi. Þeir kváðu hann
whether they should let Illugi live or not They said him
 ráða skyldu atgerðum, því at hann hafði ráðið ferðinni.
to-decide should (the)-proceedings because that he had led the-journey
 Öngull kvaðst eigi kunna at eiga þenna mann yfir höfði
Hook said-of-himself not able to have this man over head
 sér, er engum trygðum vildi lofa eða heita þeim; ok er
his who no pledges would promise or vow to-them and when
 Illugi vissi, at þeir ætluðu at höggva hann, þá hló hann
Illugi knew that they intended to hew him then laughed he
 ok mælti svá: "Nú réðu þér þat af, er mér var nærr
and spoke so Now decided you that off which to-me was nearer
 skapi". Leiddu þeir hann þá, er lýsti, austr á eyna, ok
mind Led they him then when (it)-dawned east on the-island and
 hjoggu hann þar, ok lofuðu allir hans hreysti, ok þótti hann
bewed him there and praised all his valor and seemed he
 öllum ólíkr sínum jafnöldrum. Þeir dysjuðu þá bræðr
to-all unlike his contemporaries They buried then (the)-brothers
 báða þar í eyjunni, enn tóku síðan höfuð Grettis ok báru
both there on the-island but took then (the)-head of-Grettir and bore(-it)

með sér, ok alt þat, sem þar var fémætt í vápnum ok
with themselves and all that which there was valuable in weapons and
 klæðum. Saxit góða lét Öngull eigi í skifti koma,
clothes The-short-sword good let Hook not into (the)-division come
 ok bar þat lengi síðan. Þeir höfðu Glaum með sér,
and bore it long after They had Glaum with themselves
 ok bar hann sik allilla. Veðr fell þegar um náttina.
and bore he himself very-badly (The)-weather fell at-once in the-night
 Reru þeir til lands um morgininn. Fór Öngull þar á land,
Rowed they to land in the-morning Went Hook there on land
 sem honum þótti gegnast, enn sendi út skipit til Bjarnar;
where to-him seemed most-convenient but sent out the-ship to Bjorn
 ok er þeir kvámu mjök inn til Óslands, þá tók Glaumr
and when they came nearly in to Osland then took Glaum
 svá illa at bera sik, at þeir nentu eigi at fara með hann
so badly to bear himself that they cared not to go with him
 lengra ok drápu hann þar, ok grét hann hástöfum áðr enn
further and killed him there and wept he loudly before than
 hann var höggvinn. Öngull fór heim í Viðvík, ok þóttist
he was bewed Hook went home to Vidvik and thought-himself
 vel hafa fram gengit í þessarri ferð. Höfuð Grettis lögðu
well to-have forth gone on this journey (The)-head of-Grettir laid
 þeir í salt í útibúri því, er Grettisbúr var kallat, þar í
they in salt in an-outhouse that which Grettir's-Store was called there at
 Viðvík; lá þat þar um vetrinn. Öngull var óþokkaðr mjök af
Vidvik lay it there over the-winter Hook was disliked very for
 þessum verkum, þegar at menn vissu, at Grettir hafði með
these deeds as-soon as men knew that Grettir had by
 gerningum unninn verit. Sat Öngull um kyrt fram yfir jól;
witchcraft overcome been Sat Hook at rest forth over Yule
 þá reið hann til móts við Þóri í Garði, ok sagði honum
then rode he to meeting with Thorir at Gard and told him

af vígum þessum, ok þat með, at hann þóttist eiga
of slayings these and that with(-it) that he thought-himself to-own
fé þat, er lagt var til höfuðs Gretti. Þórir sagði, at
(the)-money that which laid was on (the)-head of-Grettir Thorir said that
hann myndi eigi dylja þess, at hann hafði ollat sektum
he would not deny that that he had caused (the)-outlawries
Grettis — “hefi ek ok oft fengit hart af honum, enn
of-Grettir have I also often gotten hard from him but
eigi vilda ek þat til lífs hans vinna, at gera mik at
not would-wish I that for life his do to make myself into
ódáðamanni eða fordæðu, sem þú hefir gert; mun ek síðr
an-evil-doer or a-witch as you have done will I less
leggja þér fé, at mér sýnist þú ólífismaðr vera fyrir
lay you money since to-me seems you a-man-deserving-death to-be for
galdr ok fjölkyngi”. Öngull svarar: “Meirr ætla ek at þér
sorcery and witchcraft Hook answers More think I that to-you
komi til fífesti ok vesalmenska, enn at þú hirðir, með
comes for money-clinging and wretchedness than that you care with
hverju at Greddir væri unninn”. Þórir sagði, at skjótr væri
what that Greddir were overcome Thorir said that quick were
vegr með þeim, at þeir skyldi bíða alþingis, ok hafa
a-way between them that they should wait-for (the)-Alþing and have
þat, er lögmanni sýndist réttast. Skildu þeir með því,
that which to-(the)-law-man seemed most-right Parted they with that
at þar stóð á illu einu með Þóri ok Þorbirni öngli.
that there stood at evil only between Thorir and Thorbjorn Hook

Grettir's kinsmen say Þorbjörn öngull killed a dying man and used witchcraft, and the Miðfjörðr men rally to Ásdís. Þorbjörn brings the head to Bjarg and sets it on the floor with a verse, and Ásdís answers with a verse of her own. Óspakr and Gamli want to attack, but wiser men restrain them, and Þorbjörn rides away with the head. Skeggi skammhöndungr marries Þóroddr drápustúfr's daughter, and Þóroddr then joins Grettir's kinsmen.

Frændum þeira Grettis ok Illuga líkaði stórilla, er þeir
To-kinsmen their of-Grettir and of-Illugi pleased very-ill when they
 fréttu vígin, ok tóku svá upp, at Öngull hefði gert
learned the-slayings and took(-it) so up that Hook had done
 níðingsverk, at drepa dauðvána mann, ok í annarri grein
a-villainy to kill a-dying man and in (the)-second point
 um fjölkyngi; sóttu þeir at hina vitrustu menn, ok mæltist
about witchcraft sought they to the wisest men and was-spoken
 illa fyrir mál Önguls. Hann reið nú vestr til Miðfjarðar,
ill of (the)-case of-Hook He rode now west to Midfjord
 þá (er) fjórar vikur váru af sumri; ok er þat fréttist
then when four weeks were of summer and when that was-heard
 til ferða hans, stefndi Ásdís at sér mönnum, ok váru
of journeys his summoned Asdis to herself men and were
 þar margir hennar vinir, Gamli ok Glúmr mágar hennar,
there many her friends Gamli and Glum sons-in-law her
 ok synir þeira, Skeggi, er skammhöndungr var kallaðr,
and sons their Skeggi who Short-hand was called
 ok Óspakr, er fyrr var getit. Ásdís var svá vinsæl, at
and Ospak who before was mentioned Asdis was so popular that
 allir Miðfirðingar snerust til liðs með henni, ok jafnvel
all Midfjord-men turned to support with her and even
 þeir, sem áðr váru óvinir Grettis; var þar hinn fyrsti maðr
they who before were enemies of-Grettir was there the first man

Þóroddr drápuþúfr, ok flestir Hrútfirðingar. Öngull kemr nú
Thorodd Poem-stub and most Hrútafjörð-men Hook comes now
 til Bjargs með tuttugu menn; þeir höfðu höfuð Grettis með
to Bjarg with twenty men they had (the)-head of-Grettir with
 sér. Þá váru enn eigi komnir allir þeir, sem henni höfðu
themselves Then were yet not come all those who to-her had
 liði heitit. Þeir gengu inn í stofu með höfuðit ok settu
support promised They went in into (the)-room with the-head and set(-it)
 niðr á gólf. Húsfreyja var í stofu ok margir menn
down on (the)-floor (The)-housewife was in (the)-room and many men
 aðrir. Eigi varð at kveðjum við þá. Öngull kvað þá vísu:
others Not was of greetings with them Hook spoke then a-verse

Fluttak upp ór eyju

Brought-I up out-of (the)-island

ómett höfuð Grettis;

(the)-unfed head of-Grettir

þann grætr nála-Nanna

that weeps needle-Nanna

nauðuleg hárrauðan.

grief-stricken red-haired

Hér mátt gjalfrs á golfi

Here may-you of-sea on floor

griðbíts höfuð líta

of-truce-biter (the)-head see

það mun fagrlogs Fríði

that will of-fair-flame Frid

fúna alt nema saltit.

rot all except the-salt

Húsfreyja sat kyr á meðan hann kvað vísuna; eftir þat
(The)-housewife sat still for while he spoke the-verse after that
 kvað hon vísu:

spoke she a-verse

Mundut síðr enn sauðir,

Would-not less than sheep

sýrgarpr fyrir dýri

wey-champion before (the)-beast

— komit es norðr at njörðum

come is north to njords

nýtt skaup — á sjá hlaupa,

new mockery onto (the)-sea leap

ef styrviðir stæði

if (the)-battle-trees stood

stála Frey í eyju

of-steel to-Frey on (the)-island

— verit hefik lofs um lýði

been have-I of-praise among people

létt — ósjúkan Gretti.

light bale Grettir

Þá mæltu margir, at eigi væri undarlegt, þó at hon ætti

Then said many that not were strange though that she had

hrausta sonu, svá hraust sem hon var, þvílík skapraun sem

hardy sons so hardy as she was such provocation as

henni var ger. Óspakr var úti ok átti tal við fylgdarmenn

to-her was done Ospak was outside and had talk with (the)-followers

Önguls, þá sem eigi höfðu inn gengit, ok spurði at

of-Hook those who not had in gone and asked about

vígunum, enn allir lofuðu vörn Illuga; þá sögðu þeir frá,

the-slayings but all praised (the)-defense of-Illugi then told they of

hversu Grettir hafði haldit fast saxinu, þá er hann var
how Grettir had held fast the-short-sword then when he was
 dauðr; þat þótti mönnum undarlegt. Þá var sén margra manna
dead that seemed to-men strange Then was seen of-many men
 reið vestan at; váru þar komnir margir vinir húsfreyju,
a-riding from-the-west at(-it) were there come many friends of-(the)-housewife
 ok þeir Gamli ok Skeggi vestan frá Melum. Öngull hafði
and they Gamli and Skeggi from-the-west from Melar Hook had
 þar ætlat at hefja féránsdóm eftir Illuga, því at þeir
there intended to hold a-court-of-confiscation after Illugi because that they
 kölluðu sér alt fé hans; enn er fjölmennit kom,
called for-themselves all money his but when the-crowd came
 sá Öngull, at hann gat ekki at gert; váru þeir hinir
saw Hook that he could nothing to(-it) done were they the
 áköfustu, Óspakr ok Gamli, ok vildu veita Öngli atgöngu,
most-eager Ospak and Gamli and wished to-give Hook an-attack
 enn þeir, sem vitrari váru, báðu þá hafa við ráð
but they who wiser were bade them have with(-it) (the)-counsel
 Þorvalds frænda síns ok annarra höfðingja, ok sögðu, at því
of-Thorvald kinsman their and of-other chieftains and said that the
 verr myndi mál Önguls fyrir mælast, sem fleiri vitrir menn
worse would (the)-case of-Hook for be-spoken-of the more wise men
 sæti yfir; varð þá svá á meðal gengit, at Öngull reið burt
sat over(-it) was then so in between gone that Hook rode away
 ok hafði með sér höfuð Grettis, því at hann ætlaði at
and had with himself (the)-head of-Grettir because that he intended to
 hafa þat til alpingis. Reið hann nú heim ok þótti þunglega
have it at (the)-Althing Rode he now home and seemed heavily
 á horfast, því at flestir allir höfðingjar á landinu váru
on (it)-to-look because that nearly all chieftains in the-land were
 annathvært skyldir eða mægðir við þá Gretti ok Illuga.
either related or connected-by-marriage with them Gretti and Illugi

Petta sumar fekk Skeggi skammhöndungr dóttur Þórodds
That summer got Skeggi Short-hand (the)-daughter of-Thorodd
 drápustúfs; gekk Þóroddr þá at málum með frændum Grettis.
Poem-stub joined Thorodd then in (the)-cases with (the)-kinsmen of-Grettir

LXXXVII · THE CASE AT THE ALTHING

Warned not to bring the head, Þorbjörn öngull buries it in a sand-billock on the way. At the Althing he claims the price, but Grettir's kinsmen sue him for witchcraft and for killing a dying man. He must leave Iceland and never return while the brothers' avengers live, witchcraft is outlawed, and he gets none of the money. The brothers' bodies are reburied at Reykir, Grettir's head at Bjarg, and Ásdís is left in peace to the end.

Nú riðu menn til alþingis, ok urðu færi liðveizlumenn
Now rode men to (the)-Althing and became fewer supporters
 Önguls enn hann ætlaði, því at málit mæltist illa fyrir.
of-Hook than he intended because that the-case was-spoken ill of
 Þá spurði Halldórr, hvárt þeir skyldu hafa höfuð Grettis
Then asked Halldor whether they should have (the)-head of-Grettir
 með sér til alþingis. Öngull lézt þat ætlat hafa.
with themselves to (the)-Althing Hook said-of-himself that intended to-have
 “Þat er óráðlegt”, segir Halldórr, “því at nógu margir
That is ill-advised says Halldor because that enough many
 munu vera mótstöðumenn þínir, þó at þú gerir eigi slíkar
will be opponents your though that you make not such
 áminningar til þess at vekja upp harma manna”. Þá váru
reminders for that to wake up (the)-griefs of-men Then were
 þeir komnir á veg ok ætluðu at ríða suður Sand. Öngull
they come on (the)-way and intended to ride south (the)-Sand Hook
 lét þá taka höfuðið ok grafa niður í sandþúfu eina; er þat
had then take the-head and dig(-it) down in a-sand-billock one which that

kölluð Grettpífa. Á alþingi var fjölment, ok bar Öngull
called Grettpi's-Hillock At (the)-Alþing was a-crowd and brought Hook
 fram mál sín ok hrósaði mjök verkum sínum, at hann hefði
forth case his and boasted much of-deeds his that he had
 drepit þann skógarmann, er gildastr hefði verit á landinu,
killed that forest-man who stoutest had been in the-land
 ok þóttist eiga fé þat, er lagit var til höfuðs
and thought-himself to-own (the)-money that which laid was on (the)-head
 honum; enn Þórir hafði hin sömu svör sem fyrr váru sögð.
to-him but Thorir had the same answers as before were said
 Þá var lögmaðr beiddr órskurðar; hann kvaðst heyra
Then was (the)-law-man asked-for a-ruling he said-of-himself to-hear
 vilja, ef nökkurar gagnsakir kvæmi þær í móti, er þar
to-wish if any counter-charges came those in against(-it) which there
 fyrir mætti Öngull missa sektarfjárins, ellegar myndi hann
for might Hook lose the-outlawry-money otherwise would he
 hafa slíkt sem til höfuðs honum var lagit. Þá kvaddi
have such as on (the)-head to-him was laid Then summoned
 Þorvaldr Ásgeirsson til Skammhöndung, at bera fram
Thorvald Asgeir's-son to(-it) Short-hand to bring forth
 sökina, ok stefndi Þorbirni öngli annarri stefnu um galdr
the-charge and summoned Thorbjorn Hook with-one summons for sorcery
 ok fjölkyngi þá, er Grettpir myndi hafa bana af fengit;
and witchcraft that which Grettpir would have death from gotten
 enn annarri um þat, er þeir vógu at honum hálfdaudum
and with-another for that that they slew at him a-half-dead
 manni, ok lét varða skóggang. Nú varð mikill sveitardráttir,
man and made (it)-carry forest-outlawry Now became great taking-of-sides
 ok urðu þeir fáir, er sinnaðu Þorbirni; varð nú öðruvís enn
and became they few who supported Thorbjorn went now otherwise than
 hann hugði, því at Þorvaldi ok Ísleifi mági hans
he thought because that to-Thorvald and Isleif kinsman-by-marriage his

þótti þat ólífisverk, at gera manni gerningar til bana; enn
seemed that a-capital-crime to do to-a-man witchcraft to death but
 með tillögum skynsamra manna varð sú lykt á málum
with (the)-proposals of-sensible men became that end on cases
 þessum, at Þorbjörn skyldi sigla samsumars ok koma aldri
these that Thorbjorn should sail (the)-same-summer and come never
 síðan til Íslands, meðan þeir lifði, er eftirmál áttu eftir
after to Iceland while they lived who prosecution had after
 Illuga ok Gretti. Var þá í lög tekit, at alla forneskjumenn
Illugi and Grettir Was then into law taken that all old-magic-men
 gerðu þeir útlæga; ok er hann sá, hvern hans kostur myndi
made they outlaws and when he saw what his lot would
 verða, hafði hann sik af þinginu, því at þá var búit,
be had he himself off the-assembly because that then was ready
 at frændr Grettis myndi at honum ganga; fekk hann
that (the)-kinsmen of-Grettir would at him go got he
 ok ekki af því fé, er til höfuðs Grettis var lagit,
also nothing of that money which on (the)-head of-Grettir was laid
 því at Steinn lögsögumaðr vildi eigi, at þat gyldist fyrir
because that Stein (the)-law-speaker wished not that that were-paid for
 níðingsverk. Engu váru þeir menn bættir, er fallit
villainy With-nothing were those men compensated who fallen
 höfðu með Þorbirni í Drangey; skyldi þat vera jafnt ok
had with Thorbjorn in Drangey should that be even and
 víg Illuga; líkaði þat þó frændum hans allilla. Riðu
(the)-slaying of-Illugi pleased that yet (the)-kinsmen his very-ill Rode
 menn nú heim af þinginu, ok fellu niðr allar sakir þær,
men now home from the-assembly and fell down all charges those
 er menn höfðu á höndum Grettis. Skeggi son Gamla, enn
which men had on hands of-Grettir Skeggi son of-Gamli and
 mágr Þórodds drápustúfs, enn systurson Grettis, fór
kinsman-by-marriage of-Thorodd Poem-stub and sister's-son of-Grettir went

norðr til Skagafjarðar með atgangi Þorvalds Ásgeirssonar ok
north to Skagafjord with (the)-support of-Thorvald Asgeir's-son and
 Ísleifs mágs hans, er síðan var biskup í Skálholti,
of-Isleif kinsman-by-marriage his who later was bishop at Skalholt
 ok samþykki alls almúga, ok fekk sér skip ok fór til
and (the)-consent of-all (the)-common-people and got himself a-ship and went to
 Drangeyjar, at sækja lík þeira bræðra, Grettis ok Illuga,
Drangey to fetch (the)-bodies of-those brothers Grettir and Illugi
 ok færðu út til Reykja á Reykjaströnd ok grófu þar
and brought(-them) out to Reykir on Reykjastrond and buried(-them) there
 at kirkju, ok þat til marks, at Grettir liggir þar, at um
at (the)-church and that for sign that Grettir lies there that in
 daga Sturlunga, er kirkjan var færð at Reykjum, váru
(the)-days of-(the)-Sturlungs when the-church was moved at Reykir were
 grafin upp bein Grettis, ok þótti þeim eigi geysistór,
dug up (the)-bones of-Grettir and seemed to-them not huge
 ok þó mikil. Bein Illuga váru grafin síðan fyrir norðan
and yet big (The)-bones of-Illugi were buried later on north-of
 kirkju, enn höfuð Grettis var grafit heima at Bjargi at
(the)-church but (the)-head of-Grettir was buried at-home at Bjarg at
 kirkju. Sat Ásdís húsfreyja at Bjargi, ok var svá vinsæl,
(the)-church Sat Asdis (the)-housewife at Bjarg and was so popular
 at aldri váru henni ónáðir gervar, ok eigi heldr meðan
that never were to-her troubles made and not either while
 Grettir var í sekt. Skeggi skammhöndungr tók við búi
Grettir was in outlawry Skeggi Short-hand took over (the)-farm
 at Bjargi með Ásdísi, ok var mikill maðr fyrir sér. Hans
at Bjarg with Asdis and was a-great man for himself His
 son var Gamli, faðir Skeggja á Skarfsstöðum, ok Ásdísar,
son was Gamli father of-Skeggi at Skarfsstadir and of-Asdis
 móður Odds munks. Margir menn eru frá honum komnir.
mother of-Odd (the)-Monk Many men are from him come

Þorbjörn öngull sails to Norway, leaving his lands and Drangey to Hjalti. There he boasts of killing Grettir and keeps silent about how it was done. Þorsteinn drómundr, Grettir's brother, hears the news in Túnberg and remembers his vow about his thin arms. When Þorbjörn learns that Grettir has a brother in Norway, he goes to Constantinople and joins the Varangians.

Þorbjörn öngull réðst í skip at Gásum með alt þat sem
Thorbjorn Hook took-passage in a-ship at Gasar with all that which
 hann mátti með komast af fé sínu, enn Hjalti bróðir
he could with get of money his but Hjalti brother
 hans tók við jörðum. Öngull fekk honum ok Drangey. Varð
his took over (the)-lands Hook gave him also Drangey Became
 Hjalti síðan höfðingi mikill, ok er hans eigi getit lengr
Hjalti later a-chieftain great and is he not mentioned longer
 við þessa sögu. Öngull fór til Noregs; lét enn mikit um
in this saga Hook went to Norway made again much about
 sik. Þóttist hann mikit þrekvirki unnit hafa í drápi
himself Thought-himself he a-great feat done to-have in (the)-killing
 Grettis. Virðu ok margir svá, þeir sem ókunnigt var,
of-Grettir Esteemed(-it) also many so those to-whom unknown was
 hversu þat hafði til borizt; enn margir vissu, hversu frægr
how that had to happened but many knew how famous
 maðr Grettir hafði verit. Sagði hann þat eitt af viðskiftum
a-man Grettir had been Told he that alone of dealings
 þeira, sem honum var til frama, enn lét hitt liggja niðri í
their which to-him was for honor but let the-other lie down in
 sögunni, sem minnr var til frægðar. Þessi saga kom austr til
the-story which less was for fame This story came east to
 Túnbergs. Er Þorsteinn drómundr frétti vígin, varð hann
Tunsberg When Thorstein Dromund heard the-slayings became he

mjök hljóðr við, því at honum var sagt, at Öngull væri
very silent at(-it) because that to-him was said that Hook were
 mjök gildir ok harðfengr. Mintist Þorsteinn ummæla þeira,
very stout and hardy Remembered Thorstein (the)-words those
 sem hann hafði þá er þeir Grettir töluðust við endr
which he had then when they Grettir(-and-he) talked together once
 fyrir löngu um handleggina. Þorsteinn helt nú fréttum til
for long about the-arms Thorstein kept now news to(-it)
 um ferðir Önguls. Váru þeir báðir í Noregi um vetrinn,
about (the)-journeys of-Hook Were they both in Norway over the-winter
 ok var Þorbjörn norðr í landi, enn Þorsteinn í Túnbergi, ok
and was Thorbjorn north in (the)-land but Thorstein in Tunsberg and
 hafði hvárrgi sét annan; enn þó varð Öngull viss, at Grettir
had neither seen (the)-other but yet became Hook aware that Grettir
 átti bróður í Noregi, ok þótti vansét við í ókunnu
had a-brother in Norway and seemed hard-to-guard against(-it) in an-unknown
 landi, ok því leitaði hann sér ráðs, hvert hann skyldi
land and therefore sought he for-himself counsel whither he should
 á leita. Í þenna tíma fór margt Norðmanna út í Miklagarð
on seek At this time went many of-Norwegians out to Mikligard
 og gengu þar á mála. Af því þótti Þorbirni fýsilegt at
and went there into pay From that seemed to-Thorbjorn attractive to
 fara þangat, ok afla sér svá fjár ok frægðar, enn hafa
go thither and gain himself so money and fame but have
 sik eigi í Norðrlöndum fyrir frændum Grettis. Bjó hann
himself not in (the)-Northlands for (the)-kinsmen of-Grettir Prepared be
 nú ferð sína ór Noregi ok fór út í lönd, ok létti eigi
now journey his out-of Norway and went out into lands and stopped not
 fyrr enn hann kom út í Miklagarð, og gekk þar á mála.
sooner than he came out to Mikligard and went there into pay

Þorsteinn drómundr follows Þorbjörn öngull to Constantinople and joins the Varangians, but the two do not know each other. At a weapon-muster Þorbjörn shows the notched short-sword and boasts that the notch came from Grettir's skull. Þorsteinn asks to see it and kills him with it. He is sentenced to a dungeon to die unless ransomed. There, to cheer a fellow-prisoner near death from misery, he sings so loudly that it rings through the walls.

Þorsteinn drómundr var ríkr maðr ok hafði hina mestu
Thorstein Dromund was a-powerful man and had the greatest
 virðing. Hann spurði nú, at Öngull var farinn ór landi
esteem He learned now that Hook was gone out-of (the)-land
 ok út í Miklagarð. Brá hann skjótt við ok seldi
and out to Mikligard Started he quickly at(-it) and banded
 frændum sínum eignir sínar í hendr; enn hann réðst
to-kinsmen his properties his into hands but he set-out
 til ferðar ok leitaði eftir Öngli, ok fór jafnan þar eftir,
on (the)-journey and searched after Hook and went always there after
 sem hann fór undan. Vissi Öngull ekki til hans ferða.
where he went away Knew Hook nothing of his journeys
 Þorsteinn drómundr kom út í Miklagarð litlu síðar enn
Thorstein Dromund came out to Mikligard a-little later than
 Öngull, ok vildi fyrir hvern mun drepa hann, enn hvárrgi
Hook and wished for every difference to-kill him but neither
 kendi annan. Nú vildu þeir koma sér í sveit
recognized (the)-other Now wished they to-bring themselves into (the)-company
 með Væringjum, ok var því vel tekit, þegar þeir vissu, at
with (the)-Varangians and was that well taken as-soon-as they knew that
 þeir váru Norðmenn. Þá var Mikael katalak konungr yfir
they were Norwegians Then was Michael Catalactus king over
 Miklagarði. Þorsteinn drómundr sat nú um Öngul, ef
Mikligard Thorstein Dromund lay-in-wait now for Hook if

hann mætti at nökkuru kenna hann, ok gat þat eigi leikit
he might in any-way recognize him and could that not play
 fyrir fjölmenni. Lá hann þar jafnan vakandi ok undi lítt
for (the)-crowd Lay he there always awake and was-content little
 við sinn hag; þóttist hann mikils hafa mist. Nú var
with his lot thought-himself he much to-have lost Now was
 þat þessu næst, at Væringjar áttu at fara í herför
it to-this next that (the)-Varangians had to go on a-war-expedition
 nökkura, at friða landit af hernaði; ok áðr enn þeir fóru
some to pacify the-land from raiding and before than they went
 heiman, var þat siðr þeira ok lög, at eiga vápnæping,
from-home was that custom their and law to have a-weapon-muster
 ok enn gerðu þeir svá; ok þá er vápnæpingit var sett,
and again did they so and then when the-weapon-muster was set
 þá skyldi allir Væringjar þar koma, ok svá þeir, sem þá
then should all Varangians there come and so those who then
 ætluðu at ráðast til ferðar með þeim, ok sýna vápn sín.
intended to set-out on (the)-journey with them and show weapons their
 Hér kvámu þeir báðir, Þorsteinn ok Öngull. Bar Þorbjörn
Here came they both Thorstein and Hook Brought Thorbjorn
 fyrr fram sín vápn. Hann hafði þá saxit Grettisnaut;
first forth his weapons He had then the-short-sword Grettir's-gift
 enn er hann sýndi þat, þá dáðust margir at, ok sögðu,
but when he showed it then admired many at(-it) and said
 at þat væri allgott vápn, ok kváðu þat mikil lýti á,
that it were a-very-good weapon and said that great blemish on(-it)
 at skarðit var í miðri egginni, ok spurðu hann, hvat
that the-notch was in (the)-middle-of the-edge and asked him what
 til hefði borit. Öngull sagði þat frásagnarvert — “Því at
to(-it) had borne Hook said that worth-telling because that
 þat er þessu næst segjanda, at úti á Íslandi”, segir hann,
that is to-this next to-be-told that out in Iceland says he

“at ek drap kappa þann, er Grettir hét hinn sterki,
that I killed (the)-champion that who Grettir was-called the Strong
 er þar hefir mestr garpr verit ok fullhugi, því at hann
who there has greatest hero been and dauntless-man because that him
 gat engi unnit fyrr enn ek kom til; ok með því at mér
could no-one overcome sooner than I came to(-it) and with that that to-me
 varð auðit at vinna hann, þá bar ek af honum, enn þó
became granted to overcome him then bore I (it)-off him but yet
 hafði hann mörg mín öfl; hjó ek þá í höfuð honum
had he many my strengths hewed I then into (the)-head to-him
 með saxinu, ok þá brotnaði skarð í eggina”. Þeir sögðu,
with the-short-sword and then broke a-notch in the-edge They said
 er næstir stóðu, at sá hefði verit harðr í haus, ok
who nearest stood that he had been hard in (the)-skull and
 sýndi hverr öðrum. Af þessu þóttist Þorsteinn vita,
showed each to-(the)-other From this thought-himself Thorstein to-know
 hvar Öngull var; beiddist at sjá saxit sem aðrir. Lét
where Hook was asked to see the-short-sword as others Let
 Öngull þat til reiðu, því at flestir lofuðu hreysti hans ok
Hook it at hand because that most praised valor his and
 framgöngu; hann hugði, at þessi myndi svá gera; enn hann
advance he thought that this-one would so do but he
 vissi enga ván, at Þorsteinn væri þar eða frændi Grettis.
knew no expectation that Thorstein were there or a-kinsman of-Grettir
 Tók Drómundr nú við saxinu, ok jafnskjótt reiddi hann
Took Dromund now with the-short-sword and as-soon raised he
 þat upp ok hjó til Önguls; kom þat högg í höfuðit,
it up and hewed at Hook came that blow into the-head
 ok var svá mikit, at í jöxlum nam staðar; fell Þorbjörn
and was so great that in (the)-molars (it)-took stand fell Thorbjorn
 öngull ærulauss dauðr til jarðar. Við þetta urðu menn mjök
Hook honorless dead to earth At this became men very

ókveða; greip gjaldkerinn staðarins þegar Þorstein ok spurði,
speechless seized the-treasurer of-the-place at-once Thorstein and asked
 fyrir hverja sök hann gerði slíkt óhæfuverk þar á heilögu
for what reason he did such a-monstrous-deed there at a-holy
 þingi. Þorsteinn sagðist vera bróðir Grettis hins sterka,
assembly Thorstein said-of-himself to-be (the)-brother of-Grettir the Strong
 ok þat með, at hann hefði aldri hefndinni fram komit fyrr
and that with(-it) that he had never the-vengeance forth brought sooner
 enn þar; ok þá tóku margir undir, at sjá hinn sterki maðr
than there and then took many under(-it) that that the strong man
 myndi mikill fyrir sér hafa verit, þar sem Þorsteinn hefði
would great for himself have been there where Thorstein had
 rekizt svá langt út í heim at hefna hans. Ráðsmönnum
driven so far out into (the)-world to avenge him To-(the)-rulers
 staðarins þótti þetta líklegt; enn fyrir því at engi var sá
of-the-place seemed this likely but for that that no-one was he
 þar, er kynni nökkut um at bera með Þorsteini, þá váru
there who could anything about to bear with Thorstein then were
 þat lög þeira, at hverr sá, er mann dræpi, skyldi engu
that laws their that each he who a-man killed should in-nothing
 fyrir týna nema lífinu. Fekk Þorsteinn skjótan dóm ok
for(-it) lose except the-life Got Thorstein a-quick judgment and
 heldr harðan; hann skyldi setja í myrkvastofu í dýflizu
rather hard him should set in a-dark-room in a-dungeon
 eina ok bíða þar bana, ef engi leysti hann út með fé.
one and await there death if no-one released him out with money
 Enn er Þorsteinn kom í dýflizuna, var þar maðr fyrir;
But when Thorstein came into the-dungeon was there a-man before
 sá hafði þar lengi verit, ok kominn at bana af vesöld.
who had there long been and come to death from wretchedness
 Þar var bæði fúlt ok kalt. Þorsteinn mælti við þenna mann:
There was both foul and cold Thorstein spoke to this man

“Hversu þykkir þér æfi þín?” Hinn svarar: “Harðla ill,
How seems to-you life your The-other answers Very ill
 því at mér vill engi við hjálpa, enn ek á enga frændr
because that me will no-one with help but I have no kinsmen
 til at leysa mik”. Þorsteinn mælti: “Margt er fyrir órráðum
to to release me Thorstein spoke Much is before out-of-counsel
 um slíkt, ok verum kátir ok gerum okkur nökkut at
about such and let-us-be merry and let-us-make ourselves something for
 gleði”. Hinn kvað sér at engu gaman verða. “Þó
joy The-other said for-himself in nothing amusement to-become Yet
 skulu vit prófa”, segir Þorsteinn. Tók hann þá ok kvað
shall we-two try says Thorstein Took he then and recited
 kvæði. Hann var raddmaðr mikill, svá at varla fanst hans
a-poem He was a-voice-man great so that hardly was-found his
 líki. Sparði hann nú ekki af. Almenningsstræti var skamt
equal Spared he now nothing off(-it) (The)-public-street was short
 fram frá dýflizunni. Kvað Þorsteinn svá hátt, at gall
forth from the-dungeon Recited Thorstein so loudly that (it)-rang
 í múrnum; ok hinum, er áðr var hálfdaudr, þótti mikit
in the-walls and to-him who before was half-dead seemed great
 gaman at vera. Lét hann svá ganga fram á kveldit.
amusement to be Let he so go forth into the-evening

XC • SPES

Spes, a rich and noble lady married for money to Sigurðr, a man of lower birth, hears Þorsteinn singing from the street. He tells her he avenged his brother, and he proves Grettir's worth with a verse. She offers to free him, but he will not leave without his fellow-prisoner, so she ransoms both. She keeps Þorsteinn in secret while he serves with the Varangians.

Spes hét göfug garðshúsfreyja þar í staðnum, harðla rík
Spes was-called a-noble city-lady there in the-place very rich
 ok stórættuð. Sigurðr hét bóndi hennar; hann var auðigr,
and of-great-family Sigurd was-called husband her he was wealthy
 ok ættsmæri enn hon; hafði hon verit gefin honum til fjár.
and of-lower-birth than she had she been given to-him for money
 Eigi varð ástríki mikit með þeim hjónum, ok þóttist hon
Not was affection great between them (the)-couple and thought-herself she
 næsta vargefin. Hon var stórlynd ok svarkr mikill. Svá bar
nearly ill-married She was proud-minded and a-shrew great So happened
 til, at þá er Þorsteinn skemti um kveldit, at Spes gekk
to(-it) that then when Thorstein entertained in the-evening that Spes walked
 um strætít nær dýflizunni, at hon heyrði þangat rödd svá
along the-street near the-dungeon that she heard thither a-voice so
 fagra, at hon kallaðist enga slíka heyrt hafa. Hon gekk með
fair that she said-of-herself none such heard to-have She went with
 marga sveina, ok bað þá víkja þangat ok vita, hvern þessa
many attendants and bade them turn thither and know who this
 ágætu rödd hefði. Þeir kölluðu nú ok spurðu, hvern þar væri
excellent voice had They called now and asked who there were
 svo harðlega spentr. Þorsteinn nefndi sik. Þá mælti Spes:
so hard confined Thorstein named himself Then spoke Spes
 “Ertu þvilíkr atgervimaðr á annat sem á kveðandi?” Hann
Are-you such-an accomplished-man in other-things as in singing He
 sagði lítit bragð at því. “Hvat hefir þú til saka”, segir hon,
said little show in that What have you for offenses says she
 “er þik skal kvelja hér til bana?” Hann sagði, at hann hefði
that you shall torment here to death He said that he had
 drepit mann ok hefnt bróður síns — “enn ek gat þat eigi
killed a-man and avenged brother his but I could that not
 með vátum sýnt”, sagði Þorsteinn, “ok því var ek hér settr”,
with witnesses show said Thorstein and therefore was I here set

sagði hann, “nema nokkur vildi mik út leysa; enn mér þykkir
said he unless someone would me out release but to-me seems
 þess engi ván, því at ek á hér engan skyldan mann”.
of-that no expectation because that I have here no related man
 “Mikill mannskaði mun þat, ef þú ert drepinn; eða var hann
Great loss-of-a-man will that if you are killed or was he
 bróðir þinn slíkr frægðarmaðr, sá er þú hefndir?” Hann
brother your such-a man-of-fame he whom you avenged He
 sagði, at sá var meirr enn hálfu gildari maðr. Hon spurði,
said that he was more than half stouter a-man She asked
 hvat til merkja væri um þat. Þá kvað Þorsteinn vísu þessa:
what for signs were about that Then spoke Thorstein verse this

Eigi máttu átta

Not could eight

eggþings boðar, hringa

of-edge-assembly messengers of-rings

Grund. ór Grettis hendi

Ground out-of of-Grettir hand

geðrakks koma saxi,

of-mind-bold bring (the)-short-sword

áðr hvarðyggir hjoggu

before everywhere-faithful hewed

herðendr fetils gerðar

hardeners of-(the)-sword-belt of-fence

axlarfót af ýti

(the)-shoulder-foot off (the)-driver

unnblakks hugarrakkum.

of-wave-steed bold-minded

“Mikil ágæti eru slíkt”, sögðu þeir, er skildu vísuna; ok
Great excellences are such said they who understood the-verse and
 sem hon vissi þetta, mælti hon svá: “Viltu þiggja líf at mér,
when she knew this spoke she so Will-you receive life from me
 ef kostur er?” “Ek vil gjarna”, sagði Þorsteinn, “ef þessi félagi
if choice is I wish gladly said Thorstein if this comrade
 minn er ok út leystur með mér, sem hér situr; ella munu
my is also out released with me who here sits otherwise will
 vit sitja hér báðir”. Hon svarar: “Meira mannkaupt ætla ek
we-two sit here both She answers More man-bargain think I
 í þér sé enn honum”. “Svá sem þat er”, sagði Þorsteinn,
in you be than him Just as that is said Thorstein
 “Þá munu vit fylgjast burt heðan annathvart báðir eða
then will we-two go-together away hence either both or
 hvárrgi okkarr”. Hon gekk þá þangat sem Væringjar váru,
neither of-us-two She went then thither where (the)-Varangians were
 ok beiddi útlausnar fyrir Þorstein, ok bauð fé til. Þeir
and asked (for)-release for Thorstein and offered money for(-it) They
 váru þess fúsir. Fekk hon svá um gengit með vinsældum
were of-that eager Got she so about gone with popularity
 sínum ok ríkdómi, at þeir váru báðir út leystir. Enn
her and wealth that they were both out released But
 þegar Þorsteinn komst ór dýflizunni, fór hann til móts
as-soon-as Thorstein got-out out-of the-dungeon went he to meeting
 við Spes húsfreyju. Tók hon hann til sín ok helt hann á
with Spes (the)-lady Took she him to herself and kept him in
 laun; enn stundum var hann með Væringjum í herferðum
secret but sometimes was he with (the)-Varangians on war-expeditions
 ok reyndist hinn mesti fullhugi í öllum framgöngum.
and proved-himself the greatest dauntless-man in all advances

Þorsteinn befriends Haraldr Sigurðarson, and Spes spends so freely on him that her husband Sigurðr suspects a lover. Three times Sigurðr breaks in and finds nothing. Þorsteinn hides once in a chest and once under clothes, and the third time, after Sigurðr feigns a journey, he escapes through a trapdoor into the sea. Sigurðr's men now swear they saw a man. Spes offers to clear herself by oath before the bishop, who allows it, and she plans with Þorsteinn.

Í þenna tíma var Haraldr Sigurðarson í Miklagarði, og
At that time was Harald Sigurd's-son in Mikligard and
 kom Þorsteinn sér í vináttu við hann. Þótti Þorsteinn
brought Thorstein himself into friendship with him Seemed Thorstein
 nú mikilhæfr, því at Spes lét hann eigi fé skorta.
now distinguished because that Spes let him not money lack
 Lögðust þau nú á hugi, Þorsteinn ok Spes. Fanst
Laid-themselves they now on loves Thorstein and Spes Was-found
 mönnum ok henni mikit um atgervi hans. Varð henni
to-men and to-her much about accomplishments his Became to-her
 fés skylmt mjök, því at hon held sér mjök til vinsælda.
money-short very because that she held herself much to popularity
 Bóndi hennar þóttist ok finna, at hon tók sér
Husband her thought-himself also to-find that she took for-herself
 háttaskifti, bæði í skaplyndi ok margri breytni, ok einkanlega
change-of-ways both in disposition and many-a conduct and especially
 í fjárauð. Saknaði hann bæði gulls ok gripa, er hurfu
in waste-of-money Missed he both gold and treasures which vanished
 ór hennar geymslu; ok eitthvert sinn talaði Sigurðr bóndi
out-of her keeping and some time talked Sigurd husband
 hennar við hana ok segir, at hon taki undarlega breytni
her with her and says that she take strange conduct
 upp — “þú gefr ekki gaum at góðsi okkuru”, segir hann,
up you give no heed to goods our says he

“ok sukkar því ýmsa vega; enn svá er sem ek sjái
and squander(-them) therefore various ways but so is as-if I see
 þik í svefni, ok viltu aldri vera þar stödd sem ek er;
you in sleep and will-you never be there present where I am
 nú veit ek fyrir vís, at eitthvert ber til”. Hon svarar:
now know I for certain that something bears to(-it) She answers
 “Ek sagða þér, ok svá frændr mínir, þá er vit kvámum
I told you and also kinsmen my then when we-two came
 saman, at ek vilda vera sjálfráð ok frjáls allra þeira
together that I would-wish to-be my-own-master and free of-all those
 hluta, sem mér stæði vel at veita, ok af því spari ek eigi
things which to-me stood well to grant and from that spare I not
 fé þitt; eða viltu nökkut aðra hluti við mik tala, þá
money your or will-you some other things with me speak those
 sem mér megi blygð í verða?” Hann svarar: “Eigi er mér
which to-me may shame in become He answers Not is to-me
 þat grunlaust, at þú haldir einhvern þann mann, er þér
that unsuspecting that you keep some that man who to-you
 þykkir betri enn ek”. “Eigi veit ek”, segir hon, “at mikit
seems better than I Not know I says she that much
 sé fyrir því, enn þó vil ek þat ætla, at þú megir þat með
be for that but yet will I that think that you may that with
 engum sannendum segja; enn eigi munu vit tvau ein við
no proofs say but not will we-two two alone together
 talast, ef þú berr þessa óvísu at mér”. Hann lét nú falla
talk if you bear this slander at me He let now fall
 niðr þetta tal at sinni. Þau Þorsteinn heldu fram hinu
down this talk for (the)-time They Thorstein(-and-she) kept forth the
 sama, ok váru eigi viðsjál við orði vándra manna, því
same and were not wary against (the)-words of-bad men because
 at hon treysti vizku ok vinsældum. Oft sátu þau á tali ok
that she trusted wisdom and popularity Often sat they in talk and

skemtu sér. Þat var eitt kveld, er þau sátu í einu lofti,
amused themselves It was one evening when they sat in a loft
 þar sem í váru gripir hennar. Hon bað Þorstein kveða
there where in(-it) were treasures her She bade Thorstein sing
 nökkut, því at hon hugði bónda sitja við drykk, sem
something because that she thought (the)-husband to-sit at drink as
 hann átti vanda til. Hon stengdi aftr dyrnar; ok er hann
he had custom to She shut back the-door and when he
 hafði kveðit um stund, var brotizt á hurðina ok kallat,
had sung for a-while was burst on the-door and called
 at upp skyldi láta. Var þar kominn bóndi með marga
that open (one)-should let Was there come (the)-husband with many
 sveina. Húsfreyja hafði lokit upp einni stórrí kistu, ok
attendants (The)-housewife had opened up one great chest and
 sýndi Þorsteini gripi sína; enn er hon kendi hverr var,
showed Thorstein treasures her but when she recognized who (it)-was
 vildi hon eigi lúka upp dyrnar. Hon talar við Þorstein:
wished she not to-open up the-door She speaks to Thorstein
 “Skjót er ráðagerð mín; hlaup hér niðr í kistuna ok lát
Quick is plan my leap here down into the-chest and let
 hljótt um þik”. Hann gerði svá. Hon rak lás fyrir kistuna
quiet about you He did so She drove a-lock before the-chest
 ok settist þar upp á. Í því kom bóndi inn í loftit,
and sat-herself there up on(-it) At that came (the)-husband in into the-loft
 ok höfðu þeir þá brotit upp loftit. Húsfreyja mælti: “Því
and had they then broken up the-loft (The)-housewife spoke Why
 fari þér með svá miklu harki? eða fara ófriðarmenn eftir
go you with so great noise or go enemies after
 yðr?” Bóndi svarar: “Nú er vel, at þú gefr sjálf raun,
you (The)-husband answers Now is well that you give yourself proof
 hver þú ert; eða hvar er sá maðr, er mest remdi raustina
who you are or where is that man who most raised the-voice

áðan? get ek at þér þykki hann fagrhljóðari enn ek".

before guess I that to-you seems he more-fair-sounding than I

Hon mælti: "Engi er allheimskr, ef þegja má; ferr þér

She spoke None is wholly-foolish if (he)-be-silent can goes for-you

ok svá; þú þykkist vera slægr, ok ætlar, at þú munir

also so you think-yourself to-be sly and intend that you will

fasta á mér lygi þína, enn hér mun raun á verða; ef

fasten on me lie your but here will proof on(-it) become if

þú hefir satt at mæla, þá tak þú hann, því at eigi mun

you have true to speak then take you him because that not will

hann hlaupa út um veggina eða ræfrit". Hann leitaði um

he run out through the-walls or the-roof He searched about

húsit ok fann eigi. Hon mælti: "Hví tekur þú hann

the-house and found(-him) not She spoke Why take you him

eigi nú, ef þú þykkist þó eftir visu ganga?" Hann

not now if you think-yourself yet by certainty to-go He

þagnaði þá ok þóttist eigi vita, við hver brögð hann

fell-silent then and thought-himself not to-know against what tricks he

var kominn, ok frétti fylgdarmenn sína, hvárt þeim heyrðist

was come and asked followers his whether to-them was-beard

eigi sem honum. Enn er þeir sá, at húsfreyju mislíkaði,

not as to-him But when they saw that (the)-housewife disliked(-it)

varð ekki af vitnisburði þeira, ok sögðu, at jafnan heyrði

became nothing of testimony their and said that always heard

eigi eftir því sem var. Gekk bóndi þá út ok þóttist

not after that which was Went (the)-husband then out and thought-himself

vita sannendum, þó at hann fyndi eigi manninn. Lét

to-know (the)-truth though that he found not the-man Let

hann þá af at forvitnast um húsfreyju og hagi hennar

he then off to inquire about (the)-housewife and (the)-affairs her

langa stund. Annan tíma var þat, enn miklu síðar, at þau

a-long while (The)-second time was that but much later that they

Þorsteinn ok Spes sátu í fatabúri einu. Þar váru inni
Thorstein and Spes sat in wardrobe-room a There were in(-it)
 klæði bæði skorin ok óskorin, er þau bóndinn áttu.
clothes both cut and uncut which they the-husband(-and-she) owned
 Sýndi hon Þorsteini marga dúka ok röktu í sundr;
Showed she Thorstein many cloths and unrolled(-them) in asunder
 ok er þau varði minst, kom þar at þeim bóndinn með
and when they expected least came there at them the-husband with
 marga menn ok brutu upp loftit; enn meðan þeir gerðu
many men and broke up the-loft but while they did
 þat, rak hon klæðin ofan á Þorstein ok studdist við
that pushed she the-clothes down onto Thorstein and leaned against
 klæðahlaðann, er þeir kvámu inn í húsit. “Hvárt muntu
the-clothes-pile when they came in into the-house Whether will-you
 enn þræta”, segir bóndi, “at hér væri maðr hjá þér?
still dispute says (the)-husband that here were a-man with you
 munu þeir menn vera hér nú, er sá ykkur bæði”. Hon bað
will those men be here now who saw you-two both She bade
 þá vera eigi svá óða — “mun yðr nú ekki bresta, enn
them be not so furious will to-you now nothing fail but
 látið mik vera kyrra ok skýfið mér hvergi”. Þeir leituðu nú
let me be quiet and push me nowhere They searched now
 um húsit ok fundu ekki; gefa upp um síðir. Þá mælti
about the-house and found nothing give(-it) up at last Then spoke
 húsfreyja: “Gott er þat jafnan, at gefa betri raun enn margir
(the)-housewife Good is that always to give better proof than many
 ætla, ok var þess ván, at eigi myndi þér þat finna,
think and was of-that expectation that not would you that find
 sem eigi var til; eða viltu nú, bóndi, ganga við heimsku
which not was there or will-you now husband admit to folly
 þinni ok bera mik undan þessu illmæli?” Hann mælti: “Síðr
your and clear me from this slander He spoke Less

ber ek þik undan, at ek þykkjumst víst vita, at þú ert
clear I you off since I think-myself surely to-know that you are
 sönn at þessu, sem ek hefi á þik borit; skaltu ok verða
guilty of this which I have on you borne shall-you also must
 þik við at hafa um þat mál, ef þú getr þat af þér
yourself to(-it) to have about that case if you can that off yourself
 fært". Hon kvað sér þat eigi í móti skapi; skildu þau
bring She said for-herself that not in against mind parted they
 með því tal sitt. Eftir þetta var Þorsteinn með Væringjum
with that talk their After this was Thorstein with (the)-Varangians
 jafnan, ok þat segja menn, at hann hafi leitat ráða undir
always and that say men that he have sought counsels from
 Harald Sigurðarson, ok ætla menn, at þau hefði eigi svá ór
Harald Sigurd's-son and think men that they had not so out
 ráðit, ef þau hefði eigi hans við notit ok hans vizku. Og
found-a-way if they had not his with enjoyed and his wisdom And
 þá fram liðu stundir, gerði Sigurðr bóndi orð á því,
when forth passed times made Sigurd (the)-husband word on that
 at hann myndi fara heiman at einhverjum erendum sínum.
that he would go from-home on some errands his
 Eigi latti húsfreyja hann þess; ok er bóndi var á
Not discouraged (the)-housewife him from-that and when (the)-husband was off
 burt, kom Þorsteinn til Spes, ok váru þau þá jafnan bæði
away came Thorstein to Spes and were they then always both
 saman. Svá var háttat í garði hennar, at hann var húsaðr
together So was arranged in bouse her that it was built
 fram yfir sjáinn, ok váru þat nökkur hús, er sjárin gekk
out over the-sea and were those some rooms which the-sea went
 upp undir. Þar sátu þau Spes ok Þorsteinn jafnan. Þar
up under There sat they Spes and Thorstein always There
 var lítill hlemmr í gólfinu, svá at engi vissi, nema þau
was a-little trapdoor in the-floor so that no-one knew except they

tvau. Skyldi hann opinn standa, ef skjótt þyrfti til at taka.
two Should it open stand if quickly needed to to take
 Nú er frá bónda at segja, at hann fór hvergi á burt,
Now is of (the)-husband to tell that he went nowhere off away
 nema hann leyndist, ok vildi speja um húsfreyju. Bar
but he hid-himself and wished to-spy on (the)-housewife Happened
 þat ok svá til, at þá er þau varði sízt á einu kveldi,
that also so to(-it) that then when they expected least on one evening
 ok þau sátu í sjávarloftinu ok skemtu sér, at þar kom
and they sat in the-sea-loft and amused themselves that there came
 bóndinn at þeim óvörum með fjölda fólks, ok leiddi nú
the-husband at them unawares with a-multitude of-people and led now
 nökkura menn til gluggs, er á var húsinu, ok bað þá
some men to a-window which on was the-house and bade them
 sjá, hvárt eftir því væri, sem hann sagði. Allir sögðu,
see whether according-to that were which he said All said
 at hann hefði rétt talat, ok svá myndi fyrr hafa verit.
that he had right spoken and so would earlier have been
 Hlupu nú á loftit; ok er þau heyrðu brakit, mælti
Ran now onto the-loft and when they heard the-crashing spoke
 hon til Þorsteins: “Hér verðr þú niðr at fara, hvat sem
she to Thorstein Here must you down to go whatever which
 kostar. Ger mér vísbending, — ef þú kemst fram undan
it-costs Make me a-sign if you get forth from-under
 húsunum”. Hann kvað já við ok steypiti sér niðr í
the-houses He said yes to(-it) and plunged himself down into
 gólf, enn húsfreyja spyrndi fæti sínum á hlemminn. Fell
the-floor but (the)-housewife pushed foot her on the-trapdoor Fell
 hann síðan aftir í lag, ok sá hvergi nývirki á gólfinu. Kom
it then back into place and saw nowhere new-work on the-floor Came
 bóndi í loftit ok hans menn. Þeir fóru nú leitandi ok
(the)-husband into the-loft and his men They went now searching and

fundu ekki, sem ván var. Loftit var autt, svá at þar var
found nothing as expected was The-loft was empty so that there was
 engi hlutr inni, nema slétt gólfít ok pallar. Sat húsfreyja
no thing inside except smooth the-floor and platforms Sat (the)-housewife
 þar ok lék at fingurgullum sínum. Hon gaf sér fátt at
there and played with finger-rings her She gave herself little about
 þeim, ok lét sem hon ætti ekki um at vera. Nú þótti
them and let as-if she had nothing about to be Now seemed
 bónda öllu kynlegra, ok spurði fylgdarmenn sína, hvárt
to-(the)-husband all stranger and asked followers his whether
 þeir hefði eigi sét manninn. Þeir kváðust fyrir víst
they had not seen the-man They said-of-themselves for certain
 hafa sét hann. Þá mælti húsfreyja: “Hér mun koma at
to-have seen him Then spoke (the)-housewife Here will come to
 því sem mælt er, at ‘Þrisvar hefir alt orðit forðum’. Hefir
that which said is that thrice has all happened formerly Has
 þér ok svá farit, Sigurðr”, sagði hon; “Þú hefir gert mér
to-you also so gone Sigurd said she you have done to-me
 þrisvar ónáðir, at því sem mér þykkir; eða eru þér
thrice troubles according-to that which to-me seems or are you
 nú nökkuru hygnari enn fyrir öndverðu”. “Ek var nú eigi
now any wiser than at (the)-beginning I was now not
 einn til frásagnar”, segir bóndi; “skaltu fyrir alt þat eiga
alone for telling says (the)-husband shall-you for all that have
 undanfærslu, því at ek vil með engu móti þessa svívirðing
a-clearing-oath because that I will in no way this disgrace
 hafa óbætta”. “Ek ætla”, segir húsfreyja, “at þú beiðir þess,
have unatoned I think says (the)-housewife that you ask that
 er ek vil bjóða, því at mér þykkir allgott at færast
which I will offer because that to-me seems very-good to clear-myself
 undan þessum áburð; er hann svá á loft kominn, at
from this charge is it so into (the)-air come that

mér verðr mikill vanmetnaðr í, ef ek hrind honum eigi
to-me becomes great dishonor in(-it) if I push it not
 af mér". "Einn veg skaltu þess synja", segir bóndi, "at
off me One way shall-you of-that deny says (the)-husband that
 þú hafir eigi gefit góðs mitt né gripi". Hon svarar: "Þann
you have not given goods my nor treasures She answers That
 tíma, sem ek færumst undan, skal ek einn veg hrinda af
time when I clear-myself off shall I one way push off
 mér öllum þeim greinum, sem þú hefir til mín at tala; enn
me all those points which you have to me to say but
 hygg at, hvar niðr skal koma; vil ek þegar undanfærslu
consider at(-it) where down shall come wish I at-once a-clearing-oath
 fyrir svá fallin orð fyrir þenna áburð". Bóndi lét sér
for so framed words for this charge (The)-husband let himself
 þetta vel nægja, ok gekk í burt með sína menn. Nú er frá
this well suffice and went off away with his men Now is of
 Þorsteini at segja, at hann lagðist fram undan húsunum
Thorstein to tell that he swam forth from-under the-houses
 ok gekk upp þar sem honum líkaði, ok tók sér eina
and went up there where to-him pleased and took for-himself a
 skíðu með loganda eldi ok helt upp, svá at sjá mátti
stick with burning fire and held(-it) up so that (it)-see might
 ór garði húsfreyju. Hon var löngum úti um kveldit
out-of (the)-house of-(the)-housewife She was long outside in the-evening
 ok um náttina, því at hon vildi vita, ef Þorsteinn kæmi
and in the-night because that she wished to-know if Thorstein came
 á land; ok er hon sá eldinn, þóttist hon vita, at
on land and when she saw the-fire thought-herself she to-know that
 hann var á land kominn, því at þau höfðu þetta ráð
he was on land come because that they had this plan
 gert með sér. Eftir um morguninn bauð Spes bónda
made between themselves After in the-morning offered Spes husband

sínum, at þau skyldu við talast fyrir biskupi um sín mál;
her that they should with speak before (the)-bishop about their case
 ok hann var þess alþúinn. Koma þau nú fram fyrir hann,
and he was of-that all-ready Come they now forth before him
 ok hefir bóndi hinar sömu sakir við hana sem fyrr
and has (the)-husband the same charges against her as before
 var greint. Biskup spurði, hvárt hon hefði við þetta kend
was stated (The)-bishop asked whether she had with this charged
 verit fyrr, enn engi sagðist þat heyrt hafa. Þá spurði
been before but no-one said-of-himself that heard to-have Then asked
 hann, með hverjum líkendum hann bæri þetta at henni.
he with what likelihoods he brought this against her
 Hann leiddi þá fram menn, er set höfðu, at hon sat
He led then forth men who seen had that she sat
 í læstu húsi, ok þar einn maðr hjá henni; ok á því sagði
in locked house and there one man with her and on that said
 bóndinn sér grun, at sá maðr myndi glepja hana.
the-husband for-himself suspicion that that man would seduce her
 Biskup sagði, at hon mátti vel færast undan þessum
(The)-bishop said that she might well clear-herself from this
 áburð, ef hon vildi. Hon kvað sér nú allvel líka —
charge if she wished She said for-herself now very-well to-please
 “trúi ek”, sagði Spes, “at mér verði gott til eiðakvenna um
believe I said Spes that for-me will-be good for oath-women about
 þetta mál”. Var henni nú nefndr eiðr ok ákveðinn dagr
this case Was to-her now named an-oath and fixed a-day
 til at fram skyldi koma. Fór hon eftir þat heim ok lét vel
to that forth should come Went she after that home and let well
 yfir sér. Fundust þau Þorsteinn ok Spes ok gerðu ráð sín.
over herself Met they Thorstein and Spes and made plans their

On the day of the oath a huge beggar offers to carry Spes over a muddy ditch. He stumbles, throws her onto the bank, and grabs her bare thigh. She scolds him but gives him gold. In church she swears that no man has touched her except her husband and that beggar. Her kinsmen win her a divorce, and Sigurðr is driven out with little. Men later guess that the beggar was Þorsteinn, but Sigurðr gets no redress.

Nú leið sá dagr, ok þar til sá dagr kom, sem Spes
Now passed that day and there until that day came when Spes
 skyldi vinna eiðinn; þá býðr hon til öllum sínum vinum
should swear the-oath then invites she to(-it) all her friends
 ok frændum, ok setti sik til með hinum beztum klæðum,
and kinsmen and got herself up with the best clothes
 er hon átti. Margar dýrar konur gengu með henni. Þá
which she had Many noble women went with her Then
 váru á vátviðri mikil. Vegrinn var vátr ok ein veisa mikil
were on rains great The-way was wet and one swamp great
 yfir at fara, áðr enn til kirkju kæmi; ok svá sem Spes ok
over to go before than to church (they)-came and just as Spes and
 skari hennar kemr fram at veisunni, var þar fyrir fjölmenni
company her comes forth to the-swamp was there before a-crowd
 mikit ok fjöldi fátækra manna, er sér báðu ölmusu,
great and a-multitude of-poor men who for-themselves asked alms
 því at þetta var almenningsstræti. Allir þóttust þeir
because that this was (the)-public-street All thought-themselves they
 skyldir vera at fagna henni sem kunnu, ok báðu henni
bound to-be to greet her as (they)-could and asked for-her
 góðs fyrir þat, er hon hafði þeim oft vel við hjálpat. Þar
good for that which she had them often well with helped There
 var einn stafkarl milli annara fátækra manna, mikill vexti
was one beggar among other poor men big in-stature

ok hafði sitt skegg. Kvendit nam staðar við fenit, því at
and had a-long beard The-woman took stand at the-bog because that
 hoffólkinu þótti fenit óhreint yfirferðar; ok svá sem þessi
to-the-court-people seemed the-bog dirty to-cross and just as this
 hinn mikli stafkarl sá húsfreyna, at hon var betr búin enn
the big beggar saw the-lady that she was better dressed than
 aðrar konur, mælti hann svá til hennar: “Góða húsfreyja”,
other women spoke he so to her Good lady
 sagði hann, “haf til lítillæti, at ek bera þik yfir fen
said he have for(-it) humility that I carry you over bog
 þetta, því at vér erum skyldir til, stafkarlar, at þjóna þér
this because that we are bound to beggars to serve you
 þat sem vér kunnum”. “Hvat, muntu vel bera mik”, sagði
that which we can What will-you well carry me said
 hon, “er þú getr eigi borit sjálfan þik?” “Þó væri þér
she when you can not carry yourself yourself Yet were to-you
 lítillætisraun”, segir hann, “ok má ek eigi bjóða betr enn
a-trial-of-humility says he and may I not offer better than
 ek hefi til, ok mun þér til alls betr takast, at þú hafir
I have for(-it) and will for-you in all better turn-out that you have
 eigi metnað við fátækan mann”. “Vit þat fyrir víst”, segir
not pride toward a-poor man Know that for certain says
 hon, “berir þú mik eigi vel, þá verðr þat þitt húðlát eða
she carry you me not well then becomes that your flogging or
 annarrar svívirðingar meiri”. “Feginn vil ek hætta á þat”,
other disgrace greater Gladly will I risk on that
 sagði hann ok færðist á fætr út á dikit. Hon lét sem
said he and got-himself on feet out onto the-ditch She let as-if
 hon hugði allilt til, at hann bæri hana, enn þó fór hon
she thought very-ill off(-it) that he carried her but yet went she
 á bak honum. Stumraði hann nú allseint ok gekk við tvær
on back to-him Stumbled he now very-slowly and walked with two

hækjur; ok er hann kemr á mitt fenit, reiðir hann á
crutches and when he comes to (the)-middle-of the-bog sways he to
 ýmsar hliðar. Hon bað hann herða sik — “ok skaltu aldri
various sides She bade him brace himself and shall-you never
 verri för farit hafa enn þá, ef þú fellir mik hér í niðr”.
worse journey gone have than then if you fell me here into down
 Leitar nú veslingr áfram ok færast nú í aukana; kostar
Tries now (the)-wretch forward and gets-himself now into extra-effort strives
 alls kapps við ok kemst allnær landinu, ok þá drepr
with-all might at(-it) and gets very-near the-land and then strikes
 hann fæti ok rýkr áfram, svá at hann kastaði henni upp
he (his)-foot and pitches forward so that he threw her up
 á bakkann, enn fell sjálfr í díkit upp undir hendr;
onto the-bank but fell himself into the-ditch up under (the)-arms
 ok í því er hann liggr þanninn, grípr hann til hennar,
and at that when he lies thus grabs he at her
 húsfrúinnar, ok festi hvergi á klæðunum; tekr hann þá
the-lady and fastened nowhere on the-clothes takes he then
 saurugri hendi upp á kné henni ok alt á lærit bert. Hon
with-dirty hand up onto knee to-her and all on the-thigh bare She
 spratt upp ok bannaði, sagði, at jafnan hlyti ilt af vándum
sprang up and cursed said that always came evil from bad
 förumönnum — “ok væri þat maklegt, at þú lægir lamdr,
vagabonds and were that deserved that you lay beaten
 ef mér þætti eigi skömm í því sakir vesaldar þinnar”.
if to-me seemed not shame in that for-sake-of wretchedness your
 Hann mælti þá: “Missæl er þjóðin; ek þóttumst gera vel
He spoke then Unlucky is the-people I thought-myself to-do well
 við þik, ok hugða ek til ölmusu af þér, enn ek hefir af
toward you and expected I for alms from you but I have from
 þér heitingar ok hrakning, enn ekki til gangs”; ok lét sem
you threats and abuse but nothing for gain and let as-if

honum kvæmi í alt skap. Þótti mörgum hann aumlegr,
to-him came into all temper Seemed to-many he pitiable
 enn hon kvað hann vera hinn mesta bragðakarl; enn er
but she said him to-be the greatest trickster but when
 margir báðu fyrir hann, tekr hon til pungs síns, ok váru
many asked for him takes she to purse her and were
 þar í margir gullpenningar. Hon hristir niðr penningana
there in(-it) many gold-coins She shakes down the-coins
 ok mælti: “Haf þat nú, karl; aldri mun þat gott, at þú
and spoke Have that now old-man never will that good that you
 hafir eigi fult fyrir þat, er ek hefi hrakit þik, enda er
have not full for that when I have abused you and-indeed is
 nú við skilizt eftir því sem þú vant til”. Hann tindi
now with parted according-to that which you were-wont to He picked
 upp gullit ok þakkaði henni fyrir vel gert. Gekk Spes til
up the-gold and thanked her for well done Went Spes to
 kirkju, ok var þar fjölmenni mikit fyrir. Gekk Sigurðr at
church and was there a-crowd great before Went Sigurd at(-it)
 með kappi, ok bað hana færa sik undan áburði þeim, sem
with vigor and bade her clear herself from (the)-charge that which
 hann hefði á hana borit. Hon svarar: “Eigi sinna ek þínum
he had on her borne She answers Not heed I your
 áburði; eða hvern mann kallast þú hafa sét í húsi hjá
charge or what man say-yourself you to-have seen in (the)-house with
 mér? því at jafnan verður til einhverr dugandi maðr at
me because that always comes to(-it) some worthy man to
 vera hjá mér, ok kalla ek þat blygðarlaust; enn fyrir þat vil
be with me and call I that shameless but for that will
 ek sverja, at engum manni hefi ek gull gefit, ok af engum
I swear that to-no man have I gold given and by no
 manni hefi ek saurgast líkamlega, utan af bónda mínum ok
man have I been-defiled bodily except by husband my and

þeim vanda stafkarli, er tók sinni saurugri hendi á lær
that bad beggar who took with-his dirty hand on (the)-thigh
 mér, er ek var borin yfir díkit í dag. Nú tóku margir
my when I was carried over the-ditch in day Now took many
 undir, at þetta væri fullr eiðr, ok henni væri þat eigi
under(-it) that this were a-full oath and to-her were that not
 mannlýti, þó at karl hefði fíflat á henni váveiflega.
a-blemish though that (the)-old-man had groped at her unexpectedly
 Hon sagði, at þat mætti telja sem til væri. Eftir þetta
She said that that might count as to(-it) were After this
 sór hon út svá fallinn eið sem nú var greint. Mæltu
swore she out so framed an-oath as now was stated Said
 þat margir, at hon myndi þat sanna sem mælt er, at
that many that she would that prove-true which said is that
 lítit skyldi í eiði ósært. Hon kveðst þat ætla, at
little should in an-oath unsworn She says-of-herself that to-think that
 vitrum mönnum skyldi svá lítast, at þetta væri eigi um
to-wise men should so seem that this were not about
 grun gert. Þá töluðu til frændr hennar, at slíkt væri
suspicion done Then talked to(-it) kinsmen her that such were
 mikil skapraun burðugum konum, at hafa bótalausa þvílíka
great vexation for-noble women to have unatoned such
 álygi; því at þat var dauðasök, ef kona varð opinber at
slander because that that was a-capital-offense if a-woman became proven in
 því, at hon hóradist undir bónda sínum. Spes beiddi
that that she committed-adultery under husband her Spes asked
 þá biskup, at hann gerði skilnað þeira Sigurðar, því
then (the)-bishop that he made a-separation of-them Sigurd because
 at hon sagðist eigi vilja þola álygi hans. Fluttu þetta
that she said-of-herself not to-wish to-endure slander his Pleaded this
 frændr hennar. Varð þá svá með atgangi þeira, at þau
(the)-kinsmen her Became then so with (the)-pressing their that they

váru skilin, ok Sigurðr fekk lítit af góðsinu; var hann gerr
were separated and Sigurd got little of the-goods was he made
ór landi burt. Fór þar, sem víða eru dæmi til, at
out-of (the)-land away Went there as widely are examples to(-it) that
hinir lægri verða at lúta. Gat hann ok engu fram komit,
the lower must to bow Could he also nothing forth bring
þó at hann hefði rétt at mæla. Spes tók nú við öllum
though that he had right to speak Spes took now with all
penningum þeira, ok þótti hinn mesti kvenskörungr. Þá
money their and seemed the greatest woman-of-mettle Then
er menn hugðu at eiðstaf hennar, þótti mönnum sem
when men considered about oath-words her seemed to-men as-if
grunr hefði í verit, ok ætluðu, at vitrir menn myndi
suspicion had in(-it) been and thought that wise men would
hafa diktat fyrir henni þessi atkvæði. Gátu menn þá upp
have composed for her these words Could men then up
grafit, at sá stafkarl, sem hana hafði borit, var Þorsteinn
dig that that beggar who her had carried was Thorstein
drómundr, enn þó fekk Sigurðr enga rétting þessa máls.
Dromund but yet got Sigurd no redress of-this case

XCIII · ÞORSTEINN AND SPES IN NORWAY

Þorsteinn drómundr, now famous and a friend of Haraldr Sigurðarson, marries Spes. After two winters they sell their goods and move to Norway, where they have children and prosper. Þorsteinn becomes a retainer of King Magnús the Good, and no other Iclander is said to have been avenged in Constantinople. After Magnús's death men find Haraldr harsh, and Þorsteinn begins to decline.

Þorsteinn drómundr var með Væringjum meðan mestr
Thorstein Dromund was with (the)-Varangians while greatest
 orðrómr lék á málum þessum. Verður hann svá frægr, at
rumor played on cases these Becomes he so famous that
 þar þótti varla þvilíkr atgervismaðr komit hafa sem hann.
there seemed hardly such-an accomplished-man come to-have as he
 Fekk hann af Haraldi Sigurðarsyni hinn mesta heiðr, því
Got he from Harald Sigurd's-son the greatest honor because
 at hann virði frændsemi við hann; ok hans ráðum hefir
that he valued kinsbip with him and by-his counsels has
 Þorsteinn fram farit, at því er menn ætla. Bráðlega
Thorstein forth gone according-to that which men think Soon
 eftir þat er Sigurðr var ór landi rekinn hóf Þorsteinn
after that when Sigurd was out-of (the)-land driven raised Thorstein
 bónorð við Spes; tók hon því sæmilega, enn veik þó til
a-proposal to Spes took she that honorably but referred(-it) yet to
 frænda sinna. Váru þá stefnur at áttar, ok kom þat ásamt
kinsmen her Were then meetings at held and came that together
 með þeim, at hon myndi sjálf mestu fyrir ráða. Var þá
between them that she would herself most for decide Was then
 keypt með þeim, ok urðu þeira samfarir góðar ok höfðu
bargained between them and became their married-life good and (they)-had
 auð fjár. Þótti Þorsteinn mikill gæfumaðr, hversu hann
wealth of-money Seemed Thorstein a-great lucky-man how he
 hafði ráðit ór sínum vandræðum. Váru þau ásamt tvá
had found-a-way out-of his troubles Were they together two
 vetr þar í Miklagarði. Eftir þat sagði Þorsteinn húsfreyju
winters there in Mikligard After that told Thorstein wife
 sinni, at hann vildi vitja eigna sinna aftr til Noregs. Hon
his that he wished to-visit properties his back to Norway She
 sagði hann skyldu ráða. Seldi hann þá eignir þær er
said him should decide Sold he then properties those which

hann átti, ok höfðu þá of lausafjár. Réðust þau þá
he owned and had then plenty of-movable-goods Set-out they then
 þaðan ór löndum með góðu föruneysi, ok fóru alla leið
thence out-of lands with good company and went all (the)-way
 unz þau kvámu í Noreg. Tóku frændr Þorsteins harðla
until they came to Norway Received (the)-kinsmen of-Thorstein very
 vel við þeim báðum, ok sá þat brátt, at hon var ör ok
well with them both and saw that soon that she was generous and
 stórlýnd; gerðist hon brátt harðla vinsæl. Áttu þau börn
proud-minded became she soon very popular Had they children
 saman, ok sátu nú at eignum sínum ok undu vel sínu
together and sat now at properties their and were-content well with-their
 ráði. Þá var Magnús konungur hinn góði yfir Noregi. Fór
match Then was Magnus king the Good over Norway Went
 Þorsteinn skjótt á fund hans ok var þar vel tekinn, því
Thorstein quickly to meeting his and was there well received because
 at hann var mjök frægr orðinn af því, er hann hafði
that he was very famous become from that that he had
 hefnt Grettis hins sterka. Vita menn varla dæmi til, at
avenged Grettir the Strong Know men hardly examples to(-it) that
 nökkurs manns af Íslandi hafi hefnt verit í Miklagarði,
any man from Iceland have avenged been in Mikligard
 annars enn Grettis Ásmundarsonar. Svá er sagt, at Þorsteinn
other than Grettir Asmund's-son So is said that Thorstein
 yrði hirðmaðr Magnúss konungs. Sat Þorsteinn um kyrt níu
became a-retainer of-Magnus king Sat Thorstein at rest nine
 vetr, síðan hann kom aftr í Noreg, ok þóttu þau hin mestu
winters since he came back to Norway and seemed they the greatest
 sæmdarmenn bæði. Þá kom utan ór Miklagarði Haraldr
men-of-honor both Then came abroad from Mikligard Harald
 konungur Sigurðarson, ok gaf Magnús konungur honum hálfan
king Sigurd's-son and gave Magnus king him half

Noreg við sik; váru þá báðir konungar í Noregi um hríð.
Norway with himself were then both kings in Norway for a-while
 Eftir andlát Magnúss konungs undu margir lítt, þeir
After (the)-death of-Magnus king were-content many little they
 sem höfðu verið vinir hans, því at allir unnu honum; enn
who had been friends his because that all loved him but
 mönnum varð vangætt til lyndis Haralds konungs, því
to-men became hard-to-please for (the)-temper of-Harald king because
 at hann var harður ok refsingasamr. Þorsteinn drómundr
that he was harsh and punishing Thorstein Dromund
 gerðist þá hnignandi, ok var þó hinn hraustasti maður. Þá
became then declining and was yet the hardest man Then
 var liðit frá drápi Grettis Ásmundarsonar sextán vetr.
was passed from (the)-killing of-Grettir Asmund's-son sixteen winters

XCIV · THE JOURNEY TO ROME

Þorsteinn drómundr will not serve King Haraldr, and Spes says they owe a greater debt to God. She wants to go to Rome to atone, and he agrees, though he is sixty-seven. His kin ask Spes to stay and manage the estate, but she will not be parted from him. Half their money goes to their children, who grow up with their father's kin. From the other half they give to churches and keep the rest for the journey.

Þá eggjuðu margir Þorstein at fara á fund Haralds konungs
Then urged many Thorstein to go to meeting of-Harald king
 ok gerast honum handgenginn; enn hann tók eigi undir
and become to-him a-sworn-man but he took not under
 þat. Þá mælti Spes: “Þat vil ek, Þorsteinn”, segir hon, “at
that Then spoke Spes That wish I Thorstein says she that
 þú farir eigi á fund Haralds konungs, því at vit eigum
you go not to meeting of-Harald king because that we-two have

öðrum konungi meira vangoldit, ok þarf fyrir því at hugsa;
to-another king more unpaid and needs for that to think
 enn vit gerumst nú gömul bæði ok af æskuskeiði, ok
but we-two become now old both and past youth's-course and
 hefir gengit meir eftir ástundan enn kristilegum kenningum
has gone more after desire than Christian teachings
 eða röksemdum réttinda. Nú veit ek, at þessa okkra
or reasonings of-righteousness Now know I that this our
 skuld mega hvártki leysa okkrir frændr né fémunir; vil ek
debt may neither release our kinsmen nor riches wish I
 vit sjálf gjöldum skyld fyrir; nú vil ek breyta ráðahag
we-two ourselves pay (the)-debt for(-it) now will I change condition
 okkrum, ok fara ór landi ok á páfagarð, því at ek
our and go out-of (the)-land and to (the)-papal-court because that I
 trúi, at svá má mitt mál leysast". Þorsteinn svarar: "Mér
believe that so may my case be-released Thorstein answers To-me
 eru þessir hlutir jafnkunnigir sem þér, er nú talar þú;
are these things equally-known as to-you who now speak you
 er þat skylt, at þú ráðir þessu, er svá gegnir vel. er
is that proper that you decide this which so turns-out well when
 þú létt mik ráða, er miklu var óvænlegar stefnt; ok skal
you let me decide which much was less-promisingly beaded and shall
 svá breyta í öllu sem þú segir fyrir". Þetta kom mjök
so act in all as you say beforehand This came very
 á menn óvara. Nú var Þorsteinn tveim vetrum meir enn
on men unexpectedly Now was Thorstein two winters more than
 hálssjötugr, ok þó hraustr til allra athafna sinna. Bauð hann
sixty-five and yet hardy for all deeds his Invited be
 nú til sín öllum frændum sínum ok tengdamönnum, ok
now to himself all kinsmen his and relatives-by-marriage and
 gerði bera fyrir þeim ráðstofnan sína. Tóku vitrir menn vel
had put before them plan his Took wise men well

undir þat, ok þótti þó hinn mesti skaði at burtför þeira.
under that and seemed yet the greatest loss in (the)-departure their
 Þorsteinn sagði eigi víst um aftrkvámu sína — “vil ek
Thorstein said not certain about return his will I
 nú þakka yðr öllum”, segir hann, “hversu þér genguð um
now thank you all says he how you went about
 mitt góðs, meðan ek var ór landi næst; nú vil ek bjóða
my goods while I was out-of (the)-land last now will I invite
 yðr ok biðja, at þér takið við fé barna minna ok
you and ask that you take with (the)-money of-children my and
 þeim sjálfum, ok fæðið þau upp eftir því sem yðvarr er
them themselves and bring them up according-to that which your is
 manndómr, því at ek er svá til aldrs kominn, at jöfn
manliness because that I am so to age come that even
 ván er, hvárt ek kem aftr eða eigi, þótt ek lifa; skulu
expectation is whether I come back or not though I live shall
 þér svá fyrir öllu sjá, því sem ek á hér eftir, sem ek muni
you so for all look that which I own here after as-if I will
 eigi aftr vitja til Noregs”. Þá svöruðu menn, at margt væri
not back visit to Norway Then answered men that much were
 gott til ráða, ef húsfreyja væri eftir til umsjár. Þá mælti
good for counsel if (the)-housewife were behind for oversight Then spoke
 hon: “Því fór ek utan ór löndum ok ór Miklagarði
she Therefore went I abroad out-of lands and out-of Mikligard
 með Þorsteini, ok fyrirlét ek bæði frændr ok fé, at ek
with Thorstein and forsook I both kinsmen and money that I
 vilda, at eitt gengi yfir okkr bæði; nú hefir mér hér gott
wished that one-thing went over us-two both now has to-me here good
 þótt; enn eigi slægir mik hér til langvista í Noregi eða hér
seemed but not tempts me here for long-stay in Norway or here
 í Norðrlöndum, ef hann ferr á burt; hefir ok jafnan þokki
in (the)-Northlands if he goes off away has also always liking

með okkr verit, ok ekki at áskilnaði orðit; nú munu vit
between us-two been and nothing to disagreement become now will we-two
 bæði ásamt fara, því at okkr er kunnigar um þá hluti
both together go because that to-us-two are known about those things
 marga, er orðit hafa síðan vit fundumst". Ok er þau
many which happened have since we-two met And when they
 höfðu þenna veg á gert um hagi sína, þá bað Þorsteinn
had this way on made about affairs their then bade Thorstein
 valinkunna menn skifta í sundr fénu í helminga; tóku
well-known men divide in two the-money into halves took
 frændr Þorsteins þann helming, er börnin skyldi eiga,
(the)-kinsmen of-Thorstein that half which the-children should own
 ok fæddust þau upp með föðurfrændum sínum, ok urðu
and were-brought they up with father's-kinsmen their and became
 síðan hinir mestu þroskamenn, ok er mikil ætt frá þeim
later the greatest men-of-parts and is a-great family from them
 komin þar í ríkinu; enn Þorsteinn ok þau Spes skiftu í
come there in the-realm but Thorstein and they Spes divided in
 sundr sínum hlut fjárens, ok gáfu sumt til kirkna fyrir
two their share of-the-money and gave some to churches for
 sál sinni, enn sumt höfðu þau með sér. Réðust þau nú
soul their but some had they with themselves Set-out they now
 til Rómferðar, ok báðu margir vel fyrir þeim.
on (the)-Rome-journey and prayed many well for them

XCV · THE END OF THE SAGA

In Rome Þorsteinn and Spes confess everything, receive a light penance, and are absolved. They have two stone cells built and live apart in them until they die. Sturla the lawman judges Grettir the greatest of outlaws for three reasons: he was the wisest, since he held out longest in outlawry; he was the strongest of his age and best at laying ghosts; and he alone of Icelanders was avenged in Constantinople.

Fóru þau nú allan veg þar til er þau kvámu til
Went they now all (the)-way there until when they came to
 Rómaborgar. Svá sem þau kvámu fram fyrir þann, er til
Rome Just as they came forth before him who for
 þess var skipaðr, at heyra skriftamál manna, þá sögðu þau
that was appointed to hear (the)-confessions of-men then told they
 sannlega alt, hversu farit hafði, ok með hverjum klóðsköpum
truly all how gone had and with what cunning-devices
 þau höfðu sinn hjúskap bundit. Þau gáfu sik auðmjúklega
they had their marriage bound They gave themselves humbly
 undir þvílíkar skriftir sér til yfirbótar, sem hann vildi á
under such penances for-themselves as amends as he would on
 þau leggja; enn fyrir þann skuld, at þau höfðu sjálf orkæzt
them lay but for that reason that they had themselves exerted
 hugar á, at bæta sína meinbugi án allri þröngvan ok
(their)-minds on(-it) to amend their impediments without all compulsion and
 hatri af kirkjunnar formönnum, þá var þeim létt um
hatred from the-church's leaders then was to-them lightened about
 allar álögur, svá sem fremst mátti vera, enn beðin
all penalties so as most could be but (they)-were-bidden
 með blíðu, at þau skipaðist nú sem skynsamlegast fyrir
with gentleness that they arranged-themselves now as most-sensibly for
 sinni sál ok lifði hreinlega þaðan í frá, at fenginni lausn
their soul and lived purely thence in from at received absolution
 allra sinna mála. Þóttu þau vel ok vitrlega farit hafa. Þá
of-all their cases Seemed they well and wisely gone to-have Then
 mælti Spes: “Nú þykkir mér vel farit hafa ok lýktæzt okkart
spoke Spes Now seems to-me well gone to-have and ended our
 mál; höfum vit nú eigi ógæfu saman átt eina; kann vera,
case have we-two now not misfortune together had only may be
 at heimskir menn dragi sér til eftirdæma okkra hina
that foolish men draw for-themselves as examples our the

fyrri æfi; skulu vit nú gera þá endalykt okkars lífs, at
former life shall we-two now make that end of-our life that
 góðum mönnum sé þar eftir líkjanda; nú skulu vit kaupa
for-good men be there after to-follow now shall we-two bargain
 at þeim mönnum, sem hagir eru á steinsmíði, at þeir geri
with those men who skilled are in stone-work that they make
 sinn stein hváru okkru, ok mættim vit svá bæta þat, sem
own stone for-each of-us-two and might we-two so amend that which
 vit höfum brotit við guð". Nú lét Þorsteinn lagða verða
we-two have broken against God Now had Thorstein laid be
 penninga til steinsmíðar báðum þeim, ok þvílíks annars sem
money for stone-work for-both them and of-such other as
 þau þurftu, ok þau máttu eigi missa til viðrlífs; ok at
they needed and they could not lack for livelihood and at
 lyktaðri þessarri smíð, ok á viðrkvæmilegum tíma, ok öllum
finished this work and at a-fitting time and all
 hlutum tilbúnum, skildu þau sína stundlega samvist at
things prepared separated they their temporal living-together at
 sjálfráði sínu, at þau mætti því heldr njótandi verða heilagrar
free-will their that they might the rather enjoying become holy
 samvistu annars heims. Settist þá í sinn stein hvárt
living-together of-another world Settled-himself then into own stone each
 þeira, ok lifðu svá langan tíma, sem guð vildi skipa, ok
of-them and lived so long time as God wished to-ordain and
 endu svá sína æfi. Hafa þat flestir menn sagt, at Þorsteinn
ended so their life Have that most men said that Thorstein
 drómundr ok hans kona Spes þykkja verit hafa hinir mestu
Dromund and his wife Spes seem been to-have the greatest
 gæfumenn, ór því sem ráða var; enn eigi hafa börn
lucky-people out-of that which to-be-decided was but not have children
 hans né afkvæmi til Íslands komit, svá at saga sé frá ger.
his nor descendants to Iceland come so that a-saga be off-(them) made

Hefir Sturla lögmaðr svá sagt, at engi sekr maðr þykkir
Has Sturla (the)-law-man so said that no outlawed man seems
 honum jafnmikill fyrir sér hafa verit sem Grettir hinn
to-him as-great for himself to-have been as Grettir the
 sterki. Finnir hann til þess þrjár greinir: þá fyrst, at honum
Strong Finds he for that three reasons that first that to-him
 þykkir hann vitrastr verit hafa, því at hann hefir verit
seems he wisest been to-have because that he has been
 lengst í sekt einhverr manna, ok varð aldri unninn meðan
longest in outlawry any of-men and became never overcome while
 hann var heill; þá aðra, at hann var sterkast á landinu
he was hale that second that he was strongest in the-land
 sinna jafnaldra, ok meir laginn til at koma af aftrgöngum
of-his contemporaries and more apt for to do-away with revenants
 ok reimleikum enn aðrir menn; sú hin þriðja, at hans var
and hauntings than other men that the third that him was
 hefnt úti í Miklagarði, sem einskis annars íslenzks manns;
avenged out in Mikligard as for-no other Icelandic man
 ok þat með, hverr giftumaðr Þorsteinn drómundr varð á
and that with(-it) what lucky-man Thorstein Dromund became in
 sínum efstum dögum, sá hinn sami er hans hefndi. Lýkr
his last days he the same who him avenged Ends
 hér sögu Grettis Ásmundarsonar, várs samlanda. Hafi þeir
here (the)-saga of-Grettir Asmund's-son our fellow-countryman Have they
 þökk er hlýddu, enn sá litla, er krabbat hefir söguna.
thanks who listened but he little(-thanks) who scrawled has the-story
 Er hér verksins endir, enn vér sém allir guði sendir. Amen.
Is here of-the-work (the)-end but we be all to-God sent Amen

