OLD NORSE SERIES · VOLUME 30

Orkneyinga Saga

Orkneyinga saga

The Earls of Orkney

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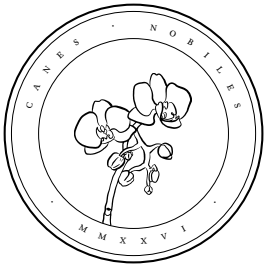
with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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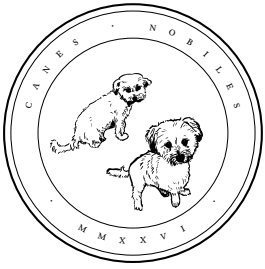

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Orkneyinga saga

The Saga of the Orkney Earls

Fornjótr ruled Finnland and Kvenland. His descendant Þorri held a sacrifice each midwinter; when his daughter Góa vanished, her brothers Nórr and Górr set out to find her, Nórr by land and Górr among the islands and skerries.

FORNJÓTR hefir konúngr heitið; hann réð fyrir þeim
Fornjot has king been-named he ruled over those
löndum, er kölluð eru Finnland ok Kvenland; þat er fyrir
lands which called are Finland and Kvenland that is on
austan hafsbotn þann er gengr í norðr til móts við
east-of (the)-gulf that which goes into north to meeting with
Gandvík; þat köllu vér Helsíngjabotn. Fornjótr átti þrjá
Gandvik that call we (the)-Helsingja-Gulf Fornjot had three
sonu, hét einn Hlér, er vér köllum Ægi, annarr Logi,
sons was-called one Hler whom we call Aegir another Logi
þriði Kári; hann var faðir Frosta, föður Snæs hins gamla;
(the)-third Kari he was father of-Frosti father of-Snaer the Old
hans son hét Þorri, hann átti tvá sonu, hét annarr
his son was-called Thorri he had two sons was-called one
Nórr en annarr Górr; dóttir hans hét Góa. Þorri var
Norr but (the)-other Gor daughter his was-called Goa Thorri was
blótmaðr mikill, hann hafði blót á hverju ári at miðjum
a-sacrifice-man great he had a-sacrifice in each year at middle
vetri; þat kölluðu þeir Þorra-blót; af því tók mánaðrinn
winter that called they Thorri-sacrifice from that took the-month
heiti. Þat var tíðenda einn vetr at Þorra-blóti, at Góa
(its)-name That was of-tidings one winter at Thorri-sacrifice that Goa
hvarf í brott ok var hennar leita farit, ok fanst hon eigi.
vanished off away and was of-her search made and was-found she not
Ok er sá mánaðr leið, lét Þorri fá at blóti, ok blóta til
And when that month passed let Thorri hold at sacrifice and sacrifice for

þess, at þeir yrði vissir hvar Gói væri niðr komin;
that that they should-become aware where Goi might-be down come
þat kölluðu þeir Gói-blót. Einskis urðu þeir vísir um hana
that called they Goi-sacrifice Nothing became they aware about her
at heldr. Fjórum vetrum síðarr strengdu þeir bræðr heit at
the more Four winters later vowed they brothers a-vow that
þeir skyldu hennar leita; ok skipta svá leitinni, at Nórr
they should her seek and divide so the-search that Norr
skyldi leita um löndin en Górr skyldi leita um útsker
should search about the-lands but Gor should search about outer-skerries
ok eyjar, ok fór hann á skipum. Hvárr-tveggi þeirra bræðra
and islands and went he on ships Each-of-two of-them brothers
var fjölmennr. Hélt Górr skipum sínum út eptir hafsbotnum
was well-manned Held Gor ships his out along (the)-gulfs
ok svá í Allans-haf. Síðan kannar hann víða Svía-sker
and so into (the)-Aland-sea Then explores he widely (the)-Swedish-skerries
ok allar eyjar [þær] er liggja í Eystra-salti; eptir þat í
and all islands those which lie in (the)-Baltic after that into
Gauta-sker ok þaðan til Danmerkr ok kannar þar allar
(the)-Gaut-skerries and thence to Denmark and explores there all
eyjar; hann fann þar frændr sína, þá er komnir vóru af
islands he found there kinsmen his those who come were from
Hlé hinum gamla ór Hlésey, ok hélt hann þá enn fram
Hler the Old out-of Hlesey and held he then still forth
ferðinni ok spyrr ekki til systur sinnar. En Nórr, bróðir
the-journey and asks nothing about sister his But Norr brother
hans, beið þess er snjó lagði á heiðar ok skíðfæri
his waited for-that when snow lay on (the)-heaths and ski-going
gjörði gott. Eptir þat fór hann af Kvenlandi ok fyrir innan
made good After that went he from Kvenland and on within
hafsbotninn ok kvómu þar er þeir menn vóru er Lappir
the-gulf and came there where those men were who Lapps

heita, þat er á bak Finnmörk. En Lappir vildu banna
are-called that is at back-of Finnmark But (the)-Lapps wished to-forbid
þeim yfirför ok tókst þar bardagi; ok sá kraptr ok fjölkýngi
them crossing and arose there a-battle and that power and witchcraft
fylgdi þeim Nór, at úvinir þeirra urðu at gjalti þegar þeir
followed them Norr that enemies their became to terror as-soon-as they
heyrðu heróp ok sá vápnum brugðit, ok lögðu Lappir
heard (the)-war-cry and saw weapons drawn and laid (the)-Lapps
á flótta. En Nórr fór þaðan vestr á Kjölu ok var lengi
to flight But Norr went thence west onto Kjolen and was long
úti, ok svá at þeir vissu ekki til manna, ok skutu dýr
out and so that they knew nothing of men and shot beasts
ok fugla til matar sér; fóru þar til er vötn hnigu
and birds for food themselves went there till when waters sank
til vestr-ættar af fjöllum. Þá fara þeir með vötnunum
to west-ward from (the)-fells Then go they with the-waters
ok kvómu at sjá, þar var fyrir þeim fjörðr mikill sem
and came to (the)-sea there was before them a-fjord great as
hafsbotn væri, þar vóru bygðir miklar, ok dalir stórir gengu
a-gulf were there were settlements great and dales large went
at firðinum. Þar var safnaðr fyrir þeim ok réðu þeir þegar
to the-fjord There was a-muster before them and set they at-once
til bardaga við Nór, ok fór þeirra skipti eptir vana. Allt
to battle with Norr and went their dealings after custom All
fólk féll þar eðr flýði, en Nórr ok hans menn gengu yfir
folk fell there or fled but Norr and his men went over
sem lok yfir akra. Fór Nórr um allan fjörðinn ok lagði
as a-lid over fields Went Norr about all the-fjord and laid
undir sik ok gjörðist konúngr yfir þeim héruðum, er
under himself and became king over those districts which
þar lágu innanfjarðar. Nórr dvaldist þar um sumarit þar til
there lay within-the-fjord Norr stayed there over the-summer there till

er snjáfaði á heiðar; þá stefndi hann upp eptir dalnum,
when snow-fell on (the)-heaths then made he up along the-dale
þeim er suðr gengr af firðinum; sá fjörðr er nú kallaðr
that which south goes from the-fjord that fjord is now called
Þrándheimr. Suma menn sína lætr hann fara hit fremra
Thrandheim Some men his lets he go the more-outward
um Mærina; hann lagði undir sik hvar sem hann fór.
about the-More he laid under himself wherever as he went
Ok þá er hann kemr suðr yfir fjallit, þat er var fyrir
And then when he comes south over the-fell that which was on
sunnan dalsbotninn, sótti hann suðr eptir dölunum, þar til
south-of the-dale-head sought he south along the-dales there till
er hann kom at vatni miklu er þeir kölluðu Mjörs; þá
when he came to a-lake great which they called Mjors then
snýr hann enn vestr á fjallit, þvíat honum var sagt at
turns he still west onto the-fell because to-him was told that
menn hans höfðu farit úsigr fyrir konúngi þeim er Sókni
men his had fared defeat before (the)-king that who Sokni
hét. Þá kvómu þeir í þat hérað, er þeir kölluðu
was-called Then came they into that district which they called
Valdres. Þaðan fóru þeir til sjófar ok kvómu í langan fjörð
Valdres Thence went they to (the)-sea and came into a-long fjord
ok mjófan er nú heitir Sogn, þar var fundr þeirra
and narrow which now is-named Sogn there was (the)-meeting of-them
Sókna ok áttu þeir þar orrostu mikla, þvíat Sókna brá
of-Sokni and had they there a-battle great because Sokni gave-way
ekki við fjölkýngi þeirra. Nórr gekk fram hart ok skiptust
not before witchcraft their Norr went forth hard and exchanged
þeir Sókni höggum við; þar féll Sókni ok mart lið hans.
they Sokni blows with there fell Sokni and much troop his

II · NÓRR AND GÓRR DIVIDE THE LANDS

Nórr came into Norway and met Górr, neither having found Gói. Górr took the islands and Nórr the mainland; Nórr fought Hrólfr of Bjarg, who had carried off Gói, then married Hrólfr's sister, and his descendants ruled the land that took his name.

Eptir þat fór Nórr í fjörð þann er norðr gengr af
After that went Norr into (the)-fjord that which north goes from
Sogni. Þar hafði Sókni fyrir ráðit er nú heitir Sóknadalr,
Sogn There had Sokni over ruled which now is-named Soknadal
þar dvaldist Nórr lengi, ok heitir þar nú Nórafjörðr. Þar
there stayed Norr long and is-named there now Norafjord There
kom til móts við hann Górr bróðir hans, ok hafði þá hvárrgi
came to meeting with him Gor brother his and had then neither
þeirra spurt til Gói. Górr hafði ok undir sik lagt land allt
of-them learned of Goi Gor had also under himself laid (the)-land all
et ytra, er hann hafði sunnan farit, ok þá skiptu þeir
the outer which he had from-the-south traveled and then divided they
löndum með sér bræðr, hafði Nórr meginland allt, en Górr
(the)-lands between themselves brothers had Norr (the)-mainland all but Gor
skal hafa eyjar þær allar, er hann ferr stjórnföstu skipi
shall have (the)-islands those all which he goes-to with-a-rudder-fixed ship
milli ok meginlands. Ok eptir þat ferr Nórr til Upplanda ok
between and (the)-mainland And after that goes Norr to (the)-Uplands and
kom þar sem nú heitir Heiðmörk; þar réð sá konúngr fyrir,
came there where now is-named Hedmark there ruled that king over
er hét Hrólfr ór Bjargi, hann var son Svaða jötuns
who was-called Hrolf out-of Bjarg he was son of-Svadi (the)-giant
norðan af Dofrum. Hrólfr hafði numit á brott af
from-the-north from (the)-Dovre-Mountains Hrolf had taken off away from

Kvenlandi Gói Þorradóttur; hann fór þegar til móts við Nór ok
Kvenland Goi Thorri's-daughter he went at-once to meeting with Norr and
bauð honum til einvígis; þeir börðust lengi, ok varð hvárrgi
offered him to single-combat they fought long and became neither
sárr. Eptir þat sættust þeir, ok fékk Nórr systur Hrólfs
wounded After that were-reconciled they and got Norr (the)-sister of-Hrolf
en Hrólfr fékk Gói. Þaðan sneri Nórr aptr til ríkis þess er
but Hrolf got Goi Thence turned Norr back to (the)-realm that which
hann hafði undir sik lagt, þat kallaði hann Noreg; réð hann
he had under himself laid that called he Norway ruled he
því ríki meðan hann lifði, en synir hans eptir hann, ok skiptu
that realm while he lived but sons his after him and divided
þeir landi með sér, ok tóku svá ríkin at smækkast,
they (the)-land between themselves and took so the-realms to grow-smaller
sem konúngarnir tóku at fjölgast, ok greindust svá í fylki.
as the-kings took to multiply and were-divided so into districts

III · THE SONS OF GÓRR

Górr's sons Heiti and Beiti were sea-kings who warred on Nórr's line. Beiti had a ship dragged over the isthmus at Beitstaðr, claiming the land on its larboard side; from Heiti descended Rögnvaldr, earl of Mærr.

Górr hafði eyjarnar ok var hann því kallaðr sækonúngr;
Gor had the-islands and was he therefore called sea-king
hans synir vóru þeir Heiti ok Beiti, þeir vóru sækonúngar
his sons were they Heiti and Beiti they were sea-kings
ok ofstopamenn miklir; þeir gengu mjök á ríki sona
and overbearing-men great they went much on (the)-realm of-(the)-sons
Nórs ok áttu þeir orrostur margar ok sigruðust ymsir.
of-Norr and had they battles many and won-victory each-in-turn

Beiti lagðist inn í Þrándheim ok herjaði þar, hann lá þar
Beiti laid-himself in into Thrandheim and harried there he lay there
er nú heitir Beitsær ok Beitstöð, þar lét hann draga skip
where now is-named Beitsjo and Beitstad there let he drag a-ship
or Beitstöð innanverðri ok norðr yfir Eldueið, þar ganga
out-of Beitstad inner and north over Eldueid there go
Naumudalir at norðan. Hann settist í lyptíng ok hélt
(the)-Naumu-dales at from-the-north He set-himself in (the)-poop and held
um hjálmunvölinn, ok eignaðist hann land allt þat er
about the-tiller and took-possession-of he land all that which
þá lá á bakborða, ok er þat margar bygðir ok mikit land.
then lay on larboard and is that many settlements and much land
Heiti sonr Górs var faðir Sveiða sækonúngs, föður Hálfdanar
Heiti son of-Gor was father of-Sveidi sea-king father of-Halfdan
ens gamla, föður Ívars Upplendínga-jarls, föður Eysteins
the Old father of-Ivar Uplanders'-earl father of-Eystein
glumru, föður Rögnvalds jarls hins ríka ok hins ráðsvinna.
Clatter father of-Rognvald earl the Mighty and the Wise-in-Counsel

IV · HARALDR FAIRHAIR IN THE WEST

Rögnvaldr of Mœrr, father of Hrólfr who won Normandy, served Haraldr Fairhair, who sailed west to punish the vikings and subdued Shetland, Orkney, and the Hebrides; for Rögnvaldr's son Ívarr, killed in battle, Rögnvaldr received the islands and gave them to his brother Sigurðr, made earl.

Rögnvaldr jarl gekk til lands með Haraldi hinum hárfagra,
Rognvald earl went to land with Harald the Fairhair
en hann gaf honum yfirsókn um Mœri hváratveggju ok
but he gave him rule over More both and
Raumsdal; hann átti Ragnhildi dóttur Hrólfs nefju; þeirra
Raumsdal he had Ragnhild daughter of-Hrolf Nose their

sonr var Hrólfr er vann Norðmandi, hann var svá mikill,
son was Hrolf who won Normandy he was so big
at hann báru eigi hestar, því hét hann Göngu-Hrólfr;
that him bore not horses therefore was-called he Walking-Hrolf
frá honum eru komnir Rúðu-jarlar ok Engla-konúngar;
from him are come (the)-Rouen-earls and (the)-English-kings
þeirra sonr var ok Ívarr ok Þórir þegjandi. Rögnvaldr átti
their son was also Ivar and Thorir (the)-Silent Rognvald had
ok frillusonu, hét Hallaðr ok Hrollaugr ok Einarr, hann
also concubine-sons was-called Hallad and Hrollaug and Einar he
var ýngstr. Haraldr hinn hárfagri fór á einu sumri vestr
was youngest Harald the Fairhair went on one summer west
um haf at hegna víkingum, er honum leiddist úfriðr
over (the)-sea to punish vikings whom to-him was-loathsome (the)-strife
þeirra, er herjuðu í Noreg um sumrum, en váru á vetrum
of-those who harried in Norway in summers but were in winters
í Hjaltlandi eðr Orkneyjum; hann lagði undir sik Hjaltland
in Shetland or Orkney he laid under himself Shetland
ok Orkneyjar ok Suðreyjar; hann fór allt vestr í Mön ok
and Orkney and (the)-Hebrides he went all west to Man and
eyddi Manar-bygðina. Hann átti þar margar orrostur, ok
laid-waste the-settlement-of-Man He had there many battles and
eignaðist lönd svá langt vestr, at engi Noregs-konúngr hefir
took-possession-of lands so far west that no Norway-king has
lengra síðan. Ok í einni orrostu féll Ívarr, son Rögnvalds
further since And in one battle fell Ivar son of-Rognvald
jarls. En er Haraldr konúngr sigldi vestan, þá gaf hann
earl But when Harald king sailed from-the-west then gave he
Rögnvaldi jarli í sonar-bætr Hjaltland ok Orkneyjar, en
to-Rognvald earl in son-compensation Shetland and Orkney but
Rögnvaldr jarl gaf Sigurði, bróður sínum, bæði löndin; hann
Rognvald earl gave to-Sigurd brother his both the-lands he

var stafnbúi Haralds konúngs. Konúngr gaf Sigurði jarls-nafn,
was stem-man of-Harald king (The)-king gave to-Sigurd an-earl's-name
er hann fór vestan, ok var Sigurðr eptir vestr.
when he went from-the-west and was Sigurd behind west

V · SIGURÐR AND MELBRICTA TOOTH

Sigurðr won Caithness and much of Scotland with Þorsteinn the Red. Meeting the Scottish earl Melbricta with doubled riders, he killed him and hung his head from his saddle, but the dead man's tooth grazed his calf and he died of the wound.

Sigurðr jarl gjörðist höfðingi mikill, hann gjörði félag sitt
Sigurd earl became chieftain great he made fellowship his
við Þorstein rauð, son Ólafs hins hvíta ok Auðar ennar
with Thorstein (the)-Red son of-Olaf the White and of-Aud the
djúpúðgu, ok unnu þeir Katanes allt ok mikit annat af
Deep-Minded and won they Caithness all and much other from
Skotlandi, Mærhæfi ok Ros; þar lét hann gjöra borg
Scotland Moray and Ross there let he build a-stronghold
á sunnanverðu Mærhæfi. Þeir mæltu fund sín á milli,
on southern Moray They spoke-of a-meeting themselves in between
Sigurðr ok Melbricta tönn Skota-jarl, at þeir skyldu finnast
Sigurd and Melbricta Tooth Scots'-earl that they should meet
ok semja sín mál í ákveðnum stað við xl. manna hvárr.
and settle their cases in an-appointed place with forty men each
Ok þá er nefndr dagr kom, hugsaði Sigurðr Skota vera
And then when (the)-named day came thought Sigurd (the)-Scots to-be
útrúa. Hann lét búa átta tigi manna á fjórum tigum
untrustworthy He let make-ready eight tens of-men on four tens
hesta; ok þá er Melbricta gat at líta, mælti hann við
of-horses and then when Melbricta managed to see spoke he with

sína menn: “Nú erum vær sviknir af Sigurði, þvíat ek sé tvá
his men Now are we betrayed by Sigurd because I see two
manns-fætr á hverri hross-síðu, ok munu menn vera hálfu
man's-feet on each horse's-side and will (the)-men be half
fleiri en farar-skjótar; herðum nú hugina, ok leitum at hverr
more than (the)-mounts harden-we now the-hearts and seek-we that each
hafi mann fyrir sik áðr vær látimst;” ok þeir bjuggust við
have a-man before himself before we die and they made-ready for
eptir þat. Ok er Sigurðr sá ráðagjörð þeirra, mælti hann
after that And when Sigurd saw (the)-plan their spoke he
við sína menn: “Nú skal fara af baki helmíngr liðs várs,
with his men Now shall go off back half of-troop our
ok koma í opna skjöldu þá er saman lýstr liðinu, en vér
and come into open shields then when together strikes the-troops but we
munum ríða at sem harðast ok stökkva í sundr fylkíngu
will ride at as hardest and burst in sunder (the)-array
þeirra.” Ok svá tókst; ok var þar bardagi harðr, ok eigi langr
their And so it-befell and was there a-battle hard and not long
áðr Melbricta féll ok hans föruneyti, ok lét Sigurðr festa
before Melbricta fell and his company and let Sigurd fasten
höfuð þeirra við slagálar til ágætis sér. Ok þá riðu þeir
(the)-heads their to saddle-straps for glory to-himself And then rode they
heim ok hrósuðu sigri. Ok er þeir vóru á leið komnir,
home and boasted of-victory And when they were on (the)-way come
þá vildi Sigurðr keyra hestinn við fæti sínum, ok lýstr
then wished Sigurd to-spur the-horse with foot his and strikes
hann kálfanum á tönnina, er skagði or höfði Melbricta,
he with-the-calf on the-tooth which jutted out-of (the)-head of-Melbricta
ok skeindist; Ok í þat sár laust verkjum ok þrota, ok
and he-was-scratched And into that wound struck pains and swelling and
leiddi hann þat til bana; ok er Sigurðr hinn ríki heygðr
led him that to death and is Sigurd the Mighty buried

á Ekkjals-bakka. Guðþormr hét son Sigurðar, hann
at Ekkjals-bank Guthorm was-called (the)-son of-Sigurd he
réð einn vetr löndum ok dó barnlauss. Ok er Rögnvaldr
ruled one winter (the)-lands and died childless And when Rognvald
Mæra-jarl spurði andlát þeirra feðga, sendi hann vestr
More-earl learned (the)-death of-those father-and-son sent he west
Hallað, son sinn, ok gaf Haraldr konúngr honum jarls-nafn.
Hallad son his and gave Harald king him an-earl's-name
Ok er Hallaðr kom vestr, settist hann í Hrossey, en víkíngar
And when Hallad came west settled he in Hrossey but vikings
fóru um eyjarnar ok yfir á Nes, drápu menn ok rændu.
went about the-islands and over to (the)-Ness killed men and robbed
En er búendr kærðu skaða sinn fyrir Hallaði jarli, þá
But when farmers complained-of injury their before Hallad earl then
þótti honum torvelt at rétta þeirra hlut ok leiddist honum
seemed to-him hard to right their lot and was-loathsome to-him
tignin; hann veltist or jarldóminum ok tók hölds-rétt,
the-rank he rolled-himself out-of the-earldom and took a-yeoman's-right
ok fór aptr til Noregs, ok þótti hans ferð hin hæðiligsta.
and went back to Norway and seemed his journey the most-ridiculous

VI · EINARR CHOSEN FOR THE ISLES

When two Danish vikings settled the islands, Rögnvaldr asked which son would go west. He foretold greatness in Norway for Þórir and in Iceland for Hrollaugr, and sent the youngest, the thrall-born Einarr, with a twenty-bencher and an earl's name from King Haraldr.

Víkíngar tveir danskir settust í löndin, hét annarr
Vikings two Danish settled-themselves in the-lands was-called one
Þórir tréskegg en annarr Kálfr skurfa. Ok er Rögnvaldr jarl
Thorir Tree-Beard but (the)-other Kalf Scurf And when Rognvald earl

spurði þetta, hugnaði honum stórilla, ok heimti til sín sonu
learned this pleased him very-ill and summoned to himself sons
sína, Þóri ok Hrollaug. Hrólfr var þá í hernaði. Rögnvaldr
his Thorir and Hrollaug Hrolf was then in harrying Rognvald
spurði, hvárr þeirra vildi vestr í eyjarnar. Þórir bað hann
asked which-of-two of-them wished west to the-islands Thorir bade him
fyrir sjá um sína ferð. "Svá segir mér hugr um," segir
for see about his journey So says to-me mind about says
jarl, "at hér mun þinn þroski mestr, ok liggja vegir þínir
(the)-earl that here will your greatness greatest and lie ways yours
eigi héðan." Þá spurði Hrollaugr: "Viltú at ek fara?" Jarl
not hence Then asked Hrollaug Will-you that I go (The)-earl
segir: "Eigi mun þér jarldóms auðit, ok liggja fylgjur þínar
says Not will to-you of-an-earldom granted and lie fetches yours
til Íslands, þar muntú auka ætt þína ok mun göfug verða
to Iceland there will-you increase kin your and will noble become
í því landi." Þá gekk Einarr fram, hinn yngsti son hans,
in that land Then went Einar forth the youngest son his
ok mælti: "Viltú at ek fara til eyjanna? ek mun því heita,
and spoke Will-you that I go to the-islands I will that promise
er þér mun mest veitt í þykkja, at ek mun aldregi aptr
which to-you will most granted in seem that I will never back
koma þér í augsýn, á ek ok við lítið gott hér at skiljast,
come to-you into sight have I also with little good here to part
ok úvant um at minn þroski verði annarstaðar minni en
and unlikely about that my greatness become elsewhere less than
hér." Jarl segir: "Úlíkligr ertú til höfðíngja fyrir sakir
here (The)-earl says Unlikely are-you to chieftain for sake
móður þinnar, þvíat hon er í allar ættir þrælborin, en satt
of-mother your because she is in all kins thrall-born but true
er þat at því betr þætti mér er þú ferr fyrr á braut
is that that the better would-seem to-me as you go sooner off away

ok kemr seinna aptr.” Rögnvaldr fékk Einari tvítug-sessu
and come later back Rognvald gave to-Einar a-twenty-bencher
alskipaða, en Haraldr konúngr gaf honum jarls-nafn.
fully-manned but Harald king gave him an-earl's-name

VII · TURF-EINARR

Einarr sailed to Orkney, killed the vikings Tree-Beard and Scurf, and took the islands. He was the first to cut turf for fuel, at Torfnes in Scotland; he was tall, ugly, and one-eyed, but keen-sighted.

Einarr sigldi vestr til Hjaltlands, ok dreif þar lið til hans;
Einar sailed west to Shetland and drifted there troop to him
eptir þat fór hann suðr í Orkneyjar ok hélt þegar til
after that went he south to Orkney and held at-once to
móts við þá Kálf. Þar varð bardagi ok féllu þeir báðir
meeting with them Kalf There was a-battle and fell they both
víkíngarnir. Þá var þetta kveðit:
the-vikings Then was this said

> “Hann gaf Tréskegg trollum,
> *He gave Tree-Beard to-trolls*
> Torf-Einarr drap Skurfu.”
> *Turf-Einar killed Scurf*

Eptir þat lagði hann undir sik löndin ok gjörðist hinn
After that laid he under himself the-lands and became the
mesti höfðíngi. Hann fann fyrstr manna at skera torf ór
greatest chieftain He found first of-men to cut turf out-of
jörðu til eldiviðar á Torfnesi á Skotlandi, þvíat illt var til
earth for firewood at Turfness in Scotland because ill was for

viðar í eyjunum. Einarr var mikill maðr ok ljótr, einsýnn
wood in the-islands Einar was a-big man and ugly one-eyed
ok þó manna skygnstr.
and yet of-men keenest-sighted

VIII · HÁLFDAN LONG-LEG

Haraldr's sons Hálfdan Long-Leg and Guðröðr killed Rögnvaldr of Mærr. Hálfdan fled to Orkney and drove Einarr out, but Einarr returned, won the battle, and had Hálfdan's back carved with a blood eagle; he made verses on it and settled with King Haraldr for a fine.

Þá er synir Haralds hins hárfagra vóru fulltíða at aldri
Then when (the)-sons of-Harald the Fairhair were full-grown in age
gjörðust þeir ofstopamenn miklir ok úhægir innanlands;
became they overbearing-men great and troublesome in-the-land
fóru á hendr jörlum konúngs, drápu suma en suma ráku
went on hands of-earls of-(the)-king killed some but some drove
þeir af eignum sínum. Snæfríðar-synir, Hálfdan háleggr ok
they from properties their Snaefrid's-sons Halfdan Long-Leg and
Guðröðr ljómi, fóru at Rögnvaldi Mæra-jarli ok drápu hann
Gudrod Gleam went at Rognvald More-earl and killed him
en tóku undir sik ríkit. En er Haraldr konúngr spurði
but took under themselves the-realm But when Harald king learned
þat varð hann reiðr mjök, ok fór at sonum sínum. Hálfdan
that became he angry much and went at sons his Halfdan
hljóp á skip ok sigldi vestr um haf, en Guðröðr gaf
leapt onto ship and sailed west over (the)-sea but Gudrod gave
sik upp í vald föður síns. Haraldr konúngr gaf Þóri
himself up into (the)-power of-father his Harald king gave to-Thorir
í föður-bætr Álöfu árbót, dóttur sína, ok jarls-nafn ok
in father-compensation Alof Year-Boon daughter his and an-earl's-name and

föðurleifð sína. Hálfdan háleggr kom í Orkneyjar. Ok þegar
father's-inheritance his Halfdan Long-Leg came to Orkney And as-soon
er þat spurðist at þar var kominn sonr Haralds konúngs,
as that was-learned that there was come a-son of-Harald king
þá urðu þeir felms-fullir, gengu sumir til handa Hálfdani; en
then became they terror-full went some to hands of-Halfdan but
Einarr jarl stökk ór eyjunum ok upp á Skotland. Hálfdan
Einar earl leapt out-of the-islands and up to Scotland Halfdan
lagði undir sik eyjarnar ok gjörðist konúngr yfir. Einarr
laid under himself the-islands and became king over Einar
kom aptr á enu sama ári ok varð fundr þeirra Hálfdanar;
came back in the same year and was a-meeting their of-Halfdan
varð þar orrosta mikil ok hafði Einarr sigr, en Hálfdan
became there a-battle great and had Einar victory but Halfdan
hljóp fyrir borð við myrkr um kveldit. Þá kvað Einarr vísu:
leapt over board in darkness in the-evening Then recited Einar a-verse

"Sékatek Hrólfs ór hendi
See-I-not Hrolf's out-of hand
né Hrollaugi fljúga
nor Hrollaug's fly
dörr á dólga mengi,
spear at foes' crowd
dugir oss föður hefna;
behooves us father to-avenge

en í kveld þar er knýjum
but in evening there when we-drive
of kerstraumi rómu
over beer-stream battle
þegjandi sitr þetta
silent sits this
Þórir jarl á Mæri."
Thorir earl at More

Um morgininn er ljóst var fóru þeir at leita [flótta]manna
In the-morning when light was went they to seek fugitives
um eyjarnar ef nokkurir hefði undan komist; ok var hverr
about the-islands if any had away got and was each
drepinn þar sem staðinn var. Þá tók Einarr jarl til orða:
killed there where taken was Then took Einar earl to words
"Eigi veit ek hvat ek sé í Rínansey, hefst stundum
Not know I what I see in North-Ronaldsay rises-itself at-times
upp en stundum legst niðr, annathvárt er þat fugl eðr
up but at-times lays-itself down either is that a-bird or
maðr, ok skal til fara." Þar fundu þeir Hálfdan hálegg,
a-man and shall to go There found they Halfdan Long-Leg
ok lét Einarr rísta örn á baki honum með sverði, ok
and let Einar carve an-eagle on (the)-back of-him with a-sword and

skera rifin öll frá hrygginum ok draga þar út lúngun,
cut the-ribs all from the-backbone and draw there out (the)-lungs
ok gaf hann Óðni til sigrs sér. Þá kvað Einarr þetta:
and gave him to-Odin for victory himself Then recited Einar this

"Margr verðr sénn at sauðum,
Many becomes soon at sheep
seggr með breiðu skeggi,
man with broad beard
en ek at úngs í Eyjum
but I at young in (the)-Isles
allvalds sonar falli:
of-(the)-mighty-ruler's son's fall
hætt segja mér hölðar
danger say to-me yeomen
við hugfullan stilli,
with stout-hearted king
Haralds hefig skarð í skildi,
of-Harald have-I a-gap in shield
skalat ugga þat, höggit."
shall-not fear that the-blow

Ok enn þetta:
And still this

"Ey mun ek glaðr sízt geirar,
Ever will I glad since spears
gótt er vinna þrek manni,
good is to-do a-deed for-a-man
böðfíkinna bragna
battle-eager of-warriors
bitu þengils son úngan:
bit (the)-prince's son young
þeygi dyl ek nema þykki,
not conceal I unless it-seem
þar fló grár at sárum
there flew gray at wounds
hræfa nagr of hólma,
of-carrion gnawer over holm
holundvala gæli."
wound-falcons' feeder

Eptir þat lét hann kasta haug Hálfdanar ok kvað:
After that let he cast a-mound of-Halfdan and said

"Rekit hefig Rögnvalds dauða,
Avenged have-I of-Rognvald (the)-death
en réðu því nornir,
but ruled that (the)-Norns
nú er fólk-stuðill fallinn,
now is (the)-folk-pillar fallen
at fjórðúngi mínum:
at fourth-part mine

verpit snarpir sveinar,
throw-ye bold lads
þvíat sigr höfum fengit,
because victory have-we won
skatt vel ek hánum harðan,
tribute choose I to-him hard
at Háfætu grjóti."
at of-Long-Læg stones

Ok er þetta spurðist til Noregs þá urðu bræðr hans
And when this was-learned to Norway then became brothers his
stórilla við, ok heituðust at fara í Orkneyjar ok hefna
very-ill at and vowed to go to Orkney and avenge
hans, en Haraldr konúngr olli er frestaðist. Einarr kvað
him but Harald king caused that was-delayed Einar recited
er hann spurði heitan þeirra:
when he learned threat their

"Eru til míns fjörs margir
Are for my life many
menn of sannar fréttir
men about true reports
af ymissum ættum
from various kins
úsmábornir gjarnir:
not-small-born eager

en þó vitu þeygi
but yet know not
þeir áðr mik hafi feldan,
they before me have felled
hverr il-þornum arnar
who sole-thorns of-(the)-eagle
undir lýtr af stundu."
under falls from (the)-moment

En nokkuru síðarr fór Haraldr konúngr vestr um haf ok
But somewhat later went Harald king west over (the)-sea and
kom í Eyjar. Einarr stökk or Eyjum ok yfir á Katanes;
came to (the)-Isles Einar leapt out-of (the)-Isles and over to Caithness
eptir þat fóru menn á milli þeirra ok sættust þeir. Haraldr
after that went men in between them and were-reconciled they Harald
konúngr lagði gjald á Eyjarnar ok bað þá gjalda lx. marka
king laid a-payment on the-Isles and bade them pay sixty marks
gulls. Einarr jarl bauðst til at halda einn upp gjaldinu ok
of-gold Einar earl offered-himself to to hold alone up the-payment and
eignast óðul þeirra öll; en bændr vildu þat, þvíat
own-himself (the)-odal-lands their all but (the)-farmers wished that because
hinir auðgu hugðust leysa mundu óðul sín, en hinir
the wealthy thought-themselves to-redeem would odal-lands their but the
snauðu höfðu ekki fé til. Einarr greiddi upp gjaldit; ok
poor had no money for-it Einar paid up the-payment and
var þat lengi síðan, at jarlar áttu óðul öll, áðr Sigurðr
was that long afterward that (the)-earls owned (the)-odal-lands all until Sigurd
jarl gaf upp Orkneyingum óðul sín. Haraldr konúngr fór
earl gave up to-(the)-Orkneymen odal-lands their Harald king went
aptr til Noregs; en Einarr jarl réð fyrir Orkneyjum lengi æfi,
back to Norway but Einar earl ruled over Orkney long life

ok varð sóttdauðr. Hann átti þrjá sonu, hét einn Arnkell,
and became sick-dead He had three sons was-called one Arnkel
annarr Erlendr, þriði Þorfinnr hausakljúfr. Þá er Haraldr
(the)-second Erlend (the)-third Thorfinn Skull-Splitter Then when Harald
hárfagri andaðist, var Eirikr blöðöx tvá vetr konúngr.
Fairhair died was Eirik Blood-Axe two winters king
Þá kom Hákon Aðalsteins-fóstri af Englandi, en Eirikr
Then came Hakon Athelstan's-fosterling from England but Eirik
fór or landi. Hann sigldi vestr um haf ok herjaði á
went out-of (the)-land He sailed west over (the)-sea and harried on
Skotland ok England. En er þat spurði Aðalsteinn konúngr,
Scotland and England But when that learned Athelstan king
sendi hann menn til Eiriks, ok bauð at fá honum land
sent he men to Eirik and offered to get him land
nokkut; lézt hann verit hafa mikill vin Haralds konúngs,
some declared he been have a-great friend of-Harald king
ok sagði at hann vildi þat virða við son hans; hann
and said that he wished that to-value with son his he
kvaðst ok mundu sætta hann við Hákon konung fóstr-son
said-himself also would reconcile him with Hakon king foster-son
sinn. Eirikr konungr þekktist þann kost, ok fékk hann
his Eirik king accepted that offer and got he
Norðymbraland til yfirráða; þat er fimtungr Englands. En með
Northumberland for over-rule that is (the)-fifth of-England But with
því at Eirikr hafði land lítið en lið mikit, þá skorti hann
that that Eirik had land little but troop great then lacked he
fé. Hann herjaði því á sumrum, en á vetrum sat hann
money He harried therefore in summers but in winters sat he
at löndum; hélt hann því fram meðan Aðalsteinn konúngr
at lands held he so forth while Athelstan king
lifði. Eptir hann tók ríki Játmundr bróðir hans; var
lived After him took (the)-realm Edmund brother his was

hann eigi slíkr vinr Norðmanna sem Aðalsteinn konúngr,
he not such a-friend of-Norwegians as Athelstan king
þótti honum illa at Eirikr hefði Norðymbraland. Ok eitt
seemed to-him ill that Eirik should-have Northumberland And one
vár fór Eirikr konúngr norðr fyrir Skotland ok þaðan í
spring went Eirik king north past Scotland and thence to
Orkneyjar, ok tók með sér jarla af Orkneyjum sonu
Orkney and took with himself (the)-earls from Orkney (the)-sons
Torf-Einars, Arnkel ok Erlend. Þaðan fór hann í Suðreyjar
of-Turf-Einar Arnkel and Erlend Thence went he to (the)-Hebrides
ok fékk þar ok mikit lið. Þaðan fór hann til Írlands ok
and got there also much troop Thence went he to Ireland and
herjaði, ok slíkt hit sama á Bretlandi. Þaðan fór hann til
harried and such the same in Wales Thence went he to
Englands, ok herjaði þar sem annars-staðar. Ólafr hét
England and harried there as elsewhere Olaf was-called
sá konúngr er Játvarðr hafði þar settan til landvarnar. En
that king whom Edward had there set for land-defense But
með því at Eirikr hafði lið mikit þá gékk hann á land
with that that Eirik had troop great then went he onto land
upp frá skipum. Ólafr dró ok saman her úvígan ok fór á
up from (the)-ships Olaf drew also together a-host irresistible and went on
hendr Eiriki konúngi, ok varð þar orrosta mikil. Öndverdan
hands of-Eirik king and became there a-battle great (The)-early
daginn féllu mjök Enskir menn; en þar er einn féll, kómu
the-day fell much English men but there where one fell came
þrír í staðinn. En enn efra hluta dagsins sneri mannfallinu
three in the-place But the later part of-the-day turned the-slaughter
á Norðmenn, ok lauk svá at Eirikr konungr féll ok fimm
on (the)-Norwegians and ended so that Eirik king fell and five
konúngar með honum. Einn þeirra hét Guthormr. Þar
kings with him One of-them was-called Guthorm There

féllu ok jarlar, Arnkell ok Erlendr, synir Torf-Einars. En er
fell also (the)-earls Arnkel and Erlend sons of-Turf-Einar But when
þau Gunnhildr ok synir hennar urðu þess vör at Eirikr
they Gunnhild and sons her became of-that aware that Eirik
var fallinn, ok hann hafði áðr herjat land Engla-konúngs,
was fallen and he had before harried (the)-land of-(the)-English-king
þá þykkjast þau vita at þeim var eigi friðvænt á
then think-themselves they to-know that to-them was not peace-likely in
Englandi; búask þau því af skyndingi til Orkneyja. Þá
England make-ready they therefore in haste to Orkney Then
var þar jarl Þorfinnr hausakljúfr. Tóku Gunnhildar-synir þá
was there earl Thorfinn Skull-Splitter Took Gunnhild's-sons then
undir sik Eyjar, ok vóru þar á vetrum, en fóru á
under themselves (the)-Isles and were there in winters but went in
sumrum í hernað. En er þau Gunnhildr ok synir hennar
summers on harrying But when they Gunnhild and sons her
vóru í Orkneyjum, þá heyrðu þau at úfriðr var milli
were in Orkney then heard they that strife was between
Dana-konungs ok Hákonar konungs Aðalsteins-fóstra, þá
(the)-Danes'-king and Hakon king Athelstan's-fosterling then
þótti þeim nokkur ván at þau mundi fá hjálp af Haraldi
seemed to-them some hope that they would get help from Harald
Gormssyni. Þau byrja þá ferð sína til Dana-konúngs. En
Gorm's-son They begin then journey their to (the)-Danes'-king But
áðr þau færi or Orkneyjum giptu þau Ragnhildi, dóttur
before they went out-of Orkney married they Ragnhild daughter
Eiriks konúngs ok Gunnhildar, Arnfinni syni Þorfinns jarls;
of-Eirik king and of-Gunnhild to-Arnfinn son of-Thorfinn earl
ok settist Þorfinnr þá at Eyjum; hann var höfðingi mikill
and settled Thorfinn then at (the)-Isles he was a-chieftain great

ok herskár; hann varð sóttdauðr; ok er hann heygðr í
and warlike he became sick-dead and is he buried in
Rögnvaldsey á Haugaheiði, ok þótti verit hafa mikilmenni.
Ronaldsay on Haugaheath and seemed been have a-great-man

IX · RAGNHILDR AND THE EARLS

Ragnhildr, wife of Þorfinnr Skull-Splitter's son Arnfinnr, had her husband killed and married his brother Hávarðr. She turned Einarr Buttered-Bread against Hávarðr, who fell at Stenness; then she spurned him and urged Einarr Hard-Mouth to avenge the earl.

Þorfinnr átti fimm sonu, hét einn Hávarðr hinn ársæli,
Thorfinn had five sons was-called one Havard the Harvest-Happy
annarr Hlöðverr, hinn þriði Ljótr, fjórði Skúli, fimti
(the)-second Hlodvir the third Ljot (the)-fourth Skuli (the)-fifth
Arnfinnr. Ragnhildr Eireksdóttir réð Arnfinni bónda sínum
Arnfinn Ragnhild Eirik's-daughter planned to-Arnfinn husband her
bana í Myrkkol á Katanesi; en hon giptist Hávarði
death at Myrkkol in Caithness but she was-married to-Havard
hinum ársæla bróður hans. Hávarðr tók jarldóm ok var
the Harvest-Happy brother his Havard took (the)-earldom and was
góðr höfðingi ok ársæll. Einarr klíningr hét maðr,
a-good chieftain and harvest-happy Einar Buttered-Bread was-called a-man
systurson Hávarðs, hann var höfðingi mikill, ok hafði sveit
(the)-sister's-son of-Havard he was a-chieftain great and had a-band
mikla, ok var í hernaði á sumrum. Hann þá veizlu at
great and was on harrying in summers He received a-feast at
Hávarði. Ok at þeirri veizlu töluðu þau mart Ragnhildr ok
Havard's And at that feast talked they much Ragnhild and
Einarr; kallaði hon slíkan mann vel til höfðingja fallinn ok
Einar called she such a-man well to chieftain fitted and

betr hentan jarldóm en Hávarði, frænda hans, ok kallaði
better suited for-(the)-earldom than Havard kinsman his and called
þá konu vel gipta er slíkan mann ætti. Einarr bað
that woman well married who such a-man should-own Einar bade
hana ekki taka slíkar ræður, kvað hann mann göfgastan
her not take such talks said he (the)-man noblest
í Eyjum ok hana fullvel gipta. Ragnhildr svarar: “Skammar
in (the)-Isles and her full-well married Ragnhild answers Short
munu verða samfarar okkar Hávarðs héðan frá; satt er
will be (the)-fellowship of-us-two Havard's hence from true is
þat, at verða munu menn til [í] Eyjum, þeir er eigi mun
that that be will men to in (the)-Isles those who not will
allt í augu vaxa ef þú fyrirmant þér tignarinnar.” Við
all in eyes grow if you grudge to-yourself the-rank At
slíkar fortölur hennar gekst Einari hugr til ágirni ok svika
such persuasions her went Einar's mind to greed and treachery
við jarl, frænda sinn; ok sömdu þat sín á millum,
against (the)-earl kinsman his and agreed that themselves in between
at hann skyldi drepa jarl, en hon skyldi giptast honum.
that he should kill (the)-earl but she should marry him
Ok nokkuru síðarr bjóst Einarr til ferðar þeirrar; ok þá
And somewhat later made-ready Einar for journey that and then
mælti spámaðr einn, er var með honum: “Ger þetta verk
spoke a-soothsayer one who was with him Do this deed
eigi í dag, heldr á morgin, ella munu lengi ættvíg vera í
not in day but on morrow else will long kin-slayings be in
ætt yðvarri.” Einarr lét sem hann heyrði þetta eigi. Hávarðr
kin your Einar acted as-if he heard this not Havard
var þá á Steinsnesi í Hrossey, þar var fundr þeirra ok
was then at Stenness in Hrossey there was (the)-meeting their and
bardagi harðr, ok eigi langr áðr jarl féll; heitir þar nú
a-battle hard and not long before (the)-earl fell is-named there now

Hávarðs-teigar. Ok þá er þessi tíðendi spyrjast, þótti Einarr
Havard's-fields And then when these tidings are-learned seemed Einar
orðinn níðingr mikill af verki þessu; þá vildi Ragnhildr
become a-niding great from deed this then wished Ragnhild
ekki sambland eiga við hann, ok kallar þat lygð eina, at
not union have with him and calls that lie only that
hon hefði þar í heitum verit; sendi hon þá eptir Einari
she should-have there in promises been sent she then after Einar
harðkjöpt, hann var son annarrar systur Hávarðs. Ok þá
Hard-Mouth he was son of-(the)-other sister of-Havard And then
er þau fundust, sagði hon skömm at slíkum frændum
when they met said she shame to such kinsmen
hans, er eigi vildi hefna hans, kallast allt vilja til vinna
his who not wished to-avenge him call-themselves all wish to undergo
at jarls yrði hefnt: "Er þat ok auðvitað," sagði hon, "at
that (the)-earl should-be avenged Is that also self-evident said she that
sá mun mest metinn af öllum góðum mönnum, er jarls
he will most valued by all good men who (the)-earl
hefnir, hefir sá ok unnit til ríkis hans." Einarr svarar: "Þat
avenges has he also won to realm his Einar answers That
er mælt frá," segir hann, "at þér mælit stundum annat en
is spoken of says he that you speak at-times other than
yðr er í skapi; en sá er þetta verk gjörir mun vilja þat
to-you is in mind but he who this deed does will wish that
fyrir hafa, at þú haldir þeim í hendr ríkinu ok þeim
for have that you hold-out to-him in hand the-realm and those
hlutum öðrum, er eigi mun þykkja minna skipta." Slíta
things other which not will seem less to-matter Break-off
svá ræðunni. Eptir þetta fór Einarr harðkjöptr at Einari
so the-talk After this went Einar Hard-Mouth at Einar
klíningi ok drap hann, en Ragnhildr sendi eptir Ljót
Buttered-Bread and killed him but Ragnhild sent after Ljot

bróðir þeirra ok giptist honum. Ljótr tók jarldóm ok
brother their and was-married to-him Ljot took (the)-earldom and
gjörðist höfðingi mikill. Einarr harðkjöptr hafði nú drepit
became a-chieftain great Einar Hard-Mouth had now killed
frænda sinn, en var eigi nærr jarldómi en áðr; unir hann
kinsman his but was not nearer (the)-earldom than before likes he
nú stórilla sínum hlut, vildi nú afla sér manna, ok
now very-ill his lot wished now to-gather himself men and
sækja með magni til eyjanna; honum varð illt til manna,
attack with force to the-islands to-him became ill for men
því at Orkneyingar vildu þjóna sonum Þorfinns hausakljúfs;
because that (the)-Orkneymen wished to-serve (the)-sons of-Thorfinn Skull-Splitter
ok nokkuru síðarr lét Ljótr jarl drepa Einar harðkjöpt.
and somewhat later let Ljot earl kill Einar Hard-Mouth

X · SKÚLI AND LJÓTR

Skúli, given an earl's name by the Scottish king, fought his brother Ljótr for the islands and fell in the Dales of Caithness. Ljótr took Caithness and beat Earl Magbjóðr at Skíðamýrr, but died of a wound he got there.

Skúli, bróðir Ljóts, fór upp á Skotland ok var þar gefit
Skuli brother of-Ljot went up to Scotland and was there given
jarls-nafn af Skota-konúngi; síðan fór hann ofan á Katanes,
an-earl's-name by (the)-Scots'-king then went he down to Caithness
ok aflaði sér þar liðs, ok fór þaðan í Eyjar ok deildi þar
and gathered himself there troop and went thence to (the)-Isles and strove there
til ríkis við Ljót, bróður sinn. Ljótr safnar liði, ok fór til
for (the)-realm with Ljot brother his Ljot gathers troop and went to
móts við Skúla ok var fjölmennri; en er þeir fundust, vildi
meeting with Skuli and was more-numerous but when they met wished

Skúli ekki annat en berjast; varð þar harðr bardagi, ok
Skuli nothing other than to-fight was there hard a-battle and
sigraðist Ljótr en Skúli flýði yfir á Nes ok upp á Skotland;
won-victory Ljot but Skuli fled over to (the)-Ness and up to Scotland
ok þangat ferr Ljótr eptir honum, ok dvaldist þar um hríð ok
and thither goes Ljot after him and stayed there for a-while and
varð fjölmennr. Ok þá ríðr Skúli ofan af Skotlandi með her
became well-manned And then rides Skuli down from Scotland with a-host
mikinn er Skota-konúngr hafði fengit honum ok Magbjóðr
great which (the)-Scots'-king had got him and Magbjod
jarl, ok fundust þeir Ljótr í Dölum á Katanesi ok var[ð]
earl and met they Ljot in (the)-Dales in Caithness and was
þar orrosta mikil. Ok vóru Skotar hinir áköfustu í öndverðri
there a-battle great And were (the)-Scots the fiercest in (the)-early
orrostu. Ljótr jarl bað menn hlífa sér, ok standa þó sem
battle Ljot earl bade men shield themselves and stand yet as
fastast. En er Skotar fengu ekki at gjört, eggjaði Ljótr sína
fastest But when (the)-Scots got nothing to done urged Ljot his
menn, ok var sjálfr hinn ákafasti. Ok er svá hafði staðit um
men and was himself the fiercest And when so had stood for
hríð, þá raufst fylkíng þeirra Skota, ok eptir þat flýja þeir,
a-while then broke (the)-array their of-Scots and after that flee they
en Skúli hélt upp bardaga, en féll þó at lyktum. Ljótr tók
but Skuli held up (the)-battle but fell yet at last Ljot took
undir sik Katanes, ok var þá úfriðr milli Skota-konungs ok
under himself Caithness and was then strife between (the)-Scots'-king and
Ljóts jarls, því at Skotar undu illa úförum sínum. Þá er
Ljot earl because that (the)-Scots liked ill defeats their Then when
Ljótr jarl var á Katanesi fámennr, þá kom ofan Magbjóðr
Ljot earl was in Caithness few-manned then came down Magbjod
jarl af Skotlandi með her mikinn, ok fundust þeir Ljótr
earl from Scotland with a-host great and met they Ljot

jarl á Skíðamýri á Katanesi, ok hafði Ljótr jarl ekki liðs
earl at Skidmoor in Caithness and had Ljot earl no troop
við; en þó gekk Ljótr svá fast fram, at þeir viknuðu fyrir
against but yet went Ljot so fast forth that they gave-way before
Skotarnir, ok var skammr bardagi, áðr þeir flýðu, er lífit
(the)-Scots and was short (the)-battle before they fled who life
þágu, en fjöldi var sárt. Ljótr vendi aptr með sigri, ok
received but a-multitude was wounded Ljot turned back with victory and
var liðit mjök sárt. Ljótr jarl hafði ok fengit sár þat,
was the-troop much wounded Ljot earl had also got a-wound that
er hann leiddi til bana, ok var hann mjök harmdauði.
which him led to death and was he much death-mourned

XI · THE RAVEN BANNER

Hlöðver's son Sigurðr the Stout held Caithness against the Scots. Challenged by Earl Finnleikr, he asked his mother's counsel; she gave him a raven banner, victorious for its army but fatal to its bearer. Three standard-bearers fell, and Sigurðr won and gave the Orkneymen back their odal lands.

Hlöðver Þorfinnsson tók jarldóm eptir Ljót ok var mikill
Hlodvir Thorfinn's-son took (the)-earldom after Ljot and was a-great
höfðíngi; hann átti Eðnu, dóttur Kjarvals Íra-konúngs; þeirra
chieftain he had Edna daughter of-Kjarval Irish-king their
son var Sigurðr digri. Hlöðver varð sóttdauðr, ok er
son was Sigurd (the)-Stout Hlodvir became sick-dead and is
heygðr í Höfn á Katanesi. Sigurðr, son hans, tók jarldóm
buried at Hofn in Caithness Sigurd son his took (the)-earldom
eptir hann; hann varð höfðíngi mikill ok víðlendr. Hann hélt
after him he became a-chieftain great and wide-landed He held
með valdi Katanes fyrir Skotum, ok hafði hvert sumar her
with force Caithness against (the)-Scots and had each summer a-host

úti. Hann herjaði í Suðreyjar, á Skotland ok Írland. Þat var
out He harried in (the)-Hebrides in Scotland and Ireland That was
á einu sumri, at Finnleikr Skota-jarl haslaði Sigurði völl
in one summer that Finnleik Scots'-earl hazeled to-Sigurd a-field
á Skíðamýri at nefndum degi; en Sigurðr gekk til fréttar
at Skidmoor on a-named day but Sigurd went to inquiry
við móður sína, hon var margkunnig. Jarl sagði henni,
with mother his she was much-knowing (The)-earl told her
at eigi mundi minni liðsmunr en sjau menn um einn.
that not would less difference-of-troops than seven men to one
Hon svarar: "Ek munda þik hafa lengi upp fætt í ull-laupi
She answers I would you have long up reared in wool-basket
mínum, ef ek vissa at þú mundir einart lifa, ok ræðr auðna
my if I knew that you would ever live and rules fate
lífi en eigi hvar maðr er kominn; betra er at deyja með
life but not where a-man is come better is to die with
sæmd en lifa með skömm. Tak þú hér við merki því, er
honor than to-live with shame Take you here with standard that which
ek hefir gjört þér af allri minni kunnáttu, ok væntir ek at
I have made for-you with all my skill and expect I that
sigrsælt mun verða þeim er fyrir er borit, en banvænt
victory-giving will be to-them whom before is borne but death-bringing
þeim er berr." Merkit var gjört af miklum hannyrðum ok
to-him who bears The-standard was made with great needlework and
ágætligum hagleik. Þat var gjört í hrafns-mynd; ok þá er
excellent craft That was made in raven's-form and then when
vindr blæss í merkit, þá var sem hrafn beindi fluginn.
wind blows into the-standard then was as-if a-raven spread the-flight
Sigurðr jarl varð reiðr mjök við orð móður sinnar, ok gaf
Sigurd earl became angry much at (the)-words of-mother his and gave
Orkneyingum óðul sín til liðveizlu, ok fór til Finnleiks jarls
to-(the)-Orkneymen odal-lands their for troop-help and went to Finnleik earl

á Skíðamýri, ok fylktu hvárirtveggju liði sínu. Ok þá er
at Skidmoor and arrayed each-of-two troop their And then when
orrostan sé saman, var skotinn merkismaðr Sigurðar jarls
the-battle comes together was shot (the)-standard-bearer of-Sigurd earl
til bana. Jarl kvaddi annan mann til at bera merkit; ok þá
to death (The)-earl called another man to to bear the-standard and then
er barizt var um hríð, fell sá. Þrír féllu merkismenn jarls,
when fought was for a-while fell he Three fell standard-bearers of-(the)-earl
en hann hafði sigr, ok fengu þá Orkneyingar óðul sín.
but he had victory and got then (the)-Orkneymen odal-lands their

XII · ÓLAFR TRYGGVASON IN ORKNEY

Sailing home from the west, Ólafr Tryggvason caught Earl Sigurðr at Osmundwall and made him take baptism or die. Sigurðr was baptized with all Orkney and gave his son Hundi as hostage, who died soon after; then Sigurðr paid Ólafr no allegiance.

Olafr Tryggvason var fjóra vetr í hernaði í Vestrlöndum
Olaf Tryggvi's-son was four winters on harrying in (the)-West-lands
síðan er hann kom af Vindlandi, áðr hann léti skírast
since when he came from Wendland before he let-himself be-baptized
í Syllingum. Þaðan fór hann til Írlands, ok fékk þar Gyðu,
in (the)-Scillies Thence went he to Ireland and got there Gyda
dóttur Kvarans Íra-konúngs. Síðan dvaldi hann um hríð í
daughter of-Kvaran Irish-king Then stayed he for a-while in
Dyflinni, þar til er Hákon jarl sendi vestr Þóri klöku at lokka
Dublin there till when Hakon earl sent west Thorir Klakka to lure
hann þaðan. Ólafr sigldi vestan fimm skipum, ok kom fyrst
him thence Olaf sailed from-the-west with-five ships and came first
við Orkneyjar. Þar hitti hann Sigurð jarl í Rögnvaldsey í
at Orkney There met he Sigurd earl in Ronaldsay in

Ásmundar-vági, með þrjú skip, ok var hann búinn í hernað.
Osmundwall with three ships and was he ready for harrying
Olafr konungr lét kalla jarl á skip sitt ok kvaðst vilja
Olaf king let call (the)-earl onto ship his and said-himself to-wish
tala við hann; ok er þeir fundust, mælti Olafr konúngr til
to-talk with him and when they met spoke Olaf king to
hans. "Þat er minn vili, at þú látir skírast ok allr lýðr
him That is my will that you let-yourself be-baptized and all people
sá er þér þjónar, ella skalt þú deyja hér þegar, en ek
that which to-you serves else shall you die here at-once but I
mun fara með eld ok usla yfir allar Eyjar." En er jarlinn sá
will go with fire and ravage over all (the)-Isles But when the-earl saw
hversu hann var við kominn, þá gaf hann allt sitt mál í
how he was at come then gave he all his case into
konúngs vald. Lét konúngr þá skíra hann ok tók í gisling
(the)-king's power Let (the)-king then baptize him and took in hostage
son hans er hét Hundi eðr Hvelpr, en konúngr lét skíra
(the)-son his who was-called Hundi or Whelp but (the)-king let baptize
hann með Hlöðvis nafni. Þá urðu kristnar allar Orkneyjar. En
him with Hlodvir's name Then became Christian all Orkney But
Olafr konúngr sigldi þá austr til Noregs; ok fór Hlöðvir með
Olaf king sailed then east to Norway and went Hlodvir with
honum, ok lifði hann skamma stund. En síðan veitti Sigurðr
him and lived he short time But afterward rendered Sigurd
jarl enga lýðskyldu Ólafi konúngi. Hann gékk þá at eiga
earl no allegiance to-Olaf king He went then to wed
dóttur Melkolms Skota-konúngs, ok var þeirra son Þorfinnr
(the)-daughter of-Malcolm Scots'-king and was their son Thorfinn
jarl. Sigurðr jarl hafði áðr átta þrjá sonu er þá vóru á lífi,
earl Sigurd earl had before had three sons who then were in life
hét einn þeirra Sumarliði, annarr Brúsi, þriði Einarr.
was-called one of-them Sumarlidi (the)-second Brusi (the)-third Einar

Sigurðr married the Scottish king's daughter, who bore Þorfinnr. Five winters after Svöld he went to help Sigtryggr Silk-Beard in Ireland and fell bearing the raven banner himself in the battle on Good Friday, where King Brjánn fell in his victory.

Litlu síðarr en þeir Ólafr konúngr Tryggvason sættust
Little later than they Olaf king Tryggvi's-son were-reconciled
ok Sigurðr jarl Hlöðversson, gekk jarl at eiga dóttur
and Sigurd earl Hlodvir's-son went (the)-earl to wed (the)-daughter
Melkólms Skota-konúngs, ok var þeirra son Þorfinnr jarl. Sigurðr
of-Malcolm Scots'-king and was their son Thorfinn earl Sigurd
jarl átti þrjá sonu aðra, hét einn Brúsi, annarr Sumarliði,
earl had three sons other was-called one Brusi (the)-second Sumarlidi
þriði Einarr rangmunnr. Fimm vetrum eptir Svoldrar-orrostu
(the)-third Einar Wry-Mouth Five winters after (the)-Svold-battle
fór Sigurðr jarl til Írlands til liðs með Sigtryggi konúngi
went Sigurd earl to Ireland to help with Sigtrygg king
silkiskegg, en setti sonu sína hina ellri til landa, en Þorfinn
Silk-Beard but set sons his the elder over (the)-lands but Thorfinn
son sinn fékk hann í hendr Skota-konúngi til fóstrs,
son his gave he into (the)-hands to-(the)-Scots'-king for fostering
móður-föður sínum. En er Sigurðr jarl kom til Írlands, héldu
mother's-father his But when Sigurd earl came to Ireland held
þeir Sigtryggr konúngr her þeim til móts við Brján Íra-konúng,
they Sigtrygg king a-host their to meeting with Brian Irish-king
ok varð fundr þeirra Föstudaginn langa. Þá varð engi
and was (the)-meeting their the-Friday long Then became none
til at bera hrafns-merkit, ok bar jarl sjálfr, ok féll þar, en
to to bear (the)-raven-standard and bore (the)-earl himself and fell there but
Sigtryggr konúngr flýði. Brjánn konúngr féll með sigri ok gagni.
Sigtrygg king fled Brian king fell with victory and gain

Sigurðr's sons Sumarliði, Brúsi, and Einarr divided the islands; the boy Þorfinnr held Caithness and Sutherland from the Scottish king. When Sumarliði died, Einarr refused Þorfinnr a share of Sumarliði's third, but Brúsi gave up his claim to it; Einarr's levies brought famine on his part of the land.

Eptir fall Sigurðar jarls tóku synir hans ríki ok skiptu
After (the)-fall of-Sigurd earl took sons his (the)-realm and divided
í þriðjúnga, Sumarliði, Brúsi, ok Einarr. Þorfinnr var með
into thirds Sumarlidi Brusi and Einar Thorfinn was with
Skota-konúngi fimm vetra gamall þá er Sigurðr faðir hans
(the)-Scots'-king five winters old then when Sigurd father his
féll. Skota-konúngr gaf þá Þorfinni dóttursyni sínum Katanes
fell (The)-Scots'-king gave then to-Thorfinn daughter's-son his Caithness
ok Suðrland ok jarls-nafn, ok setti menn til landráða með
and Sutherland and an-earl's-name and set men for land-rule with
honum. Þorfinnr jarl var bráðgjörr í vexti, manna mestr ok
him Thorfinn earl was early-grown in growth of-men biggest and
sterkastr, svartr á hár, skarpleitr ok skolbrúnn. Ok þegar er
strongest black of hair sharp-featured and dark-browed And as-soon as
honum óx aldr, var þat auðsætt, at hann var ágjarn. Þeir
to-him grew age was that easy-seen that he was greedy Those
bræðr vóru úlíkir í skaplyndi, Einarr ok Brúsi. Einarr var
brothers were unlike in temper Einar and Brusi Einar was
maðr stríðr ok ágjarn, úþýðr ok hermaðr mikill. Brúsi var
a-man harsh and greedy unfriendly and a-warrior great Brusi was
maðr hógværr, stiltr vel, lítilátr ok málsnjallr. Sumarliði var
a-man gentle calm well humble and eloquent Sumarlidi was
líkari Brúsa í skaplyndi; hann var elztr þeirra bræðra, ok
more-like Brusi in temper he was eldest of-those brothers and

lifði skemst, ok varð sóttdauðr Eptir andlát hans taldi
lived shortest and became sick-dead After (the)-death his claimed
Þorfinnr jarl til ríkis í Orkneyjum. Einarr sagði at Þorfinnr
Thorfinn earl to a-realm in Orkney Einar said that Thorfinn
hefði Katanes ok Suðrland, þat ríki, er átt hafði faðir
had Caithness and Sutherland that realm which owned had father
þeirra, ok taldi þat meira en þriðjúng Eyja, ok vildi
their and reckoned that more than a-third of-(the)-Isles and wished
eigi unna Þorfinni skiptis eptir Sumarliða, en Brúsi vildi
not to-grant to-Thorfinn a-share after Sumarlidi but Brusi wished
unna, ok lét upp skipti fyrir sína hönd: “Vil ek eigi,” segir
to-grant and let up (the)-share for his hand Wish I not says
hann, “ágirnast meira af ríki, en þann þriðjúng, sem ek
he to-covet more of (the)-realm than that third which I
á at réttu.” Þá tók Einarr undir sik tvá hluti Eyja;
own by right Then took Einar under himself two parts of-(the)-Isles
gjörðist hann þá ríkr ok fjölmennr, var opt á sumrum
became he then mighty and well-manned was often in summers
í hernaði, ok hafði útboð mikil í landi, en allmisjafnt
on harrying and had levies great in (the)-land but very-unequal
varð til fengjar. Tók bændum at leiðast þat starf, en
became to booty Took to-(the)-farmers to weary of-that toil but
jarl hélt með freku öllum álögum, ok lét öngum hlýða
(the)-earl held with greed all exactions and let none heed
mót at mæla. Einarr var hinn mesti ofstopamaðr; gjörði í
against to speak Einar was the greatest overbearing-man made in
hans ríki hallæri mikit af starfi ok fékostum, þeim er
his realm a-famine great from toil and money-burdens those which
bændr höfðu; en í þeim hluta lands, er Brúsi hafði,
(the)-farmers had but in that part of-(the)-land which Brusi had
var ár mikit ok hóglífi bóndum; var hann því vinsæll.
was plenty great and easy-life to-(the)-farmers was he therefore popular

Þorkell, son of Ámundi of Sandwick, spoke at the assembly for the farmers against Earl Einarr's levies. Einarr threatened him, and Þorkell fled to Þorfinnr in Caithness, fostered him, and was called Fosterer.

Maðr hét Ámundi ríkr ok auðigr, hann bjó í Hrossey
A-man was-called Amundi mighty and wealthy he dwelt in Hrossey
í Sandvík á Hlaupandanesi. Þorkell hét son hans, allra
at Sandwick on Hlaupandaness Thorkel was-called son his of-all
manna gerfiligastr þeirra er upp óxu í Orkneyjum. Ámundi
men most-accomplished of-those who up grew in Orkney Amundi
var vitr maðr, ok einna manna mest virðr í Eyjum. Þat
was a-wise man and of-the-few men most esteemed in (the)-Isles That
var eitt vár, at jarl hafði útboð mikit sem hann var
was one spring that (the)-earl had a-levy great as he was
vanr, en bændr kurruðu illa, báru þat fyrir Ámunda ok
wont but (the)-farmers grumbled ill bore that before Amundi and
báðu hann mæla þeim nokkura forstöðu við jarl. Ámundi
bade him speak for-them some defense with (the)-earl Amundi
sagði jarl úáhlýðinn, "ok mun lítið at skapast, er vinátta
said (the)-earl unheeding and will little at come-of-it is friendship
vár jarls ok góð at svá búnu, en mér þykkir við váða
our (the)-earl's and good at so done but to-me seems with danger
búit, ef vér verðum rangsáttir við skaplyndi hvárratveggju;
prepared if we become at-odds with (the)-temper of-each-of-two
mun ek mér," segir hann, "engu af skipta." Þá ræddu
will I myself says he nothing of deal Then discussed
þeir þetta mál við Þorkel; hann var trauðr til, ok hét
they this case with Thorkel he was unwilling to-it and promised
þó sinni umsýslu við áeggjan manna. Amunda þótti hann
yet his help at (the)-urging of-men to-Amundi seemed him

ofskjótt heitið hafa. En er jarl átti þing, þá mælti
over-quickly promised have But when (the)-earl had an-assembly then spoke
Þorkell af hendi bónda, sagði nauðsyn manna, ok
Thorkel from (the)-hand of-(the)-farmers told (the)-need of-men and
bað jarl vægja mönnum. Einarr svarar vel, ok segir at
bade (the)-earl spare (the)-men Einar answers well and says that
hann skuli virða orð hans. “Ek hafða nú ætlað at hafa sex
he shall value words his I had now intended to have six
skip ór landi, en nú skulu eigi meirr en þrjú, en þú,
ships out-of (the)-land but now shall not more than three but you
Þorkell, bið nú eigi þessa optarr.” Bændr þökkuðu vel
Thorkel ask now not this oftener (The)-farmers thanked well
Þorkatli liðveizlu sína; fór jarl í víkíng, ok kom aptr at
Thorkel help his went (the)-earl on viking and came back in
hausti. En eptir um várit hafði jarl enn útboð, ok átti
autumn But after in the-spring had (the)-earl again a-levy and had
þíng við bændr. Þá talaði Þorkell enn, ok bað jarl
an-assembly with (the)-farmers Then spoke Thorkel again and bade (the)-earl
vægja bóndum. Jarl svarar reiðuliga ok sagði at hlutr
spare (the)-farmers (The)-earl answers wrathfully and said that (the)-lot
bónda skyldi mjök vesna við hans ræðu. Hann gerði
of-(the)-farmers should much worsen at his speech He made
sik svá óðan ok reiðan, at hann sagði at þeir skyldu
himself so mad and angry that he said that they should
annat vár eigi báðir heilir á þínginu. Sleit við svá búit
another spring not both whole at the-assembly Broke-up with so done
þínginu. En er Ámundi varð varr við hvat þeir Þorkell
the-assembly But when Amundi became aware of what they Thorkel
höfðu við ázt, bað hann Þorkel brott fara. Fór hann yfir á
had with dealt bade he Thorkel away go Went he over to
Katanes til Þorfinns jarls ok var þar lengi síðan, ok fóstraði
Caithness to Thorfinn earl and was there long afterward and fostered

hann, er jarl var úngr, ok var síðan kallaðr Þorkell
him when (the)-earl was young and was afterward called Thorkel
fóstri, ok var hann ágætr maðr. Fleiri vóru þeir ríkismenn,
Fosterer and was he a-renowned man More were they powerful-men
er flýðu ór Orkneyjum fyrir ofríki Einars jarls; flýðu
who fled out-of Orkney before (the)-tyranny of-Einar earl fled
flestir til Þorfinns jarls, sumir til Noregs ok til ymissa landa.
most to Thorfinn earl some to Norway and to various lands

XVI · THE EARLS' SETTLEMENT

When Þorfinnr claimed his third, Brúsi made peace between his brothers: Þorfinnr was to have his third, and Brúsi and Einarr pooled theirs under Einarr, each to inherit from the other. Þorfinnr set men over his third and lived mostly in Caithness.

Þegar Þorfinnr jarl var roskinn, þá gjörði hann boð til Einars
As-soon-as Thorfinn earl was grown then made he word to Einar
bróður síns, ok beiddist af honum ríkis þess, er hann
brother his and asked of him (the)-realm that which he
þóttist eiga í Orkneyjum, en þat var þriðjúngr. Einarr tók
thought-himself to-own in Orkney but that was a-third Einar took
því úbrátt at minka sik svá. En er Þorfinnr jarl spyrr þat,
that unreadily to lessen himself so But when Thorfinn earl learns that
þá býðr hann út liði af Katanesi. En er Einarr jarl varð varr
then calls he out troop from Caithness But when Einar earl became aware
við, þá safnar hann liði, ok ferr í móti Þorfinni, ok ætlar at
of then gathers he troop and goes in against Thorfinn and intends to
berjast við hann. Brúsi jarl safnar ok liði, ferr til móts við þá,
fight with him Brusi earl gathers also troop goes to meeting with them
ok berr sáttmál í milli þeirra. Varð þat at sætt, at Þorfinnr
and bears terms in between them Became that to settlement that Thorfinn

jarl skyldi hafa þriðjúng ríkis í Orkneyjum, sem hann
earl should have a-third of-(the)-realm in Orkney as he
átti at réttu, en Brúsi jarl ok Einarr jarl lögðu saman sinn
owned by right but Brusi earl and Einar earl laid together their
hluta; skyldi Einarr jarl hafa forráð fyrir þeim ok landvörn.
share should Einar earl have rule over them and land-defense
En ef misdauði þeirra yrði, þá skyldi sá þeirra land taka
But if different-death their should-be then should he of-them (the)-land take
eptir annan, er lengr lifði. En sá máldagi þótti eigi jafnligr,
after (the)-other who longer lived But that agreement seemed not fair
því at Brúsi átti son, er Rögnvaldr hét, en Einarr var
because that Brusi had a-son who Rognvald was-called but Einar was
sonlauss; setr Þorfinnr jarl menn til at varðveita ríki þat,
sonless sets Thorfinn earl men to to guard (the)-realm that
er hann átti í Orkneyjum; en hann var optast á Katanesi.
which he owned in Orkney but he was most-often in Caithness

XVII · ÞORKELL WITH KING ÓLAFR

Einarr was beaten in Ireland, and the next year he killed Eyvindr Aurochs-Horn, King Ólafr's man, at Osmundwall. Þorkell, warned that Einarr meant to kill him, wintered with King Ólafr, who sent for Þorfinnr.

Einarr jarl var optast á sumrum í hernaði um Írland
Einar earl was most-often in summers on harrying about Ireland
ok Skotland ok Bretland. Þat var eitt sumar er Einarr
and Scotland and Wales That was one summer when Einar
jarl herjaði á Írland, at hann barðist í Ulfreksfirði við
earl harried in Ireland that he fought in Ulfreksfjord against
Konufögur Íra-konúng; fékk Einarr jarl þar úsigr mikinn
Konufogur Irish-king got Einar earl there a-defeat great

ok manna-lát. Annat sumar eptir fór Eyvindr úrar-horn
and loss-of-men (The)-second summer after went Eyvind Aurochs-Horn
vestan af Írlandi ok ætlaði til Noregs; veðr var
from-the-west from Ireland and intended to Norway (the)-weather was
hvast, ok stormr mikill. Þá sneri Eyvindr til Asmundarvágs,
sharp and a-storm great Then turned Eyvind to Osmundwall
ok lá þar veðrfastr um hríð. En er þat spyrr Einarr jarl
and lay there weather-bound for a-while But when that learns Einar earl
þá hélt hann þangat liði miklu; tók hann þar Eyvind
then held he thither with-troop great took he there Eyvind
ok lét drepa, en gaf grið flestum mönnum hans. Fóru þeir
and let kill but gave quarter to-most men his Went they
heim til Noregs um haustið ok á fund Ólafs konúngs,
home to Norway in the-autumn and to (the)-meeting of-Olaf king
ok sögðu honum aftöku Eyvindar. Konúngr svarar fá umb,
and told him (the)-slaying of-Eyvind (The)-king answers few about
ok fanst þat á þó, at honum þotti mannskaði mikill ok
and was-found that on yet that to-him seemed a-man-loss great and
mjök í móti sér gjört um flest. Var konúngr fámæltr um
much in against himself done in most Was (the)-king few-spoken about
þat er honum þótti sér mjök í móti skapi. Þorfinnr
that which to-him seemed to-himself much in against mind Thorfinn
jarl sendi Þorkel fóstra sinn út í Eyjar at heimta saman
earl sent Thorkel Fosterer his out to (the)-Isles to collect together
skatta sína. Einarr jarl kendi Þorkatli mjök uppreist þá,
tributes his Einar earl blamed (on)-Thorkel much (the)-uprising that
er Þorfinnr jarl hafði tilkall haft út í Eyjarnar. Fór Þorkell
which Thorfinn earl had claim had out to the-Isles Went Thorkel
skyndiliga ór Eyjunum yfir á Nes; ok sagði Þorfinni jarli,
hastily out-of the-Isles over to (the)-Ness and told Thorfinn earl
at hann var þess víss orðinn, at Einarr jarl ætlaði honum
that he was of-that aware become that Einar earl intended for-him

dauða, ef eigi hefði vinir hans eðr frændr gjört honum
death if not had friends his or kinsmen made for-him
njósn. “Nú mun ek eiga þann á baugi, at láta þann verða
a-warning Now will I have that in ring to let that become
fund okkarn jarls, at um skipti með okkr; en þann
(the)-meeting of-us-two earl's that about (it)-be-settled between us or that
annan, at fara lengra á brott, ok þangat, at jarl eigi
other to go further off away and thither that (the)-earl own
aldri vald yfir mér.” Þorfinnr jarl fýsti þess mjök, at hann
never power over me Thorfinn earl urged that much that he
skyldi fara austr til Noregs móts við Ólaf konúng; “Muntú,”
should go east to Norway to-meet with Olaf king Will-you
segir jarl, “mikils metinn hvar sem þú ert með tignum
says (the)-earl (be)-much valued wherever as you are with noble
mönnum, en ek veit beggja ykkart skaplyndi, þitt ok jarls,
men but I know of-both of-you temper yours and (the)-earl's
at þit munut skamma stund mundast til.” Bjóst þá
that you-two will short while bear-together to Made-ready then
Þorkell á fund Ólafs konúngs, ok fór um haustið til
Thorkel to (the)-meeting of-Olaf king and went in the-autumn to
Noregs, ok var um vetrinn með Ólafi konúngi í miklum
Norway and was in the-winter with Olaf king in great
kærleikum; hafði konúngr Þorkel mjök við ráð sín; þótti
affections had (the)-king Thorkel much in counsels his seemed
honum, sem var, Þorkell vitr maðr ok skörúngr mikill.
(it)-to-him as (it)-was Thorkel a-wise man and a-man-of-mark great
Fann konúngr þat í tali hans, at hann misjafnaði mjök
Found (the)-king that in talk his that he made-unequal much
frásögn um jarla, ok var vinr mikill Þorfinns en lagði
(the)-account about (the)-earls and was a-friend great of-Thorfinn but laid
þúngt til Einars jarls. Ok snemma um várit sendi konúngr
heavy to Einar earl And early in the-spring sent (the)-king

skip vestr um haf á fund Þorfinns jarls, ok orðsendíng
a-ship west over (the)-sea to (the)-meeting of-Thorfinn earl and message
þá, at jarl skyldi koma á hans fund. Hann lagðist eigi
that that (the)-earl should come to his meeting He laid-himself not
ferðina undir höfuð, þvíat vináttu-mál fylgðu orðsendíngunni.
the-journey under head because friendship-words followed the-message

XVIII · THE SLAYING OF EARL EINARR

Þorfinnr came home with a ship from King Ólafr, and Brúsi reconciled him with Einarr. At the feast in Sandwick, Þorkell's scouts found ambushes on the road he was to ride with Einarr; Þorkell struck the earl down by the fire, Hallvarðr finished him, and Þorkell fled to Norway.

Þorfinnr jarl fór austr til Noregs ok kom á fund Ólafs
Thorfinn earl went east to Norway and came to (the)-meeting of-Olaf
konúngs; fékk hann þar góðar viðtökur, ok dvaldist þar
king got he there good receptions and stayed there
lengi um sumarit. En er hann bjóst vestr, þá gaf Ólafr
long in the-summer But when he made-ready west then gave Olaf
konúngr honum langskip mikit ok gott með öllum reiða.
king him a-longship great and good with all gear
Þorkell fóstri réðst til ferðar með Þorfinni jarli ok gaf
Thorkel Fosterer set-out to (the)-journey with Thorfinn earl and gave
jarl honum þat skip er hann hafði vestan um sumarit;
(the)-earl him that ship which he had from-the-west in the-summer
skildust þeir konúngr ok jarl hinir beztu vinir með miklum
parted they king and earl the best friends with great
kærleikum. Þorfinnr jarl kom um haustið til Orkneyja. En
affections Thorfinn earl came in the-autumn to Orkney But
er Einarr jarl spurði þetta þá hafði hann fjölment, ok lá
when Einar earl learned this then had he many-men and lay

á skipum. Brúsi jarl fór til fundar við þá bræðr, ok bar
on ships Brusi earl went to (the)-meeting with those brothers and bore
sætt á milli þeirra; kom enn svá at þeir sættust, ok
a-settlement in between them came still so that they were-reconciled and
bundu þat eiðum. Þorkell fóstri skyldi þá í sætt tekinn
bound that with-oaths Thorkel Fosterer should then into settlement taken
ok vináttu við Einar jarl; ok þat var ok mælt, at hvárr
and friendship with Einar earl and that was also spoken that each-of-two
þeirra skyldi öðrum veita veizlu, ok skyldi jarl fyrri
of-them should to-(the)-other give a-feast and should (the)-earl first
sækja í Sandvík til Þorkels. En er jarl var þar á veizlu,
go to Sandwick to Thorkel But when (the)-earl was there at (the)-feast
þá var þar veitt kappsamliga. Jarl var ekki kátr. Þar var
then was there served lavishly (The)-earl was not merry There was
mikill skáli ok dyrr á báðum endum. Þann dag, er jarl
a-great hall and doors at both ends That day when (the)-earl
skyldi burt fara ok búast, þá skyldi Þorkell fara með
should away go and make-ready then should Thorkel go with
honum til veizlu. Þorkell sendi menn fram á leiðina á
him to (the)-feast Thorkel sent men forth on the-way on
njósn, þá er þeir skyldu fara um daginn; en er þeir kómu
scouting that which they should go in the-day but when they came
aptr, sögðu þeir Þorkatli, at þeir fundu þar þrennar sátir
back told they Thorkel that they found there three ambushes
ok vápnaða menn, “ok hyggjum vér, þér satt at segja, at
and weaponed men and think we to-you true to say that
svik muni undir vera.” En er Þorkell spurði þetta, þá
treachery will under be But when Thorkel learned this then
frestaði hann túníngi ok heimti saman menn sína. Jarl
delayed he (the)-starting and summoned together men his (The)-earl
bað hann búast, ok sagði mál at ríða. Þorkell sagði,
bade him make-ready and said (it)-time to ride Thorkel said

at hann átti mart [at] annast. Hann gekk stundum út en
that he had much to attend-to He went at-times out but
stundum inn. Eldar vóru á gólfinu. Þá gekk Þorkell inn
at-times in Fires were on the-floor Then went Thorkel in
um aðrar dyrr, ok með honum einn maðr, er nefndr er
by (the)-other door and with him one man who named is
Hallvarðr, hann var Íslenzkr maðr, austfirzkr at ætt. Hann
Hallvard he was an-Icelandic man East-fjordish by kin He
lauk aptr hurðinni. Þorkell gekk innarr eptir skálanum milli
shut back the-door Thorkel went further-in along the-hall between
eldsins ok þess at jarl sat. Jarl spurði: "Ertú nú
the-fire and that where (the)-earl sat (The)-earl asked Are-you now
búinn?" Þorkell svarar: "Ek em búinn nú." Þá hjó Þorkell
ready Thorkel answers I am ready now Then hewed Thorkel
til jarls í höfuðit. Jarl steyptist fram á gólfit.
at (the)-earl into the-head (The)-earl plunged forward onto the-floor
Hallvarðr mælti: "Hér sé ek alla vesta fangaráðs, er þér
Hallvard spoke Here see I all worst of-catch-counsels when you
dragit jarl eigi af eldinum." Hann keyrði þá spörðu
drag (the)-earl not from the-fire He thrust then a-hand-axe
undir hnakkabein jarli, ok kipti honum upp at pallinum.
under (the)-neck-bone to-(the)-earl and jerked him up to the-dais
Þorkell ok þeir báðir félagar gengu út skyndiliga um aðrar
Thorkel and they both fellows went out hastily through (the)-other
dyrr en þeir gengu inn; stóðu þar úti menn Þorkels með
door than they went in stood there outside (the)-men of-Thorkel with
alvæpni. Jarls menn tóku til hans, ok var hann þá dauðr,
full-weapons (The)-earl's men took to him and was he then dead
en öllum féllust hendr til hefnda; var þat ok, at bráðan bar
but to-all fell hands to vengeance was that also that suddenly bore
at mjök, enda varði engan mann þessa verks af Þorkatli;
at much and-also expected no man this deed from Thorkel

því at þeir hugðu allir, at svá mundi vera sem áðr var
because that they thought all that so would be as before was
mælt, at vinátta væri með jarli ok Þorkatli; vóru menn
spoken that friendship would-be with (the)-earl and Thorkel were (the)-men
ok flestir vápnlausir inni, en margir áðr vinir Þorkels góðir.
also most weaponless inside but many before friends of-Thorkel good
Bar þat til með auðnu þeirri, er Þorkatli var lagit lengra
Bore that to with (the)-fortune that which to-Thorkel was laid longer
líf. Þorkell hafði þá lið, er hann kom út, engu minna
life Thorkel had then a-troop when he came out no less
en jarls-menn. Fór Þorkell þá til skips síns en jarls-menn
than (the)-earl's-men Went Thorkel then to ship his but (the)-earl's-men
í brott. Þorkell sigldi þann dag í brott ok austr í
off away Thorkel sailed that day off away and east into
haf, ok var þat eptir vetrnætr. Koma þeir þá með heilu
(the)-sea and was that after winter-nights Come they then with whole
ok höldnu til Noregs; fór Þorkell þegar á fund Ólafs
and held to Norway went Thorkel at-once to (the)-meeting of-Olaf
konungs, ok fékk hann þar góðar viðtökur. Lét konungr
king and got he there good receptions Let (the)-king
yfir þessu verki vel; var Þorkell með honum um vetrinn.
over this deed well was Thorkel with him in the-winter

XIX · BRÚSI SEEKS KING ÓLAFR

Þorfinnr claimed half the islands. Brúsi, too weak to resist him, went to King Ólafr with his son Rögnvaldr. Ólafr claimed Orkney as Haraldr Fairhair's and offered Brúsi the islands in fief as his man, and Brúsi accepted.

Eptir fráfall Einars jarls tók Brúsi jarl þann hluta lands,
After (the)-death of-Einar earl took Brusi earl that part of-(the)-land
er áðr hafði haft Einarr jarl, þvíat þat var með margra
which before had had Einar earl because that was with many
manna vitorði hverjum skildaga þeir Einarr ok Brúsi höfðu
men's knowledge on-what terms they Einar and Brusi had
félag gjört. Þorfinni jarli þótti þat réttast, at hálfar
fellowship made To-Thorfinn earl seemed that most-right that half
Eyjar hefði hvárr þeirra, en þó hafði Brúsi þann vetr
(the)-Isles should-have each-of-two of-them but yet had Brusi that winter
hvárntveggia hlut Eyjanna. En um várit kallaði Þorfinnr
both-of-the-two parts of-the-Isles But in the-spring called Thorfinn
til lands við Brúsa, at hann vill hafa helmíng landa,
to land with Brusi that he will have half of-(the)-lands
en Brúsi gaf eigi jákvæði við þetta; áttu þeir stefnur at
but Brusi gave not assent to this had they meetings about
þessum málum. Gengu þá at vinir þeirra at semja þetta
these cases Went then at friends their to settle this
mál; ok kom svá, at Þorfinnr lét sér ekki annat líka, en
case and came so that Thorfinn let himself nothing other please than
hafa helmíng Eyja; en segir þat með, at Brúsi þurfti eigi
have half of-(the)-Isles but says that with that Brusi needed not
meira en þriðjúng með þat skaplyndi, sem hann hefir. "Ek
more than a-third with that temper as he has I
unda því," segir hann, "at hafa þriðjúng lands, þann
was-content with-that says he to have a-third of-(the)-land that
er ek tók eptir föður minn í arf; kallaði ok engi til í
which I took after father my in inheritance claimed also none to in
hendr mér; en nú hefi ek tekit annan þriðjúng eptir bróður
hands me but now have I taken a-second third after brother
minn at réttum máldögum. En þó at ek sé vanfærr til at
my by right agreements But though that I be unfit to to

deila kappi við yðr, frændi, þá mun ek þó annars í leita,
contend in-rivalry with you kinsman then will I yet other-things in seek
en játta undan mér ríki at svá búnu. Þeir skildu at svá
than agree away-from me (the)-realm at so done They parted at so
búnu málstefnu þessa. En er Brúsi sá, at hann mundi eigi
done meeting this But when Brusi saw that he would not
standa jafnfætis við Þorfinn, þvíat hann hafði ríki miklu
stand on-equal-foot with Thorfinn because he had a-realm much
meira, ok traust af Skota-konúngi móður-föður sínum, þá
greater and support from (the)-Scots'-king mother's-father his then
réð Brúsi þat af, at fara ór landi austr á fund
decided Brusi that from to go out-of (the)-land east to (the)-meeting
Ólafs konúngs, ok hafði með sér Rögnvald son sinn, ok
of-Olaf king and had with himself Rognvald son his and
var hann þá tíu vetra. En er jarl hitti konúng, þá tók
was he then ten winters But when (the)-earl met (the)-king then took
hann vel við honum. En er jarl bar upp eyrendi sín ok
he well with him But when (the)-earl bore up errand his and
segir konúngi allan málavöxt, þann er var með þeim
tells (the)-king all (the)-state-of-the-case that which was between them
bræðrum; ok bað konúng veita sér styrk til at halda ríki
brothers and bade (the)-king give to-himself strength to to hold realm
sínu; bauð þar fram í móti fullkomliga sína vináttu. Konúngr
his offered there forth in against fully his friendship (The)-king
svarar, ok tók þar fyrst til máls, er Haraldr hinn Hárfagri
answers and took there first to speech that Harald the Fairhair
hafði eignast óðul öll í Orkneyjum, "En jarlar hafa
had acquired (the)-odal-lands all in Orkney But (the)-earls have
síðan haft í lén, en aldri at eign; ok er þat til jarteigna,"
since had in fief but never in ownership and is that to tokens
segir hann, "at þá er Eirekr blóðöx ok synir hans vóru í
says he that then when Eirik Blood-Axe and sons his were in

Orkneyjum, þá vóru jarlar þeim lýðskyldir. En er Ólafr
Orkney then were (the)-earls to-them subject But when Olaf
Tryggvason frændi minn kom þar, þá gjörðist Sigurðr jarl
Tryggvi's-son kinsman my came there then became Sigurd earl
faðir yðvarr hans maðr. Nú hefi ek tekit eptir hann allan
father your his man Now have I taken after him all
arf. Nú vil ek gjöra þér þann kost at þú gjörist
(the)-inheritance Now will I make for-you that offer that you become
minn maðr; mun ek þá fá þér Eyjar í lén; skulu vit þá
my man will I then give you (the)-Isles in fief shall we-two then
freista, ef ek veiti þér minn styrk, hvárt betr skal at haldi
try if I give you my strength whether better shall to stead
koma, eðr Þorfinni bróðr þínum traust Skota-konúngs.
come or to-Thorfinn brother your (the)-support of-(the)-Scots'-king
En ef þú vill eigi þenna kost, þá mun ek eptir leita þeim
But if you wish not this offer then will I after seek those
eignum ok óðulum, er várir frændr hafa átt vestr þar."
properties and odal-lands which our kinsmen have owned west there
Þessar ræður hugfesti jarl með sér, ok bar fyrir vini
These words fixed-in-mind (the)-earl with himself and bore (them)-before friends
sína, ok leitaði ráðs við þá hverju hann skyldi játta, hvárt
his and sought counsel with them which he should accept whether
hann skyldi at þessu sættast við Ólaf konúng ok gjörast
he should on these-terms be-reconciled with Olaf king and become
hans maðr: "en hitt er mér úsýnna hverr minn hlutr verðr
his man but that is to-me less-clear what my lot becomes
at skilnaði várum, ef ek kveð nei við, þvíat konúngr hefir
at parting our if I say no to-it because (the)-king has
bert gjört fyrir mér tilkall, at hann þykkist eiga Eyjarnar.
plain made before me (the)-claim that he thinks-himself to-own the-Isles
En við stórræði hans, ok þat, at vér erum hér komnir,
But with (the)-ambition his and that that we are here come

þá mun honum lítið fyrir at gjöra þat af várum kosti,
then will to-him little for to make that of our lot
sem hann vill." En þó at jarli þætti á hváru-tveggja
which he wishes But though that to-(the)-earl seemed on each-of-the-two
annmarkar sýnir, þá tók hann þann kost, at leggja allt
defects seen then took he that choice to lay all
á konúngs vald, bæði sik ok ríki sitt. Tók þá Ólafr
in (the)-king's power both himself and realm his Took then Olaf
konúngr af jarli vald ok forráð yfir öllum erfða-löndum,
king from (the)-earl power and rule over all inheritance-lands
ok gjörðist jarl þá konúngsmaðr, ok batt þat svardögum.
and became (the)-earl then king's-man and bound that with-oaths

XX · ÞORFINNR BEFORE KING ÓLAFR

Þorfinnr came too late to forestall his brother. He refused homage, being already the Scottish king's earl, until Ólafr threatened to set another man over the islands; then he too became Ólafr's man.

Þorfinnr jarl spurði at Brúsi bróðir hans var farinn austr á
Thorfinn earl learned that Brusi brother his was gone east to
fund Ólafs konúngs at sækja traust af honum; en fyrir
(the)-meeting of-Olaf king to seek support from him but for
því at Þorfinnr hafði farit fyrr á fund Ólafs konúngs
that that Thorfinn had gone earlier to (the)-meeting of-Olaf king
ok komit sér þar í vináttu, þá þóttist hann eiga
and brought himself there into friendship then thought-himself he to-have
þar vel fyrir búit, ok vissi at þar mundi margir fylgja
there well before prepared and knew that there would many follow
hans máli; gjörir Þorfinnr jarl þat ráð, at hann býr ferð
his case makes Thorfinn earl that plan that he readies journey

sína sem skyndiligast, ok fór til Noregs, ok ætlaði at sem
his as quickest and went to Norway and intended that as
minstr skyldi verða misfari þeirra Brúsa, ok ekki skyldi
least should be (the)-gap of-them of-Brusi and not should
eyrendi hans til lykta koma. Ok er Þorfinnr hitti konúng
errand his to end come And when Thorfinn met (the)-king
var þat annan veg en hann hafði ætlað; þvíat þá er hann
was that other way than he had intended because then when he
kom á fund Ólafs konúngs var lokit ok gjört allt um
came to (the)-meeting of-Olaf king was finished and done all about
sáttmál þeirra konúngs ok Brúsa. Þorfinnr jarl vissi ok
(the)-agreement of-them king and Brusi Thorfinn earl knew also
eigi at Brúsi hafði upp gefit ríki sitt fyrr en Þorfinnr
not that Brusi had up given realm his earlier than Thorfinn
jarl var kominn á fund Ólafs konúngs. En þegar þeir
earl was come to (the)-meeting of-Olaf king But as-soon-as they
hittust Þorfinnr jarl ok Ólafr konúngr, þá hóf konúngr
met Thorfinn earl and Olaf king then raised (the)-king
upp hit sama tilkall til ríkis í Orkneyjum, sem hann
up the same claim to (the)-realm in Orkney as he
hafði haft við Brúsa, ok beiddi Þorfinn þess hins sama, at
had had with Brusi and asked Thorfinn of-that the same that
hann skyldi játa konúngi þeim hluta landa, er hann
he should grant to-(the)-king that part of-(the)-lands which he
átti áðr. Jarl svarar vel orðum konúngs, ok sagði svá,
owned before (The)-earl answers well (the)-words of-(the)-king and said so
at honum þótti mikit undir um vingan hans: “Ok ef þér,
that to-him seemed much under about friendship his And if you
herra,” sagði jarl, “þykkist þurfa liðveizlu minnar mót
lord said (the)-earl think-yourself to-need help mine against
öðrum höfðíngjum, þá hafi þér fullt til þess unnit; en mér
other chieftains then have you full to that earned but to-me

er eigi hent, at veita yðr handgöngu, þvíat ek em áðr jarl
is not fitting to give you homage because I am before an-earl
Skota-konúngs, ok honum lýðskyldr." En er konúngr fann
of-(the)-Scots'-king and to-him subject But when (the)-king found
undandrátt í svörum jarls um þessa mála-leitan, er
evasion in (the)-answers of-(the)-earl about this case-seeking which
hann hafði upp hafit, þá mælti konúngr: "Ef þú, jarl, vill
he had up raised then spoke (the)-king If you earl will
eigi gjörast minn maðr, þá er sá annarr kostr, at ek setja
not become my man then is that other choice that I set
þann mann yfir Orkneyjar, er ek vil; en ek vil at þú veitir
that man over Orkney whom I wish but I wish that you give
þá svardaga, at kalla ekki til landa þeirra, ok láta þá í
then oaths to claim not to (the)-lands their and let them in
friði vera af þér, er ek set yfir. En ef þú vill engan þenna
peace be from you whom I set over But if you wish neither this
kost, þá mun svá þykkja þeim, er ek set yfir, sem úfriðar
choice then will so seem to-them whom I set over as-if strife
muni þeim af þér ván; má þér þá eigi undarligt
will to-them from you (be)-expected may to-you then not strange
þykkja at dalr komi móti hóli." Jarl svarar, ok bað
seem that (the)-dale come against (the)-hill (The)-earl answers and bade
konúng gefa sér frest at hugsa þetta mál. Konúngr
(the)-king give to-himself respite to think-over this case (The)-king
gjörði svá, gaf jarli stund ok orlof at ráða um þetta
did so gave to-(the)-earl time and leave to take-counsel about this
við vini sína. Þá beiddi jarl þess, at konúngr skyldi ljá
with friends his Then asked (the)-earl that that (the)-king should lend
honum frest til annars sumars, ok færi hann heim þá
him respite till (the)-next summer and should-go he home then
fyrst: "Er heima ráðuneyti mitt allt," segir hann, "en ek em
first Is at-home counsel my all says he but I am

bernskumaðr fyrir aldrs sakir.” Konúngr bað hann þá kjósa
a-child-man for age's sake (The)-king bade him then choose
annat-hvárt. Þorkell fóstri var þá með konúngi; hann sendi
one-of-the-two Thorkel Fosterer was then with (the)-king he sent
menn leyniliga til jarls, ok bað hann eigi þat fyrir ætlast,
men secretly to (the)-earl and bade him not that for intend
hvat[ki] er honum var í hug, at skiljast svá við Ólaf
whatever which to-him was in mind to part so with Olaf
konúng, at þeir væri eigi sáttir, svá sem hann var kominn
king that they were not reconciled so as he was come
í hendr konúngi. Þóttist hann sjá, at einbeygðr var
into (the)-hands of-(the)-king Thought-himself he to-see that one-way-bent was
kostr at láta konúng einn öllu ráða; þótti þeim sá þó eigi
(the)-choice to let (the)-king alone all rule seemed to-them that yet not
kjörvísligr, at eiga enga ván sjálfr til ættleifðar sinnar, ok
choice-worthy to have no hope himself to inheritance his and
veita svardaga til þess, at þeir hefði í friði þat ríki er
give oaths to that that they should-have in peace that realm who
ekki vóru til bornir. En fyrir því at honum syndist úvíst
not were to born But for that that to-him seemed uncertain
um brottför sína, þá kjöri hann þat, at ganga til handa
about (the)-departure his then chose he that to go to (the)-hands
konúngi ok gjörast hans maðr sem Brúsi bróðir hans hafði
of-(the)-king and become his man as Brusi brother his had
gjört. Konúngr fann þat at Þorfinnr var miklu skapstærri
done (The)-king found that that Thorfinn was much prouder
en Brúsi; trúði hann því Þorfinni verr; sá konúngr þat,
than Brusi trusted he therefore Thorfinn worse saw (the)-king that
at hann mundi þykkjast eiga styrks ván af Skota-konúngi
that he would think-himself to-have of-strength hope from (the)-Scots'-king
þó at hann brygðist þessu sáttmáli; skildi konúngr þat
though that he should-break this agreement understood (the)-king that

af vizku sinni. Brúsi gekk tregligar at öllu sáttmáli, en
from wisdom his Brusi went reluctantly to all (the)-agreement but
mælti þat eina um, at hann ætlaði sér at halda; en
spoke that only about that he intended himself to hold but
þar er Þorfinnr var, gekk hann glaðr at öllu, þegar hann
there where Thorfinn was went he glad to all when he
hafði ráðit fyrir sér hvern hlut hann skyldi upp taka; þá
had decided for himself which part he should up take then
gekk hann glaðr at öllum skildaga, ok dró um þat engan
went he glad to all terms and drew about that no
hlut, er konúngr beiddi hit fyrsta kveld; en þat grunaði
part which (the)-king asked the first evening but that suspected
konúng, at hann mundi ætla at gjöra eptir sumar sættir.
(the)-king that he would intend to do after some settlements

XXI · KING ÓLAFR'S JUDGMENT

Ólafr gave Brúsi one third and Þorfinnr another, kept Einarr's third himself, and fined Þorkell for the slaying. Þorkell laid his head in Þorfinnr's lap, and they agreed that he would follow the earl home and serve him.

Þá er Ólafr konúngr hafði hugsat fyrir sér allt
Then when Olaf king had thought-over for himself all
þetta mál lét hann blása til fjölmennrar stefnu, ok lét
this case let he blow to a-crowded meeting and let
þangat kalla jarla báða. Þá mælti hann: "Sáttmál várt
thither call (the)-earls both Then spoke he (The)-agreement our
Orkneyínga-jarla vil ek nú birta fyrir alþýðu; þeir hafa
of-(the)-Orkney-earls will I now make-known before (the)-people they have
nú játað mínu eiginorði yfir Orkneyjum ok Hjaltlandi ok
now granted my ownership over Orkney and Shetland and

gjörzt mínir menn, ok bundit þat svardögum; ok vil ek nú
become my men and bound that with-oaths and will I now
gefa þeim í lén, Brúsa þriðjúng en Þorfinni annan, svá sem
give them in fief to-Brusi a-third but to-Thorfinn a-second so as
þeir hafa fyrr haft; en þann þriðjúng, er átti Einarr jarl,
they have before had but that third which owned Einar earl
þann læt ek falla undir mik, fyrir þá sök, at hann drap
that let I fall under me for that cause that he killed
Eyvind úrar-horn hirðmann minn ok félagsmann kæran; vil
Eyvind Aurochs-Horn retainer my and fellow dear will
ek sjá fyrir þeim hluta lands þat er mér sýnist. Þat
I see for that part of-(the)-land that which to-me seems-good That
vil ek ok til skilja við ykkr bræðr jarla mína, at þit
will I also to stipulate with you brothers earls mine that you-two
takit sættir af Þorkatli Ámundasyni fyrir dráp Einars
take settlements from Thorkel Amundi's-son for (the)-killing of-Einar
bróður ykkars; vil ek at dómr sé undir mik, ef þit
brother your wish I that (the)-judgment be under me if you-two
vilit því játa." En þat var sem annat, at þeir játtuðu því
will that grant But that was as other that they granted that
öllu, er konúngr mælti. Gekk þá Þorkell fram, ok festi
all which (the)-king spoke Went then Thorkel forth and pledged
á konúngs dóm; ok sleit svá þessu þíngi. Ólafr konúngr
on (the)-king's judgment and broke-up so this assembly Olaf king
dæmdi bætr fyrir. Einar sem fyrir þrjá lenda menn, en
judged compensations for Einar as for three landed men but
fyrir sakar skyldi niðr falla þriðjúngr gjalda. Þorfinnr
for (the)-guilt should down fall a-third of-(the)-payment Thorfinn
jarl bað sér brottfarar-leyfis konúng. En er þat fékst,
earl asked for-himself departure-leave (the)-king But when that was-got
bjóst hann skyndiliga. En er hann var albúinn, þá
made-ready he hastily But when he was all-ready then

varð þat einn dag, er jarl drakk á skipi, at þar kom
befell that one day when (the)-earl drank on ship that there came
fyrir hann váfeifliga Þorkell Ámundason, ok lagði höfuðit
before him unexpectedly Thorkel Amundi's-son and laid the-head
í kné honum, ok bað hann af gjöra slíkt er hann vildi.
in (the)-knee of-him and bade him off do such as he wished
Jarl spurði, hví hann gjörði svá, "þar sem vér erum áðr
(The)-earl asked why he did so there as we are before
sáttir at konúngs dómi, ok statt upp." Hann gjörði svá,
reconciled by (the)-king's judgment and stand up He did so
ok mælti: "Sætt þeirri, er konúngr gjörði milli vár,
and spoke (The)-settlement that which (the)-king made between us
mun ek hlíta á milli vár Brúsa; en þat sem til yðvarr
will I abide-by in between us Brusi but that which to you
kemr af, skulu þér einir ráða. Þó at konúngr hafi mér
comes of shall you alone rule Though that (the)-king has to-me
skilit eignir mínar eðr lands-vist í Orkneyjum, þá kann ek
granted properties my or land-stay in Orkney then know I
svá skaplyndi yðvart, at mér er úfært í Eyjarnar, nema
so temper your that to-me is impassable to the-Isles unless
ek fara í trúnaði yðrum; vil ek þat festa yðr," segir hann,
I go in trust yours will I that pledge to-you says he
at koma aldri til Orkneyja, hvat sem konúngr mælti um
to come never to Orkney whatever that (the)-king might-speak about
þat." Jarl þagnaði ok tók seint til máls ok mælti: "Viltú,
that (The)-earl was-silent and took late to speech and spoke Will-you
Þorkell, at ek dæma um okkur mál, en hlíta eigi konúngs
Thorkel that I judge about our case but abide not (the)-king's
dómi: þá mun ek þat hafa upphaf at sætt okkarri, at
judgment then will I that have (as)-beginning to settlement our that
þú skalt fara með mér til Orkneyja, ok vera með mér, ok
you shall go with me to Orkney and be with me and

skiljast eigi við mik, nema mitt leyfi sé til; vera skyldr til
part not from me unless my leave be to be bound to
at verja land mitt, ok allra hluta, þeirra er ek vil gjöra
to defend land my and all things those which I will do
láta, meðan vit lifum báðir." Þorkell svarar: "þat skal á
let while we-two live both Thorkel answers that shall in
yðru valdi, herra, sem allt annat, þat er ek má ráða."
your power lord as all other that which I may rule
Gekk Þorkell til, ok festi jarli þat allt, sem hann kvað
Went Thorkel to and pledged to-(the)-earl that all which he said
á. Jarl segir at um fégjöld mundi hann síðarr á
on (The)-earl says that about money-payments would he later on
kveða; en hann tók þá svardaga af Þorkatli, ok snerist hann
pronounce but he took then oaths of Thorkel and turned he
þá þegar til ferðar með jarli; fór jarl þá þegar á
then at-once to (the)-journey with (the)-earl went (the)-earl then at-once off
braut, er hann var búinn, ok sást þeir Ólafr konúngr
away when he was ready and saw-each-other they Olaf king
aldregi síðan. Brúsi jarl dvaldist þá eptir, ok bjóst í tómi
never since Brusi earl stayed then behind and made-ready in leisure
meirr; en áðr hann færi á braut þá átti Ólafr konúngr
more but before he went off away then had Olaf king
stefnu vit hann, ok mælti: "Þat lízt mér, jarl, at ek mun
a-meeting with him and spoke That seems to-me earl that I will
hafa þik at trúnaðar-manni þar fyrir vestan hafit; ætla ek
have you as trust-man there on west-of (the)-sea intend I
svá, at þú skalt hafa tvá hluti landa til forráða, þá sem
so that you shall have two parts of-(the)-lands for rule those which
þú hefir áðr haft, ok vil ek at þú sér nú eigi minni maðr
you have before had and wish I that you be now not a-lesser man
eðr úríkari, er þú ert mér handgenginn, en áðr vartú; en
or less-powerful when you are to-me handgone than before were-you but

ek vil festa þinn trúnað með því, at ek vil, at hér sé eptir
I will secure your trust with that that I wish that here be behind
Rögnvaldr son þinn; sé ek þá, ef þú hefir mitt traust, ok
Rognvald son your see I then if you have my support and
tvá hluti landa, at þú mátt vel halda þínu at réttu fyrir
two parts of-(the)-lands that you may well hold yours by right against
Þorfinni jarli." Brúsi tók þat með þökkum at hafa tvá hluti
Thorfinn earl Brusi took that with thanks to have two parts
landa. Dvaldist Brúsi litla hríð, áðr hann fór í braut, ok
of-(the)-lands Stayed Brusi a-little while before he went off away and
kom um haustið vestr til Orkneyja. Rögnvaldr son Brúsa var
came in the-autumn west to Orkney Rognvald son of-Brusi was
eptir með Ólafi konúngi; hann var allra manna fríðastr, hárit
behind with Olaf king he was of-all men handsomest the-hair
mikit ok gult sem sílki. Hann var snimma mikill ok sterkr;
great and yellow as silk He was early big and strong
manna var hann gjörfiligastr, bæði fyrir vits sakir ok svá
of-men was he most-accomplished both for wit's sake and so
kurteisi; hann var lengi við Ólafi konúngi. Þessa getr Óttarr
courtesy he was long with Olaf king This tells Ottar
svarti í drápu þeirri, er hann orti um Ólaf konúng:
(the)-Black in (the)-drapa that which he made about Olaf king

"Gegn ero þér at þegnum,
Fit are to-you at thanes
þjóð-skjöldúnga góðra
of-people-kings good
haldit hæft á veldi,
held fitly in power
Hjaltlendíngar kendir:
Shetlanders known

eingi varð á jörðu,
none was on earth
ógnbráðr, áðr þér náði,
terror-swift before you got
æztr sá er Eyjum vestan
highest he who (the)-Isles from-the-west
ýnglingr und sik þrýngi."
prince under himself pressed

Þá er þeir bræðr kómu vestr til Orkneyja, Þorfinnr ok
Then when those brothers came west to Orkney Thorfinn and
Brúsi, þá tók Brúsi tvá hluti landa til forráða, en Þorfinnr
Brusi then took Brusi two parts of-(the)-lands for rule but Thorfinn
þriðjúng; hann var jafnan á Katanesi ok á Skotlandi, en setti
a-third he was always in Caithness and in Scotland but set
menn sína yfir Eyjarnar; hafði Brúsi þá einn landvörn
men his over the-Isles had Brusi then alone (the)-land-defense
yfir Eyjunum. En í þann tíma var mjök herskátt, þvíat
over the-Isles But at that time was much warlike because
Norðmenn ok Danir herjuðu mjök í vestr-víking, ok kómu
Norwegians and Danes harried much in (the)-west-viking and came
optliga við Eyjarnar, er þeir fóru vestr eðr vestan, ok
often by the-Isles when they went west or from-the-west and
námu þar nesnám. Brúsi taldi ar því, er Þorfinnr hafði
took there ness-raids Brusi claimed at that that Thorfinn had
engar útgjörðir fyrir Orkneyjum eðr Hjaltlandi, en hafði
no outlays for Orkney or Shetland but had
skatta ok skyldir allt at sínum hluta. Þá bauð Þorfinnr
tributes and dues all to his share Then offered Thorfinn
honum þann kost, at Brúsi skyldi hafa þriðjúng landa,
him that choice that Brusi should have a-third of-(the)-lands

en Þorfinnr tvá hluti, ok hafa einn landvörn. En þótt eigi
but Thorfinn two parts and have alone (the)-land-defense But though not
yrði þetta skipti bráðfengis, þá fór þó þetta skipti fram, at
became this division quick then went yet this division forth that
Brúsi hafði þriðjúng en Þorfinnr tvá hlutina; var þetta þá
Brusi had a-third but Thorfinn two the-parts was this then
er Knútr hafði ríki í Noregi, en Ólafr varð landflótti.
when Knut had (the)-realm in Norway but Olaf became a-land-fugitive

XXII · ÞORFINNR AND KARL HUNDASON

Þorfinnr grew tall, ugly, and warlike, fighting before he was fifteen, as Arnórr's verse tells. The new Scottish king Karl demanded tribute from Caithness and set his nephew Muddan there as earl; Þorkell killed Muddan at Thurso, and Þorfinnr beat Karl at sea off Deerness and at Torfnes and harried Scotland.

Þorfinnr jarl gjörðist höfðingi mikill, hann var manna mestr
Thorfinn earl became a-chieftain great he was of-men biggest
ok sterkastr, ljótr, svartr á hár, skarpleitr ok nefmikill ok
and strongest ugly black of hair sharp-featured and big-nosed and
nokkut skolbrúnn; hann var kappsmaðr mikill ok ágjarn, bæði
somewhat dark-browed he was a-champion great and greedy both
til fjár ok metnaðar; hann var sigrsæll ok kænn í orrostum
for wealth and honor he was victorious and skilled in battles
ok góðr áræðis; hann var þá fimm vetra gamall, er Melkólmr
and good of-daring he was then five winters old when Malcolm
Skota-konúngr móður-faðir hans gaf honum jarls-nafn ok
Scots'-king mother's-father his gave him an-earl's-name and
Katanes til yfirsóknar sem fyrr er ritað, en þá var [hann] xiiij.
Caithness for rule as before is written but then was he fourteen

vetra, er hann hafði útgjörðir fyrir landi sínu, ok herjaði
winters when he had outfittings for land his and harried
á ríki annarra höfðingja. Svá segir Arnórr jarla-skáld:
on (the)-realm of-other chieftains So says Arnor Earls'-Skald

"Hilmir rauð í hjálma
(The)-prince reddened in of-helmets
hreggi skelkvíngs eggjar,
storm of-sword edges
fór áðr fimtán væri
went before fifteen were
fet-rjóðr hugins vetra:
foot-reddener of-raven winters
görr lézt grund at verja
ready declared-himself land to defend
gunnfrækn ok til sækja
battle-bold and to attack
ærri Einars hlýra.
readier of-Einar brother
Öngr mannr und ský-ranni."
No man under sky-hall

Þorfinnr jarl hafði styrk mikinn af Skota-konúngi frænda
Thorfinn earl had strength great from (the)-Scots'-king kinsman
sínum; dró þat mjök fram ríki hans í Orkneyjum, er sá
his drew that much forth realm his in Orkney as that
styrkr var svá nærr. Skota-konúngr andaðist þá er þeir
strength was so near (The)-Scots'-king died then when those
bræðr vóru sáttir Brúsi ok Þorfinnr. Tók þá ríki yfir
brothers were reconciled Brusi and Thorfinn Took then (the)-realm over
Skotlandi Karl Hundason; hann þóttist ok eiga Katanes,
Scotland Karl Hundi's-son he thought-himself also to-own Caithness

sem hinir fyrri Skota-konúngar; vildi hann hafa skatta af
as the earlier Scots'-kings wished he to-have tributes from
því ríki slíkt sem annars-staðar, en Þorfinnr jarl þóttist
that realm such as elsewhere but Thorfinn earl thought-himself
eigi hafa of mikinn arf eptir móður-föður sinn, þótt
not to-have too great inheritance after mother's-father his though
hann hefði Katanes. Kallaði hann sér gefit hafa verit
he had Caithness Called he to-himself given have been
þat ríki, ok vildi hann enga skatta gjalda af; gjörðist
that realm and wished he no tributes to-pay from-it became
nú af þessu fjandskapr mikill, ok herjuðu hvárir ríki
now from this enmity great and harried each-of-two (the)-realm
annarra. Karl konúngr vildi setja þann höfðingja á Katanes
of-(the)-other Karl king wished to-set that chieftain over Caithness
er hét Mumtan eðr Muddan; sá var systurson hans,
who was-called Mumtan or Muddan he was sister's-son his
ok gaf honum jarls-nafn. Reið þá Muddan ofan á Katanes
and gave him an-earl's-name Rode then Muddan down to Caithness
ok efldist at liði í Suðrlandi; gengu þá njósnir til
and strengthened-himself in troop in Sutherland went then spies to
Þorfinns jarls; dró hann þá her saman um Katanes; kom þá
Thorfinn earl drew he then a-host together about Caithness came then
ok utan af Orkneyjum Þorkell fóstri með mikit lið til
also from-without from Orkney Thorkel Fosterer with great troop to
móts við jarl; fór Þorfinnr þá til móts við Muddan, ok
meeting with (the)-earl went Thorfinn then to meeting with Muddan and
hafði þá meira her. Ok þegar er Skotar vissu þat, at þeir
had then more host And as-soon as (the)-Scots knew that that they
höfðu lið minna, vildu þeir eigi berjast, ok riðu upp aptr
had troop less wished they not to-fight and rode up back
á Skotland. Þorfinnr jarl fór þá eptir þeim ok lagði undir
to Scotland Thorfinn earl went then after them and laid under

sik Suðrland ok Ros, ok herjaði víða um Skotland; sneri
himself Sutherland and Ross and harried widely about Scotland turned
þaðan aptr á Katanes, en Þorkell út í Eyjar. Leiðangrs lið
thence back to Caithness but Thorkel out to (the)-Isles (The)-levy's troop
fór ok heim. Jarlinn sat á Katanesi í Dungalsbæ, ok hafði
went also home The-earl sat in Caithness at Duncansby and had
þar fimm langskip, ok svá nokkut mart lið, at þau vóru vel
there five longships and so somewhat many troop that they were well
skiput. Muddan kom á fund Karls konúngs í Beruvík
manned Muddan came to (the)-meeting of-Karl king in Berwick
ok segir honum sínar farar eigi sléttar. Karl konúngr varð
and tells him his journeys not smooth Karl king became
þá reiðr mjök, er hann spurði, at land hans var herjat;
then angry much when he learned that land his was harried
gekk hann þá þegar á skip, ok hafði ellifu langskip ok
went he then at-once on ship and had eleven longships and
mikit lið; hélt þá norðr fyrir Skotland. Hann sendi Muddan
great troop held then north past Scotland He sent Muddan
aptr til Kataness við mikit lið, ok reið hann it efra um
back to Caithness with great troop and rode he the upper about
Skotland; var svá stefnt, at hann skyldi þaðan at koma, ok
Scotland was so planned that he should thence to come and
skyldi Þorfinnr þá verða í klofanum. Nú er þat at segja frá
should Thorfinn then be in the-cleft Now is that to tell about
Karli, at hann létti eigi fyrr en hann kom á Katanes; var
Karl that he stopped not earlier than he came to Caithness was
þá ok skamt á milli þeirra Þorfinns. Tók þá Þorfinnr þat
then also short in between them of-Thorfinn Took then Thorfinn that
ráð, at stíga á skip ok halda út á Petlandsfjörð ok ætlaði
plan to step on ship and hold out on (the)-Pentland-firth and intended
til Orkneyja; var þá svá skamt í milli þeirra, at þeir Karl
to Orkney was then so short in between them that they Karl

sá seglin Þorfinns, er hann sigldi austr á fjörðinn, ok
saw the-sails of-Thorfinn when he sailed east on the-firth and
sigldu þeir þegar eptir þeim. Þeir Þorfinnr höfðu eigi sét
sailed they at-once after them They Thorfinn had not seen
þeirra segl, ok austr stefndi hann með eyjunum ok ætlaði
their sail and east steered he with the-islands and intended
til Sandvíkr. Hann lagðist austan undir Dýrnes, ok gjörði
to Sandwick He laid-himself east under Deerness and made
þegar Þorkatli orð, at hann skyldi liði samna. Brúsi hafði
at-once to-Thorkel word that he should troop gather Brusi had
hinn nörðsta hlut Eyja, ok var hann þar. Þorfinnr lá
the northernmost part of-(the)-Isles and was he there Thorfinn lay
undir Dýrnesi sem áðr var ritað ok hafði síð komit. En
under Deerness as before was written and had late come But
um morgininn, er ljóst var orðit, finna þeir eigi fyrr,
in the-morning when light was become find they not earlier
en þeir Karl róa at þeim ellifu skeiðum. Vóru þá tveir
than they Karl row at them with-eleven warships Were then two
kostir fyrir höndum: sá annarr, at hlaupa á land, ok leifa
choices before hands that one to leap on land and leave
skipin úvinum sínum ok féit allt; hinn annarr, at leggja
the-ships to-enemies their and the-wealth all the other to lay
til móts, ok láta þá auðnu ráða. Þorfinnr heitr þá á sína
to meeting and let then fortune rule Thorfinn calls then on his
menn, ok bað þá brjóta upp vápn sín; kvaðst eigi vilja
men and bade them break up weapons their said-himself not to-wish
á flótta leggja; bað þá róa í móti vaskliga. Ok eptir þat
to flight to-lay bade them row in against bravely And after that
tengja hvárir-tveggju skip sín. Þorfinnr jarl eggjaði mjök lið
bind each-of-two ships their Thorfinn earl urged much troop
sitt, bað þá vera ákafa, ok gjöra harða hina fyrstu hriðina,
his bade them be fierce and make hard the first onslaught

kallaði Skota fár standast mundu. Þessi orrosta var bæði
called (the)-Scots few stand would This battle was both
hörð ok löng, ok var þat lengi, er eigi mátti sjá, hvernig
hard and long and was that long that not might see how
hníga mundi. Orrostu þessar getr Arnórr í Þorfinns-drápu:
fall would Of-battle this tells Arnor in Thorfinn's-Drapa

"Endr hygg ek Karli kendu
Once think I to-Karl to-be-taught
kyndum jöfur brynju,
of-knowing prince mail-coat
land vara lofðúngs kundar
land was-not of-(the)-praiseworthy kinsman
laust, fyrir Dýrnes austan:
loose on Deerness east-of
fimm snekkjum réð frammi
five warships ruled forward
flugstyggr við hug dyggan
flight-shy with mind true
rausnar-maðr at ræsis
magnificence-man at (the)-ruler's
reiðr ellefu skeiðum.
angry eleven galleys

At lögðu skip skatnar
At laid ships men
skilit, féll herr á þiljur,
parted fell (the)-host on decks
svómu járn í ámu
swam iron in vat
óðhörð Skota blóði:
fury-hard of-(the)-Scots blood
stall drapa, strengir gullu,
bows struck strings shrieked
stál beit, en rann sveiti,
steel bit but ran sweat
broddr fló, bifðusk oddar
point flew shook spears
bjartir, þengils hjarta."
bright of-(the)-prince heart

Þorfinnr jarl eggjaði nú ákafliga sína menn; lagði hann þá
Thorfinn earl urged now fiercely his men laid he then
skip sitt at skipi Karls, ok var þar allhörð orrosta. Héldust þeir
ship his at ship of-Karl and was there very-hard battle Held-out they
þá, Skotarnir, lítt fyrir framan siglu á konúngs-skipinu; ok þá
then the-Scots little before forward-of mast on (the)-king's-ship and then
hleypr Þorfinnr jarl or lyptíngunni ok fram í skipit, ok
leaps Thorfinn earl out-of the-poop and forward into the-ship and
barðist alldjarfliga. Ok þá er hann sá, at þyntist á skipunum
fought very-boldly And then when he saw that thinned-out on the-ships
Karls, eggjaði hann sína menn til uppgöngu; ok er þat sá Karl
of-Karl urged he his men to boarding and when that saw Karl
konúngr, bað hann höggva tengslin, ok halda frá. Þá kómu
king bade he hew the-grapplings and hold off Then came

þeir Þorfinnr á stafnljám á konúngs-skipit. Bað Þorfinnr þá
they Thorfinn on grapnels onto (the)-king's-ship Bade Thorfinn then
upp bera merki sitt, ok fylgði hann þar sjálfr, ok mikil sveit
up bear standard his and followed he there himself and a-great band
manna með honum. Þá hljóp Karl af skipi sínu með þá
of-men with him Then leapt Karl from ship his with those
menn, er upp stóðu, en mestr hluti var fallinn á því skipi.
men who up stood but (the)-greatest part was fallen on that ship
Karl hljóp á annat skip, ok bað þá taka til ára, ok lögðust
Karl leapt onto another ship and bade them take to oars and laid-themselves
Skotar þá á flótta, en Þorfinnr elti þá. Svá segir Arnórr:
(the)-Scots then to flight but Thorfinn chased them So says Arnor

"Þrima var þvigit skemri,
Fight was nevertheless shorter
þat var skjótt at spjótum
that was quick at spears
mætr við minna neyti
worthy with fewer company
minn dróttinn rak flótta:
my lord drove (the)-fleeing
gól áðr grams menn fæli
sang before (the)-prince's men flee
gunnmár um her sárum,
battle-mew over (the)-host wounds
hann vá sigr fyrir sunnan
he won victory on south-of
Sandvík, ruðu branda."
Sandwick reddened swords

Karl hélt undan suðr til Breiðafjarðar, ok gekk þar á land,
Karl held away south to Breidafjord and went there on land
ok safnaði liði af nýju. Þorfinnr veik aptr eptir bardagann.
and gathered troop of new Thorfinn turned back after the-battle
Kom þá Þorkell fóstri til móts við hann, ok höfðu þeir þá
Came then Thorkel Fosterer to meeting with him and had they then
lið mikit, sigldu þeir þá suðr til Breiðafjarðar eptir þeim
troop great sailed they then south to Breidafjord after them
Karli; ok þegar er þeir kvómu við Skotland, tóku þeir at
Karl and as-soon as they came by Scotland took they to
herja. Þá var þeim sagt at Muddan var á Katanesi norðr
harry Then was to-them told that Muddan was in Caithness north
í Þórsá, ok hafði þar her mikinn; hann hafði ok sent til
in Thurso and had there a-host great he had also sent to
Írlands eptir liði, þvíat hann átti þar frændr marga ok vini,
Ireland after troop because he had there kinsmen many and friends
ok beið hann þar þess liðs. Þá gjörðu þeir Þorfinnr þat
and waited he there for-that troop Then made they Thorfinn that
ráð, at Þorkell fóstri fór norðr með Katanesi við suman
plan that Thorkel Fosterer went north along Caithness with some
herinn, en Þorfinnr lá eptir við Skotland ok herjaði þar.
the-host but Thorfinn lay behind by Scotland and harried there
Þorkell fór leyniliga; var honum ok allt landsfólk trygt ok
Thorkel went secretly was to-him also all (the)-land-folk true and
trútt á Katanesi; gekk engi njósn fyrir honum áðr hann kom
faithful in Caithness went no warning before him before he came
í Þórsá á náttar-þeli, ok tók hús á þeim Muddan, ok báru
to Thurso in (the)-night-time and took house on them Muddan and bore
eld at. Muddan svaf í lopti einu; ok í því er hann hljóp
fire at Muddan slept in a-loft one and in that when he leapt
út, ok ofan fyrir lopt-svalirnar, hjó Þorkell eptir honum, ok
out and down off the-loft-balcony hewed Thorkel after him and

kom á hálsinn, ok tók af höfuðit. Eptir þat gáfust menn
came on the-neck and took off the-head After that gave-themselves men
upp, en sumir kómust á braut af hlaupi. Þar var mart
up but some got off away by running There was many
manna drepit; en þat var allr fjöldi, er grið vóru
men killed but that was all (the)-multitude whom quarter were
gefin. Dvaldist Þorkell þar skamma hríð áðr hann fór aptr
given Stayed Thorkel there a-short while before he went back
til Breiðafjarðar; hafði hann þá her allan með sér, þann
to Breidafjord had he then (the)-host all with himself that
er fékst á Katanesi, ok um Suðrland ok um Ros. Mætti
which was-got in Caithness and about Sutherland and about Ross Met
hann þá Þorfinni jarli suðr við Merhæfi ok segir honum
he then Thorfinn earl south by Moray and tells him
slíkt sem í hafði gjörzt hans ferðum. Þakkaði jarl honum
such as in had happened his journeys Thanked (the)-earl him
vel sitt starf; lágu þeir þá þar báðir um hríð ok herjuðu.
well for-his work lay they then there both for a-while and harried
Nú er at segja frá Karli konúngi: at hann fór upp á
Now is to say about Karl king that he went up to
Skotland eptir orrostu þeirra Þorfinns jarls, ok efldist
Scotland after (the)-battle their of-Thorfinn earl and strengthened-himself
þá at liði af nýju. Hann dró her allt sunnan af
then in troop of new He drew a-host all from-the-south from
Skotlandi bæði hit eystra ok hit vestra, ok allt sunnan
Scotland both the eastern and the western and all from-the-south
af Satíri. Þá kom ok til móts við hann herr sá af
from Kintyre Then came also to meeting with him that host from
Írlandi, er Moddan hafði eptir sent; sendi hann þá víða til
Ireland which Moddan had after sent sent he then widely to
höfðíngja eptir liði, ok stefndi her þeim öllum til móts
chieftains for troop and summoned (the)-host those all to meeting

við Þorfinn jarl, ok varð fundr þeirra á Torfnesi fyrir
with Thorfinn earl and was (the)-meeting their at Torfness on
sunnan Breiðafjörð. Þar varð orrosta mikil, ok höfðu Skotar
south-of Breidafjord There was a-battle great and had (the)-Scots
her miklu meira. Þorfinnr jarl var í öndverðri sinni fylkíng;
a-host much bigger Thorfinn earl was in (the)-front his array
hann hafði hjálm á höfði gullroðinn ok gyrðr sverði,
he had a-helmet on head gold-reddened and girt with-a-sword
spjót mikit í hendi, ok vá hann við því tveim höndum.
a-spear great in hand and fought he with it with-two hands
Svá er frá sagt, at hann var fremstr allra sinna manna.
So is from said that he was foremost of-all his men
Hann gekk þar at í fyrstu, sem fyrir var fylkíng þeirra
He went there at in first where before was (the)-array their
Íranna; var hann svá ákafr með sína sveit, at þeir hrukku
of-the-Irish was he so fierce with his band that they shrank
þegar fyrir, ok fengu aldri síðan viðréttu. Lét Karl þá bera
at-once before and got never since recovery Let Karl then bear
fram sitt merki til móts við Þorfinn; var þar þá harðr
forth his standard to meeting with Thorfinn was there then a-hard

bardagi, ok lauk með því, at Karl lagðist á flótta; en
battle and ended with that that Karl laid-himself to flight but
sumir menn segja, at hann hafi fallit. En Arnórr segir svá:
some men say that he has fallen But Arnor says so

"Úlfs tuggu rauð eggjar
Wolf's chewing reddened edges
eitt þar er Torfnes heitir —
one-place there where Torfness is-named
úngr olli því þengill,
young caused that (the)-prince
þat var Mánadag — fránar:
that was a-Monday bright
Súngu þar til þínga
Sang there at meetings
þunn fyrir Ekkjal sunnan
thin on Ekkjal south-of
sverð er siklíngr barðist
swords when (the)-prince fought
snarr við Skotlands harra.
keen against Scotland's lord

Hátt bar Hjalta dróttinn
High bore (the)-Shetlanders' lord
hjálm at geira jálmi,
helmet at spears' din
ógnstærir rauð Írum
terror-increaser reddened on-(the)-Irish
odd, í ferðar broddi:
point in (the)-host's front

Minn dróttinn naut máttar
My lord enjoyed (his)-might
mildr und Brezkum skildi,
generous under British shield
hendi Hlöðves frændi
seized of-Hlodvir kinsman
hermenn, ok tók brenna.”
warriors and took burning

Þorfinnr jarl rak flóttann langt upp á Skotland; ok eptir þat
Thorfinn earl drove the-fleeing far up into Scotland and after that
fór hann víða um landit ok lagði undir sik. Hann fór þá
went he widely about the-land and laid under himself He went then
allt suðr á Fífi, ok lagði undir sik landit; gengu menn þá
all south to Fife and laid under himself the-land went men then
undir hann hvar sem hann fór. Ok þá er hann dvaldist á
under him wherever as he went And then when he stayed in
Fífi, sendi hann frá sér Þorkel fóstra með sumt liðit. Ok
Fife sent he from himself Thorkel Fosterer with some the-troop And
þá er Skotar vissu þat, at jarlinn hafði gjört frá sér suman
then when (the)-Scots knew that that the-earl had made from himself some
herinn, fóru þeir sömu at honum, er áðr höfðu undir hann
the-host went they same at him who before had under him
gengit. Ok þegar er jarl varð varr við svik þeirra, heimti
gone And as-soon as (the)-earl became aware of treachery their gathered
hann saman lið sitt, ok fór í móti þeim; varð Skotum þá
he together troop his and went in against them became to-(the)-Scots then
seinna um árásina, er þeir vissu at jarl var við búinn.
slower about the-attack when they knew that (the)-earl was for prepared
Þorfinnr jarl réð þegar til bardaga, er hann mætti Skotum;
Thorfinn earl set at-once to battle when he met (the)-Scots

en þeir nentu þá eigi at verja sik, slógust þegar á flótta,
but they cared then not to defend themselves turned at-once to flight
ok flýðu á merkr ok skóga. Ok þá er Þorfinnr hafði rekit
and fled into marches and woods And then when Thorfinn had driven
flóttann, heimti hann saman menn sína, ok segir at þá vill
the-fleeing gathered he together men his and says that then will
hann láta brenna þat hérað allt, er þá vóru þeir í staddir,
he let burn that district all which then were they in placed
ok gjalda svá Skotum fjandskap ok svikræði. Fóru þá jarls
and repay so (the)-Scots enmity and treachery Went then (the)-earl's
menn um þorp ok um bæi, ok brendu svá hvarvetna at
men about villages and about farms and burned so everywhere that
ekki kot stóð eptir; drápu þeir ok karlmenn þá, er þeir
not a-cottage stood behind killed they also men those whom they
fundu, en konur ok gamalmenni dróst á merkr ok
found but women and old-men dragged-themselves into marches and
skóga með væl ok veinan. Mart fólk gjörðu þeir ok hertekit,
woods with wailing and lamenting Many folk made they also captive
ok færðu í bönd, ok ráku svá fyrir sér. Svá segir Arnórr:
and brought into bonds and drove so before themselves So says Arnor

"Týndust ból þá er brendi —
Were-lost dwellings then when burned
bráskat þat dægr háski,
failed-not that day danger
stökk í reyr enn rokna
leapt into reed still raging
rauðr eldr — Skotta-veldi:
red fire (the)-Scots'-realm

Morð-kennir galt mönnum
Slaughter-teacher repaid (the)-men
mein; á sumri einu
harm in summer one
fengu þeir við þengil
got they against (the)-prince
þrim sinnum hlut minna."
three times lot less

Eptir þetta fór Þorfinnr jarl norðr eptir Skotlandi til skipa,
After this went Thorfinn earl north along Scotland to ships
ok lagði undir sik landit hvar sem hann fór. Fór hann
and laid under himself the-land wherever as he went Went he
þá norðr á Katanes ok sat þar um vetrinn. En hvert
then north to Caithness and sat there in the-winter But each
sumar þaðan í frá hafði hann leiðangr úti ok herjaði um
summer thence in from had he a-levy out and harried about
Vestrlönd, en sat optast um kyrt á vetrum.
(the)-West-lands but sat most-often in quiet in winters

XXIII · RÖGNVALDR BRÚSASON IN GARÐARÍKI

Þorfinnr fed his retinue all winter. Brúsi died, and Þorfinnr took all Orkney. Brúsi's son Rögnvaldr, who had fought at Stiklastaðir and carried the wounded Haraldr Sigurðarson from the field, went east to King Jarizleifr in Hólmgarðr.

Þorfinnr jarl gjörði þat frama-verk í Orkneyjum, at hann
Thorfinn earl did that glory-deed in Orkney that he
veitti allri hirð sinni, ok mörgum öðrum ríkum mönnum,
gave to-all retinue his and to-many other mighty men

allan vetrinn gögnum, bæði mat ok mungát; svá at engi
all the-winter through both food and ale so that no
maðr þurfti í skytníng at ganga, svá sem konúngum
man needed into a-tavern to go so as to-kings
eða jörlum er títt í öðrum löndum, at veita um jól
or earls is customary in other lands to give at Yule
hirð sinni ok gestum. Svá segir Arnórr:
to-(the)-retinue their and guests So says Arnor

> "Orms-felli drakk allan
> *Serpent's-fell drank all*
> alkostigr fen hrosta —
> *all-generous fen of-malt*
> rausn drýgði þá ræsir —
> *magnificence performed then (the)-ruler*
> Rögnvalds niðr í gögnum."
> *of-Rognvald kinsman in through*

Í þenna tíma andaðist Brúsi jarl, ok tók þá Þorfinnr undir
In that time died Brusi earl and took then Thorfinn under
sik allar Orkneyjar. En þat er at segja frá Rögnvaldi
himself all Orkney But that is to say about Rognvald
Brúsasyni, at hann var í orrostu á Stiklastöðum, þá er
Brusi's-son that he was in (the)-battle at Stiklestad then when
hinn helgi Ólafr konúngr féll. Komst Rögnvaldr á braut
the holy Olaf king fell Got Rognvald off away
með öðrum flóttamönnum. Hann flutti ór orrostu Harald
with other fugitives He brought out-of (the)-battle Harald
Sigurðarson bróður Ólafs konúngs; var Haraldr sárr mjök.
Sigurd's-son brother of-Olaf king was Harald wounded much
Rögnvaldr kom honum til lækníngar at eins lítils búanda;
Rognvald brought him to healing at a-certain little farmer's

en Rögnvaldr fór þá austr Kjöl til Jamtalands, ok þaðan
but Rognvald went then east over-Kjolen to Jamtland and thence
til Svíþjóðar á fund Önundar konúngs. Haraldr var með
to Sweden to (the)-meeting of-Onund king Harald was with
búandanum þar til er hann var græddr; fékk búandi þá
the-farmer there till when he was healed got (the)-farmer then
son sinn til fylgdar við Harald; ok fóru þeir þá austr til
son his to escort with Harald and went they then east to
Jamtalands, ok þaðan til Svíþjóðar, ok fóru mjök huldu
Jamtland and thence to Sweden and went much with-hidden
höfði. Haraldr kvað, þá er þeir riðu um kjörr nokkur:
head Harald recited then when they rode through brushwood some

"Nú læt ek skóg af skógi
Now let I wood from wood
skreiðast lítils heiðar;
creep of-little honor
hverr veit nema ek verða
who knows unless I become
víða frægr um síðir."
widely famed at last

Haraldr kom í Svíþjóð til fundar við Rögnvald Brúsason;
Harald came into Sweden to meeting with Rognvald Brusi's-son
fóru þeir þaðan báðir austr í Garðaríki, ok mikit lið
went they thence both east to Gardariki and great troop
annat, þat er verit hafði með Ólafi konúngi. Þeir löttu eigi
other that which been had with Olaf king They stopped not
fyrr en þeir kómu austr í Hólmgarð á fund Jarizleifs
earlier than they came east to Holmgard to (the)-meeting of-Jarizleif
konúngs; tók hann vel við þeim fyrir sakir ens helga Ólafs
king took he well with them for sake of-the holy Olaf

konúngs. Gjörðust þeir þá landvarna-menn fyrir Garðaríki
king Became they then land-defense-men for Gardariki
allir samt ok Eilífr jarl, sonr Rögnvalds jarls Úlfssonar.
all together and Eilif earl son of-Rognvald earl Ulf's-son

XXIV · MAGNÚS ÓLAFSSON BROUGHT HOME

Rögnvaldr defended Garðaríki, fighting ten battles. When Einarr Paunch-Shaker and Kálfr came to fetch Magnús, Einarr talked Rögnvaldr out of attacking Kálfr, and Rögnvaldr went with them to Jarizleifr, who gave up Magnús on the oaths of twelve men.

Rögnvaldr Brúsason var eptir í Garðaríki þá er Haraldr
Rognvald Brusi's-son was behind in Gardariki then when Harald
Sigurðarson fór út í Miklagarð; hafði Rögnvaldr þá
Sigurd's-son went out to Miklagard had Rognvald then
landvörn um sumrum, en var í Hólmgarði um vetrum.
(the)-land-defense in summers but was in Holmgard in winters
Jarizleifr konúngr virði hann mikils, ok þar eptir öll alþýða.
Jarizleif king valued him much and there after all (the)-people
Rögnvaldr var, sem áðr var ritað, hverjum manni meiri ok
Rognvald was as before was written than-every man bigger and
sterkari; manna var hann ok fríðastr sjónum, atgervi-maðr
stronger of-men was he also handsomest in-looks an-accomplishment-man

mikill, svá at eigi fanst hans jafníngi. Svá segir Arnórr
great so that not was-found his equal So says Arnor
jarla-skáld, at Rögnvaldr ætti í Garðaríki x. fólk-orrostur:
Earls'-Skald that Rognvald fought in Gardariki ten folk-battles

> "Deildist af svá at aldir,
> *Dealt-itself off so that men*
> él grafnínga þélar
> *storm of-grave-snake's file*
> gunnar njörðr í Görðum
> *of-battle Njord in Gardar*
> gunnbráðr tíu háði."
> *battle-swift ten fought*

Þá er þeir Einarr Þamba-skelfir ok Kálfr Árnason sóttu
Then when they Einar Paunch-Shaker and Kalf Arni's-son sought
Magnús Ólafsson austr í Garðaríki, var Rögnvaldr fyrir
Magnus Olaf's-son east in Gardariki was Rognvald before
þeim í Aldeigjuborg. Var þá við sjálft at hann mundi
them in Aldeigjuborg Was then on itself that he would
ganga at Kálfi áðr Einarr gjörði hann varan við, hvernig
go at Kalf before Einar made him aware of how
af stóðst um ferðir þeirra. Lét Einarr segja Rögnvaldi, at
off stood about journeys their Let Einar tell Rognvald that
Kálfr iðraðist glæps þess, er hann hafði felt hinn helga
Kalf repented (the)-crime that which he had felled the holy
Ólaf konúng frá landi, ok vill hann þat nú bæta á syni
Olaf king from (the)-land and will he that now make-good on son
hans; segir Kálf þá vilja hefja Magnús til ríkis í Noregi
his says Kalf then to-wish to-raise Magnus to (the)-realm in Norway
ok efla hann móti Knytlíngum. Ok eptir þat sefast
and strengthen him against (the)-Knytlings And after that is-calmed

Rögnvaldr. Beiðir þá Einarr þess, at hann skyli ráðast til
Rognvald Asks then Einar that that he should set-out to
ferðar með þeim upp til Hólmgarðs, ok flytja þeirra mál
(the)-journey with them up to Holmgard and bring their case
við Jarizleif konúng; ok því játar Rögnvaldr. Eptir þat leiga
with Jarizleif king and that grants Rognvald After that hire
þeir sér eyki í Aldeigjuborg ok aka upp til Hólmgarðs,
they themselves horses in Aldeigjuborg and drive up to Holmgard
ok finna þar Jarizleif konúng; flytja þá fram örendi sín;
and find there Jarizleif king bring then forth errand their
ok segja at þeim er svá leitt orðit ríki Knytlínga
and say that to-them is so loathsome become (the)-rule of-the-Knytlings
ok mest Alfífu, at þess gengr ekki yfir þá, at þeir vili
and most of-Alfifa that that goes not over them that they will
þeim lengr þjóna. Beiða þá þess, at Jarizleifr konúngr
to-them longer serve Ask then that that Jarizleif king
skyli fá þeim Magnús Ólafsson til höfðingja. Flytr þá
should give them Magnus Olaf's-son as chieftain Brings then
Rögnvaldr þetta mál með þeim ok Íngigerðr drottníng ok
Rognvald this case with them and Ingigerd queen and
margir aðrir höfðingjar. Konúngr var trauðr at fá Magnús
many other chieftains (The)-king was reluctant to give Magnus
í hendr Norðmönnum, svá sem þeir höfðu búit við hinn
into (the)-hands to-(the)-Norwegians so as they had dealt with the
helga Ólaf konúng föður hans; en þat tókst þó með því,
holy Olaf king father his but that succeeded yet with that
at tólf menn enir göfgustu svörðu Jarizleifi konúngi þess
that twelve men the noblest swore to-Jarizleif king of-that
eiða at þetta var allt trygt ok trútt, ok Jarizleifr konúngr
oaths that this was all true and faithful and Jarizleif king
gaf Rögnvaldi upp eiðinn fyrir trúnaðr sakir. Kálfr svarði
gave to-Rognvald up the-oath for trust's sake Kalf swore

þann eið Magnúsi, at hann skyldi honum fylgja utanlands
that oath to-Magnus that he should him follow abroad
ok innanlands, ok gjöra þá hluti alla, er Magnúsi þótti
and at-home and do those things all which to-Magnus seemed
þá sitt ríki meira eðr frjálsara. Eptir þat tóku Norðmenn
then his realm greater or freer After that took (the)-Norwegians
Magnús til konúngs, ok gjörðust honum handgengnir.
Magnus as king and became to-him handgone
Dvöldust þeir Kálfr í Hólmgarði þar til er leið jól; fóru
Stayed they Kalf in Holmgard there till when passed Yule went
þá ofan til Aldeigjuborgar ok öfluðu sér þar skipa. Fóru
then down to Aldeigjuborg and got themselves there ships Went
þegar austan, er ísa leysti um várit; réðst þá Rögnvaldr
as-soon from-the-east as ice loosened in the-spring set-out then Rognvald
Brúsason til ferðar við konúngi. Fóru þeir fyrst til
Brusi's-son to (the)-journey with (the)-king Went they first to
Svíþjóðar, sem segir í sögu Magnúss konúngs, ok þaðan til
Sweden as says in (the)-saga of-Magnus king and thence to
Jamtalands, ok svá austan um Kjöl til Veradals. Ok þegar
Jamtland and so from-the-east over Kjolen to Verdal And as-soon
er Magnús kom í Þrándheim, gekk allt fólk undir hann.
as Magnus came into Thrandheim went all folk under him
Fór hann þá til Niðaross, ok var þar til konúngs tekinn
Went he then to Nidaros and was there as king taken
á Eyra-þíngi yfir allt land. Eptir þat fóru skipti
at (the)-Eyra-assembly over all (the)-land After that went (the)-dealings
þeirra Sveins konúngs sem segir í Æfi Noregs-konúnga.
of-them Svein king as says in (the)-Lives of-Norway-kings

In Norway Rögnvaldr learned of his father's death and Þorfinnr's seizure of the islands. King Magnús gave his foster-brother an earl's name, three longships, and the third that King Ólafr had owned.

Þá er Rögnvaldr Brúsason kom í Noreg, spurði hann
Then when Rognvald Brusi's-son came to Norway learned he
andlát Brúsa jarls föður síns; hann frétti ok þat, at
(the)-death of-Brusi earl father his he learned also that that
Þorfinnr jarl hafði tekit undir sik allar Orkneyjar. Fýstist
Thorfinn earl had taken under himself all Orkney Desired
þá Rögnvaldr at fara til óðala sinna, ok beiðist at Magnús
then Rognvald to go to odal-lands his and asks that Magnus
konúngr skyli veita honum orlof til þess. Magnús konúngr sá
king should give him leave for that Magnus king saw
at þetta var nauðsyn Rögnvalds, ok stóð vel undir þetta mál
that this was a-need of-Rognvald and stood well under this case
með honum. Gaf þá Magnús konúngr Rögnvaldi jarls-nafn ok
with him Gave then Magnus king to-Rognvald an-earl's-name and
þrjú langskip ok öll vel skiput; fékk honum þá í lén þann
three longships and all well manned gave him then in fief that
þriðjúng, er átt hafði Ólafr konúngr í Orkneyjum, ok
third which owned had Olaf king in Orkney and
hann hafði fengit Brúsa föður Rögnvalds. Hét þá Magnús
he had given to-Brusi father of-Rognvald Promised then Magnus
konúngr Rögnvaldi fóstbróður sínum fullkominni vináttu sinni,
king to-Rognvald foster-brother his full friendship his
ok kvað honum heimilan skyldu sinn styrk nær sem hann
and said to-him open should his strength whenever as he
þyrfti. Skildust þeir við þvílíkum kærleikum, sem nú var ritað.
needed Parted they with such affections as now was written

Rögnvaldr claimed two thirds of the islands. Needing help against the Hebrideans and Irish, Þorfinnr granted them, and the kinsmen harried together the next summer.

Rögnvaldr Brúsason sigldi vestr til Orkneyja, ok fór fyrst
Rognvald Brusi's-son sailed west to Orkney and went first
til búa þeirra, er faðir hans hafði átt; gjörði þá
to (the)-farms those which father his had owned made then
orðsendíngar til Þorfinns jarls frænda síns, ok beiddist at
messages to Thorfinn earl kinsman his and asked to
hafa þann þriðjúng af Eyjum, sem faðir hans hafði átt.
have that third of (the)-Isles which father his had owned
Hann lét ok segja Þorfinni, at Magnús konúngr fékk honum
He let also tell Thorfinn that Magnus king gave him
í lén þann þriðjúng landa, er Ólafr konúngr hafði átt.
in fief that third of-(the)-lands which Olaf king had owned
Beiddist hann þessa tvá hluti lands í vild at hafa við
Asked he these two parts of-(the)-land in goodwill to have with
Þorfinn frænda sinn. En í þenna tíma átti Þorfinnr jarl deilur
Thorfinn kinsman his But at that time had Thorfinn earl disputes
miklar við Suðreyínga ok Íra; þóttist hann mjök þurfa
great with (the)-Hebrideans and Irish thought-himself he much to-need
liðsinnis manna; ok veitti hann þau annsvör sendimönnum
(the)-help of-men and gave he those answers to-(the)-messengers
Rögnvalds, at hann skal taka at vísu þann þriðjúng Eyja,
of-Rognvald that he shall take for certain that third of-(the)-Isles
er hann átti at réttu, "En þriðjúng þann er Magnús
which he owned by right But (the)-third that which Magnus
kallar sér, þá játuðu vér því Ólafi konúngi, meirr fyrir þat,
calls his then granted we that to-Olaf king more for that

at vér vórum þá komnir í greipr honum, en hitt at oss
that we were then come into (the)-grip of-him than that that to-us
þætti þat réttligt. Mun þá ok samþykki okkat Rögnvalds
seemed that right Will then also (the)-agreement of-us-two Rognvald
frænda vera mest, at vit innimst lítt til um þann þriðjúng
kinsman be most that we-two engage little in about that third
landa; hefir hann lengi at deildum farit. Ok ef Rögnvaldr
of-(the)-lands has he long at disputes gone And if Rognvald
vill mér vera hollr frændi ok styrks-maðr, þá Þykki mér þat
will to-me be a-loyal kinsman and strength-man then seems to-me that
mitt ríki vel komit, er hann hefir sér til skemtunar
my realm well come which he has for-himself for amusement
ok báðum okkr til styrks; er mér brátt liðsinni hans við
and both us-two for strength is to-me quickly (the)-help his worth
meira en skattar þeir er þar tek ek af." Eptir þat fara
more than (the)-tributes those which there take I from After that go
sendimenn aptr; ok sögðu Rögnvaldi, at Þorfinnr hafði játað
(the)-messengers back and told Rognvald that Thorfinn had granted
honum tveim hlutum landa, ef hann vill vera honum
him two parts of-(the)-lands if he will be to-him
styrks-maðr, sem vera ætti fyrir frændsemis sakar. Rögnvaldr
a-strength-man as be ought for kinship's sake Rognvald
segir, at hann hafði til þess eins kallat, er hann þóttist
says that he had to that only claimed which he thought-himself
eiga. En fyrir þat, er Þorfinnr gaf svá auðvelliga upp
to-own But for that that Thorfinn gave so easily up
löndin, kvaðst hann at vísu vilja vera honum liðsinnaðr
the-lands said-himself he for certain to-wish be to-him helpful
ok fullkominn vin, eptir því sem frændsemi þeirra stóð
and full friend according-to that as kinship their stood
til. Tók nú Rögnvaldr undir sik tvá hluti landa, ok
to Took now Rognvald under himself two parts of-(the)-lands and

stóð með því um vetrinn. En snemmendis um várit sendi
stood with that in the-winter But early in the-spring sent
Þorfinnr jarl orð Rögnvaldi frænda sínum, ok beiðir þess,
Thorfinn earl word to-Rognvald kinsman his and asks that
at hann skyldi fara í hernað með honum, ok hefði
that he should go on harrying with him and should-have
fjölmenni slíkt sem hann fengi. Ok er Rögnvaldi kómu
many-men such as he got And when to-Rognvald came
þessi orð, brást hann þegar við, ok dró her saman, ok
these words started he at-once at and drew a-host together and
safnaði at sér skipum öllum þeim sem hann fékk. Ok þá
gathered to himself ships all those which he got And then
er herr sá varð búinn, fór hann til fundar við Þorfinn
when (the)-host that became ready went he to meeting with Thorfinn
jarl; hafði Þorfinnr þá ok búit sinn her. Tók hann þá vel
earl had Thorfinn then also prepared his host Took he then well
Rögnvaldi frænda sínum ok lögðu þeir þá saman lag sitt.
to-Rognvald kinsman his and laid they then together fellowship their

XXVII · RAIDS IN THE WEST

Þorfinnr and Rögnvaldr won a battle at Vatzfjörðr, as Arnórr tells. For eight winters Rögnvaldr held two thirds, and each summer the two harried together or apart.

Þeir frændr Þorfinnr ok Rögnvaldr herjuðu um sumarit um
Those kinsmen Thorfinn and Rognvald harried in the-summer about
Suðreyjar ok Írland, ok víða um Skotlands-fjörðu. Lagði
(the)-Hebrides and Ireland and widely about (the)-Scotland's-firths Laid
Þorfinnr undir sik þar sem þeir fóru. Um sumarit áttu
Thorfinn under himself there where they went In the-summer had

þeir orrostu mikla þar sem heitir í Vatzfirði; var þar
they a-battle great there where is-named in Vatsfjord was there
mannfall mikit. Tókst orrosta snemmindis, ok fengu þeir
slaughter great Began (the)-battle early and got those
frændr bjartan sigr. Orrostu þessar getr Arnórr jarla-skáld
kinsmen bright victory Of-battle this tells Arnor Earls'-Skald
í Þorfinns-drápu. Hann var þar í orrostu:
in Thorfinn's-Drapa He was there in (the)-battle

> "Veit ek þar er Vatzfjörðr heitir,
> *Know I there where Vatsfjord is-named*
> vask í miklum háska,
> *was-I in great danger*
> míns, við mannkyns reyni,
> *of-my by (the)-mankind's tester*
> merkin dróttins verka:
> *the-tokens of-(the)-lord deeds*
> Þjóð bar skjótt af skeiðum
> *(The)-people bore quickly from galleys*
> skjaldborg Frjá-morgin;
> *shield-wall Friday-morning*
> görla sá ek at gínði
> *clearly saw I that gaped*
> grár úlfr of ná sárum."
> *gray wolf over corpse wounds*

Eptir orrostu þessa vendu þeir aptr til Orkneyja ok sátu um
After battle this turned they back to Orkney and sat in
kyrt þann vetr. Fór svá fram átta vetr at Rögnvaldr jarl
quiet that winter Went so on eight winters that Rognvald earl
hafði tvá hluti Eyja, svá at Þorfinnr jarl vandaði ekki
had two parts of-(the)-Isles so that Thorfinn earl troubled not

um. En hvert sumar vóru þeir í hernaði, stundum báðir
about-it But each summer were they on harrying at-times both
samt, en stundum sér hvárr þeirra. Sem Arnórr segir:
together but at-times apart each-of-two of-them As Arnor says

"Ymist vann sá er unni,
Variously won he who loved
Írsk féll drótt þá er sótti
Irish fell (the)-host then when attacked
baldrs eðr Brezkar aldir,
of-shield or British people
brá eldr Skota veldi."
swung fire (the)-Scots' realm

XXVIII · THE ENGLISH REBUFF

While Þorfinnr lay off Galloway, the English took back the cattle his raiders had seized, killed the able men, and sent a few back with mocking words; Þorfinnr vowed to repay them.

Með þeim frændum var ofallt vel, er þeir fundust; en ef verri
With those kinsmen was ever well when they met but if worse
menn gengu á milli þeirra, þá vóru jafnan greinir talaðar.
men went in between them then were always differences spoken
Sat Þorfinnr jarl löngum á Katanesi en Rögnvaldr í Eyjum.
Sat Thorfinn earl long in Caithness but Rognvald in (the)-Isles
Þat var á einu sumri at Þorfinnr jarl herjaði um Suðreyjar
That was in one summer that Thorfinn earl harried about (the)-Hebrides
ok vestan um Skotland. Hann lá þar sem Gaddgeðlar heita,
and west about Scotland He lay there where Galloway is-called

þar mætist Skotland ok England. Hann hafði gjört frá sér
there meet Scotland and England He had made from himself
lið suðr á England at strandhöggi. En þar sem hann lá
a-troop south to England to shore-raid But there where he lay
með liði sínu var fólk allt undan flýit, en undan honum var
with troop his was folk all away fled but away from-him was
rekit fé allt. En er Englismenn verða varir við ferð
driven cattle all But when (the)-Englishmen become aware of (the)-journey
víkínga, söfnuðust þeir saman, ok fóru at þeim, ok tóku
of-(the)-vikings gathered they together and went at them and took
af þeim fé allt; en drápu af þeim menn alla, þá
from them (the)-booty all but killed of them men all those
er dugandi vóru; en sendu aptr ræingja nokkura, ok báðu
who doughty were but sent back weaklings some and bade
þá segja Þorfinni jarli hversu þeir leiddu víkíngum rán
them tell Thorfinn earl how they led to-(the)-vikings robbery
ok ripsan; höfðu þar um mörg háðulig orð. Fóru síðan á
and pillage had there about-it many scornful words Went then to
fund Þorfinns jarls, ok sögðu honum sínar úfarar. Hann
(the)-meeting of-Thorfinn earl and told him their misfortunes He
lét illa yfir því er menn hans höfðu týnzt, en kveðst þar
let ill over that that men his had perished but says-himself there
ekki mega at hafa; en til þess kveðst hann allvel fallinn, at
not can at have but to that says-himself he very-well fitted to
gjalda Englismönnum háð ok spott þat er þeir drógu hér
repay (the)-Englishmen scorn and mockery that which they drew here
at; en skilja kvað hann mundu fyrst at sinni með þeim. En
at but part said he would first for (the)-time with them But
ef hann væri heill at sumri sagði hann at þeir skyldu finnast.
if he were whole in summer said he that they should meet

XXIX · ÞORFINNR HARRIES ENGLAND

In the reign of Hörða-Knútr, Þorfinnr and Rögnvaldr levied men from Orkney, Scotland, Ireland, and the Hebrides, beat the English defenders, and harried widely, as Arnórr tells in his Þorfinnsdrápa.

Í þenna tíma var Hörða-Knútr yfir Englandi ok Danmörk.
In that time was Harthacnut over England and Denmark
Eptir þat fór Þorfinnr jarl til Orkneyja ok sat þar um vetrinn.
After that went Thorfinn earl to Orkney and sat there in the-winter
Snemma um várit hafði hann útboð um allt ríki sitt; sendi
Early in the-spring had he a-levy about all realm his sent
þá boð Rögnvaldi frænda sínum; ok því játar Rögnvaldr.
then word to-Rognvald kinsman his and that grants Rognvald
Rögnvaldr hafði útboð um allt sitt ríki. Þorfinnr jarl dró her
Rognvald had a-levy about all his realm Thorfinn earl drew a-host
saman um Orkneyjar ok Katanes; hann hafði ok mikinn her
together about Orkney and Caithness he had also a-great host
af Skotlandi ok Írlandi, ok um allar Suðreyjar dróst honum
from Scotland and Ireland and about all (the)-Hebrides drew-itself to-him
lið. Hélt hann her þeim öllum til Englands svá sem hann
troop Held he host that all to England so as he
hafði heitið þeim á hausti. Hörða-Knútr var í Danmörk, er
had promised them in autumn Harthacnut was in Denmark when
þetta var tíðenda. En þegar at jarlar kómu við England, tóku
this was of-tidings But as-soon that (the)-earls came by England took
þeir at herja ok at ræna. En þeir höfðíngjar, er þar vóru til
they to harry and to rob But those chieftains who there were for
landvarnar settir, fóru á mót þeim með liði; ok var þar orrosta
land-defense set went in against them with troop and was there a-battle
mikil ok hörð, ok fengu jarlar sigr. Eptir þat fóru þeir víða
great and hard and got (the)-earls victory After that went they widely

um England ok herjuðu, drápu menn ok brendu bygðina
about England and harried killed men and burned the-settlement
hvar sem þeir fóru. Þessa getr Arnórr í Þorfinns-drápu:
wherever as they went This tells Arnor in Thorfinn's-Drapa

"Enn er sú er Engla minnir
Still is that which of-(the)-English reminds
egghríð, né mun síðan
edge-storm nor will since
hár með helmíng meira
high with half more
hríng-drífr komið þíngat:
ring-scatterer come thither
Bitu sverð, en þar þurði,
Bit swords but there lessened
þunngjör, fyrir Mön sunnan,
thin-made on Man south-of
Rögnvalds kind und randir,
of-Rognvald kin under shields
ramlig fólk, ins gamla."
mighty folk of-the Old

"Stöng bar jarl á Engla
(The)-pole bore (the)-earl on of-(the)-English
ættgrund, en rauð stundum,
ancestral-ground but reddened at-times
vé bað vísi knýja
banner bade (the)-prince drive
verðúng, ara túngu:
(the)-retinue of-eagle tongue

Hyrr óx, hallir þurru,
Fire grew halls dwindled
herdrótt rak þar flótta,
(the)-war-host drove there (the)-fleeing
eim hratt, en laust ljóma
smoke cast but struck light
lim-dólgr nær himni.
branch-foe near heaven

Margr varð millum borga,
Many became between towns
mildingr þröng at hildi,
(the)-generous-one throng at battle
horna-blástr þar er hristist
horn-blowing there where shook
hug-sterks jöfurs merki:
of-(the)-strong-minded prince standard
Vætr brá er vígljóst þótti
Nothing flinched when battle-bright seemed
varg-steypis her greypum,
of-wolf-feeder (the)-host fierce
skulfu járn, en úlfar,
quivered iron but wolves
Uggs-morgin, hræ tuggu."
Fear-Morning corpses chewed

Þorfinnr jarl átti tvær fólk-orrostur á Englandi; en mörg slög ok manndráp veitti hann í öðru lagi. Hann lá þar
Thorfinn earl had two folk-battles in England but many blows and manslayings gave he in other respects He lay there

mjök svá allt sumar í gegnum; en um haustið fór hann
much so all summer in through but in the-autumn went he
heim til Orkneyja [ok var þar] um vetrinn.
home to Orkney and was there in the-winter

XXX · KÁLFR ÁRNASON IN ORKNEY

Kálfr Árnason, outlawed by King Magnús, came to his kinsman by marriage Þorfinnr, and his band was costly. Þorfinnr demanded back the third Rögnvaldr held from Magnús; Rögnvaldr refused, went to Norway, and returned with ships and troops from King Magnús, who promised Kálfr his lands if he helped Rögnvaldr.

Í þenna tíma varð Kálfr Árnason landflótta fyrir Magnúsi
In that time became Kalf Arni's-son a-land-fugitive before Magnus
konúngi; fór hann vestr um haf til Þorfinns jarls
king went he west over (the)-sea to Thorfinn earl
mágs síns. Þorfinnr átti þá Íngibjörgu jarla-móður
kinsman-by-marriage his Thorfinn had then Ingibjorg Earls'-Mother
dóttur Finns jarls Árnasonar; var Kálfr þá í miklum
daughter of-Finn earl Arni's-son was Kalf then in great
kærleikum við Þorfinn jarl; hann hélt sveit mikla sinna
affections with Thorfinn earl he held a-band great of-his
manna; varð jarli þá kostnaðarsamt. Vóru þeir ok þá
men became to-(the)-earl then costly Were they also then
margir, er þat mæltu fyrir honum, at hann skyldi eigi
many who that spoke before him that he should not
Rögnvald hafa láta tvá hluti Eyja, svá mikinn fékostnað
Rognvald have let two parts of-(the)-Isles so great money-cost
sem hann hafði sjálfr. Ok eptir þat sendi Þorfinnr jarl menn
as he had himself And after that sent Thorfinn earl men
út í Eyjar, ok beiddist þess þriðjúngs af Rögnvaldi jarli,
out to (the)-Isles and asked that third from Rognvald earl

er átt hafði Einarr jarl rangmuðr. En er sú orðsendíng
which owned had Einar earl Wry-Mouth But when that message
kom, þá bar jarl þat fyrir vini sína ok ráðgjafa. Eptir
came then bore (the)-earl that before friends his and counselors After
þat kallar hann þangat sendimenn Þorfinns jarls. Rögnvaldr
that calls he thither (the)-messengers of-Thorfinn earl Rognvald
segir, at þann hlut Eyja, er þeir kalla til, hefði hann
says that that part of-(the)-Isles which they claim to had he
tekit í lén af Magnúsi konúngi, ok konúngr kallaði þat
taken in fief from Magnus king and (the)-king called that
sína föðurleifð. Nú kvað hann Magnús konúng vald á
his father's-inheritance Now said he Magnus king power on
eiga, hvárr þeirra þann hlut Eyja skyldi hafa; en eigi
to-have which-of-two of-them that part of-(the)-Isles should have but not
kveðst hann láta skyldu, ef þat væri konúngs vili at hann
says-himself he to-let should if that were (the)-king's will that he
hefði. Fóru sendimenn við þetta á brot, ok segja Þorfinni
should-have Went (the)-messengers with this off away and tell Thorfinn
jarli þessi orð; kölluðu vísa-ván at þetta mundi eigi
earl these words called certain-expectation that this would not
fást þrautarlaust. En er Þorfinnr jarl heyrði þetta, varð
be-got without-trouble But when Thorfinn earl heard this became
hann reiðr mjök, ok kvað þat úsannligt at Magnús konúngr
he angry much and said that unlikely that Magnus king
ætti bróðurarf hans; kallar þat meirr verit hafa
should-own (the)-brother's-inheritance his calls that more been have
fyrir því játtað, at þeir Brúsi jarl vóru þá komnir í
for that granted that they Brusi earl were then come into
greipr Ólafi konungi, heldr en þat væri rétt arfskipti:
(the)-grip of-Olaf king rather than that were right inheritance-division
"Nú þykki mér Rögnvaldr eigi vel launa mér, er ek hefi
Now seems to-me Rognvald not well repay me when I have

hann nú látið hafa í frelsi ríkit um hríð, ef ek skal nú
him now let have in freedom the-realm for a-while if I shall now
eigi ná bróðurarfi mínum, nema ek berjumst til." Varð
not get brother's-inheritance my unless I fight for-it Became
Þorfinnr jarl um þetta svá reiðr, at eigi miklu síðarr sendir
Thorfinn earl about this so angry that not much later sends
hann menn í Suðreyjar ok upp á Skotland, ok dró at sér
he men to (the)-Hebrides and up to Scotland and drew to himself
lið; lýsti hann því, at hann mun fara á hendr Rögnvaldi
troop proclaimed he that that he will go on hands of-Rognvald
jarli, ok heimta þá vægðarlaust þat er hann náði eigi, þá
earl and claim then mercilessly that which he got not then
er hann leitaði með friði eptir. Ok nú er þetta [er] sagt
when he sought with peace for And now when this is told
Rögnvaldi jarli, at Þorfinnr jarl samnaði her á móti hónum,
to-Rognvald earl that Thorfinn earl gathered a-host in against him
þá stefndi hann at sér vinum sínum, ok kærir þetta fyrir
then summoned he to himself friends his and complains this before
þeim þat er Þorfinnr jarl frændi hans ætlar at fara með
them that which Thorfinn earl kinsman his intends to go with
her ok úfriði á hendr honum; leitaði hann þá eptir hvern
host and strife on hands of-him sought he then for what
styrk þeir vilja veita honum; kallast eigi vilja láta sitt
strength they will give him calls-himself not will let his
at öllu úreyndu. En er hann beiddi órskurðar um þetta
at all untried But when he asked a-ruling about this
mál, þá lögðu menn hér allmisjafnt til. Sumir mæltu eptir
case then laid men here very-variously to Some spoke for
Rögnvaldi jarli, ok töldu várkunn, at hann vildi eigi miðla
Rognvald earl and reckoned excusable that he wished not to-share
ríkit; en hinir vóru sumir, er þat mæltu, at várkunn
the-realm but the-others were some who that spoke that excusable

væri, at Þorfinnr vildi hafa ríkit um hríð, er Rögnvaldr
were that Thorfinn wished to-have the-realm for a-while as Rognvald
hafði áðr haft þann hlut er Einarr jarl hafði átt; töldu
had before had that part which Einar earl had owned reckoned
þat ok úráð, at Rögnvaldr legði til bardaga við Þorfinn
that also ill-advised that Rognvald should-lay to battle with Thorfinn
við þat lið, sem hann fengi af tveim hlutum Eyja, þar
with that troop which he got from two parts of-(the)-Isles there
sem Þorfinnr hafði þriðjúng ok Katanes ok mikinn hluta af
where Thorfinn had a-third and Caithness and a-great part of
Skotlandi ok allar Suðreyjar. Þeir menn vóru at þat mæltu,
Scotland and all (the)-Hebrides Those men were who that spoke
at leitað mundi um sættir; beiða þess at Rögnvaldr jarl
that sought would-be about settlements ask that that Rognvald earl
byði Þorfinni jarli helmíng Eyja, ok mætti þannveg
should-offer to-Thorfinn earl half of-(the)-Isles and might in-that-way
enn semjast frændsemi þeirra. En er Rögnvaldr fann þat,
still be-settled (the)-kinship their But when Rognvald found that
at sitt lagði hverr til, en allir löttu hann uppreistar, þá
that his laid each to but all dissuaded him from-uprising then
birti hann vilja sinn: sagði at hann vill eigi miðla ríki
made-known he will his said that he will not share realm
sitt með neinu sáttmáli, lézt heldr mundu at sínni
his by any agreement declared-himself rather would at once
gefa upp ríkit, ok sækja á fund Magnúss konúngs
give up the-realm and seek to (the)-meeting of-Magnus king
fóstbróður síns, ok leita eptir hvern styrk er konúngr vill
foster-brother his and seek for what strength which (the)-king will
fá honum til at halda ríki sínu. Eptir þetta býr hann
give him for to hold realm his After this prepares he
ferð sína, ok ferr austr til Noregs; léttir eigi fyrr en hann
journey his and goes east to Norway stops not earlier than he

kemr á fund Magnúss konúngs. Ok er hann er þar
comes to (the)-meeting of-Magnus king And when he is there
kominn, segir hann konúngi allan málavöxt. Konúngr
come tells he (the)-king all (the)-state-of-the-case (The)-king
fagnaði vel Rögnvaldi jarli, ok bauð honum með sér at
welcomed well Rognvald earl and offered him with himself to
vera svá lengi sem honum líkaði, ok taka lén af sér
be so long as to-him pleased and take a-fief from himself
svá mikit at hann fengi vel haldit sig ok lið sitt; en
so great that he got well kept himself and troop his but
Rögnvaldr jarl sagði konúngi, at hann vildi at hann fengi
Rognvald earl said to-(the)-king that he wished that he should-give
honum afla til at sækja ríki sitt. Magnús konúngr kveðst
him strength for to win realm his Magnus king says-himself
at vísu skyldu sinn styrk til leggja eptir því sem hann
for certain should his strength to lay according-to that which he
beiddi. Dvaldist Rögnvaldr skamma stund í Noregi, áðr en
asked Stayed Rognvald a-short while in Norway before than
hann byrjaði ferð sína vestr til Orkneyja; hafði hann þá
he began journey his west to Orkney had he then
mikit lið ok frítt, er Magnús konúngr hafði veitt honum.
great troop and fine which Magnus king had given him
Þat fylgði ok með, at hann sendi orð Kálfi Árnasyni, at
That followed also with that he sent word to-Kalf Arni's-son that
hann skyldi hafa eignir sínar ok lands-vist í Noregi, ef
he should have properties his and land-stay in Norway if
hann veitti Rögnvaldi jarli í skiptum þeirra Þorfinns jarls.
he helped Rognvald earl in (the)-dealings of-them of-Thorfinn earl

XXXI · THE BATTLE OFF RAUÐABJÖRG

With thirty large ships Rögnvaldr met Þorfinnr's sixty small ones off Rauðabjörg. Kálfr held back until Þorfinnr's appeal, then joined him; Rögnvaldr's host fled, and he cut loose at nightfall and sailed east to King Magnús.

Rögnvaldr jarl sigldi af Noregi vestr til Orkneyja; ok
Rognvald earl sailed from Norway west to Orkney and
kom af hafi við Hjaltland, ok dró at sér lið, ok fór
came from (the)-sea at Shetland and drew to himself troop and went
þaðan suðr í Orkneyjar; stefndi til sín vinum sínum ok
thence south to Orkney summoned to himself friends his and
efldist þaðan at liði. Þorfinnr jarl var yfir á Katanesi,
strengthened-himself thence in troop Thorfinn earl was over in Caithness
ok kómu honum þegar njósnir um ferðir Rögnvalds jarls;
and came to-him at-once tidings about (the)-journeys of-Rognvald earl
dró hann at sér lið um Skotland ok Suðreyjar. Rögnvaldr
drew he to himself troop about Scotland and (the)-Hebrides Rognvald
jarl lét þegar fara orðsendíng Magnúss konúngs til Kálfs
earl let at-once go (the)-message of-Magnus king to Kalf
Árnasonar; ok tók Kálfr því öllu líkliga er konúngr hafði
Arni's-son and took Kalf that all likely which (the)-king had
mælt. Rögnvaldr jarl dró saman her sinn í Orkneyjum, ok
spoken Rognvald earl drew together host his in Orkney and
ætlaði yfir á Nes. En er hann kom á Petlandsfjörð, þá
intended over to (the)-Ness But when he came onto (the)-Pentland-firth then
hafði hann þrjá tigi stórskipa, öll mikil ok vel búin. Þar
had he three tens of-great-ships all great and well equipped There
kom í móti honum Þorfinnr jarl ok hafði sex tigi skipa
came in against him Thorfinn earl and had six tens of-ships
ok flest smá. Varð fundr þeirra fyrir Rauðabjörgum, ok
and most small Became (the)-meeting their before Raudabjorg and

lögðu þegar til bardaga. Þar var ok kominn Kálfr Árnason,
laid at-once to battle There was also come Kalf Arni's-son
ok hafði sex skip ok öll stór, ok lagði ekki til bardaga.
and had six ships and all big and laid not to battle
Ok nú tekst hinn harðasti bardagi; eggjaði hvárr-tveggi
And now begins the hardest battle urged each-of-two
jarl lið sitt. En er svá hafði fram farit um hríð, snýr
earl troop his But when so had forth gone for a-while turns
mannfallinu á hendr Þorfinni jarli; var þat mest af því,
the-slaughter on hands of-Thorfinn earl was that most from that
at borðamunr [var] mikill. Þorfinnr hafði mikit skip
that (the)-difference-of-boards was great Thorfinn had a-great ship
ok vel búit, ok lagði hann því fram alldjarfliga. En er
and well equipped and laid he therefore forth very-boldly But when
ruddust hin smærri skipin, þá var lagit at jarls-skipinu á
were-cleared the smaller ships then was laid at (the)-earl's-ship on
bæði borð; vóru þeir þá staddir allnauðuliga. Féll þá fjöldi
both boards were they then placed very-hard-pressed Fell then a-multitude
manns af skipi jarls, en sumir urðu mjök sárir;
of-men from (the)-ship of-(the)-earl but some became much wounded
eggjaði Rögnvaldr jarl þá sína menn til uppgöngu. Enn
urged Rognvald earl then his men to boarding But
ér Þorfinnr sá í hvert úefni komit var, lét hann höggva
when Thorfinn saw into what plight come was let he hew
skip sitt or tengslum, ok reri til lands. Hann lét leggja
ship his out-of (the)-grapplings and rowed to land He let lay
af skipi sínu sjau tigi líka. Þar gengu af allir þeir, er
from ship his seven tens of-bodies There went off all those who
úvígir vóru fyrir sára sakir. Þá bauð Þorfinnr Arnóri
unable-to-fight were for wounds' sake Then bade Thorfinn Arnor

jarla-skáldi at ganga af skipi. Hann var í jarls sveit ok
Earls'-Skald to go off (the)-ship He was in (the)-earl's band and
í kærleikum miklum. Hann gekk á land ok kvað vísu:
in affections great He went onto land and recited a-verse

"Drengr er í gegn at ganga —
A-man is in against to go
gótt er fylgja vel dróttni,
good is to-follow well (the)-lord
öld leynig því aldri —
from-people hide-I that never
ófúss syni Brúsa:
unwilling to-(the)-son of-Brusi
Oss er ef jarlar þessir
For-us is if earls these
ógnbráðir til ráðast —
terror-swift to attack
hörð mun vinraun verða —
hard will friend-test become
vandligr kostr fyrir handum."
difficult choice before hands

Þorfinnr jarl skipar skip sitt af hinu bezta liði, er hann
Thorfinn earl mans ship his from the best troop which he
hafði til. Eptir þat ferr hann til fundar við Kálf, ok bað hann
had to-it After that goes he to meeting with Kalf and bade him
liðs; sagði svá, at Kálfr mundi ekki fá keypta vináttu
for-troop said so that Kalf would not get bought (the)-friendship
Magnúss konúngs, er hann var orðinn aðr landflótti, "Er
of-Magnus king since he was become before a-land-fugitive As
þú fékt þá eigi til gætt, er hann var áðr kominn í
you got then not to guarded when he was before come into

allmikla kærleika. Máttú svá ok ætla, ef Rögnvaldr sigrast
very-great affections May-you so also expect if Rognvald wins
á oss, ok gangi ríki þeirra Magnúss konúngs hér fyrir
over us and goes (the)-realm of-them Magnus king here on
vestan hafit, at þú munt þá ekki hér vel kominn. En ef vér
west-of the-sea that you will then not here well come But if we
sigrumst, þá skal yðr engan hlut skorta, er ek á kost;
win then shall you no thing lack which I have choice-of
eru vit fyrir engum manni uppnæmir hér fyrir vestan hafit,
are we-two before no man vulnerable here on west-of the-sea
ef vit erum báðir á einu ráði. Mantú ok eigi vilja vita þat
if we-two are both of one counsel Will-you also not will know that
á þik, at liggja hjá sem köttr í hreysi, þar er ek berjumst
on you to lie by as a-cat in a-burrow there where I fight
til frelsis hvárum-tveggjum. Eru þær ok tengdir með okkr,
for freedom of-each-of-two Are they also ties between us
at hvárum samir þat betr at veita lið öðrum, síðan
that on-each-of-two befits that better to give help to-(the)-other since
venzla-lausir menn eru í móti." En er Kálfr heyrði eggjan
kinless men are in against But when Kalf heard (the)-urging

Þorfinns, hét hann á sína menn, ok bað þá leggja til
of-Thorfinn called he on his men and bade them lay to
bardaga með Þorfinni jarli. Sem Bjarni Gullbrár-skáld segir:
battle with Thorfinn earl As Bjarni Gold-Brow's-Skald says

"Frágum Finns hve mági
Asked-we of-Finn how (the)-kinsman-in-law
fylgðut Kálfr um dylgjur,
followed-not Kalf about strifes
ok léztú yðrum snekkjum
and let-you your warships
árla lagt at jarli:
early laid at (the)-earl
Áræði namtu eyða
Daring took-you to-destroy
óðfuss syni Brúsa,
fury-eager to-(the)-son of-Brusi
(hlæði hugr), en tœðut
laughed (the)-mind but helped-not
heipt-minnigr Þorfinni."
hate-mindful Thorfinn

Greiddu nú atróðrinn báðir saman Þorfinnr jarl ok Kálfr.
Pressed now the-attack both together Thorfinn earl and Kalf
Ok er þeir kómu til orrostu var herr Þorfinns búinn
And when they came to (the)-battle was (the)-host of-Thorfinn ready
at flýja, en fjöldi fallinn. Jarl lagði fram skip sitt
to flee but a-multitude fallen (The)-earl laid forth ship his

á mót skipi Rögnvalds jarls, ok varð þar hin harðasta
on against (the)-ship of-Rognvald earl and became there the hardest
orrosta. Svá segir Arnórr:
battle So says Arnor

"Hváran-tveggja sá ek höggva
Each-of-the-two saw I hew
hirð á Petlandsfirði —
(the)-retinue on (the)-Pentland-firth
vár þrifust mein at meiri —
our increased harms to greater
mínn auðgjafa sína;
my gold-givers their
Sjárr blézt en dreif dreyri
(The)-sea seethed but drifted blood
dökkr á saumför klökka,
dark on seam-lines dripping
skaut á skjaldrim sveita,
shot on shield-rim sweat
skokkr var blóði stokkinn."
(the)-ship was with-blood sprinkled

Kálfr lagði at hinum smærrum skipum Rögnvalds, ok hrauð
Kalf laid at the smaller ships of-Rognvald and cleared
þau skjótt, þvíat þar var borða-munr mikill. En er
them quickly because there was (the)-difference-of-boards great But when
leiðangrs-lið þat, er ór Noregi var komit, sá roðin
(the)-levy-troop that which out-of Norway was come saw (the)-reddened
skip hjá sér, þá leystu þeir skip sín or tengslum, ok
ships near themselves then loosed they ships their out-of (the)-grapplings and

lögðu á flótta, svá at fá ein skip vóru eptir með jarls
laid to flight so that few only ships were behind with (the)-earl's
skipi. Tók þá orrostan at hallast. Svá segir Arnórr jarla-skáld:
ship Took then the-battle to lean So says Arnor Earls'-Skald

"Gramr mundi sá gömlu
(The)-prince would that old
gunnbráðr und sik láði —
battle-swift under himself land
hann fékk miklu minna
he got much less
mannspjöll — koma öllu:
man-spoilings come all
Ef ílendra Endils
If of-native Endil's
ættstafr hafa knætti,
kin-pillar have could
(vélti herr um Hjalta),
deceived (the)-host about (the)-Shetlanders'
hjálmþrótta lið (dróttinn)."
helmet-strong troop lord

Ok nú er megin-herrinn hafði flýit, þá lögðu þeir Kálfr ok
And now when (the)-main-host had fled then laid they Kalf and
Þorfinnr jarl báðir at skipi Rögnvalds jarls, ok féllu þá mjök
Thorfinn earl both at (the)-ship of-Rognvald earl and fell then much
menn Rögnvalds jarls. Ok er Rögnvaldr jarl sá í hvert
(the)-men of-Rognvald earl And when Rognvald earl saw into what
úefni komit var, ok hann mátti eigi sigrast á þeim Þorfinni
plight come was and he might not win over them Thorfinn
ok Kálfi, þá lét hann höggva tengslin ok lagðist á flótta.
and Kalf then let he hew the-grapplings and laid-himself to flight

Var þá áliðinn mjök dagrinn, ok tók at myrkva. Rögnvaldr
Was then late much the-day and took to darken Rognvald
jarl sigldi þegar á haf um náttina ok svá austr til
earl sailed at-once onto (the)-sea in the-night and so east to
Noregs. Létti eigi fyrr en hann kom á fund Magnúss
Norway Stopped not earlier than he came to (the)-meeting of-Magnus
konúngs; hann tók við honum vel sem fyrr, ok bauð honum
king he took with him well as before and offered him
með sér at vera; ok þar dvaldist Rögnvaldr jarl um stund.
with himself to be and there stayed Rognvald earl for a-while

XXXII · RÖGNVALDR RETURNS IN WINTER

Þorfinnr took all the islands and sent Kálfr to the Hebrides. Against the king's advice, Rögnvaldr sailed west in early winter with one ship of picked men, hoping to come on Þorfinnr unawares.

Nú er at segja frá Þorfinni jarli: at um morgininn eptir
Now is to say about Thorfinn earl that in the-morning after
orrostuna lét hann róa um allar eyjar, at leita flótta-manna.
the-battle let he row about all (the)-islands to seek fugitives
Vóru margir drepnir, en sumir gengu til griða. Lagði Þorfinnr
Were many killed but some went to quarter Laid Thorfinn
jarl þá undir sik allar Eyjar; lét þá hvern mann ganga
earl then under himself all (the)-Isles let then each man go
sér til handa, svá ok þá er verit höfðu áðr eiðsvarar
to-him to hands so also those who been had before sworn-men
Rögnvalds. Settist hann þá í Orkneyjar með fjölmenni mikit,
of-Rognvald Settled he then in Orkney with many-men great
ok dró föng at sér handan af Katanesi. En Kálf Árnason
and drew supplies to himself from-across from Caithness But Kalf Arni's-son

sendi hann í Suðreyjar, ok lét hann þar sitja til styrktar
sent he to (the)-Hebrides and let him there sit for support
við sik. En er Rögnvaldr jarl hafði dvalizt í Noregi um
with himself But when Rognvald earl had stayed in Norway for
hríð með Magnúsi konúngi, sagði hann konúngi at hann
a-while with Magnus king told he (the)-king that he
vildi leita aptr til Orkneyja. En er konúngr heyrði þetta,
wished to-seek back to Orkney But when (the)-king heard this
þá kallaði hann þat úráðligt at fara fyrr en vetri létti
then called he that inadvisable to go earlier than (the)-winter lifted
af, en ísa leysti ok sjár tæki at þiðna; kallaðist þá vilja
off but ice loosened and (the)-sea took to thaw called-himself then to-wish
fá honum skip ok lið svá sem hann þurfti. Rögnvaldr
to-give him ships and troop so as he needed Rognvald
segir svá; kvaðst nú eigi vilja týna liði Magnúss
says so said-himself now not to-wish to-lose (the)-troop of-Magnus
konúngs; kallaði þat ekki takast mega nema með miklu
king called that not succeed can except with great
mannspelli, ef hann drægi her á hendr þeim Þorfinni ok
man-loss if he drew a-host on hands of-them Thorfinn and
Kálfi, svá mikit ríki sem þeir hafa þá vestr þar: "Ætla ek
Kalf so great realm as they have then west there Intend I
nú," sagði hann, "at halda vestr einu skipi, ok skipa þat
now said he to hold west with-one ship and man that
sem bazt; væntir mik, at þá sé ekki borin njósn fyrir oss.
as best expects me that then be not borne tidings before us
Mun þá vera annathvárt, at vér munum koma á úvart, ok
Will then be one-of-the-two that we will come on unawares and
megum vér þá vinna skjótt þann sigr er vér fám trautt
may we then win quickly that victory which we get hardly
eðr eigi unnit við liðs-fjölda. En ef vart verðr við vára ferð,
or not won with troop-multitude But if aware becomes of our journey

þá látu var enn hafit gæta vár." Magnús konúngr bað hann
then let we still the-sea guard us Magnus king bade him
fara sem honum líkaði, en koma enn til sín þegar er hann
go as to-him pleased but come again to himself as-soon as he
vildi. Ok eptir þat býr Rögnvaldr ferð sína ok vandar
wished And after that prepares Rognvald journey his and chooses
menn til; réðust þar til ferðar með honum hirðmenn
men to set-out there to (the)-journey with him retainers
konúngs nokkurir; hafði hann þá einvala lið. Ok er þeir
of-(the)-king some had he then a-picked troop And when they
vóru búnir, sigldu þeir í haf. Þat var á öndverðum vetri.
were ready sailed they onto (the)-sea That was in early winter

XXXIII · THE BURNING IN HROSSEY

Rögnvaldr surprised Þorfinnr at night and burned the house; Þorfinnr broke through a wall carrying his wife Ingibjörg and escaped in the smoke to Caithness. Believing him dead, Rögnvaldr took all the islands.

Rögnvaldr jarl kom af hafi við Hjaltland. Spurði hann
Rognvald earl came from (the)-sea at Shetland Learned he
þá, at Þorfinnr jarl var í Orkneyjum, ok hafði ekki ákafliga
then that Thorfinn earl was in Orkney and had not exceedingly
fjölment; var honum þá engi ván úfriðar of hávetr. Hélt
many-men was to-him then no expectation of-strife in midwinter Held
nú Rögnvaldr þegar í Orkneyjar suðr. Þorfinnr jarl var þá í
now Rognvald at-once to Orkney south Thorfinn earl was then in
Hrosseyju ok ugði ekki at sér. En þegar er Rögnvaldr kom
Hrossey and feared nothing for himself But as-soon as Rognvald came
í Orkneyjar, hélt hann þangat, er hann spurði til Þorfinns;
to Orkney held he thither where he learned of Thorfinn

ok kom svá á úvart, at eigi varð fyrr vart við, en þeir
and came so on unawares that not became earlier aware of-it than they
höfðu tekit allar dyrr á húsunum, þeim er Þorfinnr ok
had taken all doors on the-houses those which Thorfinn and
hans menn vóru inni. Þá var nótt, ok vóru flestir menn í
his men were in Then was night and were most men in
svefni, en jarl sat þá enn ok drakk. Báru þeir Rögnvaldr
sleep but (the)-earl sat then still and drank Bore they Rognvald
eld at bænum. En er Þorfinnr varð varr við úfriðinn, sendi
fire at the-farm But when Thorfinn became aware of the-strife sent
hann menn til dyranna ok lét frétta, hverr fyrir úfriðinum
he men to the-doors and let ask who for the-strife
réði. Var þá sagt, at Rögnvaldr jarl var þar kominn. Menn
ruled Was then told that Rognvald earl was there come Men
hljópu þá til vápna. Mátti þá ekki vörninni við koma, þvíat
leapt then to weapons Might then not the-defense to come because
öllum var varit út at ganga. Tóku húsin skjótt at loga.
to-all was guarded out to go Took the-houses quickly to blaze
Ræddi Þorfinnr þá um, at menn skyldi beiða útgöngu,
Spoke Thorfinn then about that men should ask out-going
þeir er griðum skyldi ná. Ok þess var leitað við jarl, ok
those who quarter should get And that was sought with (the)-earl and
lofaði hann konum öllum ok úfrjálsum mönnum; en kallaði
permitted he to-women all and unfree men but called
þá hirðmenn Þorfinns jarls flesta, er honum mundi ekki
those retainers of-Thorfinn earl most which to-him would not
betri lífs en dauðir. Vóru þeir þá út dregnir, er grið
better living than dead Were they then out dragged whom quarter
vóru gefin; tók ok þá brátt at loga bærinn. Þorfinnr jarl
were given took also then soon to blaze the-farm Thorfinn earl
braut undan húsunum skjaldþili eitt, ok hljóp þar út;
broke off the-houses a-shield-partition one and leapt there out

hann hafði Íngibjörgu, konu sína í faðmi sér. Niðamyrkr var
he had Ingibjorg wife his in embrace his Pitch-darkness was
á, ok komst hann svá á brott með reykinum, at jarls-menn
on and got he so off away with the-smoke that (the)-earl's-men
urðu ekki varir við. Reri hann þegar of nóttina yfir á Nes
became not aware of-it Rowed he at-once in the-night over to (the)-Ness
einn á báti. Rögnvaldr jarl brendi bæinn allan ok þá menn
alone in a-boat Rognvald earl burned the-farm all and those men
alla, er inni vóru, er eigi var útganga leyfð. Hugði engi
all who inside were whom not was out-going allowed Thought no
maðr annat en Þorfinnr jarl hefði þar látizt. Eptir þat fór
man other than Thorfinn earl had there perished After that went
Rögnvaldr jarl um allar Eyjar ok lagði undir sik. Sendi
Rognvald earl about all (the)-Isles and laid under himself Sent
hann ok þau orð yfir á Nes ok svá til Suðreyja, at
he also those words over to (the)-Ness and so to (the)-Hebrides that
hann ætlaði sér allt ríki þat, er Þorfinnr jarl hafði
he intended himself all (the)-realm that which Thorfinn earl had
átt. Mælti því engi maðr í mót. Þorfinnr jarl var á
owned Spoke therefore no man in against Thorfinn earl was in
Katanesi í ymissum stöðum á laun með vinum sínum; ok
Caithness in various places in secret with friends his and
fór engi frétt frá því, at hann hefði komizt ór brennunni.
went no report of that that he had got out-of the-burning

XXXIV · THE SLAYING OF RÖGNVALDR

Fetching malt on Papa Stronsay before Yule, Rögnvaldr made a slip of the tongue and remembered King Ólafr's words before his death. Þorfinnr burned the house; Rögnvaldr leapt out but his lapdog's barking betrayed him among the rocks, and, some say, Þorkell Fosterer killed him. Þorfinnr then killed twenty-odd of Magnús's men in Kirkwall, sparing one to carry the news.

Rögnvaldr jarl sat í Kirkjuvági, ok dró þangat föng at sér,
Rognvald earl sat in Kirkwall and drew thither supplies to himself
þau sem hann þurfti til vetrsetu; hafði hann fjölmenni mikit
those which he needed for winter-stay had he many-men great
ok rausn mikla. En litlu fyrir jól fór Rögnvaldr jarl með
and magnificence great But little before Yule went Rognvald earl with
sveit mikla til Papeyjar innar litlu eptir möltum, er heita
a-band great to Papey the little for malt which brew
skyldi til jóla. Ok um kveldit er þeir vóru í eyjunni, sátu
should for Yule And in the-evening when they were in the-island sat
þeir lengi við bakelda; ok ræddi sá um, er eldinn kyndi, at
they long by bake-fires and spoke he about who the-fire kindled that
eldiviðr tæki at fættast. Þá mælti jarl mismæli, ok tók
firewood took to dwindle Then spoke (the)-earl a-slip-of-tongue and took
til orða: "Þá eru vér full-gamlir, er þessir eru brunnir." En
to words Then are we full-old when these are burned But
hann vildi þat mælt hafa, at þá væri þeir fullbakaðir. Ok
he wished that spoken have that then were they full-baked And
þegar er hann fann, mælti hann: "Ekki hefi ek mismæli
as-soon as he noticed spoke he Not have I a-slip-of-tongue
mælt fyrr svá at ek muna. Kemr mér þat í hug, er
spoken before so that I remember Comes to-me that into mind which
Ólafr konúngr fóstri minn mælti á Stiklastöðum þá er
Olaf king foster-father my spoke at Stiklestad then when
ek fann mismæli hans: Ef svá berr til, at ek mælta
I noticed a-slip-of-tongue his If so bears to that I spoke
mismæli, at ek skylda svá við búast at ek munda þá eiga
a-slip-of-tongue that I should so for prepare that I would then have
skamt úlifat. Kann vera, at Þorfinnr frændi minn sé á lífi."
short unlived May be that Thorfinn kinsman my be in life
Ok í því heyrðu þeir at bærinn var horfinn mönnum. Var
And at that heard they that the-farm was surrounded by-men Was

þar kominn Þorfinnr jarl. Báru þeir þegar eld at húsum, ok
there come Thorfinn earl Bore they at-once fire at (the)-houses and
hlóðu köst fyrir durunum. Þeir leyfðu útgöngu öllum nema
piled a-pile before the-doors They allowed out-going to-all except
mönnum jarls. Ok er menn vóru út dregnir flestir, gekk
(the)-men of-(the)-earl And when men were out dragged most went
maðr í dyrnar í línklæðum, ok bað Þorfinn jarl seilast
a-man into the-doors in linen-clothes and bade Thorfinn earl reach
í mót djákninum. En hann studdi höndum á bálkinn, ok
in against the-deacon But he propped with-hands on the-wall and
stiklaði út yfir bálkinn ok mannhríginn, [svá] at hann kom
vaulted out over the-wall and the-ring-of-men so that he came
hvar fjarri niðr; ok hvarf í brott í náttmyrkrinu. Þorfinnr
somewhat far down and vanished off away in the-night-darkness Thorfinn
bað þá eptir halda; ok segir, at þar fór Rögnvaldr jarl, “Er
bade then after hold and says that there went Rognvald earl Is
þetta hans færleikr en einskis annars.” Fóru þeir þá at leita
this his feat but of-none other's Went they then to seek
hans; ok skiptust í sveitir, ok fór Þorkell fóstri með
him and divided-themselves into bands and went Thorkel Fosterer along
sænum at leita. Þeir heyrðu at rakki gó í sævar-urðunum.
the-sea to seek They heard that a-lapdog barked in (the)-sea-stones
Rögnvaldr jarl hafði með sér skikkju-rakka sinn, ok sagði
Rognvald earl had with himself cloak-dog his and told
hann til jarls. Þeir gjörðu hann þegar líflátinn í urðunum;
it to (the)-earl They made him at-once lifeless in the-stones
ok er þat sumra manna sögn at Þorkell fóstri vægi hann,
and is that some men's account that Thorkel Fosterer slew him
þvíat eigi urðu aðrir menn til. En hann hafði þess svarit, at
because not became other men to But he had that sworn to
vinna öll þau verk er Þorfinni þætti sitt ríki þá frjálsara
perform all those deeds which to-Thorfinn seemed his realm then freer

en áðr. Þeir Þorfinnr dvöldust í eyjunni um nóttina; var
than before They Thorfinn stayed in the-island in the-night was
þar drepin sveit sú öll er Rögnvaldi hafði þangat fylgt.
there killed band that all which to-Rognvald had thither followed
En of morguninn eptir tóku þeir byrðing, ok hlóðu af
But in (the)-morning after took they a-cargo-ship and loaded from
malti; gengu þar á síðan, ok létu skjöldu við stafna þá
malt went there on afterward and set shields by stems those
er þeir Rögnvaldr jarl höfðu haft; létu ok eigi fleiri menn
which they Rognvald earl had had let also not more men
sjá á skipi en jarli höfðu fylgt. Reru þeir þá til
see on ship than to-(the)-earl had followed Rowed they then to
Kirkjuvágs. Ok er þat sá sveitúngar Rögnvalds þeir er
Kirkwall And when that saw (the)-band-men of-Rognvald those who
fyrir vóru, hugðu þeir at Rögnvaldr jarl mundi þar fara;
before were thought they that Rognvald earl would there go
gengu þeir þá í mót honum, ok flestir slyppir. Þorfinnr
went they then in against him and most empty-handed Thorfinn
jarl lét þar taka á þriðja tigi manna ok drepa; vóru þat
earl let there take in (the)-third ten of-men and kill were those
flestir hirðmenn Magnúss konúngs ok vinir. Jarl gaf
most retainers of-Magnus king and friends (The)-earl gave
grið einum hirðmanni Magnúss konúngs, ok bað þann fara
quarter to-one retainer of-Magnus king and bade him go
austr til Noregs, ok segja Magnúsi konungi þessi tíðindi.
east to Norway and tell Magnus king these tidings

Rögnvaldr, the best loved of the Orkney earls, was buried on Papa Westray. Þorfinnr took all Orkney; King Magnús vowed vengeance, but war with Sveinn Úlfsson kept him busy.

Lík Rögnvalds jarls var flutt til Papeyjar hinnar meiri, ok
(The)-body of-Rognvald earl was brought to Papey the greater and
þar jarðat; ok var þat mál manna, at hann hafi einn hverr
there buried and was that (the)-speech of-men that he had one each
verit vinsælastr ok bezt menntr af Orkneyja-jörlum. Var hann
been most-popular and best accomplished of (the)-Orkney-earls Was he
mörgum manni mjök harmdauði. Eptir þat lagði Þorfinnr jarl
to-many a-man much death-mourned After that laid Thorfinn earl
undir sik allar Orkneyjar; ok mælti nú engi maðr því í móti.
under himself all Orkney and spoke now no man that in against
Snemmendis um várit kvómu þessi tíðindi austr til Noregs;
Early in the-spring came these tidings east to Norway
ok þótti Magnúsi konungi hinn mesti skaði eptir Rögnvald
and seemed to-Magnus king the greatest loss after Rognvald
jarl; kveðst ok þegar skyldu hefna hans, er honum gæfi
earl says-himself also at-once should avenge him when to-him gave
tóm til. En hann hafði í þenna tíma úfrið mikinn við Svein
leisure for-it But he had at that time strife great with Svein
Ulfsson, er þá hafði látið taka sik til konúngs yfir Danmörk.
Ulf's-son who then had let take himself as king over Denmark

When Magnús and Haraldr Sigurðarson lay with the levy in the Seleyjar, Þorfinnr came aboard the king's ship, ate his bread, and asked for quarter. Magnús spared him but put off the terms; Þorfinnr slipped away to Orkney, and Magnús died that summer.

Í þenna tíma kom í Noreg Haraldr Sigurðarson, frændi
In that time came to Norway Harald Sigurd's-son kinsman
Magnúss konúngs, ok gaf Magnús konúngr [honum] hálfan
of-Magnus king and gave Magnus king him half
Noreg. Þeir vóru báðir konúngar í Noregi einn vetr. Þá
Norway They were both kings in Norway one winter Then
buðu þeir út leiðangri af öllum Noregi, ok ætluðu suðr
called they out (the)-levy from all Norway and intended south
til Danmarkar. En er þeir lágu í Seleyjum runnu tvau
to Denmark But when they lay in Seleyjar ran two
langskip í höfnina, ok at skipi Magnúss konúngs. Gekk
longships into the-harbor and to (the)-ship of-Magnus king Went
maðr af langskipinu í hvítum kufli, ok aptr eptir skipinu,
a-man from the-longship in a-white cowl and aft along the-ship
ok svá upp í lyptíngina. Konúngr sat yfir mat. Þessi maðr
and so up into the-poop (The)-king sat over food This man
kvaddi konúng, ok laut honum; tók til brauðhleifs eins,
greeted (the)-king and bowed to-him took to a-loaf one
ok braut ok át af. Konúngr tók kveðju hans, ok rétti at
and broke and ate of-it (The)-king took greeting his and reached to
honum kerit, er hann sá at hann át brauðit. Þessi maðr
him the-cup when he saw that he ate the-bread This man
tók við kerinu ok mælti: "Grið viljum vær, mötunautr."
took with the-cup and spoke Quarter wish we messmate

Konúngr leit til hans ok mælti: “Hverr ertú?” “Ek em
(The)-king looked to him and spoke Who are-you I am
Þorfinnr Sigurðarson.” “Ertú Þorfinnr jarl?” segir konúngr.
Thorfinn Sigurd's-son Are-you Thorfinn earl says (the)-king
“Svá er kallat vestr þar,” segir hann, “en ek em hér kominn
So is called west there says he but I am here come
með tvær tvitog-sessur, ok skipaðar heldr vel, at því er vér
with two twenty-benchers and manned rather well for that which we
eigum kosti. Nú man ek róa leiðangr þenna með yðr, ef
have choice-of Now will I row levy this with you if
þér vilit þiggja lið at mér. En allt mitt mál ok ek sjálfr
you will accept help from me But all my case and I myself
skal á guðs valdi ok yðru, herra, fyrir þau stórmæli er
shall in God's power and yours lord for those great-offenses which
ek hefig mót yðrum vilja brotið.” Þá gengu menn til, ok
I have against your will broken Then went men to and
heyrðu tal þeirra. Konúngr tók seint til orða, ok mælti
heard (the)-talk their (The)-king took late to words and spoke
svá: “Satt er þat, Þorfinnr jarl, ef fund okkarn bæri
so True is that Thorfinn earl if (the)-meeting of-us-two bore
saman, sem nú er vorðit, at eigi ætlaða ek, at þú mundir
together as now is become that not intended I that you would
kunna at segja frá skilnaði okkrum; en nú er svá við látið,
know to tell of (the)-parting of-us-two but now is so on let
at [eigi] byrjar minni tign at láta drepa þik; skaltú nú
that not befits less rank to let kill you shall-you now
fara með mér; en sætt okkra mun ek upp segja í
go with me but (the)-settlement of-us-two will I up say at
tómi.” Þorfinnr heilsaði á konúng ok gekk til skipa sinna.
leisure Thorfinn greeted on (the)-king and went to ships his
Konúngr lá mjök lengi í Seleyjum. Dróst þar þá herr til
(The)-king lay much long in Seleyjar Drew-itself there then a-host to

hans or Víkinni. Hann ætlaði þaðan at sigla suðr undir
him from the-Vik He intended thence to sail south under
Jótland þá er byr gæfi. Þorfinnr jarl var þá löngum
Jutland then when a-wind gave Thorfinn earl was then long
á tali við konúng; var konúngr þá vel til jarls, ok hafði
in talk with (the)-king was (the)-king then well to (the)-earl and had
hann mjök við ráðagjörð sína. Þat var einn dag at jarl
him much in counsel his That was one day that (the)-earl
gekk á konúngs-skipit ok aptr í lyptíngina. Konúngr bað
went onto (the)-king's-ship and aft into the-poop (The)-king bade
hann sitja hjá sér. Settist jarl niðr, ok drukku báðir
him sit by himself Sat-himself (the)-earl down and drank both
saman ok vóru kátir. Maðr gekk í lyptíngina í rauðum
together and were merry A-man went into the-poop in a-red
kyrtli mikill ok vaskligr; sá kvaddi konúng. Konúngr tók
kirtle big and valiant he greeted (the)-king (The)-king took
blíðliga kveðju hans; var þat hirðmaðr konúngs einn. Þessi
blithely greeting his was that a-retainer of-(the)-king one This
maðr tók til orða ok mælti: "Þik em ek kominn at finna,
man took to words and spoke You am I come to find
Þorfinnr jarl." "Hvat viltú mér?" segir jarl. Ek vil vita
Thorfinn earl What wish-you of-me says (the)-earl I will know
hverju þú vill bæta mér bróður minn, er þú lézt
with-what you will compensate me for-brother my whom you let
drepa vestr í Kirkjuvági með öðrum hirðmönnum Magnúss
kill west in Kirkwall with other retainers of-Magnus
konúngs." "Hefir þú eigi heyrt þat," segir jarl, "at em
king Have you not heard that says (the)-earl that (I)-am
ekki vanr at bæta þá menn fé, er ek læt drepa;
not wont to compensate those men with-money whom I let kill
finst þat í því, at mér þykkir víðast sakir til hafa verit,
is-found that in that that to-me seems widest causes to have been

er ek hefi mennina drepa látið.” “Engu skiptir mik, hversu
when I have the-men killed let Not matters to-me how
þú hefir við aðra menn gjört, ef þú bætir þenna, er ek
you have with other men done if you compensate this-one whom I
á eptir at mæla: Lét ek ok þar fé nokkut, en ek var
have after to speak Lost I also there money some but I was
leikinn sjálfr háðuliga; verðr mér þat skyldast at mæla eptir
treated myself shamefully becomes to-me that most-due to speak for
bróður minn ok mik; vil ek hafa þar sæmdir fyrir. En
brother my and myself will I have there honors for But
konúngr má þat upp gefa, er til hans er gjört, ef honum
(the)-king may that up give which to him is done if to-him
þykkir þat einskis vert, er hirðmenn hans eru leiddir út,
seems that nothing worth when retainers his are led out
ok höggnir niðr sem sauðir.” Jarl svarar: “Skil ek þat,
and hewn down as sheep (The)-earl answers Understand I that
at þat mun mína kosti hér fram draga, er þu átt ekki
that that will my lot here forth draw that you have no
vald á mér. Ertú eigi sá maðr, er ek gaf þar grið?”
power over me Are-you not that man whom I gave there quarter
“At vísu,” segir hann; “kosti áttir þú at drepa mik þar sem
For certain says he choices had you to kill me there as
aðra menn.” Þá svarar jarl: “Þat er satt, sem mælt er,
other men Then answers (the)-earl That is true as said is
at ‘marga hendir þat er minst varir.’ Ætlaða ek þá, at
that to-many happens that which least is-expected Intended I then that
ek munda hvergi þess koma, at ek munda þess gjalda, at
I would nowhere to-that come that I would for-that pay that
ek væra of friðsamr við úvini mína; en nú geld ek þess,
I were too peaceful with enemies my but now pay I for-that
er ek hefi þér grið gefit; eigi mundir þú hrópa mik
that I have to-you quarter given not would you cry-shame-on me

fyrir höfðingjum í dag, ef ek hefða þik drepa látið sem
before chieftains in day if I had you killed let as
aðra lögunauta þína.” Konúngr leit við jarli ok mælti:
other messmates your (The)-king looked at (the)-earl and spoke
“Þar kemr þó enn, Þorfinnr jarl, at þú þykkist of fá
There comes yet still Thorfinn earl that you think-yourself too few
drepit hafa mína hirðmenn úbætta.” Var konúngr þá svá
killed have my retainers uncompensated Was (the)-king then so
rauðr sem dreyri. Jarl spratt þá upp, ok gekk ofan
red as blood (The)-earl sprang then up and went down
ór lyptíngunni ok á skip sitt. Var þá kyrt um kveldit.
out-of the-poop and onto ship his Was then quiet in the-evening
En um morguninn er menn vóru vaknaðir, var kominn
But in the-morning when men were awake was come
á byrr. Reru menn þá þegar or höfninni. Sigldi konúngr
on a-wind Rowed men then at-once out-of the-harbor Sailed (the)-king
þá suðr í Jótlands-haf með öllum flotanum. Fór skip
then south into (the)-Jutland-sea with all the-fleet Went (the)-ship
jarls mjök vestr til hafs öndverðan daginn. En er á
of-(the)-earl much west to (the)-sea (the)-early the-day But when on
tók at líða á daginn, stefndi jarl vestr í hafit. Er frá
took to pass on the-day steered (the)-earl west into the-sea Is of
honum ekki at segja fyrr en hann kom til Orkneyja, ok
him nothing to say earlier than he came to Orkney and
settist þar at ríki sínu. Magnús konúngr ok Haraldr sigldu
settled there at realm his Magnus king and Harald sailed
til Danmerkr, ok dvaldist þar um sumarit. Vildi Sveinn
to Denmark and stayed there in the-summer Wished Svein
konúngr ekki halda til móts við þá; var hann á Skáneyri
king not to-hold to meeting with them was he at Skaneyr
með her sinn. Á því sumri tók Magnús konúngr sótt
with host his In that summer took Magnus king (the)-sickness

þá er hann leiddi til bana. Lýsti hann þá fyrir alþýðu,
that which him led to death Proclaimed he then before (the)-people
at hann gaf Haraldi föðurbróður sínum allt Noregs ríki.
that he gave to-Harald father's-brother his all Norway's realm

XXXVII · ÞORFINNR'S PILGRIMAGE

Þorfinnr made friends with King Haraldr, went to Denmark, Germany, and Rome, received absolution from the pope, and came home. He gave up raiding for government, built Christ's Church in Birsay, the first bishop's seat in Orkney, and had two sons, Páll and Erlendr.

Þorfinnr jarl réð nú Orkneyjum ok öllu ríki sínu. Kálfr
Thorfinn earl ruled now Orkney and all realm his Kalf
Árnason var ok löngum með honum. Stundum var hann
Arni's-son was also long with him At-times was he
í vestrvíking ok herjaði um Skotland ok Írland. Hann
in west-viking and harried about Scotland and Ireland He
var ok í Englandi, ok var um hríð fyrir Þingamanna-liði.
was also in England and was for a-while over (the)-Thingmen's-troop
Þá er Þorfinnr jarl spurði lát Magnúss konungs,
Then when Thorfinn earl learned (the)-death of-Magnus king
sendi hann þá menn austr til Noregs á fund Haralds
sent he then men east to Norway to (the)-meeting of-Harald
konungs með vinmálum; segir svá, at hann vill gjörast
king with friendly-words says so that he will become
vin hans. En er orðsendíng kom til konungs, tók hann
friend his But when (the)-message came to (the)-king took he
því vel, ok hét konúngr honum sinni vináttu. Ok þá
that well and promised (the)-king him his friendship And then
er þessi orðsendíng kom aptr til jarls, bjó hann ferð
when this message came back to (the)-earl prepared he journey

sína, ok hafði vestan tvær tvitög-sessur, ok meirr en
his and had from-the-west two twenty-benchers and more than
hundrað manna, ok allfrítt lið. Fór hann þá austr til
hundred men and very-fine troop Went he then east to
Noregs ok fann konúng á Hörðalandi. Tók hann við honum
Norway and found (the)-king in Hordaland Took he with him
forkunnar vel; ok at skilnaði þeirra veitti konúngr honum
exceedingly well and at (the)-parting their gave (the)-king him
góðar gjafar. Fór jarl þaðan suðr með landi, ok svá
good gifts Went (the)-earl thence south along (the)-land and so
til Danmerkr. Fór hann þar um land, ok fann Svein
to Denmark Went he there about (the)-land and found Svein
konúng í Álaborg; bauð hann jarli til sín ok veitti
king in Aalborg invited he (the)-earl to himself and gave
honum dýrðliga veizlu. Þá gjörði jarl þat bert, at hann
him a-splendid feast Then made (the)-earl that known that he
ætlaði suðr til Róms. En er hann kom í Saxland, fann
intended south to Rome But when he came into Saxony found
hann þar Heinrek keisara; ok tók hann forkunnar vel við
he there Henry emperor and took he exceedingly well with
jarli, ok gaf honum margar stórgjafar. Hann fékk honum
(the)-earl and gave him many great-gifts He gave him
hesta marga; réð jarl þá til suðrfarar. Fór hann þá
horses many set (the)-earl then to (the)-south-journey Went he then
til Róms ok fann þar páfann, ok tók hann þar lausn af
to Rome and found there the-pope and took he there absolution from
honum allra sinna mála. Vendi jarl þaðan til heimfarar,
him of-all his cases Turned (the)-earl thence to (the)-home-journey
ok kom með heilu aptr í ríki sitt; ok var ferð sú hin
and came with whole back into realm his and was journey that the
frægasta. Jarl settist þá í kyrrsæti, ok gjörði frið um
most-famous (The)-earl settled-himself then in quiet-seat and made peace about

allt ríki sitt. Lét hann þá af herferðum; lagði þá hug á
all realm his Let he then off war-journeys laid then mind on
stjórn lýðs ok lands [ok] á laga-setníng. Hann sat jafnan
(the)-rule of-people and land and on law-setting He sat always
í Byrgishéraði ok lét þar gjöra Kristskirkju, dýrðligt musteri.
in Birsay-district and let there build Christ's-church a-splendid minster
Þar var fyrst settr biskups-stóll í Orkneyjum. Þorfinnr
There was first set a-bishop's-see in Orkney Thorfinn
jarl átti Íngibjörgu jarla-móður; hón var dóttir Finns
earl had Ingibjorg Earls'-Mother she was (the)-daughter of-Finn
Árnasonar. Þau áttu tvá sonu, þá er ór barnæsku kómust;
Arni's-son They had two sons those who out-of childhood came
hét annarr Páll en annarr Erlendr; þeir vóru miklir
was-called one Pal but (the)-other Erlend they were big
menn ok fríðir ok meirr í móðurætt sína, menn vitrir ok
men and handsome and more into mother's-kin their men wise and
hógværir. Jarl unni þeim mikit ok þar með öll alþýða.
gentle (The)-earl loved them much and there with all (the)-people

XXXVIII · THE DEATH OF ÞORFINNR

Þorfinnr, earl for sixty years and lord of nine Scottish earldoms, the Hebrides, and part of Ireland, died late in Haraldr Sigurðarson's reign and was buried at Christ's Church in Birsay. Many conquered lands fell away; the closing verses tell of the earls' battle at Rauðabjörg.

Þorfinnr jarl hélt öllu ríki sínu til dauða-dags. Er þat
Thorfinn earl held all realm his till death-day Is that
sannliga sagt, at hann hafi ríkastr verit allra Orkneyinga jarla.
truly said that he had mightiest been of-all Orkney earls

Hann eignaðist ix. jarldóma á Skotlandi, ok allar Suðreyjar,
He acquired nine earldoms in Scotland and all (the)-Hebrides
ok mikit ríki á Írlandi. Svá segir Arnórr jarla-skáld:
and great realm in Ireland So says Arnor Earls'-Skald

> "Hrafns fæði varð hlýða
> *(The)-raven's feeder became to-obey*
> herr frá Þussa-skerjum —
> *(the)-host from Thurso-skerries*
> rétt segig þjóð hve þótti
> *rightly say-I to-(the)-people how seemed*
> Þorfinnr — til Dyflinnar."
> *Thorfinn to Dublin*

Þorfinnr jarl var þá fimm vetra gamall er Melkólmr
Thorfinn earl was then five winters old when Malcolm
Skotakonúngr móðurfaðir hans gaf honum jarlsnafn; en
Scots'-king mother's-father his gave him an-earl's-name but
síðan var hann jarl lx. vetra. Hann andaðist á ofanverðum
afterward was he earl sixty winters He died in (the)-latter
dögum Haralds Sigurðarsonar. Hann er jarðaðr at Kristskirkju
days of-Harald Sigurd's-son He is buried at Christ's-church
í Byrgishéraði, þeirri er hann hafði gjöra látið. Var jarl
in Birsay-district that which he had build let Was (the)-earl
mjök harmdauði í Orkneyjum ok erfða-löndum sínum. En
much death-mourned in Orkney and inheritance-lands his But
um þau lönd, er hann hafði lagt undir sik með hernaði,
about those lands which he had laid under himself with harrying
þá þótti mörgum úfrelsi mikit at búa undir ríki hans.
then seemed to-many unfreedom great to dwell under (the)-rule his
Hurfu þá á brottu mörg ríki undan, þau er jarl
Turned then off away many realms away those which (the)-earl

hafði undir sik lagt; ok leituðu menn sér trausts undir
had under himself laid and sought men themselves support under
þá höfðíngja, er þar vóru óðalbornir til ríkja. Gjörðist þá
those chieftains who there were odal-born to realms Became then
brátt auðsær missir at fráfalli Þorfinns jarls.
soon evident (the)-loss at (the)-death of-Thorfinn earl
Þessar vísur vóru kveðnar um orrostu þeirra Rögnvalds jarls
These verses were made about (the)-battle of-them Rognvald earl
Brúsasonar ok Þorfinns jarls:
Brusi's-son and Thorfinn earl

"Em ek sízt ýtar hnekðu
Am I least men struck
jarla sætt — er ek vætti
of-earls settlement as I expect
jöfn fengusk hræ hröfnum —
even got corpses for-ravens
hegju trauðr at segja:
of-wealth unwilling to say
Sleit fyrir Eyjar útan
Tore on (the)-Isles outside
allvaldr blá tjaldi
(the)-mighty-ruler dark awning
hafði hregg-svöl dúfa
had storm-cool billow
hrími fastum líma.
with-rime fast glue

Óskepnan varð uppi
(The)-misfortune was up
endr; þá er mörgum kendi
once then when to-many taught
háligt róg at hníga,
(the)-dangerous strife to fall
hörð þar er jarlar börðust:
hard there where earls fought
Nærr réðust ástmenn órir —
Near ruled-themselves friends our
oddhríð en varð síðan,
point-storm but became afterward
öld fékk mein hin milda
(the)-people got harm the mild
mörg — fyrir Rauðabjörgum.
much before Raudabjorg

Björt verðr sól at sortna,
Bright becomes (the)-sun to blacken
sökkr fold í mar dökkvan,
sinks earth into sea dark
brestr erfiði Austra,
breaks (the)-toil of-Austri
allr brunar sjár með fjöllum:
all burns (the)-sea with fells

Áðr at Eyjum fríðri,
Before at (the)-Isles fairer
(inndróttar) Þorfinni
than-of-household-lord Thorfinn
(þeim hjálpi guð geymi)
them help God keep
gæðingr muni fæðast."
chieftain will be-born

XXXIX · THE SONS OF ÞORFINNR

Páll and Erlendr ruled together without dividing the land. Ingibjörg married King Melkólmr of Scotland. The saga lists the children of Páll and Erlendr, from whom the later earls and chieftains of Orkney descend.

Nú tóku synir Þorfinns jarls ríki eptir hann. Var Páll
Now took sons of-Thorfinn earl (the)-realm after him Was Pal
þeirra ellri; var hann ok fyrir þeim í ráðum. Ekki skiptu þeir
of-them elder was he also before them in counsels Not divided they
löndum með sér, ok urðu þó lengstum vel sáttir á sín
(the)-lands between themselves and became yet longest well reconciled on their
skipti. Íngibjörg jarla-móðir giptist eptir andlát Þorfinns jarls
dealings Ingibjorg Earls'-Mother was-married after (the)-death of-Thorfinn earl
Melkólmi Skota-konúngi, er langháls var kallaðr. Þeirra son
to-Malcolm Scots'-king who Long-Neck was called Their son
var Dungaðr Skota-konúngr, faðir Vilhjálms hins ágæta manns.
was Duncan Scots'-king father of-William the excellent man
Hans son hét enn Vilhjálmr öðlíngr er allir Skotar vildu
His son was-called also William Atheling whom all Scots wished

til konúngs taka. Páll jarl Þorfinnsson fékk dóttur Hákonar
to king to-take Pal earl Thorfinn's-son got (the)-daughter of-Hakon
jarls Ívarssonar, ok áttu þau mörg börn. Son þeirra hét
earl Ivar's-son and had they many children (The)-son their was-called
Hákon. Þau áttu dóttur þá er Þóra hét; hon var gipt
Hakon They had a-daughter that who Thora was-called she was married
í Noreg Halldóri syni Brynjúlfs [gamla] úlfalda. Brynjúlfr
into Norway to-Halldor son of-Brynjolf (the)-Old Camel Brynjolf
hét son þeirra; hans son hét Halldórr er átti Gyríði
was-called (the)-son their his son was-called Halldor who had Gyrid
Dagsdóttur. Önnur dóttir Páls hét Ingiríðr, er átti
Dag's-daughter (The)-second daughter of-Pal was-called Ingirid whom had
Einarr Vorsa-krákr. Herbjörg hét hin þriðja dóttir Páls;
Einar Vors-Crow Herbjorg was-called the third daughter of-Pal
hon var móðir Ingibjargar tignu er átti Sigurðr á Vestnesi,
she was mother of-Ingibjorg (the)-Noble whom had Sigurd at Westness
ok vóru þeirra synir Hákon pík ok Brynjúlfr. Sigríðr var
and were their sons Hakon Pike and Brynjolf Sigrid was
enn dóttir Herbjargar, móðir Hákonar barns ok Herborgar
also a-daughter of-Herbjorg mother of-Hakon Child and of-Herborg
er Kolbeinn hrúga átti. Ragnhildr hét hin fjórða dóttir
whom Kolbein Heap had Ragnbild was-called the fourth daughter
Páls jarls; hon var móðir Bendiks, föður Ingibjargar, móður
of-Pal earl she was mother of-Benedikt father of-Ingibjorg mother
Erlings erkidjákns. Bergljót hét enn dóttir Ragnhildar,
of-Erling archdeacon Bergljot was-called also a-daughter of-Ragnbild
er átti Hávarðr Gunnason; vóru þeirra synir Magnús ok
whom had Havard Gunni's-son were their sons Magnus and
Hákon kló, ok Dufnjáll ok Þorsteinn. Þetta eru allt jarla
Hakon Claw and Dufnjal and Thorstein These are all earls'
ættir ok gæðinga í Orkneyjum; ok koma þessir menn allir
kins and of-chieftains in Orkney and come these men all

við sög[u]na síðarr. Erlendr jarl Þorfinnsson átti þá konu er
into (the)-saga later Erlend earl Thorfinn's-son had that wife who
Þóra hét, ok var Sumarliða dóttir Óspaks sonar. Móðir
Thora was-called and was Sumarlidi's daughter of-Ospak son (The)-mother
Óspaks var Þórdís dóttir Halls á Síðu. Erlingr ok Magnús
of-Ospak was Thordis daughter of-Hall at Sida Erling and Magnus
vóru synir þeirra, en dætr þeirra Gunnhildr ok Cecilia, er
were sons their but daughters their Gunnhild and Cecilia whom
Ísakr átti, ok vóru synir þeirra Endriði ok Kolr. Játvör hét
Isak had and were sons their Endridi and Kol Jatvor was-called
dóttir Erlends laungetin, Borgarr hét son hennar.
a-daughter of-Erlend illegitimate Borgar was-called (the)-son her

XL · HARALDR SIGURÐARSON IN THE WEST

Haraldr Sigurðarson came through Orkney with his host, left Queen Ellisif there, and took the earls Páll and Erlendr with him to England. He won at York but fell at Stamford Bridge; the earls returned home. When their sons grew up, Hákon Pálsson quarreled with Erlendr's sons, and the brothers parted unreconciled.

Þá er þeir bræðr Páll ok Erlendr höfðu ríki tekit í
Then when those brothers Pal and Erlend had realm taken in
Orkneyjum, kom austan ór Noregi Haraldr Sigurðarson
Orkney came from-the-east out-of Norway Harald Sigurd's-son
með her mikinn. Hann kom fyrst við Hjaltland. Þaðan
with a-host great He came first at Shetland Thence
fór hann til Orkneyja. Þar lét hann eptir Ellisif drottníngu
went he to Orkney There let he behind Ellisif queen
ok dóttur þeirra Máríu ok Íngigerði. Ór Orkneyjum hafði
and daughters their Maria and Ingigerd Out-of Orkney had
hann lið mikit. Réðust jarlar báðir til ferðar með
he troop great Set-out (the)-earls both to (the)-journey with

konúngi. Fór konúngr þaðan suðr til Englands, ok lendi þar
(the)-king Went (the)-king thence south to England and landed there
sem heitir Klitland, ok vann Skarðaborg. Síðan lagði hann at
where is-called Cleveland and won Scarborough Then laid he to
við Hallornes, ok átti þar orrostu, ok fékk sigr. Miðvikudag
by Holderness and had there a-battle and got victory Wednesday
næsta fyrir Mathiasmessu átti hann orrostu í Jórvík við
next before Matthias'-mass had he a-battle at York against
jarla Valþjóf ok Mörukára. Þar féll Mörukári. Sunnudag
(the)-earls Waltheof and Morcar There fell Morcar Sunday
eptir var sú borg gefin í vald Haraldi konúngi, er stóð við
after was that town given into power to-Harald king which stood by
Stafnfurðubryggju. Mánadaginn eptir gekk hann á land at
Stamford-Bridge Monday after went he onto land to
skipa staðinn. Setti hann eptir hjá skipum Ólaf son sinn, ok
order the-town Set he behind by (the)-ships Olaf son his and
jarla Pál ok Erlend, ok Eystein orra mág sinn,
(the)-earls Pal and Erlend and Eystein Grouse kinsman-by-marriage his
Þorberg Árnason. Í þeirri landgöngu kom í móti Haraldi
of-Thorberg Arni's-son In that land-going came in against Harald
konúngi Haraldr Guðinason með úvígjan her. Tókst þegar
king Harold Godwin's-son with an-irresistible host Began at-once
mikil orrosta. Ok í þeim bardaga féll Haraldr Sigurðarson.
great battle And in that battle fell Harald Sigurd's-son
Eptir fall konúngs kom Eysteinn orri frá skipum ok
After (the)-fall of-(the)-king came Eystein Grouse from (the)-ships and
jarlar, ok gjörðu allharða hríð. Sú orrosta var köllut
(the)-earls and made very-hard an-onslaught That battle was called
Orra-él eðr Orra-hríð. Þar féll Eysteinn orri, ok mjök svá
Grouse's-squall or Grouse's-storm There fell Eystein Grouse and much so
allr Norðmanna-herr. Eptir þá orrostu leyfði Haraldr konúngr
all (the)-Norwegians'-host After that battle allowed Harold king

Ólafi syni Haralds ok jörlum brottför af Englandi ok her
to-Olaf son of-Harald and (the)-earls departure from England and (the)-host
þeim öllum er eigi hafði flýit. Sigldi Ólafr út um haustið
those all which not had fled Sailed Olaf out in the-autumn
af Hrafnseyri, ok svá til Orkneyja. Ok vóru þar þau tíðendi,
from Ravenseyr and so to Orkney And were there those tidings
at þann dag ok á þeirri stundu, er Haraldr féll, varð María
that that day and at that hour when Harald fell became Maria
bráðdauð dóttir hans; ok er þat mál manna, at þau hafi
suddenly-dead daughter his and is that (the)-speech of-men that they have
eins manns fjör haft. Ólafr var um vetrinn í Orkneyjum,
one man's life had Olaf was in the-winter in Orkney
ok var hann hinn mesti vin jarla frænda sinna. Þær
and was he the greatest friend of-(the)-earls kinsmen his They
vóru bræðra-dætr, Þóra móðir Ólafs konúngs, ok Íngibjörg
were brothers'-daughters Thora mother of-Olaf king and Ingibjorg
móðir jarla. Ólafr fór um várit austr til Noregs, ok
mother of-(the)-earls Olaf went in the-spring east to Norway and
var þar til konúngs tekinn með Magnúsi bróður sínum.
was there as king taken with Magnus brother his
En er þeir bræðr réðu Orkneyjum, þá var samþykki þeirra
But when those brothers ruled Orkney then was (the)-agreement their
mikit ok gott langa hríð. En er synir þeirra tóku at megnast,
great and good a-long while But when sons their took to grow-strong
þá gjörðust þeir ofstopamenn miklir Hákon ok Erlíngr.
then became they overbearing-men great Hakon and Erling
Magnús var þeirra kyrrlátastr. Allir vóru þeir miklir ok sterkir
Magnus was of-them quietest All were they big and strong
ok vel mentir um alla hluti. Hákon Pálsson vildi vera
and well accomplished in all things Hakon Pal's-son wished to-be
fyrirmaðr þeirra bræðra; þóttist hann vera meiri burðum
(the)-foremost of-those brothers thought-himself he to-be greater in-birth

en synir Erlends, þvíat hann var dótturson Hákonar jarls
than (the)-sons of-Erlend because he was (the)-daughter's-son of-Hakon earl
Ívarssonar ok Ragnhildar, dóttur Magnúss konúngs góða.
Ivar's-son and of-Ragnhild daughter of-Magnus king (the)-Good
Vildi Hákon at vinir hans hefði or skiptum meira hlut
Wished Hakon that friends his should-have from dealings greater lot
þar, en þeir at hnigu til sona Erlends; en Erlendr vildi
there than those who inclined to (the)-sons of-Erlend but Erlend wished
ekki at synir hans hefði lægra hlut þar í Eyjum. Kom
not that sons his should-have lower lot there in (the)-Isles Came
þá svá, at þeir frændr máttu ekki ásamt vera, ok var með
then so that those kinsmen might not together be and was with
þeim ekki úhætt. Þá áttu feðr þeirra hlut at með [þeim];
them not safe Then had fathers their part at with them
þeir skyldu semja málit. Var þá fundr til lagðr; ok fanst
they should settle the-case Was then a-meeting to laid and was-found
þat brátt á, at hvárr þeirra hneigði eptir sínum sonum; ok
that soon on that each-of-two of-them inclined after his sons and
urðu eigi ásáttir. Gjörðist nú úsamþykki með þeim bræðrum;
became not agreed Became now disagreement between those brothers
ok skildust úsáttir, ok þótti þat mörgum mikill skaði.
and parted unreconciled and seemed that to-many a-great loss

XLI · HÁKON IN SWEDEN

Hákon pressed hard on Erlendr's men and was sent abroad, to King Ingi of Sweden.

Eptir þetta fóru góðgjarnir menn í milli þeirra, ok leita um
After this went well-meaning men in between them and seek about
sættir. Var þá lagðr sáttar-fundr með þeim í Hrossey.
settlements Was then laid a-settlement-meeting with them in Hrossey

Á þeim fundi gengu saman sættir þeirra með því móti,
At that meeting went together (the)-settlements their with that manner
at þá var skipt Eyjum í helmínga svá sem verit hafði
that then was divided (the)-Isles in halves so as been had
með þeim Þorfinni ok Brúsa. Stóð svá um hríð. Hákon var
with them Thorfinn and Brusi Stood so for a-while Hakon was
þá jafnan í hernaði síðan hann þroskaðist. Gjörðist hann
then always on harrying since he grew-up Became he
þá ofstopamaðr mikill; ok leituðu mjök á þá menn, er
then an-overbearing-man great and pressed much on those men who
þjónuðu undir þá feðgana, Erlend ok sonu hans. Kom þá
served under those father-and-sons Erlend and sons his Came then
enn svá, at þeir urðu úsáttir, ok fórust at með
again so that they became unreconciled and went-against-each-other at with
fjölmenni. Hávarðr Gunnason ok allir aðrir gæðíngar jarla
many-men Havard Gunni's-son and all other chieftains of-(the)-earls
gengu einn dag á milli ok báru enn saman með þeim; ok
went one day in between and bore again together with them and
báru sáttmál á milli. Vildu þeir Erlendr feðgar þá eigi
bore terms in between Wished they Erlend father-and-sons then not
sættast svá at Hákon væri þar í Eyjum. En með því at
to-be-reconciled so that Hakon were there in (the)-Isles But with that that
vinum þeirra þótti mikit í ábyrgð um deilur þeirra, þá
to-friends their seemed much at stake about (the)-disputes their then
feldu þeir bæn at Hákoni, at hann léti þetta eigi fyrir
made they a-prayer at Hakon that he should-let this not before
sættum standa, ok færi heldr brott or Eyjunum; sögðu
settlements stand and should-go rather away out-of the-Isles said
þat ráðligt, at hann færi austr um haf at finna frændr
that advisable that he should-go east over (the)-sea to find kinsmen
sína, bæði í Noregi ok Svíþjóð. Ok við umtölur manna,
his both in Norway and Sweden And at (the)-persuasions of-men

ok svá þat, at Hákoni var öfund á frændum sínum þar í
and so that that to-Hakon was envy on kinsmen his there in
Eyjunum en þótti gott at kanna siðu annarra hofðíngja,
the-Isles but seemed good to explore (the)-customs of-other chieftains
þá veitti hann þeim bæn sína at hann færi brott or
then granted he them prayer their that he should-go away out-of
Eyjum at sinni. Gekk þá enn sættin saman at góðra
(the)-Isles for (the)-time Went then again the-settlement together at good
manna ráði. Eptir þetta fór Hákon burt ór Eyjum, fyrst
men's counsel After this went Hakon away out-of (the)-Isles first
austr til Noregs, ok fann þar Ólaf konúng kyrra. Þetta
east to Norway and found there Olaf king (the)-Quiet This
var ofarliga á hans dögum. Dvaldist Hákon þar nokkura
was late in his days Stayed Hakon there some
stund. Síðan fór hann austr til Svíþjóðar á fund Ínga
while Then went he east to Sweden to (the)-meeting of-Ingi
konúngs Steinkelssonar, ok tók hann við honum vel. Hann
king Steinkel's-son and took he with him well He
fann þar vini sína ok frændr. Hlaut hann þar hinn mesta
found there friends his and kinsmen Got he there the greatest
heiðr af vinsældum Hákonar móðurföður síns. Hann hafði
honor from (the)-popularity of-Hakon mother's-father his He had
haldit ríki af Steinkatli Svía-konúngi síðan er hann varð
held a-realm from Steinkel Swedes'-king since when he became
landflótti fyrir Haraldi Sigurðarsyni; hafði hann þar orðit
a-land-fugitive before Harald Sigurd's-son had he there become
hinn vinsælsti, bæði af konúngi ok landsmönnum. Annarr
the most-popular both with (the)-king and (the)-land-men (The)-second
dótturson Hákonar jarls Ívarssonar var Hákon, er kallaðr var
daughter's-son of-Hakon earl Ivar's-son was Hakon who called was
hinn norræni. Hann var faðir Eireks hins spaka, er konúngr
the Norse He was father of-Eirik the Wise who king

var í Danmörku eptir Eirek konúng eymuna. Hákon
was in Denmark after Eirik king Ever-Memorable Hakon
dvaldist í Svíþjóð um hríð, ok var Íngi konúngr vel til
stayed in Sweden for a-while and was Ingi king well to
hans. En er svá hafði fram farit um hríð, þá léku honum
him But when so had forth gone for a-while then played to-him
landmunir at sækja vestr til Eyja. Þá var í Svíþjóð úng
land-longings to seek west to (the)-Isles Then was in Sweden young
kristni; vóru þá margir menn þeir er fóru með forneskju,
Christianity were then many men those who went with heathen-lore
ok þóttust af því verða fróðir ok vísir margra hluta,
and thought-themselves from that become knowing and wise of-many things
þeirra er eigi vóru fram komnir. Íngi konúngr var vel
those which not were forth come Ingi king was a-well
kristinn maðr, ok vóru honum leiðir allir forneskju-menn.
Christian man and were to-him loathsome all heathen-lore-men
Lagði hann mikla stund á at eyða úvenjum þeim, er
Laid he great effort on to destroy ill-customs those which
lengi höfðu fylgt heiðninni; en landshöfðíngjar ok stórbændr
long had followed the-heathendom but (the)-land-chieftains and great-farmers
kurruðu illa, er um var vandat úsiðu þeirra. Kom
grumbled ill when about was complained-of (the)-ill-customs their Came
því svá, at bændr tóku sér annan konúng þann er
therefore so that (the)-farmers took themselves another king that-one who
þá hélt til blóta, Sveinn, bróðir drottníngar, ok var kallaðr
then held to sacrifices Svein brother of-(the)-queen and was called
Blót-Sveinn. Fyrir honum varð Íngi konúngr landflótta í
Sacrifice-Svein Before him became Ingi king a-land-fugitive into
Vestra-Gautland. En svá lauk þeirra skiptum, at Íngi konúngr
West-Gautland But so ended their dealings that Ingi king

tók hús á Sveini ok brendi hann inni. Eptir þat tók hann
took house on Svein and burned him inside After that took he
allt land undir sik. Eyddi hann þá enn úsiðum mörgum.
all (the)-land under himself Destroyed he then still ill-customs many

XLII · THE SOOTHSAYER

In Sweden Hákon sought out a heathen soothsayer, who foretold that he would rule Orkney alone, commit a crime he might or might not atone for, and travel far, but bear his bones in the north.

Þá er Hákon Pálsson var í Svíþjóð hafði hann frétt til,
Then when Hakon Pal's-son was in Sweden had he report of
at þar í landi var sá maðr, er fór með vísindi ok
that there in (the)-land was that man who went with lore and
spádóm, hvárt er hann hafði til þess fjölkýngi eðr aðra
prophecy whether that he had for that witchcraft or other
hluti. Honum gjörðist forvitni á mikil at finna þann mann,
things To-him became curiosity on great to find that man
ok vita hvers hann yrði víss um forlög sín. Ok eptir
and know of-what he would-become aware about fate his And after
þetta fór hann til þess manns; ok fann hann at lyktum
this went he to that man and found him at last
í markbygð nokkurri. Fór hann þar at veizlum, ok sagði
in a-forest-settlement some Went he there to feasts and told
bóndum um árferð ok aðra hluti. En er hann fann
(the)-farmers about (the)-season and other things But when he found
þenna mann, þá frétti hann eptir hversu honum mundi
this man then asked he after how to-him would
gangast til ríkis eðr annarrar hamíngju. Vísinda-maðr spurði
go to realm or other luck (The)-wise-man asked

hvat manna hann væri. Hann sagði nafn sitt ok ætt sína,
what of-men he were He told name his and kin his
at hann var dótturson Hákonar Ívarssonar. Þá sagði
that he was (the)-daughter's-son of-Hakon Ivar's-son Then said
vísinda-maðr: "Hví muntú vilja taka af mér vísindi eðr
(the)-wise-man Why will-you will take from me lore or
sagnir? Veiztú þat, at hinir [fyrri] frændr þínir hafa lítinn
sayings Know-you that that the former kinsmen your have little
hug haft á þess-háttar mönnum sem ek em, ok má þér
mind had on that-kind-of men as I am and may to-you
þörf vinna at þú leitir eptir at vita forlög þín af Ólafi
need be that you seek for to know fate your from Olaf
hinum digra Noregs-konungi frænda þínum, er þér hafit
the Stout Norway's-king kinsman your whom you have
allan trúnað á. En grunr mundi mér á vera, at hann mundi
all trust on But suspicion would to-me on be that he would
eigi lítillæti til hafa at segja þér þat er þik forvitnar, eðr
not humility to have to tell you that which you is-curious or
vera eigi svá máttugr ella, sem þér kallit hann." Þá svarar
be not so mighty else as you call him Then answers
Hákon: "Ekki vil ek honum ámæla. Ætla ek þat meirr, at
Hakon Not will I him blame Think I that more that
ek mun eigi verðleika til hafa at taka af honum vísindi,
I will not worthiness to have to take from him lore
en hitt, at eigi muni hann vera svá voldugr, at ek mætta
than that that not would he be so powerful that I might
taka fyrir þat af honum vísindi. En því hefi ek á þinn
take for that from him lore But therefore have I to your
fund farit, at mér hefir þat í hug komit, at hér mun
meeting gone that to-me has that into mind come that here will
hvárrgi þurfa at öfunda annan fyrir mannkosta sakir eðr
neither need to envy (the)-other for virtues' sake or

trú-bragða.” Sá maðr svarar: “Vel líkar mér þat, at ek finn
of-religions That man answers Well pleases me that that I find
þat á, at þú þykkist þar eiga allt traust, er ek em,
that on that you think-yourself there to-have all trust where I am
ok framarr en trúa sú, er þér hafit með farit, ok aðrir
and further than faith that which you have with gone and other
frændr þínir. Er ok svá, at þeir er á slíkt stunda, er
kinsmen your Is also so that they who on such strive are
undarliga farit; fara með föstur ok vökur, ok ætla, at þar
strangely gone go with fasts and vigils and think that there
af muni þeim veitast þeir hlutir, er þeim er forvitni
from will to-them be-granted those things which to-them is curiosity
á at vita. En þó at þeir stundi á slíkt, þá verða þeir
on to know But though that they strive on such then become they
því síðr vísir þess, er þá forvitnar, sem þá skiptir
therefore less aware of-that which them is-curious as them concerns
meira; en vér leggjum oss í engar meingjörðir, ok
more but we lay ourselves into no harm-doings and
verðum vér þó jafnan vísir þeirra hluta, er vinum várum
become we yet always aware of-those things which to-friends our
þykkir máli skipta, at þeir gangi úduldir. Nú mun svá fara
seems matter to-concern that they go unbidden Now will so go
með okkr, at þú munt þess njóta frá mér, er ek skil
with us that you will that enjoy from me as I understand
þat, at þú þykkist heldr mega taka sannyndi af mér
that that you think-yourself rather may take truth from me
en kennimönnum Ínga konúngs, þeim er hann þykkist
than from-(the)-priests of-Ingi king those whom he thinks-himself
allt traust undir eiga. Skaltú koma á þriggja nátta fresti;
all trust under to-have Shall-you come at three nights' respite
skulu vit þá freista, at ek kunna at segja þér nökkura
shall we-two then try that I can to tell you some

hluti, þá er þik forvitnar." Eptir þat skilja þeir; ok dvelst
things those which you is-curious After that part they and stays
Hákon þar í bygðinni. Ok at liðnum þremr nóttum, fór
Hakon there in the-settlement And at passed three nights went
hann at finna vísinda-mann; var hann þá í húsi nokkuru
he to find (the)-wise-man was he then in a-house some
einn saman, ok varpaði mæðiliga öndinni, er hann gekk
one alone and threw wearily the-breath when he went
inn; strauk hendinni um ennit; sagði at hann hefði
in stroked with-the-hand over the-forehead said that he had
miklu til kostað, áðr hann yrði þeirra hluta víss, er
much for-it paid before he became of-those things aware which
hann skyldi forvitnast. Hákon kveðst þá heyra vilja sín
he should be-curious Hakon said-himself then to-hear to-wish his
forlög. Spámaðrinn tók til orða: "Ef þú vill forlög þín vita,
fate The-soothsayer took to words If you will fate your know
þá er þar langt um at tala, fyrir því at þau eru mikil; ok
then is there long about to talk for that that they are great and
af lífi þínu ok stundan munu mikil stór-tíðindi hljótast;
from life your and doings will great great-tidings result
ok er þat mitt hugboð, at [þú] verðir einvaldshöfðingi yfir
and is that my presentiment that you become sole-ruling-chieftain over
Orkneyjum at lyktum; en kann vera at þér þykki langt
Orkney at last but may be that to-you seem long
at bíða; hygg ek ok þat, at þar muni þitt afkvæmi ríkja.
to wait think I also that that there will your offspring rule
En af vestr-för þinni, þeirri er þú ferr næst til Orkneyja,
But from west-journey your that which you go next to Orkney
munu mikil stór-tíðindi af gjörast, þá er þeir hlutir verða
will great great-tidings from happen then when those things become
fram gengnir, er þar af mun leiða. Þú munt ok á þínum
forth gone which there from will lead You will also in your

dögum láta gjöra glæp þann, er þú munt annattveggja fá
days let do a-crime that which you will one-of-the-two get
bætt eðr eigi við þann guð, er þú trúir á. En spor þín
atoned or not with that God whom you believe in But tracks your
liggja lengra út í heim en ek fæ set, en þó hygg ek at
lie further out in (the)-world than I get seen but yet think I that
þú munir hér bera beinin í norðr-hálfunni. Nú hefig sagt
you will here bear the-bones in the-north-half Now have-I told
þér þá hluti, er ek mun at sinni; nú ræðr þú hversu
you those things which I will for (the)-time now rule you how
þú skalt við una þitt eyrindi." Hákon svarar: "Mikla sögn
you shall with be-content your errand Hakon answers Great tale
segir þú, ef sönn er; en þat ætla ek, at betr muni vera,
tell you if true is but that think I that better will be
en þú segir, um minn hag; má ok vera, at þú munir
than you say about my lot may also be that you will
þetta eigi með sannyndum sét hafa." Spámaðr bað hann
this not with truth seen have (The)-soothsayer bade him
því af trúa sem hann vildi, en kvað þetta mundu fram fara.
that of believe as he wished but said this would forth go

XLIII · HÁKON AND KING MAGNÚS BAREFOOT

Hákon urged King Magnús west; Magnús called out the levy with his son Sigurðr.

Eptir þetta fór Hákon til fundar við Ínga konúng; ok
After this went Hakon to meeting with Ingi king and
dvaldist með honum skamma stund, áðr hann fýstist at fara
stayed with him a-short while before he desired to go
í Vestr-lönd. Tók þá orlof af konúngi til brautfarar. Hákon
to (the)-West-lands Took then leave from (the)-king for departure Hakon

fór fyrst til Noregs á fund Magnúss konúngs frænda síns,
went first to Norway to (the)-meeting of-Magnus king kinsman his
ok tók hann vel við honum. Þar fréttir hann þau tíðendi af
and took he well with him There learns he those tidings from
Orkneyjum, at Erlendr jarl ok synir hans réði þar mestu,
Orkney that Erlend earl and sons his ruled there most
ok vóru allvinsælir; en Páll faðir hans var heldr afskipta-lítill
and were very-popular but Pal father his was rather little-concerned
um ríkit. Þat þóttist hann ok spyrja af þeim mönnum,
about the-realm That thought-himself he also to-learn from those men
er vestan kómu, ok helzt mæltu trúnað fyrir honum,
who from-the-west came and most spoke in-confidence before him
at Orkneyíngar mundu lítt langa til at hann kæmi vestr
that (the)-Orkneymen would little long for that he came west
þangat; ok höfðu þeir áðr frið góðan ok kyrrsæti; en ugðu
thither and had they before peace good and quiet but feared
ef Hákon kæmi vestr, at af honum mundi standa úfriðr ok
if Hakon came west that from him would stand strife and
styrjöld. En er Hákon hugsaði þetta fyrir sér, þá þótti
warfare But when Hakon thought-over this for himself then seemed
honum eigi örvænt, at þeir frændr mundi halda ríki fyrir
to-him not unlikely that those kinsmen would hold (the)-realm against
honum, en láta honum eigi úhætt, ef hann kæmi vestr þangat
him but let him not safe if he came west thither
eigi með fjölmenni. Tók hann þat ráð, at sækja at Magnús
not with many-men Took he that plan to press at Magnus
konúng, at hann kæmi honum til ríkis í Orkneyjum.
king that he should-bring him to (the)-realm in Orkney
Þetta var eptir þat er Magnús konúngr hafði látið af lífi
This was after that when Magnus king had let from life
taka Steigar-Þóri ok Egil, ok frelsaði landit af öllum úfriði.
take Steigar-Thorir and Egil and freed the-land from all strife

Hákon var vitr maðr, ok þóttist hann skilja á ræðum
Hakon was a-wise man and thought-himself he to-understand in (the)-talks
Magnúss konúngs, er þeir ræddust við, at konúngr
of-Magnus king when they talked together that (the)-king
mundi vera stórráðr, ok ágjarn á ríki annarra höfðíngja.
would be ambitious and greedy on (the)-realms of-other chieftains
Hákon tók þær ræður fyrir konúngi, at þat væri höfðíngs
Hakon took those talks before (the)-king that that were a-chieftain's
bragð at hafa leiðangr úti, ok herja vestr um haf, ok
deed to have a-levy out and harry west over (the)-sea and
leggja undir sik Eyjar, sem gjörði Haraldr hinn hárfagri.
lay under himself (the)-Isles as did Harald the Fairhair
Segir ok, ef hann fengi ríki í Suðreyjum, at þaðan væri
Says also if he got a-realm in (the)-Hebrides that thence were
hægt at herja á Írland ok Skotland; ok ef hann kæmi undir
easy to harry on Ireland and Scotland and if he brought under
sik Vestrlöndum, at þaðan væri gott at eflast með
himself (the)-West-lands that thence were good to strengthen-oneself with
styrk Norðmanna á móti Englis-mönnum, "ok hefna svá
(the)-strength of-Norwegians on against (the)-Englishmen and avenge so
Haralds Sigurðarsonar föður-föður þíns." En er þeir töluðu
Harald Sigurd's-son father's-father your But when they talked
þetta, fanst þat á, at konúngi féll þetta vel í skap;
this was-found that on that to-(the)-king fell this well in mind
kallaði at þetta væri vel talat ok höfðíngliga, ok nærr sínu
called that this were well spoken and chieftain-like and near his
skaplyndi. "En þat skaltú hugsa, Hákon," segir konúngr, "ef
temper But that shall-you think-over Hakon says (the)-king if
ek gjöri þetta fyrir orð þín ok áeggjan, at fara með her
I do this for words your and urging to go with a-host
vestr um haf, at þér skal ekki á úvart koma, þótt
west over (the)-sea that to-you shall not on unawares come though

ek borag frekan atsúg til ríkja þeirra, er liggja vestr
I bore a-greedy rush to (the)-realms those which lie west
þar, ok gera ek at því engan manna mun." En er Hákon
there and make I at that no man's difference But when Hakon
heyrði þenna órskurð, lét hann sér fátt um finnast, ok
heard this ruling let he himself little about find and
grunaði hvar til mælt mundi. Lét hann þá af at eggja
suspected where to spoken would-be Let he then off to urge
konúng á né einar ferðir; þurfti þá ok lítils við; þvíat eptir
(the)-king on nor single journeys needed then also little for-it because after
þessa ræðu sendi konúngr boð um allt ríki sitt, at leiðangr
this talk sent (the)-king word about all realm his that a-levy
skyldi úti vera. Gjörði hann þat bert fyrir alþýðu, at hann
should out be Made he that plain before (the)-people that he
ætlaði her þeim at halda vestr um haf, hvat sem síðarr
intended host that to hold west over (the)-sea whatever that later
gjörðist til tíðinda í hans ferðum. Bjoggust menn þá til
happened of tidings in his journeys Made-ready men then for
þessarar ferðar af öllu landi. Magnús konungr hafði með
this journey from all (the)-land Magnus king had with
sér son sínn til þessarar ferðar átta vetra gamlan, er
himself son his for this journey eight winters old who
Sigurðr hét. Hann var vel mannaðr.
Sigurd was-called He was well grown

XLIV · MAGNÚS BAREFOOT IN THE WEST

Magnús sent Páll and Erlendr east to Norway, set his son Sigurðr over the islands, and harried the Hebrides with the earls' sons. In the Menai Strait he won Anglesey, killing the British earl Hugi prúði, as the verse tells.

Þá er þeir bræðr Páll ok Erlendr réðu Orkneyjum, kom
Then when those brothers Pal and Erlend ruled Orkney came
austan ór Noregi Magnús konungr son Ólafs Kyrra.
from-the-east out-of Norway Magnus king son of-Olaf (the)-Quiet
Hann hafði her mikinn; honum fylgðu margir lendir menn:
He had a-host great him followed many landed men
Viðkunnr Jónsson, Sigurðr Hranason, Serkr or Sogni, Dagr
Vidkunn Jon's-son Sigurd Hrani's-son Serk out-of Sogn Dag
Eilífsson. Synir Skopta ór Gizka: Ögmundr, Finnr, ok
Eilif's-son (The)-sons of-Skopti from Giske Ogmund Finn and
Þórðr. Eyvindr ölbogi stallari konungs. Þar var ok Kali af
Thord Eyvind Elbow marshal of-(the)-king There was also Kali from
Ögðum Sæbjarnar son, Þorleifs sonar ins spaka er Hallfreðr
Agder Saebjorn's son of-Thorleif son the Wise whom Hallfred
meiddi, ok Kolr son hans. Kali var spekingr mikill ok kærr
maimed and Kol son his Kali was a-wise-man great and dear
konungi, ok orti vel. — Þá er Magnuss konungr kom
to-(the)-king and composed well Then when Magnus king came
til Orkneyja, þá tók hann jarla, Pál ok Erlend, ok sendi
to Orkney then took he (the)-earls Pal and Erlend and sent
þá austr til Noregs, en setti Sigurð son sinn yfir Eyjar
them east to Norway but set Sigurd son his over (the)-Isles
ok fékk honum ráðuneyti. Magnús konungr fór í Suðreyjar;
and gave him counselors Magnus king went to (the)-Hebrides
ok fylgðu honum synir jarla: Magnús ok Erlingr synir
and followed him (the)-sons of-(the)-earls Magnus and Erling sons
Erlends jarls, ok Hákon Pálsson. En er Magnús konungr
of-Erlend earl and Hakon Pal's-son But when Magnus king
kom í Eyjar, tók hann at herja, fyrst í Ljóðhúsum ok
came to (the)-Isles took he to harry first in Lewis and
vann þau. Ok í þeirri ferð vann hann allar Suðreyjar, ok
won it And in that journey won he all (the)-Hebrides and

tóku höndum Lögmann [son] Guðröðar Suðreyja-konungs.
took captive Logmann son of-Gudrod Hebrides'-king
Þaðan fór hann suðr undir Bretland; ok átti orrostu mikla
Thence went he south under Wales and had a-battle great
í Öngulseyjar-sundi við jarla tvá Brezka, Huga inn digra
in (the)-Anglesey-sound against earls two British Hugh the Stout
ok Huga inn prúða. Þeir vóru bræðr Costnama er þá var
and Hugh the Proud They were brothers of-Costnami who then was
konungr á Írlandi á Ulaztiri. Ok er menn brutu up vápn
king in Ireland in Ulster And when men broke up weapons
sín ok bjoggust til orrostu, settist Magnús Erlingsson niðr
their and made-ready for battle sat-himself Magnus Erling's-son down
aptr í fyrir-rúmi ok vápnast eigi. Konungr spyrr hví hann
aft in (the)-fore-room and armed-himself not (The)-king asks why he
sæti. Hann lézt þar við engan mann sakir eiga. "Vil
sat He declared-himself there with no man causes to-have Will
ek því eigi berjast." [Konungr mælti]: "Far þú undir þiljur
I therefore not fight (The)-king spoke Go you under decks
niðr, ok ligg eigi hér fyrir fótum mönnum, ef þú þorir eigi
down and lie not here before (the)-feet of-men if you dare not
at berjast, þvíat ek ætla þér eigi trú til ganga." Magnús tók
to fight because I think to-you not faith to go-to-it Magnus took
saltara ok söng um bardagann; en hlífði sér ekki. Orrosta
a-psalter and sang during the-battle but shielded himself not Battle
þessi var bæði hörð ok löng, ok var bæði skotið ok höggit.
this was both hard and long and was both shot and hewn
Var þat lengi, at eigi mátti sjá í millum, hvern veg hníga
Was that long that not might see in between which way fall
mundi. Magnús konungr skaut af handboga ok annarr maðr
would Magnus king shot from a-hand-bow and another man
Háleyskr hjá honum. Hugi prúði barðist allhraustliga.
Halogalander beside him Hugh (the)-Proud fought very-bravely

Hann var svá búinn ok brynjaðr, at ekki var bert á
He was so dressed and mailed that nothing was bare on
honum nema augun. Magnús konungr bað inn Háleyska, at
him except the-eyes Magnus king bade the Halogalander that
þeir skyti báðir senn til hans. Gjörðu þeir ok svá; kom
they should-shoot both at-once at him Did they also so came
önnur örin í nefbjörgina, en önnur í augat, ok flaug
one the-arrow into the-nose-guard but the-other into the-eye and flew
aptr í gegnum höfuðit. Var skot þat konunginum kennt.
back in through the-head Was (the)-shot that to-the-king ascribed
Þar féll Hugi prúði. Síðan flýðu Bretar, ok höfðu látið
There fell Hugh (the)-Proud Then fled (the)-Britons and had lost
lið mikit; en Magnús konungr átti at ráða sigri miklum,
troop great but Magnus king had to rule a-victory great
ok hafði þó látið marga góða menn, en fjölði varð
and had yet lost many good men but a-multitude became
sárr. Svá var þar um kveðit:
wounded So was there about-it made

“Dunði broddr á brynjur,
Rang (the)-point on mail-coats
bragningr skaut af magni,
(the)-prince shot with might
sveigði allvaldr Egða
bent (the)-mighty-ruler of-(the)-Agder-men
álm; stökk blóð á hjálma:
elm leapt blood on helmets
Strengs fló hagl í hringa;
(The)-string's flew hail into rings

hné ferð, en lét verða
sank (the)-host but let become
Hörða-gramr í harðri
(the)-Hordar-king in hard
hjarl-sókn banat jarli."
land-attack killed (the)-earl

Þá eignaðist Magnús konungr Öngulsey sem inir fyrir
Then acquired Magnus king Anglesey as the former
Noregs-konungar höfðu lengst eignast suðr. Öngulsey er
Norway-kings had furthest acquired south Anglesey is
þriðjungr Bretlands. Kali Sæbjarnarson hafði fengit sár
a-third of-Wales Kali Saebjorn's-son had got wounds
mörg í Öngulseyjar-sundi, ok eigi bráð-banvænlig. Síðan
many in (the)-Anglesey-sound and not quickly-deadly Then
vendi Magnús konungr aptr it syðra með Skotlandi.
turned Magnus king back the southern along Scotland

XLV · MAGNÚS ERLENDSSON'S ESCAPE

King Magnús, angry at Magnús Erlendsson's conduct at Anglesey, held it against him; one night off Scotland the young man slipped overboard and hid in a tree from the king's searchers, and reached King Melkólmr. Sigurðr was betrothed to an Irish king's daughter, and Kali Sæbjarnarson died of his wounds.

Magnús konungr hafði gjört Magnús Erlendsson skutilsvein
Magnus king had made Magnus Erlend's-son page
sinn ok þjónaði hann jafnan at konungsborði. En eptir
his and served he always at (the)-king's-table But after
bardaga í Öngulseyjar-sundi lagði Magnus konungr á hann
(the)-battle in (the)-Anglesey-sound laid Magnus king on him

óþokka mikinn; kallaði hann hafa ódrengiliga farit. Þat var
dislike great said he to-have cowardly gone That was
eina nótt at Magnús konungr lá við Skotland, at Magnús
one night that Magnus king lay by Scotland that Magnus
Erlendsson hljóp brott af skipi Magnúss konungs, þá
Erlend's-son leapt away from (the)-ship of-Magnus king then
er hónum þótti hellzt færi á gefast at flýja frá
when to-him seemed most opportunity on to-be-given to flee from
konunginum. Hann hljóp fyrir borð ok svamm til lands, ok
the-king He leapt over board and swam to land and
bjó svá um í hvílu sinni, at þar sýndist sem maðr lægi.
arranged so about in bed his that there seemed as-if a-man lay
En er hann kom til lands, hljóp hann til skógar, ok var
But when he came to land leapt he to (the)-wood and was
í línklæðum sínum. Hann drap fæti, ok skeindist mjök, er
in linen-clothes his He struck (his)-foot and was-scratched much as
hann var berfættr, ok mátti hann eigi fara lengra at sinni.
he was barefoot and might he not go further for (the)-time
Hann kom at tré einu miklu, ok fór þar í limar upp,
He came to a-tree one great and went there into (the)-branches up
ok batt þar um fót sér, ok leyndist þar í limunum nökkura
and bound there about foot his and hid-himself there in the-branches some
stund. En um morguninn, er menn gengu til matar á
while But in the-morning when men went to food on
kónungs-skipinu, spurði konungr hvar Magnús Erlendsson
(the)-king's-ship asked (the)-king where Magnus Erlend's-son
væri. Honum var sagt, at hann svaf í hvílu sinni. Konungr
were To-him was told that he slept in bed his (The)-king
bað vekja hann, ok kvað til mundu bera fleira en svefn er
bade wake him and said to would bear more than sleep when
hann lá lengr en aðrir menn. En er til rúms hans var
he lay longer than other men But when to place his was

komit, þá var hans saknat. Þá bað konungr leita hans, ok
come then was he missed Then bade (the)-king seek him and
lét leysa sporhunda. En er hundarnir vóru lausir, kvómu þeir
let loose tracking-hounds But when the-hounds were loose came they
þegar á sporit, ok runnu til skógar, ok kvómu at tré
at-once onto the-track and ran to (the)-wood and came to (the)-tree
því er Magnús var uppi í. Þá rann einn hundrinn í hríng
that which Magnus was up in Then ran one the-hound in a-ring
um eikina ok gó. Magnús hafði trékefli í hendi sér, ok
about the-oak and barked Magnus had a-wooden-stick in hand his and
kastaði til hundsins, ok kom á síðuna. Hundrinn lagði halann
threw at the-hound and came on the-side The-hound laid the-tail
milli fóta sér ok hljóp ofan til skipa ok þar aðrir eptir.
between feet its and leapt down to (the)-ships and there others after
Fundu konungs-menn eigi Magnús. Leyndist hann um hríð
Found (the)-king's-men not Magnus Hid-himself he for a-while
á skóginum; ok kom fram um síðir í hirð Melkolms
in the-wood and came forth at last into (the)-court of-Malcolm
Skota-konungs, ok dvaldist þar um hríð, en stundum var
Scots'-king and stayed there for a-while but at-times was
hann á Bretlandi með biskupi nökkurum. Stundum var
he in Wales with a-bishop some At-times was
hann á Englandi eðr í ymsum stöðum með vínum sínum,
he in England or in various places with friends his
ok kom eigi til Orkneyja meðan Magnús konungr lifði.
and came not to Orkney while Magnus king lived
Magnús konungr hélt sunnan með Skotlandi. Ok þá kvómu
Magnus king held from-the-south along Scotland And then came
í móti honum sendimenn Melkolms Skota-konungs, ok buðu
in against him messengers of-Malcolm Scots'-king and offered
honum sættir. Sögðu svá, at Skotakonungr vildi gefa honum
him settlements Said so that (the)-Scots'-king wished to-give him

allar eyjar þær er liggja fyrir vestan Skotland, ok fara
all islands those which lie on west-of Scotland and go
mætti stjórn-föstu skipi milli ok meginlands. En er Magnús
might a-rudder-fixed ship between and (the)-mainland But when Magnus
konungr hélt sunnan at Satíri, lét hann draga skútu yfir
king held from-the-south to Kintyre let he drag a-skiff over
Satíriseið. Konungr hélt um hjalmun-völ ok eignaðist svá
(the)-Kintyre-isthmus (The)-king held about (the)-tiller and acquired so
allt Satíri. Þat er betra en hin bezta ey í Suðreyjum, nema
all Kintyre That is better than the best island in (the)-Hebrides except
Mön. Hón gengr vestan af Skotlandi, ok eið mjótt fyrir
Man It goes from-the-west from Scotland and an-isthmus narrow on
ofan, svá at þar eru jafnan dregin skip yfir. Magnús konungr
above so that there are always dragged ships over Magnus king
hélt þaðan í Suðreyjar, en sendi menn sína í Skotlands-fjörðu;
held thence to (the)-Hebrides but sent men his into (the)-Scotland's-firths
skyldi þeir svá með öðru landi út en öðru inn, ok eignaði
should they so along one land out but (the)-other in and acquired
Magnús konungr sér svá allar eyjar fyrir vestan Skotland.
Magnus king for-himself so all islands on west-of Scotland
Þá giörði konungr þat bert at hann mundi sitja um vetrinn
Then made (the)-king that plain that he would sit in the-winter
í Suðreyjum, en leyfði þeim mönnum, er honum þótti
in (the)-Hebrides but allowed those men whom to-him seemed
mest nauðsyn á vera, heim at fara. En er liðsmenn vissu
most need on to-be home to go But when (the)-troop-men knew
þat þá gjörðust þeir heimfúsir ok kurruðu illa um brottvist
that then became they home-eager and grumbled ill about (the)-absence
sína. Konungr átti þá tal við lið sitt ok ráðuneyti. Hann
their (The)-king had then a-talk with troop his and counselors He
fór til at sjá sár manna sinna. Þá fann konungr Kala
went to to see (the)-wounds of-men his Then found (the)-king Kali

Sæbjarnarson, ok spurði at sárum hans. Kali kvað lítt gróa;
Saebjorn's-son and asked about wounds his Kali said little to-heal
ok léz eigi vita til hvers draga mundi. Konungr kvaddi
and declared not to-know to what draw would (The)-king called-upon
Kala ráða. Kali svarar: "Er eigi þat nú, konungr, at
Kali for-counsel Kali answers Is not that now king that
vinir þínir skjótist frá yðr?" Konungr létzt eigi ætla
friends your slip-away from you (The)-king declared-himself not to-think
at þat mundi. Kali bað konung eiga vápna-þing ok kanna
that that would-be Kali bade (the)-king hold a-weapon-muster and survey
lið sitt. Konungr gjörði svá, ok saknaði þá margra manna.
troop his (The)-king did so and missed then many men
Ok er konungr sagði þetta Kala, þá kvað Kali þetta: —
And when (the)-king told this to-Kali then recited Kali this

"Hve launa þér þínir
How repay you your
þingríkir hofðingjar
assembly-mighty chieftains
(vestr bifast rengr í röstum;
west trembles (the)-planks in currents
reyndú oss konungr) hnossir?"
proved-you us king with-treasures

Konungr svarar: —
(The)-king answers

"Auð hefig minn, þann er mönnum
Wealth have-I my that which to-men
marg-teitum réð ek veita,
much-glad decided I to-give

(húf lét ek klökvan klífa
hull let I sluggish climb
kólgur) illa fólginn."
waves ill hidden

Síðan hélt konungr vörðu um brotför manna, ok lét
Then held (the)-king guard about (the)-departure of-men and let
önga *** Þá er Magnús konungr var í Suðreyjum
none (lacuna) Then when Magnus king was in (the)-Hebrides
fékk hann til handa Sigurði syni sínum Biaðmuniu dóttur
got he to hands of-Sigurd son his Bjadmunja daughter
Murkjartans Íra-konungs af Kunactum. Þá var Sigurðr
of-Myrkjartan Irish-king from Connacht Then was Sigurd
ix. vetra en mærin v. vetra. Þenna vetr andaðist Kali
nine winters but the-maid five winters That winter died Kali
Sæbjarnarson ór sárum. Í Öngulseyjar-sundi hafði fallit
Saebjorn's-son of wounds In (the)-Anglesey-sound had fallen
Sigurðr sneis frændi Kala. Hann var lendr maðr á Ögðum.
Sigurd Sneis kinsman of-Kali He was a-landed man in Agder

XLVI · THE EARLS DIE IN NORWAY

Erlendr died in Níðaróss and Páll in Björgvin. Magnús Barefoot married Erlendr's daughter Gunnhildr to Kolr Kalason in compensation, with lands in Orkney; their children Kali and Ingiríðr were brought up in Agðir.

Magnús konungr fór snemma um várit ór Suðreyjum.
Magnus king went early in the-spring out-of (the)-Hebrides
Hann fór fyrst til Orkneyja. Þar spurði hann andlát
He went first to Orkney There learned he (the)-death

jarla austan um haf. Erlendr hafði andast í Níðarósi,
of-(the)-earls from-the-east over (the)-sea Erlend had died in Nidaros
ok var þar jarðaðr, en Páll í Björgvin. Um várit í
and was there buried but Pal in Bergen In the-spring in
Orkneyjum gipti Magnús konungr Gunnildi dóttur Erlends
Orkney married Magnus king Gunnhild daughter of-Erlend
jarls Kol Kalasyni í föður-bætr, ok fylgðu henni heiman
earl to-Kol Kali's-son in father-compensation and followed her from-home
nökkurar eignir í Orkneyjum ok bú í Papuli. Erlingr son
some properties in Orkney and a-farm in Paplay Erling son
Erlends jarls segja sumir menn at félli í Öngulseyjar-sundi;
of-Erlend earl say some men that (he)-fell in (the)-Anglesey-sound
en Snorri Sturluson segir hann fallit hafa á Ulaztiri með
but Snorri Sturluson says him fallen have in Ulster with
Magnúsi konungi. Kolr Kalason gerðiz lendr maðr konungs,
Magnus king Kol Kali's-son became a-landed man of-(the)-king
ok fór austr í Noreg með konungi, ok heim á Agðir með
and went east to Norway with (the)-king and home to Agder with
konu sína, ok settist at búum sínum. Þau Kolr ok Gunnhilldr
wife his and settled at farms his They Kol and Gunnhild
áttu tvau börn; hét son þeirra Kali en dóttir Ingiríð.
had two children was-called son their Kali but (the)-daughter Ingirid
Bæði vóru þau hin mannvænstu; ok fædd upp með ást mikilli.
Both were they the most-promising and brought up with love great

XLVII · HÁKON AND MAGNÚS DIVIDE THE ISLANDS

After Magnús Barefoot fell in Ireland, Hákon Pálsson took the islands from the Norwegian kings. Magnús Erlendsson returned, won half of Orkney from King Eysteinn, and the kinsmen ruled together in peace.

Þá er Magnús konungr hafði ráðit landi ix. vetr, fór
Then when Magnus king had ruled (the)-land nine winters went
hann ór landi vestr um haf ok herjaði á Írland, ok var
he out-of (the)-land west over (the)-sea and harried on Ireland and was
um vetrinn á Kunnactum. En um sumarit eptir féll hann
in the-winter in Connacht But in the-summer after fell he
á Ulaztiri Bartholomeus-messu-dag. En er Sigurðr konungr
in Ulster on-Bartholomew's-mass-day But when Sigurd king
spurði fall föður síns í Orkneyjar, fór hann þegar austr til
learned (the)-fall of-father his in Orkney went he at-once east to
Noregs, ok var þar til konungs tekinn með bræðrum sínum,
Norway and was there as king taken with brothers his
Eysteini ok Ólafi. Sigurðr lét eptir dóttur Íra-konungs
Eystein and Olaf Sigurd left behind (the)-daughter of-(the)-Irish-king
fyrir vestan hafit. Einum vetri eðr tveimr eptir fall Magnús
on west-of the-sea One winter or two after (the)-fall of-Magnus
konungs, kom vestan um haf Hákon Pálsson, ok gáfu
king came from-the-west over (the)-sea Hakon Pal's-son and gave
konungar honum jarls-nafn, ok ríki slíkt sem burðir hans stóðu
(the)-kings him an-earl's-name and realm such as births his stood
til. Fór hann þá vestr um haf, ok tók undir sik ríki í
to Went he then west over (the)-sea and took under himself (the)-realm in
Orkneyjum. Hann hafði jafnan fylgt Magnúsi konungi meðan
Orkney He had always followed Magnus king while
hann lifði. Hann var með honum í hernaði austr í Gautlandi,
he lived He was with him on harrying east in Gautland
sem segir í drápu þeirri er ort er um Hákon Pálsson.
as says in (the)-drapa that which made is about Hakon Pal's-son
Þá er Hákon jarl hafði ríki tekit í Orkneyjum, kom ofan
Then when Hakon earl had realm taken in Orkney came down
af Skotlandi Magnús son Erlends jarls, ok beiddist at taka
from Scotland Magnus son of-Erlend earl and asked to take

við föðurleifð sinni. Þat líkaði bóndum vel, þvíat hann
with father's-inheritance his That pleased (the)-farmers well because he
var allvinsæll. Hann átti þar marga frændr ok mága, þá
was very-popular He had there many kinsmen and in-laws those
er gjarna vildu honum til ríkis halda. Þá átti móður
who gladly wished him to (the)-realm to-hold Then had (the)-mother
hans göfugr maðr er Sigurðr hét; þeirra son var Hákon
his a-noble man who Sigurd was-called their son was Hakon
karl; þau áttu bú í Papuli. Þá er Hákon jarl spurði at
Karl they had a-farm in Paplay Then when Hakon earl learned that
Magnús jarl var kominn í Eyjarnar, dró hann lið at sér,
Magnus earl was come into the-Isles drew he troop to himself
ok vildi eigi upp gefa Eyjarnar eðr miðla þat ríki er hann
and wished not up to-give the-Isles or share that realm which he
átti þar. Eptir þat fóru vinir á milli, ok leituðu um sættir.
owned there After that went friends in between and sought about settlements
Kom því svá, at þeir sættust at því, at Hákon gaf upp
Came therefore so that they were-reconciled on that that Hakon gave up
ríki hálft, ef þat væri atkvæði Noregs-konúnga; ok með
(the)-realm half if that were (the)-verdict of-(the)-Norway-kings and with
því settist úfriðr þessi. Magnús fór þegar á vár til Noregs á
that settled strife this Magnus went at-once in spring to Norway to
fund Eysteins konúngs, þvíat Sigurðr var þá út farinn í
(the)-meeting of-Eystein king because Sigurd was then out gone to
Jórsala-heim. Eysteinn konúngr tók við honum forkunnar vel,
Jerusalem-world Eystein king took with him exceedingly well
ok gaf honum upp föðurleifð sína, hálfar Orkneyjar ok
and gave him up father's-inheritance his half Orkney and
jarls-nafn. Fór Magnús jarl vestr um haf á vit ríkis síns,
an-earl's-name Went Magnus earl west over (the)-sea to visit realm his
ok urðu þar fegnir frændr ok vinir ok öll alþýða; samdist þá
and became there glad kinsmen and friends and all (the)-people agreed then

vel frændsemi þeirra Hákonar, er vinir áttu hlut í. Var þá
well (the)-kinship of-them of-Hakon while friends had part in Was then
ár ok friðr góðr í Orkneyjum meðan vinátta þeirra hélzt.
plenty and peace good in Orkney while (the)-friendship their held

XLVIII · THE VIRTUES OF SAINT MAGNÚS

Magnús was handsome, wise, generous, and just, hard on robbers and vikings but kind to the poor. He lived ten years chaste with his Scottish wife and cooled temptation in cold water.

Hinn heilagi Magnús Eyja-jarl var hinn ágætasti maðr,
The holy Magnus Isles'-earl was the most-excellent man
mikill at vexti, drengiligr ok skýrligr at yfirlitum, siðgóðr
great in growth manly and bright in looks good-mannered
í háttum, sigrsæll í orrostum, spekingr at viti, málsnjallr ok
in habits victorious in battles a-sage in wit eloquent and
ríklundaðr, örr af fé ok stórlyndr, ráðsvinnr ok hverjum
strong-minded generous of wealth and great-hearted wise-in-counsel and than-every
manni vinsælli; blíðr ok góðr viðmælis við spaka menn ok
man more-popular gentle and good of-speech with wise men and
góða; en harðr ok úeirinn við ránsmenn ok víkínga; lét drepa
good but hard and unsparing with robbers and vikings let kill
mjök þá menn, er herjuðu á bændr ok landsmenn; lét hann
much those men who harried on farmers and land-men let he
taka morðíngja ok þjófa, ok refsaði svá ríkum sem úríkum
take murderers and thieves and punished so (the)-mighty as (the)-humble
rán ok þýfskur ok öll úknytti. Eigi var hann vinhallr í
robbery and thefts and all misdeeds Not was he partial in
dómum; virði hann meira guðligan rétt en mann-virðíngar
judgments valued he more divine right than men's-rank's

mun. Hann var stórgjöfull við höfðíngja ok ríka menn, en
difference He was great-giving to chieftains and mighty men but
jafnan veitti hann þó mesta huggan fátækum mönnum. Í öllum
always gave he yet most comfort to-poor men In all
hlutum hélt hann ríkuliga guðs boðorð; þjáði sinn líkama
things held he richly God's commandments mortified his body
í mörgum hlutum, þeim er í hans lofligu lífi vóru birtir
in many things those which in his praiseworthy life were revealed
fyrir guði en leynt fyrir mönnum. Sýndi hann þá ráða-gjörð
before God but hidden before men Showed he then plan
sína, at hann bað sér einnar meyjar hinnar dýrðligstu
his that he asked for-himself one maid of-the most-glorious
ættar af Skotlandi, ok drakk brúðhlaup til; bygði hann tíu
kin from Scotland and drank wedding to dwelt he ten
vetr hjá henni svá at hann spilti hvárskis þeirra losta, ok var
winters with her so that he spoiled of-neither of-them lust and was
hreinn ok flekklauss allra saurlífis synda. Ok er hann kendi
clean and spotless of-all lechery's sins And when he felt
freistni á sér, þá fór hann í kalt vatn, ok bað sér
temptation on himself then went he into cold water and bade for-himself
fulltíngs af guði. Margir vóru þeir hlutir aðrir ok dýrðligir
help from God Many were those things other and glorious
mannkostir, er hann sýndi sjálfum guði en leyndi mennina.
virtues which he showed himself to-God but hid from-men

XLIX · ENVY BETWEEN THE EARLS

Magnús and Hákon defended the land together, killing Dufnjáll and burning Þorbjörn in Burrafirth in Shetland, but ill-wishers came between them, and Hákon grew envious of his cousin's popularity.

Þeir frændr Magnús ok Hákon höfðu landvörn nokkura hríð
Those kinsmen Magnus and Hakon had land-defense some while
svá at þeir vóru vel samþykkir. Svá er sagt í kvæði því,
so that they were well agreed So is said in (the)-poem that
er ort er um þá, at þeir hafi barizt við þann höfðíngja er
which made is about them that they had fought with that chieftain who
Dufnjáll héti, ok var manni fyrnari en bræðrúngr jarla,
Dufnjal was-named and was a-man further than a-cousin of-(the)-earls
ok féll hann fyrir þeim. Þorbjörn hét göfigr maðr, er þeir
and fell he before them Thorbjorn was-called a-noble man whom they
tóku af lífi í Borgarfirði á Hjaltlandi; er þat margra manna
took from life in Burrafirth in Shetland is that of-many men
sögn, at þeir hafi tekit hús á honum, ok brennt hann
(the)-account that they had taken house on him and burned him
inni. Fleiri eru þau tíðendi, er kvæðit vísar á, at þeir hafi
inside More are those tidings which the-poem points to that they had
báðir samt at verit, þó at hér sé eigi greiniliga frá sagt. En
both together at been though that here be not clearly from said But
er þeir frændr höfðu nokkura stund landi ráðit, þá var enn
when those kinsmen had some while (the)-land ruled then was still
sem optarr, ok jafnan kann verða, at margir illgjarnir menn
as oftener and always can be that many ill-willed men
urðu til um at spilla frændsemi þeirra. Dróst Hákon þá
became to-it about to spoil (the)-kinship their Drew-himself Hakon then
úgiptumenn meirr á hendr, þvíat hann var mjök öfundsjúkr
luckless-men more on hand because he was much envious
um vinsældir ok höfðíngskap Magnúss frænda síns.
about (the)-popularity and chieftainship of-Magnus kinsman his

Stirred by Sigurðr and Sighvatr Sock, the earls gathered hosts on Hrossey; friends made peace, and a meeting on Egilsay was set for Easter week, each with two ships. On the way a wave broke over Magnús's ship in a calm, and he read it as a sign of his death.

Tveir menn eru þeir til nefndir, er vóru með Hákoni jarli,
Two men are they to named who were with Hakon earl
er einna vest gengu á milli þeirra frænda, Sigurðr ok
who of-all worst went in between those kinsmen Sigurd and
Sighvatr sokki. Því rógi kom svá með umtali vándra
Sighvat Sock By-that slander came so with (the)-talk of-wicked
manna, at þeir frændr drógu þá enn lið saman, ok fór
men that those kinsmen drew then again troop together and went
hvárr í móti öðrum, jarla, með miklu liði. Þeir héldu
each-of-two in against (the)-other of-(the)-earls with great troop They held
þá báðir til Hrosseyjar, þar sem þingstöð þeirra var
then both to Hrossey there where (the)-assembly-place of-them was
Orkneyínga. En er þeir kómu þar, þá fylktu hvárir-tveggju
of-(the)-Orkneymen But when they came there then arrayed each-of-two
liði sínu, ok bjoggust til bardaga. Þá vóru þar jarlar ok
troop their and made-ready for battle Then were there (the)-earls and
allt stórmenni, ok vóru þar margir beggja vinir, þeir er allan
all (the)-great-men and were there many friends of-both those who all
hlut áttu í at sætta þá; gengu margir þá á milli með
part had in to reconcile them went many then in between with
drengskap ok góðvilja. Þessi fundr var á Langa-föstu litlu
manliness and goodwill This meeting was in Lent little
fyrir Pálmadag. En við þat er margir góðgjarnir menn áttu
before Palm-Sunday But with that when many well-meaning men had

hlut at at skirra vandræðum með þeim, en veita hvárigum
part at to prevent troubles between them but give to-neither-of-two
til úhæfu við annan, þá bundu þeir sætt sína með
to outrage against (the)-other then bound they settlement their with
eiðum ok handsölum. Ok er þaðan liðu nökkurar stundir,
oaths and handshakes And when thence passed some while
þá eindagaði Hákon jarl með falsi ok fagrmælum stefnudag
then appointed Hakon earl with falsehood and fair-words a-meeting-day
hinum sæla Magnúsi jarli, at eigi skyldi snúast eðr únýtast
to-the blessed Magnus earl that not should turn or be-undone
frændsemi þeirra ok staðfastliga nýgjörr friðr. Skyldi þessi
(the)-kinship their and steadfastly newly-made peace Should this
fundr til staðfestu friðar ok sættar-gjörða þeirra á milli
meeting for (the)-confirmation of-peace and settlement-making of-them in between
í Páska-viku um várit í Egilsey. Þetta líkaði Magnúsi jarli
in Easter-week in the-spring in Egilsay This pleased Magnus earl
sem fullkomnum heilhuga, firðr allra grunsemda, svika
as a-perfect whole-hearted (man)-free of-all suspicions of-treachery
ok ágirndar; ok skyldi hvárr þeirra hafa tvau skip ok
and greed and should each-of-two of-them have two ships and
jafnmarga menn; svörðu þess báðir, at halda þær sættir, er
equally-many men swore that both to hold those settlements which
hinir vitrustu menn réðu upp at segja þeirra á milli. En er
the wisest men decided up to say of-them in between But when
Pa[s]cha-tíðin gekk af, búast hvárir-tveggju til þessa fundar.
the-Easter-time went off make-ready each-of-two for this meeting
Stefndi Magnús jarl til sín þeim mönnum öllum, er hann
Summoned Magnus earl to himself those men all whom he
vissi vera góðgjarnasta, ok líkligsta til umbóta með þeim
knew to-be best-willed and likeliest to improvement between those
frændum. Hann hafði tvau skip ok jafnmarga menn, sem
kinsmen He had two ships and equally-many men as

mælt var. Ok er hann var búinn, hélt hann til Egilseyjar.
spoken was And when he was ready held he to Egilsay
Ok er þeir reru í logni ok sækyrru, þá reis boði á
And when they rowed in calm and sea-stillness then rose a-breaker on
skipi því, er jarl stýrði, ok féll yfir skipit þar er
(the)-ship that which (the)-earl steered and fell over the-ship there where
jarl sat. Menn jarls undruðust mjök þenna atburð,
(the)-earl sat (The)-men of-(the)-earl wondered much at-this event
er boði féll í logni, þar sem engi maðr vissi ván til
that a-breaker fell in calm there where no man knew expectation to
at fyrri hefði fallit, ok djúpt var undir. Þá sagði jarl:
that before had fallen and deep was under Then said (the)-earl
"Eigi er þat kynligt, at þér undrist þetta; en þat er hugsan
Not is that strange that you wonder-at this but that is thought
mín, at þetta sé fyrirboðan lífláts míns; kann vera, at þat
my that this be a-foreboding of-death my may be that that
komi fram, er fyrir er spáð um Hákon jarl. Skulum
come forth which before is prophesied about Hakon earl Shall
vær svá hugsa várt mál, at ek get at Hákon frændi mun
we so think-over our case that I guess that Hakon kinsman will
búa eigi um heilt við oss á þessum fundi." Menn jarls
deal not about whole with us at this meeting (The)-men of-(the)-earl
urðu hryggir við þessi orð, er hann sagði svá bráðar
became sad at these words when he said so swift
vánir síns líflåts, ok báðu hann gæta lífs síns, ok fara
expectations of-his death and bade him guard life his and go
eigi á trúnað Hákonar jarls. Magnús jarl svarar: "Fara skal
not on (the)-trust of-Hakon earl Magnus earl answers Go shall
nú at sinni; ok verði allt at guðs vilja um várar ferðir."
now for (the)-time and be all at God's will about our journeys

Hákon came with eight warships, meaning to settle who should rule. Hávarðr Gunnason leapt overboard rather than share the plan. Magnús, seeing the ships, went to the church to pray and would not let his men fight for him.

Nú er at segja frá Hákoni jarli, at hann stefndi at sér
Now is to say about Hakon earl that he summoned to himself
liði miklu, ok hefir herskip mörg, ok öll skiput sem til
troop great and has warships many and all manned as to
bardaga skyldi leggja. Ok er liðit kom saman, gjörir
battle should lay And when the-troop came together makes
jarl þat bert fyrir mönnum, at hann ætlaði at á þeim
(the)-earl that plain before men that he intended that at that
fundi skyldi um skipta með þeim Magnúsi jarli, svá at þeir
meeting should about be-settled between them Magnus earl so that they
skyldu eigi báðir fyrir Orkneyjum. Margir hans menn létu
should not both over Orkney Many his men let
vel yfir þessi ráða-gjörð, ok lögðu, til mörg orð ferlig; vóru
well over this plan and laid to many words dreadful were
þeir með vestum tillögum, Sigurðr ok Sighvatr sokki. Tóku
they with worst counsels Sigurd and Sighvat Sock Took
menn þá róðr mikinn ok fóru ákafliga. Hávarðr Gunnason
men then a-pull great and went fiercely Havard Gunni's-son
var á jarls skipi, vinr ok ráðgjafi jarla; ok var báðum
was on (the)-earl's ship friend and counselor of-(the)-earls and was to-both
þeim jafnhollr. Hákon hafði leynt hann þessu úráði, er
them equally-loyal Hakon had hidden him this ill-plan which
Hávarðr vildi víst eigi við sæma. Ok er hann vissi
Havard wished surely not with to-countenance And when he knew
jarl svá staðfastan í þessu úráði, þá hljóp hann af
(the)-earl so steadfast in this ill-plan then leapt he from

jarls skipinu á sund ok svamm í ey eina úbygða.
(the)-earl's ship into swimming and swam to an-island one uninhabited
Magnús jarl kom fyrr til Egilseyjar með lið sitt; ok er
Magnus earl came earlier to Egilsay with troop his and when
þeir sá ferð Hákonar jarls, sá þeir at hann hafði átta
they saw (the)-journey of-Hakon earl saw they that he had eight
herskip; þóttist hann þá vita, at um svik mundi
warships thought-himself he then to-know that about treachery would
búit. Sótti Magnús jarl þá upp á eyna með lið sitt, ok
prepared Sought Magnus earl then up onto the-island with troop his and
til kirkju til bænar, ok var þar um nóttina; en menn hans
to (the)-church for prayer and was there in the-night but men his
buðu at verja hann. Jarl svarar: "Leggja vil ek eigi líf
offered to defend him (The)-earl answers Lay wish I not life
yðvart í hættu fyrir mik; ok ef eigi verðr friðr settr með
your in danger for me and if not becomes peace settled between
okkr frændum, þá verði sem guð vill." Mönnum hans þótti
us kinsmen then be-it as God wills To-men his seemed
sannast þat er hann hafði sagt þá er boðinn féll at þeim.
truest that which he had said then when the-breaker fell at them
Nú af því at hann vissi fyrir um lífs-stundir sínar, hvárt
Now from that that he knew before about life-hours his whether
er þat var heldr af hugspeki hans eðr guðligri vitran, þá
that that was rather from insight his or divine revelation then
vildi hann eigi flýja ok eigi fara langt frá fundi úvina
wished he not to-flee and not go far from (the)-meeting of-enemies
sinna. Hann baðst fyrir rækiliga ok lét sýngja sér messu.
his He prayed for earnestly and let sing for-himself mass

Hákon's men found Magnús at prayer. He offered to go to Rome or Jerusalem and never return, or to be kept under guard in Scotland, or to be maimed or blinded and set in a dungeon. Hákon accepted the third, but the chieftains demanded that one earl die, and Hákon chose Magnús.

Hákon ok hans menn hljópu upp um morguninn, ok runnu
Hakon and his men leapt up in the-morning and ran
fyrst til kirkjunnar, ok rannsökuðu hana, ok fundu jarl
first to the-church and searched it and found (the)-earl
eigi. Hann hafði við þriðja mann gengit annan veg á eyna
not He had with a-third man gone another way on the-island
í leyni nökkut. Ok er hinn helgi Magnús jarl sá at þeir
in secret somewhat And when the holy Magnus earl saw that they
leituðu hans, þá kallar hann á þá, ok segir hvar hann
searched for-him then calls he on them and says where he
var; bað hann þá eigi annars [staðar] leita. Ok er Hákon
was bade he them not else place search And when Hakon
sá hann, þá hljópu þeir þangat með ópi ok vápna-braki.
saw him then leapt they thither with whooping and weapon-clashing
Magnús jarl var þá á bæn sinni er þeir kómu til hans. Ok
Magnus earl was then at prayer his when they came to him And
er hann lauk bæn sinni, þá signdi [hann] sik ok mælti
when he ended prayer his then crossed he himself and spoke
til Hákonar jarls með staðföstum hug: "Eigi gjörðir þú vel,
to Hakon earl with steadfast mind Not did you well
frændi, er þú gékt á eiða þína; ok mikil ván, at þú
kinsman when you went on oaths your and great likelihood that you
gjörir þetta meirr af annarra ílsku en þinni. Nú vil ek
do this more from others' wickedness than your-own Now will I

bjóða þér þrjá kosti, at þú gjörir þenna nokkurn heldr en
offer you three choices that you do of-these some-one rather than
spillir eiðum þínum ok látir drepa mik saklausan." Menn
break oaths your and let kill me guiltless (The)-men
Hákonar spurðu hvern hann byði. "Sá er hinn fysti, at ek
of-Hakon asked which he offered That is the first that I
mun ganga suðr til Róms, eðr allt út í Jórsala-heim, ok
will go south to Rome or all out to Jerusalem-world and
sækja heim helga staði, ok hafa tvau skip ór landi með
seek home holy places and have two ships out-of (the)-land with
því sem vér þurfum at hafa, ok bæta hvárs-tveggja okkars
that which we need to have and atone-for of-both of-us-two
sál. Þess mun ek sverja at koma aldri til Orkneyja."
(the)-soul That will I swear that come never to Orkney
Þessu var skjótt neitað. Þá mælti Magnús jarl: Nú með því,
This was quickly refused Then spoke Magnus earl Now with that
at líf mitt er á yðru valdi, ok ek hefi í mörgum hlutum
that life my is in your power and I have in many things
til sekta gjört við almátkan guð, þá sentú mik upp í
to (the)-guilts done against almighty God then send-you me up into
Skotland til vina okkarra beggja, ok sé ek þar varðveittr
Scotland to friends of-us-two both and be I there guarded
ok tveir menn með mér til skemtanar; sjá þú svá fyrir
and two men with me for company see you so to-it
at ek nái eigi ór þeirri varðveizlu at koma." Þessu var
that I get not out-of that custody to come This was
skjótt neitað. Magnús mælti: "Enn er eptir einn kostrinn
quickly refused Magnus spoke Yet is left one the-choice
sá er ek mun bjóða þér; ok veit guð, at meirr sé ek
that which I will offer you and knows God that more look I
fyrir yðvarri sál en lífi mínu, en betr samir þér þat þó,
to your soul than life my but better befits you that yet

en týna lífi mínu: lát mik aflima sem þér líkar eðr augum
than to-lose life my let me maim as you pleases or of-eyes
ræna, ok set mik í myrkva-stofu." Þá mælti Hákon jarl:
rob and set me in a-dark-dungeon Then spoke Hakon earl
"Þessa sætt tek ek, ok eigi beiði ek framarr." Höfðíngjar
This settlement take I and not ask I further (The)-chieftains
hljópu þá upp, ok mæltu til Hákonar jarls: "Drepa munu
leapt then up and spoke to Hakon earl Kill will
vér nú annan-hvárn ykkarn, ok eigi skulu þit báðir frá
we now one-or-other of-you-two and not shall you-two both from
þessum degi löndum ráða." Þá svarar Hákon jarl: "Drepit
this day (the)-lands rule Then answers Hakon earl Kill-you
hann heldr, því at fyrr vil ek ráða ríki ok löndum
him rather because that sooner will I rule realm and lands
en deyja svá brátt." Svá segir Holdboði, réttorðr bóndi, í
than die so swiftly So says Holdbodi truthful farmer in
Suðreyjum frá viðræðu þeirra. Hann var þá með Magnúsi
(the)-Hebrides about talk their He was then with Magnus
annarr hans manna, er þeir gjörðu hann handtekinn.
another of-his men whom they made him captured

LIII · THE MARTYRDOM OF MAGNÚS

Ófeigr, Hákon's standard-bearer, refused to kill Magnús, and Hákon forced his cook Lífólfr to do it. Magnús gave Lífólfr his tunic, prayed for his killers, and asked to be struck on the head, not beheaded like a thief.

Svá var hinn virðuligi Magnús jarl glaðligr, sem honum
So was the worthy Magnus earl glad as-if to-him
væri til veizlu boðit; hvárki mælti hann með stygð né
were to a-feast bidden neither spoke he with anger nor

reiði-orðum. Ok eptir þessa ræðu féll hann til bænar ok laut
wrath-words And after this speech fell he to prayer and bowed
í gaupnir sér, ok helti út mörgum tárum í guðs
into (the)-hollow-hands of-himself and shed out many tears in God's
augliti. Þá er hinn helgi Magnús jarl var til dauða ráðinn,
sight Then when the holy Magnus earl was to death decided
bauð Hákon Ófeigi merkis-manni sínum at drepa jarl; en
bade Hakon Ofeig standard-man his to kill (the)-earl but
hann neitti með hinni mestu reiði. Þá neyddi hann Lífólf
he refused with the greatest wrath Then forced he Lifolf
steikara sinn til at bana Magnúsi; en hann tók at gráta
cook his to it to-slay Magnus but he began to weep
hástöfum. "Eigi skaltú gráta þetta," sagði jarl, "þvíat frægð
aloud Not shall-you weep this said (the)-earl because fame
er í at vinna slíkt; vertú með staðföstum hug, þvíat þú skalt
is in to do such be-you with steadfast mind because you shall
hafa klæði mín, sem siðr er til ok lög hinna fyrri manna.
have clothes my as custom is to and law of-the former men
Ok eigi skaltú hræðast, þvíat þú gjörir nauðigr; ok sá er
And not shall-you be-afraid because you do-it compelled and he who
þér nauðgar, misgjörir meira en þú." En er jarl hafði
you compels misdoes more than you But when (the)-earl had
þetta mælt, steypti hann af sér kyrtlinum ok gaf Lífólfi.
this spoken stripped he off himself the-tunic and gave to-Lifolf
Síðan bað hann sér leyfis at biðjast fyrir; ok þat var
Then asked he for-himself leave to pray for-himself and that was
honum veitt. Hann féll til jarðar, ok gaf sik guði ok
him granted He fell to (the)-earth and gave himself to-God and
færði honum sjálfan sik í fórn. Eigi at eins bað hann fyrir
brought him own self in sacrifice Not at only prayed he for
sér eðr vinum sínum heldr ok þar með fyrir úvinum sínum
himself or friends his but also there with for enemies his

ok bana-mönnum, ok fyrirgaf þeim af öllum hug þat er
and slayer-men and forgave them from all mind that which
þeir misgjörðu með hann, ok játti guði sínar misgjörðir,
they misdid with him and confessed to-God his misdeeds
ok bað þær af sér þvásk í úthellingu blóðs síns, ok
and bade them from himself washed in (the)-outpouring of-blood his and
fal önd sína guði á hendi, ok bað guðs engla koma
commended spirit his of-God into (the)-hand and bade God's angels come
í mót sál sinni ok færa hana í hvíld Paradísar. Þat
in meeting soul his and bring it into (the)-rest of-Paradise That
segja sumir menn, at hann tæki corpus Domini þá er
say some men that he took (the)-body of-(the)-Lord then when
honum var messan súngin. Þá er guðs vinr var til höggs
him was the-mass sung Then when God's friend was to (the)-blow
leiddr mælti hann til Lífólfs: "Stattú fyrir mér, ok högg mik
led spoke he to Lifolf Stand-you before me and strike me
í höfut mikit sár, þvíat eigi samir at höggva höfðingja
in (the)-head great wound because not befits to behead chieftains
sem þjófa; styrkstú aumr, þvíat ek hefir beðit fyrir þér til
like thieves strengthen-you wretch because I have prayed for you to
guðs, at hann líkni þér." Eptir þat signdi hann sik,
God that he have-mercy-on you After that crossed he himself
ok laut hann undir höggit. Ok leið önd hans til himins.
and bowed he under the-blow And passed spirit his to heaven

LIV · THE GREEN FIELD

Where Magnús was slain, a mossy stony place became a green field. Hákon would not let the body go to church. The saga dates the death to two nights after Tiburtius's mass, in the reigns of the kings Sigurðr, Eysteinn, and Ólafr.

Sá staðr var áðr mosóttr ok grýttr. En litlu síðarr birtust
That place was before mossy and stony But little later were-shown
verðleikar Magnuss jarls við guð, svá at þar varð grænn völlr,
merits of-Magnus earl with God so that there became green field
er hann var veginn; ok sýndi guð þat, at hann var fyrir
where he was slain and showed God that that he was for
réttlæti veginn, ok hann öðlaðist fegrð ok grænleik Paradísar,
righteousness slain and he attained beauty and greenness of-Paradise
er kallast jörð lifandi manna. Hákon jarl leyfði eigi at
which is-called earth of-living men Hakon earl allowed not that
jarl væri til kirkju færðr. Andláts-dagr Magnúss jarls er
(the)-earl were to church brought Death-day of-Magnus earl is
tveim náttum eptir Tiburcius-messu. Þá hafði hann jarl verit
two nights after Tiburtius-mass Then had he earl been
yfir Órkneyjum vij. vetr ok þeir Hákon báðir saman. Þá var
over Orkney seven winters and they Hakon both together Then was
liðit frá falli Ólafs konúngs fjórir vetr hins átta tigar. Þá
passed from (the)-fall of-Olaf king four winters of-the eight ten Then
vóru konúngar yfir Noregi Sigurðr ok Eysteinn ok Ólafr. Þá
were kings over Norway Sigurd and Eystein and Olaf Then
var liðit frá burði Crists M. ok níu tigir ok einn vetr.
was passed from (the)-birth of-Christ thousand and nine tens and one winter

LV · ÞÓRA BURIES HER SON

Magnús's mother Þóra served Hákon at the feast and begged leave to bury her son; Hákon wept and granted it. Magnús was buried at Christ's Church in Birsay, light and miracles followed, and Hákon went to Rome and Jerusalem, came home, and ruled well.

Eptir fundinn þá hafði Þóra móðir Magnúss jarls boðit
After the-meeting then had Thora mother of-Magnus earl invited
báðum jörlum til veizlu. Ok nú kom Hákon jarl til veizlunnar
both earls to a-feast And now came Hakon earl to the-feast
eptir víg hins helga Magnúss jarls. Þóra gekk sjálf um
after (the)-slaying of-the holy Magnus earl Thora went herself about
beina, ok bar jarli drykk ok hans mönnum þeim er
(the)-serving and bore (the)-earl drink and his men those who
at víginu höfðu verit sonar hennar. Ok er drykkr fékk á
at the-slaying had been of-son her And when drink got on
jarl, þá gekk Þóra fyrir hann ok mælti: "Nú ertú einn
(the)-earl then went Thora before him and spoke Now are-you alone
kominn híngat, herra, en ek vænta ykkar beggja; muntú
come hither lord but I expected of-you-two both will-you
nú vilja gleðja mik at Guðs vitni ok manna; ver mér nú
now will gladden me at God's witness and of-men be to-me now
í sonar stað, en ek mun þér í móður stað; þarf ek nú
in son's stead but I will to-you in mother's stead need I now
mjök þinnar miskunnar, ok at þú leyfir mér, at son minn
much of-your mercy and that you allow me that son my
sé til kirkju færðr; ver mér nú svá bæna, sem þú vill at
be to church brought be to-me now so of-prayers as you wish that
guð sé þér á dóms-degi." Jarl þagnar ok hugsar málit;
God be to-you on doom-day (The)-earl falls-silent and ponders the-matter
ok fanst at þessum úverkum, er hon bað svá mjúkliga
and found at these misdeeds which she asked so softly
grátandi, at hon næði son sinn til kirkju at færa. Hann
weeping that she might son her to church to bring He
leit við henni, ok feldi tár ok mælti við hana: "Graf son
looked at her and shed tears and spoke to her Bury son
þinn þar er þér líkar." Síðan var Magnús jarl færðr til
your there where you pleases Then was Magnus earl brought to

Hrosseyjar, ok grafinn at Krists-kirkju þeirri, er Þorfinnr
Hrossey and buried at Christ's-church that which Thorfinn
jarl lét gjöra. Brátt eptir þat sýndist optliga himneskt ljós
earl let make Soon after that was-seen often heavenly light
skína yfir grepti hans. Síðan tóku menn at heita á hann
shine over grave his Then began men to call on him
opt, ef í háska vóru staddir; ok greiddist þegar þeirra
often if in danger they-were placed and was-sped at-once their
mál sem þeir beiddu. Jafnan var ok kendr himneskr ilmr
matter as they asked Always was also felt heavenly fragrance
við gröf hans, ok fengu þaðan sjúkir menn heilsu. Því næst
by grave his and got thence sick men health Then next
gjörðu menn ferð sína, bæði af Orkneyjum ok Hjaltlandi,
made men journey their both from Orkney and Shetland
þeir er vanheilir vóru, ok vöktu at leiði ins helga
those who unhealthy were and kept-vigil at (the)-tomb of-the holy
Magnúss jarls, ok tóku bót sinna meina. En þó þorðu
Magnus earl and took cure of-their ailments But yet dared
menn eigi þessu upp at halda meðan Hákon jarl lifði.
men not this up to hold while Hakon earl lived
Svá er ok sagt, at þeir menn, er mest vóru í svikum
So is also said that those men who most were in treasons
við inn helga Magnús jarl, at flestir dó illum dauða
against the holy Magnus earl that most died an-evil death
ok herfiligum. — Í þenna tíma var Vilhjálmr biskup í
and wretched In this time was Vilhjalm bishop in
Orkneyjum; hann var þar fyrstr biskup; þá var biskups-stóll
Orkney he was there first bishop then was (the)-bishop's-see
at Krists-kirkju í Byrgis-héraði. Vilhjálmr var biskup vj. vetr
at Christ's-church in Birsay-district Vilhjalm was bishop six winters
ins vij. tigar. Hann tortrygði lengi heilagleik Magnúss
of-the seventh ten He doubted long (the)-holiness of-Magnus

jarls. — Eptir víg Magnúss jarls tók Hákon ríki
earl After (the)-slaying of-Magnus earl took Hakon (the)-realm
allt undir sik í Orkneyjum; lét hann þá alla menn ganga
all under himself in Orkney let he then all men go
til eiða við sik, þá er áðr höfðu þjónat Magnúsi jarli;
to oaths with himself those who before had served Magnus earl
gjörðist hann þá höfðingi mikill, ok hafði álög mikil
became he then chieftain great and had impositions great
við vini Magnúss jarls, þá er honum þóttu mest hafa
against friends of-Magnus earl those who him seemed most to-have
verit í móti sér í þeirra skiptum. En nokkurum vetrum
been in against himself in their dealings But some winters
síðarr byrjaði Hákon ferð sína ór landi, ok fór suðr til
later began Hakon journey his out-of (the)-land and went south to
Róms. Í þeirri ferð fór hann út til Jórsala; sótti þangat
Rome On that journey went he out to Jerusalem sought thither
helga dóma, ok laugaðist í ánni Jórdan, svá sem siðr er
holy relics and bathed in the-river Jordan so as custom is
til pálmara. Eptir þat vendi hann aptr til óðala sinna,
to of-palmers After that turned he back to ancestral-lands his
ok tók undir sik ríki í Orkneyjum. Hann gjörðist
and took under himself (the)-realm in Orkney He became
þá stjórnsamr, ok friðaði vel ríki sitt. Setti hann þá í
then masterful and pacified well realm his Set he then in
Orkneyjum ný lög, þau er bóndum hugnuðu miklu betr,
Orkney new laws those which (the)-farmers pleased much better
en þau er áðr vóru. Tók[u] við slíkt at vaxa vinsældir
than those which before were Began with such to grow (the)-popularities
hans; kom þá svá, at Orkneyingar stunduðu á ekki annat,
his came then so that (the)-Orkneymen strove for nothing other
en hafa Hákon at höfðingja ok hans afspríngi.
than to-have Hakon as chieftain and his offspring

Moddan of Dalr in Caithness had daughters Helga, Frakökk, and Þorleif. Helga bore Hákon a son, Haraldr Smooth-Tongued, and daughters; Hákon had another son, Páll the Silent. Hákon died, and men feared the brothers would not agree.

Í þenna tíma, er Hákon jarl hafði ríki í Orkneyjum,
In this time when Hakon earl had (the)-realm in Orkney
bjó sá maðr í Dali á Katanesi, er Moddan hét,
lived that man in Dal in Caithness who Moddan was-called
göfugr maðr ok vellauðigr. Hans dætr vóru þær Helga
noble man and very-wealthy His daughters were those Helga
ok Frakökk ok Þorleif. Helga Moddansdóttir var frilla
and Frakokk and Thorleif Helga Moddan's-daughter was mistress
Hákonar jarls; ok var þeirra son Haraldr, er kallaðr var
of-Hakon earl and was their son Harald who called was
inn sléttmáli; en Íngibjörg dóttir þeirra, er átti Ólafr
the Smooth-Tongued but Ingibjorg daughter their whom married Olaf
bitlíngr Suðreyja-konúngr, ok Margrét var ok þeirra dóttir.
Bitling Hebrides-king and Margaret was also their daughter
Frakökk Moddansdóttir var gipt þeim manni, er Ljótr
Frakokk Moddan's-daughter was married to-that man who Ljot
hét níðíngr í Suðrlandi; ok var þeirra dóttir Steinvör in
was-called Villain in Sutherland and was their daughter Steinvor the
digra, er átti Þorljótr í Rekavík. Þeirra son var Ölvir
Stout whom married Thorljot in Rekavik Their son was Olvir
rósta, ok Magnús, Ormr ok Moddan, Einriði; ok Auðhildr
Brawl and Magnus Orm and Moddan Einridi and Audhild
[dóttir]. Önnur dóttir Frakakkar var Guðrún, er átti
daughter Another daughter of-Frakokk was Gudrun whom married
Þorsteinn höldr fjarans-muðr; þeirra son var Þorbjörn klerkr.
Thorstein yeoman Ebb-Mouth their son was Thorbjorn Clerk

Þorleif Moddansdóttir átti ok dóttur er Gunnhildr hét.
Thorleif Moddan's-daughter had also a-daughter who Gunnhild was-called
Hákon jarl átti ok annan son er Páll hét, ok var kallaðr
Hakon earl had also another son who Pal was-called and was called
inn úmálgi; hann var fályndr ok vinsæll. Með þeim bræðrum
the Silent he was reserved and well-liked With those brothers
var jafnan fátt, er þeir óxu upp. Hákon jarl Pálsson varð
was always little when they grew up Hakon earl Pal's-son became
sótt-bitinn þar í Eyjunum. Þótti mönnum þat skaði mikill,
sickness-bitten there in the-Isles Seemed to-men that loss great
þvíat of hans daga ofanverða var góðr friðr; en bændum var
because in his days latter was good peace but to-farmers was
mikill grunr of samþykki þeirra bræðra Páls ok Haralds.
great doubt about concord of-those brothers Pal and Harald

LVII · HARALDR AND PÁLL

Hákon's sons divided the realm and quarreled. Haraldr and Sigurðr Slembi-Deacon, backed by Frakökk and Helga, killed Páll's man Þorkell Fosterer; a settlement was made, and Sigurðr went to Scotland and then to Jerusalem.

Eptir lát Hákonar jarls tóku synir hans ríki; ok vóru
After (the)-death of-Hakon earl took sons his (the)-realm and were
þeir snemmendis úsamþykkir ok skiptu ríkinu í helmínga.
they early discordant and divided the-realm in halves
Þar gjörðust brátt greinir miklar með stórmenni, ok hurfu
There arose soon differences great among (the)-great-men and turned
gæðingar mjök í tvá staði. Haraldr jarl hélt Katanes af
(the)-retainers much in two places Harald earl held Caithness from
Skota-konúngi; var hann þar löngum; en stundum uppi á
(the)-Scots'-king was he there long but sometimes up in

Skotlandi, þvíat hann átti þar marga frændr ok vini. Þá er
Scotland because he had there many kinsmen and friends Then when
Haraldr jarl var staddr í Suðrlandi kom til hans sá maðr
Harald earl was placed in Sutherland came to him that man
er Sigurðr hét, er kallaðist son Aðalbrigðs prests; hann
who Sigurd was-called who called-himself son of-Adalbrigd priest he
var kalladr slembi-djákn; hann kom þá ofan af Skotlandi;
was called Slembi-Deacon he came then down from Scotland
ok hafði verit með Davíð Skota-konúngi, ok hafði hann
and had been with David Scots'-king and had he
lagt á hann virðíngar miklar. Haraldr jarl tók við honum
laid on him honors great Harald earl took with him
forkunnar vel. Fór Sigurðr út í Orkneyjar með Haraldi jarli,
exceedingly well Went Sigurd out to Orkney with Harald earl
ok svá Frakökk Moddansdóttir, því at þá var dauðr Ljótr
and so Frakokk Moddan's-daughter because that then was dead Ljot
níðíngr búandi hennar; höfðu þær Helga systr þá mikil
Villain husband her had they Helga sisters then great
landráð með Haraldi jarli. Sigurðr slembir var í miklum
treasons with Harald earl Sigurd Slembir was in great
kærleikum við öll þau. Þá fylgði honum Auðhildr dóttir
affections with all them Then attended him Audhild daughter
Þorleifar Moddansdóttur; ok var þeirra dóttir Íngigerðr,
of-Thorleif Moddan's-daughter and was their daughter Ingigerd
er síðan átti Hákon kló. Auðhildi hafði átta Eirekr
whom later married Hakon Claw Audhild had married Eirik
streita; þeirra son var Eirekr stagbrellr. Þá er þau Sigurðr
Streita their son was Eirik Stay-Brails Then when they Sigurd
ok Frakökk kómu í Eyjarnar gjörðist brátt sveitar-dráttr
and Frakokk came to the-Isles arose soon faction-drawing
mikill, ok heimta hvárir-tveggi jarlar sem flesta vini sína
great and gather either-of-the-two earls as most friends their

at sér. Þeir vóru kærstir Páli jarli, Sigurðr á Vestnesi,
to themselves They were dearest to-Pal earl Sigurd at Westness
er átti Íngibjörgu ina tignu frændkonu jarla, ok Þorkell
who had Ingibjorg the Noble kinswoman of-(the)-earls and Thorkel
Sumarliðason, er jafnan var með Páli jarli, ok kallaðr fóstri.
Sumarlidi's-son who always was with Pal earl and called Fosterer
Hann var náfrændi Mágnuss ins helga, ok manna vinsælastr.
He was close-kinsman of-Magnus the holy and of-men best-liked
Svá virðu vinir Haralds jarls sem Þorkell mundi þá bræðr
So deemed friends of-Harald earl as-if Thorkel would those brothers
sízt spara til deilu, fyrir sakir harma þeirra, er hann hafði
least spare to strife for sake of-griefs those which he had
beðit af Hákoni jarli föður þeirra. Þessu kom svá, at þeir
suffered from Hakon earl father their This came so that they
Haraldr jarl ok Sigurðr slembir gjörðu til Þorkels fóstra
Harald earl and Sigurd Slembir made at Thorkel Fosterer
ok drápu hann. En er þat spurði Páll jarl, lét hann sér
and killed him But when that learned Pal earl let he himself
allmjök misboðit; ok samnaði þegar liði at sér. En þá
very-much offended and gathered at-once troops to himself But then
gengu þegar njósnir til Haralds jarls, ok dró hann ok lið
went at-once spies to Harald earl and drew he also troop
at sér. En er þessa urðu varir vinir þeirra beggja, fóru
to himself But when of-this became aware friends of-them both went
þeir til ok leituðu um sættir; áttu þá ok allir menn hlut
they to and sought about settlements had then also all men share
í at þeir skyldu sættast. Páll jarl var svá reiðr, at hann
in that they should be-reconciled Pal earl was so angry that he
vildi eigi sættast, nema þeir menn væri allir brott gjörfir er
wished not be-reconciled unless those men were all away made who
at víginu höfðu verit. En með því at bóndum þótti stór
at the-slaying had been But with that that to-farmers seemed great

mein á vera of deilur þeirra, þá lögðu allir menn orð til,
harm on to-be about quarrels their then laid all men word to
at þeir skyldu sáttir vera. Kom því svá, at Sigurðr var
that they should reconciled be Came it so that Sigurd was
á brott gjörr ór Eyjunum ok þeir menn aðrir er Páli
off away made out-of the-Isles and those men others who to-Pal
jarli þóttu mest sakaðir of verkit. Haraldr jarl hélt upp
earl seemed most guilty about the-deed Harald earl held up
bótum eptir víg Þorkels. Þat var ok mælt í sætt
compensations after (the)-slaying of-Thorkel That was also spoken in settlement
þessi, at batna skyldi frændsymi þeirra bræðra Páls ok
this that improve should kinship their of-the-brothers Pal and
Haralds, ok skyldu þeir vera báðir samt of Jól ok allar inar
Harald and should they be both together at Yule and all the
stærstu hátíðir. Sigurðr slembir fór á brott ór Orkneyjum
greatest feasts Sigurd Slembir went off away out-of Orkney
ok upp á Skotland, ok dvaldist þar um hríð með Melkólmi
and up to Scotland and stayed there for a-while with Malcolm
Skota-konúngi í góðu yfirlæti; ok þótti hann þar inn mesti
Scots'-king in good favor and seemed he there the greatest
afreks-maðr at öllum karlmannligum íþróttum. Dvaldist
prowess-man at all manly accomplishments Stayed
hann of hríð í Skotlandi áðr hann fór út í Jórsala-heim.
he for a-while in Scotland before he went out to Jerusalem-world

LVIII · THE POISONED GARMENT

At Yule in Orphir, Haraldr found Frakökk and Helga sewing a gold-worked garment meant for Páll. He put it on despite their pleas and died of it. Páll took the whole realm and banished the sisters, who settled in Sutherland with their kin.

Þat var of daga þeirra bræðra Haralds jarls ok Páls, at
That was in (the)-days of-those brothers Harald earl and Pal that
þeir skyldu taka Jóla-veizlu í Örfjöru at búi Haralds
they should take Yule-feast in Orphir at (the)-farm of-Harald
jarls, ok skyldi hann þeim halda kostinn fyrir beggja þeirra
earl and should he them hold the-cost for both their
hönd. Hann var þar í viðbúnaði miklum ok starfa. Þær
behalf He was there in preparation great and toil Those
systur vóru þar, Frakökk ok Helga móðir jarls, ok sátu
sisters were there Frakokk and Helga mother of-(the)-earl and sat
í litlu-stofu at saumum sínum. Haraldr jarl gekk þá í
in (the)-little-room at sewing their Harald earl went then into
stofuna, en þær systr sátu á þver-palli; ok lá línklæði
the-room but those sisters sat on (the)-cross-bench and lay linen-garment
ný-saumat á meðal þeirra, hvítt sem fönn. Jarl tók upp
new-sewn in between them white as snow (The)-earl took up
klæðit, ok sá at þat var víða gull-saumat. Hann spurði:
the-garment and saw that it was widely gold-embroidered He asked
“Hverr á gersimi þessa?” Frakökk segir: “Þat er ætlat Páli
Who owns treasure this Frakokk says That is meant for-Pal
bróður þínum.” Jarl segir: “Hví vandi þér honum svá
brother your (The)-earl says Why take-pains you for-him so
mjök klæði? Eigi leggi þér jafnmikla stund á at gjöra mér
much clothes Not lay you equal-much time on to make me
klæði.” Jarl [var] ný-staðinn upp, ok var í skyrtu einni
clothes (The)-earl was newly-stood up and was in shirt alone
ok línbrókum, ok hafði kastað mötli á herðar sér. Hann
and linen-breeches and had thrown a-cloak on shoulders his He
kastaði af sér mötlinum ok rakti í sundr línklæðit.
threw off himself the-cloak and spread in two the-linen-garment
Móðir hans þreif til, ok bað hann eigi öfunda þótt bróðir
Mother his grabbed at-it and bade him not envy though brother

hans ætti góð klæði. Jarl hnykti af henni, ok bjóst
his had good clothes (The)-earl snatched from her and made-ready
til í at fara. Þá hnyktu þær af sér faldinum, ok reyttu
to in to go Then snatched they off themselves the-headdress and tore
sik; ok kváðu líf hans við liggja, ef hann færi í klæðit.
themselves and said life his on-it lie if he went into the-garment
Þær grétu þá báðar mjök. Jarl fór í eigi at síðr, ok lét
They wept then both much (The)-earl went in not at less and let
falla ofan um sik. En jafnskjótt sem klæðit hrundi ofan
fall down about himself But as-soon as the-garment fell down
um hann, kom hrollr í hörund honum; ok brátt fylgdi
about him came shivering in skin his and soon followed
þar verkr mikill. Ok af því lagðist jarl í rekkju, ok
there pain great And from that lay-down (the)-earl in bed and
lá skamma stund áðr hann andaðist. Þat þótti vinum hans
lay short while before he died That seemed to-friends his
skaði mikill. En þegar eptir andlát Haralds jarls tók Páll
loss great But at-once after (the)-death of-Harald earl took Pal
jarl, bróðir hans, ríki allt undir sik með samþykki allra
earl brother his (the)-realm all under himself with consent of-all
bónda í Orkneyjum. Páll jarl virði svá sem þær Frakökk
farmers in Orkney Pal earl deemed so as-if those Frakokk
systr hefði honum ætlat gersimi þessa, er Haraldr jarl hafði
sisters had him meant treasure this which Harald earl had
í farit; ok fyrir þær sakir vildi hann ekki vistir þeirra
into gone and for those reasons wished he not stays their
þar í eyjunum. Fóru þær þá í brott með allt skulda-lið
there in the-islands Went they then off away with all household-band
sitt, ok fyrst á Katanes ok þaðan upp í Suðrland til búa
their and first to Caithness and thence up into Sutherland to farms
þeirra er Frakökk átti þar. Þar fæddist upp með henni
their which Frakokk had there There was-raised up with her

Erlendr, son Haralds ins sléttmála, meðan hann var ýngstr.
Erlend son of-Harald the Smooth-Tongued while he was youngest
Þar fæddist ok upp Ölvir rosta, son Þorljóts ór Rekavík,
There was-raised also up Olvir Brawl son of-Thorljot from Rekavik
ok Steinvarar dóttur Frakakar. Ölvir var manna mestr, ok
and of-Steinvor daughter of-Frakokk Olvir was of-men biggest and
ramr at afli ok uppivöðslu-maðr mikill ok vígamaðr mikill.
strong in strength and overbearing-man great and killer great
Þar fæddist upp Þorbjörn klerkr, son Þorsteins hölds ok
There was-raised up Thorbjorn Clerk son of-Thorstein yeoman and
Guðrúnar dóttur Frakakar. Þar fæddist upp ok Margrét,
of-Gudrun daughter of-Frakokk There was-raised up also Margaret
dóttir Hákonar jarls ok Helgu Moddansdóttur, ok Eirekr
daughter of-Hakon earl and of-Helga Moddan's-daughter and Eirik
stagbrellr, frændi Frakakar. Þessir menn vóru allir ættstórir
Stay-Brails kinsman of-Frakokk These men were all high-born
ok miklir fyrir sér; ok þóttust allir eiga mikit tilkall
and great in themselves and thought all to-have great claim
í Orkneyjar til ríkja þeirra, er átt hafði Haraldr jarl
in Orkney to realms those which had had Harald earl
frændi þeirra. Þeir vóru bræðr Frakakar, Engus inn örvi,
kinsman their They were brothers of-Frakokk Engus the Generous
ok Óttarr jarl í Þórsá; hann var göfugr maðr.
and Ottar earl in Thurso he was noble man

LIX · PÁLL THE SILENT

Páll was a gentle, generous earl of few words. The saga names the chieftains of the islands, all Páll's friends. Bishop Vilhjálmr suppressed the reports of Magnús's miracles, calling them heresy.

Páll jarl réð þá Orkneyjum, ok var allvinsæll. Hann var
Pal earl ruled then Orkney and was much-liked He was
maðr fámálugr ok ekki talaðr á þingum; hann lét mjök
a-man taciturn and not a-speaker at assemblies he let much
aðra menn ráða ríkjum með sér; jarl var hógværr ok dæll
other men rule realms with him (The)-earl was gentle and kindly
öllu lands-fólkinu; mildr af fé, ok spardi engan hlut við
to-all the-land-folk generous with wealth and spared no thing toward
vini sína; hann [var] óherskár ok sat mjök í kyrrsetu. Þá
friends his he was unwarlike and sat much in quiet-sitting Then
var í Orkneyjum mart göfgra manna, þeirra er komnir vóru
was in Orkney many of-noble men those who come were
af jarla-ættum. Þá bjó á Vestnesi í Hrólfsey göfugr maðr,
from earls'-lines Then lived at Westness in Rousay a-noble man
er Sigurðr hét; hann átti Íngibjörgu ina tignu; en móðir
who Sigurd was-called he had Ingibjorg the Noble but mother
hennar hét Herbjörg, dóttir Páls jarls Þorfinnssonar.
her was-called Herbjorg daughter of-Pal earl Thorfinn's-son
Synir Þeirra vóru þeir Brynjúlfr ok Hákon pík. Þeir vóru
Sons their were they Brynjolf and Hakon Pike They were
allir gæðíngar Páls jarls. Synir Hávarðs Gunnasonar vóru
all retainers of-Pal earl (The)-sons of-Havard Gunni's-son were
ok vinir Páls jarls: Magnús ok Hákon kló, Þorsteinn ok
also friends of-Pal earl Magnus and Hakon Claw Thorstein and
Dufnjall. Móðir þeirra var Bergljót; en hennar móðir var
Dufnjal Mother their was Bergljot but her mother was
Ragnhildr dóttir Páls jarls. Erlíngr hét maðr, hann bjó
Ragnhild daughter of-Pal earl Erling was-called a-man he lived
á Tannskara-nesi í Hrossey; hann átti fjóra sonu ok alla
at Tankerness in Hrossey he had four sons and all
vel menta. Ólafr hét maðr, ok var Hrólfsson, er bjó
well accomplished Olaf was-called a-man and was Hrolf's-son who lived

í Gareksey; annat bú átti hann í Dungalsbæ á Katanesi.
in Gairsay another farm had he in Duncansby in Caithness
Ólafr var it mesta afarmenni, ok hafði miklar virðíngar
Olaf was the greatest overbearing-man and had great honors
af Páli jarli. Ásleif hét kona hans; hon var vitr ok
from Pal earl Asleif was-called wife his she was wise and
ættstór, ok in mesta fyrir sér; Valþjófr hét son þeirra,
high-born and the greatest in herself Waltheof was-called son their
annarr Sveinn, þriði Gunni; allir vóru þeir vel mentir.
another Svein (the)-third Gunni all were they well accomplished
Íngigerðr hét systir þeirra. Sigurðr jarls-mágr átti Þóru
Ingigerd was-called sister their Sigurd Earl's-in-law had Thora
móður Magnúss ins helga; þeirra son var Hákon karl. Þeir
mother of-Magnus the holy their son was Hakon Karl Those
feðgar vóru höfðingjar miklir. Í Rínansey bjó sú kona
father-and-son were chieftains great In North-Ronaldsay lived that woman
er Ragna hét, göfug húsfreyja. Þorsteinn hét son
who Ragna was-called noble housewife Thorstein was-called son
hennar, gildr maðr fyrir sér. Kúgi hét búandi í Vestrey,
her stout man in himself Kugi was-called a-farmer in Westray
vitr maðr ok auðigr, í Hreppisnesi. Helgi hét búandi
wise man and wealthy in Rapness Helgi was-called a-farmer
skilgóðr ok ríkr, er þar bjó í Vestrey í þorpi því er
discerning and powerful who there lived in Westray in village that which
þar var þá. Þorkell flatr hét búandi í Vestrey, údæll ok
there was then Thorkel Flat was-called a-farmer in Westray unruly and
mikilhæfr; Þorsteinn ok Hafliði vóru synir hans; þeir vóru
imposing Thorstein and Haflidi were sons his they were
úvinsælir. Í Svíney á Pétlandsfirði bjó Grímr, félítill maðr;
unpopular In Swona in (the)-Pentland-Firth lived Grim a-poor man
hans synir vóru þeir Ásbjörn ok Margaðr, inir vaskligstu
his sons were they Asbjorn and Margad the boldest

menn. Í Friðarey bjó sá maðr er Dagfinnr hét. Þorsteinn
men In Fair-Isle lived that man who Dagfinn was-called Thorstein
hét maðr, er bjó á Flyðrunesi í Hrossey; hans synir
was-called a-man who lived at Flydruness in Hrossey his sons
vóru þeir Ásbjörn krókauga ok Blian; þeir vóru allir údælir
were they Asbjorn Crook-Eye and Blian they were all unruly
menn. Jaddvör, hón var laundóttir Erlends jarls þrælborin,
men Jaddvor she was love-daughter of-Erlend earl thrall-born
bjó á Knarrar-stöðum ok Borgarr son hennar; þau vóru
lived at Knarston and Borgar son her they were
heldr úvinsæl. Jóan vengr bjó í Háey á Upplandi. Ríkarðr
rather unpopular Jon Wing lived in Hoy in Upland Rikard
bróðir hans bjó at Brekkum í Strjónsey. Þeir vóru gildir
brother his lived at Brekkur in Stronsay They were stout
menn, frændr Ólafs Hrólfssonar. Grímkell hét maðr er
men kinsmen of-Olaf Hrolf's-son Grimkel was-called a-man who
bjó á Glettunesi. Þessir vóru allir vinir Páls jarl, ok þar
lived at Glaitness These were all friends of-Pal earl and there
með öll alþýða. Þessir menn allir koma við söguna
with all (the)-common-people These men all come into the-saga
síðarr. — Þá var Viljálmr biskup í Orkneyjum, ok var
later Then was Vilhjalm bishop in Orkney and was
biskups-stóll at Krists-kirkju í Byrgis-héraði; þar urðu
(the)-bishop's-see at Christ's-church in Birsay-district there happened
þá jafnan stórar jarteinir af heilagleik Magnúss jarls, er
then always great miracles from (the)-holiness of-Magnus earl when
menn vöktu yfir leiði hans. En lítt var þat á lopt borit
men kept-vigil over tomb his But little was that on high borne
fyrir ríki Páls jarls. Viljálmr biskup drap ok mjök í
for (the)-power of-Pal earl Vilhjalm bishop smothered also much in

egg því er menn sögðu frá jarteinum Magnúss jarls, ok
egg that which men told about (the)-miracles of-Magnus earl and
kallaði aftrú mikla at fara með slíku.
called (it)-heresy great to go with such
Nú munu vér fyrst láta dveljast söguna of hríð, ok segja
Now will we first let wait the-saga for a-while and tell
heldr nakkvat frá þeim jartegnum háleitum, er guð hefir
rather somewhat about those miracles lofty which God has
veitt fyrir verðleika sakir ins helga Magnúss jarls: —
granted for merit's sake of-the holy Magnus earl

LX · THE MIRACLES OF SAINT MAGNÚS

The blind and crippled were healed at Magnús's tomb. Struck blind in his church, Bishop Vilhjálmr vowed to take up the relics; he tested a bone in fire, enshrined the body, and later moved it to Kirkwall after Magnús appeared in a dream to Gunni, a farmer of Westray.

BERGFINNR Skatason hét búandi á Hjaltlandi ok
Bergfinn Skati's-son was-called a-farmer in Shetland and
var blindr; hann flutti suðr í Orkneyjar kryplínga tvá,
was blind he brought south to Orkney cripples two
hét annarr Sigurðr en annarr Þorbjörn, þeir vöktu allir
was-called one Sigurd but the-other Thorbjorn they kept-vigil all
yfir leiði Magnúss jarls. Þeim vitraðist öllum inn helgi
over (the)-tomb of-Magnus earl To-them appeared all the holy
Magnús jarl, ok gaf þeim heilsu sína með guði, ok varð
Magnus earl and gave them health their with God and became
Bergfinnr svá skygn, at hann sá handa sinna deili, en
Bergfinn so sighted that he saw of-hands his (the)-difference but
hinir réttust báðir. En nokkuru síðarr fyrir andláts-dag
the-others were-straightened both But somewhat later before (the)-death-day

Magnúss jarls vöktu yfir leiðinu iiij. menn ok xx. vanheilir
of-Magnus earl kept-vigil over the-tomb four men and twenty unhealthy
ok fengu allir heilsu-bót. Þá tjáðu margir menn þat fyrir
and got all health-cure Then told many men that before
biskupi, at hann láti um verða talat við Pál jarl, at
(the)-bishop that he let about be talked with Pal earl that
hann leggi lof á, at til væri leitað leiðisins ok væri upp
he lay leave on that to (it)-were sought the-tomb and were up
tekinn heilagr dómr Magnúss jarls. Biskup tók því þúngliga
taken (the)-holy relic of-Magnus earl (The)-bishop took it heavily
er þat var mælt. Þat var eitt sumar at Viljálmr biskup
when that was spoken That was one summer that Vilhjalm bishop
fór austr til Noregs; ok er hann fór aptr, varð hann
went east to Norway and when he went back became he
síð-búinn ok kom til Hjaltlands um haustið litlu fyrir vetr.
late-ready and came to Shetland in the-autumn little before winter
Þá lögðust á andviðri ok stormar miklir, en biskup
Then laid-themselves on contrary-winds and storms great but (the)-bishop
kunni illa þarvist sinni, ok var honum annt heim. Þá rak
liked ill stay his-there and was to-him eager home Then drove
á hríðir ok vetraði. Þá mælti stýrimaðr við biskup, ef
on snowstorms and winter-came Then spoke (the)-skipper to (the)-bishop if
hann vildi því heita til at þeim gæfi, at mæla eigi í móti,
he wished that to-vow to that them gave to speak not in against
at upp væri tekinn heilagr dómr Magnúss jarls; því játaði
that up were taken (the)-holy relic of-Magnus earl that consented
biskup, ef veðrátta batnaði svá at hann mætti sýngja
(the)-bishop if (the)-weather improved so that he might sing
heima messu annan sunnudag at biskupstóli sínum. Ok
at-home mass (the)-second Sunday at bishop's-see his And
þegar er fest var heitið tók [at] snúast veðrátta, ok gekk
as-soon as fastened was the-vow began to turn (the)-weather and went

þeim í hag, ok gaf þeim byri til Orkneyja svá skjótt
them in favor and gave them fair-wind to Orkney so swiftly
at biskup söng heima messu inn næsta sunnudag. En er
that (the)-bishop sang at-home mass the next Sunday But when
honum veittust slíkir hlutir, þá vildi hann eigi at heldr
him were-granted such things then wished he not at more
trúa heilagleik Magnúss jarls. Páll jarl lagði ok úþokka á
believe (the)-boliness of-Magnus earl Pal earl laid also displeasure on
alla þá menn, er slíkt fluttu. Sá atburðr varð at
all those men who such brought-forward That event happened at
Krists-kirkju í Byrgis-héraði einn dag, at biskup gekk til
Christ's-church in Birsay-district one day that (the)-bishop went to
kirkju ok var á bæn sinni; hann var einn maðr í kirkju;
church and was at prayer his he was (the)-only man in church
en er hann stóð upp ok ætlaði á brott at ganga, þá
but when he stood up and meant off away to go then
varð hann blindr, ok fat eigi til duranna; hann fór
became he blind and found-way not to the-doors he went
lengi at leita um, ef hann mætti í brott komast. Þá sló
long to search about if he might off away get Then struck
á hann hræzlu mikilli; ok við þat fór hann til leiðis
on him fear great and at that went he to (the)-tomb
Magnúss jarls, ok baðst þar fyrir með tárum, ok hét því,
of-Magnus earl and prayed there for with tears and vowed that
at hann skyldi upp taka helgan dóm Magnúss jarls, hvárt
that he should up take (the)-holy relic of-Magnus earl whether
er þat líkaði Páli jarli vel eðr illa. Ok eptir þat tók hann
that that pleased Pal earl well or ill And after that got he
sýn sína þar á leiðinu. Eptir þat heimti biskup at sér
sight his there at the-tomb After that summoned (the)-bishop to himself
alla ina göfgustu menn í Orkneyjum, ok gjörði þá bert
all the noblest men in Orkney and made then plain

fyrir þeim, at hann vildi þá leita til leiðis Magnúss
before them that he wished then to-search to (the)-tomb of-Magnus
jarls. Ok er til var grafit, var kistan upp komin or
earl And when to-it was dug was the-coffin up come out-of
jörðu; lét biskup þá þvá beinunum ok vóru allvel lit.
(the)-earth let (the)-bishop then wash the-bones and were very-fair of-hue
Hann lét þá taka einn köggul, ok reynir í vígðum eldi
He let then take one knuckle-bone and tests-it in consecrated fire
þrysvar, ok brann eigi, heldr varð hann álits sem gull. Þat
thrice and burned-it not but became it of-hue like gold That
er sumra manna sögn, at hann veri þá runninn í kross.
is some men's tale that it were then run into a-cross
Þar urðu þá margar jartegnir at helgum dómi Magnúss
There happened then many miracles at (the)-holy relic of-Magnus
jarls. Var þá líkaminn í skrín lagðr, ok sett yfir altari.
earl Was then the-body in a-shrine laid and set over (the)-altar
Þat var Luciu-messu-dag. Þá hafði hann í moldu legit i.
That was Lucy's-mass-day Then had he in (the)-soil lain one
vetr ok xx. Var þá í lög tekit at halda hváru-tveggja
winter and twenty Was then into law taken to keep each-of-the-two
daginn, upptöku-daginn ok andláts-daginn. Heilagr dómr
day the-uptaking-day and the-death-day (The)-holy relic
Magnúss jarls var þar varðveittr nokkura hríð. — Þat var
of-Magnus earl was there kept some while That was
til tíðinda, at mann dreymdi í Vestrey, er Gunni hét,
for tidings that a-man dreamed in Westray who Gunni was-called
góðr búandi, at inn helgi Magnús kæmi at honum ok
a-good farmer that the holy Magnus came to him and
mælti við hann. "Þat skaltú segja Viljálmi biskupi, at ek
spoke to him That shall-you tell Vilhjalm bishop that I
vil á brott fara ór Byrgis-héraði ok austr í Kirkjuvág;
will off away to-go out-of Birsay-district and east to Kirkwall

ok trúi ek því, at almáttigr guð mun þat veita mér af
and trust I that that almighty God will that grant me from
sinni miskunn, at þeir menn verði heilir meina sinna,
his mercy that those men become whole of-ailments their
er þangat sækja vanheilir með réttri trú. Þenna draum
who thither seek unhealthy with right faith This dream
skaltú djarfliga segja." En er Gunni vaknaði, skaut honum
shall-you boldly tell But when Gunni awoke shot to-him
því í hug, at hann mundi eigi segja drauminn; þvíat
that into mind that he would not tell the-dream because
hann ugði, at Páll jarl mundi leggja úþokka á hann. En
he feared that Pal earl would lay displeasure on him But
ina næstu nótt eptir sýndist honum Magnús jarl í svefni;
the next night after appeared to-him Magnus earl in sleep
var hann þá reiðuligr mjök, [ok mælti]: "Þú skalt fara
was he then wrathful much and spoke You shall go
í Byrgis-hérað ok segja draum þinn, þá er flestir menn
into Birsay-district and tell dream your then when most men
eru hjá; en ef þú ferr eigi, muntú víti á þér taka
are by but if you go not will-you punishment on yourself take
þessa heims, en meira annars heims." Þá vaknaði Gunni
of-this world but more of-another world Then awoke Gunni
ok var felms-fullr; ok fór þegar til þess er hann kom í
and was terror-full and went at-once to that when he came into
Byrgis-hérað at segja draum sinn fyrir allri alþýðu at
Birsay-district to tell dream his before all (the)-common-people at
messu; ok var þar Páll jarl ok mart annarra ríkra manna.
mass and was there Pal earl and many of-other powerful men
Þá báðu margir at biskup skyldi við skipast, ok færa
Then asked many that (the)-bishop should with it-be-moved and bring
helgan dóminn austr í Kirkjuvág sem jarl hafði vitrað.
(the)-holy relic east to Kirkwall as (the)-earl had revealed

Páll jarl þagði hj, sem hann hefði vatn í munni, ok
Pal earl kept-silent by as-if he had water in mouth and
setti dreyr-rauðan. Eptir þetta fór Viljálmr biskup austr í
turned blood-red After this went Vilhjalm bishop east to
Kirkjuvág með göfgu föruneyti, ok flutti þangat helgan dóm
Kirkwall with noble company and brought thither (the)-holy relic
Magnúss jarls, ok settu skrín yfir há-altari í kirkju.
of-Magnus earl and set (the)-shrine over (the)-high-altar in (the)-church
Kaupstaðrinn var lítt húsaðr í þann tíma í Kirkjuvági.
The-market-town was little housed in that time in Kirkwall
Þar urðu þá þegar margar jarteinir. — Litlu síðarr fór
There happened then at-once many miracles Little later went
Ber[g]finnr Skatason norðan af Hjaltlandi í annat sinn
Bergfinn Skati's-son from-the-north from Shetland for another time
at vaka yfir helgum dómi Magnúss jarls, ok hafði með
to keep-vigil over (the)-holy relic of-Magnus earl and had with
sér son sinn líkþrán er Hálfdan hét. Magnús jarl
himself son his leprous who Halfdan was-called Magnus earl
vitraðist þeim báðum, ok fór höndum um þá; varð þá
appeared to-them both and went with-hands over them became then
Hálfdan alheill; en Bergfinnr tók sýn sína, svá at hann
Halfdan all-whole but Bergfinn got sight his so that he
varð skygn maðr. — Ámundi hét maðr af Hjaltlandi
became a-sighted man Amundi was-called a-man from Shetland
norðan; hann hafði líkþrá á öllum líkam sínum; hann
in-the-north he had leprosy on all body his he
fór í Kirkjuvág ok vakti hjá skríni Magnúss jarls ins
went to Kirkwall and kept-vigil by (the)-shrine of-Magnus earl the
helga ok bað sér hjálpar ok heilsu. En inn helgi þjónn
holy and asked for-himself help and health But the holy servant
guðs Magnús jarl sýndist honum í svefni, ok fór höndum
of-God Magnus earl appeared to-him in sleep and went with-hands

of allan líkama hans. Ok þá er hann vaknaði, var hann
over all body his And then when he awoke was he
alheill, ok kendi sér hvergi meins, ok lofuðu allir guð
all-whole and felt in-himself nowhere hurt and praised all God
ok inn helga Magnús jarl. — Þorkell hét maðr, er bjó
and the holy Magnus earl Thorkel was-called a-man who lived
í Orkneyjum, hann féll af bygg-hjálmi sínum ofanverðum,
in Orkney he fell from barley-stack his topmost
ok allt á jörð niðr, ok var lamiðr allr öðrum-megin;
and all onto (the)-earth down and was crippled all on-one-side
hann var færðr til skríns hins sæla Magnúss jarls, ok tók
he was brought to (the)-shrine of-the blessed Magnus earl and got
hann þar heilsu sína. — Sigurðr hét maðr norðan
he there health his Sigurd was-called a-man from-the-north
or Fetilar; hönd hans var krept svá at allir fíngr lágu
from Fetlar hand his was crooked so that all fingers lay
í lófa; hann fór til Kirkjuvágs ok varð þar heill. —
in (the)-palm he went to Kirkwall and became there whole
Þorbjörn hét maðr, en Gyrðr hét faðir hans, hann var
Thorbjorn was-called a-man but Gyrd was-called father his he was
af Hjaltlandi ok var ærr, ok var færðr til Magnúss jarls,
from Shetland and was mad and was brought to Magnus earl
ok varð þegar heill. — Þórðr hét maðr, er kallaðr var
and became at-once whole Thord was-called a-man who called was
dreka-skottr, hann var leigumaðr Bergfinns af Hjaltlandi;
Dragon-Tail he was hired-man of-Bergfinn from Shetland
hann barði korn af hálmi í bygg-húsi inn næsta dag
he threshed grain from straw in (the)-barley-house the next day
fyrir Magnús-messu ok Luciu. En at öðrum lit dags, þá
before Magnus-mass and Lucy's But at (the)-second hue of-day then
gekk Bergfinnr búandi út þangat í húsit, ok bað hann
went Bergfinn (the)-farmer out thither into the-house and bade him

hætta verkinu. Þórðr segir: “Þat er sjallnast, at þér þykki
stop the-work Thord says That is seldomest that to-you seems
ek of lengi vinna.” Bergfinnr mælti: “Magnús-messa er á
I too long to-work Bergfinn spoke Magnus-mass is on
morgin, er vér eigum at halda með slíkri dýrð allri
(the)-morrow which we ought to keep with such glory all
sem vér kunnum bazt.” Þá gekk Bergfinnr í brott, en
as we can best Then went Bergfinn off away but
Þórðr vann þá allra sýsligast. En er skamt var frá liðit,
Thord worked then of-all busiest But when short was from passed
þá fór Bergfinnr í annat sinn ok mælti við Þórð af
then went Bergfinn for another time and spoke to Thord from
reiði mikilli: kvað sér fjándskapr þykkja í því “Er þú
wrath great said to-himself enmity to-seem in that When you
vinnr nú á helgum tíðum; ok lát nú af þegar!” Þá gekk
work now at holy times and leave now off at-once Then went
Bergfinnr reiðr í brott. En Þórðr vann sem áðr. En þá
Bergfinn angry off away But Thord worked as before But then
er menn vóru undir borð komnir, ok mettir, kom Þórðr
when men were under table come and sated came Thord
inn, er menn tóku til drykkju, í herfiligum klæðum, ok
in when men took to drinking in wretched clothes and
tók þegar at drekka. En þá er hann hafði drukkit eitt
began at-once to drink But then when he had drunk one
full, þá var hann þegar ærr, svá at menn urðu at halda
cup then was he at-once mad so that men had to hold
honum, ok í bönd at færa, ok hélzt þat sex dægr. Þá
him and into bonds to bring and lasted that six half-days Then
hét Bergfinnr fyrir honum at gefa hálfa mörk silfrs til
vowed Bergfinn for him to give half a-mark of-silver to
skríns Magnúss jarls, ok láta Þórð vaka þrjár nætr ef
(the)-shrine of-Magnus earl and let Thord keep-vigil three nights if

yrði heill. En Þórðr varð þegar heill á þeirri nótt,
(he)-became whole But Thord became at-once whole on that night
er heitið var of aptaninn áðr. — Tveir menn tóku gull
when vowed was in the-evening before Two men took gold
af skríni Magnúss jarls, annarr Orkneyskr en annarr
from (the)-shrine of-Magnus earl one Orkney but the-other
Katneskr; enn Katneski fórsk á Pétlandsfirði, sá hét
Caithness the Caithness-one perished in (the)-Pentland-Firth he was-called
Gilli. Inn Orkneyski ærðist, ok sagði í órunum hvat þeir
Gilli The Orkney-one went-mad and said in the-ravings what they
hefði gjört; ok var þá heitið fyrir honum suðrgöngu, ef
had done and was then vowed for him a-pilgrimage-south if
hann yrði heill hjá skríni Magnúss jarls. Nú var hann
he became whole by (the)-shrine of-Magnus earl Now was he
þangat færðr, ok var þegar heill. — Ögmundr hét maðr
thither brought and was at-once whole Ogmund was-called a-man
Hjaltlenzkr er þvertré féll í höfuð, ok lamdist haussinn
Shetland whom a-crossbeam fell on (the)-head and was-crushed the-skull
mjök; en Bergfinnr hét fyrir honum; ok hlutaði, hvárt heita
much but Bergfinn vowed for him and cast-lots whether vow
skyldi suðrgöngu eðr man-frelsi, eðr gefa fé til skríns
should pilgrimage-south or man-freeing or give money to (the)-shrine
Magnúss jarls, ef hann yrði heill. En sá kom upp, at
of-Magnus earl if he became whole But that came up that
gefa fé til skríns Magnúss jarls; ok þar varð hann
to-give money to (the)-shrine of-Magnus earl and there became he
heill. En Bergfinnr móður-bróðir hans gaf hálfa mörk, sem
whole But Bergfinn mother's-brother his gave half a-mark as
hann hafði heitið. — Sigríðr hét kona Sigurðar-dóttir
he had vowed Sigrid was-called a-woman Sigurd's-daughter
norðan af Hjaltlandi, er blind var frá barns-aldri ok til
from-the-north from Shetland who blind was from child-age and to

þess er hon var tvítög, þá fylgði faðir hennar henni til
that when she was twenty then accompanied father her her to
Magnúss jarls, ok lét hana vaka þar, ok gaf fé mikit
Magnus earl and let her keep-vigil there and gave money much
til skríns Magnúss, ok tók hon þar sýn sína. — Sigríðr
to (the)-shrine of-Magnus and got she there sight her Sigrid
hét enn kona af Hjaltlandi, er fótleggr brotnaði í
was-called also a-woman from Shetland whose leg broke in
tvá hluti, ok var henni fylgt til Magnúss; ok tók hon
two parts and was she accompanied to Magnus and got she
þar heilsu sína. — Sigríðr hét in þriðja kona norðan
there health her Sigrid was-called the third woman from-the-north
af Hjaltlandi or Örmstr; hon var með Þorláki, er bjó á
from Shetland from Ormstr she was with Thorlak who lived at
Ballastöðum; hon saumaði þá er aðrir menn létu af verki
Ballastadir she sewed then when other men left off work
fyrir messu-dag Magnúss jarls; en Þorlákr spurði hví hon
before (the)-mass-day of-Magnus earl but Thorlak asked why she
ynni svá lengi; hon lézt þá mundu hætta. Hann gekk í
worked so long she said-she then would stop He went off
brott, en hon saumaði sem áðr. Þá fór Þorlákr öðru sinni,
away but she sewed as before Then went Thorlak a-second time
ok spurði hví hon gjörði svá illa. “Ok farðú í brott,” segir
and asked why she did so ill And go-you off away says
hann “ok vinn eigi í mínum hýbýlum.” Hon kvað þá lítið
he and work not in my dwellings She said then little
úsaumat; ok vann sem áðr, unz myrkt var orðit, ok sat í
unsewn and worked as before until dark was become and sat in
rúmi sínu. En þá er eldar vóru gjörvir, ok menn bjoggust
seat her But then when fires were made and men made-ready
til áts ok drykkju, þá ærðist hon ok var færð í bönd,
for eating and drinking then went-mad she and was brought into bonds

ok var hon ær til þess er Þorlákr hét fyrir henni. Hann
and was she mad until that when Thorlak vowed for her He
hlutaði, hvárt heita skyldi suðrgöngu eðr manfrelsi, eðr gefa
cast-lots whether vow should pilgrimage-south or man-freeing or give
fé til skríns ins helga Magnúss jarls; en sá kom upp
money to (the)-shrine of-the holy Magnus earl but that came up
at gefa fé til skríns Magnúss jarls. Þorlákr færði hana
that to-give money to (the)-shrine of-Magnus earl Thorlak brought her
þangat, ok varð hon þar heil, ok gekk suðr síðan. —
thither and became she there whole and went south afterward
Í Englandi óru tveir menn þeir er mikit fé lögðu við
In England were two men those who much money laid on
kast, ok hafði annarr látið mikit fé. Þá lagði hann
(the)-throw and had one lost much money Then laid he
út kugg einn, ok allt þat sem hann átti, í móti því
out cog one and all that which he owned in against that
öllu, er hann hafði áðr látið. En hinn kastaði fyrir sex
all which he had before lost But the-other threw for six
tvau. Þá þótti hinum sér úvænt horfa, ok hét á inn
two Then seemed to-the-other himself hopeless to-look and vowed on the
helga Magnús jarl, at hann skyldi eigi láta sína eigu alla;
holy Magnus earl that he should not let his property all
ok kastaði síðan. En tenníngrinn hraut í sundr annarr, ok
and threw then But the-die split in two one and
kómu upp tvau sex ok áss; ok hlaut hann allt þat er við
came up two six and ace and won he all that which at
lá, ok síðan gaf hann Magnúsi jarli mikit fé. — Gróa
stake-lay and then gave he to-Magnus earl much money Groa
hét kona í Hrossey, hón var óð, ok var færð til
was-called a-woman in Hrossey she was mad and was brought to
hins helga Magnúss jarls, ok fékk þar heilsu sína, ok var
the holy Magnus earl and got there health her and was

þar síðan alla æfi sína, ok lofaði guð. — Sigurðr hét
there then all life her and praised God Sigurd was-called
maðr, ok var Tandarson; hann bjó norðr á Hjaltlandi; hann
a-man and was Tandi's-son he lived north in Shetland he
varð djöful-óðr, ok var rifaðr í húð innan, ok var færðr
became devil-mad and was torn in skin within and was brought
síðan norðan í Kirkjuvág til hins helga Magnúss jarls;
then from-the-north to Kirkwall to the holy Magnus earl
ok fékk hann þar heilsu sína, ok lofuðu allir guð þeir er
and got he there health his and praised all God those who
hjá vóru, ok inn helga hans ástvin, Magnús jarl.
by were and the holy his beloved Magnus earl
Nú er lokit hér at segja frá þeim jarteinum inum háleitum,
Now is ended here to tell about those miracles the lofty
er guð veitir fyrir sakir ins helga Magnúss Eyja-jarls. Nú
which God grants for sake of-the holy Magnus Isles-earl Now
mun ok endr undið þessari frásögn með þeim formála, at sá
will also back wound this narrative with that preface that he
er þessa sögu ritaði, ok sá er sagði, ok svá hverr er hlýddi,
who this saga wrote and he who told and so each-one who listened
hafi árnan ok bæna fulltíng af inum helga guðs riddara
have intercession and of-prayers help from the holy God's knight
Magnúsi jarli, sér til synda-lausnar ok eilífs fagnaðar, en
Magnus earl for-himself to sins'-release and eternal joy but
af allsvaldanda Drotni várum Jesu Cristo hjálp ok miskunn,
from (the)-all-ruling Lord our Jesus Christ help and mercy
frið ok fagnað, bæði nú ok álengdar, þeim er var ok er, ok
peace and joy both now and hereafter to-those who was and is and
vera mun, einn ok sannr ok eilífr Guð, veitandi ok viljandi,
be will one and true and eternal God granting and willing
ok megandi alla góða hluti, um allar aldir alda. Amen.
and able all good things for all ages of-ages Amen

Kolr of Agðir, son of Magnús's sister Cecilia and Isakr, had a son Kali, a promising young man who boasted of his nine accomplishments in verse.

CECILIA hét systir Magnúss jarls skilgetin; hon var
Cecilia was-called sister of-Magnus earl legitimate she was
gipt austr í Noreg; ok átti hana sá maðr er Isakr hét.
married east to Norway and had her that man who Isak was-called
Kolr hét son þeirra. Kolr sat at búum sínum á Ögðum,
Kol was-called son their Kol sat at farms his in Agder
sem fyrr var ritað, ok var allra manna vitrastr; hann fór
as before was written and was of-all men wisest he went
ekki í Orkneyjar. Kolr var spekíngr mikill. Kali son hans
not to Orkney Kol was a-sage great Kali son his
óx þar upp, ok var inn efniligsti maðr, meðal-maðr á
grew there up and was the most-promising man middle-sized in
vöxt, kominn vel á sik, limaðr manna bezt, ljósjarpr á
growth come well in himself limbed of-men best light-chestnut of

hár; manna var hann vinsælastr ok atgervi-maðr meiri en
hair of-men was he best-liked and accomplishment-man greater than
vel-flestir menn aðrir. Hann orti vísu þessa:
very-most men others He made verse this

"Tafl em ek örr at efla,
Board-game am I eager to play
íþróttir kann ek níu,
accomplishments know I nine
týni ek trauðla rúnum,
lose I hardly runes
tíð er mér bók ok smíðir:
ready is to-me book and smithing
Skríða kann ek á skíðum,
Glide know I on skis
skýt ek ok ræk svá at nýtir,
shoot I and row so that serves
hvárt-tveggja kann ek hyggja
each-of-the-two know I ponder
harp-slátt ok brag-þáttu."
harp-playing and poem-strands

Kali var jafnan með Sölmundi frænda sínum, syni Sigurðar
Kali was always with Solmund kinsman his son of-Sigurd
sneisar, hann var gjallkeri í Túnsbergi, ok átti bú á
Sneis he was steward in Tunsberg and had a-farm in
Austr-Ögðum, hann var höfðíngi ok hafði sveit mikla. Þeir
East-Agder he was a-chieftain and had a-band great They
vóru mjök jafnaldrar frændr.
were much of-an-age kinsmen

At fifteen Kali traded in Grimsby, where a man named Gilli-kristr confided that he was Haraldr, son of Magnús Barefoot, and asked how King Sigurðr would receive him.

Þá var Kali xv. vetra, er hann fór með kaupmönnum
Then was Kali fifteen winters when he went with merchants
vestr til Englands, ok hafði góðan kaupeyri. Þeir héldu til
west to England and had good wares They held to
þess staðar er Grímsbær heitir. Þar kom mikit fjölmenni,
that place which Grimsby is-called There came great multitude
bæði af Noregi, Orkneyjum ok af Skotlandi, ok svá
both from Norway Orkney and from Scotland and also
ór Suðreyjum. Þar fann Kali þann mann, er nefndist
out-of (the)-Hebrides There met Kali that man who called-himself
Gilli-kristr; hann spurði þá margs af Noregi; ok talaði
Gilli-Christ he asked then of-much about Norway and talked
flest við Kala; gjörðist þar félagskapr mikill. Hann sagði Kala
most with Kali arose there fellowship great He told Kali
í trúnaði, at hann hét Haraldr, ok Magnús konúngr
in confidence that he was-called Harald and Magnus king
berbeinn var faðir hans, en móðurætt hans var í Suðreyjúm,
Barelegs was father his but mother's-line his was in (the)-Hebrides
ok sum á Írlandi. Hann spurði Kala hversu honum mundi
and some in Ireland He asked Kali how him would
fagnat ef hann kæmi til Noregs. Kali segir, at honum
welcomed if he came to Norway Kali says that to-him
þætti líkligr Sigurðr konúngr til at fagna honum vel,
seemed likely Sigurd king to it to-welcome him well
ef eigi spilti aðrir menn um. Þeir Gilli-kristr ok Kali
if not spoiled other men about-it They Gilli-Christ and Kali

skiptust gjöfum við at skilnaði þeirra; hét hvárr öðrum
exchanged gifts with at parting their promised each to-other
sinni vináttu fullkominni, hvar sem enn bæri fundi at.
his friendship full wherever that again should meeting at
En ekki segir Gilli-kristr fleirum mönnum þar trúnað sinn.
But not tells Gilli-Christ more men there confidence his

LXIII · KALI AND JÓN PETRSSON

Kali came home and mocked Grimsby in verse. In a Bergen tavern he made friends with Jón Petrsson, a young landed man.

Eptir þetta fór Kali vestan á enu sama skipi, ok kómu
After this went Kali from-the-west on the same ship and came
utan at Ögðum, ok héldu þaðan norðr til Björgynjar. Þá
out at Agder and held thence north to Bergen Then
kvað Kali vísu þessa:
recited Kali verse this

"Vær höfum vaðnar leirur
We have waded clay-flats
vikur fimm megin-grimmar,
weeks five mightily-grim
saurs vara vant er várum
of-filth was-not lacking when we-were
viðr, í Grímsbæ miðjum:
along in Grimsby middle

Nú er þat er máns of mýrar
Now is that that of-the-seamew over moors
megin-kátliga látum
mightily-merrily we-let
branda-elg of bylgjur
prow-elk over waves
Björgynjar til dynja."
of-Bergen to roar

En er þeir kómu til bæjarins var þar fyrir fjölmenni mikit,
But when they came to the-town was there before multitude great
bæði norðan ór landi ok sunnan, ok fjöldi af
both from-the-north out-of (the)-land and from-the-south and a-host from
öðrum löndum, er þangat hafði flutt gæzku mikla. Gengu
other lands which thither had brought goods much Went
þeir skipverjar í skytníng at skemta sér. Kali var þá
those shipmates into taverns to amuse themselves Kali was then
skarts-maðr mikill, ok hafði sundrgjörðir miklar, er hann var
a-finery-man great and had showy-garments great since he was
ný-kominn af Englandi. Fanst honum þá mikit um sik
newly-come from England Found to-him then much about himself
ok mörgum öðrum, þvíat hann var góðrar ættar, ok sjálfr
and many others because he was of-good family and himself
vel mentr. En í þeim skytníngi er hann drakk, var fyrir
well accomplished But in that tavern where he drank was before
einn göfugr maðr úngr, er Jón hét; hann var son Petrs
one noble man young who Jon was-called he was son of-Petr
Serkssonar or Sogni; hann var þá lendr maðr. Móðir hans
Serk's-son from Sogn he was then landed man Mother his
hét Helga, dóttir Háreks af Sætrum. Jón var áburðar-maðr
was-called Helga daughter of-Harek from Saet Jon was a-swagger-man

mikill. Unnr hét húsfreyja göfug er garðinn átti þann
great Unn was-called a-housewife noble who the-house owned that
er þeir drukku í. Gjörðist þá með þeim Jóni ok Kala
which they drank in Arose then between them Jon and Kali
félagskapr mikill, ok skildust með kærleikum. Fór Jón þá suðr
fellowship great and parted with affections Went Jon then south
í Sogn til búa sinna, en Kali austr á Agðir til föður síns.
to Sogn to farms his but Kali east to Agder to father his
Kali var ok löngum með Sölmundi frænda sínum. Gekk svá
Kali was also long with Solmund kinsman his Went so
fram nökkur misseri, at Kali var á sumrum í kaupferðum,
forth some seasons that Kali was in summers on trading-voyages
en heima of vetrum eðr með Sölmundi frænda sínum.
but home in winters or with Solmund kinsman his

LXIV · THE FEUD WITH JÓN PETRSSON

Kali's man Hávarðr struck Jón's man Brynjúlfr and was killed for it; Kolr had Hallvarðr kill Brynjúlfr in turn. After fighting and more killing, King Sigurðr settled the feud: Jón married Kolr's daughter, and the king gave Kali half of Orkney and the name Rögnvaldr.

Þat var eitt sumar, er Kali hafði farit norðr til Þróndheims, at
That was one summer when Kali had gone north to Thrandheim that
hann lá veðrfastr undir ey þeirri, er Dollz heitir. Í eyjunni
he lay weather-bound under island that which Dollz is-called In the-island
var einn hellir mikill, er Dollz-hellir er kallaðr; í hell[i]num
was one cave great which Dollz-cave is called in the-cave
var féván mikil. Þeir kaupmenninir réðu til ok gengu [í]
was money-hope great Those merchants undertook to-it and went into
hellinn, ok höfðu þar it mesta torfæri. Þeir kómu at þar er
the-cave and had there the greatest difficulty They came to there where

vatn var um þveran hellinn; ok treystust engir at fara yfir
water was about athwart the-cave and trusted-themselves none to go over
vatnit, nema Kali, ok annarr maðr er Hávarðr hét, húskarl
the-water but Kali and another man who Havard was-called housecarl
Sölmundar. Þeir lögðust yfir vatnit, ok höfðu snæri á meðal
of-Solmund They swam over the-water and had a-cord in between
sín. Kali lagðist fyrir, ok hafði eldi-skíð í hendi loganda, ok
them Kali swam ahead and had a-fire-brand in hand burning and
elds-virki meðal herða sér. Þeir lögðust yfir vatnið, ok kómu á
fire-kit between shoulders his They swam over the-water and came on
land; þar var hraunótt ok ódaunn mikill; fengu þeir ok varla
land there was rocky and stench great got they and hardly
tandrat ljósit. Þá ræddi Kali um, at þeir mundi eigi fara lengra,
kindled the-light Then spoke Kali about that they would not go farther
ok bað þá gera þar varða til minnis. Þá kvað Kali vísu:
and bade them make there a-cairn for remembrance Then recited Kali verse

“Hér hefig háfan reistan
Here have-I high raised
harð-geðjuðum varða
hard-minded a-cairn
Dollz í dökkum helli
of-Dollz in dark cave
draug; leita’g svá bauga:
ghost seek-I so of-rings

Eigi veit hverr ýtir
Not knows who (the)-pusher
unn-skíða ferr síðan
of-wave-skis goes later
langa braut ok ljóta
long way and ugly
leið yfir vatn it breiða."
path over water the wide

Eptir þat hurfu þeir aptr, ok kómu heilir til manna sinna;
After that turned they back and came whole to men their
fóru síðan ór hellinum; er ekki getið um þeirra ferð,
went then out-of the-cave is not mentioned about their journey
at til tíðinda yrði á því sumri. Kómu aptr til Björgynjar,
that to tidings happened in that summer Came back to Bergen
ok fór Kali í inn sama skytníng til Unnar húsfreyju. Þar
and went Kali into the same tavern to Unn housewife There
var ok fyrir Jón Petrsson ok heima-maðr hans, er Brynjúlfr
was also before Jon Petr's-son and home-man his who Brynjolf
hét; mart var þar annarra hans manna, þótt eigi sé
was-called many were there of-other his men though not be
nefndir. — Þat var eitt kveld er þeir Jón Petrsson ok
named That was one evening when they Jon Petr's-son and
Kali vóru gengnir at sofa, en margir sátu eptir ok drukku.
Kali were gone to sleep but many sat behind and drank
Þá var mart talat, er menn vóru druknir mjök; ok kom
Then was much talked when men were drunk much and came
þar, at rætt var um mann-jöfnuð, ok þat, hverir þá þóttu
there that talked was about man-comparing and that which then seemed
göfgastir menn af lendum mönnum í Noregi. Flutti Brynjúlfr
noblest men of landed men in Norway Put Brynjolf

þat fram, at Jón Petrsson væri bazt mannaðr ok ættborinn
that forward that Jon Petr's-son were best endowed and well-born
af inum yngrum mönnum fyrir sunnan Stað; en Hávarðr
of the younger men on south-of Stad but Havard
félagi Kala taldi til Sölmund, ok taldi hann öngu verr
comrade of-Kali counted to Solmund and counted him in-no-way worse
mentan en Jón; kallaði ok, at Víkverjar mundi hann
accomplished than Jon called also that (the)-Vik-men would him
miklu meira virða en Jón Petrsson. Hér af gjörðist deila
much more esteem than Jon Petr's-son Here from arose quarrel
mikil. Ok er ölit mælti með þeim, þá varð eigi betr til
great And when the-ale spoke with them then was not better to
gætt en svá, at Hávarðr hljóp upp ok fékk sér tré eitt,
heeded than so that Havard leapt up and got himself a-wood one
ok setti þegar í höfuð Brynjúlfi, svá at hann féll þegar
and set at-once into (the)-head of-Brynjolf so that he fell at-once
í úvit; ok hljópu menn til hans. En Hávarði varð í
into unconsciousness and ran men to him But Havard was off
brott skotið á fund Kala, ok sendi Kali hann suðr í
away shot to (the)-meeting of-Kali and sent Kali him south to
Alviðru til prests þess er Ríkarðr hét, "Ok ber honum,"
Alvidra to priest that who Rikard was-called And bear him
segir hann, "orð mín til, at hann taki við þér þar til er
says he word my to that he take with you there till when
ek ferr heim austr." Kali fékk honum mann til föruneytis
I go home east Kali got him a-man for company
ok bát einn; ok róa þeir suðr þar til er þeir koma í
and boat one and row they south there till when they come into
Grænínga-sund. Þá mælti Hávarðr við förunaut sinn: "Nú
Graeninga-sound Then spoke Havard to companion his Now
eru vit komnir ór hunda-hljóði; ok munu vér hér hvíla
are we-two come out-of hound-barking and will we here rest

okkr," ok leggjast til svefns. — Nú er þar til at taka, at
ourselves and lie-down for sleep Now is there to to take that
Brynjulfr vitkaðist, ok var honum fylgt á fund Jóns,
Brynjolf came-to and was him accompanied to (the)-meeting of-Jon
ok segir hann honum atburð þenna; ok svá at þá var
and tells he him event this and so that then was
manninum í brott skotið. Jón gat ins sanna um ferðir
the-man off away shot Jon guessed the truth about journeys
hans; ok lét taka róðrar-skútu; ok gengu þar á tíu menn;
his and let take a-rowing-boat and went there on ten men
var þar Brynjúlfr fyrir mönnum. Þeir róa síðan suðr, ok
was there Brynjolf before (the)-men They row then south and
koma suðr í Græninga-sund er ljóst var af degi. Þá
come south into Graeninga-sound when light was of day Then
sá þeir at skip lá fyrir þeim á fjörunni. "Ok má vera,"
saw they that a-ship lay before them on the-foreshore And may be
segir Brynjulfr, "at þessir kunni oss at segja nakkvat frá
says Brynjolf that these can us to tell something about
Hávarði." Gengu þeir upp, ok fundu þá; vóru þeir Hávarðr
Havard Went they up and found them were they Havard
þá ný-vaknaðir. Brynjúlfr bar þegar vápn á Hávarð; ok
then newly-awakened Brynjolf bore at-once weapons on Havard and
vóru þeir félagar báðir vegnir á þeim fundi. Ok nú fóru
were they comrades both slain at that meeting And now went
þeir Brynjúlfr við þessum tíðindum aptr til Björgynjar, ok
they Brynjolf with these tidings back to Bergen and
segja Jóanni; ok eptir þetta vissi þetta allr bæjar-lýðr. Kali
tell Jon and after this knew this all town-folk Kali
lét sér mjök misboðit í þessum vígum. Ok er menn
let himself much offended in these slayings And when men
fóru í millum þeirra Jóns, segir Jón, at hann vill at
went in between them Jon says Jon that he wishes that

Kali dæmi einn um þat, er honum þykkir sér misboðit
Kali judge alone about that which him seems himself offended
í; þar skyldi utan konúngs rétt[r] ok aðildar-manna. Ok
in there should outside king's right and of-principals And
tók Kali þenna kost; en þó vóru engir kærleikar með
took Kali this choice but yet were no affections between
þeim Jóni. Þá fór Kali heim austr brátt eptir þetta. Ok
them Jon Then went Kali home east soon after this And
er þeir feðgar fundust, ok Kali hefir sagt frá þessum
when those father-and-son met and Kali has told about these
tíðindum ok mála-lyktum, þá segir Kolr: "Undarliga þótti
tidings and case-endings then says Kol Strangely seemed
mér þér sýnast, er þú tókt nokkura sætt fyrr en
to-me to-you to-seem when you took any settlement earlier than
Sölmundr frændi þinn væri við; þykki mér þú nú vant
Solmund kinsman your were by seems to-me you now difficultly
við kominn, ok mega lítinn hlut í eiga, nema leita um
with-it come and may little share in have except to-seek about
sættir; ok eigi mundi Sölmundr svá gjöra, ef þinn húskarl
settlements and not would Solmund so do if your housecarl
væri drepinn ok hans skipveri." Kali segir: "Þetta mun vera
were killed and his shipmate Kali says This will be
sann-mæli, faðir, at ek mun hafa skjótt á litið; ok vartú
true-saying father that I will have quickly on looked and were-you
fjarri at kenna mér ráðin; mun opt sýnast at ek em eigi
far to teach me the-counsels will often seem that I am not
jafn-djúpvitr sem þú. En ek hugsaða þat, at Sölmundr væri
equal-deep-wise as you But I thought that that Solmund were
eigi at nærr sínum sóma, þótt ek hafnaða þeim, er mér
not the nearer his honor though I refused that which me
var boðinn; ok eigi kalla ek ykkr Sölmundi svívirðíng í,
was offered and not call I to-you-two Solmund disgrace in

at þiggja einsköpun af Jóni fyrir ykkarn mála-hlut ef hann
to accept self-judgment from Jon for your-two case-share if he
býðr ykkr; en grunr er mér á hvárt nakkvat þarf til þess
offers you-two but doubt is to-me on whether anything needs to that
at taka; en vandalaust kalla ek mér við Brynjúlf, meðan
to take but free-of-difficulty call I me with Brynjolf while
ek hefir engum ummælum upp lokit, ok við engu fé
I have no terms up closed and with no money
tekit." Mart töluðust þeir við feðgar, ok tengdi nakkvat
taken Much talked they together father-and-son and drew somewhat
síns vegar hvárr þeirra. Sendu þeir menn síðan at segja
his-own way each-one of-them Sent they men then to tell
Sölmundi tíðindi þessi. Eptir þat fundust þeir feðgar
Solmund tidings these After that met they father-and-son
ok Sölmundr. Vildi Kolr at menn væri sendir til Jóns, at
and Solmund Wished Kol that men were sent to Jon to
leita um sættir; en Sölmundr ok Hallvarðr bróðir Hávarðs
seek about settlements but Solmund and Hallvard brother of-Havard
vildu ekki nema mannhefndir, ok kölluðu úfellt at biðja
wished nothing but man-revenges and called unfitting to ask
Sygni sætta. En þó var þat ráð tekit, sem Kolr
(the)-Sogn-men for-settlements But yet was that counsel taken which Kol
vildi, með þeim kosti, at Kolr hét því, at skiljast eigi
wished with that condition that Kol promised that to part not
við þessi mál, fyrr en Sölmundr hefði sinn sóma; skyldi
with these cases earlier than Solmund had his honor should
þá ok Kolr öll ráð fyrir gjöra málinu. En er sendimenn
then also Kol all counsels for make to-the-case But when (the)-messengers
kómu aptr, segja þeir at þúngliga var tekit þeirra örindi;
came back say they that heavily was taken their errand
ok synjaði Jón þverliga at bæta þenna mann fé, er
and refused Jon flatly to atone-for this man with-money who

áðr hafði sér til óhelgi verkat. Sölmundr kvað þetta hafa
before had himself to outlawry worked Solmund said this to-have
farit eptir getu sinni, at eigi mundi þat til sæmdar, at biðja
gone after guess his that not would that to honor to ask
Jón sætta; bað nú Kol til leggja þau ráð at dygði.
Jon for-settlements bade now Kol to lay those counsels that availed
Kolr segir: “Vill Hallvarðr sik í nokkura hættu leggja
Kol says Will Hallvard himself in some danger lay
til hefnda eptir bróður sinn, ok kann vera, at þó verði
for revenge after brother his and may be that yet be
lítt fram gengt.” Hallvarðr kvaðst ekki sik vilja spara til
little forward gone Hallvard said-himself not himself will spare for
hefnda eptir bróður sinn, “þótt þat sé nokkur mann-hætta.”
revenge after brother his though that be some man-danger
Kolr segir: “Þá skaltú fara norðr í Sogn leyniliga til þess
Kol says Then shall-you go north to Sogn secretly to that
manns, er Uni heitir; hann býr skamt frá Jóni; hann er
man who Uni is-called he lives short from Jon he is
vitr maðr ok nakkvat févani, þvíat Jón hefir lengi þröngt
a-wise man and somewhat money-short because Jon has long straitened
kosti hans; hann er vin [minn] mikill, ok nú hniginn
means his he is friend my great and now declined
nakkvat á aldr. Honum skaltú færa sex merkr vegnar, er
somewhat in age To-him shall-you bring six marks weighed which
ek sendi honum til þess, at hann leggi ráð til, attú
I send him to that that he lay counsel to that-you
komir hefndum fram við Brynjúlf eðr annan heimamann
come revenges forward on Brynjolf or another home-man
Jóns, þann er honum þætti eigi minna lát í. En ef
of-Jon that whom him would-seem not less loss in But if
þetta verðr fram gengt, þá skal Uni koma þér á Stuðlu
this becomes forward gone then shall Uni bring you to Studla

til Kyrpínga-Orms frænda míns, ok sona hans, Ögmundar
to Kyrpinga-Orm kinsman my and sons his Ogmund
ok Erlíngs; ok þykki mér sem þú sér þá heim kominn.
and Erling and seems to-me as-if you be then home come
Bið Una síðan selja jörð sína ok ráðast hingat til mín."
Bid Uni then sell land his and come hither to me
Hallvarðr býst nú til ferðar þessar. Ok er frá ferð
Hallvard makes-ready now for journey this And is about journey
hans eigi sagt eðr náttstöðum fyrr en hann kom einn dag
his not said or night-stays earlier than he came one day
at kveldi til Una, ok nefndist ekki sínu nafni. Þeir Uni
at evening to Uni and named-himself not by-his name They Uni
spyrjast almæltra tíðinda. Ok um kveldit, er menn sátu
ask of-common tidings And in the-evening when men sat
við elda, þá frétti gestrinn mjök eptir tignum mönnum
by fires then asked the-guest much after noble men
þar í Sogni ok Hörðalandi. Uni sagði, at þar þótti engi
there in Sogn and Hordaland Uni said that there seemed no
lendr maðr ríkari en Jón, bæði fyrir ættar sakir, ok
landed man more-powerful than Jon both for family's sake and
þó újafnaðar; ok spurði hvárt þeir hefði þess öngar minjar
also of-overbearing and asked whether they had of-that no tokens
suðr í landit. Hann gestrinn var fár umb, er hann
south in the-land He the-guest was reserved about-it when he
mælti svá. Ok eptir þat drifu menn frá eldunum, svá at
spoke so And after that drifted men from the-fires so that
þeir urðu tveir eptir. Þá tók Uni til orða ok mælti svá:
they were two behind Then took Uni to words and spoke so
"Hvárt nefndist þú Hallvarðr?" segir hann, "Nei," segir
Whether named-yourself you Hallvard says he No says
hann gestrinn; ok nefndist sem um kveldit. Uni mælti:
he the-guest and named-himself as in the-evening Uni spoke

“Af er þá minn vandi,” segir hann, “ok þat munda ek
Off is then my care says he and that would I
ætla, ef ek héta Brynjúlfr, attú hétir Hallvarðr; en
think if I were-called Brynjolf that-you were-called Hallvard but
þó skulu vit nú ganga at sofa.” Gestrinn tók þá til
yet shall we-two now go to sleep The-guest took then to
hans ok mælti: “Eigi skulu vit enn ganga;” Seldi þá
him and spoke Not shall we-two yet go Handed then
fram fésjóðinn, ok segir at Kolr sendi honum silfr þat
forth the-money-purse and says that Kol sent him silver that
með kveðju sinni “Til þess, attú leggir ráð til með mér,
with greeting his To that that-you lay counsel to with me
at ek koma fram hefndum eptir bróður minn;” ok segir
that I come forward revenges after brother my and tells
honum þá allt ráð Kols. Uni mælti: “Makligr væri Kolr
him then all (the)-plan of-Kol Uni spoke Deserving were Kol
góðs frá mér; en eigi má ek vita, hvers þér verðr af
of-good from me but not may I know of-what to-you becomes of
auðit um hefnd við Brynjúlf; en híngat er hans ván á
granted about revenge on Brynjolf but hither is his expectation in
morgin eptir klæðum frillu sinnar.” Ok nú fylgdi Uni
(the)-morning after clothes of-mistress his And now accompanied Uni
honum út til hrossa-húss, er stóð fyrir durum úti, ok fal
him out to (the)-horse-house which stood before (the)-doors outside and hid
hann þar í etu-stalli. Þat var áðr menn stóðu upp; en
him there in (the)-feeding-stall That was before men stood up but
inni hafði hann legit um nóttina. Þá er Hallvarðr hafði
inside had he lain in the-night Then when Hallvard had
litla stund verit í hrossa-húsinu, sá hann, at maðr ferligr
little while been in the-horse-house saw he that a-man huge
var kominn á bæinn, ok kallar, at konan skyldi búast.
was come to the-farm and calls that the-woman should make-ready

Hon tók klæði sín, ok berr út. Þykkist Hallvarðr þá vita,
She took clothes her and bears out Thinks Hallvard then to-know
hverr vera mun. Gengr hann þá út. Brynjúlfr hafði lagit
who be will Goes he then out Brynjolf had laid
af sér vápnin, er hann batt klæðin konunnar. Ok þegar
off himself the-weapons when he tied the-clothes of-the-woman And as-soon
er þeir finnast, höggr Hallvarðr Brynjúlf banahögg; gekk
as they meet strikes Hallvard Brynjolf death-blow went
þá aptr í hrossa-húsit ok fal sik þar. Meðan vígit
then back into the-horse-house and hid himself there While the-slaying
varð, hafði konan gengit inn at minnast við heima-menn.
happened had the-woman gone in to take-leave with (the)-home-men
Ok er hon kom út, sá hon verks ofmerki; ok hljóp
And when she came out saw she of-(the)-deed (the)-tokens and ran
inn með ópi miklu ok felmti, svá at henni hélt við
in with whooping great and terror so that her held near
úvit, ok sagði þó tíðindin. Uni bóndi hljóp út, ok
unconsciousness and said yet the-tidings Uni (the)-farmer ran out and
sagði at gestrinn mundi verit hafa flugumaðr; ok sendi
said that the-guest would been have a-hired-assassin and sent
þegar mann Jóni, at segja tíðindin; ok eggjaði sem mest
at-once a-man to-Jon to tell the-tidings and urged as most
at leita eptir manninum; ok fyrir þat grunaði engi maðr
to search after the-man and for that suspected no man
hann of þessi ráð. Hallvarðr var í hrossa-húsinu þar til
him about these plans Hallvard was in the-horse-house there till
er af leið hin mesta leitin. En eptir þat fór hann með
when off passed the greatest the-search But after that went he with
ráði Una til þess er hann kom á Stuðlu til þeirra Orms
counsel of-Uni to that when he came to Studla to those Orm
feðga, ok fengu þeir honum föruneyti heim austr. Tóku
father-and-sons and got they him company home east Took

þeir Kolr ok Sölmundr vel við honum, ok undu nú vel
they Kol and Solmund well with him and were-content now well
sínum hlut; ok nú spyrjast tíðindi þessi, ok verða menn
with-their share and now are-heard tidings these and become men
vissir ins sanna. Líkar nú Jóni allþúngt. Ok líða svá þau
certain of-the truth Pleases now to-Jon very-heavily And pass so those
misseri. Ok annan vetr, er dró at Jólum, bjóst Jón
seasons And another winter when drew-on to Yule made-ready Jon
heiman með þrjá tigi manna; ok brá á þat, at hann
from-home with three tens of-men and gave-out on that that he
mundi fara kynnis-ferð upp á Sætr til Háreks móður-föður
would go a-visiting-journey up to Saet to Harek mother's-father
síns. Ok svá gjörði hann, ok fær þar góðar viðtökur. Ok
his And so did he and gets there good receptions And
er þeir talast við frændr, segir Jón, at hann ætlar þaðan
when they talk together kinsmen says Jon that he intends thence
á Austr-Agðir á fund Sölmundar. Hárekr latti þess,
to East-Agder to (the)-meeting of-Solmund Harek discouraged that
ok sagði at hlutr hans lá ekki undir, þótt þeir væri nú
and said that share his lay not under though they were now
skildir. Jón lézt eigi því una, at Brynjúlfs væri óhefnt.
parted Jon said-himself not that to-bear that Brynjolf were unavenged
Hárekr lézt ætla, at hlutr hans mundi eigi batna, þótt
Harek said-himself to-think that share his would not improve though
þeir ættist fleira við. En þó hafði hann þaðan þrjá tigi
they had-dealings more with But yet had he thence three tens
manna; ok fóru með hálft hundrað manna austr it efra,
of-men and went with half a-hundred of-men east the upper-way
ok ætluðu at koma á úvart þeim Sölmundi ok Kol. En
and meant to come on unawares (on)-them Solmund and Kol But
er Jón var ný-farinn heiman, brást Uni við, ok fór suðr
when Jon was newly-gone from-home bestirred Uni himself and went south

á Stuðlu á fund Orms; ok fengu þeir feðgar honum
to Studla to (the)-meeting of-Orm and got those father-and-sons him
föruneyti suðr til Kols; ok kom hann þar at Jólum, ok
company south to Kol and came he there at Yule and
sagði at hann hugði at Jón væri í atferð til þeirra. Kolr
said that he thought that Jon were on a-raid to them Kol
gjörir þegar njósnir á alla vega frá sér, þagat er honum
makes at-once spyings on all ways from himself thither where him
var Jóns ván; ok fór hann til fundar við Sölmund,
was of-Jon expectation and went he to a-meeting with Solmund
ok sátu þeir frændr með fjölmenni. Þeim kom njósn um
and sat they kinsmen with multitude To-them came spying about
ferðir Jóns, ok fóru þeir í móti honum; varð fundr þeirra
journeys of-Jon and went they in against him became meeting their
við skóg einn; slær þar þegar í bardaga; vóru þeir Kolr
by wood one strikes there at-once into battle were they Kol
miklu fleiri ok höfðu sigr. En Jón lét marga menn, ok
much more and had victory But Jon lost many men and
flýði sjálfr á skóg. Hann varð sárr á fæti, ok gröri
fled himself to (the)-wood He became wounded in (the)-foot and healed
þat svá illa, at hann var jafnan haltr síðan; ok kallaðr Jón
that so ill that he was always lame afterward and called Jon
fótr. Hann kom heim norðr á Langa-föstu, ok þótti hans
Foot He came home north in Lent and seemed his
ferð in hæðiligsta. Nú leið svá þessi vetr. En of sumarit
journey the most-shameful Now passed so this winter But in the-summer
eptir lét Jón drepa tvá frændr Kols, Gunnar ok Áslák.
after let Jon kill two kinsmen of-Kol Gunnar and Aslak
Litlu síðarr kom Sigurðr konúngr til bæjarins, ok var þá
Little later came Sigurd king to the-town and was then
kært fyrir honum þetta vankvæði. Eptir þat gjörði konúngr
charged before him this trouble After that made (the)-king

orð hvárum-tveggjum, ok stefndi þeim til sín. Kómu þeir
word to-both-sides and summoned them to himself Came they
þá til konúngs með frændr sína ok vini; var þá leitað
then to (the)-king with kinsmen their and friends was then sought
um sættir; ok kom því svá, at konúngs dómr skyldi
about settlements and came it so that (the)-king's judgment should
vera á málum þeirra öllum, ok gengu hvárir-tveggju til
be on cases their all and went both-sides to
festa við aðra. Sigurðr konúngr gjörði sætt þeirra með
pledges with (the)-others Sigurd king made settlement their with
ráði inna beztu manna. Var þat bundit í sætt þeirra,
counsel of-the best men Was that bound in settlement their
at Jón Petrsson skyldi fá Íngiríðar Kols dóttur; skyldi
that Jon Petr's-son should marry Ingirid Kol's daughter should
þá takast vinátta með tengdum, en víg fallast í faðma.
then be-made friendship with marriage-ties but slayings fall into embraces
Atför við Kol ok sár Jóns var líkt mannaláti austr
(The)-attack on Kol and (the)-wound of-Jon was likened to-man-loss east
þar; en sárum var saman jafnat, en bættr skakki. Skyldu
there but wounds were together evened but atoned (the)-difference Should
ok hvárir-tveggju öðrum lið veita, bæði utan-lands ok
also both-sides to-the-other help give both outside-the-land and
innan-lands. Þat fylgdi ok þessi sætt, at Sigurðr konúngr
inside-the-land That followed also this settlement that Sigurd king
gaf Kala Kolssyni Orkneyjar hálfar við Pál jarl Hákonarson,
gave to-Kali Kol's-son Orkney half with Pal earl Hakon's-son
ok jarls-nafn með. Hann gaf honum ok nafn Rögnvalds
and earl's-name with-it He gave him also (the)-name of-Rognvald
jarls Brúsasonar, þvíat Gunnhildr móðir hans sagði hann
earl Brusi's-son because Gunnhild mother his said him
verit hafa gjörfiligastan allra Orkneyínga-jarla, ok þótti þat
been have most-accomplished of-all Orkney-earls and seemed that

heilla-vænligt. Þenna hlut Orkneyja hafði átt Magnús inn
luck-promising This share of-Orkney had had Magnus the
helgi móður-bróðir Rögnvalds Kala. Eptir þessa sætt
holy mother's-brother of-Rognvald Kali After this settlement
skildust þeir með kærleikum miklum, er áðr vóru fjándmenn.
parted they with affections great who before were enemies

LXV · HARALDR GILLI MADE KING

King Sigurðr died, and his son Magnús took the throne. Haraldr Gilli was made king of half the land with the help of Rögnvaldr's kin. Magnús defeated Haraldr at Fyrileif, but Haraldr later captured and maimed him and renewed Rögnvaldr's grant of the islands.

Þenna vetr eptir sat Sigurðr konúngr í Oslu. En um várit
This winter after sat Sigurd king in Oslo But in the-spring
á Langa-föstu tók hann sótt ok andaðist einni nótt eptir
in Lent took he sickness and died one night after
Máriu-messu. Þá var Magnús son hans þar í bænum, ok
Mary's-mass Then was Magnus son his there in the-town and
áttí þegar þíng, ok var til konúngs tekinn of allt land
held at-once an-assembly and was to king taken over all (the)-land
eptir því sem menn höfðu svarit Sigurði konúngi. Tók
according-to that which men had sworn to-Sigurd king Took
hann þá konúngs féhirzlur í sitt vald. Haraldr gilli var
he then (the)-king's treasuries into his power Harald Gilli was
þá í Túnsbergi, er hann frétti andlát Sigurðar konúngs;
then in Tunsberg when he learned (the)-death of-Sigurd king
þá hafði hann stefnur við vini sína. Sendi hann þá eptir
then had he meetings with friends his Sent he then after
þeim Rögnvaldi frændum, þvíat hann hafði jafnan verit
them Rognvald kinsmen because he had always been

vin hans, síðan þeir fundust í Englandi. Þeir feðgar
friend his since they met in England Those father-and-son
höfðu ok mestu til leiðar komit of skírslu Haralds við
had also most to way brought about (the)-ordeal of-Harald with
Sigurð konúng, með fulltíngi annarra lendra manna, Íngimars
Sigurd king with help of-other landed men Ingimar
Sveinssonar ok Þjóstólfs Álasonar. Var þat ráð þeirra
Svein's-son and Thjostolf Ali's-son Was that counsel of-them
Haralds at eiga Hauga-þíng þar í Túnsbergi. Var þar Haraldr
Harald to hold Haugar-assembly there in Tunsberg Was there Harald
til konúngs tekinn yfir hálft land. Vóru þat þá kallaðir
to king taken over half (the)-land Were those then called
nauða-eiðar, er hann hafði svarit föðurleifð sína af hendi
compulsion-oaths which he had sworn inheritance his from hand
sér, áðr hann næði skírslunni. Drifu þá menn til hans ok
his before he got the-ordeal Drifted then men to him and
gjörðust honum handgengnir, ok varð hann allfjölmennr. Þá
became him sworn-men and became he very-well-attended Then
fóru orð á meðal þeirra frænda. Ok stóð svá vij. nætr áðr
went words in between those kinsmen And stood so seven nights before
sættum varð á komit, með því móti at hálft land skyldi
settlements were on come in that manner that half (the)-land should
hafa hvárr þeirra við annan, en Magnús konúngr hafði
have each of-them with (the)-other but Magnus king had
langskip Sigurðar konúngs ok borðbúnað ok allar féhirðslur;
(the)-longships of-Sigurd king and table-service and all treasuries
ok undi hann þó verr við sinn hlut. Hann fjándskapaðist
and was-content he yet worse with his share He became-hostile
á alla vini Haralds. Magnús konúngr vildi ok eigi haldast
to all friends of-Harald Magnus king wished also not be-held
láta gjöf þá, er Sigurðr konúngr gaf Rögnvaldi Orkneyjar
to-let gift that which Sigurd king gave Rognvald Orkney

ok jarlsdóm; þvíat hann fylgdi fastast málum Haralds í
and earldom because he followed most-firmly (the)-cases of-Harald in
öllum skiptum þeirra, ok skildist aldregi við mál hans áðr
all dealings their and parted never with case his before
lauk öllum skiptum þeirra. Þeir Magnús ok Haraldr vóru þrjá
ended all dealings their They Magnus and Harald were three
vetr konúngar yfir Noregi svá at hélzt sætt þeirra at kalla,
winters kings over Norway so that held settlement their to call
en it fjórða sumar börðust þeir á Fyrileif. Þá hafði Magnús
but the fourth summer fought they at Fyrileif Then had Magnus
konúngr nærr sex tigi hundraða manna, en Haraldr fimtán
king nearly six tens of-hundreds of-men but Harald fifteen
hundruð manna. Þessir höfðingjar vóru með Haraldi: Kriströðr
hundreds of-men These chieftains were with Harald Kristrod
bróðir hans, Rögnvaldr jarl, Íngimarr af Aski, Þjóstólfr Álason,
brother his Rognvald earl Ingimar of Ask Thjostolf Ali's-son
ok Sölmundr. Magnús konúngr fékk sigr, en Haraldr konúngr
and Solmund Magnus king got victory but Harald king
flýði. Þar féll Kriströðr, ok Íngimarr. Hann kvað vísu þessa:
fled There fell Kristrod and Ingimar He recited verse this

"Flögð hvöttu mik
Troll-wives urged me
til Fyrileifar;
to Fyrileif
æ var ek ófúss
ever was I unwilling
til orrostu:
for battle

Mik bitu örvar
Me bit arrows
af álmboga;
from elm-bow
mun ek aldregi
will I never
á Ask koma."
to Ask come

Haraldr konúngr flýði austr í Vík til skipa sinna, ok fór
Harald king fled east into Vik to ships his and went
suðr til Danmerkr á fund Eireks konúngs eymuna;
south to Denmark to (the)-meeting of-Eirik king Ever-Memorable
hann veitti honum Halland til yfirsóknar ok átta langskip
he granted him Halland for administration and eight longships
reiðalaus. Þjóstólfr Álason seldi jarðir sínar til skipa ok vápna,
rigging-less Thjostolf Ali's-son sold lands his for ships and weapons
ok sótti til Haralds konúngs suðr til Danmerkr of haustið.
and sought to Harald king south to Denmark in the-autumn
Haraldr konúngr kom at Jólum til Björgynjar, ok lá í
Harald king came at Yule to Bergen and lay in
Flóru-vágum of Jólin. En eptir Jólin leggja þeir til bæjarins,
Floru-bays over the-Yule But after the-Yule lay they to the-town
ok varð þar lítil viðtaka; varð Magnús konúngr handtekinn
and was there little reception was Magnus king captured
á skipi sínu ok meiddr, en Haraldr konúngr tók land allt
on ship his and maimed but Harald king took (the)-land all
undir sik. En of várit eptir endr-nýjaði Haraldr konúngr
under himself But in the-spring after renewed Harald king
gjöfina við Rögnvald um Eyjarnar ok svá jarls-nafnit.
the-gift to Rognvald about the-Isles and also the-earl's-name

Kolr sent to Páll for half the islands; Páll refused. Frakökk offered to bring a host from Scotland and the Hebrides against Páll the next summer.

Þat ráð gjörði Kolr at senda menn til Orkneyja þegar
That counsel made Kol to send men to Orkney at-once
eptir þetta; ok beiddi Pál jarl, at hann gæfi upp hálfar
after this and asked Pal earl that he give up half
Eyjarnar, svá sem Haraldr konúngr hafði gefit honum; skyldi
the-Isles so as Harald king had given him should
ok þá takast með þeim vinátta ok heil frændsymi. En
also then be-made between them friendship and whole kinship But
ef Páll jarl varnaði þessa, þá skyldu þessir inir sömu
if Pal earl refused this then should these the same
menn fara til fundar við þau Frakökku ok Ölvi rostu, ok
men go to a-meeting with them Frakokk and Olvir Brawl and
bjóða þeim helmíng landa við Rögnvald jarl, ef þau
offer them half of-(the)-lands with Rognvald earl if they
vildi sækja með her af Páli jarli. En er þessir menn
wished to-win with a-host from Pal earl But when these men
kómu til Orkneyja á fund Páls jarls, ok báru þar fram
came to Orkney to (the)-meeting of-Pal earl and bore there forth
sín eyrindi, þá svarar Páll jarl: "Skil ek tilkall þetta,
their errands then answers Pal earl Understand I claim this
at þat er efnat með mikilli undirhyggju; hafa þeir sótt
that it is prepared with great guile have they sought
at því Noregs konúnga at hafa ríki undan mér. Vil
to it of-Norway (the)-kings to have (the)-realm from me Will
ek nú eigi því launa þann útrúnað, at gefa ríki mitt
I now not with-that repay that disloyalty to give realm my

þeim, er eigi er nærr kominn en Rögnvald er, en varna
to-him who not is nearer come than Rognvald is but refuse
bróðursyni mínum ok systur-syni. Þarf hér eigi langt um
brother's-son my and sister's-son Need here not long about
at tala, þvíat ek mun verja Orkneyjar með styrk vina
to talk because I will defend Orkney with strength of-friends
minna ok frænda meðan guð ann mér lífs til." Sá þá
my and kinsmen while God grants me life to Saw then
sendimenn sitt eyrindi hvert þangat mundi verða. Fóru þeir
(the)-messengers their errand where thither would become Went they
þá í brott ok suðr yfir Pétlands-fjörð til Kataness, ok
then off away and south over (the)-Pentland-Firth to Caithness and
svá í Suðrland á fund Frakakkar, ok segja þar upp
so to Sutherland to (the)-meeting of-Frakokk and tell there up
sin eyrindi, at þeir Rögnvaldr jarl ok Kolr bjóða þeim
their errands that they Rognvald earl and Kol offer them
Ölvi hálfar Orkneyjar ef þau vilja vinna aptr af Páli jarli.
Olvir half Orkney if they will win back from Pal earl
Frakökk segir svá: "Satt er þat, at Kolr er spekíngr mikill,
Frakokk says so True is that that Kol is a-sage great
ok vitrliga er þetta ráð sét, at leita híngat til afla, þvíat
and wisely is this counsel seen to seek hither for strength because
vér frændr höfum afla mikinn ok marga tengða-menn. Ek
we kinsmen have strength great and many marriage-kin I
hefi nú gipta Margrétu Hákonar-dóttur Moddani jarli af
have now married Margaret Hakon's-daughter to-Moddan earl of
Atiaktum, er göfgastr er allra Skota-höfðíngja at ættum.
Atholl who noblest is of-all Scots'-chieftains in lineage
Melmari faðir hans var bróðir Melkólms Skota-konúngs, föður
Melmari father his was brother of-Malcolm Scots'-king father
Davíðs, er nú er Skotakonúngr," sagði hon. "Höfum vér ok
of-David who now is Scots'-king said she Have we also

mörg sannlig tilköll til Orkneyja, en erum sjálf nokkurir
many true claims to Orkney but are ourselves somewhat
ráðamenn, ok kölluð heldr djúpvitr; kemr oss ok eigi allt
counsel-folk and called rather deep-wise comes to-us also not all
á úvart í úfriðinum; en þó þykki mér gott at gjöra
on unawares in the-unpeace but yet seems to-me good to make
félag við þá feðga fyrir margra hluta sakir. Skolu þér
fellowship with those father-and-son for many things' sakes Shall you
þau segja mín orð þeim feðgum, at vit Ölvir munum
these say my words to-those father-and-son that we-two Olvir will
koma til Orkneyja annat sumar at miðju sumri með her
come to Orkney (the)-next summer at mid summer with a-host
á hendr Páli jarli; komi þeir Rögnvaldr þar til móts við
on (the)-hands-of Pal earl come they Rognvald there to meeting with
oss, ok látum þá deila um stafn við Pál jarl; en ek mun
us and let then dispute about stem with Pal earl but I will
í vetr draga afla at mér af Skotlandi ok Suðreyjum af
in winter draw strength to me from Scotland and (the)-Hebrides from
frændum mínum ok vinum ok mágum." Fara nú sendimenn
kinsmen my and friends and in-laws Go now (the)-messengers
aptr austr til Noregs, ok segja þeim feðgum svá komit.
back east to Norway and tell those father-and-son so come

LXVII · THE FLEETS GATHER

Rögnvaldr sailed to Shetland with a small fleet, and Frakökk and Ölvir Brawl sailed from the Hebrides with twelve ships.

Þenna vetr eptir býst Rögnvaldr jarl til vestr-farar, ok
This winter after makes-ready Rognvald earl for west-voyage and
þessir höfðingjar með honum: Sölmundr ok Jón. Þeir fóru of
these chieftains with him Solmund and Jon They went in
sumarit eptir ok höfðu frítt lið ok ekki mikit; fimm skip eðr
the-summer after and had fine troop and not great five ships or
sex. Þeir koma við Hjaltland at miðju sumri, ok fréttu ekki
six They come to Shetland at mid summer and learned nothing
til Frakakkar. Þá lögðust á andviðri stór; lögðu þeir
of Frakokk Then laid-themselves on contrary-winds great laid they
skipum sínum í Álasund, en fóru at veizlum of landit, ok
ships their in Alasund but went to feasts about the-land and
fögnuðu bændr þeim vel. En þat er at segja frá Frakökk,
welcomed (the)-farmers them well But that is to tell about Frakokk
at hon ferr of várit út í Suðreyjar, ok eflast þau
that she goes in the-spring out to (the)-Hebrides and strengthen-themselves they
Ölvir þaðan at liði ok skipum; þau fengu tólf skip ok öll
Olvir thence in troops and ships they got twelve ships and all
smá ok heldr lítt skipuð. Ok nær miðju sumri héldu þau til
small and rather little manned And near mid summer held they to
Orkneyja, ok ætla til móts við Rögnvald jarl, sem mælt var;
Orkney and intend to meeting with Rognvald earl as spoken was
gefr þeim heldr seint. Þar var Ölvir rosta höfðingi fyrir því
gives them rather late There was Olvir Brawl chieftain over that
liði, ok var honum ætlaðr jarldómr í Orkneyjum, ef þau fengi
troop and was him intended earldom in Orkney if they got
þat. Þar var Frakökk í ferð ok mart hennar skulda-lið.
it There was Frakokk in (the)-journey and much her household-band

Páll beat Ölvir in a sea battle off Tankerness, Sveinn Breast-Rope's stone felling Ölvir. He then surprised Rögnvaldr's ships in Shetland and took them, and Rögnvaldr went home to Norway shamed. Kolr urged him to try again.

Þá var Páll jarl í Hrólfsey á Vestnesi at Sigurðar á veizlu,
Then was Pal earl in Rousay at Westness at Sigurd's at a-feast
er hann spurði at Rögnvaldr jarl var kominn við Hjaltland;
when he learned that Rognvald earl was come to Shetland
þá var ok spurt at herr samnaðist ór Suðreyjum á hendr
then was also learned that a-host gathered out-of (the)-Hebrides on hands
þeim. Gjörði jarl þá orð Kúga í Vestrey ok Þorkatli
of-them Made (the)-earl then word to-Kugi in Westray and Thorkel
fletti; þeir vóru vitrir menn; ok mörgum öðrum gæðingum
Flayer they were wise men and many other retainers
stefndi hann til sín. Á þessari stefnu leitaði jarl ráða
summoned he to himself At this meeting sought (the)-earl counsel
við vini sína. En þat sýndist eigi öllum einn veg; sumir
with friends his But that seemed not to-all one way some
vildu miðla ríki við aðra-hvára, ok hafa eigi hvára-tveggju
wished to-divide (the)-realm with one-or-other and have not both-of-them
í móti sér; en sumir réðu at jarl færi yfir á Nes
in against himself but some advised that (the)-earl went over to (the)-Ness
til vina sinna, ok vita hvern afla hann fengi þar. Páll jarl
to friends his and know what strength he got there Pal earl
svarar: "Eigi vil ek nú bjóða þeim ríki mitt, er ek neitta
answers Not will I now offer them realm my which I refused
þá þverliga, er þeir leituðu með góðu; þykki mér ok
then flatly when they sought with good seems to-me also
úhöfðíngligt at flýja land mitt at öllu úreyndu. Vil ek hitt
unchieftainly to flee land my at all untried Will I that

ráð taka, at senda menn í nótt of allar Eyjar at
counsel take to send men in (the)-night about all (the)-Isles to
samna liði; ok förum sem fyrst í móti þeim Rögnvaldi, ok
gather troops and go-we as soonest in against them Rognvald and
látum sverfa til stáls með oss áðr Suðreyingar koma." Var
let file to steel among us before (the)-Hebrideans come Was
þetta ráð haft sem jarl mælti. Sá maðr var þá með
this counsel held as (the)-earl spoke That man was then with
Páli jarli er Sveinn hét, brjóst-reip; hann var hirðmaðr
Pal earl who Svein was-called Breast-Rope he was retainer
jarls ok metinn vel af honum; hann var jafnan í
of-(the)-earl and valued well by him he was always on
víkingu á sumrum en á vetrum með Páli jarli. Sveinn var
viking in summers but in winters with Pal earl Svein was
mikill maðr ok sterkr, svartr ok heldr úhamíngju-samligr;
a-big man and strong swarthy and rather unlucky-looking
hann var forn mjök, ok hafði jafnan úti setið; hann var
he was pagan much and had often out sat he was
stafnbúi jarls. Þessir höfðingjar kómu þegar of nóttina
stem-man of-(the)-earl These chieftains came at-once in the-night
til Páls jarls: Eyvindr Melbrigdason, hann hafði langskip
to Pal earl Eyvind Melbrigdi's-son he had a-longship
alskipat; annat hafði Ólafr Hrólfsson ór Gareksey; þriðja
fully-manned another had Olaf Hrolf's-son from Gairsay (the)-third
Þorkell flettir; fjórða Sigurðr þar búandi; fimta hafði
Thorkel Flayer (the)-fourth Sigurd there (the)-farmer (the)-fifth had
jarl sjálfr. Þessum fimm skipum halda þeir til Hrosseyjar,
(the)-earl himself With-these five ships hold they to Hrossey
ok koma þar Fimta-aptan við sólarfall; drózt þeim þá lið
and come there Thursday-evening at sunset drew to-them then troop
at of nóttina, en skipin fengust eigi fleiri. Þeir ætluðu of
to in the-night but the-ships were-got not more They meant in

daginn eptir at sigla til Hjaltlands í móti þeim Rögnvaldi.
the-day after to sail to Shetland in against them Rognvald
En um morguninn, er ljóst var orðit, ok sól var skamt
But in the-morning when light was become and (the)-sun was short
farin, kómu þeir menn til jarls, er séð kóðust hafa
gone came those men to (the)-earl who seen said-they to-have
langskip fara sunnan á Pétlands-fjörð; létust eigi vita
longships go from-the-south on (the)-Pentland-Firth said-they not to-know
hvárt vóru tíu eðr tólf. Þeir jarl þóttust vita, at
whether (they)-were ten or twelve They (the)-earl thought to-know that
þar mundi fara herr Frakakkar; bað jarl þá ráðast í
there would go (the)-host of-Frakokk bade (the)-earl then proceed in
móti þeim sem harðast. Þeir Ólafr ok Sigurðr báðu þá
against them as hardest They Olaf and Sigurd bade then
fara tómliga, ok sögðu lið mundu koma at þeim á hverri
go slowly and said troop would come to them at every
stundu. Ok þá er þeir réru austr frá Tannskara-nesi, sigldu
hour And then when they rowed east from Tankerness sailed
langskip í móti þeim austan frá Múla ok vóru tólf
longships in against them from-the-east from Mull-Head and were twelve
saman. Þeir jarl tengdu þá saman skip sín. Þá kom til
together They (the)-earl tied then together ships their Then came to
hans Erlíngr búandi af Tannskara-nesi ok synir hans, ok
him Erling (the)-farmer from Tankerness and sons his and
buðu honum lið sitt. Þá höfðu þeir svá þröngt á skipum
offered him troop his Then had they so crowded on ships
sínum, at þeir þóttust eigi mega fleirum mönnum
their that they thought-themselves not to-be-able more men
við koma. Bað jarl þá Erlíng flytja at þeim grjót, meðan
with come Bade (the)-earl then Erling bring to them stones while
þeim væri við engu hætt. Ok þá er þeir höfðu um
them were with nothing danger And then when they had about

búizt, kómu þau Ölvir; ok greiddu þegar atróðr, ok höfðu
made-ready came they Olvir and made at-once an-onset and had
þau lið miklu meira ok skip smærri. Ölvir hafði mikit skip,
they troop much greater and ships smaller Olvir had a-big ship
ok lagði hann þat at skipi jarls. Varð þar in harðasta
and laid he it at (the)-ship of-(the)-earl Was there the hardest
orrosta. Ólafr Hrólfsson lagði sitt skip at inum smærrum
battle Olaf Hrolf's-son laid his ship at the smaller
skipum Ölvis, ok var þar borða-munr mikill, ok hrauð hann
ships of-Olvir and was there board-difference great and cleared he
á skammri stundu þrjú skip. Ölvir lagði svá fast at skipi
in short while three ships Olvir laid so hard at (the)-ship
jarls, at frambyggvar allir hrukku aptr of siglu.
of-(the)-earl that (the)-forecastle-men all were-driven back about (the)-mast
Þá eggjaði Ölvir sína menn til uppgöngu, ok gengr sjálfr
Then urged Olvir his men to boarding and goes himself
fyrstr upp. Sveinn brjóst-reip var fremstr allra jarls-manna ok
first up Svein Breast-Rope was foremost of-all earl's-men and
barðist all-hraustliga. Páll jarl sér nú at Ölvir var kominn
fought very-bravely Pal earl sees now that Olvir was come
á skipit, ok eggjar fast sína menn; hleypr sjálfr ór
onto the-ship and urges hard his men leaps himself out-of
lyptíngunni ok fram á skipit. Ok er Ölvir sá þat, þreif
the-poop and forward onto the-ship And when Olvir saw that grabbed
hann upp fletti-skeptu ok fleygði til jarls, ok kom á
he up a-flaying-spear and flung at (the)-earl and came on
skjöldinn, ok féll hann þegar á þiljurnar. Þá varð óp
the-shield and fell he at-once onto the-decks Then was whooping
mikit. Ok í því þreif Sveinn brjóst-reip upp stein einn
great And in that grabbed Svein Breast-Rope up stone one
mikinn, ok fleygði til Ölvis, ok kom fyrir brjóst honum;
great and flung at Olvir and came on (the)-breast to-him

var höggit svá mikit, at hann hraut þegar útbyrðis ok
was the-blow so great that he flew at-once overboard and
á kaf. Hans menn gátu tekit hann; ok var hann þá upp
under water His men could take him and was he then up
dreginn í skip, ok lá hann í úviti, ok vissu menn
drawn into (the)-ship and lay he in unconsciousness and knew men
eigi hvárt hann var dauðr eðr lífs. Þá hljópu sumir til,
not whether he was dead or alive Then ran some to
ok hjoggu tengslin, ok vildu flýja, ok þá vóru ofan reknir
and hewed the-lashings and wished to-flee and then were down driven
allir Ölvis menn af skipi jarls. Tóku þeir þá at flýja.
all Olvir's men from (the)-ship of-(the)-earl Took they then to flee
Ölvir raknaði þá við, ok bað þá eigi flýja. En þá lét
Olvir came-round then to and bade them not flee But then let
engi sem vissi hvat hann mælti. Jarl rak flóttann austr
none as-if knew what he spoke (The)-earl drove the-rout east
af Hrossey, ok svá fyrir austan Hrossey ok Rögnvaldsey,
from Hrossey and so on east-of Hrossey and Ronaldsay
ok svá á Pétlands-fjörð; dró þá í sundr með þeim. Snýr
and so into (the)-Pentland-Firth drew then in sunder between them Turns
jarl þá aptr. Ok þar er þeir höfðu barizt, lágu auð
(the)-earl then back And there where they had fought lay empty
skip þeirra Ölvis fimm. Tók jarl [þau] til sín ok skipaði
ships their Olvir's five Took (the)-earl them to himself and manned
sínum mönnum. Föstudaginn var barizt; en of nóttina lét
with-his men Friday was fought but in the-night let
jarl búa skipin; samnaðist þá til hans mart manna,
(the)-earl prepare the-ships gathered then to him many men
ok tvau langskip. Hafði hann of morguninn tólf skip ok
and two longships Had he in the-morning twelve ships and
öll vel skipuð. Laugardaginn sigldi hann til Hjaltlands, ok
all well manned Saturday sailed he to Shetland and

kom of nóttina í Álasund á úvart þeim er gættu
came in the-night into Alasund on unawares (on)-those who guarded
skipa Rögnvalds jarls; lét Páll jarl þar drepa mennina,
(the)-ships of-Rognvald earl let Pal earl there kill the-men
en tók féit til sín ok skipin. En of morguninn kom
but took the-money to himself and the-ships But in the-morning came
þeim Rögnvaldi njósn. Hlaupa þeir saman ok höfðu búanda
to-them Rognvald spying Run they together and had of-farmers
samnað mikinn; fóru síðan ofan til strandar, ok eggja þá
gathered great went then down to (the)-shore and urge then
Pál jarl, at ganga á land ok berjast við sik. En Páll jarl
Pal earl to go on land and fight with them But Pal earl
trúði eigi Hjöltum, ok vildi því eigi á land ganga, en
trusted not (the)-Shetlanders and wished therefore not on land to-go but
bauð, at þeir fengi sér skip ok berðist þeir á skipum.
offered that they got themselves ships and fought they on ships
En þeir Rögnvaldr jarl sá, at þeir fengu ekki skip til þess,
But they Rognvald earl saw that they got no ships for that
svá at þeim væri þat færi. Ok skildust þeir við svá búit.
so that to-them were that possible And parted they with so done
Fóru þeir Páll jarl til Orkneyja; en þeir Rögnvaldr jarl vóru
Went they Pal earl to Orkney but they Rognvald earl were
á Hjaltlandi um sumarit, en fluttust of haustið til Noregs
in Shetland in the-summer but went in the-autumn to Norway
á skipum með ymsum kaupmönnum; ok þótti þeirra ferð
on ships with various merchants and seemed their journey
heldr hæðilig. En er Rögnvaldr jarl kom heim, ok þeir
rather shameful But when Rognvald earl came home and they
fundust feðgar, spyrr Kolr hvárt Rögnvaldr ynði illa
met father-and-son asks Kol whether Rognvald bore ill
sínum hlut. Hann segir, lézt sitt eyrindi þykkja lítið orðit,
his share He says said-he his errand to-seem little become

ok heldr úvirðiligt. Kolr segir: “Eigi þykki mér svá þó;
and rather unworthy Kol says Not seems to-me so yet
mér þykkir eyrindit gótt, ok mikit at gjört, ef Hjaltar
to-me seems the-errand good and much at done if (the)-Shetlanders
eru vinir yðrir; ok betra farit en úfarit.” Rögnvaldr segir:
are friends your and better gone than ungone Rognvald says
“Ef þú lofar þessa för, þá mun vera annat-hvárt, at þú
If you praise this journey then will be one-or-other that you
munt vera úvandari at várum hlut en ek hugða, eðr
will be less-exacting about our share than I thought or
þú munt sjá nakkvat þat í várri ferð, er vér hugsum
you will see something that in our journey which we think
eigi eptir; vil ek nú gjarna attú gjörir ráð fyrir oss ok
not after wish I now gladly that-you make counsel for us and
verðir sjálfr í ferð með oss. Kolr segir: “Eigi skal nú
become yourself in (the)-journey with us Kol says Not shall now
bæði gjöra, auðvelda allt fyrir yðr, en koma sjálfr hvergi
both make make-easy all for you but come myself nowhere
nær; mun ek vilja mjök mín ráð hafa, þess at ek halla
near will I will much my counsel have of-this that I lean
ekki yðvarri sæmd í.” Rögnvaldr svarar: “Gjarna viljum vér
not your honor in Rognvald answers Gladly will we
þínum ráðum fram fara.” Kolr segir: “Þat er it fyrsta mitt
your counsels forward go Kol says That is the first my
ráð, attú gjörir orð til Haralds konúngs ok annarra vina
counsel that-you make word to Harald king and other friends
þinna, at þeir fái þér lið til vestr-fara ok skip snemma
your that they get you troop for west-voyage and ships early
í vár; en vér drögum at oss allan afla þann er vér
in spring but we draw to us all strength that which we
megum til fá í vetr, ok ráðum svá til í annat sinn,
may to get in winter and arrange so to-it in (the)-other time

at annattveggja sé, at vér fáim Orkneyjar, eðr liggim þar
that one-of-two be that we get Orkney or lie there
eptir ella." Rögnvaldr svarar: "Þat býr mér í skapi, at fara
after else Rognvald answers That dwells to-me in mind to go
eigi margar slíkar ferðir sem þessa, er vér fórum nú; ætla
not many such journeys as this which we went now think
ek ok þeim flestum þat í hug, er nú fóru."
I also to-them most that in mind who now went

LXIX · THE BEACONS

Páll set beacons on Fair Isle and North Ronaldsay to warn of an attack. At Yule Valþjófr drowned, and Ölvir burned Ólafr Hrólfsson in his house while his son Sveinn Ásleifarson was out fishing; Sveinn came to Páll at Orphir.

Páll jarl fór til Orkneyja eptir þat er hann hafði tekit
Pal earl went to Orkney after that when he had taken
skip þeirra Rögnvalds jarls; hann átti þá at hrósa sigri
ships of-them Rognvald earl he had then to boast-of victory
miklum. Þá hafði hann boð mikit ok bauð til sín
great Then had he feast great and invited to himself
gæðingum sínum. Þar var þat ráðs tekit at hlaða vita
retainers his There was that counsel taken to build a-beacon
í Friðarey; skyldi þar eldi í slá ef herr væri sénn [fara],
in Fair-Isle should there fire into strike if a-host were seen go
frá Hjaltlandi. Þá var annarr á Rínansey, ok svá í
from Shetland Then was another on North-Ronaldsay and so in
fleirum eyjum, svá at sjá mætti of allar Eyjar, ef úfriðr
more islands so that see might over all (the)-Isles if unpeace
færi at. Þá vóru ok skipaðir menn til uppkvaða um allar
came on Then were also appointed men for raising-out about all

Eyjar; skyldi Þorsteinn Hávarðs son, Gunna sonar, hafa
(the)-Isles should Thorstein Havard's son Gunni's son have
Rínansey; en Magnús bróðir hans Sandey; en Kúgi um
North-Ronaldsay but Magnus brother his Sanday but Kugi about
Vestrey; Sigurðr á Vestnesi Hrólfsey. Ólafr Hrólfsson fór til
Westray Sigurd at Westness Rousay Olaf Hrolf's-son went to
Kataness í Dungalsbæ ok hafði þar yfirsókn. Valþjófr son
Caithness to Duncansby and had there stewardship Valthjof son
hans bjó þá í Strjónsey. Páll jarl veitti þá gjafar vinum
his lived then in Stronsay Pal earl gave then gifts to-friends
sínum, ok hétu allir honum sinni vináttu fullkominni.
his and promised all him their friendship full
Hann hafði fjölment of haustið þar til er hann spurði
He had many-men in the-autumn there till when he learned
at þeir Rögnvaldr vóru í brottu af Hjaltlandi. Var þá
that they Rognvald were off away from Shetland Was then
tíðindalaust í Eyjunum, ok leið svá fram at Jólunum. Páll
without-tidings in the-Isles and passed so forward to the-Yule Pal
jarl hafði Jóla-boð mikit, ok efnaði til at búi sínu því
earl had Yule-feast great and prepared for-it at farm his that
er heitir í Örfuru; hann bauð þangat mörgum göfgum
which is-called in Orphir he invited thither many noble
mönnum. Þangat var boðit Valþjófi Ólafssyni ór Strjónsey.
men Thither was invited Valthjof Olaf's-son from Stronsay
Þeir fóru tíu á teinæringi, ok týndust allir á Vestfirði
They went ten on a-ten-oared-boat and were-lost all in Westfjord
atfangs-dag Jóla, ok þótti þat mikil tíðindi, þvíat Valþjófr
Eve-day of-Yule and seemed that great tidings because Valthjof
var manna bazt mentr. Ólafr faðir hans hafði sveit mikla
was of-men best accomplished Olaf father his had band great
á Katanesi. Þar vóru synir hans, Sveinn ok Gunni; ok synir
in Caithness There were sons his Svein and Gunni and sons

Gríms ór Svíney, Ásbjörn ok Margaðr; en Ásleif húsfreyja
of-Grim from Swona Asbjorn and Margad but Asleif (the)-housewife
ok Gunni son hennar vóru farin til heimboðs skamt í
and Gunni son her were gone to a-home-feast short off
brott til vina sinna. Þau tíðendi görðust í Dungalsbæ
away to friends their Those tidings happened in Duncansby
þrem nóttum fyrir Jólin at Sveinn Ólafsson var róinn
three nights before the-Yule that Svein Olaf's-son was rowed
til fiska ok þeir Ásbjörn ok Margaðr með honum; þeir
to fishing and they Asbjorn and Margad with him they
fylgdu honum jafnan ok vóru inir vaskligstu menn. En
attended him always and were the boldest men But
of nóttina eptir er þau vóru í brott, farin, kom Ölvir
in the-night after when they were off away gone came Olvir
rosta í Dungalsbæ með sveit þá er honum hafði fylgt í
Brawl to Duncansby with band that which him had followed on
víkingu of sumarit, ok tók hús á Ólafi; ok báru þegar eld
viking in the-summer and took house on Olaf and bore at-once fire
at, ok brendu hann inni við sétta mann, en leyfðu öðrum
to and burned him inside with a-sixth man but allowed other
mönnum útgöngu. Þeir tóku þar lausa-fé allt, ok fóru við
men out-going They took there loose-goods all and went with
svá búit í brott. Sveinn, er síðan var kallaðr Ásleifarson,
so done off away Svein who later was called Asleif's-son
kom heim fyrir atfangs-dag Jóla, ok fór þegar norðr á
came home before Eve-day of-Yule and went at-once north over
Pétlands-fjörð. Kom hann of miðnætti í Svíney til Gríms
(the)-Pentland-Firth Came he at midnight to Swona to Grim
föður þeirra Ásbjarnar. Steig Grímr á skip með þeim, ok
father of-them Asbjorn Stepped Grim onto ship with them and
fluttu þeir Svein til Skálpeiðs á Knarrarstaði. Arnkell hét
brought they Svein to Skalpeid at Knarston Arnkel was-called

maðr sá er þar bjó, ok synir hans Hánefr ok Sigurðr. Þeir
man that who there lived and sons his Hanef and Sigurd They
Grímr feðgar snöru þaðan aptr, ok gaf Sveinn Grími
Grim father-and-sons turned thence back and gave Svein to-Grim
fingr-gull. Þeir Hánefr ok Sigurðr bræðr fylgdu Sveini í
a-finger-gold They Hanef and Sigurd brothers accompanied Svein to
Örfuru; þar var honum vel fagnat; fylgdu menn honum til
Orphir there was him well welcomed accompanied men him to
Eyvindar Melbrigðasonar, frænda Sveins. Eyvindr leiddi Svein
Eyvind Melbrigdi's-son kinsman of-Svein Eyvind led Svein
fyrir Pál jarl; ok fagnaði jarl vel Sveini ok frétti hann
before Pal earl and welcomed (the)-earl well Svein and asked he
at tíðindum; en Sveinn segir lát föður síns með þeim
at tidings but Svein tells (the)-death of-father his with those
atburðum sem vóru. Jarl lét illa yfir þessu, ok kvað mjök
events as were (The)-earl let ill over this and said much
af sér hlotizt hafa. Bauð hann Sveini með sér at vera,
from himself befallen to-have Offered he Svein with himself to be
ok lézt skyldu gjöra [til hans mikinn] sóma. Sveinn
and said-himself should do to him great honor Svein
þakkar vel jarli boð sitt, ok kvaðst þat mundu þiggja.
thanks well (the)-earl offer his and said-himself that would accept

LXX · SVEINN BREAST-ROPE'S SLAYING

At the Yule feast in Orphir, Eyvindr set the two Sveins against each other. Sveinn Ásleifarson killed Sveinn Breast-Rope at the hall doors and fled to Bishop Vilhjálmr, who sent him to Holdboði in the Hebrides.

Eptir þat fóru menn til aptan-söng[s]. Þar var mikill
After that went men to evensong There was great
húsa-bær, ok stóð í hallendi, ok var brekka á bak húsum.
house-farm and stood on slope and was a-hill at back of-(the)-houses
Ok þá er á kom leitið, var fyrir ofan Örriðafjörðr; á
And then when on came the-hill was on above Orrida-firth on
honum liggr Damisey. Þar var kastali í eyjunni, ok gætti
it lies Damsay There was a-castle in the-island and guarded
sá maðr, er Blánn hét, son Þorsteins á Flyðrunesi.
that man who Blann was-called son of-Thorstein at Flydruness
Þar í Örfjöru var drykkjuskáli mikill; ok vóru dyrr við
There in Orphir was drinking-hall great and were doors by
eystra gaflað sunnan á hliðvegg, ok stóð kirkja dýrðlig
(the)-eastern gable south on side-wall and stood a-church glorious
fyrir skála-durum, ok niðr at ganga til kirkjunnar frá
before hall-doors and down to go to the-church from
skálanum. En er inn gekk í skálann, var á vinstri hönd
the-hall But when in went into the-hall was on left hand
hella mikil; en fyrir innan ölker bæði mörg ok stór; en
a-slab great but on within ale-vats both many and big but
í gegn úti-durum var stofa. Þá er menn kómu frá
in against outer-doors was a-room Then when men came from
aptan-söng var mönnum skipat í sæti. Lét jarl Svein
evensong was to-men assigned in seats Let (the)-earl Svein
Ásleifarson sitja et næsta sér innar frá; en utar frá
Asleif's-son sit the next himself inward from but outward from
jarli sat Sveinn brjóst-reip it næsta; en þá Jón, frændi
(the)-earl sat Svein Breast-Rope the next but then Jon kinsman
Sveins brjóst-reips. Þá er borð vóru upp tekin, kómu
of-Svein Breast-Rope Then when tables were up taken came
menn þeir, er sögðu druknun Valþjófs Ólafssonar; ok þótti
those men who told (the)-drowning of-Valthjof Olaf's-son and seemed

jarli þat mikil tíðindi. Þá bað jarl, at engi skyldi
to-the-earl that great tidings Then bade (the)-earl that no-one should
þægia Sveini Ásleifarsyni um Jólin, ok kvað honum þó ærit
tell Svein Asleif's-son over the-Yule and said to-him yet enough
margt til áhyggju. Ok um kveldit, er menn höfðu drukkit,
many to cares And in the-evening when men had drunk
gekk jarl at sofa ok flestir menn. En Sveinn brjóst-reip
went (the)-earl to sleep and most men But Svein Breast-Rope
gekk út, ok sat úti um nóttina eptir venju sinni. Ok um
went out and sat outside in the-night after custom his And in
náttina stóðu menn upp, ok gengu til kirkju, ok hlýddu
the-night stood men up and went to church and heard
tíðum, ok eptir hámessu gengu menn til borða. Eyvindr
hours and after high-mass went men to tables Eyvind
Melbrigðason hafði mest forráð á veizlunni með jarli,
Melbrigdi's-son had most management at the-feast with (the)-earl
ok sat ekki upp. Skutilsveinar ok kerti-sveinar stóðu fyrir
and sat not up Table-servants and candle-boys stood before
borði jarls, en Eyvindr skenkti þeim nöfnum sitt ker
(the)-table of-(the)-earl but Eyvind poured-for those namesakes his-own cup
hvárum þeirra. Þá þótti Sveini brjóst-reip Eyvindr skenkja
to-each of-them Then seemed to-Svein Breast-Rope Eyvind to-pour
hærra í sitt ker; en vildi eigi taka fyrr við en Sveinn
higher in his cup but wished not to-take before with than Svein
Ásleifarson hafði drukkit af sínu keri, ok kallaði Svein
Asleif's-son had drunk from his cup and called Svein
drekka sleituliga. Þar hafði lengi verit fátt með þeim Sveini
to-drink slackly There had long been little between them Svein
brjóst-reip ok Ólafi Hrólfssyni, ok svá þeim nöfnum síðan
Breast-Rope and Olaf Hrolf's-son and so those namesakes since
er Sveinn Ásleifarson þroskaðist. Ok er drukkit hafði
when Svein Asleif's-son grew-up And when drunk had

verit um stund, þá var farit til nónu. En er menn kómu
been for a-while then was gone to nones But when men came
inn, þá var mælt fyrir minnum, ok drukkit af hornum.
in then was spoken for memorial-toasts and drunk from horns
Þá vildi Sveinn brjóst-reip skipta hornum við nafna
Then wished Svein Breast-Rope to-exchange horns with namesake
sinn, þótti þat vera lítið. Eyvindr vatt þá miklu horni
his seemed that to-be little Eyvind turned then a-great horn
í hönd Sveini Ásleifarsyni, ok bauð [hann] þat nafna
into (the)-hand of-Svein Asleif's-son and offered he that to-namesake
sínum. Þá reiddist Sveinn brjóst-reip, ok mælti fyrir munni
his Then grew-angry Svein Breast-Rope and spoke before mouth
sér, svá at nokkurir menn heyrðu ok svá jarl: "Sveinn
his so that some men heard and also (the)-earl Svein
mun Sveini at bana verða, ok Sveinn skal Sveini at bana
will to-Svein to death become and Svein shall to-Svein to death
verða?" Þessu var á dreif drepit. Var nú drukkit allt framan
become This was on scatter struck Was now drunk all forward
til aptan-söngs. Ok er jarl gekk út, þá gekk Sveinn
to evensong And when (the)-earl went out then went Svein
Ásleifarson fyrir honum, en Sveinn brjóst-reip sat eptir ok
Asleif's-son before him but Svein Breast-Rope sat behind and
drakk. En er þeir kómu fram í ölstofuna, kom Eyvindr
drank But when they came forward into the-ale-room came Eyvind
eptir þeim, ok brá Sveini á einmæli. Hann spurði: "Heyrðir
after them and drew Svein into private He asked Heard
þú hvat nafni þinn mælti þá er þú hafðir boðit honum
you what namesake your spoke then when you had offered him
hornit?" "Eigi," sagði hann. Eyvindr hermdi þá orðin, ok
the-horn No said he Eyvind repeated then the-words and
sagði at þat mundi fjándinn hafa mælt fyrir munn honum
said that that would the-fiend have spoken before mouth to-him

um nóttina: “Mun hann ætla þér dauða; en þú skalt
in the-night Will he intend for-you death but you shall
verða fyrr á bragði ok drepa hann.” Fékk Eyvindr honum
be earlier on move and kill him Got Eyvind him
öxi í hönd, ok bað hann þar standa hjá hellunni í
an-axe into hand and bade him there stand by the-slab in
skugganum; ok bað hann höggva framan í mót Sveini,
the-shadow and bade him strike from-the-front in against Svein
ef Jón gengi fyrir honum; en ef Jón gengi síðarr, þá bað
if Jon went before him but if Jon went later then bade
hann Svein höggva eptir nafna sínum. Jarl gekk til
he Svein strike after namesake his (The)-earl went to
kirkju, ok gaf engi gaum at þeim Eyvindi. En þeir Sveinn
church and gave no heed to them Eyvind But they Svein
brjóst-reip ok Jón gengu út litlu síðarr en jarl. Sveinn
Breast-Rope and Jon went out little later than (the)-earl Svein
brjóst-reip hafði sverð í hendi, þvíat hann bar jafnan sverð,
Breast-Rope had a-sword in hand because he bore always a-sword
þótt aðrir væri vápnlausir; ok gekk Jón fyrri. Ljós bar at
though others were weaponless and went Jon first Light bore at
úti-durunum, en veðr var þúngt. Ok er Sveinn brjóst-reip
the-outer-doors but weather was heavy And when Svein Breast-Rope
kom at úti-durunum, hjó Sveinn Ásleifarson framan í
came at the-outer-doors hewed Svein Asleif's-son from-the-front into
enni honum; ok rasaði hann við en féll eigi. Ok er
forehead to-him and staggered he with-it but fell not And when
hann rétti við, þá sá hann mann standa í durunum, ok
he righted up then saw he a-man stand in the-doors and
hugði at sá hefði særðan hann. Þá brá hann sverðinu,
thought that that-one had wounded him Then drew he the-sword
ok hjó í höfuð honum, ok klauf hann [í] herðar niðr.
and hewed into head to-him and clove him into shoulders down

Varð þar fyrir Jón, frændi hans; ok féllu þeir þar báðir.
Was there in-the-way Jon kinsman his and fell they there both
Eyvindr kom þá at, ok leiddi Svein Ásleifarson í stofu þá,
Eyvind came then up and led Svein Asleif's-son into room that
er gegnt var úti-durum, ok var hann þar dreginn út um
which opposite was (the)-outer-doors and was he there drawn out through
skjávindauga. Þar hefir Magnús Eyvindarson hest búinn til
a-window There has Magnus Eyvind's-son a-horse ready for
reiðar, ok fylgdi honum á brott á bak bænum, ok svá
riding and accompanied him off away to back of-the-farm and so
í Örriðafjörð. Tóku þeir þá skip, ok flutti Magnús Svein í
to Orrida-firth Took they then a-ship and brought Magnus Svein to
Damisey, ok flutti hann þar í kastala; en Blánn fylgdi
Damsay and brought him there into (the)-castle but Blann accompanied
honum um morgininn norðr til Egilseyjar á fund Vilhjálms
him in the-morning north to Egilsay to meeting of-Vilhjalm
biskups. Þá var biskup at tíðum, er þeir koma þar.
bishop Then was (the)-bishop at hours when they come there
Ok eptir messu var Sveini fylgt leyniliga til biskups, ok
And after mass was Svein accompanied secretly to (the)-bishop and
segir Sveinn honum tíðindin, lát föður síns ok Valþjófs,
tells Svein him the-tidings (the)-death of-father his and of-Valthjof
ok víg þeirra Sveins, ok hét á biskup til trausts.
and (the)-slaying of-them Svein and called on (the)-bishop for support
Biskup þakkaði honum fyrir víg Sveins brjóst-reips,
(The)-bishop thanked him for (the)-slaying of-Svein Breast-Rope
ok kvað þat landhreinsun verit hafa. Lét biskup Svein
and said that land-cleansing been to-have Let (the)-bishop Svein
þar vera um Jólin; en eptir þat sendi biskup hann til
there be over the-Yule but after that sent (the)-bishop him to
Suðreyja í Týrvist til þess manns er Holdboði hét ok
(the)-Hebrides to Tiree to that man who Holdbodi was-called and

var Hundason; var hann þar höfðíngi mikill, ok tók allvel
was Hundi's-son was he there chieftain great and took very-well
við Sveini. Dvaldist hann þar um vetrinn, ok var vel virðr
with Svein Stayed he there in the-winter and was well esteemed
af allri alþýðu.
by all (the)-common-people

LXXI · RÖGNVALDR PREPARES AGAIN

Páll outlawed Sveinn and refused Ragna's counsel to make friends. Kolr and Rögnvaldr fitted out ships in Norway for a second voyage west.

Nokkuru síðarr en vígin höfðu verit í Örfjöru hljópu
Somewhat later than the-slayings had been in Orphir ran
menn til frá kirkjunni, ok var Sveinn borinn inn í
men to from the-church and was Svein borne in into
hús, þvíat hann var enn eigi örendr, ok vissi þó ekki.
(the)-house because he was yet not dead and knew yet nothing
Andaðist hann um nóttina. Þá lét jarl skipa mönnum
Died he in the-night Then let (the)-earl assign men
í sæti, ok vildi víss verða hverr valdit hefði vígunum, ok
in seats and wished aware to-become who caused had the-slayings and
var þá saknat Sveins Ásleifarsonar. Þóttust menn þá vita
was then missed Svein Asleif's-son Thought men then to-know
at Sveinn hafði vegit. Þá kom Eyvindr at ok mælti: "Þat
that Svein had slain Then came Eyvind up and spoke That
megu menn sjá at Sveinn brjóst-reip mun veitt hafa Jóni
may men see that Svein Breast-Rope will given have to-Jon
líflát." Jarl mælti, at eingi maðr skyldi blása hár af
death (The)-earl spoke that no man should blow hair off
höfði Sveins, ok segir hann eigi þetta fyrir sakleysi gjört
(the)-head of-Svein and says he not this for innocence done

hafa. “En ef hann forðast minn fund,” segir hann, “þá mun
to-have But if he avoids my meeting says he then will
hann sér illa geta í því.” Þótti mönnum þat líkligast,
he for-himself ill get in that Seemed to-men that likeliest
at Sveinn mundi farit hafa í Papuli til Hákonar karls
that Svein would gone have to Papuli to Hakon Karl
bróður hins helga Magnúss jarls; hann var höfðingi mikill,
brother of-the holy Magnus earl he was chieftain great
spakr ok hófsamr. Ekki spurði jarl til Sveins á þeim
wise and moderate Nothing learned (the)-earl of Svein in that
vetri, ok lét hann gjöra Svein útlægan. Þá er vára tók,
winter and let he make Svein outlawed Then when spring took
fór jarl víða um Norðr-eyjar at lands-skyldum sínum.
went (the)-earl widely about North-isles to land-dues his
Hann vingaðist þá mjök við stórmenni, ok gaf nær á tvær
He befriended then much with great-men and gave nearly on two
hendr. Jarl kom í Strjónsey, ok gaf Þorkatli fletti bú
hands (The)-earl came to Stronsay and gave Thorkel Flayer farm
þat, er átt hafði Valþjófr Ólafsson, til þess at hann skyldi
that which had had Valthjof Olaf's-son to that that he should
víss verða, hvar Sveinn væri niðr kominn. Þorkell mælti:
aware become where Svein were down come Thorkel spoke
“Eigi kemr nú at því, sem mælt er, at ‘mörg eru konúngs
Not comes now to that as said is that many are (the)-king's
eyru.’ En þótt þú sér jarl, þá þykkir mér undarligt, at þú
ears But though you be earl then seems to-me strange that you
hefir ekki frétt til Sveins; en ek vissa þegar, at Vilhjálmr
have not heard of Svein but I knew at-once that Vilhjalm
biskup sendi hann til Suðreyja til Holdboða Hundasonar,
bishop sent him to (the)-Hebrides to Holdbodi Hundi's-son
ok hefir hann þar verit í vetr.” Jarl mælti: “Hvat skal ek
and has he there been in winter (The)-earl spoke What shall I

gjöra við biskup er slíku hefir bellt?" Þorkell svarar: "Eigi
do with (the)-bishop who such has caused Thorkel answers Not
er at gefa biskupi sakir á þessu, við þat sem nú liggr
is to give (the)-bishop charges for this against that which now lies
á; muntú þurfa allra vina þinna, ef þeir Rögnvaldr koma
on will-you need all friends your if they Rognvald come
austan." Jarl segir at slíkt er satt. Páll jarl fór þaðan
from-the-east (The)-earl says that such is true Pal earl went thence
til Rínanseyjar, ok þá veizlu at Rögnu húsfreyju ok
to North-Ronaldsay and received feast at Ragna's (the)-housewife and
Þorsteini syni hennar. Ragna var vitr kona. Þau áttu annat
Thorstein son her Ragna was a-wise woman They had another
bú í Papey. Þar sat jarl þrjár nætr, þvíat honum
farm in Papa-Westray There sat (the)-earl three nights because him
gaf eigi til Kúga í Vestrey. Þau jarl ok Ragna töluðu
gave-wind not to Kugi in Westray They (the)-earl and Ragna talked
mart; segir hon jarli, at honum var lítill skaði at um
much says she to-the-earl that to-him was little loss at about
Svein brjóst-reip, þótt hann væri garpr mikill: "Hlauzt þú
Svein Breast-Rope though he were champion great Got you
af honum úvinsældir miklar. Væri þat mitt ráð, við þann
from him unpopularities great Were that my counsel against that
vanda, sem at yðr horfir, at þér gjörðit yðr vini sem
difficulty which at you looks that you made yourselves friends as
flesta ok værit úsakgæfir. Vilda ek at þér gæfit eigi sakir
most and were not-quick-to-charge Would I that you gave not charges
Vilhjálmi biskupi eðr öðrum frændum Sveins Ásleifarsonar;
to-Vilhjalm bishop or other kinsmen of-Svein Asleif's-son
heldr vilda ek, at þú gæfir upp biskupi reiði þína; ok
rather would I that you gave up to-(the)-bishop wrath your and
því framarr, at þú létir senda orð í Suðrey[jar] eptir Sveini,
that further that you let send word to (the)-Hebrides after Svein

ok gefa honum upp reiði þína ok eignir sínar, til þess,
and give him up wrath your and properties his to that
at hann væri þér þvílíkr sem faðir hans. Hefir þat lengi
that he were to-you such as father his Has that long
verit siðr hinna göfgustu manna, at gjöra mikit fyrir sakir
been custom of-the noblest men to do much for sakes
vina sinna, ok afla sér svá trausts ok vinsælda." Jarl
of-friends their and gain themselves so support and popularity (The)-earl
svarar: "Vitr kona ertú, Ragna, en eigi hefir þú hlotið
answers Wise woman are-you Ragna but not have you got
jarls-nafn í Orkneyjum; eigi skaltú hér landráðum stýra.
earl's-name in Orkney not shall-you here land-counsels steer
Heyr á endemi! at ek munda Sveini fé til sætta gefa,
Hear on (the)-outrage that I would to-Svein money for settlement give
ok ætla, at þat mundi mér vega sigr til handa." Hann
and think that that would me weigh victory to hands He
gjörir sik hér reiðan um ok mælti: "Guð skipti með
makes himself here angry about-it and spoke God judge between
okkr Rögnvaldi jarli frænda, ok láti svá ganga hvárum sem
us-two Rognvald earl kinsman and let so go to-each as
gert hefir; ef ek hefi við hann misgjört, þá er nú mál at
done has if I have against him wronged then is now time to
bæta; en ef hann vill ganga á ríki mitt, þá þykki mér sá
atone but if he will go on realm my then seems to-me that
minn vinr mestr, er mik eflir til þess, at ek fá haldit
my friend greatest who me strengthens to that that I get held
ríki mínu. Ek hefi Rögnvald aldri sénan; hefir ek því síðr
realm my I have Rognvald never seen have I that less
at minni vitund honum misboðit, at þat er frændr várir
to my knowledge him wronged that that which kinsmen our
hafa gjöra látið, þá vita menn, at ek átta þar engan hlut
have done let then know men that I had there no part

at." Margir svöruðu, at mjök væri úsynju á hann leitað
in Many answered that much were without-cause on him sought
at berjast til ríkis við hann; en engi mælti í móti. Þá
to fight for (the)-realm against him but none spoke in against Then
er á tók líða várit, lét Páll jarl hlaða vita á Friðarey
when on took to-pass the-spring let Pal earl build a-beacon on Fair-Isle
ok Rínansey, ok nær í öllum eyjum, svá at hvern mátti
and North-Ronaldsay and nearly in all islands so that each might
sjá frá öðrum. Maðr hét Dagfinnr Hlöðversson, er bú
see from (the)-other A-man was-called Dagfinn Hlodver's-son who a-farm
átti í Friðarey, vaskligr maðr; hann skyldi gæta þess vitans
had in Fair-Isle a-valiant man he should guard that the-beacon
ok slá eldi í, ef herr væri sénn fara frá Hjaltlandi.
and strike fire in if a-host were seen go from Shetland
Rögnvaldr jarl sat um vetrinn heima á Ögðum at búum þeirra
Rognvald earl sat in the-winter home in Agdir at farms of-them
feðga; ok gjörði orð til frænda sinna ok vina; en suma fann
father-and-son and made word to kinsmen his and friends but some met
hann, ok beiddi, at þeir mundi efla hann til vestr-farar
he and asked that they would strengthen him for west-voyage
at líði ok skipum; ok vikust flestir vel við nauðsyn hans. En
with troop and ships and turned most well to need his But
um Góa sendi Kolr tvá byrðinga ór landi, annan vestr til
in Goi sent Kol two cargo-ships out-of (the)-land one west to
Englands at kaupa vist ok vápn; en öðrum hélt Sölmundr
England to buy provisions and weapons but the-other held Solmund
suðr til Danmerkr at kaupa þar slíkt sem Kolr sagði fyrir;
south to Denmark to buy there such as Kol said before
því at hann hefir nú alla ætlun á búnaði þeirra. Svá var
for that he has now all plan on preparation their So was
ætlað, at þessir byrðingar skyldu komnir í land at Páskum;
intended that these cargo-ships should come to land at Easter

en þeir ætla at búa ferðina eptir Páskaviku. Svá var gjört;
but they intend to prepare the-journey after Easter-week So was done
ok héldu þeir austan eptir Páska-viku. Hafði sitt langskip
and held they from-the-east after Easter-week Had his-own longship
hvárr þeirra feðga, en Sölmundr hafði hit þriðja. Þeir Kolr
each of-them father-and-son but Solmund had the third They Kol
höfðu ok vista-byrðíng. En er þeir kómu til Björgynjar,
had also a-provision-cargo-ship But when they came to Bergen
var þar fyrir Haraldr konúngr; hann fékk Rögnvaldi langskip
was there before Harald king he gave to-Rognvald a-longship
alskipat. Jón fótr hafði ok langskip. Et sétta hafði Áslákr, son
fully-manned Jon Foot had also a-longship The sixth had Aslak son
Erlends ór Hernum; hann var dóttur-son Steigar-Þóris; hann
of-Erlend from Herdla he was daughter's-son of-Steigar-Thorir he
hafði ok vista-byrðíng. Þeir höfðu sex stór skip, fimm skútur,
had also a-provision-cargo-ship They had six big ships five skiffs
en þrjá byrðínga. Þá er þeir lágu til byrjar í Hernum,
but three cargo-ships Then when they lay for fair-wind in Herdla
kom skip vestan; ok spurðu þeir tíðindi af Orkneyjum
came a-ship from-the-west and asked they tidings from Orkney
ok Hjaltlandi, ok svá hvern viðrbúnað Páll jarl hafði, ef
and Shetland and so what preparation Pal earl had if
Rögnvaldr jarl kæmi vestr þangat með her um sumarit.
Rognvald earl came west thither with a-host in the-summer

LXXII · THE VOW OF THE CHURCH

Before sailing, Kolr had Rögnvaldr vow to build a stone church in Kirkwall to his uncle Magnús if he won the islands. They sailed to Shetland.

Rögnvaldr jarl lét blása til húsþings, er þeir lágu í Hernum;
Rognvald earl let blow to house-assembly when they lay in Herdla
ok talaði þá um viðrbúnað Páls jarls, ok hve mikinn
and talked then about (the)-preparation of-Pal earl and how great
fjándskap Orkneyingar sýndu við hann, er þeir ætluðu at
enmity (the)-Orkneymen showed toward him when they meant to
verja honum frændleifð sína, þá er Noregs-konúngar höfðu
deny him inheritance his that which Norway's-kings had
honum gefit at réttu. Ok talar þar um langt örindi ok
him given by right And talks there about long speech and
snjallt: — "Ek ætlaða," sagði hann, "svá at fara til Orkneyja
eloquent I intended said he so to go to Orkney
at fá þær eðr látast ella." Gjörðu menn góðan róm at máli
to get them or to-lose-life else Made men good acclaim at speech
hans ok hétu honum traustri fylgd. Þá stóð Kolr upp ok
his and promised him firm following Then stood Kol up and
mælti: "Spurt höfum vér af Orkneyjum, at þar vilja allir
spoke Learned have we from Orkney that there will all
menn á mót yðr rísa, ok verja ríki yðvart með Páli jarli;
men on against you rise and defend realm your with Pal earl
vilja þeir seint af láta þeim fjándskap, er þeir hafa upp
will they slowly off let that enmity which they have up
tekit við yðr, frændi. Nú er þat mitt ráð at leita þangat
taken against you kinsman Now is that my counsel to seek thither
trausts, er gnógt er til, at sá unni yðr ríkis, er á at
support where enough is to that he grant you (the)-realm who owns by
réttu; en þat er inn helgi Magnús jarl móður-bróðir yðvarr.
right but that is the holy Magnus earl mother's-brother your
Vil ek at þú heitir á hann, at hann unni yðr frænd-leifðar
Wish I that you vow on him that he grant you kin-inheritance
þinnar, ok sinnar erfðar: at þú látir gjöra stein-musteri í
yours and his heritage that you let make a-stone-minster in

Orkneyjum í Kirkjuvági, ef þú fær þar ríki, þat er
Orkney in Kirkwall if you get there (the)-realm that which
ekki sé annat dyrðligra í því landi; ok látir Magnúsi jarli
not be another more-glorious in that land and let to-Magnus earl
helga frænda þínum; ok leggir þar fé til, svá at sá staðr
hallow kinsman your and lay there money to so that that place
mætti eflast, ok yrði þangat komit hans helgum dómi
might be-strengthened and were thither brought his holy relic
ok biskups-stólinum með." Þetta þótti öllum ráðligt. Ok var
and the-bishop's-see with-it This seemed to-all advisable And was
þetta heit fest. Eptir þat létu þeir í haf; ok gaf þeim byr
this vow fastened After that let they to sea and gave them wind
góðan; ok tóku Hjaltland; ok urðu þar hvárir öðrum
good and made Shetland and became there each-of-the-two of-the-other
fegnir. Kunnu Hjaltar at segja þeim mörg tíðindi af
glad Could (the)-Shetlanders to tell them many tidings from
Orkneyjum. Ok dvöldust þeir þar nokkura hríð.
Orkney And stayed they there some while

LXXIII · KOLR'S RUSE

Kolr feigned an approach, so that the Fair Isle beacon was lit and the farmers gathered for nothing. Uni, posing as a Norwegian robbed by Rögnvaldr's men, settled on Fair Isle.

Þat var eitt sinn at Kolr spyrr Una, þvíat hann var þá
That was one time that Kol asks Uni because he was then
þar, ok hafði ráðizt til þeirra Kols feðga, eptir er
there and had betaken-himself to them Kol father-and-son after when
hann hafði verit í fjörráðum við Brynjúlf. Þá spyrr Kolr:
he had been in life-plots against Brynjolf Then asks Kol

"Hvárt viltú, Uni, gefa til ráð, at brugðit verði vitanum
Whether will-you Uni give to counsel that disabled be the-beacon
í Friðarey; eðr annast þat, at eigi verði annarr kveiktr.
in Fair-Isle or see-to that that not be another kindled
Kveð ek þik at þessu fyrir því, at ek veit at þú ert
Call I you to this for that that I know that you are
vitrari en þeir flestir aðrir er hér eru nú, þótt hér sé nú
wiser than they most others who here are now though here be now
virðingar-menn meiri." Uni svarar: "Engi em ek ráða-maðr,
worthy-men greater Uni answers No am I counsel-man
enda vil ek eigi gjöra herhlaup með mínum ráðum. Vil ek
and-yet will I not make host-raising with my counsels Will I
því þat kjósa, sem síðarr skal at gjöra, at ek ætla þat
therefore that choose which later shall to do that I intend that
heldr af sjálfum mér til at taka." Ok litlu síðarr, einn dag
rather from self me to to take And little later one day
er veðr var fagrt, lét Kolr búa mörg smá-skip, ok snéri
when weather was fair let Kol prepare many small-ships and turned
á leið til Orkneyja. Þar vóru engir höfðingjar í för nema
on way to Orkney There were no chieftains in journey but
Kolr. Ok er þeir koma svá langt, at þeir ætluðu at sjá
Kol And when they come so far that they thought that see
mundi ferð þeirra frá Friðarey, þá lét Kolr draga segl upp
would journey their from Fair-Isle then let Kol draw sails up
á öllum skipum; en skipaði til mönnum at hamla, svá at
on all ships but assigned to men to back-water so that
sem minst gengi skipin, þótt vindr legðist eptir; ok lét
as least went the-ships though (the)-wind lay after and let
hann eigi setja hærra en í mitt tré; en draga svá upp, sem
he not set higher than to mid mast but draw so up as
þeir höfðu lengr farit. Segir Kolr, at þá mun sén verða
they had longer gone Says Kol that then will seen be

för þeirra ór Friðarey, “Sem þangat nálgist meirr skipin.
journey their from Fair-Isle As thither near more the-ships
Kann þá vera at þeir slái eldi í vitann, ok verði herhlaup
May then be that they strike fire into the-beacon and becomes host-raising
um allar Eyjar. Þá sá Dagfiðr ór Friðarey siglingina;
about all (the)-Isles Then saw Dagfinn from Fair-Isle the-sailing
Sló hann þegar eldi í vitann, en fór sjálfr til jarls, ok
Struck he at-once fire into the-beacon but went himself to (the)-earl and
sagði hónum.” Ok þegar sénn var vitinn á Friðarey, þá lét
told him And as-soon seen was the-beacon on Fair-Isle then let
Þorsteinn Rögnuson kynda vita á Rínansey. Ok eptir þat
Thorstein Ragna's-son kindle a-beacon on North-Ronaldsay And after that
var kveiktr hverr at öðrum um allar Eyjar. En bændr allir
was kindled each after (the)-other about all (the)-Isles But farmers all
fóru til jarls. Ok var þetta hit mesta herhlaup. En er Kolr
went to (the)-earl And was this the greatest host-raising But when Kol
sá at vitinn brann, bað hann sína menn aptr fara; kvað
saw that the-beacon burned bade he his men back go said
vera mega, at þetta yrði nökkurum at sundrþykki. Ferr Kolr
be may that this became to-some to discord Goes Kol
aptr til Hjaltlands við svá búit, ok segir at nú skal Uni
back to Shetland with so done and says that now shall Uni
taka til sinna ráða. Uni kveðr til farar með sér þrjá menn
take to his counsels Uni calls to journey with himself three men
Hjaltlenzka; þeir taka sexæring einn, ok nökkur föng önnur
Shetland they take a-six-oared-boat one and some gear other
ok veiðar-færi. Þeir fóru til Friðareyjar, ok sagðist Uni vera
and fishing-gear They went to Fair-Isle and said-himself Uni to-be
Norænn maðr; en kveðst hafa kvángast í Hjaltlandi ok átt
a-Norse man but says-himself to-have married in Shetland and had
þar sonu; kveðst hafa verit ræntr af mönnum Rögnvalds
there sons says-himself to-have been robbed by men of-Rognvald

jarls; ok mælir hit harðasta til þeirra. Hann tekr sér þar
earl and speaks the hardest of them He takes himself there
húsa-vist; ok róa synir hans til fiska; en hann er heima,
house-lodging and row sons his to fishing but he is home
at gæta fanga þeirra. Hann kemr sér í tal ok kunnleika
to guard catches their He brings himself into talk and acquaintance
við þá menn, er þar eru fyrir; ok þokkaðist hann vel.
with those men who there are before and was-liked he well

LXXIV · THE BEACON QUENCHED

The false alarm caused quarrels; Þorsteinn killed Dagfinnr, who had lit it. Uni took over the watch of the Fair Isle beacon and soaked it with water.

Eptir þat er Dagfinnr hafði brent vitann, fór hann á
After that when Dagfinn had burned the-beacon went he to
fund Páls jarls, sem fyrr var getið; ok þar kómu allir
(the)-meeting of-Pal earl as before was mentioned and there came all
gæðingar jarls. Var þá haldit til fréttum um ferðir þeirra
retainers of-(the)-earl Was then held to inquiries about journeys of-them
Rögnvalds jarls; ok þótti mönnum undarligt, er þeir kvómu
Rognvald earl and seemed to-men strange when they came
hvergi fram. En þó héldu þeir saman liðinu þrjá daga. Þá
nowhere forward But yet held they together the-troop three days Then
tóku bændr at kurra illa; ok segja, at þar var fólska mikil at
began farmers to grumble ill and say that there was folly great to
brenna vita, þótt fiski-menn sæist fara með bátum sínum.
burn (the)-beacon though fishermen were-seen go with boats their
Var þá skelt á Þorstein Rögnuson, at honum hefði illa
Was then laid on Thorstein Ragna's-son that to-him had ill
tekizt, er hann hafði kveikt vitann á Rínansey. Þorsteinn
gone when he had kindled the-beacon on North-Ronaldsay Thorstein

svarar, ok kveðst eigi annat kunna en elda vitann, er
answers and says-himself not other to-know than to-light the-beacon when
hann sá brendan á Friðarey, ok kvað þetta af Dagfinni
he saw burned on Fair-Isle and said this from Dagfinn
hlotizt hafa. Dagfinnr svarar: “Miklu optarr hljóta menn illt
come to-have Dagfinn answers Much oftener get men ill
af þér, en þú megir mér þat kenna.” Þorsteinn bað hann
from you than you may to-me that blame Thorstein bade him
þegja; ok hljóp upp með öxi, ok hjó hann þegar bana-högg.
be-silent and leapt up with an-axe and hewed him at-once death-blow
Þá hljópu menn til vápna, ok varð þar bardagi. Þetta var [í]
Then ran men to weapons and was there fighting This was in
Hrossey skamt frá Kirkjuvági. Sigurðr af Vestnesi, ok synir
Hrossey short from Kirkwall Sigurd of Westness and sons
hans, Hákon pík ok Brynjúlfr, veittu Hlöðve föður Dagfinns;
his Hakon Pike and Brynjolf helped Hlodver father of-Dagfinn
en Þorsteini veittu frændr hans. Þá var sagt jarli; ok fór
but Thorstein helped kinsmen his Then was told to-the-earl and went
hann til; ok var lengi áðr hann gæti skilit þá. Þá talar
he to and was long before he could part them Then talks
Kúgi ór Vestrey langt örindi, ok sagði svá: “Gjörit eigi
Kugi from Westray long speech and said so Do not
jarli skömm þessa, at þér sjálfir berist sín á millum,
to-(the)-earl shame this that you yourselves fight themselves in between
þvíat þurfa munu þér allra yðvarra manna innan lítils tíma;
because need will you all your men within little time
gætum þess þá, at vér sém eigi úfærir eðr rangsáttir. En
take-heed-we of-this then that we be not unfit or at-odds But
þetta mun hafa gengit eptir vilja ok ráðum úvinna várra,
this will have gone after (the)-will and counsels of-enemies our
ok verit prettr þeirra, til þess at eyða svá vitunum. En nú
and been trick their to that to destroy so the-beacons But now

er ván þeirra á hverju dægri, at þeir komi; ok gjörum
is expectation of-them at every half-day that they come and make-we
svá várt ráð. Dagfinni mun hér hafa enginn illvili til gengit,
so our counsel To-Dagfinn will here have no ill-will to gone
en verit nökkuru bráðari en skyldi." Gat Kúgi hér alls til
but been somewhat hastier than should Guessed Kugi here all to
hins sanna; ok fór um mörgum orðum vitrligum. Kom þá
the truth and went about-it with-many words wise Came then
svá, at hvárir-tveggju vildu at jarl skipaði. En þó var þat
so that both-sides wished that (the)-earl decided But yet was that
ráðit, at þeir rufu samnaðinn, ok fóru menn heim. En sá
decided that they broke-up the-gathering and went men home But that
maðr var til fenginn at gæta vitans í Friðarey, er Eirekr
man was to got to guard the-beacon in Fair-Isle who Eirik
hét. Ok þá er Uni hafði litla hríð verit í Friðarey, kom
was-called And then when Uni had little while been in Fair-Isle came
hann at Eireki ok mælti: "Viltú at ek gæta vitans, síðan ek
he to Eirik and spoke Will-you that I guard the-beacon since I
gjörir ekki annat, ok má ek vel sitja ein-tómi við." Eirekr
do nothing other and may I well sit alone with Eirik
þá þat. En þegar er menn vóru eigi nær þar, bar Uni
accepted that But as-soon as men were not near there bore Uni
vatn í vitann, ok gerði svá vátan, at hvergi festi eld á.
water into the-beacon and made so wet that nowhere took-hold fire on

LXXV · RÖGNVALDR LANDS IN WESTRAY

Rögnvaldr crossed to Westray with no beacon lit against him, and the Westray men submitted to him.

Þeir Rögnvaldr jarl mæltu, at þeir mundi þess bíða, er á
They Rognvald earl spoke that they would that wait when on
stæðist misganga straumanna ok austan-veðr; þvíat þá er varla
stood (the)-crossing of-the-currents and east-wind because then is hardly
fært á milli Vestreyjar ok Hrosseyjar; en austan-veðr má sigla
passable in between Westray and Hrossey but in-east-wind may sail
frá Hjaltlandi til Vestreyjar. Ok þess neyttu þeir Rögnvaldr
from Shetland to Westray And that used they Rognvald
jarl, ok kómu á Frjádags aptan í Vestrey í Höfn til Helga
earl and came on Friday's evening to Westray in Hofn to Helgi
er þar bjó. Þá varð engum vita upp skotið; þvíat þá er
who there lived Then was no beacon up shot because then when
seglin vóru sén ór Friðarey, bjóst Eirekr at fara til Páls
the-sails were seen from Fair-Isle made-ready Eirik to go to Pal
jarls, en sendi menn til Una at elda vitann; ok er sá kom
earl but sent men to Uni to light the-beacon and when that-one came
þar, þá var Uni á brottu. En er sá vildi elda vitann,
there then was Uni off away But when that-one wished to-light the-beacon
þá var svá vátr, at eigi mátti eld á festa. Ok er Eirekr
then was so wet that not might fire on take-hold And when Eirik
spyrr þetta, þykkist hann sjá hversu farit hefir. Ferr síðan
learns this thinks-himself be to-see how gone has Goes then
á fund Páls jarls, ok segir honum. En er Rögnvaldr jarl
to (the)-meeting of-Pal earl and tells him But when Rognvald earl
var kominn til Vestreyjar, hljópu þeir saman Eyjar-skeggjarnir,
was come to Westray ran they together the-Island-Beards
ok gjöra þeir Kúgi ok Helgi ráð fyrir þeim. Þat er hit
and make they Kugi and Helgi counsel for them That is the
fyrsta, at leita griða til jarls. Ok fara svá skipti þeirra, at
first to seek truce to (the)-earl And go so dealings their that
Vestreyingar ganga undir Rögnvald jarl ok sverja honum eiða.
(the)-Westray-men go under Rognvald earl and swear him oaths

Rögnvaldr mocked sixteen crop-haired men in verse. When Kúgi was caught at a secret assembly plotting treason, the earl spared him with another verse and gave all men truce.

Sunnudaginn eptir hafði Rögnvaldr jarl tíðir þar í þorpinu, ok
Sunday after had Rognvald earl hours there in the-village and
stóðu þeir úti hjá kirkjunni. Þá sá þeir hvar gengu sextán
stood they outside by the-church Then saw they where went sixteen
menn slyppir ok kollóttir. Þeim þóttu þeir undarliga búnir.
men cloakless and crop-headed To-them seemed they strangely dressed
Jarls-menn ræddu um hverir vera mundi. Þá kvað jarl vísu:
Earl's-men talked about who be would Then recited (the)-earl verse

"Sextán hefir ek sénar
Sixteen have I seen
senn ok topp í enni
together and tuft in forehead
jarðar elli firðar
of-(the)-earth age men
orm-vangs saman ganga:
of-serpent-plain together walk
Þat báru vér vitni
That bore we (as)-witness
vestr at hér sé flestar,
west that here be most
(sjá liggr út við élum
this lies out by storms
ey) kollóttar meyjar."
island crop-headed maids

Eptir helgina fóru menn Rögnvalds jarls þar um hinar næstu
After the-holy-day went men of-Rognvald earl there about the next
bygðir. Ok gengu allir menn undir jarl. Þat var eina nótt í
settlements And went all men under (the)-earl That was one night in
Vestrey, at jarls-menn höfðu njósn af at eyjar-menn mundu
Westray that earl's-men had spying of that (the)-islanders would
eiga launþíng til svikræða við Rögnvald jarl. En er jarl
hold a-secret-assembly for treason-plans against Rognvald earl But when (the)-earl
fékk njósn af, þá stóð hann upp, ok fór til þíngsins. En þat
got spying of-it then stood he up and went to the-assembly But that
var tíðinda, at jarls-menn höfðu barða marga Eyjar-skeggja, en
was of-tidings that earl's-men had beaten many Island-Beards but
tekit Kúga bónda ok settan í fjötra; ok kváðu hann verit
taken Kugi (the)-farmer and set in fetters and said him been
hafa upphafs-mann at þessu ráði. En er Rögnvaldr jarl kom á
have (the)-instigator at this plan But when Rognvald earl came to
þingit, féll Kúgi til fóta honum, ok bauð allt sitt mál vera
the-assembly fell Kugi to (the)-feet to-him and offered all his case to-be
á Guðs valdi ok jarls; sagði at hann var færðr nauðigr á
in God's power and (the)-earl's said that he was brought compelled to
þingit, því at allir bændr vildu at hann görðist upphafs-maðr
the-assembly for that all farmers wished that he became instigator

at þessu ráði. Flutti Kúgi mál sitt orðfærliga, ok fluttu margir
at this plan Pleaded Kugi case his eloquently and pleaded many
aðr[ir] þat ok sönnuðu með honum. Þá kvað jarl þetta:
others that and confirmed with him Then recited (the)-earl this

"Liggja sé ek á leggjum,
Lie see I on legs
láss bannar þér rásir,
of-(the)-lock forbids to-you runnings
kveld-förlöstum karli,
to-evening-farer old-man
Kúga, járn in bjúgu:
of-Kugi irons the curved
Eigið alldri, Kúgi,
Keep never Kugi
(aptr muntú settr af prettum;
back will-you set from tricks
nauðr er at nýta eiða)
need is to use oaths
nátt-þing; ok halt sáttir."
night-assembly and hold reconciled

Jarl gaf þar öllum mönnum grið. Bundu þeir þá at
(The)-earl gave there to-all men truce Bound they then at
nýju félag sitt.
new fellowship their

Páll's men disagreed on what to do. Bishop Vilhjálmr arranged a half-month's truce. Jón Wing and Ríkgarðr burned Þorkell Flayer, and Rögnvaldr took them in; Rögnvaldr sent his Norwegians home.

Þá er Rögnvaldr jarl var kominn í Orkneyjar, ok margir
Then when Rognvald earl was come to Orkney and many
menn höfðu undir hans vald gengit, þá var Páll í Hrossey,
men had under his power gone then was Pal in Hrossey
ok höfðu þeir þar þíng ok ráða-gjörð við sína menn.
and had they there an-assembly and counsel-making with their men
Beiddi jarl umráða, hve með skal fara þessu vandmæli. En
Asked (the)-earl advice how with shall go this difficulty But
menn tóku þar misjafnt á; ok var þat sumra ráð, at skipta
men took there unevenly on-it and was that some's counsel to divide
skyldi löndum við Rögnvald jarl; en flestir ríkis-menn, ok svá
should (the)-lands with Rognvald earl but most powerful-men and also
bændr, vildu kaupa Rögnvald á brott með fé, ok buðu þar
farmers wished to-buy Rognvald off away with money and offered there
sína kosti til. Sumir fýstu at berjast skyldi; ok kölluðu þat
their terms to-it Some urged that fight should and called that
fyrr hafa vel tekizt. Rögnvaldr jarl hafði haft njósnar-mann
before to-have well gone Rognvald earl had had a-spy

á þínginu. Ok er þeir koma til hans, spurði hann tíðinda.
at the-assembly And when they come to him asked he of-tidings
Skáld eitt svaraði jarli er verit hafði á þinginu.
A-poet one answered to-the-earl who been had at the-assembly

> "Heyri ek hitt, (en ærit
> *Hear I that but enough*
> hafa dólgar skap fólgit)
> *have foes (the)-mind hidden*
> þengill ríkr, af þingi
> *prince mighty from (the)-assembly*
> þann kvitt búand-manna:
> *that rumor of-farmer-men*
> At valdandar vildi
> *That (the)-rulers wished*
> varg-seðjandi margir
> *wolf-feeder many*
> at þú vigg á brim byggir
> *that you steed on surf would-dwell*
> brands, en Páll at landi."
> *of-(the)-prow but Pal on land*

Eptir þetta sendi Rögnvaldr jarl menn á fund biskups,
After this sent Rognvald earl men to (the)-meeting of-(the)-bishop
ok beiddi hann meðal-ferða, ok sendi eptir Þorsteini
and asked him mediations and sent after Thorstein
Rögnusyni ok Þorsteini Hávarðssyni ór Sandey, ok bað þá
Ragna's-son and Thorstein Havard's-son from Sanday and bade them
fara með hónum ok leita um sættir; ok veita hvárigum at
go with him and seek about settlements and allow to-neither to
göra nökkurn úfrið. Ok er þeir kómu til biskups, fóru þeir
make any unpeace And when they came to (the)-bishop went they

allir samt til Hrosseyjar á fund Páls jarls; ok leitaði
all together to Hrossey to (the)-meeting of-Pal earl and sought
hann um sættir með þeim frændum. Kom biskup því
he about settlements between those kinsmen Brought (the)-bishop it
á leið, at sett vóru hálfs-mánaðar-grið til umleitanar lengri
on way that set were half-month's-truces for seeking longer
sætta. Varð þá skipt Eyjunum, hvar hvárir skyldu kostnað
of-settlements Was then divided the-Isles where each-side should cost
á hafa þessa stund. Fór þá Rögnvaldr jarl til Hrosseyjar, en
on have this while Went then Rognvald earl to Hrossey but
Páll jarl fór í Hrólfsey. Ok í þenna tíma urðu þau tíðindi
Pal earl went to Rousay And at this time happened those tidings
þar í Eyjunum, at þeir frændr Sveins Ásleifarsonar, Jón
there in the-Isles that they kinsmen of-Svein Asleif's-son Jon
vængr af Upplandi ór Háey ok Rikgarðr frá Brekkum ór
Wing from Upland from Hoy and Rikgard from Brekkur from
Strjónsey, fóru at Þorkatli fletti, til bús þess, er Valþjófr
Stronsay went at Thorkel Flayer to farm that which Valthjof
hafði átt, ok brendu hann inni með níunda mann. Þeir
had owned and burned him inside with a-ninth man They
fóru eptir þat á fund Rögnvalds jarls; ok gjörðu honum
went after that to (the)-meeting of-Rognvald earl and made him
þann kost, at þeir mundu fara til Páls jarls með frænda-bálk
that offer that they would go to Pal earl with kinsmen-band
sinn, ef Rögnvaldr jarl vildi eigi við þeim taka. Jarl veik
their if Rognvald earl wished not with them to-take (The)-earl turned
þeim eigi af hendi. Ok þá er þat spurði Hafliði Þorkelsson,
them not off hand And then when that learned Haflidi Thorkel's-son
fór hann þegar á fund Páls jarls, er hann spurði
went he at-once to (the)-meeting of-Pal earl when he learned
brennu föður síns; ok tók Páll jarl við honum. Eptir þetta
(the)-burning of-father his and took Pal earl with him After this

bundust þeir Jón á hendi Rögnvaldi jarli. Gjörðist hann
bound-themselves they Jon on hand to-Rognvald earl Became he
þá brátt fjölmennr þar í Eyjunum ok vinsæll. Rögnvaldr
then soon well-attended there in the-Isles and well-liked Rognvald
jarl leyfði heimför þeim Jóni, ok Sölmundi, ok Ásláki, ok
earl gave-leave home-going to-them Jon and Solmund and Aslak and
mörgum öðrum liðs-mönnum sínum. En þeir vildu bíða
many other troop-men his But they wished to-await
umskipta. Þá sagði Rögnvaldr jarl: "Þat hygg ek, ef guð
change Then said Rognvald earl That think I if God
vill at ek fá ríki í Orkneyjum, at hann muni gefa
wishes that I get (the)-realm in Orkney that he will give
mér styrk til, ok hinn helgi Magnús jarl frændi minn,
me strength to-it and the holy Magnus earl kinsman my
at halda því, þótt þér farit heim til eigna yðvarra." Eptir
to hold it though you go home to properties your After
þat fóru þeir heim til Noregs, hverr til sinna heimkynna.
that went they home to Norway each to his homes

LXXVIII · PÁLL SEIZED

Sveinn Ásleifarson returned from the Hebrides, surprised Páll otter-hunting on Rousay, killed nineteen of his men, and carried him to Earl Maddaðr and Margrét in Atholl.

Um várit snemma hafði Sveinn Ásleifarson farit ór
In the-spring early had Svein Asleif's-son gone out-of
Suðreyjum ok upp á Skotland at finna vini sína. Hann
(the)-Hebrides and up to Scotland to meet friends his He
dvaldist lengi [í] Atiöklum með Moddadi jarli ok Margrétu
stayed long in Atholl with Maddad earl and Margaret

Hákonar-dóttur, ok töluðu þau marga hluti leyniliga. Þar
Hakon's-daughter and talked they many things secretly There
frétti Sveinn úfrið ór Orkneyjum; ok gjörðist hann
learned Svein (the)-unpeace from Orkney and became he
þá fúss þangat at fara, ok finna frændr sína. Hann fór
then eager thither to go and meet kinsmen his He went
fyrst til Kataness í Þórsá, ok með honum göfigr maðr er
first to Caithness to Thurso and with him a-noble man who
Ljótólfr hét; með honum hafði Sveinn verit lengi um
Ljotolf was-called with him had Svein been long in
várit. Þeir kómu til Óttars jarls í Þórsá, bróður Frakkakar;
the-spring They came to Ottar earl in Thurso brother of-Frakokk
ok leitaði Ljótólfr um sættir með þeim Óttari ok Sveini
and sought Ljotolf about settlements between them Ottar and Svein
um þat, er Frakkök hafði gjöra látið; ok hélt Óttarr jarl
about that which Frakokk had done let and held Ottar earl
þar bótum upp af sinni hendi. Jarl hét ok vináttu
there compensations up from his hand (The)-earl promised also friendship
sinni Sveini; en Sveinn hét því Óttari jarli, at hann
his to-Svein but Svein promised that to-Ottar earl that he
skyldi styrkja Erlend, son Haralds hins slétt-mála, til þess
should strengthen Erlend son of-Harald the Smooth-Tongued to that
at hann fengi föðurleifð sína í Orkneyjum, þá er hann
that he got inheritance his in Orkney then when he
vildi til kalla. Sveinn skipti þar skipum, ok hafði þaðan
wished to claim Svein exchanged there ships and had thence
byrðing, ok á þrjá tigi manna. Tók hann þaðan útnyrðing
a-cargo-ship and on three tens of-men Took he thence a-north-wester
yfir Pétlandsfjörð; ok svá fyrir vestan Hrossey; ok svá til
over (the)-Pentland-Firth and so on west-of Hrossey and so to
Efju-sunds, ok eptir sundinu til Hrólfseyjar. Á eyjar-endanum
Eynhallow-sound and along the-sound to Rousay On the-island-end

var höfði mikill, ok urð stór undir niðri. Þar lá opt
was a-headland great and scree big under below There lay often
otr í urðinni. Ok er þeir Sveinn réru eptir sundinu, tók
otter in the-scree And when they Svein rowed along the-sound took
hann til orða: "Menn eru þar á höfðanum; ok munu vér
he to words Men are there on the-headland and will we
þar at leggja, ok vita tíðindi af þeim. Vil ek at menn
there to lay-in and know tidings from them Wish I that men
breyti nokkut umbúníngi sínum; skulu vér rækja húðföt vár,
change somewhat dress their shall we draw-on hide-bags our
ok skulu þar niðr leggjast tuttugu menn, en tíu skulu róa;
and shall there down lie twenty men but ten shall row
vér skulum fara hófsamliga." En er þeir dragast at eyjunni,
we shall go moderately But when they draw to the-island
kalla menn af höfðanum, at þeir skyldi róa til Vestness,
call men from the-headland that they should row to Westness
ok færa Páli jarli þat er þeir höfðu á skipinu; — þeir
and bring to-Pal earl that which they had on the-ship they
þóttust mæla við kaupmenn. En Páll jarl hafði verit um
thought-themselves to-speak with merchants But Pal earl had been in
náttina á Vestnesi at Sigurðar á veizlu. Jarl hafði staðit
the-night at Westness at Sigurd's at a-feast (The)-earl had stood
upp snimma, ok höfðu þeir tuttugu menn farit suðr á
up early and had they twenty men gone south on
eyna, at veiða otr, er lá í urðinni undir höfðanum. Þeir
the-island to hunt otter which lay in the-scree under the-headland They
ætluðu heim til dag-drykkju. Byrðíngs-menn réru at landi; ok
intended home for day-drinking (The)-cargo-ship-men rowed to land and
spurðust þeir almæ[l]tra tíðinda ok hve þeir menn héti
asked-each-other they of-common tidings and what those men were-called
er fyrir voru. Sögðu byrðíngs-menn hvaðan þeir væri at
who before were Said (the)-cargo-ship-men whence they were to

komnir; frétta þeir ok hvar jarl væri. Þeir segja, at hann
come asked they also where (the)-earl were They say that he
væri þar á urðinni. Þetta heyrðu þeir Sveinn þar er þeir
were there on the-scree This heard they Svein there where they
lágu í húðfötunum. Bað Sveinn þá þar at leggja, er eigi
lay in the-hide-bags Bade Svein then there to lay-in where not
mætti sjá af höfðanum. Þá mælti Sveinn at þeir skyldu
might see from the-headland Then spoke Svein that they should
vápnast, ok vinna þegar á jarls-mönnum er þeir fyndist.
arm and fall at-once on earl's-men when they met
Ok svá gjöra þeir. Þar drápu þeir nítján menn; en sex féllu
And so do they There killed they nineteen men but six fell
af Sveini. Þeir tóku Pál jarl með valdi; ok leiddu á skip,
of Svein's They took Pal earl with force and led onto (the)-ship
ok snéru stafn-hafi; ok fóru aptr hina sömu leið fyrir
and turned (the)-stem-to-sea and went back the same way on
vestan Hrossey; ok viku á milli Háeyjar ok Grímseyjar;
west-of Hrossey and turned in between Hoy and Graemsay
ok svá fyrir austan Svelg; þaðan suðr til Breiðafjarðar, ok
and so on east-of Swelkie thence south to Broad-firth and
eptir honum til Ekkjals-bakka. Þar lét hann eptir skip sitt
along it to Ekkjalsbakki There let he behind ship his
ok tuttugu menn. En þeir fóru þar til er þeir kómu
and twenty men But they went there till when they came
til Atiokla á fund Maddaðar jarls ok Margrétar systur
to Atholl to (the)-meeting of-Maddad earl and of-Margaret sister
Páls jarls. Var þeim þar vel fagnat; ok setti Maddaðr jarl
of-Pal earl Was them there well welcomed and set Maddad earl
Pál jarl í hásæti sitt. Ok er þeir höfðu niðr sezt, kom
Pal earl in high-seat his And when they had down sat came
Margrét inn gangandi með mikla kvennasveit, ok hvarf til
Margaret in walking with great women's-band and turned to

bróður síns. Eptir þat vóru menn fengnir til skemtunar við
brother her After that were men got for entertainment with
þá. Var Páll jarl heldr fár, sem eigi var undarligt at
them Was Pal earl rather taciturn as not was strange that
hann mundi hafa áhyggjur miklar. Ekki er getið orða
he would have cares great Not is mentioned of-words
þeirra Páls jarls ok Sveins meðan þeir fóru báðir saman.
their of-Pal earl and of-Svein while they went both together
Þau Maddaðr jarl, ok Margrét, ok Sveinn Ásleifarson, gengu
They Maddad earl and Margaret and Svein Asleif's-son went
í stofu eina á tal. En um kveldit eptir drykkju þá var
into room one for talk But in the-evening after drinking then were
þeim Sveini fylgt til svefn-húss einum saman, ok vóru
they Svein accompanied to sleeping-house alone together and were
þar læstir. Ok fór svá hvert kveld meðan þeir vóru þar.
there locked And went so each evening while they were there

LXXIX · THE FATE OF PÁLL

By Sveinn's account, Páll chose to give up the realm and enter a monastery; others say Margrét had him blinded and killed. He never returned to Orkney.

Þat var einn dag, at Margrét lýsti því, at Sveinn
That was one day that Margaret declared that that Svein
Ásleifarson skal fara til Orkneyja á fund Rögnvalds jarls,
Asleif's-son shall go to Orkney to (the)-meeting of-Rognvald earl
ok bjóða honum kost á, hvárn hann vill heldr til ríkis
and offer him choice on which he will rather for (the)-realm
með sér í Orkneyjum, Pál jarl, eðr Harald, son þeirra
with himself in Orkney Pal earl or Harald son of-them

Maddaðar, þrévetran at aldri. Ok er Páll jarl varð áheyrsli,
Maddad three-winters in age And when Pal earl became hearer
svarar hann: “Þat er frá mínu skapi at segja, at ek em svá
answers he That is from my mind to say that I am so
farinn frá ríki mínu, at eigi munu menn til slíkra ferða
gone from realm my that not will men to such journeys
spurdaga haft hafa; vil ek ok aldri koma síðan til Orkneyja.
questionings had have will I also never come later to Orkney
Sé ek at þessi hefnd mun af guði gefin fyrir þjófnað várn
See I that this vengeance will by God given for theft our
frænda. En ef guði þykkir þat mitt ríki, þá vil ek gefa þat
of-kinsmen But if to-God seems that my realm then will I give it
Haraldi, ef hann má njóta; en ek vil at mér sé fengit fé
to-Harald if he may enjoy but I wish that to-me be got money
at staðfesta mik í múnklífi nokkuru; ok hafi þér vörð á,
to settle me in monastery some and have you guard on
svá at ek komumst eigi á brott þaðan. En ek vil, Sveinn,
so that I get not off away thence But I wish Svein
at þú farir í Orkneyjar, ok segir, at ek sé blindaðr, ok
that you go to Orkney and say that I be blinded and
þó at fleira meiddr; þvíat vinir mínir munu sækja mik, ef
yet that more maimed because friends my will seek me if
ek em heill maðr. Kann þá vera, at ek mega eigi synja at
I am a-whole man May then be that I may not refuse to
fara til ríkis míns með þeim: þvíat ek get, at þeim muni
go to realm my with them because I guess that to-them will
þykkja meiri skaði at skilnaði várum, en þeim mun vera.”
seem greater loss at parting our than to-them will be
Ekki er getið fleiri orða jarls en þessa. Eptir þat
Not is mentioned more of-words of-(the)-earl than these After that
fór Sveinn Ásleifarson til Orkneyja. En Páll jarl var eptir í
went Svein Asleif's-son to Orkney But Pal earl was behind in

Skotlandi. — Ok er þetta frásögn Sveins um þenna atburð.
Scotland And is this (the)-account of-Svein about this event
En er sögn sumra manna, er verr samir, at Margrét
But is (the)-tale of-some men which worse befits that Margaret
hafi ráðit til Svein Ásleifarson at blinda Pál jarl bróður
have counseled to Svein Asleif's-son to blind Pal earl brother
sinn, ok setja í myrkvastofu; en síðan réði hon til mann
her and set in a-dark-dungeon but later counseled she to man
annan, at veita honum þar líflát. En eigi vitum vér, hvárt
another to give him there death But not know we which
sannara er. En þat er mönnum kunnigt, at aldri síðan kom
truer is But that is to-men known that never later came
hann til Orkneyja, ok ekki ríki hafði hann á Skotlandi.
he to Orkney and no realm had he in Scotland

LXXX · RÖGNVALDR TAKES THE ISLANDS

Páll's men were found slain. Sveinn came to the bishop and told him the truth, and Rögnvaldr became sole ruler. Work on Magnús's church began, Kolr overseeing; Rögnvaldr let the farmers buy back their odal rights to fund it.

Þat var tíðinda á Vestnesi, þá er seinkaðist heimkváma
That was of-tidings at Westness then when was-delayed (the)-homecoming
jarls, þá lét Sigurðr bóndi senda menn at leita þeirra.
of-(the)-earl then let Sigurd (the)-farmer send men to seek them
En er þeir kómu þar er urðin var, sá þeir mannfallit. Þá
But when they came there where the-scree was saw they the-slaughter Then
hugðu þeir at jarl mundi þar fallit hafa. Fóru heim,
thought they that (the)-earl would there fallen have Went-they home
ok sögðu þessi tíðindi. Sigurðr fór þegar til at kanna valinn,
and told these tidings Sigurd went at-once to to examine the-slain

ok fundu þar nítján jarls-menn, en þeir voru sex menn
and found there nineteen earl's-men but they were six men
þar, er þeir kendu eigi. Eptir þat sendi Sigurðr menn til
there whom they knew not After that sent Sigurd men to
Egilseyjar á fund biskups, at segja honum þessi tíðindi.
Egilsay to (the)-meeting of-(the)-bishop to tell him these tidings
Ok fór biskup þegar á fund Sigurðar, ok tóku tal
And went (the)-bishop at-once to (the)-meeting of-Sigurd and took talk
um þessi tíðindi; ok gat Sigurðr, at þetta mundi vera af
about these tidings and guessed Sigurd that this would be from
ráðum Rögnvalds jarls. En biskup svarar því, at önnur raun
counsels of-Rognvald earl But (the)-bishop answers that that other proof
mundi á verða, en Rögnvaldr jarl mundi svikit hafa Pál jarl
would on become than Rognvald earl would betrayed have Pal earl
frænda sinn; "Get ek," segir biskup, "at aðrir nökkurir muni
kinsman his Guess I says (the)-bishop that others some will
þetta úverkan gjört hafa." Borgarr, son Játhvarar Erlends
this misdeed done have Borgar son of-Jatvor Erlend's
dóttur, er bjó at Geitabergi, hann hafði sét byrðínginn, er
daughter who lived at Geitaberg he had seen the-cargo-ship which
sunnan fór, ok suðr aptr. En er þat spurðist, þá hugðu
from-the-south went and south back But when that was-learned then thought
menn, at vera mundi af ráðum Frakkakar ok Ölvis rostu.
men that be would from counsels of-Frakokk and of-Olvir Brawl
En er þessi tíðindi spurðust um Eyjarnar, at Páll jarl
But when these tidings were-learned about the-Isles that Pal earl
var á brottu, ok enginn vissi hvat af honum var vorðit, þá
was off away and no-one knew what of him was become then
leituðu þeir sér ráða; ok vóru þeir flestir, er þá fóru
sought they themselves counsels and were they most who then went
á fund Rögnvalds jarls, ok svörðu honum hlýðni. En
to (the)-meeting of-Rognvald earl and swore him obedience But

Sigurðr á Vestnesi ok synir hans, Brynjúlfr ok Hákon pík,
Sigurd at Westness and sons his Brynjolf and Hakon Pike
kvóðust engum manni mundu eiða sverja, meðan þeir vissu
said-they to-no man would oaths swear while they knew
ekki til Páls jarls, hvárt hans væri ván til eðr eigi. Fleiri
nothing of Pal earl whether of-him were expectation to or not More
menn vóru þeir, er neittu svardögum við Rögnvald jarl. En
men were they who refused oaths to Rognvald earl But
þeir vóru sumir, er stund á kvæddu, eðr á dag, nær þeir
they were some who time on asked or on day when they
mundi til handa ganga, ef þá spurðist ekki til Páls jarls.
would to hands go if then were-learned nothing of Pal earl
En er Rögnvaldr jarl sá, at við mart stórmenni var at eiga,
But when Rognvald earl saw that with many great-men was to deal
þá tók hann á engu þverliga, því er bændr beiddu. Ok
then took he on nothing crossly that which farmers asked And
liðu svá fram stundir, at hann átti jafnan þing við bændr,
passed so forward times that he held always assemblies with farmers
ok gengu æ nokkurir honum til handa á hverju þingi.
and went ever some to-him to hands at every assembly
Þat var til tíðinda einn dag í Kirkjuvági, at Rögnvaldr jarl
That was for tidings one day in Kirkwall that Rognvald earl
átti þing við bændr; ok er menn vóru á þinginu, var sét
held assembly with farmers and when men were at the-assembly was seen
at ix. menn vápnaðir gengu frá Skálp-eiði til þingsins. Ok
that nine men armed walked from Scapa to the-assembly And
er þeir kómu á þingit, kendu þeir þar Svein Ásleifarson;
when they came to the-assembly knew they there Svein Asleif's-son
ok var mönnum forvitni á, hvat hann segði tíðinda. Sveinn
and was to-men curiosity on what he told of-tidings Svein
hafði á skip[i] farit sunnan til Skálp-eiðs, ok látið þar
had on ship gone from-the-south to Scapa and left there

eptir skipit; en þeir gengu til Kirkjuvágs síðan. Ok er
behind the-ship but they walked to Kirkwall then And when
þeir kómu á þingit, þá hurfu at honum frændr hans
they came to the-assembly then turned to him kinsmen his
ok vinir, ok spurðu hann tíðinda; en hann svaraði fá; ok
and friends and asked him of-tidings but he answered little and
bað kalla biskup til sín. En biskup fagnaði Sveini vel,
bade call (the)-bishop to himself But (the)-bishop welcomed Svein well
þvíat þar hafði lengi verit vinátta. Gengu þeir á tal tveir,
because there had long been friendship Went they to talk two
ok [segir] Sveinn biskupi þá allt um sínar ferðir, þat
and tells Svein to-(the)-bishop then all about his journeys that
er satt var; ok bað hann nú um ráða með sér þenna
which true was and bade him now about counsel with himself this
vanda-hlut. Biskup mælti: “Þetta eru mikil tíðindi, er þú
difficult-matter (The)-bishop spoke These are great tidings which you
segir, Sveinn; ok er meiri ván, at vit verðim okkr eigi
tell Svein and is greater likelihood that we-two become ourselves not
einhlítir um þetta mál; ok vil ek at þú bíðir mín hér;
sufficient about this case and wish I that you wait-for me here
en ek mun flytja mál þitt fyrir alþýðu ok Rögnvaldi
but I will plead case your before (the)-common-people and Rognvald
jarli.” Gengr þá biskup til þings, ok kveðr sér
earl Goes then (the)-bishop to (the)-assembly and calls for-himself
hljóðs. Ok er þat fékst, þá talar biskup um mál
hearing And when that was-got then talks (the)-bishop about (the)-case
Sveins; ok sagði fyrir hvat hann hafði farit ór Orkneyjum,
of-Svein and said for what he had gone out-of Orkney
eðr hvert áfelli Páll jarl hafði veitt honum fyrir víg
or what persecution Pal earl had given him for (the)-slaying
Sveins brjóst-reips hins vesta manns. Beiddi biskup þá
of-Svein Breast-Rope the worst man Asked (the)-bishop then

Rögnvald jarl griða til handa Sveini, ok alla alþýðu.
Rognvald earl truce to hands for-Svein and all (the)-common-people
Þá svarar Rögnvaldr jarl: “Heit ek Sveini griðum þrjár nætr
Then answers Rognvald earl Promise I to-Svein truce three nights
fyrir mik. En svá þykki mér þú, biskup, undir brún at líta,
for me But so seems to-me you bishop under brow to look
sem þit Sveinn munit kunna at segja frá nokkurum þeim
as-if you-two Svein will know to tell about some those
stor-tíðindum sem enn er[u] eigi upp borin. Vil ek at þú
great-tidings which yet are not up borne Wish I that you
takir Svein í vald þitt, ok ábyrgist hann; en ek vil eiga
take Svein into power your and answer-for him but I will have
tal við hann á morgin.” “Já, já,” sagði biskup, “gjarna vill
talk with him in (the)-morning Yes yes said (the)-bishop gladly will
hann við yðr tala, ok sem fyrst; ok þinn maðr vill hann
he with you talk and as soonest and your man will he
gjörast, ef þér vilit við honum taka.” Jarl svarar: “Ekki
become if you will with him take (The)-earl answers Not
þykkja mér of margir mínir vinir í þessu landi; en þó
seem to-me too many my friends in this land but yet
munnu vér fleira tala, áðr en ek játta því.” Síðan ganga
will we more talk before than I agree to-that Then go
þeir á tal fjórir: Rögnvaldr jarl, Kolr faðir hans, biskup, ok
they to talk four Rognvald earl Kol father his (the)-bishop and
Sveinn Ásleifarson. Segir Sveinn þá ljúft ok leitt sem
Svein Asleif's-son Tells Svein then pleasant and unpleasant as
farit hafði með þeim Páli jarli. En þeir gjörðu þat ráð, at
gone had with them Pal earl But they made that counsel to
láta fara af þínginu hit mesta fjölmenni. Jarl stendr upp
let go from the-assembly the greatest multitude (The)-earl stands up
um morgininn eptir, ok gaf mönnum þá heimfarar-leyfi. En
in the-morning after and gave to-men then home-going-leave But

er raufst fjölmenni á þinginu, þá heimti biskup sér
when broke-up (the)-multitude at the-assembly then summoned (the)-bishop to-himself
hvern mann til máls við þá; ok lét áðr alla menn heita
each man to speech with them and let before all men promise
Sveini griðum, þá er við vóru, en hann segði tíðindin.
to-Svein truce those who by were than he told the-tidings
En um morgininn eptir var til fenginn Hákon karl bróðir
But in the-morning after was to got Hakon Karl brother
hins heilaga Magnúss jarls, at segja Sigurði á Vestnesi
of-the holy Magnus earl to tell to-Sigurd at Westness
ok sonum hans um farar jarls, ok þat, at hans
and sons his about (the)-journeys of-(the)-earl and that that of-him
var ekki ván til ríkis, ok hann var meiddr. Sigurðr
was no expectation to (the)-realm and he was maimed Sigurd
segir: "Mikil tíðindi þykkir mér um fráferð jarls; en
says Great tidings seem to-me about (the)-departure of-(the)-earl but
hitt þykkir mér þó þýngst, er hann er meiddr, þvíat þess
that seems to-me yet heaviest that he is maimed because that
mundi hann hvergi kominn, at ek munda eigi fara á hans
would he nowhere come that I would not go to his
fund, ef hann væri heill." Ok svá hefir hann sagt vinum
meeting if he were whole And so has he told friends
sínum síðan, at Hákon mundi eigi úmeiddr á brott hafa
his since that Hakon would not unmaimed off away have
farit, ef hann hefði liðs-afla til haft, þá er hann sagði
gone if he had troop-strength to-it had then when he told
honum þessa sögu; svá þótti honum mikils um vert.
him this tale so seemed to-him much about worth
En eptir þessi tíðindi gengu allir menn í Orkneyjum til
But after these tidings went all men in Orkney to
handa Rögnvaldi jarli; ok gjörðist hann nú einn höfðingi
hands to-Rognvald earl and became he now sole chieftain

yfir þessu ríki, er átt hafði Páll jarl. Ok eigi miklu síðarr
over this realm which had had Pal earl And not much later
var markaðr grundvöllr til Magnús-kirkju, ok aflat smiða til;
was marked (the)-foundation for Magnus-church and got smiths to-it
ok fór svá mikit fram verkinu á þrem misserum, at minna
and went so much forward the-work in three seasons that less
gekk á fjórum eðr fimm þaðan í frá. Kolr var þar mestr
went in four or five thence in from Kol was there most
tilannaðarmaðr smíðarinnar, ok hafði mest forsögn á. En
overseer of-the-building and had most direction on-it But
er fram tók at líða smíðinni, varð jarli kostnaðar-samt;
when forward took to pass the-building became to-the-earl costly
ok eyddust mjök féin. Þá leitaði jarl ráða við föður
and were-spent much the-moneys Then sought (the)-earl counsel with father
sinn. En Kolr lagði þat til, at jarl skyldi færa lög á
his But Kol laid that forward that (the)-earl should bring law on
því, at jarlar höfðu tekit óðul öll í erfð eptir menn;
that that earls had taken odal-lands all in inheritance after men
en erfíngjar leysti til sín; ok þótti þat heldr hart. Þá
but heirs redeemed to themselves and seemed that rather hard Then
lét Rögnvaldr jarl kveðja þíngs, ok bauð bændum at kaupa
let Rognvald earl summon an-assembly and offered to-farmers to buy
óðulin, svá at eigi þurfti at leysa. Ok kom þat ásamt með
the-odal-lands so that not needed to redeem And came that agreed between
þeim, svá at öllum líkar vel. En gjalda skyldi jarli mörk
them so that to-all pleases well But pay should to-(the)-earl a-mark
af hverju plógs-landi um allar Eyjar. En þaðan í frá skorti
from each plowland about all (the)-Isles But thence in from lacked
eigi fé til kirkju-smíðar. Ok er þat smíði all-mjök vandat.
not money for church-building And is that building very-much elaborate

Bishop Jón of Atholl came to arrange that Haraldr, son of Maddaðr and Margrét, should share the earldom under Rögnvaldr's rule; Þorbjörn Clerk became his foster-father.

Þá er Rögnvaldr jarl hafði ráðit tvá vetr Orkneyjum,
Then when Rognvald earl had ruled two winters Orkney
þá tók hann Jóla-veizlu at búi sínu, því er heitir á
then held he Yule-feast at farm his that which is-called at
Knarrar-stöðum. Þat var hinn sétta dag Jóla, at skip var
Knarston That was the sixth day of-Yule that a-ship was
sét fara sunnan af Pétlands-firði. Veðr var gótt, ok
seen go from-the-south from (the)-Pentland-Firth Weather was good and
stóð jarl úti ok mart manna hjá honum, ok hugðu
stood (the)-earl outside and many men by him and looked
at skipinu. Þar var sá maðr er Hrólfr hét ok var
at the-ship There was that man who Hrolf was-called and was
hirðprestr jarls. Ok er þessir menn tóku land, þá
court-priest of-(the)-earl And when these men took land then
gengu þeir frá skipi, ok höfðu jarls-menn töl á, at vera
went they from (the)-ship and had earl's-men count on-it to be
mundu xv. menn eðr xvi. En í öndverðu liðinu gekk
would fifteen men or sixteen But in (the)-forefront of-the-troop went
maðr í blárri kápu, ok hafði brugðit hári undir húfu;
a-man in a-black cloak and had tucked hair under a-cap
hann hafði rakat skegg um hökuna framanverða, en úrakaða
he had shaved beard about the-chin front but unshaved
hváptana ok kinnr, ok hékk þar sítt ofan. Þessi maðr þótti
the-jaws and cheeks and hung there long down This man seemed
þeim [jarls-mönnum] nokkut undarligr. En Hrólfr prestr
to-them earl's-men somewhat strange But Hrolf (the)-priest

kendi þenna mann; ok segir at þat var Jón biskup ofan
knew this man and says that that was Jon bishop down
af Skotlandi af Atioklum. Þá gekk jarl á móti þeim,
from Scotland from Atholl Then went (the)-earl on against them
ok fagnar vel biskupi; setti jarl biskup í hásæti sitt, en
and welcomes well (the)-bishop set (the)-earl (the)-bishop in high-seat his but
þjónar sjálfr fyrir borði sem skutil-sveinn. Um morgininn
serves himself before (the)-table as table-servant In the-morning
eptir veitti biskup tíðir snimma. Ok þá fór hann norðr
after held (the)-bishop hours early And then went he north
til Egilseyjar á fund Vilhjálms biskups, ok var þar til
to Egilsay to (the)-meeting of-Vilhjalm bishop and was there till
tíunda dags Jóla. Þá fóru þeir báðir biskuparnir á fund
(the)-tenth day of-Yule Then went they both the-bishops to (the)-meeting
Rögnvalds jarls með virðuligu föruneyti, ok báru upp örindi
of-Rognvald earl with worthy company and bore up errands
sín. Þeir segja frá einka-málum Sveins Ásleifar-sonar ok
their They tell about (the)-private-dealings of-Svein Asleif's-son and
Maddaðar jarls, þat at Haraldr son þeirra skyldi fara út í
of-Maddad earl that that Harald son their should go out to
Orkneyjar til fóstrs með Rögnvaldi jarli; með þeim skildaga,
Orkney to fostering with Rognvald earl with that condition
at Haraldr skyldi bera jarls-nafn, ok hafa Orkneyjar hálfar
that Harald should bear earl's-name and have Orkney half
við Rögnvald jarl; en hvárrtveggi skyldi hafa eina hirð; en
with Rognvald earl but each-of-the-two should have one court but
Rögnvaldr jarl skyldi ráð hafa fyrir þeim; ok svá, þótt
Rognvald earl should counsel have for them and so though
Haraldr þroskaðist, ok vildi sitt hvárr þeirra, þá skyldi
Harald grew-up and wished his-own each of-them then should
Rögnvaldr jarl ráða; var Sveinn ok þar með, ok bar þetta
Rognvald earl rule was Svein also there with and bore this

með biskupi. Gjörðu þeir Rögnvaldr jarl þat ráð, at fundr
with (the)-bishop Made they Rognvald earl that counsel that a-meeting
var lagiðr um várit á Langa-föstu á Katanesi; ok gekk
was laid in the-spring in Lent in Caithness and went
þá saman sættin með þessum skildaga, ok var bundin
then together the-settlement with this condition and was bound
eiðum hinna beztu manna af Orkneyjum ok af Skotlandi.
with-oaths of-the best men from Orkney and from Scotland
Fór þá Haraldr Maddaðarson út í Orkneyjar með Rögnvaldi
Went then Harald Maddad's-son out to Orkney with Rognvald
jarli, ok var honum þá gefit jarls-nafn. Þá fór í Eyjarnar
earl and was him then given earl's-name Then went to the-Isles
með Haraldi jarli Þorbjörn klerkr; hann var son Þorsteins
with Harald earl Thorbjorn Clerk he was son of-Thorstein
hölds, ok Guðrúnar, dóttur Frakkakar; hann var vitr maðr
yeoman and of-Gudrun daughter of-Frakokk he was a-wise man
ok mikill fyrir sér; hann fóstraði þá Harald jarl, ok réð
and great in himself he fostered then Harald earl and ruled
mjök fyrir honum. Þorbjörn kvángaðist í Orkneyjum, ok
much for him Thorbjorn married in Orkney and
fékk Íngiríðar Ólafs-dóttur, systur Sveins Ásleifarsonar. Var
got Ingirid Olaf's-daughter sister of-Svein Asleif's-son Was
Þorbjörn þá ýmist út í Orkneyjum, eðr uppi í Skotlandi;
Thorbjorn then by-turns out in Orkney or up in Scotland
ok var hinn fræknasti maðr, ok hinn mesti újafnaðar-maðr
and was the boldest man and the greatest overbearing-man
um flesta hluti. Sveinn Ásleifarson tók undir sik eignir
about most things Svein Asleif's-son took under himself properties
þær allar, er átt hafði Ólafr, faðir hans, ok Valþjófr, bróðir
those all which had had Olaf father his and Valthjof brother
hans; gjörðist hann þá höfðíngi mikill, ok hafði jafnan
his became he then chieftain great and had always

fjölment með sér. Hann var vitr maðr ok forspár um marga
many-men with him He was a-wise man and foreseeing about many
hluti, újafnaðar-maðr ok úfyrirleitinn. Eigi vóru í þann
things overbearing-man and reckless Not were in that
tíma þeir tveir menn fyrir vestan haf, þeirra er eigi vóru
time those two men on west-of (the)-sea of-those who not were
meiri ættar er meira háttar þætti vera en þeir Sveinn ok
greater of-family who more of-account seemed to-be than they Svein and
Þorbjörn mágar. Vóru þá með þeim kærleikar miklir.
Thorbjorn brothers-in-law Were then between them affections great

LXXXII · THE BURNING OF FRAKÖKK

Sveinn crossed Scotland by inland paths, routed Ölvir, and burned Frakökk in her house. He then sailed to help Holdboði, found him in Man, and raided Wales with him; Eirekr's verse tells of farms burned.

Þat var eitt sinn, at Sveinn Ásleifarson kom at máli við
That was one time that Svein Asleif's-son came to speech with
Rögnvald jarl, at hann skyldi fá honum manna, afla ok
Rognvald earl that he should get him of-men strength and
skip til þess at hefna þeim Ölvi ok Frakkök brennu
ships to that to avenge (on)-them Olvir and Frakokk (the)-burning
Ólafs feðr síns. Jarl mælti: "Ætla þú eigi þat, Sveinn, at
of-Olaf father his (The)-earl spoke Think you not that Svein that
okkr muni nú verða mein at Ölvi ok Frakkök kerlíngu
to-us-two will now be harm from Olvir and Frakokk old-woman
þeirri er til einkis er fær." Sveinn svarar: "Jafnan munu
that who for nothing is fit Svein answers Always will
mein at þeim meðan þau lifa; enda ætlaða ek þá til
harm from them while they live and-yet thought I then for

annars, er ek gjörða stærst fyrir þínar sakir, [en] at þú
other when I did greatest for your sakes than that you
mundir eigi slíkt veita," Jarl svarar: "Hvat legg ek þá
would not such grant (The)-earl answers What lay I then
til er þér líkar?" Sveinn svarar: "Tvau skip vel búin."
to which you pleases Svein answers Two ships well equipped
Jarl kvað svá vera skyldu sem hann beiddi. Ok eptir
(The)-earl said so to-be should as he asked And after
þat býr Sveinn tör sína. Ok er hann var búinn, sigldi
that prepares Svein journey his And when he was ready sailed
hann suðr til Breiðafjarðar, ok tók útnyrðing til Dufeyra.
he south to Broad-firth and took a-north-wester to Dufeyrr
Þat er kaupstaðr á Skotlandi. En þaðan fór hann inn fyrir
That is a-market-town in Scotland But thence went he in past
Mærhæti, ok því næst til Ekkials-bakka. Þaðan fór hann til
Moray and then next to Ekkjalsbakki Thence went he to
Atiokla, ok lá þar sem Elgin heitir, til Maddaðar jarls. Þá
Atholl and lay there where Elgin is-called to Maddad earl Then
fékk hann Sveini leiðtoga, þá er leið kunnu um fjöll
got he to-Svein guides those who ways knew over mountains
ok merkr, þar sem hann vildi fara. Fór hann þaðan hit
and forests there where he wished to-go Went he thence the
efra um fjöll ok skóga fyrir ofan allar bygðir, ok
upper-way over mountains and woods on above all settlements and
kom fram í Hjálmundal nær miðju Suðrlandi. En þau
came forth in Helmsdale near (the)-middle of-Sutherland But they
Ölvir höfðu hvervetna haft njósnir, þar er þeim þótti
Olvir had everywhere had spies there where to-them seemed
úfriðar ván ór Orkneyjum; en þessa leið var þeim eingi
of-unpeace expectation from Orkney but this way was to-them no
ván hermanna. Urðu þau eigi fyrr vör við herinn, en
expectation of-warriors Became they not earlier aware of the-host than

þeir Sveinn vóru komnir í hlíð nokkura á bak bænum
they Svein were come onto slope some at back of-the-farm
Frakkakar. Þar kom í mót þeim Ölvir rosta með sex
of-Frakokk There came in against them Olvir Brawl with six
tigum manna. Slær þar þegar í bardaga, ok verðr lítil
tens of-men Strikes there at-once into battle and becomes little
viðrtaka; hrökkva þeir Ölvir heim at bænum, þvíat þeir
resistance are-driven they Olvir home to the-farm because they
náðu ekki skóginum. Þar varð mannfall mikit. En Ölvir
reached not the-forest There was slaughter great But Olvir
hljóp upp til Hjálmundals-ár; ok svamm yfir ána, ok svá
ran up to Helmsdale-river and swam over the-river and so
upp í fjallit; ok fór þaðan til Skotlands-fjarðar; ok svá
up into the-mountain and went thence to Scotland's-firth and so
út til Suðreyja. Ok er hann ór sögunni. En er Ölvi
out to (the)-Hebrides And is he out-of the-saga But when Olvir
dró undan, fóru þeir Sveinn heim á bæinn, ok ræntu þar
drew away went they Svein home to the-farm and plundered there
hvívetna; en eptir þat brendu þeir bænn, ok alla þá menn,
everything but after that burned they the-farm and all those men
er inni vóru. Ok lét Frakkök þar líf sitt. Þeir Sveinn gjörðu
who inside were And let Frakokk there life her They Svein made
þar hit mesta hervirki í Suðrlandi, áðr þeir fóru til skipa
there the greatest harrying in Sutherland before they went to ships
sinna. Eptir þat lágu þeir úti um sumarit, ok herjuðu um
their After that lay they out in the-summer and harried about
Skotland. Kom Sveinn at hausti til Orkneyja á fund
Scotland Came Svein in autumn to Orkney to (the)-meeting
Rögnvalds jarls; tók hann vel við Sveini; fór Sveinn þá yfir
of-Rognvald earl took he well with Svein went Svein then over
á Nes í Duggalsbæ, ok sat þar um vetrinn. Í þenna
to (the)-Ness to Duncansby and sat there in the-winter In this

tíma kom til Sveins orðsendíng Holdboða ór Suðreyjum, at
time came to Svein a-message of-Holdbodi from (the)-Hebrides that
Sveinn skyldi koma til liðveizlu við hann; þvíat þangat til
Svein should come to support with him because thither to
Tyrvistar hafði komit höldr af Bretlandi, ok hafði eltan
Tiree had come a-yeoman from Wales and had chased
Holdboða ór búum sínum ok rænt fé miklu. Sá maðr
Holdbodi out-of farms his and robbed money much That man
hét Roðbjætr, er sendr var, Enskr at kyni. Sveinn brá
was-called Robert who sent was English by kin Svein moved
skjótt við, er honum vóru send orðin, ok kom út í
quickly with-it when him were sent the-words and came out to
Orkneyjar til móts við Rögnvald jarl, ok bað Rögnvald jarl,
Orkney to meeting with Rognvald earl and bade Rognvald earl
at hann skyldi fá honum lið ok skip. Jarl spurði, hvat
that he should get him troop and ships (The)-earl asked what
Sveinn vildi þá at hafast. Hann kvað þann mann hafa
Svein wished then to undertake He said that man to-have
sér orð sent, er sízt átti hann ní við at kveða, ok
to-himself word sent who least ought he no to to say and
honum hafði þá bezt gefist, er hann þurfti mest við, er
to-him had then best given when he needed most with when
flestir fóru á hendr honum. Jarl svarar: “Vel væri þá, ef
most went on hands to-him (The)-earl answers Well were then if
þit skildist vinir; en útrúir eru flestir Suðreyíngar; en
you-two parted friends but untrustworthy are most Hebrideans but
gæta máttú dreng-skapar þíns; en ek mun fá þér tvau skip
guard may-you manliness your but I will get you two ships
al-skiput.” Þetta líkar Sveini vel. Ok fóru þá til Suðreyja,
fully-manned This pleases Svein well And went then to (the)-Hebrides
ok fann eigi Holdboða fyrr en hann kom vestr í Mön,
and found not Holdbodi earlier than he came west to Man

þvíat hann hafði þangat stokkit. En er Sveinn kom í Mön,
because he had thither fled But when Svein came to Man
þá varð Holdboði honum feginn. Ok þar í Mön hafði
then became Holdbodi of-him glad And there in Man had
höldrinn sá hinn Brezki gjört hervirki mikit í ránum ok
the-yeoman that the Welsh done harrying great in robberies and
manndrápum, ok víða í Suðreyjum. Fyrir honum hafði fallit
manslaughters and widely in (the)-Hebrides Before him had fallen
göfugr maðr, er Andres hét; Hann átti eptir konu, er
a-noble man who Andres was-called He had behind a-wife who
Íngiríð hét, ok son er hét Sigmundr öngull. Íngiríð
Ingirid was-called and a-son who was-called Sigmund Angle Ingirid
húsfrú átti fé mikit ok bú stór. Þat ráð gjörði
(the)-housewife had money much and farms big That counsel made
Holdboði, at Sveinn bæði hennar. En er þat var vakit
Holdbodi that Svein asked-for her But when that was raised
við hana, þá mælti hon, at Sveinn skyldi þat til ráðahags
with her then spoke she that Svein should that for match
vinna at hefna Andres bónda síns. Sveinn svarar, at han
work to avenge Andres husband her Svein answers that he
mætti gjöra Bretum skaða nokkurn, “En eigi má ek vita
might do (the)-Welsh harm some But not may I know
hvers af verðr auðit um manna-lát.” Ok eptir þat fara þeir
of-what from becomes granted about men's-loss And after that go they
Sveinn ok Holdboði í hernað ok höfðu fimm skip. Þeir
Svein and Holdbodi on harrying and had five ships They
herjuðu um Bretland; ok gengu þar upp er heitir Jarlsnes,
harried about Wales and went there up where is-called Jarlsnes
ok gjöra þar hervirki mikit. Þat var einn morgin, at þeir
and do there harrying great That was one morning that they
gengu upp í þorp nokkurt ok var þar lítil viðtaka. Flýðu
went up into village some and was there little resistance Fled

bændr ór þorpinu; en þeir Sveinn ræntu þar hvívetna,
farmers out-of the-village but they Svein plundered there everything
ok brendu sex bæi fyrir dagverð sinn. Þá var þar með
and burned six farms before breakfast their Then was there with
Sveini Íslenzkr maðr, er Eirekr hét, ok kvað þetta:
Svein an-Icelandic man who Eirik was-called and recited this

"Bæir eru brendir, en búendr rændir,
Farms are burned but farmers plundered
(svá hefir Sveinn hagat), sex í morgin:
so has Svein managed six in (the)-morning
Gjörði hann einum ærinn þeirra,
Made he to-one enough of-them
leigir þar kol leigu-manni."
lends there coal to-(the)-hired-man

Eptir þetta fóru þeir til skips síns, ok lágu úti um sumarit, ok
After this went they to ship their and lay out in the-summer and
fengu mikit herfang. En höldrinn hljóp í ey þá, er Lund
got great plunder But the-yeoman ran onto an-island that which Lundy
heitir; þar var vígi gott. Sátu þeir Sveinn þar um nökkura
is-called there was stronghold good Sat they Svein there for some
hríð ok fengu ekki at gjört. Ok fóru heim um haustið í Mön.
while and got nothing to done And went home in the-autumn to Man

LXXXIII · HOLDBOÐI TURNS ON SVEINN

Sveinn married Ingiríðr and raided Ireland, but Holdboði turned against him and attacked him by night; Sveinn held out, Holdboði fled, and Sveinn went to Lewis.

Þenna vetr gjörði Sveinn brúðkaup til Íngiríðar; ok sat þá
This winter made Svein wedding to Ingirid and sat then
með sæmd mikilli. Um várit dró hann menn at sér, ok
with honor great In the-spring drew he men to himself and
för á fund Holdboða, ok beiddi hann liðs. En hann
went to (the)-meeting of-Holdbodi and asked him for-troops But he
taldist undan; ok lét at menn væri í athöfnum margir,
excused-himself off and let that men were in occupations many
en sumir í kaupferðum; ok fékk Sveinn þar ekki af. En þat
but some on trading-voyages and got Svein there nothing of-it But that
var raunar, at þeir höldrinn höfðu sæzt á laun, ok bundit
was in-truth that they the-yeoman had settled in secret and bound
lag sitt með fégjöfum. En Sveinn fór eigi at síðr; ok hafði
fellowship their with money-gifts But Svein went not at less and had
þá þrjú skip, ok varð lítið til fjár öndvert sumar. En er
then three ships and became little for money early summer But when
á leið, fóru þeir suðr undir Írland; ok tóku þar kugg einn
on passed went they south under Ireland and took there cog one
er múnkar áttu ór Syllíngum, ok ræntu. Hann herjaði
which monks owned from (the)-Scillies and plundered He harried
ok víða á Írlandi; ok tóku þar mikit fé. Ok fóru um
also widely in Ireland and took there much money And went in
haustið heim í Mön, ok höfðu mikit lið. Þá hafði Sveinn
the-autumn home to Man and had great troop Then had Svein
Ásleifarson skamma stund heima setið, at hann heyrði þann
Asleif's-son short while at-home sat that he heard that
kvitt, at Holdboði mundi honum eigi trúr. En Sveinn
rumor that Holdbodi would to-him not (be)-true But Svein
duldist við þat. Ok eina nátt um vetrinn, var þat tíðinda,
dissembled about that And one night in the-winter was that of-tidings
at varðmenn Sveins kómu, ok sögðu, at úfriðr fór at þeim.
that watchmen of-Svein came and said that unpeace went at them

Þeir Sveinn hljópu til vápna ok út. Þeir sá hvar menn
They Svein ran to weapons and out They saw where men
fóru með eld at bænum, ok höfðu lið mikit. Þá hljópu
went with fire to the-farm and had troop great Then ran
þeir Sveinn á hól einn, ok vörðust þaðan; þeir höfðu
they Svein onto hill one and defended-themselves thence they had
lúðr ok blésu. En þar er þykkbýlt; ok drifu menn til liðs
a-trumpet and blew But there is thickly-settled and thronged men to help
við þá Svein, svá at þar kom, at þeir létu frá er til vóru
with them Svein so that there came to they left off who to were
komnir. Slógust þeir Sveinn eptir ok eltu þá. Þar féll mart
come Joined they Svein after and chased them There fell many
manna í flóttanum; en fjöldi var sárt af hvárum-tveggjum
men in the-rout but a-host was wounded of both-sides
áðr þeir skildu. En fyrir þessu liði réð Holdboði, ok hafði
before they parted But over this troop ruled Holdbodi and had
hann dregit undan í flóttanum. Fór hann þar til er hann
he drawn away in the-rout Went he there till when he
kom í Lundey; tók höldrinn vel við honum, ok héldust
came to Lundy took the-yeoman well with him and kept
þeir saman. Sveinn fór heim, ok hafði fjölment, ok varðhöld
they together Svein went home and had many-men and watches
mikil, þvíat hann trúði illa Suðreyingum. Þá er föng þeirra
great because he trusted ill (the)-Hebrideans Then when supplies of-them
Sveins tóku at þverra, þústnaði fólkit við hann; ok seldi
Svein began to dwindle grew-surly the-folk toward him and sold
[hann] jarðir sínar, er á leið vetrinn, til lausafjár; ok fór
he lands his when on passed the-winter for loose-goods and went
snimma um várit sunnan til Ljóðhúsa, ok dvöldu þar
early in the-spring from-the-south to Lewis and stayed there
langa hríð. Hafði hann gjört mikit hervirki í þessari ferð.
long while Had he done great harrying on this journey

Þorbjörn Clerk killed two men who had been at Frakökk's burning, and Rögnvaldr reconciled him with Sveinn.

Þá er Sveinn var í Suðreyjum, hafði Rögnvaldr jarl farit
Then when Svein was in (the)-Hebrides had Rognvald earl gone
á Katanes, ok tók veizlu í Vík með þeim manni, er
to Caithness and took feast in Wick with that man who
Hróaldr hét; kona hans hét Arnljót; Sveinn hét
Hroald was-called wife his was-called Arnljot Svein was-called
son þeirra, ok var hinn vaskligsti maðr. En er jarl var
son their and was the most-valiant man But when (the)-earl was
á veizlu, kómu þeir Þorbjörn klerkr ofan af Skotlandi;
at (the)-feast came they Thorbjorn Clerk down from Scotland
ok sagði þau tíðindi, at Þorsteinn höldr faðir hans var
and told those tidings that Thorstein (the)-yeoman father his was
drepinn, ok hafði jarl einn Skozkr drepit hann, en jarl
killed and had earl one Scottish killed him but (the)-earl
sá hét Valþjófr. En þat höfðu menn á máli, hve tíð-rætt
that was-called Valthjof But that had men in speech how talk-fond
þeim Rögnvaldi jarli var ok Þorbirni; þvíat jarl gáði varla
to-them Rognvald earl was and Thorbjorn because (the)-earl heeded hardly
at lúka málum sínum fyrir tali þeirra. Fór Þorbjörn þaðan
to finish cases his for talk their Went Thorbjorn thence
út í Eyjar með jarli; en Sveinn Hróaldsson gjörðist þá
out to (the)-Isles with (the)-earl but Svein Hroald's-son became then
skutil-sveinn jarls. Þorbjörn hafði þá verit um hríð á
table-servant of-(the)-earl Thorbjorn had then been for a-while in
Skotlandi. Hann hafði drepa látit tvá menn, þá er verit
Scotland He had kill let two men those who been

höfðu at brennu Frakkakar með Sveini Ásleifarsyni. En
had at (the)-burning of-Frakokk with Svein Asleif's-son But
er Sveinn kom ór Suðrey[jum], þá fór hann heim í
when Svein came out-of (the)-Hebrides then went he home to
Gareksey til bús síns; en ekki á fund Rögnvalds jarls,
Gairsay to farm his but not to (the)-meeting of-Rognvald earl
sem hann var vanr er hann kom ór hernaði. En er
as he was wont when he came from harrying But when
jarl spurði, at hann var heim kominn, spurði hann
(the)-earl learned that he was home come asked he
Þorbjörn hvat hann ætlaði, hví Sveinn mundi eigi finna hann.
Thorbjorn what he thought why Svein would not meet him
Þorbjörn svarar: "Þess get ek, at Sveini mislíki við mik,
Thorbjorn answers This guess I that to-Svein mislikes with me
þvíat ek lét drepa þá menn er verit höfðu með honum at
because I let kill those men who been had with him at
brennu Frakkakar." Jarl mælti: "Eigi vil ek, at þit
(the)-burning of-Frakokk (The)-earl spoke Not wish I that you-two
sét missáttir." Ok eptir þat fór Rögnvaldr jarl [í] Gareksey,
be at-odds And after that went Rognvald earl to Gairsay
ok leitaði um sættir með þeim; ok var þat auðvellt,
and sought about settlements between them and was that easy
þvíat báðir þeir vildu at jarl skipaði. Síðan gjörði hann
because both they wished that (the)-earl decided Then made he
þá sátta at sinni. Ok hélzt sú sætt lengi síðan.
them reconciled at (the)-time And held that settlement long after

Rögnvaldr refused the Icelander Hallr until Ragna pleaded for him; the earl mocked her headdress in a verse, she answered with a proverb, and Hallr and the earl composed the Háttalykill together.

Í þenna tíma kom til Orkneyja Íslands far eitt. Þar var
In this time came to Orkney an-Iceland ship one There was
á sá maðr, er Hallr hét, son Þórarins breiðmaga. Hann
on that man who Hall was-called son of-Thorarin Broad-Belly He
fór til vistar í Rínansey til þeirra Þorsteins ok Rögnu.
went to lodging in North-Ronaldsay to them Thorstein and Ragna
Hann undi þar illa; ok bað Þorstein, at hann kæmi
He was-content there ill and bade Thorstein that he brought
honum til Rögnvalds jarls. Þeir fóru á hans fund, ok vildi
him to Rognvald earl They went to his meeting and wished
jarl eigi við Halli taka. En er þeir kómu heim, þá
(the)-earl not with Hall to-take But when they came home then
spyrr Ragna hve farist hafði. Hallr kvað þá vísu;
asks Ragna how gone had Hall recited then verse

"Senda ek son þinn, Ragna!
Sent I son your Ragna
(sönn koma mál fyrir bragna;
true come words before men
hans var haglig iðja)
his was skillful work
hirðvistar mér biðja:
court-lodging for-me to-ask

Hafa kveðst hodda rýrir
Have says-he of-hoards (the)-diminisher
hinn er hæstum veg stýrir,
he who highest way steers
neitti hann grúpans gran[n]a,
refused he of-(the)-beard (the)-neighbor
gnótt vígligri manna."
plenty of-more-warlike men

Litlu síðarr fór Ragna á fund Rögnvalds jarls at örindum
Little later went Ragna to (the)-meeting of-Rognvald earl on errands
sínum. Hon var svá búin, at hon hafði gaddan rautt á
her She was so dressed that she had a-headdress red on
höfði, gjört af hrossa-hári. Ok er jarl sá þat, kvað hann:
head made of horse-hair And when (the)-earl saw that recited he

"Aldr hefig frétt þar er féldu
Ever have-I heard there where folded
fránstall konur allar
gleaming-stand women all
(verðr-at menja myrðir
becomes-not of-necklaces (the)-destroyer
mjúk-orðr) höfuð-dúkum:
soft-worded with-head-cloths

Nu tær hlökk um hnakka
Now does (the)-valkyrie about (the)-nape
hauk-strindar sér binda,
of-hawk-land herself bind
(skrýðist brúðr við bræði
adorns-herself (the)-bride with haste
ben-gagls) merar-tagli."
of-wound-gosling with-mare's-tail

Ragna mælti: "Hér kemr nú at því sem mælt er, at 'Fár er
Ragna spoke Here comes now to that as said is that Few is
svá vitr, at allt sjái sem er;' þvíat þetta er af hesti en eigi
so wise that all sees as is because this is from a-horse but not
af meri." Hon tók þá silki-dúk ok faldaði sér með, ok talaði
from a-mare She took then a-silk-cloth and coifed herself with-it and talked
eigi at síðr mál sitt. Jarl tók henni heldr seint í fyrstu; en
not at less case her (The)-earl took her rather late at first but
mýktist ræðan svá sem á leið; ok fékk hon þat örindi, sem
softened the-talk so as on passed and got she that errand which
hon vildi, ok hirðvist Halli. Ok var hann lengi síðan með
she wished and court-lodging for-Hall And was he long after with
Rögnvaldi jarli. — Þeir ortu báðir saman Hátta-lykil hinn
Rognvald earl They composed both together (the)-Meter-Key the
forna, ok létu vera fimm vísur með hverjum hætti. En þá þótti
old and let be five verses with each meter But then seemed
of langt kveðit, ok eru nú tvær kveðnar með hverjum hætti.
too long composed and are now two composed with each meter

Sveinn, Þorbjörn, and others raided the Hebrides again. Sveinn claimed a chieftain's share of the plunder, and Þorbjörn divorced Sveinn's sister Ingiríðr in anger; Sveinn's man Margaðr killed Hróaldr.

Þat er sagt at Sveinn Ásleifarson spurði at Holdboði var
That is said that Svein Asleif's-son learned that Holdbodi was
kominn í Suðrey[jar], þá bað hann Rögnvald jarl fá sér
come to (the)-Hebrides then bade he Rognvald earl get himself
lið til at hefna sín. Jarl fékk honum fimm skip; ok
troop to to avenge himself (The)-earl got him five ships and
stýrði einu Þorbjörn klerkr; en öðru Hafliði son Þorkels
steered one Thorbjorn Clerk but (the)-second Haflidi son of-Thorkel
flettis; þriðja Dufnjáll son Hávarðs Gunnasonar; fjórða
Flayer (the)-third Dufnjal son of-Havard Gunni's-son (the)-fourth
Ríkgarðr Þorleifarson; fimta Sveinn Ásleifarson. En þegar
Rikgard Thorleif's-son (the)-fifth Svein Asleif's-son But as-soon
er Holdboði spurði til Sveins, þá flýði hann suðr aptr
as Holdbodi learned of Svein then fled he south back
til Lundeyjar; ok tóku félagar hans hann til sín. Þeir
to Lundy and took companions his him to themselves They
Sveinn drápu mart manna í Suðreyjum; en ræntu víða
Svein killed many men in (the)-Hebrides but plundered widely
ok brendu. Þeir fengu mikit fé, en náðu eigi Holdboða,
and burned They got much money but caught not Holdbodi
ok aldri kom hann í Suðreyjar síðan. Sveinn vildi vera í
and never came he to (the)-Hebrides later Svein wished to-be in
Suðreyjum um vetrinn; en þeir Þorbjörn vildu heim; ok
(the)-Hebrides in the-winter but they Thorbjorn wished home and
fóru þeir síð um haustið sunnan til Kataness, ok kómu
went they late in the-autumn from-the-south to Caithness and came

í Dungalsbæ. Ok er þeir skyldu skipta herfangi sínu, þá
to Duncansby And when they should divide plunder their then
mælti Sveinn, at allir skyldu jafn-mikit hafa, nema hann
spoke Svein that all should equal-much have unless he
hefði höfðingja-hlut; þvíat hann kveðst einn hafa fyrir
had chieftain's-share because he said-himself alone to-have for
verit; ok sagði jarl hafa fengit þá til liðs við sik.
been and said (the)-earl to-have got them to troop with himself
Hann lézt ok einn hafa sakir átt við Suðreyínga, en
He said-himself also alone to-have charges had with (the)-Hebrideans but
þeir engar. En Þorbjörn þóttist engum mun síðr hafa
they none But Thorbjorn thought-himself in-no way less to-have
til unnit, ok verit eigi síðr fyrirmaðr en Sveinn. Vildu þeir
to-it worked and been not less leader than Svein Wished they
ok [at] allir skipstjórnar-menn hefði jafnan hlut. En svá varð
also that all ship-captains had equal share But so had
at vera sem Sveinn vildi; þvíat hann var miklu mann-fleiri
to be as Svein wished because he was much more-numerous
þar á Nesinu. En Þorbjörn fór út í Orkneyjar á fund
there on the-Ness But Thorbjorn went out to Orkney to (the)-meeting
Rögnvalds jarls, ok sagði hve farit hafði með þeim Sveini;
of-Rognvald earl and told how gone had with them Svein
ok líkaði þeim illa, er hann hafði gjört þá hlut-ræníngja.
and pleased them ill when he had made them share-robbed
Jarl kvað þat eigi mundu einu sinni finnast á, at
(The)-earl said that not would once time be-found on-it that
Sveinn væri engi jafnaðar-maðr, "En þar mun enn koma,
Svein were no fair-man But there will yet come
at hann mun taka gjöld fyrir sitt ranglæti. En eigi skulu
that he will take payment for his injustice But not shall
þér um þetta deila. Ek skal fá yðr jafn-mikit af mínu,
you about this quarrel I shall get you equal-much of mine

sem þér missit við hann; vil ek ok ekki, at þér kallit á
as you lose with him wish I also not that you call on
hann um þetta; ok væri vel, ef eigi leiddi stærri vandkvæði
him about this and were well if not led greater troubles
af honum; uggi ek þó, at þess muni eigi langt at bíða.”
from him fear I yet that of-that will not long to wait
Þorbjörn svaraði: “Guð þakki yðr, herra, þann sóma, er þér
Thorbjorn answered God thank you lord that honor which you
gjörit til vár; ok eigi munu vér deila við Svein um þetta;
do to us and not will we quarrel with Svein about this
en aldri síðan skal ek vera vin hans; ok gjöra skal ek
but never after shall I be friend his and do shall I
honum nokkura svívirðíng hér á móti.” Ok eptir þetta segir
him some disgrace here in against And after this says
Þorbjörn skilit við Íngiríði systur Sveins; ok sendi hana yfir
Thorbjorn parted with Ingirid sister of-Svein and sent her over
á Nes til Sveins. Tók hann við henni vel; en þótti
to (the)-Ness to Svein Took he with her well but seemed-it
gjör til sín svívirðíng mikil. Var þá með þeim fjándskapr.
done to himself disgrace great Was then between them enmity
Kom þar at því sem mælt er, “at ‘Foruðin sjást
Came there to that as said is that The-perils beware-each-other
bezt við.’” En þó leitaði nú hvárrgi berliga á annan.
best with But yet sought now neither openly on (the)-other
Þá er Sveinn var í Suðreyjum, þá hafði hann sett Margað
Then when Svein was in (the)-Hebrides then had he set Margad
Grímsson í Dungals-bæ til forráða, ok fengit honum í
Grim's-son in Duncansby for management and given him into
hendr sýslu þá, er hann hélt af Rögnvaldi jarli. En
hands stewardship that which he held from Rognvald earl But
Margaðr var sakgæfinn ok áleitinn, ok varð hann úvinsæll
Margad was quarrelsome and aggressive and became he unpopular

við sinn újafnað. En þeir er mest urðu fyrir újafnaði hans,
for his overbearing But they who most became for overbearing his
stukku á fund Hróalds bónda ok héldu sik þar.
fled to (the)-meeting of-Hroald (the)-farmer and held themselves there
Af því gjörðist fjándskapr með þeim Hróaldi ok Margaði.
From that arose enmity between them Hroald and Margad
Litlu síðarr en Sveinn var heim kominn fór Margaðr suðr
Little later than Svein was home come went Margad south
til Víkr við tugtugta mann at örindum sínum. Ok áðr
to Wick with a-twentieth man on errands his And before
hann kom sunnan, veitti hann heimsókn Hróaldi bónda,
he came from-the-south made he an-attack on-Hroald (the)-farmer
ok drap hann, ok nokkura menn fleiri. Fóru síðan til
and killed him and some men more Went-they then to
Dungals-bæjar á fund Sveins. Þá safnar Sveinn mönnum,
Duncansby to (the)-meeting of-Svein Then gathers Svein men
ok ferr til Lamba-borgar, ok býst þar um. Þar var
and goes to Lambaborg and prepares there about-it There was
vígi gott, ok sat hann þar með sex tigi manna, ok flutti
stronghold good and sat he there with six tens of-men and brought
at sér vistir ok önnur föng þau er þeir þurftu at hafa.
to himself provisions and other supplies those which they needed to have
Borgin stóð á sævar-hömrum nökkurum; en steinveggr
The-stronghold stood on sea-cliffs some but a-stone-wall
var fyrir ofan, vel smíðaðr. Björgin gengu langt með sjánum
was on above well made The-cliffs went long along the-sea
annan veg. Þeir gjörðu þá margar úspektir á Katanesi í
(the)-other way They did then many outrages in Caithness in
ránum, ok fluttu þangat í borgina, ok gjörðust úvinsælir.
robberies and brought thither into the-stronghold and became unpopular

Rögnvaldr came against Sveinn, who held Lambaborg. Sveinn and Margaðr escaped down the cliffs by rope; Sveinn went to King Davíð, who reconciled him with Rögnvaldr.

Tíðindi þessi koma til eyrna Rögnvaldi jarli ok Sveini
Tidings these come to (the)-ears of-Rognvald earl and of-Svein
Hróaldssyni; beiddi Sveinn jarl fulltings, at hann leiðrétti
Hroald's-son asked Svein (the)-earl help that he set-right
þetta mál; fluttu þetta margir menn með Sveini. Kom því
this case pleaded this many men with Svein Came it
svá, at Rögnvaldr jarl brást við, ok fór yfir til Ness, ok
so that Rognvald earl moved with-it and went over to (the)-Ness and
þessir höfðingjar með honum: Þorbjörn, Hafliði Þorkelsson,
these chieftains with him Thorbjorn Haflidi Thorkel's-son
Dufnjall Hávarðsson, ok Ríkgarðr, ok vóru þeir hinir
Dufnjal Havard's-son and Rikgard and were they the
tillagaverstu á hendr Sveini. Þeir fóru til Dungals-bæjar; ok
most-hostile on hands to-Svein They went to Duncansby and
var Sveinn þá í brottu. Var þat sagt, at hann var farinn
was Svein then off away Was that said that he was gone
suðr til Víkr; fóru þeir þangat. Ok er þeir kvómu þar,
south to Wick went they thither And when they came there
spurðu þeir at Sveinn var í Lamba-borg. Fóru þeir jarl
learned they that Svein was in Lambaborg Went they (the)-earl
þá þangat. Ok er þeir kómu til borgarinnar, þá spyrr
then thither And when they came to the-stronghold then asks
Sveinn hverr fyrir liðinu réð. Honum var sagt at Rögnvaldr
Svein who over the-troop ruled To-him was said that Rognvald
jarl réð fyrir. Sveinn fagnaði hónum vel, ok frétti jarl
earl ruled over-it Svein welcomed him well and asked (the)-earl

eptir örindum. Jarl svarar, at hann vill at hann seli
after errands (The)-earl answers that he wishes that he hand
Margad fram í vald þeirra. Sveinn spyrr hvárt hann skal
Margad forth into power their Svein asks whether he shall
grið hafa. Jarl lézt því eigi vilja heita. Þá mælti
truce have (The)-earl said-himself that not to-wish promise Then spoke
Sveinn: “Eigi nenni ek at selja Margað fram í vald
Svein Not bring-myself I to hand Margad forth into (the)-power
þeirra Sveins Hróaldssonar, eðr annarra úvina minna, þeirra
of-them Svein Hroald's-son or other enemies my those
sem með yðr eru; en gjarna vilda ek vera sáttr við yðr,
who with you are but gladly would I be reconciled with you
herra.” Þá svarar Þorbjörn klerkr: “Heyr hvat dróttinssvikinn
lord Then answers Thorbjorn Clerk Hear what the-traitor
mælir! at hann vildi gjarna sáttr vera; en hefir áðr rænt
speaks that he wished gladly reconciled to-be but has before robbed
land hans, ok lagizt út sem þjófr. Launar þú illa jarli
land his and lain out as a-thief Repay you ill (the)-earl
margan sóma, er hann hefir til þín gjört, sem þú munt
many an-honor which he has to you done as you will
öllum þeim, er þú mátt því við koma.” Sveinn svarar:
all those whom you may it with come Svein answers
“Eigi þarftú, Þorbjörn, hér svá mart til at leggja; þvíat
Not need-you Thorbjorn here so much to to lay because
ekki mun fyrir þín orð gjört. En þat er hugboð mitt, at
nothing will for your words done But that is foreboding my that
þú munir honum verstu launa þann sóma, er hann hefir
you will him worst repay that honor which he has
til þín gjört, áðr þit skilit; fyrir því at engir munu
to you done before you-two part for that that none will
gæfu af þér hljóta þeir er nokkut eigu við þik.” Þá
luck from you get they who anything have with you Then

mælti Rögnvaldr jarl, at menn skyldu ekki skatyrðast. Eptir
spoke Rognvald earl that men should not bandy-insults After
þat settust þeir um borgina, ok bönnuðu allar atflutníngar;
that sat-down they about the-stronghold and forbade all bringing-in
ok gekk svá mjök lengi, at ekki mátti atsókn við koma.
and went so much long that no might attack at come
Ok er eyddust vistir þeirra, þá kallaði Sveinn saman
And when were-spent provisions their then called Svein together
sína menn, ok leitaði ráða við þá; en allir menn mæltu
his men and sought counsel with them but all men spoke
eins munni, at hans forsjá vildu hafa, meðan hennar
with-one mouth that his foresight wished-they to-have while of-it
væri kostr. Þá tók Sveinn til orða ok mælti: "Þat sýnist
were choice Then took Svein to words and spoke That seems
mér úvirðuligast at svelta hér, en ganga síðan á vald
to-me most-unworthy to starve here but go then into (the)-power
úvina sinna. Hefir ok þetta svá farit sem líkligt var, at
of-enemies one's-own Has also this so gone as likely was that
oss mun bæði skorta við Rögnvald jarl, vit ok gæfu. En
us will both lack against Rognvald earl wit and luck But
hér hefir verit leitað um sættir ok grið, ok hefir hvártki
here has been sought about settlements and truce and has neither
fengist Margaði félaga mínum. En veit ek at kostr mun
been-got for-Margad comrade my But know I that choice will
hér öðrum mönnum griða; en ek nenni eigi, at selja
here for-other men of-truce but I bring-myself not to hand
hann fram undir öxi. Nú er þat eigi rétt, at hér [gjaldi]
him forth under (the)-axe Now is that not right that here pay
svá margir hans vandræða, þótt ek nenna eigi at skiljast
so many for-his troubles though I bring-myself not to part
við hann at sinni." Ok eptir þetta tók Sveinn þat ráð,
with him at (the)-time And after this took Svein that counsel

at knýta saman snæri þau, er þeir höfðu. En um náttina
to knot together the-ropes those which they had But in the-night
létu þeir þá Svein ok Margað síga ofan ór borginni á
let they then Svein and Margad sink down out-of the-stronghold to
sjáinn. Ok eptir þat tóku þeir sund, ok lögðust fram
the-sea And after that took they swimming and laid-themselves forth
með björgunum þar til er þraut hamrana. Eptir þat stigu
along the-cliffs there till when ran-out the-crags After that stepped
þeir fótum á land, ok fóru upp í Suðrland; ok svá til
they with-feet on land and went up into Sutherland and so to
Mærhæfi; ok þaðan til Dufeyra. Þar fundu þeir Orkneyska
Moray and thence to Dufeyrr There found they Orkney
menn á byrðingi; hét sá Hallvarðr, er fyrir þeim var,
men on a-cargo-ship was-called that-one Hallvard who over them was
en annarr Þorkell; þeir vóru tíu saman. Þeir Sveinn gengu á
but another Thorkel they were ten together They Svein went on
skip með þeim, ok fóru tólf saman á byrðingi suðr fyrir
ship with them and went twelve together on (the)-cargo-ship south past
Skotland, þar til er þeir koma í Máeyjar. Þar var þá
Scotland there till when they come to (the)-Isle-of-May There was then
múnk-lífi. Baldvini hét ábóti sá er fyrir réð. Þar vóru
a-monastery Baldwin was-called (the)-abbot that who over ruled There were
þeir Sveinn ok hans menn sjau nætr veðrfastir, ok sögðust
they Svein and his men seven nights weather-bound and said-themselves
vera sendir á fund Skota-konúngs af Rögnvaldi jarli.
to-be sent to (the)-meeting of-(the)-Scots'-king by Rognvald earl
Múnkar grunuðu sögn þeirra, ok ætluðu vera ránsmenn;
(The)-monks suspected tale their and thought-them to-be robbers
ok sendu til lands eptir mönnum. En þá er þeir Sveinn
and sent to land after men But then when they Svein
verða þess varir, þá hlaupa þeir á skip, ok ræntu staðinn
become of-that aware then run they onto ship and plundered the-place

fé miklu. Þeir fóru á brott ok inn eptir Myrkva-firði.
of-money much They went off away and in along Forth
Þeir fundu í Eiðina-borg Davíð Skotakonung. Tók hann vel
They found in Edinburgh David Scots'-king Took he well
við Sveini, ok bauð þeim at vera með sér. Sveinn sagði
with Svein and offered them to be with himself Svein told
konúngi allan mála-vöxt þangat-kvámu sinnar; ok hve
(the)-king all (the)-state-of-the-case of-coming-thither his and how
farit hafði með þeim Rögnvaldi jarli, áðr þeir skildust;
gone had with them Rognvald earl before they parted
ok svá þat er þeir höfðu rænt í Máeyjum. Vóru þeir
and so that which they had robbed in (the)-Isle-of-May Were they
Sveinn um hríð með Skota-konúngi í góðu yfirlæti. Davíð
Svein for a-while with (the)-Scots'-king in good favor David
konúngr sendi menn til þeirra manna, er fjár höfðu mist
king sent men to those men who money had lost
fyrir Sveini í ferðinni, ok lét þá sjálfa virða skaða sinn,
for Svein on the-journey and let them themselves value loss their
en bætti sínu fé hverjum sinn missi. Davíð konúngr
but atoned with-his-own money to-each his loss David king
bauð Sveini at sækja konu hans í Orkneyjar, en fá honum
offered Svein to fetch wife his to Orkney but get him
slíkar sæmdir í Skotlandi, at hann mætti vel við una.
such honors in Scotland that he might well with-them be-content
Sveinn birti vilja sinn fyrir konúngi; ok sagði svá, at hann
Svein showed will his before (the)-king and said so that he
vildi, at Margaðr væri þar eptir með konúngi; en hann
wished that Margad were there behind with (the)-king but he
sendi orð til Rögnvalds jarls, at hann tæki sættum við
sent word to Rognvald earl that he took settlement with
hann; en Sveinn lézt vilja leggja allt sitt mál á vald
him but Svein said-himself to-wish lay all his case in (the)-power

Rögnvaldi jarli; kvezt þá jafnan vel viðr una, er
of-Rognvald earl said-himself then always well therewith be-content when
þeir vóru sáttir, en þá illa, er þeir vóru úsáttir. Davíð
they were reconciled but then ill when they were unreconciled David
konúngr svarar: “Bæði er nú, at jarl þessi mun vel vera,
king answers Both is now that earl this will good be
enda þykkir yðr þat eina vera, er til hans veit; hættir
and-yet seems to-you that alone to-be which to him leads risk
þú nú á hans trúnað, en fyrir-lætr þat er vér bjóðum
you now on his faith but forgo that which we offer
þér.” Sveinn lézt hans vingan aldri láta vilja, en sagðist þó
you Svein said his friendship never lose to-wish but said-himself yet
vilja biðja konúng, at hann veitti þetta. Konúngr kvað svá
to-wish ask (the)-king that he granted this (The)-king said so
vera skyldu. Davíð konúngr sendi menn norðr í Orkneyjar
to-be should David king sent men north to Orkney
með gjöfum, ok þeirri orðsending, at jarl skyldi taka
with gifts and that message that (the)-earl should take
sættum við Svein. Fór þá ok Sveinn í Eyjar norðr, en
settlement with Svein Went then also Svein to (the)-Isles north but
Margaðr var eptir með konúngi. Sendimenn Davíðs konúngs
Margad was behind with (the)-king (The)-messengers of-David king
fóru á fund Rögnvalds jarls. Tók hann vel við þeim,
went to (the)-meeting of-Rognvald earl Took he well with them
ok svá gjöfum þeim, er konúngr sendi honum, ok hét
and so gifts those which (the)-king sent him and promised
sættum. Tók hann síðan Svein í frið ok fulla vináttu;
settlement Took he then Svein into peace and full friendship
ok fór hann þá til búa sinna.
and went he then to farms his

Searching for Sveinn, Þorbjörn instead set fire to the house of Valþjófr, slayer of his father, who broke out and was cut down. Kolbeinn Heap built a stone castle in Wyre.

Þá er þeir Sveinn ok Margaðr vóru á brottu ór
Then when they Svein and Margad were off away from
Lamba-borg, tóku þeir er í borginni vóru þat ráð, at
Lambaborg took they who in the-stronghold were that counsel to
gefa upp staðinn í vald Rögnvalds jarls. Spurði hann
give up the-place into (the)-power of-Rognvald earl Asked he
hvat þeir vissu til Sveins, ok þeirra Margaðar, síðast; en
what they knew of Svein and them Margad last but
þeir sögðu sem var. Ok er jarl heyrði þat, mælti hann:
they said as was And when (the)-earl heard that spoke he
"Satt er þat at segja, at engra manna jafníngi er Sveinn,
True is that to say that of-no men (the)-equal is Svein
þeirra er vér eigum kosti hér með oss; eru slík brögð
of-those whom we have choice here with us are such tricks
bæði drengilig ok harðfenglig. En eigi vil ek níðast á yðr,
both manly and bold But not will I deal-basely with you
þótt þér hafit vafizt í þessu vandkvæði með Sveini;
though you have wrapped-yourselves in this trouble with Svein
skal hverr yðvarr fara í friði fyrir mér." Fór jarl þaðan
shall each of-you go in peace for me Went (the)-earl thence
heim í Orkneyjar, en sendi Þorbjörn klerk með fjóra tigi
home to Orkney but sent Thorbjorn Clerk with four tens
manna á skipi suðr til Breiðafjarðar at leita þeirra Sveins;
of-men on a-ship south to Broad-firth to seek them Svein
ok spurðist ekki til hans. Þá talar Þorbjörn fyrir þeim,
and was-heard nothing of him Then talks Thorbjorn before them

at þeir færi undarliga: “Rekumst eptir Sveini á leið fram,
that they went strangely Drift-we after Svein on way forth
en höfum spurt at Valþjófr jarl, föður-bani minn, er skamt
but have-we learned that Valthjof earl father's-slayer my is short
héðan með litla sveit manna. Ok ef þér vilit fara at honum
from-here with little band of-men And if you will go at him
með mér, þá vil ek því heita yðr, at mér skal eigi
with me then will I that promise you that with-me shall not
fara sem Sveini, at ek gjöra yðr hlut-ræníngja, ef oss berr
go as with-Svein that I make you share-robbed if to-us bears
herfang í hendr; þvíat fé þat, er vér fám, skolu þér
plunder into hands because money that which we get shall you
hafa; en skipta mér því einu til handa er þér vilit; þvíat
have but allot to-me that alone to hands which you wish because
mér þykkir betri frægð en fé.” Eptir þat fóru þeir þar til
to-me seems better fame than money After that went they there till
er Valþjófr jarl var á veizlu; ok tóku hús á þeim, ok báru
when Valthjof earl was at a-feast and took house on them and bore
þegar eld at. Þeir Valþjófr hljópu til duranna, ok spurðu
at-once fire to They Valthjof ran to the-doors and asked
hverr fyrir eldinum réði. Þorbjörn sagði til sín. Valþjófr
who over the-fire ruled Thorbjorn told of himself Valthjof
bauð bætr fyrir víg Þorsteins; en Þorbjörn kvað
offered compensation for (the)-slaying of-Thorstein but Thorbjorn said
ekki þurfa um sættir at leita. Þeir Valþjófr vörðust
not to-need about settlements to seek They Valthjof defended-themselves
vel um hríð. En er eldrinn sótti þá, hljópu þeir út; ok
well for a-while But when the-fire pressed them ran they out and
varð þá skamt um vörn þeirra, þvíat þeir vóru þrekaðir
was then short about defense their because they were exhausted
mjök af eldi. Féll þar Valþjófr jarl ok þrír tigir manna með
much by fire Fell there Valthjof earl and three tens of-men with

honum. Þar fengu þeir Þorbjörn fé mikit; ok hélt hann
him There got they Thorbjorn money much and held he
öll heit sín drengiliga við sína menn. Fóru þeir eptir þat
all promises his manfully toward his men Went they after that
út í Orkneyjar á fund Rögnvalds jarls; ok lét hann vel
out to Orkney to (the)-meeting of-Rognvald earl and let he well
yfir þeirra erindi. Var þá kyrt í Eyjunum ok friðr góðr.
over their errand Was then quiet in the-Isles and peace good
Í þenna tíma bjó í Vigr í Orkneyjum Kolbeinn hrúga,
In this time lived in Wyre in Orkney Kolbein Heap
Norænn maðr, ok var hit mesta afar-menni. Hann lét þar
a-Norse man and was the greatest mighty-man He let there
gjöra stein-kastala góðan; var þat öruggt vígi. Kolbeinn
make a-stone-castle good was that a-safe stronghold Kolbein
átti Herbjörgu systur Hákonar barns; en móðir þeirra var
had Herbjorg sister of-Hakon Child but mother their was
Sigríðr dóttir Herborgar Pálsdóttur. Þessi vóru börn þeirra:
Sigrid daughter of-Herborg Pal's-daughter These were children their
Kolbeinn karl, Bjarni skáld, Sumarliði, Áslákr, Fríða. Þau
Kolbein Karl Bjarni Poet Sumarlidi Aslak Frida They
vóru öll mikilsháttar.
were all of-great-account

LXXXIX · RÖGNVALDR'S VERSES

Rögnvaldr, bound for Jerusalem, was wrecked on Shetland; he made verses there and with Oddi the Little and Ármóðr.

Í þann tíma réðu synir Haralds gilla í Noregi. Þeir Ingi
In that time ruled (the)-sons of-Harald Gilli in Norway They Ingi
ok Sigurðr vóru börn at aldri. Þá völdust lendir menn
and Sigurd were children in age Then were-chosen landed men
til ráðu-neytis við þá bræðr. Var Eysteinn þeirra elztr.
for counsel with those brothers Was Eystein their eldest
En Íngi var skilgetinn, ok höfðu lendir menn á honum
But Ingi was legitimate and had landed men on him
mestar virðíngar; lét hann þá ráða öllu því er þeir vildu.
most esteem let he then rule all that which they wished
Í þenna tíma höfðu þessir lendir menn mest ráð með
In this time had these landed men most counsel with
honum: Ögmundr ok Erlíngr, synir Kyrpínga-Orms. Þeir
him Ogmund and Erling sons of-Kyrpinga-Orm They
gjörðu þat ráð með Ínga konúngi, at hann skyldi senda
made that counsel with Ingi king that he should send
orð Rögnvaldi jarli, ok veita honum sæmiligt heimboð.
word to-Rognvald earl and give him an-honorable home-invitation
Sögðu, sem satt var, at jarl hafði verit mikill vin föður
Said-they as true was that (the)-earl had been a-great friend of-father
hans; ok báðu hann gjöra sér við jarl sem kærast, svá
his and bade him make himself with (the)-earl as dearest so
at [hann] væri hans vin meiri en bræðra hans, hvat sem
that he were his friend more than of-brothers his what as
í kynni at gjörast með þeim. Jarl var frændi þeirra
in might to happen between them (The)-earl was kinsman of-those
bræðra ok hinn mesti vin þeirra. En er þessi orð kómu
brothers and the greatest friend their But when these words came
til Rögnvalds jarls, veikst hann við skjótt, ok bjó ferð
to Rognvald earl turned he with-it quickly and prepared journey
sína; þvíat hann var fúss at fara til Noregs, at finna frændr
his because he was eager to go to Norway to meet kinsmen

sína ok vini. Til þessar ferðar beiddist Haraldr jarl fyrir
his and friends For this journey asked Harald earl for
forvitnis sakir ok skemtanar; hann var þá fjórtán eðr fimtán
curiosity's sake and of-entertainment he was then fourteen or fifteen
vetra gamall. Ok er jarlar vóru búnir, fóru þeir vestan
winters old And when (the)-earls were ready went they from-the-west
með kaupmönnum; ok höfðu sæmiligt föruneyti; ok kómu
with merchants and had honorable company and came
um várit snemma til Noregs. Fundu þeir Ínga konúng í
in the-spring early to Norway Found they Ingi king in
Björgyn; tók Ingi konúngr allvel við þeim. Fann Rögnvaldr
Bergen took Ingi king very-well with them Found Rognvald
jarl þar marga vini sína ok frændr; dvaldi hann þar um
earl there many friends his and kinsmen stayed he there in
sumarit mjök lengi. Þat sumar kom útan af Mikla-garði
the-summer much long That summer came out from Miklagard
Eindriði úngi; hann hafði þar verit lengi á mála; kunni
Eindridi (the)-Young he had there been long in pay could
hann þeim þaðan at segja mörg tíðindi; ok þótti mönnum
he them thence to tell many tidings and seemed to-men
skemtan at spyrja hann útan ór heimi. Jarl talaði
entertainment to ask him out from (the)-world (The)-earl talked
jafnan við hann. Ok eitt-hvert sinn er þeir töluðu, þá mælti
often with him And some time when they talked then spoke
Eindriði: "Þat þykki mér undarligt, jarl, er þú vill eigi fara
Eindridi That seems to-me strange earl that you will not go
út í Jórsala-heim, ok hafa eigi sagnir einar til þeirra tíðinda,
out to Jerusalem-world and have not tales only of those tidings
er þaðan eru at segja. Er slíkum mönnum bezt hent þar
which thence are to tell Is for-such men best fitting there
sakir yðvarra lista; muntú þar bezt virðr sem þú kemr
for-sake of-your accomplishments will-you there best esteemed where you come

með tígnum mönnum.” Ok er Eindriði hafði þetta mælt,
with noble men And when Eindridi had this spoken
fluttu þetta margir aðrir með honum; ok eggjuðu, at hann
urged this many others with him and egged that he
skyldi gjörast fyrirmaðr at ferð þessi. Erlíngr lagði hér
should become leader of journey this Erling laid here
mörg orð til; ok sagði, at hann mundi ráðast í ferðina, ef
many words to and said that he would venture on the-journey if
jarl vildi gerast fyrirmaðr. Ok er þessa fýstu svá göfgir
(the)-earl wished to-become leader And when this urged so noble
menn, þá hét jarl ferðinni. Ok er þeir jarl ok
men then promised (the)-earl the-journey And when they (the)-earl and
Erlíngr réðu þetta með sér, þá völdust margir göfgir
Erling decided this between themselves then were-chosen many noble
menn til þessar ferðar. Þessir lendir menn: Eindriði úngi
men for this journey These landed men Eindridi (the)-Young
skal leið segja, Jón Petrsson, Áslákr Erlendsson, Guðormr
shall way tell Jon Petr's-son Aslak Erlend's-son Guthorm
Maulu-kollr af Hálogalandi. Svá var mælt, at engi þeirra
Maulu-Koll from Halogaland So was spoken that none of-them
skyldi meira skip hafa en þrítögt at rúma-tali, nema
should bigger ship have than thirty-benched in room-count except
jarl; ok engi skyldi hafa búit skip nema hann. Því skyldi
(the)-earl and none should have decked ship but he That should
svá gjöra, at engi skyldi annan öfunda fyrir þat, at sitt lið
so do that none should another envy for that that his troop
eðr skip hefði betr búit, annarr heldr en annarr. Jón fótr
or ship had better equipped one rather than another Jon Foot
skal gjöra láta jarli útfarar-skip, ok vanda sem mest.
shall make let for-(the)-earl a-voyage-ship and elaborate as most

Rögnvaldr jarl fór heim vestr um haustið, ok ætlaði at sitja
Rognvald earl went home west in the-autumn and intended to sit
tvá vetr í ríki sínu. Íngi konúngr gaf jarli langskip tvau
two winters in realm his Ingi king gave (the)-earl longships two
heldr lítil ok einkar-fögr, ok gjör mest til róðrar, ok vóru allra
rather small and very-fair and made most for rowing and were of-all
skipa skjótust. Rögnvaldr jarl gaf Haraldi jarli annat skipit;
ships swiftest Rognvald earl gave to-Harald earl (the)-other the-ship
þat hét Fífa, en annat hét Hjálp. Þessum skipum héldu
that was-called Fifa but the-other was-called Hjalp With-these ships held
jarlar vestr um haf. Rögnvaldr jarl hafði ok þegit stór-gjafir
(the)-earls west over sea Rognvald earl had also received great-gifts
af vinum sínum. Þat var Týrsdags-kveld, er jarlar létu í
from friends his That was Tuesday-evening that (the)-earls let to
haf; ok sigldu allgóðan byr um náttina; ok tók vindr at
sea and sailed very-good wind in the-night and began (the)-wind to
vaxa. Miðvikudag var stormr mikill, en Þórsdags-nóttina urðu
grow Wednesday was storm great but Thursday-night became
þeir við land varir. Þá var myrkr mikit. Þeir sá boða-slóðir
they of land aware Then was darkness great They saw breaker-tracks
öllum-megin hjá sér. Þeir höfðu áðr samfloti haldit. Þá
on-all-sides by them They had before company held Then
var engi kostr annarr en sigla til brots báðum skipunum;
was no choice other than to-sail to wreck both the-ships
ok svá gjörðu þeir. Þar var urð fyrir, en lítið forlendi; en
and so did they There was scree before but little foreshore but
hamrar hit efra. Þar héldust menn allir, en týndu fé
crags the upper-part There were-saved men all but lost goods
miklu; sumt rak upp um náttina. Rögnvaldr jarl bargst þá
much some drove up in the-night Rognvald earl bore-himself then
enn allra manna bezt, sem jafnan. Hann var svá kátr, at
yet of-all men best as always He was so merry that

hann lék við fingr sína, ok orti nær við hvert orð. Hann
he played with fingers his and composed near with each word He
dró fingr-gull af fingri sér með vörrunum; ok kvað vísu:
drew a-finger-gold from finger his with the-lips and recited verse

> “Hengi ek hamri kríngðan
> *Hang I with-hammer ringed*
> hanga rjúpu tangar
> *of-(the)-hanging ptarmigan of-tongs*
> grímnis sylgs á gálga
> *of-Grimnir buckle on (the)-gallows*
> ginnúng brúar linna:
> *(the)-deceiver of-(the)-bridge of-serpents*
> Svá hefir gló-raddar gladdan
> *So has (the)-glow-voice's gladdened*
> gagl-fellis mik þella
> *of-gosling-feller me (the)-pine*
> lóns at ek leik við mínar
> *of-(the)-lagoon that I play with my*
> lautir hellis-gauta.”
> *hollows of-cave-Goths*

Ok er þeir höfðu upp borit föngin, fóru þeir á land at
And when they had up borne the-goods went they on land to
leita bygða; þvíat þeir þóttust vita, at þeir mundu
seek settlements because they thought-themselves to-know that they would
við Hjaltland komnir. Þeir fundu brátt bæi. Ok er þá skipt
by Shetland come They found soon farms And is then divided

mönnum í bygðir. Þar urðu menn jarli fegnir, er hann
men into settlements There became men of-(the)-earl glad when he
kom; ok spurði húsfreyja at um ferðir hans. Jarl kvað vísu:
came and asked (the)-housewife at about journeys his (The)-earl recited verse

"Brast þá er boði lesti
Broke then when (the)-breaker damaged
(bauð hrönn skaða mönnum,
offered (the)-wave harm to-men
sút fékk veðr it váta
grief got (the)-weather the wet
vífum) Hjálp ok Fífu:
women Hjalp and Fifa
Sékk at sjá man þykkja
See-I that this will seem
snar-lyndra för jarla
of-swift-minded journey of-earls
(sveit gat vás at vísu
band got of-hardship at certainty
vinna) höfð at minnum."
to-work had in memories

Húsfreyja bar skinnfeld at jarli fyrir skikkju. Hann tók
(The)-housewife bore a-fur-cloak to (the)-earl for a-mantle He took
við hlæjandi; ok rétti hendr á móti; ok kvað:
with-it laughing and stretched hands in against-it and recited

"Skékk ek skinnfeld hrokkinn;
Shake I fur-cloak shaggy
skraut er mitt afar-lítið;
finery is my very-little

stœrir, sá er stendr yfir órum,
enlarges he who stands over oars
stafn-völlr, yfirhöfnum:
stem-plain overcoats
Nærgi er enn af úrgum
Never-yet is still from wet
ál-vangs mari gangim
of-eel-plain steed walk-we
(brim rak hest við hamra
surf drove horse against crags
húns) skrautligar búnir."
of-(the)-mast splendidly dressed

Þá vóru gjörvir fyrir þeim eldar stórir; ok bökuðust þeir
Then were made before them fires big and warmed-themselves they
við eldana. Ása hét heima-kona; Hón gékk út til vatz,
by the-fires Asa was-called a-home-woman She went out for water
ok önnur kona með henni. En [er] þær kvomu til vatzins,
and another woman with her But when they came to the-water
steyptist Ása í brunninn í fjúkinu; en hon hljóp heim kalin
plunged Asa into the-well in the-snowdrift but she ran home frozen
mjök, ok mælti í skjálptanum; ok skildu menn eigi hvat
much and spoke in the-shivering and understood men not what
hon mælti. Jarl kveðst skilja túngu hennar; ok kvað:
she spoke (The)-earl said-himself to-understand tongue her and recited

"Dúsið ér, en Ása,
Doze you but Asa
atatata! liggr í vatni;
atatata lies in water

hutututu! hvar skal ek sitja
hutututu where shall I sit
(heldr er mér kalt) við eldinn?"
rather is to-me cold by the-fire

Jarl sendi menn sína tólf til Einars í Gullberu-vík; en
(The)-earl sent men his twelve to Einar in Gulberwick but
hann lézt eigi mundu við þeim taka nema jarl kæmi
he said-himself not would with them take unless (the)-earl came
sjálfr. Ok er Rögnvaldr jarl spyrr þetta, þá kvað hann:
himself And when Rognvald earl learns this then recited he

"Ala kveðst Einarr vilja
Feed says-he Einar to-wish
engan Rögnvalds drengja,
none of-Rognvald lads
(mér fellr Gauts á góma:
to-me falls of-Gaut on (the)-gums
gjálfr) nema jarlinn sjálfan:
(the)-surge but the-earl himself
Veit ek at vazt í heitum;
Know I that wet in hot
var hann þekkr fírum ekki;
was he pleasing to-men not
inn gékk ek þar er brunnu
in went I there where burned
eldar síð á kveldum."
fires late in evenings

Sá atburðr varð einn dag suðr í Dynrastar-vági á
That event happened one day south in Dunrossness-bay in
Hjaltlandi, at einn bóndi gamall ok félítill beið lengi skipanar
Shetland that one farmer old and poor waited long for-crew
sinnar, en allir bátar aðrir réru út, hverr sem búinn varð. Þá
his but all boats others rowed out each as ready became Then
kom maðr at enum gamla bónda í hvítum kofli; ok spurði
came a-man to the old farmer in a-white cowl and asked
hví hann réri eigi til fiskjar sem aðrir menn. Bóndi segir,
why he rowed not to fishing as other men (The)-farmer says
at skipan hans var eigi komin. "Bóndi," segir koflmaðr,
that crew his was not come Farmer says (the)-cowl-man
"viltú at ek róa með þér?" "Vil ek þat," segir bóndi; "en
will-you that I row with you Wish I that says (the)-farmer but
þó vil ek hafa hlut af skipi mínu; þvíat ek á börn mörg
yet will I have share from ship my because I have children many
heima, ok starfa ek fyrir þeim slíkt er ek má." Síðan réru
at-home and toil I for them such as I can Then rowed
þeir út fyrir Dynrastar-höfða, ok fyrir innan Hundhólma. Þar
they out past Dunrossness-head and on within Hundholm There
var straum-mikit, er þeir sátu, ok iður stórar; skyldi sitja
was current-strong where they sat and eddies big should sit
í iðunni, en fiskja ór röstinni. Koflmaðr sat í hálsi, ok
in the-eddy but fish out-of the-race (The)-cowl-man sat in (the)-bow and
andæfði; en bóndi skyldi fiskja. Bóndi bað hann gæta,
held-against but (the)-farmer should fish (The)-farmer bade him watch
at þá bæri [eigi] í röstina; kvað þá við váða búit vera.
that them bore not into the-race said then with danger ready to-be
Koflmaðr fór ekki at hvat [er] hann sagði; ok hirti eigi,
(The)-cowl-man went not at what that he said and heeded not
þótt bóndi kæmi í nökkura raun. Litlu síðarr bar þá
though (the)-farmer came into some trial Little later bore them

í röstina; ok varð bóndi hræddr mjök, ok mælti: “Aumr
into the-race and became (the)-farmer afraid much and spoke Wretched
var ek ógiptu minnar, er ek tók við þér í dag til róðrar;
was I of-ill-luck my when I took with you in day to rowing
þvíat ek mun hér deyja; en lið mitt er heima bjarglaust,
because I will here die but household my is at-home helpless
ok allt á fátæki ef ek látumk.” Ok varð bóndi svá hræddr,
and all in poverty if I perish And became (the)-farmer so afraid
at hann grét; ok hann uggði bana sínn. Koflmaðr svarar:
that he wept and he feared death his (The)-cowl-man answers
“Ver kátr, bóndi, ok grát eigi; þvíat sá mun okkr ór draga
Be merry farmer and weep not because he will us-two out-of draw
röstinni, er okkr lét í koma.” Síðan réri koflmaðr ór
the-race who us-two let in come Then rowed (the)-cowl-man out-of
röstinni, ok varð bóndi því all-feginn. Þá réru þeir at
the-race and became (the)-farmer of-that very-glad Then rowed they to
landi, ok settu upp bátinn. Ok bað bóndi koflmanninn
land and set up the-boat And bade (the)-farmer the-cowl-man
at ganga til ok skipta fiskum. En koflmaðr bað bónda
to go to and divide fish But (the)-cowl-man bade (the)-farmer
at skipta, sem honum líkaði; kvezk eigi vilja hafa meirr
to divide as him pleased said-himself not to-wish have more
en þriðjung sinn. Þar var mart manna komit til strandar,
than third his There was many men come to (the)-shore
bæði karlar ok konur, ok mart fátækt folk. Koflmaðr gaf
both men and women and many poor folk (The)-cowl-man gave
fátækum mönnum alla þá fiska er hann hafði hlotið um
to-poor men all those fish which he had got in
daginn; ok bjóst síðan til brotferðar. Þar var at ganga
the-day and made-ready then for going-off There was to go
upp á brekku eina; ok sátu konur margar í brekkunni.
up on slope one and sat women many on the-slope

En er hann gekk upp í brekkuna, spratt hónum fótr,
But when he went up onto the-slope slipped him (the)-foot
er hált var af regni; ok féll hann ofan ór brekkunni.
because slippery was from rain and fell he down from the-slope
Kona ein sá þetta fyrst, ok hló mjök at hónum; ok
A-woman one saw this first and laughed much at him and
síðan annat fólk. En er koflmaðr heyrði þetta, kvað hann:
then other folk But when (the)-cowl-man heard this recited he

"Skelk aflar Sif silkis
Mockery procures Sif of-silk
svinn at umbúð minni;
wise at attire my
hlær stórum mun meira
laughs greatly by-much more
mær en fallit væri:
(the)-maid than fitting were
Fár kann jarl (en árla
Few know (the)-earl but early
ör-lyndr) at siá gjörla
open-handed to see clearly
(hlunns dró ek eik af unnum
of-(the)-roller drew I oak from waves
áðr) í fiski-váðum."
before in fishing-clothes

Síðan fór koflmaðr í brott; ok urðu menn þess seinna
Then went (the)-cowl-man off away and became men of-that later
varir, at þessi koflmaðr hafði verit Rögnvaldr jarl. Er þat
aware that this cowl-man had been Rognvald earl Is that
ok síðan mörgum manni kunnigt orðit, at þau hafa mörg
also since to-many a-man known become that they have many

verit hans brögð, er bæði vóru hjálpsamlig fyrir Guði, ok
been his tricks which both were helpful before God and
skemtilig fyrir mönnum. Menn kenndu ok orðs-kvið þann,
entertaining before men Men knew also proverb that
er stóð í vísunni, at "Fár kennir jarl í fiski-váðum."
which stood in the-verse that Few know (the)-earl in fishing-clothes
Jarl dvaldist mjök lengi á Hjaltlandi; ok fór um haustið
(The)-earl stayed much long in Shetland and went in the-autumn
suðr til Orkneyja, ok sat í ríki sínu. Þat haust kómu til
south to Orkney and sat in realm his That autumn came to
hans Íslenzkir menn tveir; hét annarr Ármóðr ok var
him Icelandic men two was-called one Armod and was
skáld, annarr Oddi hinn litli Glúmsson, Breiðfirzkr maðr,
a-poet (the)-other Oddi the Little Glum's-son a-Breidafjord man
ok orti enn vel. Jarl tók við þeim báðum til hirðvistar.
and composed also well (The)-earl took with them both to court-lodging
Jarl hafði Jóla-boð mikit, ok bauð mönnum til, ok gaf
(The)-earl had Yule-feast great and invited men to and gave
gjafir. Hann rétti gullrekit spjót at Ármóði skáldi, ok
gifts He held-out a-gold-inlaid spear at Armod (the)-poet and
skelfdi við, ok bað hann yrkja vísu á móti. Ármóðr kvað:
shook with-it and bade him compose a-verse in against-it Armod recited

"Eigi metr inn ítri
Not values the glorious
allvaldr gjafar skáldi
all-ruler gifts to-(the)-poet
yggs við aðra seggi
of-Ygg with other men
él-stœrir mér fœra:
storm-enlarger to-me to-bring

Snjallr bar glæst með golli
Bold bore bright with gold
grundar-vörðr at mundum
of-(the)-ground-warden at hands
buðlúngr nýztr it bezta
prince most-useful the best
blóð-kerti Ármóði."
blood-candle to-Armod

Þat var einn dag um Jólin, at menn hugðu at tjöldum. Þá
That was one day over the-Yule that men looked at tapestries Then
mælti jarl við Odda hinn litla: "Kveð vísu um athöfn
spoke (the)-earl to Oddi the Little Speak a-verse about (the)-doing
þess manns, er þar er á tjaldinu, ok haf þú kveðna þína
of-that man who there is on the-tapestry and have you spoken your
vísu þá er ek hefi lokit minni vísu; haf ok engi þau
verse then when I have finished my verse have also no those
orð í þinni vísu, er ek [hefi] minni vísu." Jarl kvað:
words in your verse which I have my verse (The)-earl recited

"Lætr um öxl sá er útar
Lets about shoulder he who outermost
aldrænn stendr á tjaldi
aged stands on (the)-tapestry
sigr-freyr Svölnis vára
victory-Frey of-Svolnir coats
slíðr-vönd ofan ríða:
sheath-wand down ride

Eigi mun þó at Ægis
Not will yet that of-Aegir
ör-beiðanda reiðist
arrow-asker grow-angry
blik-ruðr böðvar jökla
gleam-clearer of-battle glaciers
bein-rangr framarr ganga.”
bone-crooked further go

Oddi kvað:
Oddi recited

“Stendr ok hyggr at höggva
Stands and thinks to strike
herði-lútr með sverði
shoulder-bent with a-sword
band-álfr beiði-rindi
band-elf at-(the)-asker-woman
baldr við dyrr á tjaldi:
a-hero by (the)-door on (the)-tapestry
Fírum mun hann með hjörvi
To-men will he with sword
hættr; — nú er mál at sættist
dangerous now is time that be-reconciled
hlœðendr hleypi-skíða
(the)-loaders of-leaping-skis
hlunns áðr geigr sé unninn.”
of-(the)-roller before harm be done

Þat var einn dag, at óðr maðr varð lauss ór böndum,
That was one day that a-mad man became loose from bonds
ok hljóp at Rögnvaldi jarli; ok greip til hans, svá fast,
and leapt at Rognvald earl and gripped to him so hard
at jarlinn rataði mjök svá til falls. Þá kvað jarl vísu:
that the-earl staggered very-much so to falling Then recited (the)-earl verse

"Fékk í fylkis skikkju
Got on (the)-prince's cloak
fang-ramligr slangi;
grip-strong a-lout
rekkr réð hart at hnykkja
(the)-fellow began hard to jerk
hildingi fé-mildum:
(the)-war-king money-generous
Sterkr var stála-Bjarki,
Strong was steel-Bjarki
staka kvóðu menn nakvað;
couplet said men something
afl hefir eggja skyflir
strength has of-edges (the)-clearer
orðvandr fyrir hyggjandi."
word-careful for (the)-thinking

Jarl hafði ok Vilhjálm biskup í boði sínu of Jólin
(The)-earl had also Vilhjalm bishop at feast his over the-Yule
ok marga gæðinga sína. Þá gjörði hann ok bert of
and many retainers his Then made he also plain about
ráða-gjörðir sínar, at hann ætlaði ór landi, ok út til
plans his that he intended out-of (the)-land and out to
Jórsala-heims. Bað hann biskup til ferðar með sér.
Jerusalem-world Bade he (the)-bishop to (the)-journey with himself

Biskup var Paris-klerkr; ok vildi jarl einkum at hann
(The)-bishop was a-Paris-clerk and wished (the)-earl especially that he
væri túlkr þeirra. Biskup hét ferðinni.
were interpreter their (The)-bishop promised the-journey

XC · PREPARATIONS FOR THE VOYAGE

Rögnvaldr and Erlingr gathered the fleet in Bergen; Eindriði's ship broke on Shetland. Sveinn killed Árni Spit-Leg, and Rögnvaldr left Haraldr in charge of the islands.

Þessir menn réðust til ferðar með Rögnvaldi jarli:
These men betook-themselves to (the)-journey with Rognvald earl
Magnús son Hávarðs Gunnasonar, ok Sveinn Hróaldsson;
Magnus son of-Havard Gunni's-son and Svein Hroald's-son
þeir vóru skipstjórnar-menn báðir. Þessir fóru af inum
they were ship-captains both These went of the
minnum svá at nefndir sé: Þorgeirr sava-kollr. Oddi inn
lesser so that named be Thorgeir Sava-Koll Oddi the
litli, Þorbjörn svarti ok Armóðr; þessir vóru skáld jarls.
Little Thorbjorn (the)-Black and Armod these were poets of-(the)-earl
Þá vóru þessir menn: Þorkell krókauga; ok Grímkell af
Then were these men Thorkel Crook-Eye and Grimkel from
Glettunesi; ok Blían son Þorsteins af Flyðrunesi. — Ok
Glaitness and Blian son of-Thorstein from Flydruness And
er þessir tveir vetr vóru liðnir, er þeir skyldu til búnaðar
when these two winters were passed which they should for preparation
hafa, fór Rögnvaldr jarl ór Orkneyjum snemma of várit
have went Rognvald earl out-of Orkney early in the-spring
ok austr til Noregs; ok vildi vita hvat þeim liði inum
and east to Norway and wished to-know what to-them passed the

lendum mönnum um búnaðinn. Ok þá er jarl kom til
landed men about the-preparation And then when (the)-earl came to
Björgynjar, vóru þeir þar fyrir Erlíngr skakki ok Jón fótr,
Bergen were they there before Erling Crooked and Jon Foot
mágr jarls. Þar var ok Áslákr kominn; en Guðþormr
brother-in-law of-(the)-earl There was also Aslak come but Guthorm
kom litlu síðarr. Þar var ok skip þat fyrir bryggjum,
came little later There was also ship that before (the)-wharves
er Jón hafði látið gjöra jarli; var þat hálf-fertögt
which Jon had let make for-(the)-earl was it thirty-five-benched
at rúma-tali ok vandat forkunnar mjök at smíð; ok búit
in room-count and elaborate exceedingly much in building and decked
allt; ok gulli lagt allir enni-spænir ok veðrvitar, ok víða
all and with-gold laid all forehead-plates and weather-vanes and widely
annars-staðar búit. Var skipit in mesta gersimi þess-konar.
elsewhere decorated Was the-ship the greatest treasure of-that-kind
Eindriði kom jafnan til bæjarins of sumarit; ok segir æ,
Eindridi came always to the-town in the-summer and says ever
at hann mundi ina síðari viku búinn. En menn létu illa
that he would the next week ready But men took-it ill
er þeir þurfti at bíða svá lengi. Vildu sumir at eigi væri
when they needed to wait so long Wished some that not were
beðit hans; ok sögðu, at menn höfðu slíkar ferðir farit,
waited-for him and said that men had such journeys gone
þótt eigi væri Eindriði í ferð. Ok nokkuru síðarr kom
though not were Eindridi on (the)-journey And somewhat later came
Eindriði til bæjarins, ok kallaðist þá búinn; bað jarl
Eindridi to the-town and called-himself then ready bade (the)-earl
þá sigla þegar er honum þætti byrvænligt. Ok er sá
then sail at-once when him seemed fair-wind-likely And when that
dagr kom at þeim þótti leiði gott, lögðu þeir ór
day came that to-them seemed sailing-wind good put they out-of

bænum, ok tóku til segla. Var heldr veðr-lítið; gekk skipit
the-town and took to sails Was rather weather-little went the-ship
jarls lítið, því at þat þurfti byr mikinn. Aðrir höfðingjar
of-(the)-earl little for that it needed wind great Other chieftains
minkuðu siglíngina, ok vildu eigi sigla undan jarli. Ok
reduced the-sailing and wished not to-sail away-from (the)-earl And
er þeir drógust út of eyjarnar, tók at hvessa veðrit;
when they drew out about the-islands began to blow-hard the-weather
gjörðist þá svá hvast, at þeir urðu at svipta seglunum á
became then so hard that they had to strike the-sails on
inum smærum skipunum; en jarls skip tók þá at ganga
the smaller ships but (the)-earl's ship began then to go
mikit. Þá sá þeir sigla eptir sér tvau skip mikil, ok
much Then saw they sail after themselves two ships big and
gengu þegar eptir þeim ok um þá fram. Þat skip var
went at-once after them and about them forward That ship was
annat vandat mjök, þat var dreki; var bæði höfuðin, ok
one elaborate much it was a-dragon were both the-heads and
krókar aptr, mjök gullbúit; þat var hlýr-birt, ok steint allt
hooks aft much gold-adorned it was bow-bright and painted all
fyrir ofan sjó þat er bæta þótti. Jarls-menn mæltu,
on above (the)-sea that which ornament seemed Earl's-men spoke
at þar mundi Eindriði fara, "Ok hefir hann þat lítt haldit
that there would Eindridi go And has he that little held
er fyrir mælt var, at engi skyldi búit skip hafa, nema
which before spoken was that none should decked ship have but
þér, herra." Jarl segir: "Mikill er ofsi Eindriða. Nú
you lord (The)-earl says Great is (the)-arrogance of-Eindridi Now
er þat várkunn, at hann vili ekki við oss jafnast, svá mjök
is that excusable that he will not with us be-equal so much
sem vér erum van-farnir hjá honum; en vant er þat at
as we are ill-equipped beside him but difficult is that to

sjá, hvárt gæfan ferr fyrir honum eðr eptir; skulu vér ekki
see whether the-luck goes before him or after shall we not
skapa ferð vára eptir ákefðum hans." Bar þá Eindriða skjótt
shape journey our after eagernesses his Bore then Eindridi quickly
undan fram á inu meira skipinu. En jarl hélt samfloti
away forward on the greater ship But (the)-earl held company
skipum sínum; ok fórst þeim vel. Kómu þeir um haustið
with-ships his and fared to-them well Came they in the-autumn
til Orkneyja með heilu ok höldnu. Þat var þá ráðit, at þeir
to Orkney with whole and held That was then decided that they
mundi þar sitja um vetrinn; sátu sumir á sínum kostnaði,
would there sit in the-winter sat some at their-own cost
en sumir vóru með bóndum, en margir með jarli. — Í
but some were with farmers but many with (the)-earl In
Eyjunum var sveim-mikit um vetrinn, ok skildi á Austmenn
the-Isles was stir-much in the-winter and parted on Eastmen
ok Orkneyínga um kaup ok um kvenna-mál, ok mart varð
and Orkneymen about trading and about women-matters and much became
þeim til. Bar jarl þar mikinn vanda at gæta til með
to-them to Bore (the)-earl there great difficulty to take-care to between
þeim, er hvárir-tveggju þóttust honum eiga allt gott at
them since each-of-the-two thought-themselves him to-owe all good to
launa, ok all[s] góðs frá honum verðir. — Frá þeim Eindriða
repay and of-all good from him worthy About them Eindridi
er þat at segja, at þeir kómu við Hjaltland; ok braut hann
is that to tell that they came by Shetland and broke he
þar it góða skip í spán, ok týndi miklu fé; en it minna
there the good ship into splinters and lost much money but the smaller
skip hélzt. Eindriði var um vetrinn á Hjaltlandi, ok sendi
ship held Eindridi was in the-winter in Shetland and sent
menn austr til Noregs, at láta gjöra sér útfarar-skip.
men east to Norway to let make for-himself a-voyage-ship

Maðr hét Árni spýtu-leggr, skipveri Eindriða, hann fór
A-man was-called Arni Spit-Leg shipmate of-Eindridi he went
suðr í Orkneyjar of vetrinn ok þeir félagar tíu. Árni var
south to Orkney in the-winter and they companions ten Arni was
ójafnaðar-maðr mikill, ok hraustr maðr. Þeir félagar sátu á
overbearing-man great and bold man They companions sat at
sínum kostnaði í eyju einni of vetrinn. Árni kaupir malt
their-own cost in island one in the-winter Arni buys malt
ok slátr-fé at landseta Sveins Ásleifarsonar; en er hann
and slaughter-cattle from a-tenant of-Svein Asleif's-son but when he
heimti verðit, dró Árni þat undan. Ok í annat sinn er
demanded the-price withheld Arni it off And at another time when
hann heimti, vóru honum goldin afaryrði; ok áðr þeir skildi,
he demanded were him paid insults and before they parted
laust Árni hann öxarhamars-högg; ok mælti þetta: "Far nú,
struck Arni him axe-hammer-blow and spoke this Go now
ok seg garpnum Sveini er þú hætir jafnan, ok lát hann
and tell the-champion Svein whom you threaten always and let him
rétta þinn hlut; eigi muntu meira við þurfa." Húsbóndinn
right your share not will-you more with need The-householder
fór, ok segir Sveini, ok bað at hann mundi rétta hlut
went and tells Svein and bade that he would right share
hans. Sveinn svarar fá um, ok lézt engu kunna at
his Svein answers little about-it and said-himself nothing to-know to
heita um þat. Þat var einn dag um várit, at Sveinn fór
promise about that That was one day in the-spring that Svein went
at landskyldum sínum; þeir vóru fjórir á áttæringi. Leið
to land-dues his they were four on an-eight-oared-boat Way
þeirra lá hjá eyju þeirri, er þeir Árni sátu í; ræddi hann
their lay by island that which they Arni sat in talked he
um Sveinn, at þeir mundi at leggja; en fjara var á mikit.
about-it Svein that they would to put-in but ebb was on much

Sveinn gekk up [einn], ok hafði hand-öxi í hendi ok ekki
Svein went up alone and had a-hand-axe in hand and no
fleira vápna. Hann bað þá gæta skips, svá at eigi fjaraði
more weapons He bade them watch (the)-ship so that not it-ebbed
uppi. Þeir Árni sátu í skemmu einni skamt frá sænum.
up They Arni sat in a-storehouse one short from the-sea
Sveinn gekk til skemmunnar, ok inn. Þeir Árni vóru þar inni
Svein went to the-storehouse and in They Arni were there inside
fimm, ok heilsuðu Sveini; hann tók kveðju þeirra, ok ræddi
five and greeted Svein he took greeting their and talked
um við Árna, at hann skyldi greiða mál hans búandans.
about-it with Arni that he should settle (the)-case his of-the-tenant
Árni kvað gott tóm at því vera. Sveinn bað hann gjöra fyrir
Arni said good leisure to that be Svein bade him do for
sín orð, at greiða málit. Árni kvaðst þar ekki mundu fyrir
his words to settle the-case Arni said-himself there not would for-it
gjöra. Sveinn kvaðst lítils mundu um beiða; ok í því
do Svein said-himself little would about-it ask and at that
setti hann öxina í höfuð Árna svá at á hamri stóð, ok
set he the-axe in (the)-head of-Arni so that on (the)-hammer stood and
varð honum laus öxin. Sveinn hljóp út; en förunautar Árna
became to-him loose the-axe Svein ran out but companions of-Arni
tóku til hans, en sumir hljópu eptir Sveini ofan á leiruna.
took to him but some ran after Svein down onto the-mud-flat
Hljópu þeir svá eptir fjörunni, ok varð einn skjótastr. Var
Ran they so along the-foreshore and became one swiftest Was
þá [í] hendíngum með þeim Sveini. Þönglar stórir lágu
then in reach between them Svein Seaweed-stalks big lay
í fjörunni í leirinu. Sveinn greip upp einn þöngulinn,
in the-foreshore in the-mud Svein grabbed up one the-stalk
ok rak í andlitið þeim er næst honum var með leirinu
and drove into the-face of-him who nearest him was with the-mud

öllu. Þessi greip til augnanna báðum höndum, ok þerði ór
all This-one grabbed to the-eyes with-both hands and wiped out
leirinn. En Sveinn dró undan til skips síns, ok fór heim í
the-mud But Svein drew away to ship his and went home to
Gareksey til bús síns. Litlu síðarr fór Sveinn yfir á Nes
Gairsay to farm his Little later went Svein over to (the)-Ness
at örindum sínum. Hann sendi orð Rögnvaldi jarli, at
on errands his He sent word to-Rognvald earl that
hann skyli sættast á víg Árna spýtu-leggs. Ok þegar er
he should settle on (the)-slaying of-Arni Spit-Leg And as-soon as
honum kómu þessi orð, stefndi hann til sín öllum þeim,
to-him came these words summoned he to himself all those
er eptirmál áttu um víg Árna; ok samdi við þá, svá
who suit had about (the)-slaying of-Arni and agreed with them so
at þeim hugnaði; ok hélt sjálfr bótum upp. Marga úspekt
that them pleased and held himself compensations up Many outrages
aðra bætti jarl með sínu fé, þá er þar var gjör of
other atoned (the)-earl with his money those which there were done over
vetrinn bæði af Austmönnum ok Orkneyingum, þvíat þeir
the-winter both by Eastmen and Orkneymen because they
höfðu all-illa saman gengit. Um várit snemmendis stefndi
had very-ill together gone In the-spring early summoned
jarl þing fjölment í Hrosseyju; kómu þangat til allir
(the)-earl assembly well-attended in Hrossey came thither to all
höfðingjar, þeir er vóru í ríki hans. Gjörði hann þá bert
chieftains those who were in realm his Made he then plain
fyrir þeim, at hann ætlaði ór landi út til Jórsala-heims;
before them that he intended out-of (the)-land out to Jerusalem-world
segir at hann mundi ríki sitt í hendr fá Haraldi jarli
says that he would realm his into hands give to-Harald earl
Maddaðarsyni frænda sínum. Bað hann þess, at allir skyldu
Maddad's-son kinsman his Bade he that that all should

fylgja honum sem manndómligast, hvers sem hann kunni
follow him as most-manfully of-whatever which he might
við at þurfa, meðan hann væri í brottu. Haraldr jarl var
with to need while he were off away Harald earl was
þá nær tvítögum manni. Hann var mikill maðr vexti,
then nearly a-twenty-year-old man He was a-big man in-growth
ok sterkr, ljótr maðr ok vel vitr, ok þótti mönnum hann
and strong ugly man and well wise and seemed to-men him
vænligr til höfðíngja. Þorbjörn klerkr hafði þá mest landráð
promising for chieftain Thorbjorn Clerk had then most rule
með honum fyrst er Rögnvaldr jarl fór ór Orkneyjum.
with him first when Rognvald earl went out-of Orkney

XCI · ERMINGERÐR OF NARBONNE

The fleet sailed to Narbonne, where Queen Ermingerðr feasted Rögnvaldr; he and his poets made verses about her.

Rögnvaldr jarl bjóst um sumarit ór Orkneyjum; ok
Rognvald earl made-ready in the-summer out-of Orkney and
varð heldr síð-búinn; þvíat þeir urðu lengi at bíða Eindriða,
became rather late-ready because they had long to wait-for Eindridi
er skip hans kom eigi austan ór Noregi þat er hann
when ship his came not from-the-east from Norway that which he
hafði gjöra látið um vetrinn. En er þeir vóru búnir, héldu
had make let in the-winter But when they were ready held
þeir á brott ór Orkneyjum fimtán stór-skipum. Þessir
they off away out-of Orkney with-fifteen big-ships These
vóru þar skipstjórnar-menn: Rögnvaldr jarl, Viljalmr biskup,
were there ship-captains Rognvald earl Vilhjalm bishop

Erlíngr skakki, Áslákr Erlendsson, Guðþormr, Mjólu-Kollr af
Erling Crooked Aslak Erlend's-son Guthorm Mjolu-Koll from
Hálogalandi, Magnús Hávarðsson, Sveinn Hróaldsson, Eindriði
Halogaland Magnus Havard's-son Svein Hroald's-son Eindridi
úngi, Jón Petrsson fótr; ok þeir fimm er eigi eru nefndir;
(the)-Young Jon Petr's-son Foot and those five who not are named
þeir vóru menn Eindriða. Þeir sigldu ór Orkneyjum, ok
they were men of-Eindridi They sailed out-of Orkney and
suðr til Skotlands, ok svá til Englands. Ok er þeir sigldu
south to Scotland and so to England And when they sailed
fyrir Norðimbraland fyrir Humruminni kvað Ármóðr vísu:
past Northumberland off Humber-mouth recited Armod verse

"Hrönn var fyrir Humru-mynni,
(The)-wave was off Humber-mouth
háleit þar er vér beitum;
high there where we beat
sveigir lauk, en lægjast
bends (the)-leek but lower
lönd fyrir Veslu-söndum:
lands off Wesla-sands
Eigi drífr í augu
Not drives into eyes
alda lauðri faldin
(the)-swell with-foam crested
(drengr ríðr þurr af þingi)
(the)-fellow rides dry from (the)-assembly
þeim er nú sitr heima."
to-him who now sits at-home

Þeir sigldu þaðan suðr fyrir England ok til Vallands. Ekki
They sailed thence south past England and to France Not
er sagt frá ferðum þeirra, fyrr en þeir koma til sæborgar
is said about journeys their earlier than they come to (the)-sea-town
þeírrar er Narbon hét. Þar var þat til tíðinda, at
that which Narbonne was-called There was that for tidings that
jarl sá, er fyrir hafði ráðit staðnum, var andadr; hann
(the)-earl that who over had ruled the-town was dead he
hét Germanus. Hann átti eptir dóttur eina únga ok fríða
was-called Germanus He had behind daughter one young and fair
er Ermingerðr hét. Hon varðveitti þá föðurleifð sína með
who Ermingerd was-called She guarded then inheritance her with
ráði inna göfgustu manna, frænda sinna. Þeir gjörðu þat
counsel of-the noblest men kinsmen her They made that
ráð með drotníngu, at hon skyldi bjóða jarli til veizlu
counsel with (the)-queen that she should invite (the)-earl to a-feast
virðiligrar; sögðu at við þat mundi hon fræg verða, ef hon
worthy said that by that would she famous become if she
fagnaði vel svá göfgum mönnum þeim er svá langt vóru til
welcomed well so noble men those who so far were to
komnir, ok enn mundu víða bera frægð hennar. Drotníng bað
come and yet would widely carry fame her (The)-queen bade
þá fyrir þessu sjá. Ok er þetta var ráðit fyrir þeim, vóru
them for this see And when this was decided for them were
sendir menn til jarls, ok sagt at drotníng byði honum til
sent men to (the)-earl and said that (the)-queen invited him to
veizlu með svá mikit fjölmenni sem hann vill til hafa sótt.
a-feast with so great multitude as he will to have brought
Jarl tók því þakksamliga; valdi hann allt lið sitt it bezta
(The)-earl took it thankfully chose he all troop his the best
til þessar ferðar með sér. Ok er þeir kómu til veizlunnar,
for this journey with himself And when they came to the-feast

var þar inn bezti fagnaðr, ok engi hlutr sparaðr til sá er
was there the best welcome and no thing spared to that which
jarli var þá meiri sómi en áðr. Þat var einn dag er
to-(the)-earl was then greater honor than before That was one day when
jarl sat at veizlunni, at drotníng gekk inn í höllina,
(the)-earl sat at the-feast that (the)-queen went in into the-hall
ok margar konur með henni; hon hafði borðker í hendi af
and many women with her she had a-table-cup in hand of
gulli. Hon var klædd inum beztum klæðum, hafði laust hárit,
gold She was dressed in-the best clothes had loose the-hair
sem meyjum er títt at hafa, ok hafði lagt gullhlað um
as for-maidens is customary to have and had laid a-gold-band about
enni sér. Hon skenkti jarli; en meyjarnar léku fyrir þeim.
forehead her She poured-for (the)-earl but the-maidens played before them
Jarl tók hönd hennar með kerinu, ok setti hana í kné
(The)-earl took hand her with the-cup and set her on knee
sér; ok töluðu [þau] mart um daginn. Þá kvað jarl vísu:
his and talked they much over the-day Then recited (the)-earl verse

“Víst er at frá ber flestu
Surely is that from bears most
Fróða meldrs at góðu
of-Frodi meal at good
vel-skúfaðra vífa
of-well-tasseled women
vöxtr þinn, konan svinna:
growth your woman wise

Skorð lætr hár á herðar
(The)-prop lets hair on shoulders
hauk-vallar sér falla
of-hawk-field herself fall
(át-gjörnum rauð ek erni
to-food-eager reddened I eagle
ilka) gult sem silki."
of-(the)-sole yellow as silk

Jarl dvaldist þar mjök lengi í all-góðum fagnaði.
(The)-earl stayed there much long in very-good welcome
Staðar-menn fýstu jarl at staðfestast þar; ok mæltu mjök
(The)-town-men urged (the)-earl to settle there and spoke much
á veðr um, at þeir mundi gipta honum frúna. Jarl
on weather about-it that they would marry to-him the-lady (The)-earl
kvaðst fara vilja ferð þá, er hann hafði ætlat; en
said-himself to-go to-wish journey that which he had intended but
kvaðst koma mundu þar, er hann færi aptr; ok mundu
said-himself to-come would there when he went back and would
þau þá gjöra ráð sín sem þeim líkaði. Eptir þat býst
they then make plans their as them pleased After that makes-ready
jarl á brott þaðan með föruneyti sínu. Ok er þeir
(the)-earl off away thence with company his And when they

sigldu vestr fyrir Þrasnes, hafa þeir byr góðan. Sátu þeir
sailed west past Thrasnes have they wind good Sat they
þá ok drukku ok vóru all-kátir. Þá kvað jarl vísu:
then and drank and were very-merry Then recited (the)-earl verse

"Orð skal Ermingerðar
(The)-word shall of-Ermingerd
ítr drengr muna lengi,
splendid fellow remember long
brúðr vill rökk at ríðim
(the)-bride wishes surely that we-ride
Rán-heim til Jórdánar:
Ran's-home to Jordan
En er aptr fara runnar
But when back go (the)-bushes
unn-viggs of haf sunnan
of-wave-steed over sea from-the-south
rístum heim at hausti
cut-we home in autumn
hval-frón til Nerbónar."
whale-land to Narbonne

Þetta kvað Ármóðr:
This recited Armod

"Ek mun Ermingerði,
I will Ermingerd
nema önnur sköp verði,
unless other fates become
(margr elr sorg of svinna),
many-a-one nurses sorrow over (the)-wise
síðan alldri finna:
later never find
Væra ek sæll ef ek svæfa
Were I blessed if I slept
(sýn væri þat gæfa)
plain were that luck
(brúðr hefir all-fagrt enni)
(the)-bride has very-fair forehead
eina nótt hjá henni."
one night by her

Oddi inn litli kvað vísu:
Oddi the Little recited verse

"Trautt eru vér, sem ek vætti,
Hardly are we as I expect
verðir Ermingerðar;
worthy of-Ermingerd
veit ek at horsk má heita
know I that wise may be-called
hlað-grund konúngr sprunda:
(the)-lace-ground (the)-king of-women

Þvíat sómir bil bríma
Because befits (the)-Bil of-fire
bauga-stalls at allu
of-(the)-ring-stand in all
(hon lifi sæl und sólar
she live blessed under (the)-sun's
setri) miklu betra."
seat much better

XCII · GUÐIFREYR'S CASTLE

In Galicia the earl agreed to rid the people of a tyrant's castle. Guðifreyr, in disguise, spied in their camp and secretly offered Eindriði his friendship.

Þeir fóru þar til er þeir kómu vestr á Galizuland of
They went there till when they came west to Galicia in
vetrinn fyrir Jól; ok ætluðu þar at sitja of Jólin. Þeir
the-winter before Yule and intended there to sit over the-Yule They
leituðu við landsmenn, at þeir mundi setja þeim torg
sought with (the)-land-men that they would set them a-market
til matkaupa; þvíat landit var skarpt; ok íllt matland; ok
for food-buying because the-land was barren and bad food-land and
þótti landsmönnum þúngt at fæða þar her mannz. En
seemed to-(the)-land-men heavy to feed there a-host of-men But
þar var þat tíðinda, at í landinu sat höfðingi sá, er þar
there was that of-tidings that in the-land sat chieftain that who there
var útlendr, í kastala einum; ok hafði á lands-mönnum
was foreign in castle one and had on (the)-land-men
pyndíngar miklar. Hann herjaði á þá [þegar], ef þeir játtu
oppressions great He harried on them at-once if they granted

eigi öllu því er hann beiddi; bauð hann þeim it mesta
not all that which he asked offered he them the greatest
ofríki ok kúgan. Ok er jarl leitaði eptir við landsmenn
tyranny and oppression And when (the)-earl sought after with (the)-land-men
of matkaup, gjörðu þeir honum þann kost, at þeir mundi
about food-buying made they him that offer that they would
setja þeim torg framan til Föstu, en þeir skyldi ráða af
set them a-market forward to Lent but they should put from
höndum þeim kastala-mennina með nokkuru móti; ok skyldi
hands them the-castle-men with some manner and should
Rögnvaldr jarl brjóta straum fyrir, at hafa fé allt þat er
Rognvald earl break (the)-stream for-it to have money all that which
fengist af þeim. Þetta berr jarl upp fyrir sína menn,
were-got from them This bears (the)-earl up before his men
ok leitaði ráðs við þá hvern upp skal taka. En flestir
and sought counsel with them which up shall take But most
vóru fúsir at leita á kastala-menn, ok þótti þat vænligt til
were eager to try on (the)-castle-men and seemed that promising for
fé-fanga. Ok gengu þeir Rögnvaldr jarl at þeim kosti við
money-getting And went they Rognvald earl at that offer with
landsmenn. En er leið at Jólum kallar jarl sína menn á
(the)-land-men But when passed to Yule calls (the)-earl his men to
tal ok mælti: “Nú höfum vér setið hér um hríð, ok höfum
talk and spoke Now have we sat here for a-while and have
ekki átt við kastala-menn; en landsmenn letjast heldr
nothing had with (the)-castle-men but (the)-land-men grow-reluctant rather
á kaupum við oss; þykki mér sem þeir hugsi at þat verði
on trading with us seems to-me as-if they think that that become
lokleysa, sem vér hétum þeim; er þat þó ekki drengiligt, at
idle-talk which we promised them is that yet not manly to
leita ekki við þat er vér höfum heitið. Nú vil ek, Erlingr
seek not at that which we have promised Now will I Erling

frændi, hafa ráð við yðr hvern veg vér skulum vinna
kinsman have counsel with you which way we shall win
kastalann; þvíat ek veit at þér erut hér ráðagjörðar-menn
the-castle because I know that you are here counsel-men
mestir; en þó vil ek þess biðja þá menn sem hér eru, at
greatest but yet will I that ask those men who here are that
hverr leggi til þat er líkligast er at dugi." Erlíngr svaraði
each lay to that which likeliest is that avails Erling answered
ræðu jarls: "Eigi vil ek þegja við yðru boði; en engi
(the)-speech of-(the)-earl Not will I be-silent to your bidding but no
em ek ráðagjörðamaðr; er ok heldr at kveðja at þessu þá
am I counsel-man is also rather to call to this those
menn, er fleira hafa sét, ok vanari er[u] slíkum ferðum;
men who more have seen and more-used are to-such journeys
sem er Eindriði úngi. En hér mun fara sem mælt er,
as is Eindridi (the)-Young But here will go as said is
at 'Skjóta mun verða til fugls áðr fái.' Megum vér
that Shoot will become to (the)-bird before (it)-gets May we
ok freista at gefa til nokkut ráð, fyrir hvat sem kemr.
also try to give to some counsel for whatever that comes
Skulum vér í dag, ef yðr sýnist þat eigi úráðligt eðr
Shall we in day if to-you seems that not unadvisable or
öðrum skipstjórnar-mönnum, ganga til skógar allir; ok beri
other ship-captains go to (the)-wood all and bear
hverr þrjár axl-byrðar á baki undir kastalann; þvíat mér lízt
each three shoulder-loads on back under the-castle because to-me seems
svá sem límit muni eigi traust vera, ef mikill eldr er at
so as-if the-lime will not strong be if great fire is to
borinn. Skulum vér svá láta ganga þrjá daga hina næstu, ok
borne Shall we so let go three days the next and
sjá hvat at skipast." Þeir gjörðu sem Erlíngr bauð. Ok er
see what at shapes They did as Erling bade And when

því starfi var lokit, var komit fram at Jólum. Vildi biskup
that toil was finished was come forward to Yule Wished (the)-bishop
eigi láta þeim atgöngu veita meðan Jóla-hátíðin stæði yfir.
not let them attack give while the-Yule-feast stood over
Sá höfðingi hét Guðifreyr er kastalann bygði; hann var
That chieftain was-called Godfrey who the-castle built he was
vitr maðr, ok hniginn nokkut á aldr. Hann var klerkr góðr,
a-wise man and declined somewhat in age He was a-clerk good
ok hafði farit víða, ok kunni margar túngur. Hann var
and had traveled widely and knew many tongues He was
maðr ágjarn, ok újafnaðar-maðr mikill. Hann kallar saman
a-man greedy and overbearing-man great He calls together
menn sína, er hann sá tiltekjur þeirra, ok mælti við þá:
men his when he saw doings their and spoke with them
"Þetta ráð sýnist mér vitrligt, ok oss skaðsamligt, er
This counsel seems to-me wise and to-us harmful which
Norðmenn hafa upp tekit; mun oss svá gefast, ef eldr er at
(the)-Northmen have up taken will to-us so turn-out if fire is to
borinn, at stein-veggrinn mun vera útraustr um kastalann,
borne that the-stone-wall will be unsteady about the-castle
en Norðmenn sterkir ok hraustir; munu vér eiga ván af
but (the)-Northmen strong and bold will we have expectation from
þeim snarprar orrostu, ef þeir komast í færi; vil ek nú
them of-sharp battle if they come into reach will I now
ráðast um við yðr hvern upp skal taka í þessum vanda
take-counsel about-it with you which up shall take in this difficulty
sem [at] oss er fallinn." En hans menn allir báðu hann fyrir
which on us is fallen But his men all bade him for-it
sjá. Þá tók hann til orða: "Þat er hit fysta mitt ráð: at
see Then took he to words That is the first my counsel that
þér skulut knýta um mik snæri, ok láta mik síga ofan fyrir
you shall knot about me a-rope and let me sink down over

kastala-vegginn í nótt. Skal ek hafa vánd klæði, ok fara
(the)-castle-wall in (the)-night Shall I have poor clothes and go
í herbúðir Norðmanna, ok vita hvers ek verða víss." Þetta
into (the)-camp of-(the)-Northmen and know of-what I become aware This
var ráð tekit, sem hann sagði fyrir. Ok er Guðifreyr kom
was counsel taken as he said for And when Godfrey came
til Rögnvalds jarls, ok sagðist vera stafkarl einn, ok mælti
to Rognvald earl and said-himself to-be beggar one and spoke
á Völsku; þat skildu þeir helzt. Hann fór um allar búðir,
in French that understood they most He went about all booths
ok bað sér matar. Hann skildi at með Norðmönnum
and asked for-himself food He understood that among (the)-Northmen
var öfund mikil ok sveitar-dráttr; var Eindriði fyrir annarri
was envy great and faction-drawing was Eindridi over one
en jarl fyrir annarri. Guðifreyr kom til Eindriða; ok kom
but (the)-earl over (the)-other Godfrey came to Eindridi and brought
sér í tal við hann; kærði hann fyrir honum, at höfðingi
himself into talk with him complained he before him that chieftain
sá er kastalann hélt hefði sent hann þangat; "Vill hann eiga
that who the-castle held had sent him thither Will he have
við þik félagskap; ok væntir þess, at þú munir honum grið
with you fellowship and expects that that you will him quarter
gefa, ef kastalinn verðr unninn; ann hann þér betr gersima
give if the-castle becomes won grants he you better of-treasures
sinna, ef þú vilt slíkt á mót leggja, en þeim er hann
his if you will such in against lay than to-those who him
vilja hafa at dauða-manni." Slíkt töluðu þeir ok mart annat.
will have to dead-man Such talked they and much other
En jarl var leyndr; fór þetta allt af hljóði í fyrstu. Ok
But (the)-earl was unaware went this all from silence at first And
er Guðifreyr hafði dvalizt um hríð með jarls-mönnum, þá
when Godfrey had stayed for a-while with earl's-men then

snöri hann aptr til sinna manna. En því fluttu þeir ór
turned he back to his men But therefore moved they out-of
kastalanum ekki þat er þeir áttu, at þeir vissu eigi hvárt
the-castle nothing that which they owned that they knew not whether
atlagan mundi takast; þeir máttu ok ekki trúa landsfólkinu.
the-attack would succeed they might also not trust the-land-folk

XCIII · THE CASTLE STORMED

They burned the castle walls with wood fires and took it, but Guðifreyr escaped, they suspected with Eindriði's help. They harried Spain, and Eindriði parted from them at the Straits.

Þat var tíunda dag Jóla, er Rögnvaldr jarl stóð upp.
That was (the)-tenth day of-Yule when Rognvald earl stood up
Var veðr gott. Bað hann þá menn sína vápnast, ok lét
Was weather good Bade he then men his arm and let
blása liðinu upp [til] kastalans. Drógu þeir þá viðinn at,
blow the-troop up to the-castle Drew they then the-wood to
ok hlóðu bál umhverfis veggina. Skipaði jarl mönnum
and piled a-pyre around the-walls Assigned (the)-earl men
til atgöngu, hvar hverigir skyldu at ganga. Jarl gengr
to (the)-attack where each should at go (The)-earl goes
at sunnan með Orkneyínga; Erlíngr ok Áslákr vestan;
at from-the-south with (the)-Orkneymen Erling and Aslak from-the-west
Jón ok Guðþormr austan; Eindriði úngi norðan, með
Jon and Guthorm from-the-east Eindridi (the)-Young from-the-north with

sínar sveitir. Ok er þeir vóru búnir til atsóknar, slógu
their bands And when they were ready for attack struck
þeir eldi í bálið. Þá kvað jarl.
they fire into the-pyre Then recited (the)-earl

"Vín bar hvítt hin hreina
Wine bore white the pure
hlað-nipt alin-driptar;
lace-kinswoman of-(the)-ell-drift
sýndist fegrð, er fundust
seemed beauty when met
ferðir, Ermingerðar:
(the)-ways of-Ermingerd
Nú tegask öld með eldi
Now prepares (the)-folk with fire
eljun-frœkn at sœkja
energy-bold to attack
(ríða snörp or slíðrum
ride sharp out-of sheaths
sverð) kastala-ferðir."
swords castle-journeys

Þeir taka nú at sækja fast at bæði með eldi ok vápnum.
They take now to attack hard at both with fire and weapons
Skutu þeir þá hart í virkit; þvíat eigi mátti annarri
Shot they then hard into the-fortification because not might other
atsókn við koma. Kastala-menn stóðu laust á vegginum;
attack with come (The)-castle-men stood loosely on the-wall
þvíat þeir urðu at gæta sín við skotum. Þeir steyptu ok
because they had to guard themselves against shots They poured also
út brennanda biki ok brennu-steini; ok varð jarls-mönnum
out burning pitch and brimstone and became to-earl's-men

lítið mein at því. Fór þat svá sem Erlíngr gat, at
little harm from that Went that so as Erling guessed that
kastala-veggrinn hrundi fyrir eldinum, er límit þoldi eigi; ok
the-castle-wall fell before the-fire since the-lime bore-it not and
urðu á stór hlið. Sigmundr öngull hét hirðmaðr jarls;
became on big gaps Sigmund Angle was-called a-retainer of-(the)-earl
hann var stjúpson Sveins Ásleifar-sonar; hann var drengiligr
he was stepson of-Svein Asleif's-son he was a-manly
maðr, ok þó eigi allt full-vaxinn. Hann sótti einna manna
man and yet not wholly full-grown He attacked of-all men
fastast at kastalanum, ok gekk jafnan fram fyrir jarlinn. Ok
hardest at the-castle and went always forward before the-earl And
er atsókn hafði verit um hríð, þá hrukku allir menn af
when (the)-attack had been for a-while then shrank all men from
kastala-vegginum. Veðr var á af suðri, ok lagði reykinn at
the-castle-wall Wind was on from (the)-south and laid the-smoke at
þeim Eindriða. Ok þá er eldrinn tók sem fastast at sækja,
them Eindridi And then when the-fire began as hardest to press
lét jarl bera vatn í, ok kæla grjótið þat er brunnit var.
let (the)-earl bear water in and cool the-stone that which burned was
Ok var þá hvíld á atsókninni. Rögnvaldr jarl kvað þá vísu:
And was then rest in the-attack Rognvald earl recited then verse

"Muna mun ek Jól þau er ólumst
Remember will I Yule that when were-nursed
austr gjaldkera hraustum,
east by-(the)-steward bold
Ullr! at Egða-fjöllum
(the)-Ull at Agdir-fells
und-leygs með Sölmundi:
of-wound-flame with Solmund

Nú görig enn of önnur
Now make-I again over another
jafn-glaðr sem ek var þaðra
equal-glad as I was there
sverðs at sunnan-verðum
of-(the)-sword at southern
svarm kastala-barmi."
swarm castle-rim

Ok enn kvað hann:
And again recited he

"Unða ek vel þá er vanðisk
Was-content I well then when grew-used
vín-eik tali mínu,
(the)-wine-oak to-talk my
(gæfr var ek Völsku vífi)
gentle was I to-(the)-French woman
ván-laust á hausti:
hopeless in autumn
Nú göri'g enn, þvíat unnum
Now make-I again because love-we
ætt-góðu vel fljóði,
to-(the)-high-born well woman
(grjót verðr laust at láta
stone becomes loose to let
lím-sett) ara mettan."
lime-set (the)-eagle sated

Þá kvað Sigmundr öngull:
Then recited Sigmund Angle

"Ér berit aptr er órar
You bear back when our
orð þau skögul borða
words those of-(the)-Skogul of-boards
fjall-rifs fægi-þellu
mountain-reef's polish-pine
fley-vangs til Orkneyja:
of-ship-plain to Orkney
At engr þar er slög súngu
That no-one there where blows sang
seggr und kastala veggi[um],
man under castle walls
ár þótt ellri væri
early though older were
ítr drengr framarr gengi."
splendid fellow further went

Eptir þat réð jarl til uppgöngu ok Sigmundr öngull.
After that undertook (the)-earl to (the)-ascent and Sigmund Angle
Varð þar lítil viðrtaka; ok kómust þeir í kastalann. Var
Was there little resistance and got they into the-castle Was
þar mart manna drepit; en þeir er lífit þágu, gáfu sik
there many men killed but they who the-life received gave themselves
upp í vald jarli. Þar tóku þeir mikit fé; en
up into (the)-power to-(the)-earl There took they much money but
ekki fundu þeir höfðíngjann, ok nær enga dýrgripi. Var þá
not found they the-chieftain and almost no treasures Was then
þegar mikil umræða, hversu Guðifreyr mundi hafa undan
at-once great talk how Godfrey would have away

komizt. Höfðu þeir þá þegar hinn mesta grun á Eindriða
come Had they then at-once the greatest suspicion on Eindridi
únga, at hann mundi honum hafa undan skotið, ok
(the)-Young that he would him have away shot and
mundi hann hafa farit brott með reyk til skógar.
would he have gone away with (the)-smoke to (the)-wood
Eptir þetta dvöldust þeir Rögnvaldr jarl skamma stund á
After this stayed they Rognvald earl short while in
Galiciu-landi; ok héldu vestr fyrir Spán. Þeir herjuðu víða
Galicia-land and held west past Spain They harried widely
um Spánland hit heiðna, ok fengu þar mikit fé. Þeir
about Spain-land the heathen and got there much money They
runnu upp í þorp eitt, sem jarl sagði þeim. En þeir
ran up into village one as (the)-earl told them But they
er bygðu þorpit, hljópu saman ok réðu til bardaga. Var
who settled the-village ran together and undertook to battle Was
þar hart viðrnám, ok flýðu landsmenn at lyktum, en mart
there hard resistance and fled (the)-land-men at (the)-end but many
var drepit. Þá kvað jarl vísu:
was killed Then recited (the)-earl verse

“Væni’g, (út á Spáni
Expect-I out in Spain
var skjótt rekinn flótti,
was quickly driven (the)-rout
flýði margr af mæði
fled many from weariness
men-lundr) konu fundar:
necklace-tree of-woman meeting

Því erum vær at vóru
Therefore are we in truth
væn hljóð kveðin þjóðum,
fair sounds spoken to-peoples
(valr tók völl at hylja)
(the)-slain took (the)-field to cover
verðir Ermingerðar."
worthy of-Ermingerd

Eptir þat sigldu þeir vestr fyrir Spán, ok fengu þar storm
After that sailed they west past Spain and got there storm
mikinn; ok lágu þar þrjá daga um akkeri, svá at þeir
great and lay there three days at anchor so that they
höfðu all-mikit vás; ok lagði nær at þeir mundi brjóta
had very-much hardship and came near that they would break
skipin. Þá kvað jarl:
the-ships Then recited (the)-earl

"Skalk-a-ek hryggr í hreggi,
Shall-not-I sad in (the)-storm
hlín! meðan strengr ok lína
lady while string and line
svörðr fyrir snekkju borði
sward before (the)-ship's board
sal-teigar brestr eigi:
of-(the)-hall-meadow breaks not

Því réð ek hvít at heita
Therefore undertook I white to promise
hör-skorð, er ek fór norðan,
flax-prop when I went from-the-north
(vindr berr snart at sundi
(the)-wind bears quickly to (the)-sound
súð-mar,) konu prúðri."
plank-steed to-(the)-woman proud

Eptir þat undu þeir segl sín, ok beittu út at Nörva-sundum
After that wound they sails their and beat out to (the)-Straits-of-Gibraltar
all-þveran byr. Þá kvað Oddi hinn litli:
with-very-cross wind Then recited Oddi the Little

"Hafði hollvinr lofða
Had (the)-loyal-friend of-men
hinn er mjöð drekkr inni
he who mead drinks inside
sunda-logs með sveigi
of-sound-flame with (the)-bender
sjau dægr muni hægri:
seven half-days by-much easier
En ríklundaðr rendi
But (the)-mighty-minded ran
Rögnvaldr með lið skjaldat
Rognvald with troop shielded
hesti halli glæstum
on-horse slanting bright
hlunns at Nörva-sundum."
of-(the)-roller at (the)-Straits-of-Gibraltar

Ok er þeir beittu at sundinu, kvað jarl vísu:
And when they beat to the-sound recited (the)-earl verse

"Vindr hefir Völsku sprundi
(The)-wind has to-(the)-French woman
vetrar-stund frá mundum
winter-time from hands
(út berum ás at beita)
out bear-we (the)-beam to beat
austrænn skotið flaustum:
eastern shot ships
Verðum vér at gyrða
Must we to gird
vánar-hart fyrir Spáni,
hope-hard off Spain
(vindr rekr snart at sundi
(the)-wind drives quickly to (the)-sound
Sviðris) við rá miðja."
of-Svidrir at (the)-yard middle

Þeir sigldu í gegnum Nörva-sund, ok tók þá at hægja veðrit. Ok þá er þá bar ór sundunum, þá skildist Eindriði úngi frá föruneyti jarls með sex skipum. Sigldi hann yfir hafit til Marseliar; en þeir Rögnvaldr jarl lágu eptir við sundin; ok töluðu menn mart um, at Eindriði hefði nú sjálfr skírslu til gjört, hvárt hann hefði Guðifrey undan
They sailed in through (the)-Straits-of-Gibraltar and began then to calm the-weather And then when them bore out-of the-straits then parted Eindridi (the)-Young from (the)-company of-(the)-earl with six ships Sailed he over the-sea to Marseille but they Rognvald earl lay behind by the-straits and talked men much about-it that Eindridi had now himself proof to made whether he had Godfrey away

komit. Jarl lét þá vinda segl sín, sigldu þeir á haf, ok
brought (The)-earl let then wind sails their sailed they to sea and
stefndu hit syðra með Serklandi. Þá kvað Rögnvaldr jarl:
steered the southern-way along Serkland Then recited Rognvald earl

"Landi víkr (en leika
(The)-land recedes but plays
lögr tær á við fögrum,
(the)-sea's toes on wood fair
síð mun seggr at hróðri
late will (the)-man to praise
seina) norðr at einu:
slow north at one
Þenna ríst ek með þunnu
This furrow I with thin
(þýtr jarðar-men) barði
roars earth's-necklace prow
einum út frá Spáni
alone out from Spain
öfund-krók í dag hróki."
envy-crook in day rook

Ekki er getið um ferð þeirra jarls, fyrr en þeir koma
Not is mentioned about journey of-them (the)-earl earlier than they come
suðr fyrir Serkland; ok lágu í nánd Sardínar-ey; ok
south off Serkland and lay in (the)-vicinity of-Sardinia and
vissu ekki til landa. Þann-veg var veðri farit, at
knew nothing of lands That-way was with-(the)-weather gone that
á lögðust logn mikil, þokur ok silægjur; — þá var
on laid-themselves calms great fogs and drizzles then was
ljós nótt, — ok sá þeir nær ekki frá skipum, ok fórst
light night and saw they almost nothing from (the)-ships and fared

þeim því seint. Þat var einn morgin at af lypti þokunni.
to-them therefore slowly That was one morning that off lifted the-fog
Stóðu menn upp, ok lituðust um. Þá spurði jarl, ef
Stood men up and looked about Then asked (the)-earl if
menn sæi nökkut tíðenda. Þeir kvóðust ekki sjá, nema
men saw anything of-tidings They said-they nothing to-see but
eyjar tvær, lítlar ok sæbrattar. Ok er þeir sá til eyjanna
islands two little and sea-steep And when they looked to the-islands
í annat sinn; þá var horfin önnur eyin. Þetta sögðu
in (the)-second time then was vanished one the-island This told
þeir jarli. Hann tók til orða: "Þat munu engar eyjar verit
they (the)-earl He took to words That will no islands been
hafa; þat munu vera skip þau er menn hafa út híngat í
have that will be ships those which men have out hither into
heim, er þeir kalla Drómunda; eru þau skip svá mikil
(the)-world which they call Dromonds are those ships so big
sem hólmar til at sjá. En þar er annarr drómundrinn
as islets to to see But there where (the)-other the-dromond
hefir legit, þar mun lagzt hafa á vindr á hafit, ok munu
has lain there will laid-itself have on wind on the-sea and will
þeir hafa siglt á brott. En þessir munu vera farandi menn;
they have sailed off away But these will be traveling men
annat-hvárt kaupmenn, eðr fara annan veg at örendum
one-or-other merchants or go another way on errands
sínum." Eptir þat lætr jarl kalla til sín biskup ok alla
their After that lets (the)-earl call to himself (the)-bishop and all
skipstjórnar-menn. Tók hann þá til orða: "Yðr kveð ek at
ship-captains Took he then to words You call I to
þessu, herra biskup, ok Erlíng frænda minn: Sjái þér nokkut
this lord bishop and Erling kinsman my See you any
ráð eðr efni vár, at vér megim nokkurn sigr á þeim
counsel or means our that we may some victory on them

vinna, er á drómundinum eru?" Biskup svarar: "Torvelt get
win who on the-dromond are (The)-bishop answers Difficult guess
ek yðr verða at leggja langskipin undir drómundinn, þvíat
I to-you to-become to lay the-longships under the-dromond because
þér munut eigi geta betr en krækt breiðöxi á borðit; en
you will not be-able better than hooked broad-axe onto the-gunwale but
þeir munu hafa brennu-stein ok vellanda bik, at færa undir
they will have brimstone and boiling pitch to bring under
fætr yðr ok yfir höfuð. Megu þér sjá, jarl, svá vitr sem þér
feet your and over head May you see earl so wise as you
erut, at þat er hin mesta úfæra at leggja lið sitt ok
are that that is the greatest impassable-course to lay troop your and
sjálfan sik í svá mikla hættu." Þá tók Erlíngr til orða:
self yourself into so great danger Then took Erling to words
"Herra biskup," segir hann, "líkligt er þat, at þér munit
Lord bishop says he likely is that that you will
þetta gjörst kunna at sjá, at úsigrvænligt mun vera
this most-clearly know to see that unpromising-of-victory will be
at leggja at þeim. En þann veg hyggst mér at, þótt vér
to lay at them But that way thinks-itself to-me that though we
freistim at leggja undir drómundinn, at mér þykkir vera
try to lay under the-dromond that to-me seems be
mega, at hinn mesta vápna-burðinn beri út af skipunum
may that the greatest weapon-carrying bears out from the-ships
várum, ef vér síbyrðum við. En ef eigi er svá, þá megum
our if we lay-alongside with-it But if not is so then may
vér skjótt frá leggja, þvíat þeir munu ekki elta oss á
we quickly from lay because they will not chase us on
drómundinum." Jarl tók til orða: "Þetta er drengiliga
the-dromond (The)-earl took to words This is manfully
mælt, ok nær mínu skaplyndi. Vil ek þat nú bert gjöra
spoken and near my temper Will I that now plain make

fyrir skipstjórnar-mönnum ok allri alþýðu, at hverr
before ship-captains and all (the)-common-people that each
maðr skal búast í sínu rúmi, ok vápna sik með hinum
man shall make-ready in his room and arm himself with the
beztum föngum. Síðan skulum vér leggja at þeim. En ef þeir
best gear Then shall we lay at them But if they
eru kristnir kaupmenn, þá er kostr at gjöra frið við þá;
are Christian merchants then is choice to make peace with them
en ef þeir eru heiðíngjar, sem mik varir, þá mun almáttigr
but if they are heathens as me expects then will almighty
guð vilja veita oss þá miskunn, at vér munum vinna sigr
God will grant us that mercy that we will win victory
á þeim. En af herfangi því er vér fám, þar skulum vér
over them But of plunder that which we get there shall we
fá fátækum mönnum hinn fimmtöganda penning." Eptir þat
give to-poor men the fiftieth penny After that
brutu menn upp vápn sín, ok víg-gyrðluðu skip sín, ok
broke men up weapons their and battle-girded ships their and
bjoggust um eptir þeim efnum, sem þeir höfðu til.
made-ready about-it according-to those means which they had to-it
Skipar jarl til, hvar hverigir skyldu at leggja. Greiddu
Assigns (the)-earl to-it where each should to lay Made
þeir þá atróðr, ok lögðu at sem vaskligast.
they then onset and laid at as most-valiantly

XCIV · THE DROMOND

Off Sardinia they hewed into a Saracen dromond and took it. Erlingr's neck wound named him Crooked; Auðunn the Red boarded first; the treasure burned.

En er þeir sá þat, er á drómundinum vóru, at skipin
But when they saw that who on the-dromond were that the-ships
röru at þeim, ok menn ætluðu til atsóknar við þá,
rowed at them and men intended to attack against them
tóku þeir pell ok dýrgripi, ok báru út á borðin, ok
took they velvets and treasures and bore out onto the-gunwales and
gerðu þá háreysti mikit; ok þótti jarls-mönnum sem þeir
made then outcry great and seemed to-earl's-men as-if they
eggjaði Norðmenn á hendr sér. Rögnvaldr jarl lagði sitt
egged (the)-Northmen on hands themselves Rognvald earl laid his
skip aptr með drómundinum á stjórn-borða, en Erlíngr á
ship aft along the-dromond on (the)-starboard but Erling on
bak-borða aptr þar. Þeir Jón ok Aslákr [lögðu] fram á
(the)-larboard aft there They Jon and Aslak laid forward on
sitt borð hvárr; en aðrir um mitt skip á bæði borð;
his-own side each but others about mid ship on both sides
ok síbyrðu við öllum skipunum. Ok er þeir kómu undir
and lay-alongside with all the-ships And when they came under
drómundinn, var hann svá borðhár at þeir máttu ekki
the-dromond was it so high-sided that they might not
vápnum við koma. En þeir steyptu loganda brennu-steini
with-weapons at come But they poured burning brimstone
ok loganda biki yfir þá. Ok var þat svá sem Erlíngr gat
and burning pitch over them And was that so as Erling guessed
til, at mestan vápna-burðinn bar út af skipunum; ok
to that (the)-most weapon-carrying bore out from the-ships and
þurftu þeir ekki at hlífa sér þannig er vissi inn at
needed they not to shield themselves that-way who faced in toward
drómundinum. En þeir er vóru á annat borð, höfðu
the-dromond But they who were on (the)-other side had
skjöldu yfir höfðum sér, ok hlífðu sér þannig. Ok er
shields over heads their and shielded themselves thus And when

þeim ortist ekki á um sóknina, lagði biskup frá sitt
to-them prospered nothing on about the-attack laid (the)-bishop off his
skip ok tva[u] önnur; ok völdu þeir þangat bogmenn sína;
ship and two others and chose they thither bowmen their
ok lögðu þeir í skotmál, ok skutu þaðan á drómundinn;
and laid they within shot-range and shot thence at the-dromond
ok var sú þá mest atsóknin. Færðu þeir þá við hlífarnar;
and was that then greatest the-attack Moved they then at the-shields
en hugsuðu lítt um hvat er þeir höfðust at, er undir
but thought little about what that they did on who under
drómundinn höfðu lagt. Rögnvaldr jarl hét þá á sína
the-dromond had laid Rognvald earl called then on his
menn, at þeir skyldu taka öxar sínar, ok höggva borðin
men that they should take axes their and hew the-gunwales
á drómundinum þar er minst væri járna-farit á. En er
on the-dromond there where least were iron-plated on But when
menn á öðrum skipunum sá athöfn jarls-manna, tóku þeir
men on (the)-other ships saw (the)-doing of-earl's-men took they
ok slíkt ráð. Þar er þeir Erlíngr höfðu at lagt, hékk
also such counsel There where they Erling had to laid hung
akkeri mikit á drómundinum, ok var krækt fleininum á
an-anchor great on the-dromond and was hooked the-fluke onto
borðit, en leggrinn vissi ofan at skipi Erlíngs. Auðunn
the-gunwale but the-shank faced down to (the)-ship of-Erling Audun
hinn rauði hét stafnbúi Erlíngs; honum [var] lypt á
the Red was-called stem-man of-Erling to-him was lifted onto
akkeris-stokkinn. En síðan heimti hann [at] sér fleiri
(the)-anchor-stock But then summoned he to himself more
menn, svá at þeir stóðu sem þeir máttu þreyngst á
men so that they stood as they might most-crowded on
stokkinum, ok hjoggu þaðan borðin sem þeir máttu; ok
the-stock and hewed thence the-gunwales as they might and

var þat höggit miklu efst. Ok er þeir höfðu höggit svá
was that hewn much uppermost And when they had hewn so
stórar dyrr, at þeir máttu ganga inn í drómundinn, réðu
big doors that they might go in into the-dromond undertook
þeir þá til uppgöngu; ok kómu þeir jarl í hin neðri
they then to (the)-ascent and came they (the)-earl into the lower
rúmin, en þeir Erlíngr í hin efri. Ok er hvárir-tveggju
the-rooms but they Erling into the upper And when both-sides
koma upp í skipit, verðr þar orrosta bæði mikil ok hörð.
come up into the-ship becomes there battle both great and hard
Á drómundinum vóru Saraceni. — Þat köllum vér Maumets
On the-dromond were Saracens That call we Mahomet's
villumenn. Þar var mart Blámanna; ok veittu þeir hina
heretics There was many of-Black-men and gave they the
hörðustu móttöku. Erlíngr fékk þar sár mikit á hálsinn
hardest resistance Erling got there wound great on the-neck
við herðarnar, er hann hljóp upp í drómundinn. Þat gréri
by the-shoulders when he leapt up into the-dromond That healed
svá illa, at hann bar jafnan hallt höfuðit síðan. Því var
so ill that he bore always crooked the-head afterward Therefore was
hann Skakkr kallaðr. Ok er þeir kómu saman, Rögnvaldr
he Crooked called And when they came together Rognvald
jarl ok Erlíngr, hrukku Saraceni undan fram í skipit, en
earl and Erling recoiled (the)-Saracens away forward into the-ship but
jarls-menn gengu þá upp hverr at öðrum. Urðu þeir þá
earl's-men went then up each after (the)-other Became they then
fleiri, ok gengu at fast. Þeir sá, at á drómundinum var
more and went at hard They saw that on the-dromond was
einn maðr sá, at bæði var meiri ok fríðari en aðrir; þat
one man that-one that both was bigger and fairer than others that
höfðu Norðmenn fyrir satt, at sá mundi vera höfðingi
had (the)-Northmen for true that that-one would be chieftain

þeirra. Rögnvaldr jarl mælti, at þeir skyldu eigi bera vápn
their Rognvald earl spoke that they should not bear weapons
á hann, ef þeir mætti öðru-vísi fá hann. Þá báru þeir
on him if they might otherwise get him Then bore they
skjöldu at honum; ok varð svá tekinn, ok færðr síðan á
shields at him and became so taken and brought then onto
skip biskups, ok fáir menn með honum. Þeir drápu þar
(the)-ship of-(the)-bishop and few men with him They killed there
mart fólk, ok fengu mikit fé, ok margar gersimar. Þá
many people and got much money and many treasures Then
er þeir höfðu lokit hinu mesta starfi, settust þeir niðr,
when they had finished the greatest toil sat they down
ok hvíldu sik. Þá kvað jarl þetta:
and rested themselves Then recited (the)-earl this

"Erlíngr gékk, þar er okkur,
Erling went there where our
ógn-sterkr, ruðust merki,
terror-strong reddened standards
frægr með fremð ok sigri
famous with glory and victory
flein-lundr at drómundi:
dart-tree at (the)-dromond
Hlóðu vér (en víða
Laid-to we but widely
var blóð numit þjóðum,
was blood taken from-peoples
sverð ruðu snjallir fyrðar
swords reddened bold men
snörp) Blámanna görpum."
sharp on-Black-men's champions

Ok enn kvað hann:
And again recited he

"Nennu vér at vinna
Were-eager we to work
(valfall má nú kalla)
slaughter may now (one)-call
(ár hefir drengr í dreyra)
early has (the)-fellow in gore
drómund (roðit skjóma):
(the)-dromond reddened (the)-sword
Þat mun norðr ok norðan
That will north and from-the-north
nadd-regn konan fregna
spear-rain (the)-woman learn
(þjóð beið ljót af lýðum
(the)-folk suffered ugly from men
líftjón) til Nerbónar."
life-loss to Narbonne

Menn ræddu um tíðindin þessi er þar höfðu gjörzt. Sagði
Men talked about tidings these which there had happened Told
þá hverr þat er sét þóttist hafa. Ræddu menn ok um,
then each that which seen thought-he to-have Talked men also about
hverr fyrstr hafði upp gengit á drómundinn, ok urðu eigi
who first had up gone onto the-dromond and became not
á þat sáttir. Þá mæltu sumir, at þat væri úmerkiligt, at
on that agreed Then spoke some that that were unremarkable that
þeir hefði eigi allir eina sögn frá þeim stór-tíðindum. Ok
they had not all one tale about those great-tidings And

þar kom, at þeir urðu á þat sáttir, at Rögnvaldr jarl skyldi
there came that they became on that agreed that Rognvald earl should
ór skera; skyldu þeir þat allir flytja síðan. Þá kvað jarl:
out cut should they that all carry later Then recited (the)-earl

"Gekk á drómund dökkvan,
Went on (the)-dromond dark
(drengr réð snarr til fengjar)
(the)-fellow strove keen for booty
upp með ærnu kappi
up with great courage
Auðunn fyrstr inn rauði:
Audun first the Red
Þar náðu vér þjóðar
There got we of-(the)-people
(því hefir aldar guð valdit;
that has of-men God caused
bolr féll blár á þiljur)
(the)-trunk fell black on (the)-deck
blóði vápn at rjóða."
with-blood weapons to redden

Þá er þeir höfðu ruddan drómundinn, þá lögðu þeir í
Then when they had cleared the-dromond then laid they in
hann eld, ok brendu. Ok er þat sá maðrinn, sá hinn
it fire and burned And when that saw the-man that the
mikli, er þeir höfðu hertekit, brá honum við mjök, ok
big whom they had captured moved him with-it much and
gjörðist litverpr, ok mátti sik eigi kyrran hafa. En þó at
became pale and might himself not quiet hold But though that
þeir leitaði orða við hann, þá mælti hann ekki, ok engan
they sought words with him then spoke he nothing and no

veg bendi hann; ok ekki brá hann sér við, hvárt er þeir
way signed he and not moved he himself with-it whether that they
hétu honum góðu eðr illu. En þá er drómundrinn tók at
promised him good or ill But then when the-dromond began to
loga, sá þeir at svá sem logandi síor hlypi í sjóinn. Þat
blaze saw they that so as-if burning sparks ran into the-sea That
fékk mikils hinum hertokna manni. Þat höfðu þeir fyrir satt,
got much to-the captive man That had they for true
at þeir hefði úvandliga leitað fjárins; ok nú hefði runnit
that they had carelessly searched for-the-money and now had run
málmrinn í elds-ganginum, hvárt er verit hefði gull eðr silfr.
the-metal in the-fire-going whether that been had gold or silver
Þeir Rögnvaldr jarl sigldu þaðan suðr undir Serkland; ok
They Rognvald earl sailed thence south under Serkland and
lágu undir sæborg einni, ok gjörðu þar sjau nátta grið við
lay under a-sea-town one and made there seven nights' truce with
staðar-menn; ok áttu við þá kaup, ok seldu þeim mans-fólk.
town-men and had with them trade and sold them captive-folk
Engi maðr vildi kaupa hinn mikla mann. Ok eptir þat gaf
No man wished to-buy the big man And after that gave
jarl honum fararleyfi við fimta mann. Hann kom ofan
(the)-earl him going-leave with a-fifth man He came down
um morgininn eptir með sveit manna, ok sagði þeim, at
in the-morning after with band of-men and said to-them that
hann var öðlíngr af Serklandi, ok hafði þaðan verit leystr
he was a-prince from Serkland and had thence been released
með drómundinum ok öllu því fé er þar var á. Lézt
with the-dromond and all that money which there was on-it Said-he
honum ok þat vest þykkja, at þeir brendu drómundinn;
to-him also that worst to-seem that they burned the-dromond
ok fóru þar svá illa miklu fé, at engi naut: "En nú
and fared there so ill with-much money that none enjoyed-it But now

á ek mikit vald á yðru máli. Þér skulut nú frá mér
have I great power over your case You shall now from me
þess mest njóta, er þér gáfut mér líf, ok leituðut mér
of-that most enjoy that you gave me life and sought for-me
slíkrar sæmdar, sem þér máttuð; en gjarna vilda ek, at vér
such honor as you might but gladly would I that we
sæimst aldri síðan. Ok lifit nú heilir ok vel!" Eptir þat
saw-each-other never later And live now whole and well After that
reið hann á land upp. En Rögnvaldr jarl sigldi þaðan suðr
rode he on land up But Rognvald earl sailed thence south
til Krítar; ok lágu þar í ofviðri miklu. Þá kvað Armóðr
to Crete and lay there in storm great Then recited Armod
vísu, er hann hélt vörð um náttina á jarls skipi:
verse when he held watch in the-night on (the)-earl's ship

"Eigu vér, þar er vági
Have we there where (the)-wave
verpr inn um þröm stinnan,
throws in over (the)-rim stiff
(þann höfum vær at vinna,)
that have we to work
varðhald á skæ barða:
watch on (the)-steed of-prows
Meðan í nótt hjá nýtri
While in (the)-night by (the)-useful
nám-dúks hörund-mjúkri
gold-cloth's skin-soft
lókr sefr lind hinn veyki
(the)-idler sleeps (the)-linden the weak
lít ek um öxl til Krítar."
look I over shoulder to Crete

At Acre sickness struck the host, and Þorbjörn the Black died. Rögnvaldr swam the Jordan with Sigmundr Angle, and they tied knots in the brushwood, mocking the men at home.

Þeir jarl lágu undir Krít þar til er þeim gaf byr til
They (the)-earl lay under Crete there till when to-them gave wind to
Jórsala-lands, ok komu til Akrs-borgar Frjádag snemma, ok
Jerusalem-land and came to Acre Friday early and
gengu þá upp með prís miklum ok farar-blóma þeim er
went then up with pomp great and voyage-splendor that which
þar var sjald-sénn. Þorbjörn svarti orti þá vísu:
there was seldom-seen Thorbjorn (the)-Black composed then verse

"Var ek í hirð með herði
Was I in (the)-court with (the)-hardener
hjör-þeys í Orkneyjum;
of-sword-thaw in Orkney
(réð fólk-starra fæðir)
ruled (the)-folk-starling's feeder
fyrr of vetr (til styrjar):
before over winter to strife
Nú berum rönd með reyndum
Now bear-we (the)-rim with tried
raun-snarliga jarli
proof-keenly earl
ört á úrga vörtu
swiftly on wet wart
Akrs-borg Frjá-morgin."
Acre Friday-morning

Þeir jarl dvöldust í Akrs-borg um hríð. Þar kom sótt
They (the)-earl stayed in Acre for a-while There came sickness
í lið þeirra, ok önduðust margir göfgir menn. Þar
into troop their and died many noble men There
andaðist Þorbjörn svarti, lendr maðr. Oddi hinn litli kvað:
died Thorbjorn (the)-Black a-landed man Oddi the Little recited

"Báru lúng lendra manna
Bore (the)-heather of-landed men
fyrir Þrasnes Þorbjörn svarta:
past Thrasnes Thorbjorn (the)-Black
Trað hlunn-björn und höfuð-skáldi.
Trod (the)-roller-bear under (the)-chief-poet
Âta jörð [til] Akrs-borgar.
Ata's earth to Acre
Þar sá ek hann at höfuð-kirkju
There saw I him at (the)-chief-church
siklings vin sandi ausinn:
(the)-prince's friend with-sand covered
Nú þrumir grund grýtt of hánum
Now lies-still ground stony over him
sólu birt á Suðr-vegum."
by-(the)-sun bright in South-ways

Þeir Rögnvaldr jarl fóru þá ór Akrs-borg, ok sóttu alla hina
They Rognvald earl went then out-of Acre and sought all the
helgustu staði á Jórsala-landi. Þeir fóru allir til Jórdanar, ok
holiest places in Jerusalem-land They went all to (the)-Jordan and
lauguðust þar. Þeir Rögnvaldr jarl ok Sigmundr öngull lögðust
bathed there They Rognvald earl and Sigmund Angle swam

yfir ána; ok gengu þar á land, ok þangat til sem var
over the-river and went there on land and thither to where was
hrís-kjörr nokkurr, ok riðu þar á knúta stóra. Þá kvað jarl:
brushwood-thicket some and tied there on knots big Then recited (the)-earl

"Ek hefi lagða lykkju,
I have laid a-loop
leiðar-þvengs ok heiðar
of-(the)-way-thong and of-(the)-heath
(snotr minnist þess svanni)
wise remember that (the)-lady
sút, fyrir Jórdan útan:
grief past Jordan out
En ek hykk at þó þykki
But I think that yet seems
þangat langt at ganga
thither long to walk
(blóð fellr varmt á víðan
blood falls warm on wide
völl) heimdrögum öllum."
field to-home-sluggards all

Þá kvað Sigmundr:
Then recited Sigmund

"Knút mun ek þembi-þrjóti
Knot will I for-(the)-belly-churl
þeim er nú sitr heima,
for-him who now sits at-home

satt er at heldr höfum hættan,
true is that rather have-we risked
hans kind, í dag binda."
his kin in day bind

Jarl kvað:
(The)-earl recited

"Knút ríðum vit kauða,
Knot tie we-two for-(the)-churls
kom ek móðr í stað góðan,
came I weary to place good
þann í þykkum runni
that in thick bush
þessa Lafranz-messu."
this Lawrence-mass

Síðan fóru þeir aptr til Jórsala-borgar. Ok er þeir kómu
Then went they back to Jerusalem-town And when they came
útan at borginni, þá kvað Rögnvaldr jarl:
out at the-town then recited Rognvald earl

"Kross hangir þul þessum,
A-cross hangs (the)-sage this
(þjóst skyli lægt) fyrir brjósti
fury should lowered before breast
(flykkist fram á brekkur
throng forward on slopes
ferð) en pálmr meðal herða."
(the)-company but palm between shoulders

At Imbólar Erlingr fell into the mud, and Jón Foot was killed. The fleet sailed north for Miklagarðr in style, Rögnvaldr making verses.

Þeir Rögnvaldr jarl fóru um sumarit af Jórsala-landi; ok
They Rognvald earl went in the-summer from Jerusalem-land and
ætluðu norðr til Mikla-garðs; ok kómu um haustið til þess
intended north to Miklagard and came in the-autumn to that
staðar, er heitir í Imbólum. Þeir dvöldust þar mjök lengi
place which is-called in Imbolar They stayed there much long
í staðnum. Þar var þat orðtak haft í staðnum, ef menn
in the-town There was that saying had in the-town if men
gengust á móti þar er þröng var, ok þóttist annarr
went on against-each-other there where crowd was and thought one
þurfa at sá vægði göngunni, er á móti gekk, þá segir hann
to-need that he yielded the-way who on against went then says he
svá: “Miðhæfi! miðhæfi!” Þat var eitt kveld er þeir jarl
so Midhaefi midhaefi That was one evening when they (the)-earl
gengu ór bænum. Ok er Erlíngr skakki gekk út á
went out-of the-town And when Erling Crooked went out onto
bryggjuna til skips síns, gengu staðar-menn í móti honum,
the-wharf to ship his went town-men in against him
ok mæltu: “Miðhæfi! miðhæfi!” Erlíngr var drukkinn mjök,
and spoke Midhaefi midhaefi Erling was drunk much
ok lét sem hann heyrði eigi. Ok er þá bar saman, stökk
and let as-if he heard not And when them bore together leapt
Erlíngr af bryggjunni, ok ofan í leirinn, er undir var; ok
Erling off the-wharf and down into the-mud which under was and
hljópu menn hans til at draga hann upp, ok urðu at færa
ran men his to to draw him up and had to take

hann af hverju klæði, ok þvá. Um morgininn eptir, er þeir
him off each garment and wash In the-morning after when they
jarl fundust, ok honum var sagt, brosti hann at, ok kvað:
(the)-earl met and to-him was told smiled he at-it and recited

"Vill eigi vinr minn kalla,
Will not friend my call
(varð allr í drit falla),
became all into muck to-fall
(nær er í því ærin
near is in that ample
úgæfa) Miðhæfi!
ill-luck Midhaefi
Lítt hykk at þá þætti
Little think-I that then seemed
þengils mágr er hann rengðist,
(the)-prince's brother-in-law when he twisted
(leir féll grár af gauri)
mud fell gray off (the)-oaf
góligr í Imbólum."
cheerful in Imbolar

Þau tíðindi urðu nökkuru síðarr þar í staðnum, er
Those tidings happened somewhat later there in the-town when
þeir gengu ór staðnum mjök druknir, at menn Jóns fóts
they went out-of the-town much drunk that men of-Jon Foot
söknuðu hans, en einkis manns annars. Þeir sendu þegar at
missed him but of-no man other They sent at-once to
leita hans á önnur skipin um nóttina, ok fanst hann eigi;
seek him on other the-ships in the-night and was-found he not
en ekki máttu þeir hans á land upp leita um nóttina. En of
but not might they him on land up seek in the-night But in

morguninn stóðu þeir upp þegar er ljóst var, ok fundu hann
the-morning stood they up as-soon as light was and found him
skamt frá borgar-veggnum; ok var hann örendr; ok fundu þeir
short from (the)-town-wall and was he dead and found they
sár á honum. En þess varð aldregi víst hverr honum hafði
wounds on him But of-that became never certain who him had
geig veittan. Veittu þeir þá umbúnað líki hans ok gröft at
harm given Gave they then laying-out to-body his and burial at
kirkju. Eptir [þat] fóru þeir á brott þaðan. Ok er ekki getið
church After that went they off away thence And is not mentioned
of ferð þeirra, fyrr en þeir kómu norðr til Engils-ness.
about journey their earlier than they came north to Engilsness
Þar lágu þeir nokkurar nætr, ok biðu byrjar þess er
There lay they some nights and waited-for wind that which
þeim þótti góðr vera norðr eptir hafinu til Mikla-garðs. Þeir
to-them seemed good to-be north along the-sea to Miklagard They
vönduðu þá mjök siglíngina; ok sigldu þá með prís miklum,
elaborated then much the-sailing and sailed then with pomp great
sem þeir vissu at gjört hafði Sigurðr Jórsala-fari. Ok er
as they knew that done had Sigurd Jerusalem-Farer And when
þeir sigldu norðr eptir hafinu, kvað Rögnvaldr jarl vísu:
they sailed north along the-sea recited Rognvald earl verse

"Ríðum Ræfils vakri,
Ride-we Raefil's horse
rekum eigi plóg ór akri,
drive-we not (the)-plow out-of (the)-field
erjum úrgu barði,
plow-we with-wet prow
út at Mikla-garði:
out to Miklagard

Þiggjum þengils mála,
Receive-we (the)-prince's pay
þokum fram í gný stála,
press-we forward in (the)-din of-steel
rjóðum gylðis góma,
redden-we (the)-wolf's gums
gjörum ríks konúngs sóma."
make-we (the)-mighty king's honor

XCVII · THE VOYAGE HOME

Emperor Manuel received them. Rögnvaldr returned overland by Rome to Norway. Erlingr Crooked became the most powerful man in Norway, and Eindriði was later killed by him.

Þá er þeir Rögnvaldr jarl kómu til Mikla-garðs, var þeim þar
Then when they Rognvald earl came to Miklagard was them there
vel fagnat af stól-konúngi ok Væríngjum. Þá [var] Menelias
well welcomed by (the)-emperor and (the)-Varangians Then was Menelias
konúngr yfir Miklagarði, er vér köllum Manula; hann veitti
king over Miklagard whom we call Manuel he gave
jarli mikit fé ok bauð þeim mála-gjöf, ef þeir vildi þar
(the)-earl much money and offered them pay-gift if they wished there
dveljast. Þeir dvöldust þar of hríð of vetrinn í all-góðum
to-stay They stayed there for a-while over the-winter in very-good
fagnaði. Þar var Eindriði úngi ok hafði all-miklar virðíngar
welcome There was Eindridi (the)-Young and had very-great honors
af stól-konúngi. Hann átti fátt um við þá Rögnvald jarl, en
from (the)-emperor He had little to-do with them Rognvald earl but

afþokkaði heldr fyrir þeim fyrir öðrum mönnum. Rögnvaldr
disparaged rather before them before other men Rognvald
jarl byrjaði ferð sína of vetrinn ór Mikla-garði, ok fór fyrst
earl began journey his in the-winter out-of Miklagard and went first
vestr til Bolgara-lands til Dyrakksborgar. Þaðan sigldi hann
west to Bulgaria-land to Durazzo Thence sailed he
vestr yfir hafit á Púl. Þar gekk Rögnvaldr jarl af skipum,
west over the-sea to Apulia There went Rognvald earl from (the)-ships
ok Viljálmr biskup, ok Erlíngr, ok allt it göfgara lið þeirra;
and Vilhjalm bishop and Erling and all the nobler troop their
ok öfluðu sér hesta, ok riðu þaðan fyrst til Róma-borgar,
and procured themselves horses and rode thence first to Rome-town
ok svá útan Róma-veg þar til er þeir koma í Danmörk;
and so out Rome-way there till when they come to Denmark
ok fóru þaðan norðr í Noreg. Urðu menn þeim þar fegnir.
and went thence north to Norway Became men of-them there glad
Ok varð þessi ferð in frægsta; ok þóttu þeir miklu meira
And became this journey the most-famous and seemed they much more
háttar menn síðan, en áðr, er farit höfðu. Meðan þeir
of-account men afterward than before who gone had While they
höfðu verit í ferðinni, hafði andazt Ögmundr drengr, bróðir
had been on the-journey had died Ogmund Valiant brother
Erlíngs skakka; hann þótti meira háttar þeirra bræðra
of-Erling Crooked he seemed more of-account of-those brothers
meðan þeir lifðu báðir. Erlíngr réðst þegar til félags við
while they lived both Erling betook-himself at-once to fellowship with
Ínga konúng, þvíat hann var mest undir hann hallr at allri
Ingi king because he was most under him inclined in all
vináttu þeirra bræðra, ok skilðu eigi meðan þeir lifðu báðir.
friendship of-those brothers and parted not while they lived both

En eptir fall Ínga konúngs var til konúngs tekinn yfir
But after (the)-fall of-Ingi king was to king taken over
flokk þann Magnús, son Erlíngs ok Kristínar dóttur Sigurðar
band that Magnus son of-Erling and of-Kristin daughter of-Sigurd
konúngs Jórsala-fara; en Erlíngr einn hafði þá öll landráð
king Jerusalem-Farer but Erling alone had then all rule
í Noregi. Valdamarr Dana-konúngr gaf Erlíngi jarls-nafn.
in Norway Valdemar Danes'-king gave Erling earl's-name
Gjörðist hann hinn mesti maðr síðan, ok ríkr höfðingi;
Became he the greatest man afterward and powerful chieftain
sem ritað er í sögu hans. Eindriði úngi kom útan
as written is in saga his Eindridi (the)-Young came out
nökkurum vetrum síðarr en þeir Rögnvaldr jarl; ok rézt
some winters later than they Rognvald earl and betook
hann þá til Eysteins konúngs; þvíat hann vildi eigi eiga
he then to Eystein king because he wished not to-deal
við Erlíng. En eptir fall Eysteins konúngs, eflðu þeir
with Erling But after (the)-fall of-Eystein king raised they
Eindriði úngi ok Sigurðr, son Hávarðs hölds af Reyri,
Eindridi (the)-Young and Sigurd son of-Havard yeoman from Reyr
flokk, ok tóku til konúngs Hákon herði-breið, son Sigurðar
a-band and took to king Hakon Broad-Shoulder son of-Sigurd
konúngs Haraldssonar. Þeir feldu Gregorius Dagsson ok Ínga
king Harald's-son They killed Gregorius Dag's-son and Ingi
konúng. Þeir Eindriði ok Hákon börðust við Erlíng skakka
king They Eindridi and Hakon fought with Erling Crooked
undir Sekk. Þar féll Hákon, en Eindriði flýði. Erlíngr jarl
under Sekk There fell Hakon but Eindridi fled Erling earl
lét drepa Eindriða únga nokkoru síðarr í Vík austr.
let kill Eindridi (the)-Young somewhat later in Vik east

Rögnvaldr heard of strife in the islands and returned by merchant ship to Orkney before Yule.

Rögnvaldr jarl dvaldist á Hörðalandi mjök lengi um sumarit,
Rognvald earl stayed in Hordaland much long in the-summer
er hann kom í land, ok frétti þá mörg tíðindi ór
when he came to land and learned then many tidings from
Orkneyjum. Var honum sagt, at þar var ófriðr mikill; ok
Orkney Was to-him told that there was unpeace great and
gengu gæðingar í tvá flokka; en þeir vóru fáir, er hjá sátu,
went retainers into two factions but they were few who by sat
svá at engan hlut áttu í. Var Haraldr jarl öðrum-megin
so that no part had-they in Was Harald earl on-one-side
at, en öðrum-megin Erlendr jarl ok Sveinn Ásleifarson. Ok
at but on-other-side Erlend earl and Svein Asleif's-son And
er jarl heyrði þetta sagt, kvað hann vísu þessa:
when (the)-earl heard this told recited he verse this

"Nú hafa gæðingar gengit
Now have retainers gone
(guð-fjón er þat ljónum,
God-hatred is that to-men
upp grafast ill ráð greppa),
up dig-themselves evil counsels of-fellows
œrit mörg á sœri:
very many on oath

Þat mun þeygi sjatna
That will not-at-all subside
þeim er svik viðr heima,
for-him who betrayal practices at-home
stígum létt á lágan
step-we light on low
legg, meðan upp held'k skeggi."
leg while up hold-I (the)-beard

Jarl hafði engan skipa-kost. Leitaði hann þá við frændr sína
(The)-earl had no ship-choice Sought he then with kinsmen his
ok vini, at þeir skyldu láta gjöra honum langskip nökkur um
and friends that they should let make him longships some in
vetrinn. Gengu þeir ok vel undir þat, ok játuðu honum þar
the-winter Went they also well under that and agreed him there
um slíku öllu sem hann beiddi. Jarl bjóst um sumarit
about such all as he asked (The)-earl made-ready in the-summer
at fara vestr til Orkneyja í ríki sitt; ok varð hann síð-búinn
to go west to Orkney to realm his and became he late-ready
mjök, þvíat hann dvaldi mart. Hann fór vestr á kaupskipi
much because he delayed much He went west on a-merchant-ship
því er átti Þórhallr Ásgrímsson; hann var Íslenzkr maðr ok
that which owned Thorhall Asgrim's-son he was an-Icelandic man and
kyn-stórr, ok átti bú suðr í Biskups-túngum. Jarl hafði
high-born and had a-farm south in Biskupstungur (The)-earl had
þó sveit mikla á skipi ok göfugt föruneyti. Þeir tóku Skotland
yet band great on ship and noble company They made Scotland
þá er mikit var af vetri, ok lágu lengi við Skotland undir
then when much was of winter and lay long off Scotland under
Torfnesi. Jarlinn kom litlu fyrir Jól í Orkneyjar í ríki sitt.
Torfness The-earl came little before Yule to Orkney to realm his

While Rögnvaldr was away, King Eysteinn captured Haraldr in Thurso, took his submission, and harried England. Margrét returned to Orkney.

Nú skal segja hvat til tíðinda gjörðist í Orkneyjum meðan
Now shall (one)-tell what of tidings happened in Orkney while
Rögnvaldr jarl var í útförinni: —
Rognvald earl was on the-voyage
Sumar þat er jarl var farinn ór landi, kom austan
Summer that when (the)-earl was gone out-of (the)-land came from-the-east
af Noregi Eysteinn konúngr, son Haralds gilla; hann hafði
from Norway Eystein king son of-Harald Gilli he had
her mikinn. Ok er hann kom í Orkneyjar, lagði hann
host great And when he came to Orkney laid he
herinum til Rögnvalds-eyjar. Þá spurði hann, at Haraldr jarl
the-host to Ronaldsay Then learned he that Harald earl
Maddaðarson var farinn yfir til Kataness með tvítog-sessu,
Maddad's-son was gone over to Caithness with a-twenty-bencher
ok hafði átta tigi manna; hann lá í Þórsá. En er Eysteinn
and had eight tens of-men he lay in Thurso But when Eystein
konúngr spurði til hans, skipaði hann þrjár skútur, ok fór
king learned of him manned he three skiffs and went
vestr yfir Pétlands-fjörð, ok svá til Þórsár. Hann kom þar svá,
west over (the)-Pentland-Firth and so to Thurso He came there so
at þeir jarl urðu eigi fyrr varir við en konúngs-menn
that they (the)-earl became not earlier aware of-it than king's-men
gengu upp á skipit at þeim, ok gjörðu jarlinn handtekinn.
went up onto the-ship at them and made the-earl captured
Hann var leiddr fyrir konúng. Ok fóru þeirra skipti svá,
He was led before (the)-king And went their dealings so

at jarlinn leysti sik út þrem mörkum gulls, en hann
that the-earl released himself out with-three marks of-gold but he
gaf ríki sitt í hendr Eysteini konúngi, svá at hann skyldi
gave realm his into hands to-Eystein king so that he should
af honum halda jafnan síðan. Gjörðist jarl þá maðr
from him hold always afterward Became (the)-earl then man
Eysteins konúngs, ok batt þat svardögum. Ok eptir þetta
of-Eystein king and bound that with-oaths And after this
fór Eysteinn konúngr til Skotlands, ok herjaði þar um
went Eystein king to Scotland and harried there in
sumarit. Hann herjaði víða um England í ferð þeirri, ok
the-summer He harried widely about England on journey that and
þóttist hann hefna Haralds konúngs Sigurðarsonar. Eptir
thought-himself he to-avenge Harald king Sigurd's-son After
þat fór Eysteinn konúngr í ríki sitt austr til Noregs. Ok
that went Eystein king to realm his east to Norway And
var all-misjamnt rætt um hans ferð. Haraldr jarl var eptir
was very-unevenly spoken about his journey Harald earl was behind
í Orkneyjum í ríki sínu, ok var hann vel þokkaðr af
in Orkney in realm his and was he well liked by
flestum mönnum. Þá var andaðr Maddaðr jarl, faðir hans,
most men Then was dead Maddad earl father his
en Margrét, móðir hans, var komin út í Orkneyjar. Hon
but Margaret mother his was come out to Orkney She
var fríð kona ok svarri mikill. Í þann tíma andaðist Davíd
was a-fair woman and shrew great In that time died David
Skota-konúngr, ok var þar til konúngs tekinn Melkólmr son
Scots'-king and was there to king taken Malcolm son
hans; hann var barn at aldri þá er hann tók ríki.
his he was a-child in age then when he took (the)-realm

Erlendr, Haraldr Smooth-Tongued's son, was granted half of Caithness by the Scottish king and half the islands by King Eysteinn. With Sveinn's help he drove Haraldr out; Haraldr swore never to claim the realm.

Erlendr, son Haralds hins sléttmála, var lengstum í Þórsá;
Erlend son of-Harald the Smooth-Tongued was longest in Thurso
en stundum var hann í Suðreyjum, eðr í hernaði, síðan
but sometimes was he in (the)-Hebrides or on harrying since
er Óttarr jarl var andaðr. Hann var hinn mann-vænsti
when Ottar earl was dead He was the most-handsome
maðr, ok görr at sér um flesta hluti; mildr af
man and accomplished in himself about most things generous with
fé, blíðr ok ráðþægr, ok allra manna vinsælastr af sínum
money gentle and amenable and of-all men best-liked by his
mönnum. Hann hafði sveit mikla. Anakol hét maðr;
men He had band great Anakol was-called a-man
hann var fóstri Erlends ok réð mestu við hann. Anakol
he was foster-father of-Erlend and ruled most with him Anakol
var víkíngr, ok maðr ættstórr ok harðfengr, Suðreyskr at
was a-viking and a-man high-born and hardy Hebridean by
kyni; hann var ráðgjafi Erlends. Þá er Erlendr spurði, at
kin he was counselor of-Erlend Then when Erlend learned that
Rögnvaldr jarl var farinn ór ríki sínu út í Jórsala-heim,
Rognvald earl was gone out-of realm his out to Jerusalem-world
fór hann á fund Melkólms Skota-konúngs, frænda síns,
went he to (the)-meeting of-Malcolm Scots'-king kinsman his
ok beiddi at hann gæfi honum jarls-nafn ok Katanes til
and asked that he gave him earl's-name and Caithness for
yfir-sóknar, svá sem haft hafði Haraldr, faðir hans, af Davíð
administration so as had had Harald father his from David

konúngi, föður-föður Melkólms konúngs. Þá var Melkólmr
king father's-father of-Malcolm king Then was Malcolm
konúngr barn at aldri. En við þat er Erlendr átti þar
king a-child in age But with that that Erlend had there
frændr göfga, þá er fluttu hans mál, gekst þat við,
kinsmen noble those who pleaded his case went that through
at Skota-konúngr gaf Erlendi jarls-nafn, ok veitti honum
that (the)-Scots'-king gave Erlend earl's-name and granted him
Katanes hálft við Harald frænda sinn. Fór Erlendr þá á
Caithness half with Harald kinsman his Went Erlend then to
Katanes, ok fann þar vini sína. Eptir þat dró hann lið
Caithness and found there friends his After that drew he troop
at sér, ok fór út í Orkneyjar. Hann beiddi sér þar
to himself and went out to Orkney He asked for-himself there
viðrtöku; en Haraldr jarl Maddaðarson dró lið at sér,
reception but Harald earl Maddad's-son drew troop to himself
þegar er hann spurði til Erlends, ok gjörðist fjölmennr.
as-soon as he learned of Erlend and became well-attended
Fóru þá menn á milli þeirra frænda, ok leituðu um
Went then men in between those kinsmen and sought about
sættir; beiddist Erlendr hálfra Eyja við Harald; enn hann
settlements asked Erlend for-half Isles with Harald but he
vill eigi upp gefa; ok kom svá, at grið vóru sett þau
will not up give and came so that truces were set those
missari. En þat var ráð, at Erlendr skal fara austr í
seasons But that was counsel that Erlend shall go east to
Noreg á fund Eysteins konúngs, ok beiðast helmíngs
Norway to (the)-meeting of-Eystein king and ask for-half
þess, er Rögnvaldr átti; ok lézt Haraldr þann mundu
that which Rognvald owned and said Harald that would
upp gefa. Fór þá Erlendr austr í Noreg, en Anakol, ok
up give Went then Erlend east to Norway but Anakol and

sum sveitin, var eptir í Orkneyjum. Gunni Ólafsson, bróðir
some the-band was behind in Orkney Gunni Olaf's-son brother
Sveins Ásleifarsonar, hafði getið barn við Margrétu, móður
of-Svein Asleif's-son had begotten a-child with Margaret mother
Haralds jarls; en jarlinn gjörði hann útlaga. Af því tókst
of-Harald earl but the-earl made him outlaw From that arose
óvinátta méð þeim Sveini ok Haraldi jarli; ok sendi Sveinn
enmity between them Svein and Harald earl and sent Svein
Gunna suðr í Ljóðhús til Ljótólfs vinar síns, er Sveinn
Gunni south to Lewis to Ljotolf friend his whom Svein
hafði verit með fyrr. Fogl [hét] son Ljótólfs; [hann] var
had been with before Fogl was-called son of-Ljotolf he was
með Haraldi jarli; ok var þar fátt með þeim Sveini. Þá
with Harald earl and was there little between them Svein Then
er Erlendr jarl fór austr til Noregs, fór Haraldr jarl yfir
when Erlend earl went east to Norway went Harald earl over
á Katanes, ok sat í Vík um vetrinn. Sveinn Ásleifarson var
to Caithness and sat in Wick in the-winter Svein Asleif's-son was
þá í Þrasvík á Katanesi, ok varð-veitti þar bú stjúp-sona
then in Freswick in Caithness and kept there farm of-stepsons
sinna. Hann átti fyrr Ragnhildi Ögmundar dóttur; þau vóru
his He had before Ragnhild Ogmund's daughter they were
skamma hríð á samt. Ólafr var son þeirra. Síðarr átti
short while on together Olaf was son their Later had
hann Íngiríði Þorkelsdóttur. Andreas var son þeirra. Þat
he Ingirid Thorkel's-daughter Andreas was son their That
var Óðinsdag í Efstu viku, at Sveinn var genginn upp
was Wednesday in Last week that Svein was gone up
í Lamba-borg með nokkura menn. Þeir sá hvar byrðingr
into Lambaborg with some men They saw where a-cargo-ship
fór austan af Pétlands-firði; þóttist Sveinn vita, at
went from-the-east from (the)-Pentland-Firth thought-himself Svein to-know that

þar mundi vera menn Haralds jarls, þeir er hann hafði
there would be men of-Harald earl those whom he had
sent eptir skatti til Hjaltlands. Sveinn bað sína menn ganga
sent after tribute to Shetland Svein bade his men go
til skipa, ok leggja at byrðínginum. Ok svá gjörðu þeir;
to (the)-ships and lay at the-cargo-ship And so did they
tóku þeir byrðínginn ok allt þat, er fémætt var; en skutu
took they the-cargo-ship and all that which valuable was but put
á land mönnum Haralds jarls, ok gengu þeir austr til
on land men of-Harald earl and went they east to
Víkr, ok sögðu honum. Haraldr jarl svaraði fá um; ok
Wick and told him Harald earl answered little about-it and
segir, at þeir Sveinn mundi ymsir fé hafa; ok skipti
says that they Svein would by-turns money have and assigned
hann mönnum sínum á veizlur um Páskana. Þá kölluðu
he men his to feasts over the-Easter Then called
Katnesíngar, at jarl væri á kunn-miðum. En þegar
(the)-Caithness-men that (the)-earl were on known-fishing-grounds But at-once
eptir Paska fór Sveinn á byrðínginum ok róðrar-skútu út í
after Easter went Svein on the-cargo-ship and a-rowing-skiff out to
Orkneyjar. Ok er þeir kómu á Skálp-eið, tóku þeir þar skip
Orkney And when they came to Skalpeid took they there a-ship
af Fogli Ljótólfssyni; hann var þá kominn sunnan ór
from Fogl Ljotolf's-son he was then come from-the-south out-of
Ljóðhúsum frá föður síns, ok ætlaði til Haralds jarls. Ok í
Lewis from father his and intended to Harald earl And on
þeirri för tóku þeir til tólf aura gulls af Sigurði klaufa,
that journey took they to twelve ounces of-gold from Sigurd Hoof
húskarli Haralds jarls; þat fé hafði verit fært á bæ; en
a-housecarl of-Harald earl that money had been brought to a-farm but
þeir vóru í Kirkjuvági er áttu. Síðan fór Sveinn yfir á
they were in Kirkwall who owned-it Then went Svein over to

Nes ok upp á Skotland, ok fann Melkolm Skota-konúng
(the)-Ness and up to Scotland and found Malcolm Scots'-king
í Apardion; Hann var þá níu vetra gamall. Þar var Sveinn
in Aberdeen He was then nine winters old There was Svein
mánuð í allgóðu yfirlæti; ok bað Skota-konúngr hann fá
a-month in very-good favor and bade (the)-Scots'-king him get
þau gæði öll á Katanesi, er hann hafði áðr haft en hann
those goods all in Caithness which he had before had than he
varð ósáttr við Harald jarl. Sveinn þakkaði konúngi. Bjóst
became at-odds with Harald earl Svein thanked (the)-king Made-ready
Sveinn eptir þat á brott; ok skildust þeir Skota-konúngr
Svein after that off away and parted they (the)-Scots'-king
með kærleikum miklum. Fór Sveinn þá til skipa sinna, ok
with affections great Went Svein then to ships his and
sigldi sunnan til Orkneyja. Þá var Anakol á Dýrnesi,
sailed from-the-south to Orkney Then was Anakol at Deerness
er þeir Sveinn sigldu sunnan, ok sá þeir seglin fyrir
when they Svein sailed from-the-south and saw they the-sails on
austan Múla. Þeir sendu til þeirra Sveins Gauta búanda
east-of Mull-Head They sent to them Svein Gauti (the)-farmer
af Skeggbjarnar-stöðum; ok beiddi Anakol, at Sveinn skyldi
from Skeggbjarnarstadir and asked Anakol that Svein should
sættast við Fogl um skip-tökuna; þvíat þar var frændsemi;
be-reconciled with Fogl about the-ship-taking because there was kinship
ok var Fogl þá með Anakol. En er Gauti fann þá Svein,
and was Fogl then with Anakol But when Gauti found them Svein
ok sagði orð Anakols, þá bað Sveinn at þeir færi til
and told (the)-words of-Anakol then bade Svein that they went to
Sandeyjar ok fyndist þar, þvíat hann lézt þangat fara
Sanday and met there because he said-himself thither to-go
mundu í hríðinni. Þar var sættarfundr fjölmennr; ok
would in the-while There was a-settlement-meeting well-attended and

gekk seint saman sættin. En svá kom, at Sveinn skyldi
went slowly together the-settlement But so came that Svein should
einn gjöra þat er hann vildi. Eptir þat réð Anakol
alone do that which he wished After that undertook Anakol
til liðs með Sveini, ok bazt í því, at koma saman
to troop with Svein and bound-himself in that to bring together
sætt þeirra Erlends jarls, er hann kæmi austan; því at
settlement their of-Erlend earl when he came from-the-east because
þar var fjándskapr af brennu Frakakkar. Þeir Sveinn ok
there was enmity from (the)-burning of-Frakokk They Svein and
Anakol fóru til Strjóns-eyjar, ok lágu við Hofsnes nokkurar
Anakol went to Stronsay and lay by Hofsnes some
nætr. Þá bjó í Strjónsey Þorfinnr Brúsason; hann átti þá
nights Then lived in Stronsay Thorfinn Brusi's-son he had then
Íngigerði, systur Sveins, er Þorbjörn klerkr hafði eina látið.
Ingigerd sister of-Svein whom Thorbjorn Clerk had alone let
Þá er þeir Sveinn lágu við Hofsnes, sigldi þar af hafi
Then when they Svein lay by Hofsnes sailed there from (the)-sea
Erlendr jarl; ok fóru þeir Anakol ok Þorfinnr Brúsason þegar
Erlend earl and went they Anakol and Thorfinn Brusi's-son at-once
á fund hans, ok leituðu um sættir með þeim Sveini; ok
to meeting his and sought about settlements between them Svein and
tók jarlinn þúngliga á sættinni; kvað Svein jafnan verit hafa
took the-earl heavily on the-settlement said Svein always been have
and-streyman þeim frændum; en haldit eigi þat er þeir
adverse to-those kinsmen but held not that which they
Óttarr jarl höfðu við mælzt, at styrkja sik til ríkis. Sveinn
Ottar earl had with spoken to strengthen him for (the)-realm Svein
bauð þá jarlinum fylgð sína ok ráðuneyti; ok var þar
offered then to-the-earl following his and counsel and was there
um leitað allan dag; ok gekk eigi fyrr saman sættin
about-it sought all day and went not earlier together the-settlement

en þeir Anakol ok Þorfinnr lýstu því báðir, at þeir myndu
than they Anakol and Thorfinn declared that both that they would
fylgja Sveini ór Eyjunum, ef jarl vildi eigi sættast við
follow Svein out-of the-Isles if (the)-earl wished not be-reconciled with
hann. Erlendr jarl segir austan þau orð Eysteins konúngs,
him Erlend earl says from-the-east those words of-Eystein king
at hann skyldi hafa þann hlut Orkneyja, er áðr hafði
that he should have that share of-Orkney which before had
Haraldr jarl. Sveinn gaf þat ráð, þá er þeir jarlinn vóru
Harald earl Svein gave that counsel then when they the-earl were
sáttir, at þeir skyldu þegar fara á fund Haralds jarls
reconciled that they should at-once go to (the)-meeting of-Harald earl
áðr hann spurði þetta af öðrum, ok beiða hann gefa
before he learned this from others and ask him give
honum upp ríki. Svá var gjört sem Sveinn mælti. Þeir
him up (the)-realm So was done as Svein spoke They
fundu Harald jarl fyrir Kjarreks-stöðum, ok lá hann á
found Harald earl off Kjarreksstadir and lay he on
skipum. Þat var Mikals-messu-morgin at þeir Haraldr jarl
ships That was Michaelmas-morning that they Harald earl
sá at langskip fóru at þeim, ok grunuðu at úfriðr mundi
saw that longships went at them and suspected that unpeace would
vera. Þeir hljópu af skipunum, ok í kastalann er þar
be They ran from the-ships and into the-castle which there
var þá. Árni Hrafnsson hét maðr, er hljóp af skipi
was then Arni Hrafn's-son was-called a-man who ran from (the)-ship
Haralds jarls ok til Kirkjuvágs; hann var svá hræddr, at
of-Harald earl and to Kirkwall he was so afraid that
hann fann eigi fyrr at hann hafði skjöldinn á baki sér,
he noticed not earlier that he had the-shield on back his
en hann stóð fastr í kirkju-durum. Þorgeirr hét maðr,
than he stood fast in (the)-church-doors Thorgeir was-called a-man

er þar var inni fyrir. Þat hugðu lögu-nautar Árna, at
who there was inside before That thought messmates of-Arni that
hann væri týndr, ok leituðu hans tvá daga. Þeir Erlendr
he were lost and searched-for him two days They Erlend
jarl ok Sveinn hljópu af skipum sínum eptir þeim Haraldi
earl and Svein ran from ships their after them Harald
jarli til kastalans; ok sóttu at þeim of daginn, bæði með
earl to the-castle and attacked at them over the-day both with
eldi ok vápnum. Þeir vörðust all-hraustliga, ok sleit
fire and weapons They defended-themselves very-bravely and broke-off
nátt-myrkrit með þeim. Þar urðu margir menn sárir af
night-darkness between them There became many men wounded of
hvárum-tveggjum; ok vóru þeir Haraldr jarl mjök upp gefnir
both-sides and were they Harald earl much up given
fyrir þeim, ef lengr hefði verit atsóknin. En of morgininn
before them if longer had been the-attack But in the-morning
kómu til búendr, vinir hvárra-tveggju, ok leituðu of sættir
came to farmers friends of-both-sides and sought about settlements
með þeim; ok vóru þeir Erlendr jarl ok Sveinn trauðir at
between them and were they Erlend earl and Svein reluctant to
sættast. En þó fór þat fram, at þeir sættust á þat, at
be-reconciled But yet went that forward that they were-reconciled on that that
Haraldr jarl sór þess eiða, at Erlendr skyldi hafa hans hlut
Harald earl swore that oaths that Erlend should have his share
Eyjanna, ok hann skyldi aldregi kalla til ríkis í hendr
of-the-Isles and he should never claim to (the)-realm into hands
honum. Fóru þessir eiðar fram með mörgum vitnum inna
from-him Went these oaths forward with many witnesses of-the
beztu manna þar í Eyjunum. Ok eptir þat fór Haraldr jarl
best men there in the-Isles And after that went Harald earl
yfir á Nes, ok svá upp í Skotland til frænda sinna;
over to (the)-Ness and so up into Scotland to kinsmen his

fór þá fátt Orkneyinga með honum. Erlendr jarl ok þeir
went then few of-Orkneymen with him Erlend earl and they
Sveinn stefndu þing við búendr í Kirkjuvági; ok sóttu
Svein summoned an-assembly with farmers in Kirkwall and came
bændr til of allar Eyjar. Flutti Erlendr jarl sitt mál, ok
farmers to-it about all (the)-Isles Pleaded Erlend earl his case and
svá margir aðrir vinir hans ok frændr. Sagði jarl þá, at
so many other friends his and kinsmen Said (the)-earl then that
Eysteinn konúngr hafði gefit honum ríki í Orkneyjum
Eystein king had given him (the)-realm in Orkney
þat er Haraldr jarl hafði áðr at varðveita; beiddi hann
that which Harald earl had before to keep asked he
þá bændr sér viðtöku. Hafði hann þar bréf Eysteins,
then (the)-farmers for-himself reception Had he there letters of-Eystein
þau er þat sönnuðu með honum. Sveinn flutti ok mál
those which that confirmed with him Svein pleaded also (the)-case
jarls, ok margir aðrir vinir Sveins ok frændr. Kom þá
of-(the)-earl and many other friends of-Svein and kinsmen Came then
svá, at bændr játuðu Erlendi jarli hlýðni. Tók hann þá
so that farmers granted Erlend earl obedience Took he then
undir sik allar Orkneyjar, ok gerðist höfðingi yfir. En svá
under himself all Orkney and became chieftain over-it But so
var mælt með Erlendi jarli ok bóndum, at hann skyldi
was spoken between Erlend earl and farmers that he should
eigi verja Rögnvaldi jarli þann helmíng ríkis, er hann
not deny Rognvald earl that half of-(the)-realm which he
átti, ef honum yrði auðit til at koma. En ef Rögnvaldr
owned if to-him became granted to to come But if Rognvald
jarl kallaði á meira en hálft, þá skyldu bændr þat verja
earl claimed on more than half then should farmers that defend
með Erlendi jarli. Sveinn Ásleifarson var jafnan með Erlendi
with Erlend earl Svein Asleif's-son was always with Erlend

jarli; ok bað hann vera varan, ok trúa eigi of vel Haraldi
earl and bade him be wary and trust not too well Harald
jarli eðr Skotum. Þeir lágu lengstum of vetrinn á skipum,
earl or (the)-Scots They lay longest in the-winter on ships
ok héldu njósnir fyrir sér. En er dró at Jólum ok
and held spies before themselves But when drew to Yule and
veðrátta tók at harðna, þá fór Sveinn heim í Gareksey
weather began to harden then went Svein home to Gairsay
til bús síns, en bað jarl vera eigi at óvarara þó þeir
to farm his but bade (the)-earl be not at less-wary though they
skildi. Ok svá gjörði jarl, at hann lá löngum á skipum,
parted And so did (the)-earl that he lay long on ships
ok efnaði hvergi í einum stað til Jóla-veizlu sinnar.
and prepared nowhere in one place for Yule-feast his

CI · HARALDR STRIKES BACK

Haraldr returned at Yule and killed men of Erlendr's. Erlendr the Young married Haraldr's mother Margrét, and Sveinn raided Berwick, seizing a merchant's wife and ship.

Þat var tíðinda inn tíunda dag Jóla í Gareksey, at Sveinn
That was of-tidings the tenth day of-Yule in Gairsay that Svein
Ásleifarson sat ok drakk með húskörlum sínum. Hann tók
Asleif's-son sat and drank with housecarls his He took
til orða, ok gneri nefit: "Þat er ætlan mín, at nú sé
to words and rubbed the-nose That is intention my that now be
Haraldr jarl á för til Eyjanna." Þeir segja, húskarlar
Harald earl on (the)-way to the-Isles They say housecarls
hans, at þat væri úlíkligt fyrir sakir storma þeirra er
his that that were unlikely for sakes of-storms those which

á lágu. Hann kvaðst vita, at þeim mundi svá þykkja:
on lay He said-himself to-know that to-them would so seem
"Mun ek nú ok," segir hann, "eigi gjöra jarli njósn
Will I now also says he not make to-(the)-earl spying
fyrir hugboð mitt eitt saman; en þó grunar mik at því
for foreboding my alone together but yet suspects me that that
sé verr ráðit." Féll þá niðr þat tal; ok drukku þeir sem
be worse counseled Fell then down that talk and drank they as
áðr. — Haraldr jarl byrjaði ferð sína at Jólum út í
before Harald earl began journey his at Yule out to
Orkneyjar; hann hafði fjogur skip ok tíu tigi manna, hann
Orkney he had four ships and ten tens of-men he
lá tvær nætr við Grímsey. Þeir lendu í Hafnar-vági í
lay two nights by Graemsay They landed in Hafnarvag in
Hrossey. Þeir gengu þaðan inn þrettánda dag Jóla í Fjörð.
Hrossey They went thence the thirteenth day of-Yule to Firth
Þeir vóru í Orka-haugi, meðan él dró á; ok ærðust
They were in Orkahaug while a-squall drew on and went-mad
þar tveir menn fyrir þeim; ok var þeim þat farar-tálmi
there two men before them and was to-them that a-journey-hindrance
mikill. Þá var af nótt, er þeir kómu í Fjörð. Var þar þat
great Then was of night when they came to Firth Was there that
tíðinda, at Erlendr jarl var kominn á skip sitt; en hann
of-tidings that Erlend earl was come onto ship his but he
hafði drukkit of daginn uppi at húsi. Þeir Haraldr jarl
had drunk in the-day up at (the)-house They Harald earl
drápu þar tvá menn, ok hét annarr Ketill; en þeir tóku
killed there two men and was-called one Ketil but they took
höndum fjóra menn: Arnfinn bróður Anakols, Ljótr hét
with-hands four men Arnfinn brother of-Anakol Ljot was-called
annarr, ok tvá aðra. Haraldr jarl fór aptr í Þórsá, ok
another and two others Harald earl went back to Thurso and

þeir Þorbjörn klerkr. En þeir bræðr fóru til Lamba-borgar,
they Thorbjorn Clerk But those brothers went to Lambaborg
Benedikt ok Eirekr; ok höfðu Arnfinn með sér. Þegar of
Benedikt and Eirik and had Arnfinn with them As-soon in
nóttina, er Erlendr jarl varð varr við úfriðinn, þá sendi
the-night as Erlend earl became aware of the-unpeace then sent
hann menn til Garekseyjar, at segja Sveini. Ok lét hann
he men to Gairsay to tell Svein And let he
þegar eptir of daginn hrinda skipum á sjá; ok fór til
at-once after in the-day push ships into (the)-sea and went to
fundar við Erlend jarl, sem hann hafði orð til sent; ok
a-meeting with Erlend earl as he had word to sent and
vóru þeir þá á skipum lengi vetrar. Þeir Benedikt, bræðr,
were they then on ships long of-winter They Benedikt brothers
sendu þau orð, at Arnfinnr mundi því at eins lauss látinn,
sent those words that Arnfinn would that at only loose let
ef þeir Erlendr jarl léti þá hafa skip þat, er þeir höfðu
if they Erlend earl let them have ship that which they had
tekit fyrir Kjareks-stöðum. Jarl var þess fúsari at laust
taken off Kjarreksstadir (The)-earl was of-that more-eager that loose
væri látið skipit; en Anakol latti þess, ok sagði at
were let the-ship but Anakol discouraged that and said that
Arnfinnr mundi á brott komast þann vetr, þótt eigi sé
Arnfinn would off away come that winter though not be
þat til unnit. Þat var Miðviku-dag inn næsta fyrir Föstu,
that for worked That was Wednesday the next before Lent
at þeir Anakol ok Þorsteinn Rögnuson fóru yfir á Nes
that they Anakol and Thorstein Ragna's-son went over to (the)-Ness
með tuttugu menn á skútu; ok kómu við nótt. Þeir drógu
with twenty men on a-skiff and came at night They drew
skútuna í leyni-vág einn undir borg nokkura. Þeir ganga
the-skiff into secret-bay one under fortress some They go

upp, ok leyndust í kjörrum skamt frá húsi í Þrasvík;
up and hid-themselves in thickets short from (the)-house in Freswick
en þeir bjoggu svá um á skipinu, at svá var at sjá, sem
but they arranged so about-it on the-ship that so was to see as-if
menn lægi í hverju rúmi. Komit hafði verit til skipsins
men lay in each room Come had been to the-ship
um morguninn, ok grunað þar ekki um. Þeir Anakol sá
in the-morning and suspected there nothing about-it They Anakol saw
menn róa á skipi útan frá borg ok lenda í ár-ós.
men row on a-ship out from (the)-fortress and land in (the)-river-mouth
Þá sá þeir ok mann ríða utan frá borginni, ok annan
Then saw they also a-man ride out from the-fortress and another
ganga; ok kendu þar Eirek. Þá skiptu þeir Anakol liði
walk and knew there Eirik Then divided they Anakol troop
sínu ok gengu tíu til sæfar með ánni; ok gættu, at engi
their and went ten to (the)-sea along the-river and watched that none
kæmist til skipsins; en aðrir tíu gengu á bæinn. Eirekr
got to the-ship but other ten went to the-farm Eirik
kom litlu fyrr á bæinn, ok gekk til skála-húss. Þá heyrði
came little earlier to the-farm and went to (the)-hall-house Then heard
hann til vápnaðra manna; ok hljóp hann þá [í] skálann,
he of armed men and ran he then into the-hall
ok út aðrar dyrnar, ok vildi til skipsins; en þar vóru
and out (the)-other doors and wished to the-ship but there were
menn fyrir, ok varð hann þar handtekinn ok færðr út í
men before and became he there captured and brought out to
Eyjar Erlendi jarli. Vóru þá sendir menn til Haralds jarls,
(the)-Isles to-Erlend earl Were then sent men to Harald earl
ok sagt honum, at Eirekr mundi eigi fyrr lauss látinn,
and told him that Eirik would not earlier loose let
en þeir Arnfinnr kæmi heilir til Erlends jarls; ok þat gekk
than they Arnfinn came whole to Erlend earl and that went

eptir því sem mælt var. Of várit eptir bjóst Haraldr
after that as spoken was In the-spring after made-ready Harald
jarl af Katanesi; ok fóru norðr á Hjaltland. Hann ætlaði at
earl from Caithness and went north to Shetland He intended to
taka af lífi Erlend únga; en hann hafði beðit Margrétar,
take from life Erlend (the)-Young but he had wooed Margaret
móður jarls; en hon hafði synjat. Eptir [þat] fær hann
mother of-(the)-earl but she had refused After that gets he
sér sveitar, ok nam hana á brott ór Orkneyjum; ok
himself a-band and took her off away out-of Orkney and
flutti hana norðr í Hjaltland, ok settist í Morseyjar-borg;
brought her north to Shetland and settled in Mousa-borg
hafði hann þar viðbúnað mikinn. En er Haraldr jarl kom
had he there preparation great But when Harald earl came
á Hjaltland, settist hann of borgina, ok bannaði allar
to Shetland sat-down he about the-fortress and forbade all
til-flutníngar. En þar [er] úhægt atsókn við at koma. Fóru
bringing-in But there is difficult attack at to come Went
menn þá til, ok leituðu um sættir með þeim. Beiddist
men then to and sought about settlements between them Asked
Erlendr þess, at jarl skyldi gipta honum konuna; en
Erlend that that (the)-earl should marry him the-woman but
bauð sik til styrktar við jarl; ok sagði, at honum lægi
offered himself for support with (the)-earl and said that to-him lay
meira við at hann fengi ríki sitt; en kallaði þat vænst til,
more on that he got realm his but called that likeliest to-it
at hann gjörði sér vini sem flesta. Þetta fluttu margir
that he made himself friends as most This pleaded many
með Erlendi. Ok urðu þær mála-lyktir, at þeir sættast; ok
with Erlend And became those case-endings that they are-reconciled and
fékk Erlendr Margrétar; ok réðst síðan til fylgðar með
got Erlend Margaret and betook-himself then to following with

jarli; ok fóru þeir of sumarit austr til Noregs. Ok er þat
(the)-earl and went they in the-summer east to Norway And when that
spurðist í Orkneyjar, þá gjörðu þeir Erlendr jarl ráð sín;
was-learned in Orkney then made they Erlend earl counsels their
ok fýsti Sveinn, at þeir skyldi fara í hernað, ok afla sér
and urged Svein that they should go on harrying and get themselves
svá fjár. Ok svá gjörðu þeir; ok fóru suðr til Breiðafjarðar,
so money And so did they and went south to Broad-firth
ok herjuðu fyrir austan Skotland. Þeir fóru suðr til Beruvíkr.
and harried on east Scotland They went south to Berwick
Knútr inn auðgi hét maðr; hann var kaupmaðr, ok sat
Knut the Wealthy was-called a-man he was a-merchant and sat
jafnan í Beruvík. Þeir Sveinn tóku skip mikit ok gótt
always in Berwick They Svein took ship big and good
er Knútr átti, ok á fé mikit; þar var ok á kona
which Knut owned and on-it money much there was also on-it wife
hans. Eptir þat fóru þeir suðr undir Blýhólma. Knútr var
his After that went they south under Blyholm Knut was
þá í Beruvík, er hann spurði ránit; hann keypti at
then in Berwick when he learned-of the-robbery he hired from
Beruvíkr-mönnum hundraði marka silfrs, at þeir sætti eptir
Berwick-men for-a-hundred marks of-silver that they sought after
fénu. Þat vóru flest kaupmenn, er eptir fénu leituðu.
the-money That were most merchants who after the-money sought
Þeir fóru fjórtán skipum at leita þeirra. Þá er þeir
They went with-fourteen ships to seek them Then when they
Erlendr ok Sveinn lágu undir Blýhólmum, ræddi Sveinn
Erlend and Svein lay under Blyholm talked Svein
um kveldit, at menn skyldi liggja tjaldlausir; kvað sér
in the-evening that men should lie tentless said to-himself
ván vera, at Beruvíkr-menn mundi koma fjölmennir til
expectation be that Berwick-men would come many to

þeirra of nóttina. En veðr var hvast á; ok gáfu menn
them in the-night But (the)-weather was hard on and gave men
ekki gaum at því, er hann mælti; ok lágu allir menn
no heed to that which he spoke and lay all men
undir tjöldum, nema á skipi Sveins var eigi tjaldat fyrir
under tents except on (the)-ship of-Svein was not tented on
aptan siglu. Sveinn sat upp í lyptíngu í loðkápu, á kistu
aft-of mast Svein sat up on (the)-poop in a-fur-cloak on chest
einni; ok kvaðst svá mundu búinn vera um nóttina. Einarr
one and said-himself so would ready be over the-night Einar
skeifr hét maðr á skipi Sveins; hann ræddi um, at
Clumsy was-called a-man on (the)-ship of-Svein he talked about-it that
of-sögum væri sagt frá hreysti Sveins: “Hann er kallaðr
over-tales were told about (the)-valor of-Svein He is called
karlmaðr betri en aðrir menn; en nú þorir hann eigi at
a-man better than other men but now dares he not to
tjalda yfir skipi sínu.” Sveinn lét sem hann heyrði eigi.
tent over ship his Svein let as-if he heard not
Varðmenn vóru uppi á hólmanum. Sveinn heyrði at þeir
Watchmen were up on the-islet Svein heard that they
urðu eigi ásáttir hvat þeir sá. Hann gékk upp til þeirra, ok
became not agreed what they saw He went up to them and
spurði of hvat þeir þrætti. Þeir létust eigi vita hvat þeir
asked about what they disputed They said-they not to-know what they
sá. Sveinn var allra manna skygnastr; ok er hann hugði
saw Svein was of-all men keenest-sighted and when he looked
at, sá hann at skip fóru at þeim norðan fjórtán saman.
at-it saw he that ships went at them from-the-north fourteen together
Hann gekk í skip sitt, ok bað varðmenn ganga á skipin,
He went into ship his and bade (the)-watchmen go on the-ships
ok segja hvat títt var. Sveinn bað menn vaka, ok reka af
and tell what afoot was Svein bade men wake and drive off

sér tjöldin. Eptir þat gjörðist kall mikit; ok æptu flestir
themselves the-tents After that arose calling great and shouted most
á Svein; ok spurðu hvat til ráðs skyldi taka. Hann bað
on Svein and asked what to counsel should take He bade
menn vera hljóða; en kvað þat sitt ráð, at leggja skipunum
men be silent but said that his counsel to lay the-ships
á milli hólmans ok landsins, “Ok freista ef þeir sigli svá
in between the-islet and the-land And try if they sail so
um oss fram; en ef þat verðr eigi, þá róm vér í mót
about us forward but if that happens not then row we in against
þeim sem harðast.” En aðrir ráðsmenn mæltu í mót, ok
them as hardest But other counselors spoke in against and
töldu þat eitt ráð at sigla undan. Ok svá var gert. Þá
counted that only counsel to sail away And so was done Then
mælti Sveinn: “Ef þér vilit undan sigla, beitið þá í haf
spoke Svein If you will away sail beat then to sea
út.” Sveinn varð seinst búinn. Anakol beið hans. En er
out Svein became latest ready Anakol waited-for him But when
skip Sveins gekk meira, þá lét hann minka siglíngina, ok
(the)-ship of-Svein went more then let he lessen the-sailing and
beið Anakols; ok vildi eigi, at hann yrði eptir einskipa.
waited-for Anakol and wished not that he were behind single-shipped
Þá mælti Einarr skeifr, er þeir Sveinn sigldu við allt
Then spoke Einar Clumsy when they Svein sailed with all
segl: “Sveinn,” segir hann, “er eigi þat, at kyrt standi
sail Svein says he is not that that still stands
skipit várt?” Sveinn segir: “Eigi ætla ek,” segir hann, “En
ship our Svein says Not think I says he But
þat ræð ek, attú leitir eigi optarr á hreysti mína, ef
that counsel I that-you touch not oftener on valor my if
þú skynjar eigi fyrir hræðslu sakir, hvárt skipit skríðr undir
you perceive not for fear's sake whether the-ship glides under

þér eðr eigi; þvíat þat er allra skipa skjótast undir segli."
you or not because that is of-all ships swiftest under sail
Beruvíkr-menn sigldu suðr um þá; en þeir Sveinn snéru þá
(The)-Berwick-men sailed south past them but they Svein turned then
inn undir meginlandit. Ok er þeir kómu undir Morsey, þá
in under the-mainland And when they came under Morsey then
sendi Sveinn menn til Eiðina-borgar at segja Skota-konúngi
sent Svein men to Edinburgh to tell (the)-Scots'-king
frá herfangi þeirra. En áðr þeir kómu til borgarinnar riðu
about plunder their But before they came to the-town rode
tólf menn í móti þeim ok höfðu við slagálar sér
twelve men in against them and had at saddle-straps with-them
hosur fullar af silfri. Ok er þeir fundust, spurðu inir
hose full of silver And when they met asked the
Skozku menn at Sveini Ásleifarsyni. Þeir sögðu til hans,
Scottish men for Svein Asleif's-son They told of him
ok spurðu hvat þeir vildu honum. Skotar sögðu, at þeim
and asked what they wished him (The)-Scots said that to-them
var sagt, at Sveinn væri handtekinn, ok Skota-konúngr
was told that Svein were captured and (the)-Scots'-king
hefði sent þá at leysa hann út með fé því er þeir
had sent them to release him out with money that which they
fóru með. Sveins-menn segja aptr þeim kvitt; ok fóru
went with Svein's-men tell back to-them (the)-rumor and went
á fund Skota-konúngs, ok sögðu honum eyrindi sín.
to (the)-meeting of-(the)-Scots'-king and told him errands their
Konúngr taldi lítt at féláti Knúts, ok sendi Sveini
(The)-king counted little at (the)-money-loss of-Knut and sent Svein
skjöld dýran ok fleiri góðar gjafar. Þeir Erlendr jarl ok
a-shield costly and more good gifts They Erlend earl and
Sveinn fóru of haustið til Orkneyja ok kómu heldr síð.
Svein went in the-autumn to Orkney and came rather late

Þetta sumar fór Haraldr jarl til Noregs, sem fyrr var getið.
This summer went Harald earl to Norway as before was mentioned
Þá kom ok utan af Mikla-garði í Noreg Rögnvaldr jarl,
Then came also out from Miklagard to Norway Rognvald earl
ok Erlíngr skakki; sem fyrr var ritað. Ok kom Rögnvaldr
and Erling Crooked as before was written And came Rognvald
jarl litlu fyrir Jól í Orkneyjar.
earl little before Yule to Orkney

CII · RÖGNVALDR RETURNS

Rögnvaldr made peace with Erlendr. At a meeting in Thurso, Þorbjörn Clerk's men wounded Rögnvaldr, but he and Haraldr were reconciled and turned on Erlendr and Sveinn, who sailed off as though for the Hebrides and turned back.

Þá fóru menn þegar í milli þeirra Rögnvalds jarls ok
Then went men at-once in between them Rognvald earl and
Erlends jarls, ok leituðu um sættir. Kærðu menn þá
Erlend earl and sought about settlements Charged men then
einka-mál þau er verit höfðu með bóndum ok
(the)-private-agreements those which been had between farmers and
Erlendi jarli, at hann skyldi eigi verja Rögnvaldi jarli sinn
Erlend earl that he should not deny Rognvald earl his
hlut Eyjanna. Varð þá komit á stefnu-lagi með þeim
share of-the-Isles Was then come to a-meeting-arrangement between those
jörlum í Kirkjuvági, ok á þeirri stefnu sættust þeir,
earls in Kirkwall and at that meeting were-reconciled they
ok bundu þat eiðum. Þetta var tveim nóttum fyrir Jól;
and bound that with-oaths This was two nights before Yule
ok sættust á þat, at hálfar Eyjar skyldi hafa hvárr
and were-reconciled on that that half Isles should have each

þeirra, ok verja báðir fyrir Haraldi jarli eðr öðrum, ef til
of-them and defend both against Harald earl or others if to
kallaði. Þá hafði Rögnvaldr jarl engan skipa-kost fyrr en
claimed Then had Rognvald earl no ship-choice earlier than
of sumarit eptir, er skip hans kómu austan ór Noregi.
in the-summer after when ships his came from-the-east from Norway
Þenna vetr stóð allt kyrt. En of várit eptir gjörðu jarlar
This winter stood all quiet But in the-spring after made (the)-earls
ráð sitt í mót Haraldi jarli, ef hann kæmi austan; ok
counsel their in against Harald earl if he came from-the-east and
fóru þeir Erlendr jarl ok Sveinn Ásleifarson til Hjaltlands,
went they Erlend earl and Svein Asleif's-son to Shetland
ok skyldu sæta honum, ef hann bæri þar at. Rögnvaldr
and should lie-in-wait-for him if he bore there to Rognvald
jarl fór yfir til Þórsár; þvíat þeim var ván, at Haraldr
earl went over to Thurso because to-them was expectation that Harald
mundi þangat leita, er hann kæmi austan; þvíat hann
would thither seek when he came from-the-east because he
átti þar marga frændr ok vini. Þeir Erlendr jarl ok Sveinn
had there many kinsmen and friends They Erlend earl and Svein
vóru á Hjaltlandi of sumarit; ok dvöldu skip öll, svá at
were in Shetland in the-summer and held-back ships all so that
engi gengi til Noregs. Haraldr jarl fór of sumarit austan
none went to Norway Harald earl went in the-summer from-the-east
ór Noregi, ok hafði sjau skip. Hann tók Orkneyjar; en
from Norway and had seven ships He made Orkney but
þrjú skip hans urðu sæhafa til Hjaltlands; ok tóku þeir
three ships his became sea-driven to Shetland and took they
Erlendr jarl þau. Þá er Haraldr jarl kom í Orkneyjar,
Erlend earl them Then when Harald earl came to Orkney
spurði hann þar þau tíðindi, at þeir Rögnvaldr jarl ok
learned he there those tidings that they Rognvald earl and

Erlendr jarl vóru sáttir, ok þar skyldi hálfar Eyjar hvárr
Erlend earl were reconciled and there should half Isles each
hafa við annan. Þóttist Haraldr jarl þá sjá sinn kost,
have with (the)-other Thought-himself Harald earl then to-see his choice
at honum mundi ekki ætlat af löndum. Tók hann þá þat
that to-him would nothing intended of lands Took he then that
ráð, at fara yfir á Nes á fund Rögnvalds jarls, áðr
counsel to go over to (the)-Ness to (the)-meeting of-Rognvald earl before
þeir Erlendr jarl kæmi af Hjaltlandi. Þeir Erlendr jarl ok
they Erlend earl came from Shetland They Erlend earl and
Sveinn vóru þá á Hjaltlandi, er þeir spurðu at Haraldr
Svein were then in Shetland when they learned that Harald
jarl var kominn í Orkneyjar. Héldu þeir þá þegar suðr
earl was come to Orkney Held they then at-once south
í Eyjar á fimm skipum, ok fengu í Dynröst strauma
to (the)-Isles on five ships and got in Dunrost currents
váðvæna, ok storm veðrs; ok skildi þar með þeim; bar
dangerous and storm of-weather and parted there between them bore
þá Svein ap[tr] til Friðar-eyjar á tveim skipum; ok hugðu
then Svein back to Fair-Isle on two ships and thought
þeir jarl týndan. Héldu þeir þaðan suðr undir Sandey;
they (the)-earl lost Held they thence south under Sanday
ok lá þar fyrir Erlendr jarl med þrjú skip, ok var þar
and lay there before Erlend earl with three ships and was there
fagna-fundr mikill. Fóru þeir þaðan til Rögnvaldseyjar; ok
joyful-meeting great Went they thence to Ronaldsay and
spurðu þar, at Haraldr jarl var farinn yfir á Nes. En
learned there that Harald earl was gone over to (the)-Ness But
þat er at segja frá ferðum Haralds jarls; at hann kom
that is to tell about journeys of-Harald earl that he came
í Þórsá ok hafði sex skip. Rögnvaldr jarl var þá uppi í
to Thurso and had six ships Rognvald earl was then up in

Suðrlandi; ok sat þar at brúðkaupi því, er [hann] gipti
Sutherland and sat there at wedding that when he married
Íngiríði, dóttur sína, Eireki stagbrell. Kom honum þegar
Ingirid daughter his to-Eirik Stay-Brails Came to-him at-once
njósn, at Haraldr jarl var kominn í Þórsá. Rögnvaldr
spying that Harald earl was come to Thurso Rognvald
jarl reið fjölmennr frá brúðhlaupinu ofan í Þórsá. Eirikr
earl rode well-attended from the-wedding down to Thurso Eirik
stagbrellr var frændi Haralds jarls, ok átti hann allan hlut
Stay-Brails was kinsman of-Harald earl and had he all share
í at sætta þá; ok margir aðrir fluttu þat með honum; ok
in to reconcile them and many others pleaded that with him and
sögðu, at þeim var einsætt, at láta sik eigi á skilja,
said that to-them was clear to let themselves not on part
fyrir sakir frændsymi ok fóstr-lags ok félagskapar, er verit
for sakes of-kinship and fostering-bond and fellowship which been
hafði. Kom því svá, at stefnu-lagi varð á komit með
had Came it so that meeting-arrangement was on come between
þeim ok griðum; ok skyldi þeir finnast í kastala einum
them and truces and should they meet in castle one
í Þórsá ok tala tveir einir; en jafn-margir skyldu menn
in Thurso and talk two alone but equally-many should men
hvárs vera hjá kastalanum. Þeir töluðu lengi, ok lagðist vel
of-each be by the-castle They talked long and lay well
á með þeim. Þeir höfðu fundizt ekki fyrr síðan Rögnvaldr
on between them They had met not before since Rognvald
jarl kom í land. Ok er á leið daginn, var sagt Rögnvaldi
earl came to land And when on passed the-day was told to-Rognvald
jarli, at lið Haralds jarls dreif þannig með vápnum.
earl that (the)-troop of-Harald earl drifted thither with weapons
Haraldr jarl kvað þat ekki saka mundu. Því næst heyrðu
Harald earl said that not harm would Then next heard

þeir út til höggva stórra; ok hljópu þeir þá út. Þar
they out to blows great and ran they then out There
var kominn Þorbjörn klerkr með mikla sveit manna; ok
was come Thorbjorn Clerk with great band of-men and
sætti þegar áverkum á mönnum Rognvalds jarls, er þeir
set-to at-once with-wounds on men of-Rognvald earl when they
fundust. Jarlar kölluðu, at þeir skyldi eigi berjast. Hljópu
met (The)-earls called that they should not fight Ran
menn þá til ór staðnum ok skildu þá. Þar féllu þrettán
men then to from the-town and parted them There fell thirteen
húskarlar Rögnvalds jarls; enn hann varð sárr í andliti.
housecarls of-Rognvald earl and he became wounded in (the)-face
Eptir þat áttu vinir þeirra hlut at sættum með þeim; ok
After that had friends their share in settlements between them and
kom svá, at þeir sættust, ok bundu af nýju félag sitt
came so that they were-reconciled and bound of new fellowship their
með eiðum. Þetta var fjórum nóttum fyrir Mikkals-messu.
with oaths This was four nights before Michaelmas
Þá var ok þat ráðit, at þeir skulu fara þegar of nóttina
Then was also that decided that they shall go at-once in the-night
út í Orkneyjar á hendr þeim Erlendi ok Sveini. Þeir
out to Orkney on hands them Erlend and Svein They
héldu þrettán skipum vestr á Pétlands-fjörð, ok héldu til
held with-thirteen ships west over (the)-Pentland-Firth and held to
Rögnvalds-eyjar, ok lendu í Víðivági ok gengu þar á land.
Ronaldsay and landed in Widewall and went there on land
Þeir Erlendr jarl lágu á skipum í Barðsvík, ok sá þeir
They Erlend earl lay on ships in Bardswick and saw they
þaðan fjölmenni á Rögnvalds-ey, ok gerðu þannig njósnir;
thence a-multitude on Ronaldsay and made thus spyings
ok urðu þeir þá vísir, at jarlar höfðu sætzt. Þat
and became they then aware that (the)-earls had been-reconciled That

var þeim ok sagt, at þeir mundi þeim eigi láta kosti
was to-them also told that they would to-them not let choice
strandhöggva, eðr annarra vist-fanga; ok mundi svá ætla at
of-shore-raids or other provision-gettings and would so intend to
sitja þeim mat þar í Eyjunum. Þá gengu þeir Erlendr jarl
besiege them food there in the-Isles Then went they Erlend earl
á tal, ok leitaði hann ráða við lið sitt. En þat kom ásamt
to talk and sought he counsel with troop his But that came agreed
með þeim, at Sveinn skyldi fyrir sjá, hvert ráð at skyldi
between them that Svein should for see what counsel to should
taka. En Sveinn veitti þann órskurð, at þegar of nóttina
take But Svein gave that ruling that at-once in the-night
skyldi þeir sigla yfir til Ness; ok sagði at þeir hefði ekki
should they sail over to (the)-Ness and said that they had not
styrk til at deila við þá báða þar í Eyjunum. Gerði hann
strength to to contend with them both there in the-Isles Made he
þat yfirbragð fyrir alþýðu, at þeir mundu fara í
that appearance before (the)-common-people that they would go to
Suðreyjar ok vera þar of vetrinn. Þetta var Mikkals-messu
(the)-Hebrides and be there over the-winter This was Michaelmas
aptan, er þeir sigldu á fjörðinn. En þegar er þeir kómu
evening when they sailed on the-firth But as-soon as they came
á Katanes, hljópu þeir upp í bygð, ok keyrðu ofan
to Caithness ran they up into (the)-settlement and drove down
strandhögg stór, ok hjoggu í skip sitt. Stormar vóru á
shore-raids big and slaughtered into ship their Storms were on
miklir ok vánd veðrátta, ok var fjörðrinn jafnan ófærr. En
great and bad weather and was the-firth always impassable But
þegar er leiði gaf, sendi Sveinn menn á báti handan af
as-soon as fair-wind gave sent Svein men on a-boat across from
Nesinu, at Erlendr jarl hafði höggit strandhögg á Katanesi,
the-Ness that Erlend earl had slaughtered shore-raid in Caithness

ok lágu búnir at sigla til Suðreyja þegar er byrr gæfi. Ok
and lay ready to sail to (the)-Hebrides as-soon as wind gave And
er þessi tíðindi kómu til eyrna Rögnvaldi jarli, skaut hann
when these tidings came to (the)-ears to-Rognvald earl called he
húsþingi á, ok talaði fyrir liði sínu. Bað menn vera vara,
house-assembly on and talked before troop his Bade men be wary
ok gæta sín vel, ok liggja hverja nótt á skipum; "Þvíat
and guard themselves well and lie every night on ships Because
mér er Sveins á engri stundu örvæna í Orkneyjar, því heldr
to-me is of-Svein at no time unexpected to Orkney that rather
er hann gjörði meira orð á at hann mundi ór landi."
when he made more word on-it that he would out-of (the)-land
Á öndurðum vetri fóru þeir Sveinn ór Þórsá ok vendu
At (the)-beginning of-winter went they Svein out-of Thurso and turned
vestr fyrir Skotland. Þeir höfðu sjau skip, ok öll vel skipuð ok
west past Scotland They had seven ships and all well manned and
stór. Þeir tóku róðrar-leiði. En er þeir vóru á leið komnir
big They took rowing-weather But when they were on way come
á braut af Nesinu, fóru njósnar-menn Rögnvalds jarls út í
off away from the-Ness went spies of-Rognvald earl out to
Eyjarnar, ok sögðu honum þessi tíðindi. Jarlar lögðu þá
the-Isles and told him these tidings (The)-earls laid then
skipum sínum til Skálp-eiðs; ok vildi Rögnvaldr jarl at þeir
ships their to Scapa and wished Rognvald earl that they
lægi á skipum sínum um hríð. Þá er þeir Sveinn kómu
lay on ships their for a-while Then when they Svein came
mjök svá vestr at Stauri, ræddi Sveinn um, at þeir mundi
much nearly west to Staur talked Svein about-it that they would
ekki kvelja sik lengr á róðri; ok bað þá snúa skipunum,
not torment themselves longer at rowing and bade them turn the-ships
ok vinda segl sín. Þessi ráðagjörð þótti mönnum heldr
and wind sails their This counsel-making seemed to-men rather

úmerkilig; en þó var svá gjört sem Sveinn vildi. En er þeir
worthless but yet was so done as Svein wished But when they
höfðu um siglt, tölðu snekkjurnar skjótt fyrir vindinum. Ok er
had about sailed counted the-warships quickly before the-wind And is
ekki getið um ferð þeirra, fyrr en þeir koma í Orkneyjar
not mentioned about journey their earlier than they come to Orkney
í Vágaland. Þar spurðu þeir, at jarlar lágu við Skálpeið
to Walls There learned they that (the)-earls lay by Scapa
fjórtán skipum fyrir Knarrar-stöðu[m]. Þar var þá Erlendr
with-fourteen ships off Knarston There was then Erlend
úngi, ok Eirekr stagbrellr, ok mart annarra göfugra manna.
(the)-Young and Eirik Stay-Brails and many of-other noble men

CIII · THE BATTLE IN THE NIGHT

Erlendr and Sveinn surprised the earls' ships and took them; Rögnvaldr escaped from Knarston, where Bótólfr's verse sent his pursuers astray.

Þorbjörn klerkr var farinn austr í Fjörðu í Papule til Hákonar
Thorbjorn Clerk was gone east to (the)-Firths in Papuli to Hakon
karls, mágs síns. Þorbjörn átti þá Íngigerði dóttur hans.
Karl brother-in-law his Thorbjorn had then Ingigerd daughter his
Þat var fjórum nóttum fyrir Simons-messu er Sveinn veitti
That was four nights before Simon's-mass when Svein gave
þann órskurð, at hann vildi leggja at jörlum um nóttina. En
that ruling that he wished to-lay at (the)-earls in the-night But
þat þótti mönnum heldr úráðligt við þann liðs-mun sem var.
that seemed to-men rather unadvisable with that troop-difference which was
Sveinn vildi þó ráða. Ok svá var; þvíat jarl var þess fúsari.
Svein wished yet to-rule And so was because (the)-earl was of-that more-eager

Um kveldit gjörði á drífu-él blautt. Þá gekk Rögnvaldr
In the-evening made on a-sleet-squall wet Then went Rognvald
jarl af skipi sínu, ok ætlaði í Örfuru til bús síns; vissi
earl from ship his and intended to Orphir to farm his knew
hann sér einskis ótta vánir; hann var með sétta mann.
he for-himself of-no fear expectations he was with a-sixth man
Þeir kómu á Knarrar-staði í élinu. Þar bjó Bótólfr begla,
They came to Knarston in the-squall There lived Botolf Begla
Íslenzkr maðr, ok skáld gott. Hann bað Rögnvald jarl vera
an-Icelandic man and poet good He bade Rognvald earl be
þar með sér of nóttina; ok lagði þar mörg orð á.
there with himself over the-night and laid there many words on-it
Gengu þeir inn; ok vóru dregin af þeim klæði; lögðust þeir
Went they in and were drawn off them clothes lay-down they
til svefns; en Bótólfr skyldi halda vörð. Þá nótt ina sömu
to sleep but Botolf should hold watch That night the same
lögðu þeir Erlendr jarl at þeim Haraldi jarli; ok kómu
laid they Erlend earl at them Harald earl and came
á úvart; svá at þeir urðu eigi fyrr varir við, en þeir
on unawares so that they became not earlier aware of-it than they
heyrðu herópit. Hljópu þeir þá til vápna, ok vörðust
heard the-war-cry Ran they then to weapons and defended-themselves
drengiliga. Þar varð mikit mannfall; ok lauk svá atsókninni,
manfully There was great slaughter and ended so the-attack
at Haraldr jarl hljóp á land upp, þá er fimm einir menn
that Harald earl ran on land up then when five alone men
stóðu á skipinu. Þar féll Bjarni, bróðir Erlends únga,
stood on the-ship There fell Bjarni brother of-Erlend (the)-Young
göfugr maðr, ok tíu tigir manna með honum; en fjölði varð
a-noble man and ten tens of-men with him but a-host became
sárr. Allir menn hljópu af skipum, ok flýðu á land upp.
wounded All men ran from (the)-ships and fled on land up

Fátt féll af þeim Erlendi jarli. En jarl tók þar fjórtán
Few fell of them Erlend earl But (the)-earl took there fourteen
skip er jarlar áttu, ok allt fé þat er á var. Þá
ships which (the)-earls owned and all money that which on-them was Then
er lokit var inu mesta starfinu, fréttu þeir, at Rögnvaldr
when finished was the greatest toil learned they that Rognvald
jarl hafði gengit af skipi sínu um kveldit, ok fyrst upp á
earl had gone from ship his in the-evening and first up to
Knarrar-staði. Ok þangat fóru þeir. Bótólfr búandi var úti
Knarston And thither went they Botolf (the)-farmer was outside
fyrir durum er þeir kómu þar; ok fagnar hann þeim vel.
before (the)-doors when they came there and welcomes he them well
Þeir spurðu hvárt Rögnvaldr jarl væri nökkut þar. Bótólfr
They asked whether Rognvald earl were anywhere there Botolf
kvað hann þar hafa verit um nóttina. En þeir létu ákafliga,
said him there to-have been over the-night But they let eagerly
ok spurðu hvar hann væri þá; ok kváðu hann vita mundu.
and asked where he were then and said him know would
Bótólfr rétti höndina upp um garðinn; ok kvað vísu:
Botolf stretched the-hand up over the-yard and recited verse

“Ferr at foglum harri
Goes to fowls (the)-lord
(fírar neyta vel skeyta)
men use well of-arrows
(ván á heiðar hæna
hope on of-(the)-heath hens
hnakka-dytz) und bakka:
of-neck-blow under (the)-bank

Þar lætr álmr, er ólmir
There lets (the)-elm where fierce
und-linns stafir finnast,
of-wound-serpent staves meet
(lönd verr lofðúngr brandi)
lands defends (the)-prince with-sword
lýng-hœsn dregin kýngjum."
heather-hens drawn to-kins

Jarls-menn tóku skeið ór túninu; ok þóttist sá bezt
Earl's-men took a-race out-of the-home-field and thought-himself he best
hafa er mest gat hlaupit, ok fyrst fengi vald yfir jarli.
to-have who most could run and first got power over (the)-earl
En Bótólfr gekk inn, ok vakti jarl; ok segir honum þau
But Botolf went in and woke (the)-earl and tells him those
tíðindi, er orðit höfðu of nóttina, ok svá hvat jarls-menn
tidings which happened had in the-night and so what earl's-men
höfðust at. Hljópu þeir þá upp, ok klæddust; ok fóru
did at Ran they then up and dressed and went
þegar á brott, ok í Örfuru til bús jarls. Ok er þeir
at-once off away and to Orphir to (the)-farm of-(the)-earl And when they
kómu þar, var þar fyrir Haraldr jarl á laun. Fóru þeir þá
came there was there before Harald earl in secret Went they then
þegar yfir á Nes á sínum báti hvárr þeirra, annarr með
at-once over to (the)-Ness on their-own boat each of-them one with
þriðja mann, en annarr við fjórða mann. Allir menn þeirra
a-third man but (the)-other with a-fourth man All men their
fóru yfir á Nes, svá sem far fengu. Þeir Erlendr jarl
went over to (the)-Ness so as passage got They Erlend earl
ok Sveinn tóku öll skip jarlanna, ok ofa-fé mikit. Sveinn
and Svein took all ships of-the-earls and vast-wealth much Svein

Ásleifarson lét skipta til handa sér gersimum Rögnvalds
Asleif's-son let allot to hands himself (the)-treasures of-Rognvald
jarls öllum, þeim er teknar vóru á skipi hans, ok sendi
earl all those which taken were on ship his and sent
Rögnvaldi jarli yfir til Ness. Sveinn fýsti þess, at þeir
to-Rognvald earl over to (the)-Ness Svein urged that that they
Erlendr jarl legði skipum sínum út í Vága-land; ok skyldi
Erlend earl laid ships their out to Walls and should
þar liggja við fjörðinn, er þeir sæi skipa-ferðir, þegar er færi
there lie by the-firth where they saw ship-goings as-soon as went
frá Nesinu. Þótti þaðan gott at sæta áhlaupum, ef færi
from the-Ness Seemed thence good to lie-in-wait-for onsets if chance
gæfi á. En Erlendr jarl réð, fyrir sakir áeggjanar liðsmanna,
gave on But Erlend earl decided for sake of-egging of-troop-men
at þeir fóru norðr til Daminseyjar; ok drukku þar um daga
that they went north to Damsay and drank there over days
í skála miklum; en lögðu hvern aptan skipin í tengsl, ok
in a-hall great but laid each evening the-ships in lashing and
sváfu á þeim of nætr; ok leið svá fram á Jóla-föstu. Þat
slept on them over nights and passed so forward to Yule-fast That
var fimm nóttum fyrir Jól er Sveinn Ásleifarson fór austr
was five nights before Yule when Svein Asleif's-son went east
í Sandvík til Sigríðar, frændkonu sinnar; hann skyldi sætta
to Sandwick to Sigrid kinswoman his he should reconcile
hana við nábúa sinn, þann er Björn hét. En áðr hann
her with neighbor her that who Bjorn was-called But before he
fór, ræddi hann um við Erlend jarl, at hann skyldi sofa á
went talked he about-it with Erlend earl that he should sleep on
skipum um nóttina, ok vera þá eigi úvarari þótt hann væri
ships over the-night and be then not less-wary though he were
eigi við. Sveinn var eina nótt at Sigríðar frændkonu sinnar.
not by Svein was one night at Sigrid's kinswoman his

Erlendr heeded Sveinn's warning and slept aboard, but with only twenty-four men and dead drunk, and the earls attacked; his body was found two nights before Yule with a spear through it.

Gísl hét maðr; hann var landseti Sveins, ok kærr vinr.
Gisl was-called a-man he was tenant of-Svein and dear friend
Hann feldi bæn at Sveini, at hann skyldi þar gista at
He laid prayer to Svein that he should there lodge at
hans, ok sjá yfir ráð hans. Hann hafði látið heita mungát,
his and see over affairs his He had let brew ale
ok vildi þat veita þeim Sveini. Þá er þeir kómu um
and wished that to-give to-them Svein Then when they came in
kveldit til Gils, var þeim sagt, at Erlendr jarl hefði eigi
the-evening to Gisl was to-them told that Erlend earl had not
gengit til skipa um kveldit. Þegar er Sveinn spurði þetta,
gone to ships in the-evening As-soon as Svein learned this
sendi hann Margað Grímsson til jarlsins, ok tvá menn aðra;
sent he Margad Grim's-son to the-earl and two men others
ok bað hann gefa gaum at ráðum hans, þótt hann gjörði
and bade him give heed to counsels his though he did
eigi svá ena fyrri nótt: "En þat þykki mér uggligt, at ek
not so the former night But that seems to-me fearful that I
þurfa skamma hríð ráð at gjöra fyrir jarli þessum." Þeir
need short while counsel to make for earl this They
Margaðr fóru á fund Erlends jarls, ok sögðu honum
Margad went to (the)-meeting of-Erlend earl and told him
orð Sveins. Menn jarls kvóðu honum undarliga farit;
(the)-words of-Svein Men of-(the)-earl said him strangely gone
sögðu at honum þótti annat leiti ekki úfært; en stundum
said that to-him seemed one time nothing impassable but sometimes

var hann svá hræddr, at hann vissi eigi hvar hann skyldi
was he so afraid that he knew not where he should
varðveita sik eðr aðra. Sögðu þeir þat, at þeir vildu sofa
guard himself or others Said they that that they wished to-sleep
í ró á landi, ok fara eigi til skipa. Jarl kvað svá vera
in quiet on land and go not to ships (The)-earl said so to-be
skyldu, sem Sveinn hafði fyrir mælt. Ok kom því svá, at
should as Svein had for spoken And came it so that
jarl gekk á skip sitt með fjóra menn ok tuttugu; en
(the)-earl went onto ship his with four men and twenty but
allir aðrir lágu at húsi. Þeir Margaðr, lágu í annarri vík
all others lay at (the)-house They Margad lay in another bay
skamt þaðan. Þessa nótt ena sömu kómu þeir Rögnvaldr jarl
short thence This night the same came they Rognvald earl
ok Haraldr jarl at óvörum Erlendi jarli, svá at varðmenn
and Harald earl on unawares on-Erlend earl so that watchmen
þeir, er vökðu á eyjunni ok á skipinu, urðu hvárigir varir
those who woke on the-island and on the-ship became neither aware
við fyrr en þeir gengu upp á skipit. Ormr hét maðr,
of-it earlier than they went up onto the-ship Orm was-called a-man
en annarr Úfi; þeir vóru í fyrirrúmi á skipi Erlends
but another Ufi they were in (the)-fore-room on (the)-ship of-Erlend
jarls. Úfi hljóp upp, ok vildi vekja jarl; ok fékk eigi vakit
earl Ufi leapt up and wished to-wake (the)-earl and got not woken
hann; svá var hann dauð-drukkinn. Úfi þreif jarl í
him so was he dead-drunk Ufi grabbed (the)-earl into
fang sér; ok hljóp útbyrðis með hann; [ok] í eptirbát,
embrace his and leapt overboard with him and into (the)-afterboat
er flaut við skipit; en Ormr hljóp á annat borð, ok
which floated by the-ship but Orm leapt on (the)-other side and
komst hann á land. En jarl lézt ok flestir menn aðrir
got he to land But (the)-earl died and most men other

þeir er á skipunum voru. Þeir á Sveins skipi vöknuðu við
those who on the-ships were They on Svein's ship woke at
herópit; hjoggu þeir strengina, ok lögðu þeir fyrir nesit.
the-war-cry hewed they the-cables and laid they past the-ness
En nýlýsi var mikit, ok sá þeir þá, at jarlarnir lögðu
But new-light was much and saw they then that the-earls laid
frá. Þóttust þeir þá skilja at umskipti mundu
off Thought-themselves they then to-understand that change would
orðin með þeim. Réru húskarlar Sveins þá á brott, ok
become between them Rowed housecarls of-Svein then off away and
fóru fyrst til Rennadals; en sendu Sveini mann, at segja
went first to Rennadal but sent to-Svein a-man to tell
honum slíkt er þá höfðu þeir spurt. Haraldr jarl vildi gefa
him such as then had they learned Harald earl wished to-give
grið mönnum Erlends jarls; en Rögnvaldr jarl vildi bíða
truce to-men of-Erlend earl but Rognvald earl wished to-wait
fyrst, hvárt fyndist lík hans, eðr hefði hann undan komizt.
first whether were-found body his or had he away come
Lík Erlends jarls fanst tveim nóttum fyrir Jól; var
(The)-body of-Erlend earl was-found two nights before Yule was
sét spjót-skapt standa upp ór þara-bróki. Ok er til var
seen a-spear-shaft stand up out-of a-seaweed-heap And when to-it was
komit, stóð þat spjót í gögnum hann. Var lík hans fært
come stood that spear in through him Was body his brought
til kirkju; en þá vóru gefin grið mönnum jarls, ok
to church but then were given truces to-men of-(the)-earl and
svá húskörlum Sveins fjórum er teknir vóru. Jóann hét
also to-housecarls of-Svein four who taken were Jon was-called
maðr, er kallaðr var vengr; hann var systur-son Jóns vengs,
a-man who called was Wing he was sister's-son of-Jon Wing
er fyrr var getið; hann hafði verit með Hákoni karli, ok
who before was mentioned he had been with Hakon Karl and

hafði gjört systur hans barn, ok hlaupizt þá á braut í
had made sister his a-child and run then off away on
víkíng með Anakol; en nú var hann við Erlendi jarli, ok
viking with Anakol but now was he with Erlend earl and
hafði þá eigi við bardagann verit. Menn Erlends jarls sóttu
had then not at the-battle been Men of-Erlend earl sought
í Kirkjuvág, ok gættu sín í Magnús-kirkju. Jarlarnir fara
to Kirkwall and guarded themselves in Magnus-church The-earls go
ok þangat, ok var þar þá lagðr sáttar-fundr í kirkjunni.
also thither and was there then laid settlement-meeting in the-church
Þá náði Jón eigi fyrr sættum af jörlum en hann hét
Then got Jon not earlier settlement from (the)-earls than he promised
at gjöra brúðlaup til konunnar. Þar svörðu allir menn
to make wedding to the-woman There swore all men
jörlunum eiða, ok gjörðu þeir þat mál heldr úvant. Jón vengr
to-the-earls oaths and made they that case rather unhard Jon Wing
bazt á hendi Haraldi jarli, ok gjörðist ármaðr hans.
bound-himself on hand to-Harald earl and became steward his

CV · SVEINN IN THE CAVE

Sveinn killed Erlendr's slayer and was reconciled with the earls, but quarreled again with Haraldr. Pursued, he hid his ship in a sea cave and escaped; at Bárðr's farm Jón Wing fled from Sveinn without stopping to tie his shoes.

Þá er Sveinn Ásleifarson spurði fall Erlends jarls, fór
Then when Svein Asleif's-son learned (the)-fall of-Erlend earl went
hann til Rennadals, ok fann þar húskarla sína. Kunnu
he to Rennadal and found there housecarls his Could
þeir glöggliga at segja frá tíðindum er gjörzt höfðu í
they clearly to tell about (the)-tidings which happened had in

Daminsey. Síðan fóru þeir Sveinn til Hrólfs-eyjar, ok kómu
Damsay Then went they Svein to Rousay and came
þar at flæði sæfar. Þeir báru reiða allan frá skipinu, ok sá
there at flood of-sea They bore rigging all from the-ship and saw
fyrir. Þeir skiptu mönnum í bygðir, ok héldu njósnum
for-it They divided men into settlements and held spies
frá sér til jarlanna, ok annarra hinna stærri manna, hvat
from themselves to the-earls and other the greater men what
hverigir höfðust at, Sveinn Ásleifarson gekk þar á fjall
each did at Svein Asleif's-son went there on (the)-mountain
upp við hinn sétta mann, ok öðrum-megin til sæfar, ok
up with the sixth man and on-other-side to (the)-sea and
leyndust þannig í myrkrinu heim á bæ nokkurn. Þeir
stole thus in the-darkness home to farm some They
heyrðu inn mælgi mikla. Þar vóru þeir feðgar, Þorfinnr
heard inside talk much There were they father-and-son Thorfinn
ok Ögmundr, ok Erlendr mágr þeirra. Hann Erlendr hældist
and Ogmund and Erlend in-law their He Erlend boasted
því fyrir þeim feðgum, at hann hefði Erlendi jarli veitt
that before those father-and-son that he had to-Erlend earl given
bana-sár; en allir þóttust þeir allvel barizt hafa. Ok er
(the)-death-wound but all thought they very-well fought to-have And when
Sveinn heyrði þetta, hleypr hann inn í húsit at þeim, ok
Svein heard this leaps he in into the-house at them and
förunautar hans eptir honum. Sveinn varð skjótastr; ok hjó
companions his after him Svein was swiftest and hewed
hann Erlend þegar bana-högg; en þeir tóku Þorfinn höndum,
he Erlend at-once a-death-blow but they took Thorfinn with-hands
ok höfðu með sér; en Ögmundr var sárr nokkut. Þeir
and had with themselves but Ogmund was wounded somewhat They
Sveinn fóru á Þíngavöll; þar bjó þá Helgi, föður-bróðir
Svein went to Thingvoll there lived then Helgi father's-brother

Sveins, ok vóru þar öndurð Jólin á laun. Rögnvaldr jarl
of-Svein and were there (the)-early the-Yule in secret Rognvald earl
fór til Damins-eyjar at Jólunum, en Haraldr jarl var eptir
went to Damsay at the-Yule but Harald earl was behind
at Kirkjuvági. Rögnvaldr jarl sendi menn á Þínga-völl til
at Kirkwall Rognvald earl sent men to Thingvoll to
Helga, ok bað hann segja Sveini frænda sínum, ef hann
Helgi and bade him tell Svein kinsman his if he
vissi nokkut til, hvar hann var, at jarl vill bjóða honum
knew anything of where he was that (the)-earl will invite him
til sín um Jólin; ok kvaðst vilja eiga hlut at, at sætta
to himself over the-Yule and said-himself to-wish to-have share in to reconcile
þá Harald jarl. Ok er Sveini kómu þessi orð, fór hann á
them Harald earl And when to-Svein came these words went he to
fund Rögnvalds jarls við hinn sétta mann, ok var með
(the)-meeting of-Rognvald earl with the sixth man and was with
hönum ofanverð Jólin. En eptir Jólin var lagðr sáttar-fundr
him (the)-latter the-Yule But after the-Yule was laid settlement-meeting
með þeim Sveini ok jörlunum; skyldi þar þá lúka öllum
between them Svein and the-earls should there then finish all
málum þeim er þá var eigi sæzt á áðr. Ok er þeir
cases those which then was not settled on before And when they
fundust, átti Rögnvaldr jarl hlut at at sætta þá Harald jarl
met had Rognvald earl share in to reconcile them Harald earl
ok Svein. En flestir menn vóru þar tillaga-illir, þeir er eigi
and Svein But most men were there ill-disposed those who not
vóru annat-hvárt vinir eðr frændr Sveins; en hinir sögðu,
were one-or-other friends or kinsmen of-Svein but the-others said
at jafnan mundi úrói standa af Sveini, ef hann væri eigi
that always would unrest stand from Svein if he were not
gjörr á brott ór Eyjunum. En þat var[ð] at sætt, at
made off away out-of the-Isles But that came to settlement that

Sveinn skyldi gjalda mörk gulls hvárum jarlinum, ok láta
Svein should pay a-mark of-gold to-each the-earl and let
hálfar jarðir sínar ok langskip gott. Sveinn svarar gjörðinni:
half lands his and longship good Svein answers the-award
"Þá munu sættir bezt haldast ef ek em úhrakiðr til." Eigi
Then will settlements best hold if I am not-driven to-it Not
vildi Rögnvaldr jarl hafa gjaldit af Sveini; kveðst í
wished Rognvald earl to-have the-payment from Svein said-himself in
engu vilja hrekja hann; kveðst miklu meiri slægja þykkja
nothing to-wish to-drive him said-himself much greater gain to-seem
til vináttu hans en í fé. Haraldr jarl fór eptir sættina
to friendship his than in money Harald earl went after the-settlement
til Gareks-eyjar til bús Sveins, ok bjó þá heldr úspakliga
to Gairsay to (the)-farm of-Svein and lived then rather unpeaceably
kornum hans, ok öðru því sem hann átti. En er Sveinn
with-grain his and other that which he owned But when Svein
spurði þetta, kærði hann fyrir Rögnvaldi jarli, ok kallaði
learned this complained he before Rognvald earl and called
þetta sætta-brigði; ok kvaðst vilja fara heim ok sjá um
this settlement-breach and said-himself to-wish to-go home and see about
föng sín. Rognvaldr jarl mælti: "Ver með mér, Sveinn; ok
goods his Rognvald earl spoke Be with me Svein and
vil ek senda orð jarli, ok leggja enn í umræðu mál
will I send word to-(the)-earl and lay again into discussion case
yður. En ek vil eigi at þú ætlir þat at keppa við Harald
your But I wish not that you intend that to contend with Harald
jarl; því at þér mun hann verða of-maðr í deildum, þótt
earl for that to-you will he be too-strong in quarrels though
þú sér mikill fyrir þér ok vaskr maðr." En Sveinn vildi
you be great in yourself and valiant man But Svein wished
eigi letjast láta, ok fór með hinn tíunda mann á skútu í
not be-dissuaded to-let and went with the tenth man on a-skiff to

Gareksey; ok kómu síð um kveldit. Þeir sá eld í bak-húsi;
Gairsay and came late in the-evening They saw fire in a-back-house
fór Sveinn þagat til; vildi hann, at þeir tæki eldinn, ok
went Svein thither to wished he that they took the-fire and
bæri at skálanum, ok brendi bæinn, ok jarl inni. Sveinn
bore to the-hall and burned the-farm and (the)-earl inside Svein
Blakara son hét maðr; hann var mest-háttar þeirra manna
Blakari's son was-called a-man he was most-of-account of-those men
er óru þar með Sveini; hann latti þessa mest, ok kallaði
who were there with Svein he discouraged this most and called
vera mega at jarl væri eigi á bænum. En þótt hann
be may that (the)-earl were not on the-farm But though he
væri þar, segir hann, at þeir myndu eigi láta ná útgöngu
were there says he that they would not let get out-going
konu hans né dætr; en segir, at þat var úfært at
wife his nor daughters but says that that was not-to-be-done to
brenna þær inni. Þeir Sveinn gengu þá at durum, ok inn
burn them inside They Svein went then to (the)-doors and in
fyrir skála-dyrnar. Hljópu þeir menn þá upp, er í skálanum
before (the)-hall-doors Ran those men then up who in the-hall
vóru, ok kómu aptr hurðu. Urðu þeir Sveinn þá varir, at
were and came back (the)-doors Became they Svein then aware that
jarl var eigi á bænum. En þeir er inni vóru, gáfu upp
(the)-earl was not on the-farm But they who inside were gave up
vörnina, ok seldu þeim Sveini vápnin; ok gengu út allir
the-defense and handed them Svein the-weapons and went out all
slyppir; ok gaf Sveinn grið öllum húskörlum jarls. Sveinn
weaponless and gave Svein truce to-all housecarls of-(the)-earl Svein
steypti niðr öllu mungáti sínu, ok hafði á braut með sér
poured down all ale his and had off away with himself
konu sína ok dætr. Hann spurði Íngiríði konu sína, hvar
wife his and daughters He asked Ingirid wife his where

Haraldr jarl væri; en hon vildi eigi segja. “Þegi þú þá,
Harald earl were but she wished not to-say Be-silent you then
ok bend oss.” Eigi vildi hon þat. Hon var frændkona
and point-out-to us Not would she that She was kinswoman
jarls. Af höndum seldi Sveinn vápnin sum, er þeir
of-(the)-earl From hands handed Svein the-weapons some when they
kómu á skip. Lokit var sættum þeirra jarls þá er þetta
came on ship Finished was settlement of-them earl then when this
spurðist. Haraldr jarl var farinn til lítillar eyjar at veiða héra.
was-learned Harald earl was gone to a-little island to hunt hares
Sveinn hélt til Hellis-eyjar; hon er sæbrött ey, ok hellir
Svein held to Hellisey it is a-sea-steep island and a-cave
mikill í berginu; ok féll sær fyrir hellis-dyrnar at flæðum.
great in the-cliff and fell sea before (the)-cave-doors at floods
Þá er húskarlar Haralds jarls fengu vápn sín af þeim
Then when housecarls of-Harald earl got weapons their from them
Sveini, fóru þeir þegar á fund Haralds jarls, ok sögðu
Svein went they at-once to (the)-meeting of-Harald earl and told
honum um skipti þeirra Sveins. Jarlinn lét þá þegar hrinda
him about dealings their of-Svein The-earl let then at-once push
fram skipi sínu, ok eggjaði, at þeir skyldu róa eptir þeim,
forward ship his and urged that they should row after them
“Ok látum nú til stáls sverfa með oss.” Tóku þeir þá róðr
And let-us now to steel file between us Took they then rowing
eptir þeim, ok sá þá hvárir aðra, ok kendusk. Ok er
after them and saw then each-side (the)-other and knew-each-other And when
Sveinn sér at þeir jarl draga eptir þeim, ræddi Sveinn
Svein sees that they (the)-earl draw after them talked Svein
um: “Vær munum verða at leita oss ráðs nokkurs; þvíat
about-it We will have to seek ourselves counsel some because
mér er eigi um at finna hann, þannig sem til bakat er,
to-me is not about-it to meet him thus as to baked is

við liðs-mun þann er vera mun. Munu vær þat ráð
with troop-difference that which be will Will we that counsel
taka," segir hann, "at fara til hellisins, ok vita hvat þar
take says he to go to the-cave and know what there
skapist at váru máli." Svá gjörðu þeir Sveinn. Kómu til
shapes in our case So did they Svein Came to
hellisins at atfalli; settu þar upp skipit; því at hellinum
the-cave at (the)-flood-tide set there up the-ship for that the-cave
veik í bjargit upp; féll þar sær fyrir hellis-munnann. Þeir
turned into the-rock upward fell there sea before (the)-cave-mouth They
Haraldr jarl fóru at leita þeirra um daginn um eyna; ok
Harald earl went to seek them over the-day about the-island and
fundu þá eigi; þeir sá ok skipa-farar engar frá eyjunni.
found them not they saw also ship-goings none from the-island
Þetta undruðust þeir mjök; þótti þeim úlíkligt, at Sveinn
This wondered they much seemed to-them unlikely that Svein
mundi hafa sokkit niðr. Þeir réru um-hverfum eyna at
would have sunk down They rowed around the-island to
leita Sveins, ok fundu eigi, sem líkligt var. Gjörðu þeir
seek Svein and found not as likely was Made they
þat þá helzt af, at þá Svein mundi borit hafa at öðrum
that then most of that then Svein would borne have to other
eyjum. Reru þeir þannig þá at leita, sem þeim þótti
islands Rowed they thus then to seek as to-them seemed
líkligast. Var þat mjök jafn-skjótt, er þeir jarl reru
likeliest Was that much equally-quickly when they (the)-earl rowed
á brott, ok sjórinn féll frá hellis-munnanum. Þeir Sveinn
off away and the-sea fell from (the)-cave-mouth They Svein
höfðu heyrt viðræðu þeirra jarls, ok hans manna. Sveinn
had heard (the)-talk of-them (the)-earl and of-his men Svein
lét eptir skip sitt í hellinum, en þeir tóku byrðing einn
let behind ship his in the-cave but they took a-cargo-boat one

fornan í eyjunni, er múnkar áttu, ok héldu til Sandeyjar.
old on the-island which monks owned and held to Sanday
Gengu þeir þar upp, en hrundu út byrðínginum; ok rak
Went they there up but pushed out the-cargo-boat and drifted
hann um strandir, þar til er hann braut. En þeir Sveinn
it about (the)-shores there till when it broke But they Svein
gengu upp á eyna, ok kómu á bæ þann, er heitir á
went up on the-island and came to farm that which is-called at
Völunesi; þar bjó sá maðr, er hét Bárðr, frændi Sveins.
Voluness there lived that man who was-called Bard kinsman of-Svein
Þeir kölluðu hann út leyniliga, ok sagði Sveinn at hann
They called him out secretly and said Svein that he
vildi þar vera. Bárðr kvað hann mundu slíku ráða, "En
wished there to-be Bard said him would such decide But
ekki þori ek, at þér sét eigi á laun." Þeir gengu inn,
not dare I that you be not in secret They went in
ok vóru einir í húsi, svá at vand-bálkr einn var í milli
and were alone in a-house so that wainscot-partition one was in between
þeirra ok annarra manna. Laundyrr vóru á húsinu, því er
them and other men A-secret-door was on the-house that which
þeir Sveinn vóru í, ok var hlaðit í grjóti lausliga. Þann
they Svein were in and was walled-up with stone loosely That
aptan kom Jón vængr, ármaðr Haralds jarls ok þeir sjau
evening came Jon Wing steward of-Harald earl and they seven
saman. Tók Bárðr bóndi vel við þeim; ok vóru gjörfir
together Took Bard (the)-farmer well with them and were made
eldar stórir fyrir þeim, ok bökuðust þeir við. Jón var
fires big before them and warmed-themselves they by-them Jon was
óðmálugr, ok ræddi um tíðindi þau, er gjörzt höfðu um
talkative and talked about tidings those which happened had about
skipti þau, er jarlar höfðu við ázt ok Sveinn; ámælti
dealings those which (the)-earls had with had and Svein blamed

hann mjök Sveini, ok kvað hann vera griðníðíng ok engum
he much Svein and said him be truce-breaker and to-no-one
trúan; hafði hann nú sæzt við Harald jarl, ok vildi þegar
true had he now settled with Harald earl and wished at-once
fara at honum ok brenna hann inni; sagði ok aldri mundu
to-go at him and burn him inside said also never would
vera frið í landi fyrr en Sveinn væri ór landi rekinn.
be peace in (the)-land earlier than Svein were out-of (the)-land driven
Bárðr bóndi ok föru-nautar Jóns svöruðu heldr fyrir
Bard (the)-farmer and companions of-Jon answered rather for
Svein. Eptir þat tók Jón at ámæla Erlendi jarli; ok kvað
Svein After that took Jon to blame Erlend earl and said
þat eigi skaða þótt hann hefði látizt; kallaði hann þann
that not harm though he had perished called he that
ofsa-mann, at engi mátti frjálst höfuð strjúka fyrir honum.
overbearing-man that no-one might free head stroke before him
Ok er Sveinn heyrði þetta, þá mátti hann eigi standast;
And when Svein heard this then might he not withstand
ok þreif til vápna sinna, ok hljóp at laundurum, ok hratt
and grabbed to weapons his and leapt at (the)-secret-door and pushed
ór grjótinu. Þá varð hark mikit. Sveinn ætlaði at hlaupa
out-of the-stone Then became din great Svein intended to leap
fyrir skála-dyrnar. Jón sat í skyrtu ok línbrókum. Ok er
before (the)-hall-doors Jon sat in shirt and linen-breeches And when
hann heyrði til Sveins, batt hann eigi lengi skó sína, ok
he heard of Svein tied he not long shoes his and
hljóp út frá eldinum, ok þegar í brott af bænum. En
leapt out from the-fire and at-once off away from the-farm But
niðmyrkr var á, ok frost mikit. Hann kom um nóttina á
pitch-dark was on and frost great He came in the-night to
annan bæ, ok var kalinn mjök á fótum, svá at af leysti
another farm and was frozen much on (the)-feet so that off loosened

sumar tærnar. Sveinn gaf grið förunautum Jóns fyrir orð
some the-toes Svein gave truce to-companions of-Jon for (the)-words
Bárðar bónda. Sveinn var þar um nóttina. En eptir um
of-Bard (the)-farmer Svein was there over the-night But after in
morgininn fóru þeir brott þaðan með skútu, er Bárðr
the-morning went they away thence with a-skiff which Bard
átti, ok fékk Sveini. Fóru þeir þá suðr til Rögnvalds-eyjar,
owned and got for-Svein Went they then south to Ronaldsay
ok lendu í Barðsvík, ok vóru við helli einn. Sveinn var
and landed in Bardswick and were by cave one Svein was
stundum um daginn at húsi, ok drakk þar; en svaf við
sometimes over the-day at (the)-house and drank there but slept by
skip um nætr, ok gætti sín svá við úvinum sínum.
(the)-ship over nights and guarded himself so against enemies his

CVI · SVEINN AND RÖGNVALDR RECONCILED

On Ronaldsay Rögnvaldr's ship ran aground beside Sveinn's skiff; Sveinn held his spear and did not throw, and the earl raised a peace shield.

Þa[t] var einn morgin snemma, at þeir Sveinn sá langskip
That was one morning early that they Svein saw longship
mikit [fara] frá Hrossey ok til Rögnvaldseyjar; ok kendi
big go from Hrossey and to Ronaldsay and knew
Sveinn þegar, at þat var skip Rögnvalds jarls, þat er
Svein at-once that that was (the)-ship of-Rognvald earl that which
hann var sjálfr vanr at stýra; ok lögðu til Rögnvalds-eyjar,
he was himself wont to steer and laid to Ronaldsay
ok þar at sem lá skúta þeirra Sveins; ok gengu fimm
and there at where lay skiff their Svein's and went five

menn upp af skipi jarls; en þeir Sveinn vóru á hæð
men up from (the)-ship of-(the)-earl but they Svein were on height
nokkurri ok grýttu þaðan á menn jarls. Ok er þeir sá
some and stoned thence at men of-(the)-earl And when they saw
þat af skipinu, brutu menn upp vápn sín. En er þeir
that from the-ship broke men up weapons their But when they
Sveinn sá þat, hljópu þeir af hæðinni ok í fjöruna, ok
Svein saw that ran they from the-height and into the-foreshore and
hrundu út skútunni ok hljópu þar á. Langskipit hafði rent
pushed out the-skiff and leapt there on The-longship had run
upp, svá at þat var fast. Sveinn stóð upp í skútunni, er
up so that it was fast Svein stood up in the-skiff when
þeir réru út hjá langskipinu, ok hafði spjót í hendi. En er
they rowed out by the-longship and had a-spear in hand But when
Rögnvaldr jarl sá þat, þá tók hann skjöld, ok setti fyrir
Rognvald earl saw that then took he a-shield and set before
sik; en Sveinn skaut eigi spjótinu. En er jarl sá at
himself but Svein shot not the-spear But when (the)-earl saw that
skilja mundi með þeim, lét hann bregða upp frið-skildi, ok
part would between them let he raise up a-peace-shield and
beiddi at þeir Sveinn skyldi at landi fara. En er Sveinn sá
asked that they Svein should to land go But when Svein saw
þat, bað hann sína menn at landi leggja, ok kveðst enn
that bade he his men to land lay and said-himself still
við þat bezt una, ef hann yrði sáttr við Rögnvald jarl.
with that best be-content if he became reconciled with Rognvald earl

Sveinn and Haraldr were reconciled at Ámundi's bidding. Sveinn seized Jón Wing's brothers and set up a gallows but let them go; Rögnvaldr made Jón return Sveinn's son Ólafr.

Eptir þat gengu þeir á land, Rögnvaldr jarl ok Sveinn, ok
After that went they on land Rognvald earl and Svein and
töluðu tveir samt lengi; ok lagðist vel á með þeim. Ok
talked two together long and lay well on between them And
er þeir sátu á talinu, þá sá þeir siglíng Haralds jarls, er
when they sat at the-talk then saw they (the)-sailing of-Harald earl when
hann fór frá Katanesi ok til Vágalands. Ok er skipit bar
he went from Caithness and to Walls And when the-ship bore
undir eyna, þá spurði Sveinn jarl, hvat til ráða skyldi
under the-island then asked Svein (the)-earl what for counsel should
taka. Jarl segir at Sveinn skyldi fara yfir á Nes þá
take (The)-earl says that Svein should go over to (the)-Ness then
þegar. Þetta var á Langa-föstu. Þeir fóru jafn-snemma ór
at-once This was in Lent They went equally-early from
Rögnvalds-ey. Fór jarl til Hross-eyjar, en Sveinn fór vestr
Ronaldsay Went (the)-earl to Hrossey but Svein went west
í Straumey; ok sá þeir Haraldr jarl skipit, ok þóttust
to Stroma and saw they Harald earl the-ship and thought-themselves
kenna, at Sveinn átti. Héldu þeir þegar á fjörðinn eptir
to-know that Svein owned-it Held they at-once on the-firth after
þeim. Ok er þeir Sveinn sá at jarl hélt eptir þeim,
them And when they Svein saw that (the)-earl held after them
þá gengu þeir frá skipinu ok leyndust. En er Haraldr
then went they from the-ship and hid-themselves But when Harald
jarl kom til Straumeyjar, sá þeir skipit Sveins; ok grunaði
earl came to Stroma saw they the-ship of-Svein and suspected

þá, at manna-vistir mundi vera nærri, ok vildu því eigi
then that men's-dwellings would be near and wished therefore not
á land ganga. Ámundi hét maðr ok var Hnefason; hann
on land to-go Amundi was-called a-man and was Hnefi's-son he
var vinr Haralds jarls, en föður-bróðir stjúp-barna Sveins
was friend of-Harald earl but father's-brother of-(the)-stepchildren of-Svein
Ásleifarsonar; hann fór á milli þeirra, ok gat því við komit,
Asleif's-son he went in between them and got it with brought
at haldast skyldi hin sama sætt sem gjör hafði verit um
that hold should the same settlement as made had been in
vetrinn. Þá hljóp á stormr veðrs, ok urðu þeir þar at
the-winter Then leapt on storm of-weather and had they there to
vera hvárir-tveggju um náttina; ok skipaði Ámundi þeim í
be both-sides over the-night and assigned Amundi them into
eina rekkju báðum, Haraldi jarli ok Sveini. Í því húsi hvíldu
one bed both Harald earl and Svein In that house rested
margir menn hvárs þeirra. Eptir sætt þessa fór Sveinn
many men of-each of-them After settlement this went Svein
yfir á Nes, en Haraldr jarl yfir í Orkneyjar. Þat spurði
over to (the)-Ness but Harald earl over to Orkney That learned
Sveinn til orða jarls, at hann kallaði sætt þeirra heldr
Svein of words of-(the)-earl that he called settlement their rather
lausliga. Lítinn gaum gaf Sveinn at því. Hann fór suðr
loose Little heed gave Svein to that He went south
í Dala, ok var um Páskana með Sumarliða vin sínum;
to Dalir and was over the-Easter with Sumarlidi friend his
en Haraldr jarl fór norðr á Hjaltland, ok var þar mjök
but Harald earl went north to Shetland and was there much
lengi um várit. Sveinn fór sunnan ep[tir] Páskana, ok
long in the-spring Svein went from-the-south after the-Easter and
mætti á leiðinni bræðrum Jóns vængs tveimr; hét annarr
met on the-way brothers of-Jon Wing two was-called one

Bunu Pétr, en annarr Blán. Þeir Sveinn tóku þá höndum,
Bunu- Petr but (the)-other Blann They Svein took them with-hands
ok tóku af þeim féit allt, en fluttu þá til lands; var
and took from them the-money all but brought them to land was
þeim þá högginn gálgi. Ok er allt var til búit, mælti
for-them then hewn a-gallows And when all was to ready spoke
Sveinn, at þeir skyldi hlaupa á land upp; kvað Jóni bróður
Svein that they should run on land up said for-Jon brother
þeirra þat meiri skamm at þeir lifði. Þeir vóru lengi úti,
their that greater shame that they lived They were long out
ok kalnir mjök, er þeir kómu til bæja. Sveinn fór þaðan
and frozen much when they came to farms Svein went thence
í Suðreyjar til Ljóðhúsa, ok dvaldist þar um hríð. En er
to (the)-Hebrides to Lewis and stayed there for a-while But when
Jón vængr spurði, at Sveinn hafði handtekit bræðr hans, en
Jon Wing learned that Svein had captured brothers his but
vissi eigi hvat er hann hafði af þeim gjört, þá fór hann
knew not what that he had of them done then went he
í Eyna-helgu, ok tók þar Ólaf, son Sveins Ásleifarsonar,
to Eynhallow and took there Olaf son of-Svein Asleif's-son
fóstra Kolbeins hrúgu, ok fór með í Vestrey. Þá fundu
foster-son of-Kolbein Heap and went with-him to Westray Then met
þeir Rögnvald jarl á Hreppis-nesi. Ok er jarl sá Ólaf
they Rognvald earl at Rapness And when (the)-earl saw Olaf
þá mælti [hann]: "Hví ertú hér, Ólafr?" Hann svarar:
then spoke he Why are-you here Olaf He answers
"Jón vængr veldr því." Jarl leit til Jóns ok mælti: "Hví
Jon Wing causes that (The)-earl looked to Jon and spoke Why
fluttir þú Ólaf híngat?" Hann svaraði: "Sveinn tók bræðr
brought you Olaf hither He answered Svein took brothers
mína, ok veit ek eigi nema hann hafi drepit þá." Jarl
my and know I not but-that he has killed them (The)-earl

mælti: “Flyt þú hann aptr sem skjótast, ok dirf þik eigi,
spoke Bring you him back as quickest and dare yourself not
at gjöra honum nokkut til meins, hvat sem af bræðrum
to do him anything for harm whatever which of brothers
þínum er vorðit; þvíat þér mun fyrir hvárigum vært í
your is become because to-you will for neither-of-two safe in
Eyjum, Sveini né Kolbeini, ef þú gjörir honum nokkut.”
(the)-Isles Svein nor Kolbein if you do him anything

CVIII · THE SETTLEMENT RENEWED

Sveinn returned from the Hebrides; Hákon Karl, his captive, bought himself free, and the earls renewed the settlement with Sveinn in Magnús’s church.

Eptir Páska um várit byrjaði Sveinn ferð sína ór
After Easter in the-spring began Svein journey his out-of
Suðreyjum, ok hafði sex tigi manna. Hann hélt til Orkneyja,
(the)-Hebrides and had six tens of-men He held to Orkney
ok fyrst til Hrólfs-eyjar. Þar tóku þeir þann mann er
and first to Rousay There took they that man who
Hákon karl hét; hann hafði verit með Haraldi jarli þá
Hakon Karl was-called he had been with Harald earl then
er Erlendr jarl féll. Hákon leystist af þrem mörkum
when Erlend earl fell Hakon released-himself with three marks
gulls, ok frelsti sik svá við Svein. Þar í Hrólfsey fundu
of-gold and freed himself so with Svein There in Rousay found
þeir Sveinn skip þat, er jarlar höfðu gjört af Sveini,
they Svein ship that which (the)-earls had taken from Svein
ok vóru höggin ór borðin tvau. Þat hafði Rögnvaldr
and were hewn out-of the-planks two That had Rognvald
jarl gjöra látið, þvíat einginn hafði viljat kaupa né þiggja
earl make let because no-one had wished to-buy nor accept

skipit at jörlum. Sveinn hélt þaðan til Hross-eyjar, ok fann
the-ship from (the)-earls Svein held thence to Hrossey and found
Rögnvald jarl í Byrgis-héraði. Tók jarl honum þá vel, ok
Rognvald earl in Birsay-district Took (the)-earl him then well and
var Sveinn með honum um várit. Rögnvaldr jarl kveðst
was Svein with him in the-spring Rognvald earl said-himself
því hafa höggit borð ór skipinu, at hann vildi eigi
therefore to-have hewn (the)-planks out-of the-ship that he wished not
at hann gjörði skyndi-ræði þar í Eyjunum þá er hann
that he made sudden-attack there in the-Isles then when he
kæmi ór Suðreyjum. Sveinn var við fimtánda mann með
came out-of (the)-Hebrides Svein was with a-fifteenth man with
Rögnvaldi jarli. Haraldr jarl kom af Hjaltlandi um várit
Rognvald earl Harald earl came from Shetland in the-spring
á Hvíta-dögum. Ok þegar hann kom í Orkneyjar, sendi
at Whitsun And as-soon-as he came to Orkney sent
Rögnvaldr jarl menn til hans, at segja, at hann vildi at þeir
Rognvald earl men to him to say that he wished that they
Sveinn sættist af nýju. Ok var þá lagiðr sáttar-fundr
Svein were-reconciled of new And was then laid a-settlement-meeting
Föstudag í Helgu-viku í Magnús-kirkju; ok gekk Rögnvaldr
Friday in Holy-week in Magnus-church and went Rognvald
jarl með breiðöxi til fundarins, ok Sveinn með honum. Gekk
earl with a-broad-axe to the-meeting and Svein with him Went
þá saman sættin sú hin sama, sem efnuð var um vetrinn.
then together the-settlement that the same as prepared was in the-winter

Through Þorbjörn, Haraldr gave Sveinn back his goods, with the longship Sveinn had owned and half his own estates, and promised lasting friendship.

Þá gaf Rögnvaldr jarl Haraldi jarli skip þat, er átt
Then gave Rognvald earl to-Harald earl ship that which owned
hafði Sveinn, en gaf Sveini allt annat þat er gjört var,
had Svein but gave Svein all other that which done was
ok á hans hluta kom. Þeir Rögnvaldr jarl ok Sveinn stóðu
and on his share came They Rognvald earl and Svein stood
hjá kirkju-durunum meðan seglit var út borit; þvíat þat
by the-church-doors while the-sail was out borne because it
hafði verit upp lagit í Magnús-kirkju; ok var Sveinn heldr
had been up laid in Magnus-church and was Svein rather
ófrýnligr, er þeir báru út seglit. Laugardaginn eptir, þá er
grim when they bore out the-sail Saturday after then when
lokit var nón-tíðum, kómu menn Haralds jarls á fund
finished was nones came men of-Harald earl to (the)-meeting
Sveins Ásleifarsonar, ok sögðu, at hann vildi at Sveinn kæmi
of-Svein Asleif's-son and said that he wished that Svein came
til tals við hann. Þetta bar Sveinn fyrir Rögnvald jarl; ok
to talk with him This bore Svein before Rognvald earl and
fýsti hann Svein lítt þessar ferðar; kveðst eigi vita hverju
urged he Svein little this journey said-himself not to-know whom
trúa mætti. En Sveinn fór eigi at síðr, ok þeir sex saman.
trust might But Svein went not at less and they six together
Jarl sat í lítilli stofu á þver-palli, ok Þorbjörn klerkr hjá
(The)-earl sat in little room on (the)-cross-bench and Thorbjorn Clerk by
honum. Fátt var manna annat hjá jarli. Þeir kvöddu jarl
him Few was of-men other by (the)-earl They greeted (the)-earl

virðuliga; hann tók vel kveðju þeirra. Gáfu þeir Sveini rúm at
worthily he took well greeting their Gave they Svein room to
sitja; sátu þeir um hríð ok drukku. Eptir þat gekk Þorbjörn,
sit sat they for a-while and drank After that went Thorbjorn
ok sögðu þeir Sveinn svá, at þá grunaði mjök um tiltekjur
and said they Svein so that then suspected much about doings
jarls. Þorbjörn kom aptr litlu [síðarr], ok gaf Sveini
of-(the)-earl Thorbjorn came back little later and gave Svein
skarlats-kyrtil, ok skikkju, ok sverð; kvaðst eigi vita hvárt
a-scarlet-tunic and cloak and sword said-himself not to-know whether
hann vildi gjöf kalla, þvíat þessir gripir höfðu teknir verit frá
he wished gift to-call because these treasures had taken been from
Sveini um vetrinn. Sveinn tók við gjöfum þessum. Haraldr
Svein in the-winter Svein took with gifts these Harald
jarl gaf Sveini langskipit þat er hann hafði átt, ok hálfar
earl gave Svein the-longship that which he had owned and half
eignir sínar ok jarðir. Hann bauð Sveini at vera með sér, ok
properties his and lands He offered Svein to be with himself and
kvað þeirra vingan alldri skyldu skilja. Vel tók Sveinn þessu;
said their friendship never should part Well took Svein this
ok fór þegar um nóttina, ok sagði Rögnvaldi jarli hversu
and went at-once in the-night and told Rognvald earl how
farit hafði með [þeim] Haraldi jarli. Rögnvaldr jarl lét vel
gone had with them Harald earl Rognvald earl let well
yfir þessu; ok bað Svein til gæta, at þeir yrði eigi úsáttir.
over this and bade Svein to take-heed that they became not at-odds

Sveinn, Þorbjörn, and Eirekr raided the Scillies. Þorbjörn killed Rögnvaldr's man Þórarinn and was outlawed; Gilli-odran killed Helgi and fled to Sumarliði in the Dalir.

Nokkuru síðarr réðust þeir til herferðar þrír höfðíngjar,
Somewhat later betook-themselves they to a-war-journey three chieftains
Sveinn, Þorbjörn, Eirekr. Þeir fóru fyrst til Suðreyja. Þeir
Svein Thorbjorn Eirik They went first to (the)-Hebrides They
fóru allt vestr í Syllíngar, ok unnu þar sigr mikinn í
went all west to (the)-Scillies and won there victory great in
Máríu-höfn Kolumba-messu, ok fengu ofa-mikit herfang. Fóru
Mary's-haven Columba's-mass and got over-much plunder Went
eptir þat til Orkneyja, ok urðu vel ásáttir.
after that to Orkney and became well agreed
Eptir sætt þeirra Rögnvalds jarls, ok Haralds jarls, ok
After settlement of-them Rognvald earl and Harald earl and
Sveins Ásleifarsonar, vóru jarlar jafnan báðir samt, ok
of-Svein Asleif's-son were (the)-earls always both together and
hafði Rögnvaldr jarl ráð fyrir; en samþykki þeirra var
had Rognvald earl counsel for-it but concord their was
gott. Þá er þeir kómu heim ór Syllíngum fór Þorbjörn
good Then when they came home out-of (the)-Scillies went Thorbjorn
klerkr til Haralds jarls ok gjörðist ráðgjafi hans. Sveinn fór
Clerk to Harald earl and became counselor his Svein went
heim í Gareksey, ok sat þar með fjölmenni á vetrum, ok
home to Gairsay and sat there with many-men in winters and
hafði herfang sitt til kostnaðar sér, með öðrum föngum,
had plunder his for cost his with other goods
þeim er hann átti þar í Eyjum. Hann var mest hallr
those which he owned there in (the)-Isles He was most inclined

undir Rögnvald jarl. Hvert sumar var hann í hernaði. Þat
under Rognvald earl Each summer was he on harrying That
var mælt, at Þorbjörn klerkr bætti ekki um með þeim
was said that Thorbjorn Clerk improved nothing about-it between them
frændum, Rögnvaldi jarli ok Haraldi jarli. Þórarinn kylli-nef
kinsmen Rognvald earl and Harald earl Thorarin Bag-Nose
hét hirðmaðr Rögnvalds jarls ok vin hans; hann var
was-called a-retainer of-Rognvald earl and friend his he was
jafnan með jarli. Þorkell hét sveitúngr Þorbjarnar klerks
always with (the)-earl Thorkel was-called a-band-mate of-Thorbjorn Clerk
ok vin. Þá Þórarinn ok Þorkel skildi á við drykk í
and friend Them Thorarin and Thorkel parted on over drink in
Kirkjuvági, ok vann Þorkell á Þórarni, ok komst síðan á
Kirkwall and wounded Thorkel on Thorarin and got then to
fund Þorbjarnar. Lögunautar Þórarins sóttu eptir Þorkatli;
(the)-meeting of-Thorbjorn Messmates of-Thorarin sought after Thorkel
en þeir Þorbjörn vörðust ór lopti einu. Þá var [sagt]
but they Thorbjorn defended-themselves from loft one Then was told
jörlum; ok koma þeir heim at skilja þá. Þorbjörn vildi
to-(the)-earls and come they home to part them Thorbjorn wished
eigi at Rögnvaldr jarl dæmdi þetta mál; ok gaf sök á
not that Rognvald earl judged this case and gave charge on
eptir-ferðinni. En þá er Þórarinn var heill sára sinna,
the-pursuit But then when Thorarin was whole of-wounds his
þá drap hann Þorkel, er hann gekk til kirkju. Þórarinn
then killed he Thorkel when he went to church Thorarin
hljóp í kirkju; en þeir Þorbjörn hljópu eptir honum ok
ran into church but they Thorbjorn ran after him and
sveitúngar hans. Þá var sagt Rögnvaldi jarli; ok gékk hann
band-mates his Then was told Rognvald earl and went he
til fjölmennr, ok spurði, hvárt Þorbjörn vildi brjóta upp
to well-attended and asked whether Thorbjorn wished to-break up

kirkjuna. Þorbjörn sagði, at kirkjan ætti þeim ekki at halda,
the-church Thorbjorn said that the-church ought him not to hold
er inni var. Rögnvaldr jarl kvað kirkjuna mundu úbrotna at
who inside was Rognvald earl said the-church would unbroken at
sinni; ok var Þorbirni þraungt frá kirkjunni. Ekki var sæzt
(the)-time and was for-Thorbjorn forced from the-church Not was settled
á þetta. Fór Þorbjörn yfir á Nes, ok var þar um hríð.
on this Went Thorbjorn over to (the)-Ness and was there for a-while
Þá varð mart til með þeim; þvíat Þorbjörn gjörði margar
Then became much to between them because Thorbjorn did many
úspektir, bæði um kvenna-mál, ok um víga-för. Þorbjörn
outrages both about women-matters and about killing-journeys Thorbjorn
fór leyniliga í Orkneyjar á skútu með þrjá tigi manna, ok
went secretly to Orkney on a-skiff with three tens of-men and
lendi við Skálp-eið. Hann gekk til Kirkjuvágs með fjórða
landed by Scapa He went to Kirkwall with a-fourth
mann. Hann hljóp einn saman inn í skytníng um kveld,
man He ran alone together in into a-tavern in (the)-evening
þar er Þórarinn var inni ok drakk. Þorbjörn hjó hann
there where Thorarin was inside and drank Thorbjorn hewed him
þegar bana-högg; síðan hljóp hann í myrkrit langt á brott.
at-once a-death-blow then ran he into the-darkness far off away
Fyrir þessa sök gjörði Rögnvaldr jarl Þorbjörn klerk útlægan
For this cause made Rognvald earl Thorbjorn Clerk outlawed
fyrir allt sitt ríki. Þorbjörn fór yfir á Nes, ok var með
over all his realm Thorbjorn went over to (the)-Ness and was with
Hösvi mági sínum á laun; hann var kallaðr hinn sterki;
Hosvir in-law his in secret he was called the Strong
hann átti Ragnhildi systur Þorbjarnar; þeirra son var Stefann
he had Ragnhild sister of-Thorbjorn their son was Stefan
ráðgjafi, fylgdar-maðr Þorbjarnar. Litlu síðarr fór Þorbjörn
Counselor follower of-Thorbjorn Little later went Thorbjorn

á fund Melkólms Skota-konúngs, ok var með honum í
to (the)-meeting of-Malcolm Scots'-king and was with him in
góðu yfirlæti. Með Skota-konúngi var sá maðr, er hét
good favor With (the)-Scots'-king was that man who was-called
Gilli-odran; hann var ættstórr, ok újafnaðar-maðr mikill; hann
Gilli-Odran he was high-born and overbearing-man great he
varð fyrir reiði Skota-konúngs fyrir úspekt ok manndráp,
came under (the)-wrath of-(the)-Scots'-king for outrage and manslaughter
er hann gjörði í ríki hans. Gilli-odran hljóp í Orkneyjar,
which he did in realm his Gilli-Odran fled to Orkney
ok tóku jarlar við honum. Gilli-odran var á Katanesi
and took (the)-earls with him Gilli-Odran was in Caithness
ok hafði ármenníng jarla. Helgi hét göfugr bóndi á
and had stewardship of-(the)-earls Helgi was-called a-noble farmer in
Katanesi, hann var vinr Rögnvalds jarls. Þá Gilli-odran skildi
Caithness he was friend of-Rognvald earl Them Gilli-Odran parted
á um ármenníngina, ok fór Gilli-odran at honum ok drap
on about the-stewardship and went Gilli-Odran at him and killed
hann. En eptir vígit fór hann vestr í Skotlands-fjörðu,
him But after the-slaying went he west to Scotland's-firths
ok tók við honum sá höfðingi, er hét Sumarliði höldr;
and took with him that chieftain who was-called Sumarlidi yeoman
hann hafði ríki í Dölum í Skotlands-fjörðum. Sumarliði
he had realm in Dalir in Scotland's-firths Sumarlidi
átti Ragnhildi, dóttur Ólafs Suðreyja-konúngs bitlíngs. Móðir
had Ragnhild daughter of-Olaf Hebrides-king Bitling Mother
Ragnhildar var Ingibjörg, dóttir Hákonar jarls Páls-sonar.
of-Ragnhild was Ingibjorg daughter of-Hakon earl Pal's-son
Þessi vóru börn þeirra Sumarliða ok Ragnhildar: Dufgall
These were children their Sumarlidi and Ragnhild Dugald
konúngr, Rögnvaldr, ok Engus; þat er kölluð Dalverja-ætt.
king Rognvald and Engus that is called (the)-Dalesmen's-line

Rögnvaldr jarl stefndi til sín Sveini Ásleifarsyni áðr hann
Rognvald earl summoned to himself Svein Asleif's-son before he
færi í hernað. Ok er þeir fundust, bað Rögnvaldr jarl
went on harrying And when they met bade Rognvald earl
hann hafa til-sjár við Gilli-odran, ef honum gæfi færi á.
him have to-oversight with Gilli-Odran if him gave chance on
Sveinn lézt eigi vita hvers af yrði auðit.
Svein said-himself not to-know of-what from became granted

CXI · SVEINN KILLS GILLI-ODRAN

Sveinn killed Sumarliði in battle, then hunted down and killed Gilli-odran.

Eptir þat fór Sveinn í víkíng, ok hafði fimm langskip. Ok
After that went Svein on viking and had five longships And
er hann kom vestr fyrir Skotlands-fjörðu, spurði Sveinn at
when he came west off Scotland's-firths learned Svein that
Sumarliði höldr var á skip kominn, ok ætlaði í víkíng;
Sumarlidi yeoman was on ship come and intended on viking
hann hafði sjau skip. Þar stýrði Gilli-odran einu skipi, ok
he had seven ships There steered Gilli-Odran one ship and
var hann farinn inn í Fjörðu eptir liði því, er eigi
was he gone in into (the)-Firths after troop that which not
var komit. Þegar er Sveinn spurði til Sumarliða, lagði hann
was come As-soon as Svein learned of Sumarlidi laid he
til orrostu við hann; ok var þar bardagi harðr. Ok í þeirri
to battle with him and was there fighting hard And in that
orrostu féll Sumarliði höldr, ok mikit lið með honum. Þar
battle fell Sumarlidi yeoman and great troop with him There
varð Sveinn þess víss, at Gilli-odran var eigi þar. Fór
became Svein of-that aware that Gilli-Odran was not there Went

Sveinn þá at leita hans; ok fann hann í Myrkva-firði; ok
Svein then to seek him and found him in Forth and
drap hann þar Gilli-odran ok fimm tigi manna með honum.
killed him there Gilli-Odran and five tens of-men with him
Eptir þat fór Sveinn í víkíng; ok heim at hausti, sem
After that went Svein on viking and home in autumn as
hann var vanr. Ok er [hann] kom heim, varð skjótt fundr
he was wont And when he came home became quickly meeting
þeirra Rögnvalds jarls; ok lét hann vel yfir þessum verkum.
their of-Rognvald earl and let he well over these deeds

CXII · ÞORBJÖRN'S FRIENDS

The earls hunted in Caithness each summer. Þorbjörn had three close friends in Caithness, among them Hallvarðr Dúfuson at Forss.

Þat var siðr jarla nær hvert sumar, at fara yfir á
That was custom of-(the)-earls nearly each summer to go over to
Katanes, ok þar upp á merkr, at veiða rauðdýri eðr hreina.
Caithness and there up into forests to hunt red-deer or reindeer
Þorbjörn klerkr var með Melkólmi, Skota-konúngi; en stundum
Thorbjorn Clerk was with Malcolm Scots'-king but sometimes
fór hann ofan á Nes, ok var leyniliga með vinum sínum.
went he down to (the)-Ness and was secretly with friends his
Hann átti þrjá vini á Katanesi, þá er hann hafði mest
He had three friends in Caithness those whom he had most
traust af: einn var Hösvir mágr hans; annarr Lífólfr er bjó
trust from one was Hosvir in-law his (the)-second Lifolf who lived
í Þórsdal; þriði var Hallvarðr Dúfuson, er bjó at Forsi í
in Thurso-dale (the)-third was Hallvard Dufa's-son who lived at Forss in
Kálfadal er gengr af Þórsdal. Þessir vóru einka-vinir hans.
Calfadale which goes from Thurso-dale These were special-friends his

In Calfadale, Þorbjörn struck Rögnvaldr down at Forss. Haraldr would not pursue his kinsman, but Magnús Hávarðsson and others burned Þorbjörn and his men. Rögnvaldr was buried in Magnús's church and later enshrined.

Þá er Rögnvaldr hafði jarl verit tvá vetr ok tuttugu
Then when Rognvald had earl been two winters and twenty
síðan er Páll jarl var handtekinn, þá fóru þeir jarlar yfir
since when Pal earl was captured then went those earls over
á Katanes at áliðnu sumri eptir vanða. Or er þeir
to Caithness at advanced summer according-to custom And when they
kómu í Þórsá, þá fréttu þeir kvitt nokkurn, at Þorbjörn
came to Thurso then learned they rumor some that Thorbjorn
mundi vera upp í Þórsdal á laun, ok eigi all-fámennr; ok
would be up in Thurso-dale in secret and not very-few-men and
mundi ætla þaðan til áhlaupa, ef færi gæfist á. Þá heimta
would intend thence to onsets if chance were-given on Then summon
jarlar menn at sér, ok fóru með hundrað liðs; ok riðu
(the)-earls men to themselves and went with a-hundred of-troop and rode
tuttugu, en aðrir gengu. Þeir fóru um kveldit upp um
twenty but others walked They went in the-evening up about
dalinn, ok tóku þar nokkur gistíng, sem var erg nökkut.
the-dale and took there some lodging which was erg somewhat
Þat köllu vér setr. Um kveldit, er menn sátu við elda,
That call we shieling In the-evening when men sat by (the)-fires
hnaus Rögnvaldr jarl mjök títt. Haraldr jarl mælti: "Hvellr
sneezed Rognvald earl much often Harald earl spoke Loud
hnerri, frændi." Þeir fóru upp um dalinn um morgininn.
sneeze kinsman They went up about the-dale in the-morning
Ok reið Rögnvaldr jarl jafnan fyrir um daginn, ok sá
And rode Rognvald earl always ahead over the-day and that

maðr, er Ásólfr hét, Gunnason af Ögðum, Norrænn
man who Asolf was-called Gunni's-son from Agdir a-Norse
maðr; annarr hét Jómarr frændi jarls. Fimm riðu
man (the)-other was-called Jomar kinsman of-(the)-earl Five rode
þeir saman fyrir upp eptir Kálfadal. Ok er [þeir] fóru at
they together ahead up along Calfadale And when they went to
bænum er heitir at Forsi, var Hallvarðr bóndi uppi á
the-farm which is-called at Forss was Hallvard (the)-farmer up on
korn-amstri einu, ok hlóð, en heima-menn báru at honum.
corn-stack one and piled but home-men bore to him
Þeir Haraldr jarl riðu nokkuru síðarr. En er Hallvarðr
They Harald earl rode somewhat later But when Hallvard
kendi Rögnvald jarl, heilsaði hann honum með nafni, ok
knew Rognvald earl greeted he him with name and
mælti ákafu-hátt, ok spurði at tíðindum; ok mátti jafn-vel
spoke loud-pitched and asked of tidings and might equally-well
heyra þótt fjarri væri. Þetta var skamt frá stofu; ok
hear though far were This was short from (the)-room and
stóðu húsin á brekku nokkurri hárri; en geilar þröngar
stood the-houses on slope some high but lanes narrow
at ríða at bænum, ok við-brekt mjök. Á þessum bæ var
to ride to the-farm and steep much On this farm was
Þorbjörn klerkr inni, ok sat við drykk. Geilarnar gengu at
Thorbjorn Clerk inside and sat at drink The-lanes went to
hús-endanum við gaf[l]hlaðit, ok vóru þar dyrr á húsunum,
(the)-house-end by the-gable-end and were there doors on the-houses
en aðrar vóru á gaf[l]hlaðinu, ok hlaðit í grjóti lausliga.
but other were on the-gable-end and walled-up in stone loosely
Þá er þeir Þorbjörn heyrðu orðtakit, ok Hallvarðr heilsaði
Then when they Thorbjorn heard the-greeting and Hallvard greeted
þeim Rögnvaldi jarli, hljópu þeir þegar til vápna sinna ok
them Rognvald earl ran they at-once to weapons their and

brutu grjótið ór laun-durunum ok hljópu þar út. Þorbjörn
broke the-stone out-of the-secret-door and ran there out Thorbjorn
hleypr fyrir gaf[l]hlaðit, ok á geila-garðinn. Vóru þeir
leaps before the-gable-end and onto the-lane-wall Were they
jarl þá komnir at durunum. Þá hjó Þorbjörn þegar
(the)-earl then come to the-doors Then hewed Thorbjorn at-once
til jarls; en Ásólfr brá við hendinni, ok tók af höndina.
at (the)-earl but Asolf moved with the-hand and took off the-hand
Síðan kom sverðit á höku jarls, ok var þat mikit sár.
Then came the-sword on (the)-chin of-(the)-earl and was that great wound
Ásólfr mælti, er hann fékk höggit: "Fylgi þeir betr jarli,
Asolf spoke when he got the-blow Follow they better (the)-earl
er honum eigu gjafir at launa." Hann var þá átján vetra
who him have gifts to repay He was then eighteen winters
gamall, ok var ný-kominn til jarls. Rögnvaldr jarl vildi
old and was newly-come to (the)-earl Rognvald earl wished
hlaupa af baki, er [hann] sá Þorbjörn, ok varð fótrinn
to-leap off back when he saw Thorbjorn and became the-foot
fastr í stigreipinu. Í því kom Stefann at, ok lagði spjóti
fast in the-stirrup At that came Stefan up and thrust with-spear
á jarli. Þorbjörn veitti þá annat sár jarli. En í því
at (the)-earl Thorbjorn gave then another wound to-(the)-earl But at that
lagði Jómarr spjóti í lær Þorbirni, ok rendi lagit í
thrust Jomar with-spear into (the)-thigh to-Thorbjorn and ran the-thrust into
smá-þarmana. Snéru þeir Þorbjörn þá á bak húsunum; ok
the-small-guts Turned they Thorbjorn then to back of-the-houses and
var þar at hlaupa fyrir brekku mikla, ok á mýri blauta. Í
was there to run down slope great and onto bog wet At
því kómu þeir Haraldr jarl; ok bar svá til leiðinni, at þeir
that came they Harald earl and bore so to the-way that they
kómu á móti þeim Þorbirni; ok kendu þá hvárir aðra.
came on against them Thorbjorn and knew then each-side (the)-other

Þá mæltu menn jarls, at þeir skyldi snúa eptir þeim
Then spoke men of-(the)-earl that they should turn after them
Þorbirni, þeir er vissu hvat fyrir var ætlat; en Haraldr jarl
Thorbjorn they who knew what before was intended but Harald earl
latti þess, ok kveðst bíða vilja atkvæða Rögnvalds
discouraged that and said-himself to-wait to-wish for-(the)-verdicts of-Rognvald
jarls um þetta mál, "Þvíat Þorbjörn er vanda-maðr minn
earl about this case Because Thorbjorn is kinsman-by-marriage my
mikill, sem þér vitið, fyrir frændsemis sökum, ok margra
great as you know for kinship's sake and many
annarra venzla, er í milli eru." En þeir menn, er hjá
other ties which in between are But those men who by
Rögnvaldi jarli vóru, styrmdu yfir honum dauðum; ok leið
Rognvald earl were tended over him dead and passed
mjök löng stund áðr þeir Haraldr jarl fréttu tíðindin. Vóru
much long while before they Harald earl learned the-tidings Were
þeir þá komnir á mýrina ok yfir fenit, þat er gekk
they then come onto the-bog and over the-fen that which went
eptir mýrinni. En af áeggjan föruneytis jarla, hljópu
along the-bog But from (the)-egging of-(the)-company of-(the)-earls ran
þeir Haraldr jarl ofan á mýrina, ok fundust við fenit,
they Harald earl down onto the-bog and met by the-fen
svá at sínum-megin vóru at hvárir, ok vörðu þeir Þorbjörn
so that on-their-own-side were at each and defended they Thorbjorn
díkis-bakkann. Drifu þá til hans menn af bænum, þeir
the-ditch-bank Drifted then to him men from the-farm those
sem honum höfðu fylgt, ok urðu þeir saman fimm tigir
who him had followed and became they together five tens
manna. Þeir vörðust þá drengiliga, ok höfðu vígi
of-men They defended-themselves then manfully and had stronghold
gótt; þvíat fenit var bæði djúpt ok breitt, en mýrin blaut
good because the-fen was both deep and broad but the-bog wet

at fram; ok mátti þeirri einni atsókninni við koma, er
in front and might that alone attack with come that
þeir skutust á með spjótum. Þorbjörn mælti, at þeir skyldi
they shot at with spears Thorbjorn spoke that they should
engum aptr skjóta. Ok er skotin þurru, þá höfðust þeir
none back shoot And when the-shots dried-up then had they
orð við; ok kallaði Þorbjörn á Harald jarl, ok mælti svá:
words with and called Thorbjorn on Harald earl and spoke so
"Þess vil ek biðja yðr, frændi, at þér gefit mér grið; en
This will I ask you kinsman that you give me quarter but
ek vil bjóða þetta mál á yðvart vald, at þér dæmit einir;
I will offer this case into your power that you judge alone
vil ek þar engan hlut undan draga, þann er ek má, at
will I there no share off to-draw that which I may that
yður sæmd sé þá meiri en áðr. Væntir mik ok, frændi, at
your honor be then greater than before Expects me also kinsman that
þú munir muna, at þær deilur hafa verit, at þú mundir
you will remember that those quarrels have been that you would
eigi þann mun gjöra með okkr Rögnvaldi jarli ok mér,
not that difference make between us-two Rognvald earl and me
at þú mundir drepa mik, þótt ek hefða þetta verk unnit,
that you would kill me though I had this deed done
þá er hann færði þik mest undir ölboga, ok lét þik engu
then when he moved you most under elbow and let you nothing
ráða, heldr en svein sinn; en ek gaf þér beztar gjafir, ok
rule rather than boy his but I gave you best gifts and
leitaða ek þér virðíngar í öllu því er ek mátta. En verk
sought I for-you honor in all that which I could But deed
þetta, er ek hefir unnit, er glæpr mikill; ok liggr þat á
this which I have done is a-crime great and lies that on
mér; en ríkit allt er fallit í yðvart vald. Megu þér ok
me but the-realm all is fallen into your power May you also

þat vita, at þenna kost ætlaði Rögnvaldr jarl mér, sem nú
that know that this choice intended Rognvald earl for-me which now
hefi ek honum veitt; ok er þat mitt hugboð, frændi, þótt
have I him given and is that my foreboding kinsman though
þannveg hefði at borizt, at ek væra látinn, en Rögnvaldr
thus-way had to borne that I were dead but Rognvald
jarl lifði, at þér mundit gjöra hann at viðsæmíngar-manni;
earl lived that you would make him to a-settlement-man
en þér vilit gjöra mik at dauða-manni." Þorbjörn fór hér
but you will make me to a-dead-man Thorbjorn went here
um mörgum orðum ok áheyriligum. Fluttu þetta ok
about-it with-many words and persuasive Pleaded this also
margir menn með honum, ok báðu honum griða. Kom svá,
many men with him and asked for-him quarter Came so
at jarl tók at hlýða á, er margir fluttu. Þá tók til
that (the)-earl began to listen to when many pleaded Then took to
orða Magnús, son Hávarðs Gunnasonar, gæðingr jarla ok
words Magnus son of-Havard Gunni's-son retainer of-(the)-earls and
frændi; hann var þar göfgastr maðr í liðinu með Haraldi
kinsman he was there noblest man in the-troop with Harald
jarli. Hann sagði svá: "Eigi kunnu vér yðr ráð at kenna,
earl He said so Not can we you counsel to teach
jarl, eptir þessi hinu miklu stórvirki. En segja mun ek
earl after this the great outrage But say will I
hverr orðrómr á mun leggjast, ef Þorbirni eru grið gefin
what rumor on will lay-itself if to-Thorbjorn are quarter given
eptir þetta verk; ok þat annat, at hann þorir at segja yðr
after this deed and that other that he dares to say to-you
í augu upp nær í hverju orði, at hann hafi þetta it illa
in eyes up near in each word that he have this the evil
verk fyrir þik gjört, eðr þér til sæmdar unnit, er þér,
deed for you done or to-you for honor worked which to-you

ok öllum frændum jarls man eilíf skömm ok úsæmd
and all kinsmen of-(the)-earl will eternal shame and dishonor
at vera, ef hans er eigi hefnt: Hygg ek þat vini Rögnvalds
to be if he is not avenged Think I that friends of-Rognvald
jarls fyrir satt hafa, at þú munir fyrir löngu verit hafa
earl for true to-have that you will for long been have
ráðbana-maðr jarls, en nú hafi fram komit. Eðr hyggr
plotter-of-death of-(the)-earl but now have forward come Or think
þú, at hann muni af þér bera vitundina, þá er hann
you that he will from you bear the-knowledge then when he
skal sik undan sökum færa, en engi heldr svörum upp
shall himself from charges bring but none rather answers up
fyrir yðr, þar er hann segir yðr nú í augu upp, at
for you there where he says to-you now in eyes up that
hann hafi þetta úverkan fyrir yðr unnit. En hversu máttú
he have this misdeed for you worked But how may-you
meirr sanna þat en þú gefir honum nú grið. Em ek ok
more prove that than you give him now quarter Am I also
ráðinn í at aldri skal hann af mér grið hafa, ef nokkurir
resolved in that never shall he from me quarter have if any
dugandis-menn vilja mér fylgja, hvárt sem yðr er þat ljúft
able-men will me follow whether that to-you is that pleasant
eðr leitt." Slík[t] hit sama mæltu bræðr hans, Þorsteinn
or unpleasant Such the same spoke brothers his Thorstein
ok Hákon, ok Sveinn Hróaldsson. Snéru þeir þá brott frá
and Hakon and Svein Hroald's-son Turned they then away from
jarli ok upp með díkinu, ok leituðu hvar þeir máttu yfir
(the)-earl and up along the-ditch and sought where they might over
komast. Ok er þeir Þorbjörn sá, at þeir Magnús snúa upp
come And when they Thorbjorn saw that they Magnus turn up
með díkinu, þá tók Þorbjörn til orða: "Nú mun þá á hafa
along the-ditch then took Thorbjorn to words Now will then on have

skilit um ráða-gjörðina; mun jarl vilja gefa mér grið, en
parted about the-counsel will (the)-earl will give me quarter but
Magnús mun í móti mæla.” En meðan þeir töluðu þetta,
Magnus will in against speak But while they talked this
hófust þeir Þorbjörn frá díkinu. Þeir Haraldr jarl stóðu a
rose-up they Thorbjorn from the-ditch They Harald earl stood on
díkis-bakkanum. Ok er hann sá, at ekki mundi verða
the-ditch-bank And when he saw that nothing would become
af griða-gjöfinni, hljóp hann yfir fenit með öllum vápnum
of the-quarter-giving leapt he over the-fen with all weapons
sínum, ok var níu álna yfir díkit. Föru-nautar hans hljópu
his and was nine ells over the-ditch Companions his leapt
eptir honum; ok gat engi yfir hlaupit; en flestir gátu
after him and could none over leap but most could
fengit bakkann, ok sloðruðu svá at landi. Menn Þorbjarnar
get the-bank and floundered so to land Men of-Thorbjorn
eggjuðu at þeir skyldu snúa á móti þeim jarli, eðr,
urged that they should turn on against them (the)-earl or
á móti þeim Magnúsi, ok láta þar verða umskipti með
on against them Magnus and let there become change between
þeim. Þá mælti Þorbjörn: “Þat þykki mér ráð, at þat
them Then spoke Thorbjorn That seems to-me counsel that that
taki hverr upp sem líkligast þykkir at dugi; en ek mun
take each up as likeliest seems that avails but I will
enn leita á fund Haralds jarls.” Flestir menn löttu
yet seek to (the)-meeting of-Harald earl Most men dissuaded
þess, ok beiddu hann heldr leita á skóga ok forða sér.
that and asked him rather seek to (the)-woods and save himself
Þorbjörn tók ekki undir þat ráð. Riðluðust þeir föru-nautar
Thorbjorn took not under that counsel Scattered they companions
hans frá honum ok leituðu sér ymsa vega hjálpar. En
his from him and sought themselves various ways of-help But

þeir Þorbjörn urðu eptir níu saman. Ok er hann sér, at
they Thorbjorn remained behind nine together And when he sees that
Haraldr jarl er kominn yfir díkit, ferr hann á mót honum,
Harald earl is come over the-ditch goes he on against him
ok féll á kné fyrir honum, ok kvezt færa honum höfuð
and fell on knee before him and said-himself to-bring him head
sitt. Margir jarls-menn báðu enn Þorbirni griða. Þá tók
his Many earl's-men asked still for-Thorbjorn quarter Then took
jarl til orða: "Forða þér, Þorbjörn; eigi nenni ek at
(the)-earl to words Save yourself Thorbjorn not bring-myself I to
drepa þik, en eigi vil ek sjá þik síðan." Fóru þeir þá ofan
kill you but not will I see you later Went they then down
með Kálfadals-á, er þeir ræddust þetta við. Þeir Magnús
along Calfadale-river when they spoke this together They Magnus
sóttu eptir þeim. Ok er jarl sá þat, mælti hann:
pursued after them And when (the)-earl saw that spoke he
"Forða þér, Þorbjörn; eigi berjumst ek fyrir þik við mína
Save yourself Thorbjorn not fight-we I for you against my
menn." Þá skildust þeir Þorbjörn frá föruneyti jarls
men Then parted they Thorbjorn from (the)-company of-(the)-earl
ok til auðna-selja nokkura, þeirra er heita Ásgríms-erg.
and to empty-shielings some those which are-called Asgrim's-erg
Þeir Magnús sóttu eptir þeim Þorbirni; ok báru þegar eld
They Magnus pursued after them Thorbjorn and bore at-once fire
at húsinu. Þeir Þorbjörn vörðust drengiliga. Ok er
to the-house They Thorbjorn defended-themselves manfully And when
húsit tók at falla ofan af bruna, gengu þeir Þorbjörn
the-house began to fall down from burning went they Thorbjorn
út; ok vóru þegar vápn borin á þá, er þeim mátti við
out and were at-once weapons borne on them when them might with
koma; vóru þeir áðr ok mjök sóttir af elds-gangi; Létust
come were they before also much pressed by fire-going Died

þeir þar allir félagar níu. Ok er leitað var til sára-fars
they there all companions nine And when searched was to (the)-wound-state
Þorbjarnar; höfðu út sigit iðrin í þat sárit er Jómarr
of-Thorbjorn had out sunk the-entrails into that wound which Jomar
hafði veitt honum. Haraldr jarl fór leið sína ofan eptir
had given him Harald earl went way his down along
dalnum. En þeir Magnús vendu aptr til Fors, ok veittu
the-dale But they Magnus turned back to Forss and gave
umbúnað líki Rögnvalds jarls, ok fluttu ofan í Þórsá.
laying-out to-(the)-body of-Rognvald earl and brought down to Thurso
Fóru þeir Haraldr jarl þaðan út í Orkneyjar með líkit
Went they Harald earl thence out to Orkney with the-body
með fögru föruneyti, ok veittu gröpt at Magnús-kirkju í
with fair company and gave burial at Magnus-church in
kórnum; ok hvíldi hann þar, til þess er Bjarni biskup
the-choir and rested he there until that when Bjarni bishop
lét upp taka helgan dóm hans at leyfi páfans. Þar á
let up take (the)-holy relic his by leave of-the-pope There on
steininum, sem blóð Rögnvalds jarls hafði á komit, þá
the-stone where (the)-blood of-Rognvald earl had on come then
er hann lézt, má sjá enn í dag svá fagrt sem ný-blætt
when he died may see still in day so fair as newly-bled
sé. Rögnvaldr jarl var mjök harmdauði, þvíat hann var
be Rognvald earl was much lamented because he was
all-vinsæll þar í Eyjunum ok víða annars-staðar. Hann hafði
very-well-liked there in the-Isles and widely elsewhere He had
verit hjálpar-maðr mikill mörgum mönnum, örr af fé,
been helper great to-many men generous with money
hógværr ok vinhollr; íþrótta-maðr mikill, ok skáld gott.
gentle and loyal-to-friends accomplishments-man great and poet good
Dóttur eina barna átti hann á lífi, Íngigerði, er átti
Daughter one of-children had he on life Ingigerd whom had

Eirekr stagbrellr. Þeirra börn vóru þau: Haraldr úngi, ok
Eirik Stay-Brails Their children were they Harald (the)-Young and
Magnús mangi, Rögnvaldr, ok Íngibjörg, Elín, Ragnhildr.
Magnus Mangi Rognvald and Ingibjorg Elin Ragnhild

CXIV · SVEINN'S WAY OF LIFE

Haraldr ruled alone. Sveinn farmed and feasted at Gairsay and went raiding twice a year, the spring-viking and the autumn-viking.

Eptir fall Rögnvalds jarls tók Haraldr jarl undir sik allar
After (the)-fall of-Rognvald earl took Harald earl under himself all
Eyjar, ok gjörðist einn höfðingi yfir. Haraldr jarl var mikill
(the)-Isles and became sole chieftain over-them Harald earl was a-great
höfðíngi, manna mestr ok sterkastr, ódæll ok skap-harðr.
chieftain of-men biggest and strongest unruly and hard-tempered
Hann átti Afreko; þeirra börn vóru þau: Heinrekr, ok
He had Afreka their children were they Henry and
Hákon, Helena, ok Margrét. Þá er Hákon var fárra vetra
Hakon Helena and Margaret Then when Hakon was few winters
gamall, bauð Sveinn Ásleifarson honum til fóstrs; ok fæddist
old offered Svein Asleif's-son him to fostering and was-raised
hann þar upp. Ok þegar hann var svá færr, at hann mátti
he there up And as-soon-as he was so able that he might
fara með öðrum mönnum, þá hafði Sveinn hann í hernað
go with other men then had Svein him on harrying
með sér hvert sumar, ok leitaði honum í öllu virðíngar.
with himself each summer and sought for-him in all honor
Þat var háttr Sveins í þann tíma, at hann sat um vetrum
That was (the)-way of-Svein in that time that he sat in winters
í Gareksey heima, ok hélt þar jafnan átta tigi karla á
in Gairsay at-home and kept there always eight tens of-men at

sinn kost. Hann átti svá mikinn drykkju-skála, at engi var
his cost He had so great drinking-hall that none was
annarr jafn-mikill í Orkneyjum. Sveinn hafði á várum starfa
other equally-great in Orkney Svein had in springs toil
mikinn, ok lét færa niðr ofa-mikit sáð, ok gekk þar mjök
great and let put down very-much seed and went there much
sjálfr at. En er lokit var þeim starfa, fór hann hvert vár
himself at-it But when finished was that toil went he each spring
í víkíng, ok herjaði um Suðreyjar ok Írland; ok kom heim
on viking and harried about (the)-Hebrides and Ireland and came home
eptir mitt sumar. Þat kallaði hann vár-víkíng. Þá var hann
after mid summer That called he spring-viking Then was he
heima til þess er akrar vóru upp-skornir, ok sét var fyrir
at-home till that when (the)-fields were up-reaped and seen was for
kornum. Þá fór hann í víkíng, ok kom þá ekki fyrr heim
(the)-grain Then went he on viking and came then not earlier home
en mánuðr var af vetri, ok kallaði hann þat haust-víkíng.
than a-month was of winter and called he that autumn-viking

CXV · THE LAST SPRING-VIKING

Sveinn took two English ships with rich cloth off Dublin. Haraldr advised him to give up raiding, and Sveinn promised one last autumn voyage.

Þat var tíðinda eitthvert sinn, at Sveinn Ásleifarson fór
That was of-tidings some time that Svein Asleif's-son went
í vár-víkíng, þá fór með honum Hákon son Haralds jarls;
on spring-viking then went with him Hakon son of-Harald earl
þeir höfðu fimm róðrar-skip ok öll stór. Þeir herjuðu um
they had five rowing-ships and all big They harried about

Suðreyjar. Þá var fólk svá hrætt við hann í Suðreyjum,
(the)-Hebrides Then was (the)-folk so afraid of him in (the)-Hebrides
at menn fálu allt lausa-fé sitt í jörðu eðr urðum. Sveinn
that men bid all loose-goods their in earth or screes Svein
fór allt suðr til Manar, ok varð illt til fjár. Þaðan sigldu
went all south to Man and became ill for money Thence sailed
þeir út undir Írland, ok herjuðu þar. En er þeir kómu nær
they out under Ireland and harried there But when they came near
suðr undir Dýflinn, þá sigldu þar af hafi kjólar tveir,
south under Dublin then sailed there from (the)-sea ships two
er komnir vóru af Englandi, ok ætluðu til Dýflinnar; þeir
which come were from England and intended to Dublin they
vóru hlaðnir Enskum klæðum, ok var þar á gæzka mikil.
were laden with-English cloths and was there on wealth much
Þeir Sveinn lögðu at kjólunum, ok buðu þeim til bardaga.
They Svein laid at the-ships and offered them to battle
Lítil varð vörn Enskra manna, áðr Sveinn réð til
Little became (the)-defense of-English men before Svein undertook to
uppgöngu. Urðu Enskir menn þá höndlaðir. Ok ræntu þar
boarding Became English men then seized And plundered there
hverjum penníngi þeim sem á var kjólnuum; nema Enskir
each penny that which on was the-ships except English
menn höfðu ígangs-klæði sín ok nokkurar vistir, ok fóru
men had going-clothes their and some provisions and went
síðan með kjólana. En þeir Sveinn fóru í Suðreyjar, ok
then with the-ships But they Svein went to (the)-Hebrides and
skiptu herfangi sínu. Þeir sigldu vestan með prís miklum.
divided plunder their They sailed from-the-west with pomp great
Þeir gjörðu til ágætis sér, er þeir lágu í höfnum,
They made for distinction themselves when they lay in havens
at þeir tjölduðu Enskum klæðum yfir sér. En er þeir
that they tented with-English cloths over themselves But when they

sigldu í Orkneyjar, saumuðu þeir klæðin framan á seglin,
sailed to Orkney sewed they the-cloths in-front onto the-sails
svá at þannig var í at sjá, sem af skrúði einu væri gjör
so that thus was in to see as-if of finery one were made
seglin. Þetta kölluðu þeir skrúð-víkíng. Sveinn fór heim í
the-sails This called they finery-viking Svein went home to
Gareksey til bús síns. Hann hafði tekit af kjólunum vín
Gairsay to farm his He had taken from the-ships wine
mikit, ok mjöð Enskan. Þá er Sveinn hafði skamma stund
much and mead English Then when Svein had short while
heima verit, bauð hann til sín Haraldi jarli, ok gjörði
at-home been invited he to himself Harald earl and made
í mót honum virðuliga veizlu. Þá er Haraldr jarl var at
in against him a-worthy feast Then when Harald earl was at
veizlunni, varð þeim mart talat af risnu Sveins. Jarl
the-feast was them much talked of (the)-munificence of-Svein (The)-earl
mælti: "Þat vilda ek nú, Sveinn, at þú legðir af hernaðinn;
spoke That would I now Svein that you laid off the-harrying
er nú gott heilum vagni heim at aka. En þú veizt þat,
is now good with-whole wagon home to drive But you know that
at þú hefir lengi fæddan þik við hernaðinn ok lið þitt;
that you have long fed yourself with the-harrying and troop your
en újafnaðar-mönnum ferr svá flestum, at þeir látast í
but to-overbearing-men goes so most that they die in
hernaðinum, ef þeir taka sik eigi sjálfir frá." Þá svaraði
the-harrying if they take themselves not themselves from-it Then answered
Sveinn, ok leit til jarls, ok mælti með brosu, ok sagði
Svein and looked to (the)-earl and spoke with smile and said
svá: "Vel er þetta mælt, herra, ok vingjarnliga; mun ok gott
so Well is this spoken lord and friendly will also good
at þiggja heilræði af yðr; en kæra þat sumir, at þér sét
to receive good-counsel from you but charge that some that you be

litlir jafnaðar-menn." Jarl svaraði: "Ek verð at ábyrgjast
little fair-men (The)-earl answered I must to answer-for
minn hlut; en mælgi gengr mér til." Sveinn mælti: "Gott
my share but talkativeness goes me to-it Svein spoke Good
mun yðr til ganga, herra. Skal ok svá vera, at af skal láta
will you to-it go lord Shall also so be that off shall let
hernaðinum; þvíat ek finn at ek eldumst; en þverr kraptrinn
the-harrying because I find that I grow-old but dwindles the-strength
mikit í vásinu ok hernaðinum. Skal nú fara í haust-víking;
much in the-hardship and the-harrying Shall now go on autumn-viking
ok vilda ek at hon yrði eigi með minnum afburðum en
and would I that it became not with lesser distinction than
vár-víkingin var; en eptir þat skal af láta herförum." Jarl
the-spring-viking was but after that shall off let war-journeys (The)-earl
svarar: "Þat er vant at sjá, félags-maðr, hvárt fyrr kemr,
answers That is hard to see comrade whether earlier comes
hel eðr langframi." Eptir þetta féll niðr ræðan. Haraldr jarl
death or long-fame After this fell down the-talk Harald earl
fór á brott af veizlunni, ok var út leiddr með sæmiligum
went off away from the-feast and was out led with honorable
gjöfum. Skildust þeir Sveinn með miklum kærleikum.
gifts Parted they Svein with great affections

CXVI · THE PITS OF DUBLIN

Sveinn took Dublin by surprise; that night its leaders dug pits at the gates.

Litlu síðarr bjó Sveinn ferð sína í hernað; hann hafði
Little later prepared Svein journey his on harrying he had
sjau langskip, ok öll stór. Hákon son Haralds jarls var með
seven longships and all big Hakon son of-Harald earl was with

Sveini í för. Þeir héldu fyrst til Suðreyja, ok fengu
Svein on (the)-journey They held first to (the)-Hebrides and got
þar lítið herfang; fóru þaðan út undir Írland, ok herjuðu þar
there little plunder went thence out under Ireland and harried there
víða. Þeir fóru allt suðr til Dýflinnar, ok kómu þar mjök á
widely They went all south to Dublin and came there much on
úvart, svá at staðar-menn urðu eigi varir við fyrr en þeir
unawares so that town-men became not aware of-it earlier than they
vóru komnir í staðinn: Þeir tóku þar ofa-mikit fé. Þeir
were come into the-town They took there over-much money They
gjörðu þar hertekna valds-menn þá, er þar vóru í staðnum.
made there captive rulers those who there were in the-town
Fóru þeirra skipti svá, at þeir gáfu upp staðinn í vald
Went their dealings so that they gave up the-town into (the)-power
Sveini, ok játtuðu honum svá miklu gjaldi, sem hann vildi á
to-Svein and promised him so great payment as he wished on
þá leggja. Sveinn skyldi ok skipa sínum mönnum staðinn,
them to-lay Svein should also assign his men the-town
ok hafa vald yfir. Dýflinnar-menn sverja eið at þessu. Þeir
and have power over-it (The)-Dublin-men swear oath to this They
fóru til skipa um kveldit. En um morgininn skyldi Sveinn
went to (the)-ships in the-evening But in the-morning should Svein
koma í staðinn, ok taka við fégjöldum; skipa staðinn, ok
come to the-town and take with money-payments assign the-town and
taka gísla af staðar-mönnum. Nú er frá því at segja,
take hostages from town-men Now is of that to tell
hvat títt var í staðnum um náttina. Ræðis-menn þeir er
what afoot was in the-town over the-night Counsel-men those who
í staðnum vóru, höfðu stefnu sín á milli, ok kærðu
in the-town were had meeting themselves in between and complained
vandræði sín, þau er þeim vóru fallin; þótti þeim þúngt
troubles their those which to-them were fallen seemed to-them heavy

at láta koma stað sinn í vald Orkneyínga, ok allra
to let come town their into (the)-power of-(the)-Orkneymen and all
helzt þeim manni, er þeir vissu mestan újafnaðarmann í
most to-that man whom they knew greatest overbearing-man in
Vestrlöndum. Kom þat ásamt með þeim, at þeir mundu
(the)-Westlands Came that agreed between them that they would
svíkja Svein, ef þeir mætti. Þeir tóku þat ráð, at þeir grófu
betray Svein if they might They took that counsel that they dug
sér grafir stórar fyrir borgarhliðum, ok víða annars-staðar,
themselves pits big before (the)-town-gates and widely elsewhere
milli húsanna þar er þeim Sveini var ætlat at ganga;
between the-houses there where to-them Svein was intended to go
en menn leyndust þar í húsunum hjá með vápnum. Þeir
but men hid-themselves there in the-houses by with weapons They
létu við yfir grafirnar, svá at niðr skyldi falla þegar er
let wood over the-pits so that down should fall as-soon as
manns þúnginn kemr á. Síðan breiddu þeir hálm á, svá
man's weight comes on Then spread they straw on so
at ekki mátti til sjá grafanna; ok biðu svá morgins.
that not might to see of-the-pits and waited so for-morning

CXVII · THE DEATH OF SVEINN

Sveinn fell into the pits and was killed; his sons divided his inheritance.

Um morgininn eptir stóðu þeir Sveinn upp ok vápnuðust;
In the-morning after stood they Svein up and armed-themselves
gengu síðan til staðarins. Ok er þeir kómu inn um
went then to the-town And when they came in through
borgar-hliðin, gjörðu Dýflinnar-menn kví frá borgar-hliðinu
(the)-town-gates made (the)-Dublin-men a-pen from (the)-town-gate

allt at gröfunum. Þeir Sveinn sá ekki við slíkum svikum, ok
all to the-pits They Svein saw not against such treachery and
hljópu í grafirnar. Þeir staðar-mennirnir hljópu þegar fyrir
ran into the-pits They the-town-men ran at-once before
borgar-hliðit; en sumir til grafanna, ok báru vápn á þá Svein.
(the)-town-gate but some to the-pits and bore weapons on them Svein
Þeim var úhægt vörn við at koma. Ok lézt Sveinn þar í
To-them was difficult defense with to come And died Svein there in
gröfunum, ok allir þeir, er inn höfðu gengit í staðinn með
the-pits and all those who in had gone into the-town with
honum. Svá var sagt, at Sveinn létist síðast þeirra allra sinna
him So was said that Svein died last of-them all his
félaga; ok mælti áðr þessum orðum: "Viti þat allir menn, hvárt
companions and spoke before these words Know that all men whether
sem ek látumst í dag eðr eigi, at ek em hirðmaðr hins helga
that I die in day or not that I am retainer of-the holy
Rögnvalds jarls, ok ætla ek nú þar til trausts sem hann er með
Rognvald earl and intend I now there to support where he is with
guði." Menn Sveins fóru þegar til skipa, ok lögðu á brott; ok
God Men of-Svein went at-once to (the)-ships and laid off away and
er ekki frá þeirra ferð at segja fyrr en þeir koma í Orkneyjar.
is not about their journey to tell earlier than they come to Orkney
Nú er þar lokit frá Sveini at segja. Ok er þat mál manna,
Now is there ended about Svein to tell And is that talk of-men
at hann hafi mestr maðr verit fyrir sér í Vestrlöndum,
that he have greatest man been in himself in (the)-Westlands
bæði at fornu ok nýju, þeirra manna er eigi höfðu meira
both in old and new of-those men who not had greater
tignar-nafn en hann.
title-name than he

Eptir fall Sveins skiptu synir hans arfi með sér,
After (the)-fall of-Svein divided sons his inheritance between themselves
Ólafr ok Andres. Þeir gjörðu, hit næsta sumar eptir er
Olaf and Andres They made the next summer after when
Sveinn var látinn, gaflhlöð í drykkju-skála þann hinn mikla,
Svein was dead gable-ends in drinking-hall that the great
er hann hafði áttan í Gareksey. Andres, son Sveins, átti
which he had owned in Gairsay Andres son of-Svein had
Fríðu dóttur Kolbeins hrúgu, systur Bjarna Orkneyínga-biskups.
Frida daughter of-Kolbein Heap sister of-Bjarni Orkneymen's-bishop
Haraldr jarl réð nú Orkneyjum, ok var hinn mesti höfðíngi;
Harald earl ruled now Orkney and was the greatest chieftain
hann átti síðarr Hvarflöðu dóttur Melkólms jarls af Morhæfi.
he had later Hvarflod daughter of-Malcolm earl of Moray
Þeirra börn vóru þau: Þorfinnr, Davíð, ok Jón, Gunnhildr,
Their children were they Thorfinn David and Jon Gunnhild
Herborga ok Langlíf.
Herborga and Langlif

CXVIII · THE LAST EARLS

Haraldr the Young fell fighting Haraldr the Old, who took Caithness and maimed Bishop Jón; the Scottish king forced terms. Sverrir took Shetland from the earls. Jón and Davíð succeeded Haraldr.

Þá er Vilhjálmr biskup hinn síðari var andaðr, var vígðr
Then when Vilhjalm bishop the later was dead was consecrated
til biskups eptir hann Bjarni son Kolbeins hrúgu, ok var
to bishop after him Bjarni son of-Kolbein Heap and was
hann hinn mesti höfðíngi, ok kærr vin Haralds jarls.
he the greatest chieftain and dear friend of-Harald earl

Bjarni biskup hafði frænd-bálk mikinn í Eyjunum. Synir
Bjarni bishop had kinsmen-band great in the-Isles (The)-sons
Eireks stagbrells vóru þeir: Haraldr úngi, ok Magnús
of-Eirik Stay-Brails were they Harald (the)-Young and Magnus
mangi, ok Rögnvaldr. Þeir bræðr fóru austr til Noregs á
Mangi and Rognvald Those brothers went east to Norway to
fund Magnúss konúngs Erlíngssonar; ok gaf hann Haraldi
(the)-meeting of-Magnus king Erling's-son and gave he to-Harald
jarls-nafn ok hálfar Eyjar, svá sem haft hafði Rögnvaldr jarl
earl's-name and half Isles so as had had Rognvald earl
hinn helgi móður-faðir hans. Haraldr jarl úngi fór vestr
the holy mother's-father his Harald earl (the)-Young went west
yfir haf, ok með honum Sigurðr murtr, son Ívars galla.
over (the)-sea and with him Sigurd Murt son of-Ivar Galli
Móðir Ívars var dóttir Hávarðs Gunnasonar; sá Ívarr féll
(The)-mother of-Ivar was daughter of-Havard Gunni's-son that Ivar fell
á Ákrinum með Erlíngi skakka. Sigurðr murtr var á úngum
at Akr with Erling Crooked Sigurd Murt was in young
aldri, ok manna vænligastr, ok hinn mesti áburðar-maðr.
age and of-men most-promising and the greatest swagger-man
Magnús mangi var eptir með konúngi, ok féll með honum
Magnus Mangi was behind with (the)-king and fell with him
í Sogni. Kómu þeir fyrst við Hjaltland, ok fóru þaðan til
in Sogn Came they first to Shetland and went thence to
Kataness, ok svá upp í Skotland á fund Vilhjálms
Caithness and so up into Scotland to (the)-meeting of-William
Skota-konúngs. Beiddi Haraldr jarl, at Vilhjálmr skyldi fá
Scots'-king Asked Harald earl that William should give
honum Katanes hálft, svá sem haft hafði Rögnvaldr jarl.
him Caithness half so as had had Rognvald earl
Þetta veitti konúngr honum. Þaðan fór Haraldr jarl ofan
This granted (the)-king him Thence went Harald earl down

á Katanes, ok efldist þaðan at liði. Þá kom til
to Caithness and strengthened-himself thence in troop Then came to
hans Lífólfr skalli, mágr hans; hann átti þar mart göfugra
him Lifolf Bald in-law his he had there many of-noble
manna, þeirra er frændr hans vóru. Lífólfr átti Ragnhildi
men those who kinsmen his were Lifolf had Ragnhild
systur jarls. Þessi var kallaðr Haraldr jarl hinn úngi;
sister of-(the)-earl This-one was called Harald earl the Young
en Haraldr Maddaðarson hinn gamli. Lífólfr hafði mest
but Harald Maddad's-son the Old Lifolf had most
ráðagjörð fyrir liði jarls. Þeir gjörðu menn út í
counsel-making for (the)-troop of-(the)-earl They made men out to
Orkneyjar á fund Haralds jarls hins gamla, ok beiddu
Orkney to (the)-meeting of-Harald earl the Old and asked
at hann mundi gefa upp hálfar Eyjarnar, svá sem konúngr
that he would give up half the-Isles so as (the)-king
hafði veitt Haraldi unga jarli. En er þessi orð kómu
had granted to-Harald (the)-Young earl But when these words came
fyrir jarl, þá synjaði hann þess þverliga at miðla ríki
before (the)-earl then refused he that flatly to share realm
sitt með neinu sáttmáli. Lífólfr skalli fór þá ferð; ok
his with any agreement Lifolf Bald went then (the)-journey and
heitaðist jarl við hann mjök áðr hann færi brott. Haraldr
threatened (the)-earl with him much before he went away Harald
jarl gamli dró lið saman eptir þetta, ok varð all-fjölmennr.
earl (the)-Old drew troop together after this and became very-well-attended
Þeir Haraldr jarl úngi vóru a Katanesi, ok höfðu þar
They Harald earl (the)-Young were in Caithness and had there
samnað nokkurn. Þá er þeir spurðu at Haraldr jarl gamli
gathering some Then when they learned that Harald earl (the)-Old
dró lið saman, þá sendu þeir enn af nýju Lífólf norðr yfir
drew troop together then sent they again of new Lifolf north over

Pétlands-fjörð at skynja um herinn. Hann lagði austan at
(the)-Pentland-Firth to spy about the-host He laid from-the-east at
Rögnvalds-ey, ok gekk þar upp á fjall, ok fann þar
Ronaldsay and went there up onto (the)-mountain and found there
þrjá varðhalds-menn Haralds jarls gamla, ok drápu tvá; en
three watch-men of-Harald earl (the)-Old and killed two but
höfðu einn með sér til frétta. Lífólfr sá þá ok herinn
had one with themselves for news Lifolf saw then also the-host
jarls; ok hafði hann mart skipa ok flest stór. Sneri Lífólfr
of-(the)-earl and had he many ships and most big Turned Lifolf
þá ofan af fjallinu, ok til skips síns, ok sagði félögum
then down from the-mountain and to ship his and told companions
sínum slík tíðindi sem hann hafði víss orðit. Hann sagði,
his such tidings as he had aware become He said
at Haraldr jarl hafði svá mikinn her, at þeim var úfæra
that Harald earl had so great host that to-them was impossibility
at berjast við hann. “Er þat mitt ráð,” segir Lífólfr, “at vér
to fight with him Is that my counsel says Lifolf that we
farim í dag norðr í Þórsá; ok mun oss þar samnast lið
go in day north to Thurso and will to-us there gather troop
mikit í dag. En ef þér vilit leggja til orrostu við Harald
great in day But if you will lay to battle with Harald
jarl, þá er þat hin mesta úfæra, hversu sem tekst.” Þá
earl then is that the greatest impossibility however that turns-out Then
tók Sigurðr murtr til orða: “Illu heilli hefir mágr jarls
took Sigurd Murt to words With-ill luck has in-law of-(the)-earl
farit yfir Pétlands-fjörð, er hann hefir eptir látið hjartað,” ok
gone over (the)-Pentland-Firth when he has behind left the-heart and
kvað eigi vænt horfa, ef allir skyldi hjarta-lausir þegar þeir
said not hopeful to-look if all should heart-less as-soon-as they
sæi her Haralds gamla. Lífólfr svaraði: “Vant er þat at
saw (the)-host of-Harald (the)-Old Lifolf answered Hard is that to

sjá, Sigurðr, hvar hvergi berr hjarta sitt, ef til þarf at taka.
see Sigurd where any-one bears heart his if to needs to take
Ætla ek, þat mund er ek renn frá Haraldi únga, at
Think I that time when I run from Harald (the)-Young that
yðr afburðar-mönnum muni ávinnt þykkja eptir at standa."
to-you outstanding-men will hard-enough seem behind to stand
En ekki varð af förinni í Þórsá. En litlu síðarr sá þeir
But nothing became of the-journey to Thurso But little later saw they
skipa-flota Haralds jarls fara undan Rögnvalds-ey, bjuggust
(the)-ship-fleet of-Harald earl go off Ronaldsay made-ready
þeir þá til bardaga. Haraldr jarl gekk á land upp ok fylkti
they then for battle Harald earl went on land up and arrayed
liði sínu, hafði hann her miklu meira. Þeir Sigurðr murtr
troop his had he host much greater They Sigurd Murt
ok Lífólfr fylktu liði únga jarls. Sigurðr murtr var
and Lifolf arrayed (the)-troop of-(the)-Young earl Sigurd Murt was
í rauðum skarlats-kyrtli, ok drap blöðunum undir belti sér.
in a-red scarlet-tunic and tucked the-flaps under belt his
Sumir mæltu, at svá mundi hann ok gjöra á bakit. Hann
Some spoke that so would he also do on the-back He
bað eigi upp drepa, "Þvíat eigi mun ek öfugr at ganga í
bade not up tuck Because not will I backward to go in
dag." Í sinn fylkíngar arm var hvárr þeirra. Ok er þeir
day On his-own array's wing was each of-them And when they
höfðu fylkt liðinu, seig saman orrostan, ok var ákafa-hörð. Í
had arrayed the-troop sank together the-battle and was eager-hard In
liði Haralds jarls gamla var mart hinna hörðustu manna,
(the)-troop of-Harald earl (the)-Old was many of-the hardest men
þeirra er ofrkapps-menn vóru miklir, ok búnir forkunnar-vel,
of-those who overbearing-men were great and equipped exceedingly-well
sem vóru frændr biskups, ok margir aðrir sveitar-höfðíngjar
as were kinsmen of-(the)-bishop and many other band-chieftains

jarls. Þá er staðit hafði orrostan um hríð, féll Sigurðr
of-(the)-earl Then when stood had the-battle for a-while fell Sigurd
murtr, ok hafði vel barizt ok drengiliga. Lífólfr gekk annarra
Murt and had well fought and manfully Lifolf went of-other
manna bezt fram. Svá segja Katnesíngar, at hann gengi
men best forward So say (the)-Caithness-men that he went
þrysvar í gegnum fylkíngar Haralds jarls gamla; en þó féll
thrice in through (the)-ranks of-Harald earl (the)-Old but yet fell
hann í þeirri orrostu með góðan orðstír. Þá er þeir vóru
he in that battle with good renown Then when they were
báðir fallnir, Lífólfr ok Sigurðr murtr, brast flótti í liði
both fallen Lifolf and Sigurd Murt broke rout in (the)-troop
jarls hins únga. Haraldr jarl úngi féll við torf-grafir
of-(the)-earl the Young Harald earl (the)-Young fell by turf-pits
nökkurar; var þá þegar um nóttina sét ljós mikit þar er
some was then at-once in the-night seen light great there where
blóðit hafði niðr komit. Þeir kalla jarlinn sann helgan. Ok
the-blood had down come They call the-earl a-true saint And
er þar nú kirkja, sem hann féll; ok er hann þar jarðaðr
is there now a-church where he fell and is he there buried
á Nesinu; ok gjörast útöluligar jarteinir fyrir hans verðleik,
in the-Ness and are-made untellable miracles for his merit
veittar af guði; ok vitrar þat jafnan, at hann vildi yfir til
granted by God and reveals that always that he wished over to
Orkneyja til Magnúss jarls ok Rögnvalds jarls, frænda sinna.
Orkney to Magnus earl and Rognvald earl kinsmen his
Eptir bardagann lagði Haraldr jarl undir sik allt Katanes,
After the-battle laid Harald earl under himself all Caithness
ok fór þegar út í Orkneyjar, ok hrósaði miklum sigri.
and went at-once out to Orkney and boasted great victory

Vilhjálmr Skota-konúngr spurði at Haraldr jarl var fallinn,
William Scots'-king learned that Harald earl was fallen
ok þat með at Haraldr jarl Maddaðarson hafði undir sik
and that with that Harald earl Maddad's-son had under himself
lagt allt Katanes, ok hann ekki sik eptir spurt. Varð
laid all Caithness and him not himself after asked Became
Skota-konúngr þessu reiðr mjök, ok sendi menn í Suðreyjar
(the)-Scots'-king at-this angry much and sent men to (the)-Hebrides
til Rögnvalds Suðreyja-konúngs Guðröðarsonar. Móðir
to Rognvald Hebrides-king Gudrod's-son (The)-mother
Guðröðar var Íngibjörg, dóttir Hákonar jarls Pálssonar.
of-Gudrod was Ingibjorg daughter of-Hakon earl Pal's-son
Rögnvaldr konúngr var þá mestr hermaðr í Vestrlöndum. Þat
Rognvald king was then greatest warrior in (the)-Westlands That
var þrjá vetr er hann lá úti á herskipum, svá at hann kom
was three winters that he lay out on warships so that he came
eigi undir sótkan rapt. Þegar er Rögnvaldi kómu þessi orð,
not under sooty rafter As-soon as to-Rognvald came these words
dró hann her saman um allt Suðreyja ríki ok af Satíri;
drew he host together about all (the)-Hebrides' realm and from Kintyre
hann hafði ok mikit lið af Írlandi. Hélt hann þá norðr
he had also great troop from Ireland Held he then north
til Kataness, ok tók undir sik allt landit, ok dvaldist þar
to Caithness and took under himself all the-land and stayed there
um hríð. Haraldr jarl sat í Orkneyjum ok gaf engan gaum
for a-while Harald earl sat in Orkney and gave no heed
at ferð konúngs. En er leið at vetri bjóst Rögnvaldr
to (the)-journey of-(the)-king But when passed to winter made-ready Rognvald
konúngr heim í ríki sitt í Suðreyjar. Hann setti eptir á
king home to realm his in (the)-Hebrides He set behind in
Katanesi þrjá sýslumenn; var einn Máni Ólafsson, annarr
Caithness three stewards was one Mani Olaf's-son (the)-second

Rafn lögmaðr, Lífólfr hinn alli hét hinn þriði. Nokkuru
Rafn Lawman Lifolf the Old was-called the third Somewhat
síðarr en Rögnvaldr konúngr fór í Suðreyjar, sendi Haraldr
later than Rognvald king went to (the)-Hebrides sent Harald
jarl mann yfir á Nes; ok sagði, at þá þætti honum
earl a-man over to (the)-Ness and said that then would-seem to-him
gott hans örindi, ef hann gæti drepit einn af sýslumönnum,
good his errand if he could kill one of (the)-stewards
eðr alla þrjá. Þessi maðr var fluttr yfir Pétlands-fjörð; fór
or all three This man was brought over (the)-Pentland-Firth went
hann þar til, er hann kom á fund Rafns lögmanns;
he there till when he came to (the)-meeting of-Rafn Lawman
ok spurði Rafn hvert hann skyldi fara. Hann varð fár
and asked Rafn whither he should go He became reserved
svá um. Rafn tók til orða: "Sé ek þat á þér, at Haraldr
so about-it Rafn took to words See I that on you that Harald
jarl hefir þik til nokkurs ills sent híngat á Nesit; en ek
earl has you for something evil sent hither to the-Ness but I
nenni eigi at láta drepa þik, þvíat þú ert frændi minn."
bring-myself not to let kill you because you are kinsman my
Við þetta skildu þeir, ok fór hann á brott þaðan ok til
With this parted they and went he off away thence and to
Lífólfs, ok fóru þeirra skipti svá, at hann veitti Lífólfi líflát.
Lifolf and went their dealings so that he gave to-Lifolf death
Hljóp hann þá í brott, ok út í Orkneyjar á fund
Ran he then off away and out to Orkney to (the)-meeting
Haralds jarls, ok sagði honum hvat er hann hafði gjört.
of-Harald earl and told him what that he had done
Haraldr jarl bjóst nú ór Orkneyjum; ok er hann var
Harald earl made-ready now out-of Orkney and when he was
albúinn, fór hann fyrst norðr til Þórsár, ok gekk þar af
all-ready went he first north to Thurso and went there from

skipum sínum. Biskup var í borginni á Skarabólstað. Ok
ships his (The)-bishop was in the-castle at Scrabster And
er þeir sá her Haralds jarls, sá þeir Katnesíngar, at
when they saw (the)-host of-Harald earl saw they (the)-Caithness-men that
hann hafði her svá mikinn, at þeir höfðu enga viðstöðu.
he had host so great that they had no resistance
Þeim var ok sagt, at jarl væri í svá illu fari, at úsýnt
To-them was also told that (the)-earl were in so ill mood that unclear
væri hverju hann eirði. Biskup tók þá til orða ok mælti:
were whom he spared (The)-bishop took then to words and spoke
"Ef okkur skipti fara vel, þá mun hann gefa yðr grið." Svá
If our dealings go well then will he give you quarter So
var gjört sem biskup mælti fyrir. Herr jarls þusti af
was done as (the)-bishop spoke for (The)-host of-(the)-earl rushed from
skipunum ok til borgarinnar. Biskup gekk í móti jarli,
the-ships and to the-castle (The)-bishop went in against (the)-earl
ok fagnaði honum með blíðum orðum. En þeirra skipti fóru
and welcomed him with gentle words But their dealings went
svá, at Haraldr jarl lét handtaka biskup ok skera ór
so that Harald earl let seize (the)-bishop and cut out-of
honum túnguna; en síðan lét hann stínga knífi í augun,
him the-tongue but then let he stab a-knife into the-eyes
ok blinda hann. Jón biskup kallaði á meyna hina helgu
and blind him Jon bishop called on the-maid the holy
Traullhœnu í meizlunum, ok gekk síðan á brekku nokkura
Trollhaena in the-maimings and went then onto slope some
þegar þeir létu hann lausan. Kona ein var á brekkunni,
as-soon-as they let him loose A-woman one was on the-slope
ok bað biskup hana hjálpa sér. Hon sá at blóð féll ór
and bade (the)-bishop her help himself She saw that blood fell from
andliti hans, ok mælti: "Vertú hljóðr, herra, þvíat gjarna
face his and spoke Be-you quiet lord because gladly

vil ek hjálpa yðr.” Biskup var færðr til þess staðar, er
will I help you (The)-bishop was brought to that place where
hvílir hin helga Tröllhæna, þar fékk biskup heilsu-bót, bæði
rests the holy Trollhaena there got (the)-bishop health-cure both
máls ok sýnar. Haraldr jarl gekk þá upp at borginni, ok
of-speech and of-sight Harald earl went then up to the-castle and
gáfu þeir hana þegar upp í vald jarls. Hann veitti
gave they it at-once up into (the)-power of-(the)-earl He gave
mönnum þegar stórar refsíngar; ok lagði á þá menn gjöld
to-men at-once great punishments and laid on those men payments
stór, er honum þótti mest verit hafa í landráðum við
great who him seemed most been have in treasons against
sik. Lét hann þá enn alla Katnesínga ganga undir sik
himself Let he then again all (the)-Caithness-men go under himself
með eiðum, hvárt er þeim var ljúft eðr leitt. Síðan tók
with oaths whether that to-them was pleasant or unpleasant Then took
hann undir sik eignir þær allar, er átt höfðu sýslumenn,
he under himself properties those all which had had stewards
þeir er til Skota-konúngs vóru farnir. Sat Haraldr jarl þá
those who to (the)-Scots'-king were gone Sat Harald earl then
á Katanesi með mörgu fólki.
in Caithness with much folk
Nú er at segja frá sýslumönnum. Þeir réðust sex saman
Now is to tell about (the)-stewards They betook-themselves six together
upp í Skotland, ok fundu þar konúng um vetrinn þeim
up into Scotland and found there (the)-king in the-winter with-those
tíðindum, er gjörzt höfðu á Katanesi í ferðum Haralds
tidings which happened had in Caithness on (the)-journeys of-Harald
jarls. Þessum tíðindum varð konúngr all-reiðr; en tvennum
earl At-these tidings became (the)-king very-angry but twofold
gjöldum kveðst hann þeim gjalda skyldu er sitt höfðu
payments said-himself he to-them pay should who his had

látið. Hinn fyrsta dag er þeir vóru með Skota-konúngi, lét
lost The first day when they were with (the)-Scots'-king let
hann gefa hálfan þriðja tog álna klæðis hverjum þeirra, ok
he give half third ten ells of-cloth to-each of-them and
enn mörk Enska til skotzsilfrs sér, sína hverjum þeirra.
also a-mark English for scot-silver to-himself his-own to-each of-them
Vóru þeir með Skota-konúngi fram um Jól í góðu yfirlæti.
Were they with (the)-Scots'-king forward over Yule in good favor
En þegar á bak Jólum sendir Skota-konúngr orð öllum
But as-soon-as on back of-Yule sends (the)-Scots'-king word to-all
höfðingjum í ríki sínu, ok dró her saman ofa-mikinn um
chieftains in realm his and drew host together over-great about
landit, ok stefndi þeim her ofan á Katanes á hendr Haraldi
the-land and summoned that host down to Caithness on hands of-Harald
jarli. Hafði Skota-konúngr all-mikinn her; ok ferr hann þar
earl Had (the)-Scots'-king very-great host and goes he there
til er hann kemr í Eysteinsdal; þar mætist Katanes ok
till when he comes to Eysteinsdal there meet Caithness and
Suðrland. Herbúðir Skota-konúngs [vóru] eptir endilöngum
Sutherland (The)-camps of-(the)-Scots'-king were along lengthwise
dölunum; ok er þat löng leið. Haraldr jarl var á Katanesi,
the-dales and is that long way Harald earl was in Caithness
er hann spurði þessi tíðindi. Dró hann þegar lið at sér;
when he learned these tidings Drew he at-once troop to himself
ok er svá frá sagt, at hann fengi lx. hundraða manna, ok
and is so about told that he got sixty hundreds of-men and
hafði þó alls enga viðstöðu at berjast við Skota-konúng. Sendi
had yet at-all no resistance to fight with (the)-Scots'-king Sent
hann þá menn á fund Skota-konúngs at leita um sættir
he then men to (the)-meeting of-(the)-Scots'-king to seek about settlements
með þeim. En er þat var flutt fyrir konúngi, sagði hann,
between them But when that was brought before (the)-king said he

at ekki þurfti um sættir at leita, nema hann hefði enn
that not needed about settlements to seek unless he had also
fjórða hvern penníng af Katanesi þann er á var landinu.
fourth each penny from Caithness that which on was the-land
En er þessi orðsendíng kom fyrir Harald jarl, kallaði hann
But when this message came before Harald earl called he
á tal við sik landsmenn, ok aðra höfðingja, ok leitaði ráða
to talk with himself (the)-land-men and other chieftains and sought counsel
við þá. En við þat at þeir sá engin efni sín, gengu þeir at
with them But with that that they saw no means their went they at
þessi sætt, at Katnesíngar guldu fjórðúng eigu sinnar
this settlement that (the)-Caithness-men paid a-fourth of-property their
Skota-konúngi fyrir útan þá menn, er á konúngs fund
to-(the)-Scots'-king for out-of those men who on (the)-king's meeting
höfðu farit um vetrinn. Haraldr jarl fór út í Orkneyjar, ok
had gone in the-winter Harald earl went out to Orkney and
skyldi hann hafa Katanes allt, sem hann hafði áðr haft, en
should he have Caithness all as he had before had but
Haraldr jarl úngi tæki af Skota-konúngi. Í úfriði þeim
Harald earl (the)-Young took from (the)-Scots'-king In unpeace that
var blindaðr Þorfinnr, son Haralds jarls, hann hafði verit
was blinded Thorfinn son of-Harald earl he had been
gislaðr af Skota-konúngi. Eptir sætt þeirra fór konúngr upp
hostaged by (the)-Scots'-king After settlement their went (the)-king up
í Skotland. Haraldr jarl var nú einn höfðíngi í Orkneyjum.
into Scotland Harald earl was now sole chieftain in Orkney
Þat var ofarliga á dögum Haralds jarls, er þeir Ólafr
That was late in (the)-days of-Harald earl when they Olaf
mágr hans, ok Jón Hallkelsson efldu flokk ór
brother-in-law his and Jon Hallkel's-son raised a-band out-of
Orkneyjum, ok austr í Noreg á hendr Sverri konúngi. Þeir
Orkney and east to Norway on hands of-Sverri king They

tóku til konúngs Sigurð son Magnúss konúngs Erlíngssonar. Í
took to king Sigurd son of-Magnus king Erling's-son In
þann her réðust margir stórættaðir menn ór Orkneyjum.
that host betook-themselves many high-born men from Orkney
Þat var hinn sterkasti flokkr. Þeir vóru kallaðir Eyjar-skeggjar,
That was the strongest band They were called Island-Beards
ok Gullbeinar, um hríð. Þeir börðust í Flóruvágum við
and Gold-Legs for a-while They fought in Floruvagar with
Sverri konúng ok fengu úsigr. Þar féllu þeir báðir, Jón ok
Sverri king and got defeat There fell they both Jon and
Ólafr, ok svá konúngr þeirra, ok mestr hluti hersins. Eptir
Olaf and also king their and greatest part of-the-host After
þat lagði Sverrir konúngr á Harald jarl fjándskap mikinn,
that laid Sverri king on Harald earl enmity great
ok kendi honum völd um er flokkrinn hafði hafizt.
and blamed him responsibility about that the-band had raised-itself
Kom því svá, at Haraldr jarl fór vestan, ok Bjarni biskup
Came it so that Harald earl went from-the-west and Bjarni bishop
með honum. Jarl gaf sik í vald Sverris konúngs,
with him (The)-earl gave himself into (the)-power of-Sverri king
ok lét hann einn skera ok skapa í milli þeirra. Þá gjörði
and let him alone cut and shape in between them Then made
Sverrir konúngr Hjaltland allt af Haraldi jarli með sköttum
Sverri king Shetland all off Harald earl with taxes
ok skyldum; ok hafa Orkneyja jarlar ekki þat haft síðan.
and dues and have Orkney's earls not that had since
Haraldr jarl var þá fimm vetra gamall, er honum var gefit
Harald earl was then five winters old when to-him was given
jarls-nafn. Hann var tuttugu vetr jarl, svá at þeir Rögnvaldr
earl's-name He was twenty winters earl so that they Rognvald
jarl hinn helgi vóru báðir saman yfir Orkneyjum. Eptir fall
earl the holy were both together over Orkney After (the)-fall

Rögnvalds jarls var Haraldr jarl í Orkneyjum átta vetr hins
of-Rognvald earl was Harald earl in Orkney eight winters of-the
fimta tigar. Hann andaðist á öðru ári ríkis Ínga
fifth ten He died in (the)-second year of-(the)-reign of-Ingi
konúngs Bárðar sonar. Eptir Harald jarl tóku synir hans
king Bard's son After Harald earl took sons his
ríki, Jón ok Davíð. Heinrekr son hans á Ros á Skotlandi.
(the)-realm Jon and David Henry son his owns Ross in Scotland
Þessir hafa ríkastir verit Orkneyínga jarla, at tali þeirra
These have most-powerful been of-(the)-Orkneymen earls in count of-those
manna, er frásagnir hafa þar um gjört: Er þar til nefndr
men who accounts have there about made Is there to named
Sigurðr Eysteinsson, Þorfinnr jarl Sigurðarson, Haraldr jarl
Sigurd Eystein's-son Thorfinn earl Sigurd's-son Harald earl
Maddaðarson. Þeir bræðr, Jón ok Davíð, réðu báðir löndum
Maddad's-son Those brothers Jon and David ruled both (the)-lands
eptir föður sinn; þar til er Davíð andaðist ór sótt á
after father their there till when David died of sickness in
því ári sem Hákon galinn andaðist í Noregi. Síðan tók
that year as Hakon Galinn died in Norway Then took
Jón jarls-nafn yfir öllum Orkneyjum.
Jon earl's-name over all Orkney

Brenna Adams biskups

CXIX · THE BURNING OF BISHOP ADAM

The farmers of Caithness, angry at Bishop Adam's increased butter tithe, shut him in a little house and burned it; King Alexander avenged him harshly.

Þá er Jón biskup andaðist á Katanesi, sá er Haraldr
Then when Jon bishop died in Caithness that-one whom Harald
jarl lét meiða, var tekinn biskup í stað hans, sá er Adam
earl let maim was taken (as)-bishop in place his that-one who Adam
hét; ok vissi eingi maðr ætt hans, þvíat barnit hafði
was-called and knew no man family his because the-child had
fundizt við kirkju-dyrr nokkurar. Hann þótti Katnesíngum
been-found by church-doors some He seemed to-(the)-Caithness-men
heldr harðr í biskupsdóminum; ok kendu þat mest munk
rather hard in the-bishopric and blamed that most (the)-monk
þeim, er var með honum. Þat var forn siðr, at biskup
that who was with him That was old custom that (the)-bishop
skyldi hafa spann smjörs undan tuttugu kúm; skyldi þetta
should have a-span of-butter from twenty cows should this
hverr bóndi gjalda, sá er á var Katanesi; sá meira,
each farmer pay that-one who in was Caithness that-one more
er fleiri kýr átti, en hinn því minna, sem færi hafði, ok
who more cows owned but the-other that less as fewer had and
skyldi hverr eftir því gjalda, sem teldist til. En Adam
should each according-to that pay as were-counted to-it But Adam
biskup vildi æxla gjaldit, ok hafa spann undan fimtán
bishop wished to-increase the-payment and have a-span from fifteen
kúm; ok er þat fékst, beiddist hann at hafa undan tólf
cows and when that was-got asked he to have from twelve
kúm; ok er þat var uppi látið, vildi hann hafa undan tíu
cows and when that was up let wished he to-have from ten
kúm. En þat þótti öllum údæmi. Þá fóru Katnesíngar á
cows But that seemed to-all outrage Then went (the)-Caithness-men to
fund Jóns jarls, hann var þá á Katanesi, ok kærðu þeir
(the)-meeting of-Jon earl he was then in Caithness and charged they
þetta fyrir honum. Jarl lézt hér mundu ekki til leggja;
this before him (The)-earl said-he here would nothing to lay

kvezt þat þikkja óvandast; kvað tvá illa fyrir höndum;
said-himself that to-seem least-difficult said two evils before hands
kvað þetta vera úþolanda, en lézt eigi mundu annan upp
said this be unbearable but said-he not would other up
kveða. Þá var Adam biskup at Há-kirkju í Þórsdal, en Jón
say Then was Adam bishop at Halkirk in Thurso-dale but Jon
jarl var skamt þaðan. Katnesíngar höfðu þá þíng á
earl was short thence (The)-Caithness-men held then an-assembly on
fjalli yfir bæ þeim, er biskup var á. Rafn lögmaðr var
(the)-hill over farm that which (the)-bishop was at Rafn Lawman was
þá með biskupi, ok bað hann biskup vægja heldr mönnum;
then with (the)-bishop and bade he (the)-bishop yield rather to-men
kvezt ella hræddr um hversu færi. Biskup bað hann vera
said-himself else afraid about how went (The)-bishop bade him be
kátan; kvað bændr munu sjálfa stöðva sik. Þá var sent
merry said farmers would themselves stop themselves Then was sent
til Jóns jarls, ok beðit, at hann skyldi sætta þá biskup;
to Jon earl and asked that he should reconcile them (the)-bishop
en jarl vildi hvergi nær koma. Þá runnu bændr ofan
but (the)-earl wished nowhere near to-come Then ran farmers down
af fjallinu, ok fóru ákaflega geystir. Ok er Rafn lögmaðr
from the-hill and went eagerly furious And when Rafn Lawman
sá þetta, bað hann biskup gera nokkut ráð fyrir sér.
saw this bade he (the)-bishop make some counsel for himself
Þeir biskup drukku í lopti einu. Ok er bændr kómu at
They (the)-bishop drank in loft one And when farmers came to
loptinu, gekk munkrinn út í dyrnar; ok var þegar högginn
the-loft went the-monk out into the-doors and was at-once hewn
um þvert andlitið, ok féll dauðr inn í loptið. Ok er
about across the-face and fell dead in into the-loft And when
biskupi var þetta sagt, þá svaraði hann. “Þat kom eigi
to-(the)-bishop was this told then answered he That came not

fyrr fram en líkligt var, þvíat hann lagði jafnan þúngliga
earlier forward than likely was because he laid always heavily
til várra mála." Þá bað biskup Rafn segja bændum, at
to our cases Then bade (the)-bishop Rafn tell farmers that
hann vill sættast við þá. Ok er þat var sagt bændum,
he will be-reconciled with them And when that was told to-farmers
urðu þeir fegnir allir þeir er vitrari vóru. Gekk biskup þá
became they glad all those who wiser were Went (the)-bishop then
út, ok ætlaði til sætta. En er þat sá hinir verri menn,
out and intended to settlement But when that saw the worse men
þeir er óðastir vóru, tóku þeir Adam biskup, ok færðu
those who maddest were took they Adam bishop and brought
hann í eitt lítið hús, ok slógu síðan í eldi. En húsit
him into one little house and struck then into fire But the-house
brann svá skjótt, at þeir er biskupi vildu bjarga, fengu
burned so quickly that they who (the)-bishop wished to-save got
ekki at gert. Lézt þar Adam biskup; ok var líkit lítt
nothing at done Died there Adam bishop and was the-body little
brunnit er fanst. Þá var líkinu veittr sæmiligr gröftr ok
burned when was-found Then was to-the-body given honorable burial and
virðuligr umbúnaðr. En þeir menn, er helzt höfðu verit vinir
worthy laying-out But those men who most had been friends
biskups, þá gerðu þeir menn á fund Skota-konúngs.
of-(the)-bishop then made they men to (the)-meeting of-(the)-Scots'-king
Þá var Alexandr Skota-konúngr, son Vilhjálms konúngs hins
Then was Alexander Scots'-king son of-William king the
helga. En [er] konúngrinn varð varr við þessi tíðindi ***
holy But when the-king became aware of these tidings (lacuna)
svá illa at menn hafa þær hrakníngar at minnum, er
so ill that men have those harassments in memories which

hann gerði eftir brennuna biskups í manna meiðíngum ok
he did after the-burning of-(the)-bishop in men's maimings and
manndrápum, fjár-ránum ok brott-rekstri manna af landinu.
manslaughters money-robberies and off-drivings of-men from the-land
Kunnum vér nú eigi greiniligar at segja af þeim tíðendu[m]
Can we now not more-clearly to tell of those tidings
er til heyra Orkneyínga jörlum, en svá sem vér höfum
which to belong of-(the)-Orkneymen earls than so as we have
sagt.
told
